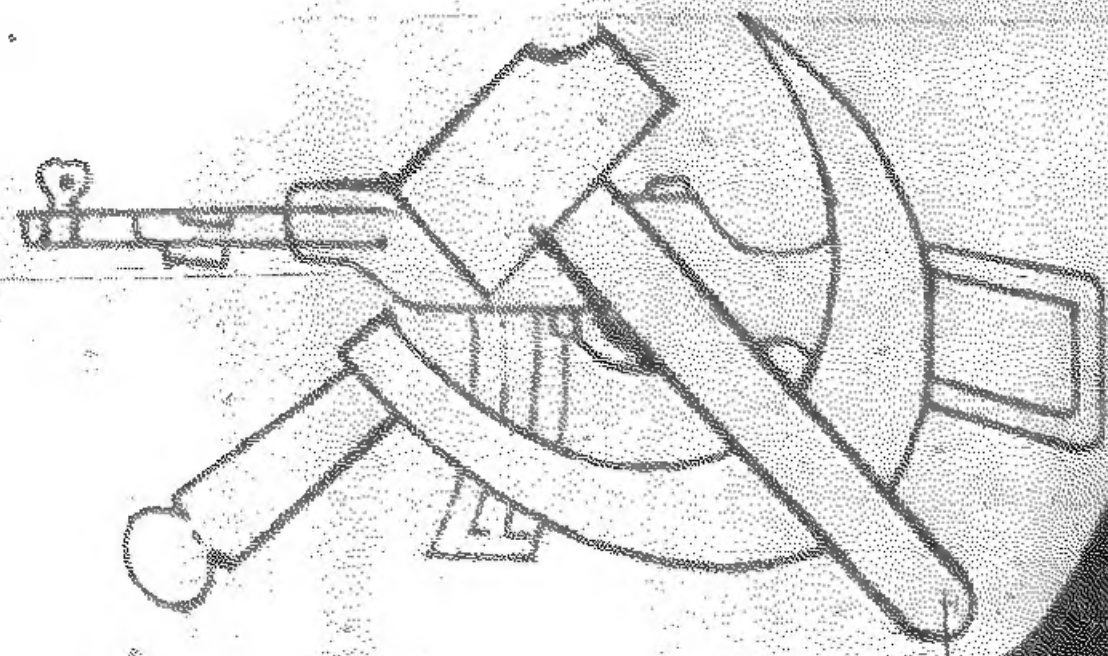


# ANG

PAHAYAGAN NG PARTIDO KOMUNISTA NG PILIPINAS  
PINAPATNUBAYAN NG  
MARXISMO - LENINISMO - KALSIPANG MAO TSETUNG



# Bayan

Volume IX Number 13

(English Edition)

September 15, 1977

## C O N T E N T S

PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE DENOUNCES  
'NORMALIZATION' AS U.S.-MARCOS SCHEME p. 1

CHAIRMAN MAO HONORED  
ON FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY p. 2

REGIME PURSUES MASSACRE POLICY,  
MURDERS POLITICAL PRISONERS p. 3

WORKERS' STRIKE MOVEMENT  
SURGES ANEW IN METRO MANILA p. 5

DICTATORSHIP THREATENS FORCE  
BUT STUDENTS ARE UNDAUNTED p. 7

PERSEVERE IN REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE,  
SISON URGES KABATAANG MAKABAYAN p. 8

PC SOLDIERS SHOOT ONE ANOTHER  
AS NPA UNIT ESCAPES TRAP p. 10

NOTHING DOING, U.S. TELLS ASEAN p. 11

FILIPINO PEOPLE WARMLY  
RECEIVE CHINESE FRIENDS p. 12

MORE GROUPS ASSAIL MARCOS  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS p. 13



PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE DENOUNCES  
'NORMALIZATION' AS U.S.-MARCOS SCHEME

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines issued a statement last Sept. 1 on the fascist dictator Marcos' announcement that the country is moving towards "normalcy". The statement follows in full:

ON THE MARCOS SPEECH OF AUGUST 23

In his August 23 speech before an international lawyers' conference, financed by the C.I.A. and by himself, the fascist dictator Marcos declared that the Philippines was "moving irretrievably towards normalcy" and announced four measures that were supposed to be in this direction.

These measures are: (1) the holding of local elections not later than next year and the suspension of the effects of martial law during the election period; (2) the lifting of the ban on international travel by Filipinos with no valid reason for leaving the country; (3) the lifting of curfew, from 1:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. in Manila and from midnight or earlier to 4:00 a.m. in the provinces; and (4) a decree offering amnesty to those who may have violated the Antisubversion Law and those who have committed crimes against public order under the Revised Penal Code.

