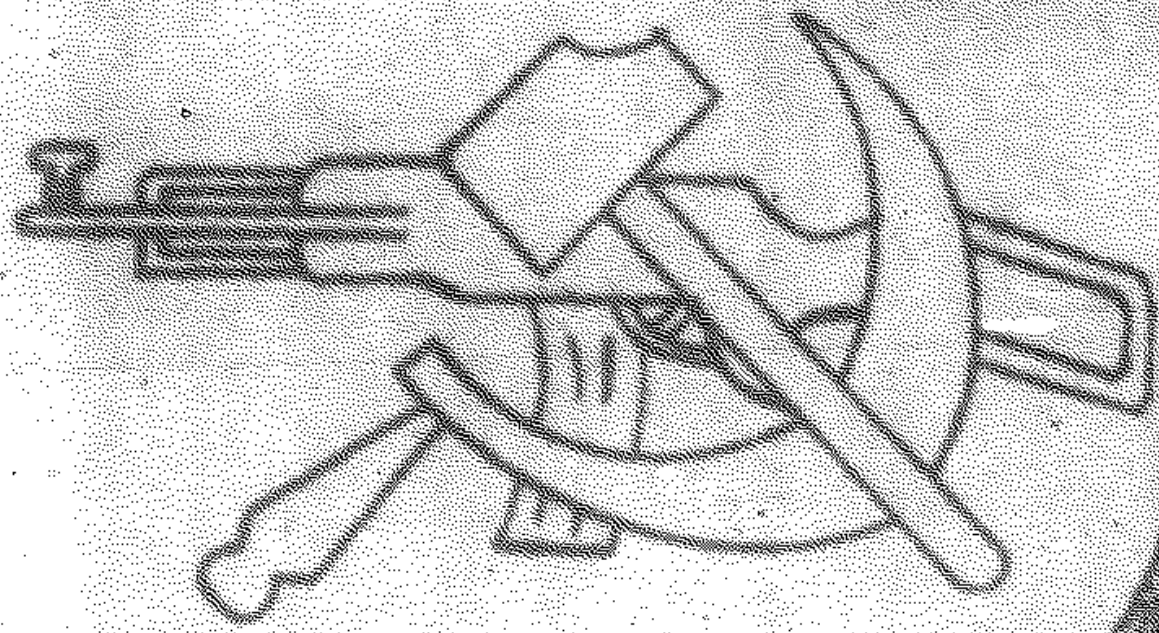


ANG

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



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LAVAITE DOCUMENT LAYS DOWN OPENLY CAPITULATIONIST LINE

The open collaboration of the Lavaite revisionist renegade clique with the U.S.-Marcos fascist dictatorship is set forth in its 1977 Political Resolution and Program, an "improved" version of the capitulationist document issued in 1973.

The new political resolution and program was supposedly adopted at the "Seventh Congress of the Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas" allegedly held in Central Luzon in September 1977.

The central point of this document, printed abroad in a 122-page booklet, is the treacherous idea that the masses of the Filipino people must abandon revolution and be organized for active participation in the U.S.-Marcos regime's programs in order to attain a "truly independent, democratic and progressive Philippines".

Such a program of betraying the people to the enemy is justified by the Lavaite clique's stupefying claim that the martial law regime represents the "newer sectors of the national bourgeoisie which tend to be antifeudal".

Therefore, the ruling fascist clique is "progressive", continue the Lavaites, and if it fails "to be consistently on the side of the objective interests of the masses", the fault lies with the people.

Why is it the people's fault if the U.S.-Marcos regime oppresses and exploits them? Because, the Lavaites explain, the masses are so "weak" that they are in no position to apply pressure on the fascist regime and to act in order to protect and advance their own interests.

This is just a variation of the Lavaite theory blaming what they call the "stupid masses" and the objective conditions for all the errors and failures in the long years when their bourgeois leadership sabotaged the revolutionary movement.

Pinpointing U.S. imperialism as the number one enemy of the Filipino people--while pretending to ignore the Marcos clique's role as its current principal puppet--the Lavaites portray the latter as "vacillating" between the interests of the Filipino people and those of its imperialist masters.

Reformism and capitulation

The revisionists refuse to see that the interests of the Marcos ruling clique cannot be separated from the interests of U.S. imperialism. They deny that U.S. imperialism instigated the emergence of the fascist martial law regime under the leadership of Marcos precisely to protect and promote its selfish interests.