Undoubtedly, all these measures are mere embellishments on the continuance of the fascist dictatorial regime of the U.S.-Marcos clique. These are calculated to entrench further a tyrannical regime that has from the outset usurped its authority.

1. Regarding the holding of local elections, we cannot but expect another farce in the style of the four pseudoreferendums held from 1973 to 1976 under the terms of the fascist martial rule. A single party, the Marcos party, will certainly dominate the elections and monopolize the result in the same manner that the pseudoreferendums were rigged.

The main point is to expose the forthcoming local elections as a farce and use it as an occasion to condemn the fascist dictatorial regime of the U.S.-Marcos clique among the masses and take advantage of splits among the reactionaries and even among some Marcos henchmen.

2. Regarding the lifting of the ban on international travel, we can only see it as a pretext to raise the travel tax on the tens of thousands of Filipino workers and professionals going in and out of the country every year in connection with overseas employment.

3. Regarding the lifting of curfew, we notice immediately that the fascist dictatorship and its military officials have not at all lifted curfew over wide areas in the country. Moreover, curfew can be imposed on any part of the country at anytime by local military officials of the enemy.

4. Regarding the decree offering amnesty, we see through it as no different from all previous amnesty decrees which seek to humiliate people by extorting admissions of guilt and oaths of allegiance to the tyrannical regime and its constitution. This decree seeks to split the ranks of revolutionaries by offering amnesty to "followers" while excluding its "leaders".

U.S. imperialism wants to ride high with its trumpeting on "human rights" in its contention with the other superpower. This catchphrase, with its exclusivistic attention to personal rights, glosses over the oppression and exploitation of the people by U.S. imperialism and the local reactionary classes.



It has not been too difficult for Marcos to get into the act with Carter in paying lip service to "human rights". A C.I.A.-subsidized organization like the World Peace Through Law Conference harps on the "international protection of human rights" but lionizes the Marcos fascist dictatorship and regales the fascist dictator with a "nation-builder" award.

The line of "moving irretrievably towards normalcy" is a sinister line agreed on by the Marcos fascist gang and its foreign master, U.S. imperialism. U.S. imperialism is willing to retain the Marcos fascist gang in power for so long as it can entrench and widen the gains made by U.S. monopoly capital in the Philippines under fascist martial rule.

As U.S. imperialism and the Marcos fascist gang can only make pretenses regarding the fundamental questions of national independence and democracy, the revolutionary movement is steadily forging ahead and the broad masses of the people are placing their hopes on the growth of the armed revolution.

Central Committee  
Communist Party of the Philippines  
September 1, 1977

\* \* \*

#### CHAIRMAN MAO HONORED ON FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

The Chinese people held solemn rallies in the different provinces, cities and autonomous regions of the People's Republic of China last Sept. 9 to commemorate the first death anniversary of the great leader and teacher, Chairman Mao Tsetung.

These rallies were attended by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng and other members of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party as well as leading functionaries of the different provinces, cities and autonomous regions.

All speakers pledged to always hold high the great banner of Chairman Mao and to carry on the proletarian revolutionary cause pioneered by him.

They also vowed to keep to the line of the 11th Party Congress and, under the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua, to strive to hasten the building of China into a powerful and modern socialist state.

On the same day, the memorial hall containing the remains of Chairman Mao was opened to the people. The hall is located on Tien An Men Square in Peking, near the monument to the revolutionary martyrs.

Meanwhile, an editorial entitled "Mao Tsetung Thought Will Shine Forever" appeared in various newspapers in Peking on Sept. 9 and was broadcast over Radio Peking.

The editorial pointed out the importance of Mao Tsetung Thought for the Chinese revolution and the international communist movement and the need to study it thoroughly and make it serve as a guide to action. It also attacked the "gang of four" for violating the theory of dialectical materialism and historical materialism.

Mao Tsetung Thought, according to the editorial, is an inexhaustible treasure house of theoretical knowledge for the Chinese people, a beacon that will forever guide them in their triumphant advance.



It said that Mao Tsetung Thought was formed and developed in the course of prolonged struggle against the enemy inside and outside China and against Right and "Left" opportunist lines inside the Chinese Communist Party.

It said that Mao Tsetung Thought is a scientific summing-up of the revolutionary practice of the Party for more than half a century. The universal truth of Marxism-Leninism, it asserted, has found brilliant application in the concrete practice of the Chinese revolution and world revolution, and Mao Tsetung Thought as a comprehensive scientific system is a continuation of the development of Marxism-Leninism.

Noting the broad scope of Mao Tsetung Thought, the editorial said that Chairman Mao developed Marxism-Leninism not only in one but in all fields, covering a concrete body of concepts in philosophy, political economy and scientific socialism, Party building, army building, art and literature, science and education.

The editorial said that Chairman Mao is the greatest Marxist of our time. It further asserted that Mao Tsetung Thought has a great significance in the advance of the Chinese revolution and the international communist movement because it embodies a great and invincible material force.

The editorial hit Lin Biao and the "gang of four" for distorting the theory of dialectical materialism and historical materialism and for intensely engaging in idealism and metaphysics.

It said that they messed up a number of fundamental theoretical problems, spread their poisonous influence and inflicted damage on the Chinese Communist Party which is unequalled in its history.

Stressing the importance of whole-hearted study of Mao Tsetung Thought and using it as a guide to action, the editorial said that the Party and the Chinese people should heed the call of Chairman Hua in his Political Report to the 11th National Party Congress to diligently study the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Chairman Mao. This is necessary, it added, in order to acquire a comprehensive and correct understanding of the whole system of Mao Tsetung Thought.

The editorial further explained that in order to avoid the mechanical application of isolated passages from the works of Chairman Mao, the concrete time, place and conditions then obtaining should be considered. It is essential, the editorial said, to grasp the whole essence of his works.

The editorial raised the call to all cadres and members of the Party, particularly those at the middle and higher levels, to study Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought not piecemeal, but systematically and as an entity.

\* \* \*

#### REGIME PURSUES MASSACRE POLICY, MURDERS POLITICAL PRISONERS

Military operatives of the Marcos fascist regime recently tortured a number of political prisoners, murdered them in cold blood and then announced that they were killed in an "encounter" between the PC and the New People's Army in Quezon province.

In fact, the victims were arrested in Manila, Makati and other areas of Metro Manila in the last week of July. The encounter fabricated by the fascist military was supposed to have taken place on Aug. 14, in barrio Cagsay I, Nauban, Quezon.



Reports reaching Ang Bayan said the regime's military operatives arrested 12 young men and women in Metro Manila during the last few days of July. Of the 12, the fascist military itself has confirmed the death of seven. The five others are still unaccounted for.

The latest barbarity of the Marcos regime gives undeniable proof that it has launched a massacre policy in a desperate effort to stem the tide of the revolutionary movement. It also belies the regime's hypocritical claims to respect for human rights.

The 12 victims are identified in the reports as Reynaldo Cruz, Modesto Sison, Gerardo Faustino, Eduardo Diones, Virgilio Silva, Salvador Panganiban, Jessica Sales, Cristina Catalla, Ordiana Villabor, Rizalina Ilagan, Ramon Jasul and Erwin de la Torre.

Ascertained dead are Cruz, Sison, Faustino, Diones, Silva and Panganiban. The seventh victim in the Mauban massacre could not be identified immediately.

Still unknown is the fate of Sales, Catalla, Villabor, Ilagan, Jasul and de la Torre. Relatives and friends have not been able to find them at any of the regime's various military detention centers.

The cold-blooded murder of the seven political prisoners first came to light last Aug. 17 when the Bulletin Today carried a news item entitled, "Troops kill 7 NPAs in Quezon". The report quoted the PC as saying the seven were slain in a "dawn encounter" in the Mauban barrio three days before, on Aug. 14.

The Bulletin Today carried partial identifications for some of the dead, gave aliases for some of them, and said two were "unidentified".

It has since been ascertained that the four political prisoners for whom the fascist military had distorted or invented identification were Cruz, Sison, Faustino and Diones.

The bodies of two others--Silva and Panganiban--were later found by a roadside in Tagaytay City. They died of numerous injuries, as certified by a PC medical officer named Diols. They presumably are the "unidentified" ones in the Quezon "encounter".

At the time of his arrest, Silva was employed at the Engineering Department of City Hall in Quezon City. He could not have been part of an NPA team "clashing" with the fascist military in far-off Mauban, Quezon.

The reports confirmed that the victims were rounded up with the help of a military agent named Danny Hernandez, who had once posed as an activist. This agent even called up the parents of Panganiban to tell them that their son had been "kidnaped by the NPA".

The Bulletin Today news item of Aug. 17 unwittingly pinpointed the fascist military units that participated in the torture and murder of the political prisoners.

It mentioned troops of Task Force Banahaw under Brig. Gen. Andres Ramos, the Quezon PC command under Lt. Col. Wilfredo Villanueva, and the special weapons and tactics team from the Second PC Zone headquarters in Camp Vicento Lim, Canlubang, Laguna.

A fabricated report on the "encounter" was sent to PC headquarters by Brig. Gen. Alfredo Montoya, zone commanding officer.

The viciousness with which Montoya's men dealt with the political prisoners might be explained partly by the frustrated PC attempt to



encircle an NPA armed propaganda unit in Tagkawayan, Quezon, last July. Eleven of the enemy troops were killed. (See story on page 10 for details.)