The Lavaites refuse to admit that the ruling Marcos clique represents one of the biggest factions, if not the biggest, in the comprador and landlord classes which are U.S. imperialism's social base in the country. Insisting that the Marcos clique belongs to the "national bourgeoisie", they contend that it is "neutral" and capable of taking the side of the people if only there were enough "organized pressure" from the masses.

This un-Marxist class analysis illustrates just how bankrupt the Lavaite revisionists are. It explains why they have abandoned the Philippine revolution in every sense and embraced outright reformism and thorough capitulation to the class enemy.

The "need of the hour", as defined by the Lavaite program for counter-revolution, is the building of "a strong mass movement which alone can guarantee the attainment and satisfaction of the Filipino people's basic needs", that is to say, a mass movement in the service of the people's own oppressors.

This mass movement, in order to succeed, should be based on an anti-imperialist unity, according to the program. It makes no mention of antifascist or antifeudal unity--implying that the present regime is not fascist and assuming that it has already dismantled fascism. Moreover, the Lavaite brand of anti-imperialism actually serves U.S. imperialist interests, since their support for Marcos reinforces imperialist rule in the Philippines.

Given the fancy title of "The Philippine Path to Social Progress", the Lavaite program contains the following assumptions and proposals:

First, it alleges the U.S.-Marcos regime "was able to steer the country along the path of increasing independence and self-reliance", and calls on the people to follow.

Completely swallowing Marcos propaganda, the program lists the reactionary regime's "most important positive measures" as follows: a) "the beginning of the liquidation of the age-old problem of feudalism"; b) "dismantling of the bogus two-party system erected by the post-war alliance of U.S. imperialism and the native bourgeois-landlord classes"; c) "the search for an alternative structure that will ensure greater and direct reorientation of Philippine foreign policy away from imperialist dictation"; d) "the intensified promotion of industrialization in both the cities and the countryside"; e) "the rapid diversification of foreign trade"; f) "the search for a peaceful settlement of Muslim autonomy"; and g) "some initial moves towards Filipinization and democratization of the educational system".

Yielding the initiative.

"Hogwash!" would be the reply of the millions of workers, peasants, intellectuals, businessmen and students who are now rising up to overthrow the reactionary U.S.-Marcos dictatorship.

But the Lavaites insist on the supposed reality of these "achievements", and even call them "progressive" despite all evidence to the contrary. They claim that these measures "tend to loosen to a certain extent the neocolonial control imposed by the United States on the Philippines, largely in the fields of politics and foreign policy; strengthen conditions for peaceful development; and increase the productive capacity of the country".

Taking into account the international developments that weaken imperialism, the Lavaite revisionists say, "this positive trend" in the U.S.-Marcos regime will grow "as the Filipino masses themselves gain the necessary political and organizational strength to push to revolutionary proportions the above-mentioned reforms launched by the government".

In other words, the Lavaite clique would have the people yield the initiative for revolutionary changes to the U.S.-Marcos regime through its "reform programs". And the role of the Filipino masses would be merely to push these U.S.-Marcos programs "to revolutionary proportions".

This is a barefaced reversal of the fundamental Marxist-Leninist concept of revolution being waged by the people to dismantle the reactionary state and to set up a revolutionary state representing the interests of the broad masses.

The Lavaites have long ago rejected Marxism-Leninism and have turned for guidance to Marcos and joined his "revolution from the center".

Imploring U.S.-Marcos regime

Second, the Lavaite revisionists refuse to see the U.S.-Marcos ruling clique as a conscious and willing tool of imperialism in the latter's intensified exploitation of the Filipino people to relieve its ever-worsening economic crisis. The Lavaites merely decry the regime's inability to ward off imperialist pressure and its failure to consult the people in the planning and framing of policies.

The masses of the people are becoming poorer while a few have become richer because, they explain, the regime is forced to follow the dictates of U.S. imperialism and also because its technocrats make plans and policies without consulting the people.

Thus, the Lavaites do not call for the overthrow of the U.S.-Marcos ruling clique for its puppetry to U.S. imperialism and connivance in exploiting and oppressing the people.

On the contrary, it practically implores the regime to stand up to imperialist pressure and listen to the people.

Third, rather than painstakingly and unrelentingly develop the people's revolutionary organizations, the Lavaite revisionists insist that it is the reactionary government's obligation to strengthen mass organizations.

But then the Lavaites have their doubts; for aside from the restrictions imposed by society on the people's participation in national development, they fear that the present cultural and educational level of the masses "may be so low as to exclude them from participation in development efforts".