But even before this, Montoya and his killers in the Second PC Zone had proved to be among the most rabid and bloodthirsty in carrying out the Marcos regime's massacre policy. (See "Resistance is People's Answer to Regime's Massacre Policy", Ang Bayan, July 31, 1977.)

They have adopted as their standard operating procedure (SOP) the arrest, torture and massacre of political activists, and the dissemination of false propaganda that these had been killed in "encounters" with the NPA.

Among the most notorious units under Montoya are the 323rd PC Co. under Capt. Rogelio Valentin, the 242nd PC Co. under Maj. Martin Reynon and later under Col. Evaristo Ranot, and the Second Military Intelligence Group (II MIG) under Col. Galido.

From Dec. 11, 1973 to Oct. 24, 1975 the Southern Tagalog Regional Party Committee recorded 14 mass murders by these units in Quezon province and Camarines Norte. Their usual execution sites are certain sitios and barrios of Tagkawayan, Guinayangan and Calauag, all in Quezon, and Labo in Camarines Norte.

Like Marcos' imposition of martial law in 1972, the regime's massacre policy is a sign not of strength but of weakness. It shows that the regime is getting more desperate as the revolutionary masses rise up throughout the land to smash Marcos and his mercenary troops.

\* \* \*

#### WORKERS' STRIKE MOVEMENT SURGES ANEW IN METRO MANILA

The workers' strike movement is on the upsurge once again. According to initial reports, 18 strikes were staged in July alone. These are a continuation of the massive strike movement of 1975 and 1976 and a new high in the wave of militant workers' struggles beginning early this year.

Among the recent strikes were those launched by 25,000 workers at the Gelmart Industries, Philippines (GIP), La Perla Tobacco Industries Corp., Solid Mills, Triumph, Inc., Manila Paper Mills and Realton Corp. The great majority of the strikers were women.

The strikes were waged against the antilabor and bureaucratic policies and actions of the Marcos fascist regime, the fascist harassment and busting of trade unions and widespread abuses by the big bourgeoisie and the fascist dictatorship.

In particular, the workers denounced the big capitalists and the regime's Department of Labor (DOL) for blocking Presidential Decree No. 1123 which grants them P60-monthly "emergency living allowances".

PD 1123, like the decree on the "13th-month bonus", pulls a dirty trick on the workers by exempting companies which are "suffering losses". Big bourgeois firms--subsidiaries of U.S. imperialist companies abroad and big comprador outfits--jumped at the offer of a loophole and started filing petitions for exemption on the basis of fabricated books of accounts.

Meanwhile, those firms that paid the "living allowance" did so on a daily basis. In this way, they avoided having to pay the "living allowance" for Sundays, holidays, days-off and absences.

But greater exploitation only breeds greater resistance.



The workers' just indignation at the greed of the big bourgeoisie and the collaboration of the fascist doubletalkers of the DOL was transformed into militant mass action.

Some 15,000 workers of Golmart went on strike in vigorous opposition to the refusal of the capitalists to pay the "living allowance" since May 1.

In retaliation, the capitalists called on Metrocom "strike forces" to swarm all over the factory area during the strike, and slapped "preventive suspensions" on about 200 workers.

At the same time, from Aug. 1 to 4, 3,000 workers of La Perla downed their tools in protest against the capitalists' petition for exemption from PD 1123. They also lambasted the reactionary government's refusal to grant the same allowances to everyone, or "across the board".

At the Solid Mills, which manufactures denims, corduroy, khaki, ramie and other fabrics, 3,700 workers went on strike from July 8 to 11. They rose in bold protest against the capitalist racket of deducting 65 centavos from their daily P2 "living allowance".

The workers set up and maintained for three days a "human barricade" at the factory entrance and sent a big delegation of 800 to the DOL.

The workers of Solid Mills had staged a "slowdown strike" since May 22. This cut production by more than 50 percent. Rattled by the production breakdown, the capitalists interrogated the workers one by one and tried to make them squeal on their leaders. Suspected leaders were closely watched by paid informers. Moreover, production quotas were raised and overtime work of four hours made compulsory. Workers were transferred from one unit of the plant to another to prevent the organizing activities of the workers.

The regime's Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) has a large interest in Solid Mills. The factory's "security force" is directed by Col. Antonio Habulan, former commander of "Task Force Isarog".

In Triumph, Inc., a firm owned by Imelda Marcos which manufactures women's underwear for export, 1,200 workers stopped work on June 21 and trooped to capitalists' offices to protest against the deduction of P10 from the P60 monthly "living allowance" and to support the union's demands regarding the new collective bargaining agreement (CBA).