Following up this outrageous slander against the Filipino people, the Lavaite program suggests that "it is the task [of the U.S.-Marcos fascist dictatorship] to cultivate in the people a vivid awareness of their national identity and interests as well as to inspire them with a living ideology to transform themselves and their society".

Ideology of "inspiration"

The ideology that would "inspire" the people and, at the same time, "guide the whole course of policy-making", according to the Lavaites, is one "built not on the basis of hazy abstractions but on the concrete explanation of their actual state, the historical roots of their poverty, backwardness and underdevelopment, as well as the national aspirations formulated by past struggles to secure conditions of material progress and self-realization as a people".

With such an ideology, the Lavaite program points out, "the people can be mobilized for development, provided they can identify their interests in the content of development programmes" (underscoring ours).

What sort of ideology is this that may possibly not enable the people to identify their interests in the content of government programs? Or how could a government supposedly guided by such an ideology devise development programs that would not serve the people's basic interests?

The Lavaite program provides no enlightenment on this point. Outside of this definition of the ideology it proposes, no other discussion in the entire Resolution and Program pertains to ideological questions. Where have they buried Marxism-Leninism?

Fourth, the Lavaite revisionist renegades claim that "the people will naturally support concentration of political powers if these are clearly applied to advance their cause" and that "the existing political set-up will gain real democratic meaning economically and politically" if only the U.S.-Marcos regime allowed the people, through their mass organizations, a share in the exercise of political power.

How mightily the Lavaites wish the crow to turn white! If the reactionary state allows the masses "to determine, shape and implement policies and programs that will advance their collective interests", there would be no need to carry out class struggle and wage a genuine people's revolution. There would be no need for the petty bureaucrats of the Lavaite clique to leave their air-conditioned offices and engage in what they call the "humdrum" task of arousing, mobilizing and organizing the "inert" masses of the people.

Revolution is forging ahead

What all this boils down to is the Lavaite clique's desire to be accredited by the U.S.-Marcos fascist dictatorship as "the party of the working masses", leading a whole array of bogus mass organizations and systematically ridding itself of all traces of revolutionary ideology, politics and organization.

The Lavaite revisionist clique is now at the end of its rope. It is desperately trying to survive by latching onto the U.S.-Marcos fascist dictatorship, awed by the latter's "concentrated political power".

The Filipino people have repudiated the Lavaite revisionist clique with its bankrupt ideology and bankrupt political line. In ever-growing numbers, they are enthusiastically taking the road of armed revolution, under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Philippines. Revolutionary mass organizations are being built and strengthened. Through local committees in quite a number of areas, the revolutionary people are actually exercising their political power, which has grown and is still growing "out of the barrel of a gun".

The continuing struggle against modern revisionism will surely result in greater victories to come for the Party, the people's army and the revolutionary Filipino people.

REGIME HAS APPROVED NEW PRICE INCREASES

Even before "public hearings" could be held on the proposed increase in prices, cost of services and housing rentals, the Marcos dictatorship has already designed a plan to raise them in conformity with U.S. imperialism's desire to pass on to the Filipino people the burden of its growing crisis.

Also included in the plan is the imposition of more taxes and the continued dependence on foreign capital to intensify export production in the Philippines.

The plan was finished last December by an "inter-agency committee on prices and incomes", under the supervision of Marcos' National Economic and Development Authority or NEDA.

In essence, this shows once again the connivance between the Marcos dictatorship and its imperialist masters in intensifying the exploitation of the Filipino masses.

According to this plan, the price of oil and gasoline would be raised by the same percentage increase as that of the price of crude oil which was recently approved by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, or OPEC. In addition, a 4 percent additional tax would be levied on the commodity. Considering that OPEC increased its price by 14.5 percent, the local oil price hike may reach nearly 20 percent.

The increase may even be higher, in the light of the imperialist oil companies' petition for a 17 percent increase in the price of their products, and the still spiralling price of crude oil in the world market brought about by Iran's major cutback on its oil production.

The dictatorship did not even wait for the oil companies to submit their petitions for a price increase. It provided the rationale for the imperialists' desire to raise the price of oil: "to enable local oil companies to recover from the anticipated global rise in the price of crude oil, generate additional revenue for the government..."

Higher cost of services

It has been repeatedly proven that these oil companies are not losing but are amassing huge profits instead. Yet, the reactionary government continues to force the people to swallow the imperialists' lies.

The plan also envisions the following increase in the cost of services:

1. Bus and jeepney fares would be raised by 23 percent, allegedly to enable the transportation companies to earn at least a 12 percent return on their investments. But if the companies still are not satisfied with this profit rate, the Marcos regime would allow them to raise their fares by 40 percent.

The reactionary government temporarily withdrew from this position when the people strongly opposed it and when the results of a study made by the regime's Commission on Audit on the financial status of the transportation companies were revealed. According to the COA, in general these companies have been earning annually a 30 percent return on their investments. It even cited the case of one bus company which enjoys a 98 percent return on its investments every year.

2. Electricity rates would be raised by 11 percent, on the basis of the newly increased rates which were approved on November 1, 1978. The plan states that power rates should be increased to help the National Power Corporation or NPC pay its loans from the imperialists.

3. Water rates would be increased by 74 percent, on the pretext that the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System also needs funds to pay its foreign debts.

4. A 15 percent increase in house rentals would be allowed.

Added to these, the plan allows the capitalists in various industries, like paper, drugs, coconut products, galvanized iron and food to likewise increase the prices of their products.

Despite all these favors given to the imperialists, the regime claims the general price increase will not be more than 2 percent.

The truth of the matter is that inflation will surely reach a level higher than 10 percent. The products and services mentioned are so vital to the national economy that any increase in their prices will surely affect the prices of many other products.

Additional taxes

Alongside these price increases, the reactionary government would increase its tax collection from the people. The plan calls for imposition of new taxes and the strict enforcement of the tax decrees which were approved last year. These taxes include the additional 5 percent tax on the sale of products and the increase in real property tax, ranging from 100 to 1,200 percent.

The fascist regime has been relentlessly raising taxes in order to pay its mounting foreign loans and to support its military and bureaucratic apparatus. At present, the total foreign debt outstanding of the regime is P57.5 billion (\$7.78 billion). All the more, the imperialist-controlled World Bank has been forcing the reactionary government to impose more taxes and intensify export production to pay back its loans.

In turn, the regime's plan includes the grant of an extremely small wage and salary increase. But this cannot even compensate for the new round of increases in the prices of commodities and costs of services.

In a speech delivered by Marcos last January, he bragged that the Philippines can fight back inflation by intensifying its export production.

This is false. One major reason behind price increases in the country is this undue emphasis on export production. The Philippines continues to lose in foreign trade because the prices of its raw material exports are cheap while those of its manufactured imports are high. As production slumps in the imperialist countries, the prices of these raw material exports decline further, and their buyers become fewer. The Philippines' trade deficits consequently increase. Last year, the country suffered a trade loss of about P5.2 billion (\$700 million).

And everytime the Philippines incurs a loss in trade, its foreign reserves go down. The value of the peso thus declines as compared to the dollar, further bringing up the prices of imported products and raw materials.

Benefitting from crisis

The regime's export promotion program has also been creating shortages in the local supply of food and products being sold abroad, like coconut and cement. Needless to say, the prices of these items as well as those of the other products based on them also increase:

Both the dictator and the imperialists are loudly proclaiming their concern for the worsening economic crisis in the country. Indeed, they fear the political crisis that it will surely bring about. But on the other hand, they also benefit from the economic crisis.

The imperialists amass tremendous profits as prices increase. At the same time, they further strengthen their hold on the country's economy and politics.

And Marcos? He benefits a lot from the taxes being imposed on the people and from the huge profits being reaped by companies which he owns or where he has significant shares. And above all these, every favor he grants the imperialists is returned in the form of financial and military support to his tottering regime.

* * *

CHINA ACTS TO BLOCK SOVIET AGGRESSION

The People's Republic of China has taken concrete steps to stop Soviet social-imperialist aggression in this part of the world.

On February 17, China launched a limited military operation against Vietnam to punish its leaders for numerous armed provocations at the China-Vietnam border and to teach them a lesson for having embarked on armed aggression against Democratic Kampuchea. The operation was still going on at press time.

Vietnam was the immediate target of the Chinese military operation because its government had been allowing itself to be used in the social-imperialist scheme to spread Soviet hegemony in Southeast Asia.

Latest reports indicated that the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) had driven back Vietnamese troops and militiamen about 30 kilometers from the border, and was reported to be temporarily occupying a number of Vietnamese provincial capitals near the border.