Instead of heeding the workers' just demands, the capitalists slapped "preventive suspensions" on 56 union leaders and shop stewards last July 30. They were charged with violation of General Order No. 5 banning mass actions.

In another development, 800 workers of the Manila Paper Mills went on strike on June 2 to protest against the perpetuation of starvation wages despite long years of employment, the capitalists' refusal to grant workers' "privileges" provided by the regime's Labor Code and the lay-off of all union leaders and other workers, without prior clearance from the DOL.

The workers' low wages--P10.70 a day on the average--stand in sharp contrast to the declared net income of MPM for last year, which amounted to P1,405,000.

At Reahton Corp., manufacturer of radios, tape recorders and other electronic equipment, 1,500 workers boycotted overtime work starting May 21 in militant protest against the capitalists' refusal to pay the "living allowance" and one-fourth of the "13th-month bonus".

Aiming to dampen the workers' militance, the capitalists terminated the services of seven union leaders and 112 apprentices and froze production in one department for four days on the flimsy excuse that the company was



short of raw materials. The production quota was raised, and those unable to fulfill the new quota were threatened with dismissal. On May 30, the capitalists summoned the Metrocom. But the workers were right at their workposts when the fascist troops arrived. When they left empty-handed, a good laugh was had by all.

Due to the advance of the militant workers' mass movement and their growing class unity, a split emerged in the ranks of the increasingly isolated "labor dealers" of the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship. A yellow federation, the Trade Union of the Philippines and Allied Services (TUPAS), disaffiliated recently from the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP).

None other than the puppet dictator Marcos prodded Bonifacio Tupas, the notorious swindler and scab who is the president of TUPAS, to let loose assorted charges against Roberto Oca, the equally notorious president of TUCP.

Marcos has been uneasy about Oca's exceedingly close contact with the U.S. imperialist agent William H. Sullivan, former ambassador to the Philippines, and George Meany, president of the American Federation of Labor-Congress of International Organizations (AFL-CIO), a front of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The labor aristocrats, getting more panicky every minute, are in a terrible fix as the powerful revolutionary workers' strike movement continues to rage in Manila-Rizal and other urban areas.

\* \* \*

#### DICTATORSHIP THREATENS FORCE BUT STUDENTS ARE UNDAUNTED

Exposed for sabotaging the issue of tuition fee increases in colleges and universities in Manila-Rizal, the Marcos fascist regime has begun clenching its iron fist again.

Trying to cover up the regime's lack of intent to solve the problem raised by the student masses, a Marcos hatchetman recently threatened to arrest "troublesome" students.

Juan Ponce Enrile, Marcos' defense secretary, said he would "order the closure of any school involved in unruly or violent demonstrations, including the University of the Philippines".

Full of hate for the student masses, Enrile said: "If they want to become revolutionaries, then they must expect counter-action."

As part of its own preparation for a more direct fascist takeover of the campuses, the martial law regime and its gangsters have been making trouble at peaceful assemblies, then blaming the disorder upon the student masses themselves.

This happened recently at Manuel L. Quezon University, where students are continuing their boycott of classes. Fascist agents exploded crude bombs while students were holding a rally against expensive tuition fees.

Fascist agents have similarly provoked violence to disrupt the peaceful protest and boycott of students at Feati University.

Over recent weeks, more evidence has come to light of the collusion between the martial law regime and the big capitalist owners of private colleges and universities.



When the issue of yearly tuition fee increases first aroused public indignation, Marcos ordered a sham investigation of what private colleges and universities do with the additional income derived from tuition fee increases.

Several weeks after the Department of Education and Culture and the National Economic Development Authority had begun the "investigation", the capitalists got their go-signal from the fascist regime to proceed with the collection of unjust fees.

Right from the start, the DEC never acted in good faith. It refused to recognize the Alyansa ng Mag-aaral Laban sa Pagtaas ng Tuition Fee, the broadly based alliance of students in colleges and universities in Greater Manila. As a result, the Alyansa decided to walk out of the "dialogue" with the DEC.

In a statement, the Alyansa explained that the real troublemaker is the DEC, by its refusal to: 1) recognize the Alyansa which has the support of students, teachers and parents; 2) allow direct student participation in the investigating panel, claiming that there are no organized student bodies recognized by school administrations; 3) bind itself to the results of the "dialogue"; and 4) uphold the academic and democratic rights of students who have been harassed and arrested.

Because of this, the Alyansa said, "The students are now beginning to realize the futility of dealing with a government agency which openly takes the side of school administrations against the studentry."

It is not only in Manila-Rizal that students have been fighting for their rights. According to Balita ng Malayang Pilipinas (Free Philippines News Service), students at the Philippine Wesleyan College in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, successfully resisted the imposition of increased tuition fees.