Before the outbreak of large-scale hostilities, the Chinese government had repeatedly warned against intensifying Vietnamese armed incursions on Chinese soil. These warnings were totally ignored, the Chinese government said, thus warranting a punitive military action.

As the Chinese troops drove into Vietnam last February 17, the Chinese government announced through Hsinhua (New China) News Agency that it was prepared to enter into "concrete negotiations or any constructive measures that can ensure peace and tranquility" along its boundary with Vietnam.

"After counter-attacking the Vietnamese aggressors as they deserve," it added, "the Chinese frontier troops will strictly keep to defending the border of their own country."

The last statement gave assurance that China has no intention of keeping Vietnamese territory it now holds. The assaulting troops would withdraw to Chinese soil as soon as their mission is accomplished.

Later, the Chinese government declared itself in favor of a resolution filed before the United Nations Security Council calling on Vietnamese troops to withdraw from Kampuchea and Chinese troops from Vietnam.

The resolution was objected to by Vietnamese leaders and their Soviet social-imperialist mentors who were insisting on the ridiculous fiction that "there are no Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea".

Nevertheless, China's limited military assault on Vietnam has forced the leaders of Vietnam to withdraw some of their troops occupying Kampuchea and even some that are serving as "advisers" in neighboring Laos.

Social-imperialists make warlike noises

As China administered punishment on Vietnam's leaders, the Soviet social-imperialists stepped up their arms assistance to Vietnam and were making threatening noises against China. They likewise alerted an estimated 1,000,000 Russian troops at the China-Russia border possibly to invade China.

The Chinese were not daunted, however. If the better-equipped Russian troops did invade China, they would be drowned in a sea of people's war, as Chinese leaders had often warned in the past.

China's military operation on Vietnam came about a month and a half after Vietnam's armed invasion which it launched on Kampuchea during the last part of last December and early part of January.

In invading Kampuchea, the Vietnamese leaders allowed themselves to be used by the Soviet social-imperialists whose aim is to spread its hegemony to Southeast Asia (Ang Bayan, January 15, 1979).

At this writing, Vietnamese troops are still occupying vast areas of Kampuchea, including the national capital, Phnom Penh. Instead of heeding world opinion that these troops be withdrawn immediately, Vietnamese leaders did the opposite; they sent in more troops to occupy Kampuchea.

Estimates of Vietnamese troops that carried out the invasion on Kampuchea were anywhere from 100,000 to 130,000. A late report said there are today as many as 150,000 Vietnamese troops on Kampuchean soil.

The increase of Vietnamese troops has a twofold purpose. One is to consolidate Vietnamese control over Kampuchea. The other is to replenish thousands upon thousands of Vietnamese troops wiped out by the people's war being waged by the Kampuchean people, under the leadership of their Communist Party and their revolutionary army.

Puppet regime in Kampuchea

While Vietnamese troops were in control of Phnom Penh, the leaders of Vietnam tried to make it appear that a "new Kampuchean government" is now installed in the Kampuchean capital.

Actually, this is composed of a handful of Kampuchean traitors who, under Soviet social-imperialist and Vietnamese auspices, formed themselves into a so-called "Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation". This is nothing but a tool of the Vietnamese leaders and their social-imperialist mentors to provide an excuse for spreading hegemony in Asia.

To "legitimize" the occupation of Kampuchea by Vietnamese troops, Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong even made a "state visit" to Phnom Penh and signed with the renegade puppet regime of Heng Samrin a "treaty of friendship".

China's Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, while on an official visit to the United States last January 31, told a press conference that "in addition to attacking Kampuchea with great numbers of armed forces in a flagrant way, the Vietnamese are also creating a great number of boundary incidents along the Sino-Vietnamese border and such border incidents are still further developing".

He reiterated that "our position of supporting Kampuchea is firm and unshakable". He also said:

"Any action taken by the Chinese is through careful consideration. We will not take any rash action; whether it be global hegemonism or local hegemonism, China always adopts a firm position, a firm attitude."

Backed up by Soviet social-imperialism, the leaders of Vietnam refused to listen to world opinion and to China's repeated warnings. China's limited military operation that is being carried out became inevitable.

Vietnam's leaders still have ample time to correct their grievous error. They must now withdraw their troops from Kampuchea.

To achieve peace among the antagonists, there must be maximum good faith among the parties, minus the intrigues and trouble-making by Soviet social-imperialism.

* * *

WORKING WOMEN OF THE WORLD
TO BE HONORED ON MARCH 8

On March 8, the revolutionary people of the world will celebrate the 71st anniversary of International Working Women's Day.

On the historic day of March 8, 1908, more than 30,000 garment workers, most of them women, walked out of the factories and demonstrated in the streets of New York City, signalling the women workers' awakening to class exploitation under the capitalist system.

They demanded an end to oppressive working conditions and the abuse of child labor, and shorter working hours. They also demanded their right to vote.

In 1910, at its meeting in Stuttgart, Germany, the Socialist International proclaimed March 8 as International Working Women's Day, giving due recognition to women as a powerful political and social force.

From then on, proletarians the world over have celebrated the militant spirit of March 8. It serves as a call on women to strongly unite with their class brothers in fighting oppression and exploitation.

In any society, women comprise about one-half of the population. Most of them belong to the classes which sustain and move society forward --the working class and the peasantry.

In people's struggles against imperialism and all reaction, women of all countries have made significant contributions towards the victory of movements for national liberation and democracy.

Radiant examples were given by the Russian women in the October Revolution of 1917 and the Chinese women during the War of Resistance Against Japan (1949-45), War of Liberation (1945-49) and the present period of socialist construction.

The heroism of the women of Albania, Korea, Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos in the struggle to overthrow imperialism from their homelands is worth emulating. The women of Palestine, Mozambique, Eritrea, Zimbabwe, Thailand, Malaysia, Burma and others also displayed great courage in their people's struggles against imperialism social-imperialism and all reaction.

In the Philippines, women have participated and led uprisings in the people's long history of heroic struggles against the Spanish, Japanese and American colonialism.

Emancipation through revolution

With the launching of the national democratic revolution in the Philippines, conditions have been created for the politicalization and involvement of all the progressive classes and sectors of society, including the women, in fighting U.S. imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism.

The revolution is enabling the Filipino women to unchain themselves from feudal and bourgeois values that treat them as passive, weak, objects of pleasure and relegated to housework. With the intensification of armed struggle in the countryside and the strike movement in the cities, women are enthusiastically participating, shoulder to shoulder with the men, in the destruction of the old ruling system and the building of a revolutionary new system.

Lenin pointed to the powerful revolutionary potential of women in these words:

"Not a single great movement of the oppressed in the history of mankind has been able to do without the participation of working women. Working women, the most oppressed among the oppressed, never have or could stand aside from the broad path of the liberation movement. This movement of slaves has produced, as is known, hundreds and thousands of martyrs and heroines. Tens of thousands of working women were to be found in the ranks of fighters for the liberation of serfs. It is not surprising that millions of working women have been drawn in beneath the banners of the revolutionary movement of the working class, the most powerful of all liberation movements of the oppressed masses."

The participation of Filipino women in fierce class struggles is the decisive step in their emancipation from the decadent values and degraded social position that have been engendered, spread and defended by U.S. imperialism, the comprador bourgeoisie and the landlord class.

Women must be awakened and mobilized

In his message to the First National Congress of the Makabayang Kilusan ng Bagong Kababaihan in March 1972, revolutionary leader Jose Ma. Sison clarified the dialectical relationship between the women's liberation movement and the national democratic revolution. He said:

"The women's liberation movement must go through the national democratic revolution of a new type in order to go far in ending a long history of general degradation of women...."

"When the national democratic revolution is completed and the socialist revolution begins, conditions for equality of the sexes shall be created by the large-scale implementation of agricultural cooperation and by the great strides of industrialization. With their full participation in politics and revolution, the women will have all the opportunities for doing away with the noxious notion that women are clinging vines. No one shall be allowed by policy to persist in such notion. Certainly women will no longer be regarded as mere social vases, social toys or child-bearing gadgets."

It is therefore the task of Filipino revolutionaries, through the Party of the proletariat, to politicize and involve the great masses of working women in the people's political struggle--in a militant, resolute and systematic way.

On working women's day, we salute the heroes of the revolution especially women comrades who gave their precious lives for the people, the revolution and the Party. They are models of truly liberated womanhood for all Filipino women who are fighting today and even in tomorrow's socialist revolution.

Long live the memory of Comrades Cita, Alma, Maria, Puri, Mia, Ana, Delia, Luz, Liza, Lilibsa and all those who served and died for the people!

* * *

MONTAÑOSA MINORITIES APPROVE AGREEMENTS UPHOLDING RESISTANCE

National minorities in various parts of the Cordillera mountains (Montañosa) have further consolidated their ranks for more militant struggles to oppose national and class oppression by the U.S.-Marcos fascist dictatorship.