Students in this college are now being harassed, BMP said, in the owner's anticipation of getting DEC approval for the proposed 15 percent increase.

Nevertheless, the students are busy strengthening the organization they have formed to carry on the defense of their rights against the excesses of the school administration.

The Alyansa ng mga Mag-aaral Laban sa Pagtaas ng Tuition Fee, meanwhile, reiterated the following demands of the student masses:

- 1) Roll back tuition fee increases and refund fees collected in excess;
- 2) Students must be represented in the panel investigating tuition fee increases;
- 3) Require schools to open their books of accounts to public scrutiny;
- 4) Restore student councils and independent student newspapers; and
- 5) Redress the injustices to those students who were arrested, hurt or threatened because of their opposition to excessive tuition fees.

\* \* \*

**PERSEVERE IN REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE,  
SISON URGES KABATAANG MAKABAYAN**

A revolutionary storm is gathering in Manila-Rizal that will "surpass the first quarter storm of 1970", Kabataang Makabayan founding Chairman Jose Ma. Sison said as he hailed recently the reinvigoration of the militant youth organization.



"The storm that will pound at the enemy will involve greater masses of workers and students than at any time in the past," Sison said in a message to the KM rank and file.

In his analysis, there will be "repeated gigantic street demonstrations, each of which will be directly participated in by hundreds of thousands of marching workers and youths".

The reinvigoration of KM and the resurgence of the democratic student movement, like the upsurges of the workers' strike movement, he said, are part of the gathering storm. Revolutionary activists have persevered in painstaking political and organizational work among the youth and students through the first years of martial law.

Founded on Nov. 30, 1964, Kabataang Makabayan was at the forefront of the first quarter storm of 1970, when great mass struggles were launched in Manila-Rizal and other urban centers.

Sison pointed out the need for a secret organization such as KM to link youth organizations in schools, communities and elsewhere. "Without this organization," he explained, "the various struggles of the youth would become narrow local struggles that do not flow into one powerful revolutionary movement."

Sison said:

"I urge all members of Kabataang Makabayan to take seriously their membership in this organization. In the first place, it is a serious matter to join an underground revolutionary organization at a time that a fascist dictatorship is reigning over the land.

"As members of Kabataang Makabayan, you can immediately contribute to the people's effort to overthrow the fascist dictatorial regime of the U.S.-Marcos clique and to take definite steps forward in the long-term struggle to complete the national democratic revolution.

"I am certain that more and more youth that are trained in revolutionary struggle by Kabataang Makabayan will eventually find their way into the ranks of proletarian revolutionaries and Red fighters, so long as their hearts and minds are truly with the toiling masses of workers and peasants.

"At any rate, I wish to point out to all members of Kabataang Makabayan the three virtues of revolutionary militance, perseverance and vigilance. These must be developed through practical measures."

First of all, he stressed: "All KM members must be active in arousing, organizing and mobilizing the youth and linking them to the broad masses of the people on the national democratic line."

He urged them to pay attention to propaganda work and united front building while taking a progressive stand on issues pertaining to the specific interests of the youth and to the general interests of the people.

On the other hand, he reminded KM members that they must "be tenacious, through the twists and turns of the revolutionary struggle", explaining: "They must recognize that they are engaged in a protracted struggle to defeat not only the Marcos fascist dictatorship but also the forces behind it--U.S. imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism."

Sison cited the importance of promoting revolutionary studies "to enable the youth to become revolutionaries throughout their lives".

He also emphasized the need to be sharper than the enemy. KM members, he said, must learn underground methods and outwit the enemy by combining legal and illegal methods.



More TV chapters must be formed throughout the country and all members should work with the workers and peasants and learn from them, Bisco said.

Even as the revolutionary mass movement grows stronger in Manila-Bisai, he said, "There is also a gathering storm outside Manila-Bisai. The revolutionary forces in the countryside and the provincial urban areas have developed to a great extent since 1972. The revolutionary links between the cities and the countryside must always be strengthened so as to ensure the advance of the entire revolutionary movement."

Bisco concluded:

"Upon the growth of the revolutionary forces, the crisis of the ruling system cannot but become deeper. Victory belongs to the people in the end."

\* \* \*

#### PG SOLDIERS SHOOT ONE ANOTHER AS NPA UNIT ESCAPES TRAP

The armed propaganda unit of the New People's Army escaped in a hilly and forested area in barrio Laming, Tagkawayan, Quezon. It was the second week of July 1977 and the APU was scheduled to pass from its expansion work to assess the gains it had made and to make new plans.

Unknown to the Red fighters, the enemy had got wind of their presence in the area. Even as they sat, the 40-man enemy force was splitting into two to encircle them in what was intended to be a hammer-and-anvil movement.