Separately in recent weeks, the Tinggilans of Abra, the Bontocs of Mountain Province and the Kalingas of Kalinga-Apayao concluded solemn agreements vowing to oppose all projects of the fascist regime that destroy their livelihood and culture.

The agreements strictly forbid collaboration with the regime and decree severe punishment--even death--upon traitors.

The object of the Tinggians' opposition is the Marcos-owned Cellophil Resources Corporation, to which the regime has given a 200,000-hectare forest concession in four Northern Luzon provinces. Much of this is the homeland of the Tinggians on the western slopes of the Cordilleras.

The Kalingas and Bontocs, on the other hand, reject the four Chico river dams which would submerge their villages and destroy their way of life when constructed. At the moment, the regime is starting to set up the first of these dams--the Chico Dam No. IV.

The Tinggians, federated under the United Communities of the Cordillera, met at a conference in barrio Tiempo, Tubo, Abra, last January 25 and 26 and concluded pakta ti kalon (terms of the peace pact) under which they vow to struggle until the CRC is driven out of their lands.

The agreement was approved by people's representatives from the towns and villages of Sagada, Besao, Licuan, Dallik, Bikigan, Tabakda, Apata-kili, Alangti Beew, Tiempo, Amtuagan, Bucloc-Sallapadan, Mainit, Tubtuba, Luba, Bangilo, Quileng-uloa, Boliney, Mayabo, Supo and Dilog.

It binds all members to the following provisions:

1. All members of the federation are prohibited from working in the CRC and other companies which destroy the Tinggians' means of livelihood.
2. No member may serve as guide for the CRC.
3. No member is allowed to make transactions with the CRC and other companies in the area, such as mining firms, without first consulting the peace pact holder and the residents of the place.
4. Anyone who is ascertained to have been bribed by the CRC and other companies will be punished.
5. The federation will work as one to support any person who is persecuted by the fascist regime by reason of his opposition to the CRC.
6. Any member who violates the agreement will be punished accordingly.
7. The federation will meet once a year, or as often as emergency conditions arise.

The Tinggians unanimously approved these pakta when the fascist regime and the CRC ignored their earlier petitions. The last of these was the one concluded at the UCC conference in barrio Bangilo, Malibcong, Abra, last September 24 and 25.

"Bodong" among Kalingas, Bontocs

A similar conference was held in barrio Bugnay, Tinglayan, Kalinga-Apayao, last December 28 and 29. More than 300 pangats, or tribal leaders, from 22 villages of Mountain Province and Kalinga-Apayao agreed to set aside their differences and present a united front against the dam project of the regime.

One speaker after another denounced the dams which, they said, would destroy their homes and farms and their cultural heritage and traditions.

"We would rather be bombed out than surrender our ancestral lands," they said in an expression of determination to fight.

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6. Any member who violates the agreement will be punished accordingly.
7. The federation will meet once a year, or as often as emergency conditions arise.

The Tinggians unanimously approved these pagta when the fascist regime and the CRC ignored their earlier petitions. The last of these was the one concluded at the UCC conference in barrio Bangilo, Malibcong, Abra, last September 24 and 25.

"Bodong" among Kalingas, Bontocs

A similar conference was held in barrio Bugnay, Tinglayan, Kalinga-Apayao, last December 28 and 29. More than 300 pangats, or tribal leaders, from 22 villages of Mountain Province and Kalinga-Apayao agreed to set aside their differences and present a united front against the dam project of the regime.

One speaker after another denounced the dams which, they said, would destroy their homes and farms and their cultural heritage and traditions.

"We would rather be bombed out than surrender our ancestral lands," they said in an expression of determination to fight.

The Bontocs' and Kalingas' bodong (peace pact) were amended to include provisions that prohibit members from working with the National Power Corporation, which is constructing the dams, or helping the NPC in any manner.

Like the Tinggians, the Bontocs and Kalingas prohibited treason. "Anybody...found to have been bribed against the interests of the people or in favor of the National Power Corporation will be severely dealt with, including (the punishment of) death," the pagta stated.

The other provisions include the following:

1. Parties to the bodong will warn the Igorot sons of Mountain Province and Kalinga-Apayao who are in the reactionary Armed Forces of the Philippines not to harm people who oppose the dams.
2. Should a Kalinga or a Bontoc working in the dam project be killed, those opposing the dam will not be held responsible.
3. In the event of any such killing, the bodong will not be affected and the peace pact holders will not answer for those killed.
4. Relatives of those killed in connection with the dam issue will claim the bodies quietly and are prohibited from taking revenge. If such revenge is made, the ones carrying it out will become the enemy of all those who oppose the dams.

Those who attended the two-day bodong ceremony in Tinglayan were representatives of barrios Bangad, Basao, Butbut, Ngibat, Loccong, Buscalan and Bugnay, Tinglayan town, and people from Tinglayan's poblacion; barrios Lubuagan, Dugnao and Tanglag in Lubuagan town; barrio Lubo in Tanudan; barrios Cagaluán, Ableg, Putao and Guinaang in Pacil, and barrios Tomiangan and Gaogao in Tabuk, all in Kalinga-Apayao; and barrios Eituagan and Anabel in Sadanga, Mountain Province.

Regime's dual tactics

In the face of the Cordillera national minorities' united opposition, the fascist regime has stepped up its dual tactics in a desperate effort to break their ranks. These tactics include the use of brute force and deception.

Recently, the regime relieved the notorious 60th PC Battalion from Kalinga-Apayao and replaced it with an even bigger group that includes units that had participated in the regime's campaign of genocide against the Moro national minorities in Mindanao.

The group is made up of the 51st PC Battalion which the AFP has boastfully described as a "veteran" of the anti-Moro campaign in Sulu, a company from the 58th PC Battalion, and additional troops from the PC brigade guarding the Bicutan prison in Taguig, Metro Manila.

The 60th PC Battalion was pulled out of Kalinga-Apayao because it had so thoroughly antagonized the masses by its many atrocities and abuses.

Whatever military units the fascist regime decides to send to the proposed dam sites in the Cordillera mountains, the Igorot people are resolved to fight. In this struggle, they have the support of their brother Igorots in Benguet and Ifugao and the rest of the Filipino people.

PROTEST ACTIONS LAUNCHED AT UPLB, BICOL SCHOOLS

From a march last January 24 to a militant boycott this February 7, students, teachers and other employees at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños (UPLB), Laguna, are persevering in struggle to assert their democratic rights.

Some 2,000 students marched last January 24 to protest the memorandum circular No. 1 which university authorities wanted to implement.

The circular requires previous approval by the UPLB's Office of Student Affairs before the students can put up any poster, billboard or streamer.

After the march, the students staged a cultural presentation depicting their problems.

On February 7, the students, teachers and other university employees staged a militant boycott to protest the university administration's indifference to their just demands.

The students want the administration to make good its promise to improve school facilities such as dormitories, housing and laboratories.

The teachers and other university employees want an increase in their salaries and wages. They have no clothing allowance, medical benefits, overtime pay nor job security. There has also been favoritism in promotions.

"No money"

To all these protests, the UPLB administration has had only one answer: the students' and employees' demands must be studied carefully because there are not enough funds.

The protesters could not accept the explanation, saying UPLB's budget for 1979 has already been increased.

As of this writing, the university authorities have not taken any concrete step to meet their demands.

Nevertheless, the students and university personnel are persevering in struggle in the face of the authorities' dilly-dallying and evasion of responsibility. They are even now preparing to launch a bigger boycott.

In the Bicol region, the teachers and the youth and their parents are likewise rising to fight oppression and exploitation.

In Virac, Catanduanes, for instance, teachers recently marched the whole day around the town to denounce malpractices of the school administration.

The teachers charged school officials with unjust acts, graft, mismanagement, and non-implementation of merit increases of teachers.

The protesters were undaunted by threats of the school administration that those who participated in the march would be suspended from work and prosecuted.

Meanwhile, in Del Gallego, Camarines Sur, students at the Del Gallego High School protested the school's oppressive rules and abuses by the principal.

The students put up posters inside and outside the school saying, "Reduce matriculation fees!" and "Amend the rules!".

According to the students and their parents, they can no longer afford the ever-increasing matriculation fees, and cannot stomach the arrogance of the school principal.

They exposed the unjust policies of the school and of the principal imposing prohibitive matriculation fees, requiring the students to make monetary contributions, and dictating where they should have their uniforms sewn and T-shirts printed. They also assailed his insults and his humiliation of the students.

The students' and school employees' mass movement is developing throughout the country. From relatively small struggles, the students, teachers and other employees are preparing themselves for bigger battles ahead.

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