One-half of the enemy force approached from above. The other half was taking up positions below.

Just then the unit's look-out spotted an enemy soldier a few meters away. He drew his .45 caliber pistol and fired. The enemy soldier dropped dead.

The enemy were not fully prepared to launch their assault when the pistol shot rang out. Their timing was off. But they felt they had an advantage and wanted to pursue it.

Although not quite set, they let loose with their M-16s, M-14s and M-79 grenade launchers. Some of them dropped dead but the others continued to fire blindly into the bush.

After many minutes of firing, they discovered their two groups had been firing at each other. The hammer had smashed into the anvil and there was nothing to be gained.

When the shooting stopped, the bodies of 11 enemy soldiers were strewn all around, one of them fallen by an NPA bullet and the 10 others by the enemy's own bullets.

Seeking to answer up their stupidity, the surviving enemy troops stripped their dead of their uniforms and other belongings, brought the bodies to town and reported that they had been "ambushed and robbed" by the NPA.

The Red fighters were happy to have frustrated the enemy scheme with no loss to them while the aggressor force had 11 dead. Their possession of mind, knowledge of the terrain and training in guerrilla warfare had served them well in squashing out of a difficult situation.



But there was another important business they had to attend to. Even as reinforced enemy troops hunted the NPA "ambushers", the APU was assessing its experience.

How did the enemy know they were in that particular part of that particular barrio at that particular time? Had they been careless in their movements and thereby gave away their position to an enemy agent? Were they too trusting towards an unreliable element in the barrio who turned out to be an enemy informer? Did they miscalculate the enemy strength in the area?

Whatever it was, there had been shortcomings on their part. Only by pinpointing and correcting those shortcomings could they proceed with their important task of widening the revolutionary base in the Southern Tagalog region.

\* \* \*

#### NOTHING DOING, U.S. TELLS ASEAN

The dialogue between the United States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations held in Manila Sept. 8-10 ended with U.S. imperialism refusing to yield the slightest concession to the five ASEAN countries regarding trade, investment and "aid".

Aside from a handful of promises, all the ASEAN delegates got was an invitation to talk some more, in July 1978, at Washington, D.C., the U.S. capital.

The U.S. panel, headed by Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs Richard Cooper, described the dialogue as merely "exploratory". This indicated from the start that the U.S. had no intention of giving any substantial concession to its five client-states in the region.

The ASEAN panel (representing Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines) presented 11 memorandums to the U.S. dealing mainly with trade, investment and "aid".

The key issue was the worsening trade problem common to the ASEAN countries. As raw material exporters, they have been victimized by the violent swings in the prices of these goods in the international market. As a result, these countries suffer trade losses or deficits running to hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars almost every year.

Because of this, ASEAN has been pressing the United States to enter into some sort of international commodity agreement that would stabilize the prices of their exports.

The ASEAN countries have also been alarmed by the growing protectionist trends in the U.S. and other major capitalist countries. Their products have increasingly been subjected to higher tariffs, stricter quotas and other restrictions.

Under the U.S. trade reform act of 1974, for instance, Philippine plywood and veneer are taxed 20 and 10 percent, respectively. Similar products from other countries are allowed to enter the U.S. market at 10 and 5 percent only.

In reply, Cooper could only promise that the U.S. would work with ASEAN to "improve the access of ASEAN products to the markets of the industrialized countries, including the U.S.", through the liberalization of trade policies. Cooper must have been joking when he made this pledge because moves within the U.S. to restrict and discriminate against imports from underdeveloped countries have been increasing rather than abating.



The U.S. panel quickly torpedoed the proposed international commodity agreement by hypocritically expressing support for the objectives of such a program while asserting that prices can be stabilized through "other means". U.S. imperialism prefers to deal with the ASEAN countries individually so as to squeeze the biggest concessions.

Cooper also said no to the request for U.S. financing of the five proposed ASEAN industrial projects (Ang Bayan, July 15, 1977). He said that his country will not provide "direct support". He said that instead the U.S. government would "facilitate private investments" (meaning U.S. multinational corporations) in the ASEAN countries.

Further, Cooper implied that the ASEAN countries would have to open their doors even wider to U.S. monopolies. The investment decisions, he said, would be made primarily by private investors in response to the existing investment opportunities and climate.

This statement reveals U.S. displeasure over recent attempts by the reactionary regimes of Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines to restrict, no matter how feebly, the freedom of movement of U.S. multinationals in those countries.

The U.S. panel also remained non-committal regarding ASEAN's request that the U.S. refrain from taxing the income of subsidiaries of U.S. companies outside the U.S. This move, ASEAN claims, would discourage U.S. companies from investing in the region. U.S. imperialism is clearly using the issue to pry more concessions from the ASEAN governments which are all heavily dependent on imperialist investments.

The U.S. position on "aid" was shrewdly formulated so as to gain the biggest advantages for U.S. monopoly finance capital. Pledges of "official aid" amounted to nothing more than a token commitment to expand the program of the U.S. Agency for International Development to include agriculture and an assurance of continued "strong support" of international financial institutions like the Asian Development Bank.

The idea here seems to be to leave the way clear for private imperialist banks to provide the bulk of the loans to ASEAN countries at higher interest and more onerous conditions than "official aid".

The U.S.-ASEAN talks were the last in a series of failed meetings between ASEAN and its principal trading partners. Last month, ASEAN leaders also met with the prime ministers of Japan, Australia and New Zealand. At those meetings, ASEAN failed to get any concession that would ease the huge trade deficits of its member countries.

These developments serve notice to the crisis-ridden reactionary regimes of the ASEAN countries that they can expect little relief from their imperialist masters. In the years to come, they will continue to bear the brunt of the worsening economic crisis of the world capitalist system.

\* \* \*

#### FILIPINO PEOPLE WARMLY RECEIVE CHINESE FRIENDS

The Filipino masses warmly welcomed acrobats and football players from the People's Republic of China who made a friendship tour of the Philippines recently.

The Chungking Acrobatic Troupe gave performances in Manila, Bacolod City, Davao City and Lingayon, Pangasinan, from Aug. 8 to Sept. 6.



The large crowds that attended their shows admired the Chinese acrobats for their disciplined skill, grace, extraordinary coordination and spirit of helping one another.

The visiting acrobats made many friends during their month-long stay in the Philippines.

Also warmly received were the members of the football team of Canton, who played in matches held in Manila, Iloilo City and Davao City from Aug. 24 to Sept. 4. They won the championship in the invitational tournament held in Manila.

Sports enthusiasts praised the Chinese team for their stamina and excellent teamwork, and above all for consistently showing that friendship between peoples is more important than winning games.

Arts and sports, such as acrobatics and football, are flourishing in the People's Republic of China because of the importance given by the people's socialist state to the full and all-round development of the people's talents and skills.

Under the Marcos fascist dictatorship, the ruling class continues to exploit the people's talents and skills through the propagation of a colonial, feudal and elitist culture.

The Filipino people's admiration for their Chinese friends strengthens their resolve to change their own society.

The Filipino and Chinese peoples have had a long history of good relations. Today the two peoples are more united than ever as they struggle, together with other third world peoples, against imperialism and superpower domination.

\* \* \*

#### **MORE GROUPS ASSAIL MARCOS ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS**

Mass actions other than the big rally at St. Theresa's College last Aug. 25 were held in Manila last month to protest the Marcos fascist regime's continuing violations of the Filipino people's human rights.

In connection with the Eighth World Law Conference held in Manila Aug. 21 to 25, some 200 urban poor residents of Tondo gathered Aug. 23 to protest the acquittal of the two PC officers who had tortured Trinidad Herrera, president of the militant Zone One Tondo Organisation (ZOTO).

Balita ng Malayang Pilipinas (Free Philippines News Service) reported on the Tondo rally and on the "1977 Filipino People's Convention on Human Rights" held by opposition personalities on Aug. 20. The convention called for an end to the Marcos fascist regime.

The gathering, attended by several hundreds, passed resolutions on the right of the Filipino people to freely select their public officials, the need for a free mass media, and an end to torture of political prisoners.

According to BMP, one of the resolutions called on Marcos to form a "citizens committee", preferably composed of retired Supreme Court justices, to investigate torture cases and the unexplained disappearance and death of political dissenters.



Circulated at the convention was a document entitled "The People's Alternative" signed by 86 oppositionists.

It enumerated eight alternatives, including the "total dismantling of martial law, the abolition of one-man rule, and the restoration and preservation of basic human rights".

Among the speakers at the convention were Trinidad Herrera, former Senator Jovito R. Salonga, and former University of the Philippines President Salvador P. Lopez.

Salonga pointed out that fascist martial law and human rights are incompatible. On the other hand, Lopez called for the dismantling of martial law and the calling of national elections for all elective positions, including that of president.

The human rights mass actions reached a high point in the rally of 10,000 at St. Theresa's College on San Marcelino, Manila, on Aug. 25. Large delegations of militant workers, students and urban poor participated and so did foreign delegates to the World Law Conference.

Reporting on the World Law Conference itself, BNP said that of 6,000 lawyers and jurists in 50 countries invited to attend, only 2,000 showed up. The others boycotted because they did not want to be party to a whitewashing of the Marcos fascist regime.

\* \* \*