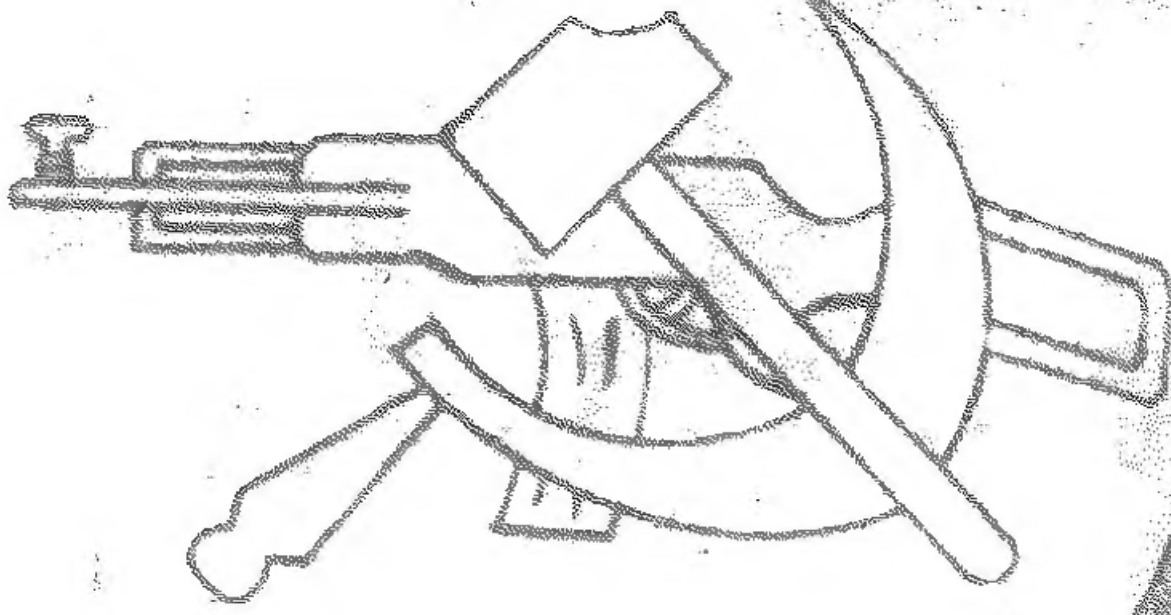


# ANG

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



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**FASCIST REGIME EATS OWN WORDS;  
NPA FLOURISHES IN CAGAYAN VALLEY**

It was the night of December 31, 1978, that the revolutionary masses of Cagayan province (Cagayan Valley) went into action.

On business establishments, electric posts, walls, markets, buses, jeepneys and tricycles in the Cagayan towns of Appari, Lallo, Gattaran, Baggao, Amulung and Tuguegarao, the masses strung up streamers and pasted posters in militant support of the revolutionary movement and firm opposition to the U.S.-Marcos fascist dictatorship.

The slogans proclaimed: "Long live the Communist Party of the Philippines!", "Long live the New People's Army!", "Long live the people!", "Smash martial law!" and "Carry the armed struggle forward!"

Still other slogans read: "Fight for democratic rights!", "Combat military atrocities!", "Stop military operations!", "Stop evacuations!", "Reduce the prices of commodities!" and "Increase wages!"

The massive "Operation Poster-Streamer" was the people's reply to the order of the fascist dictatorship to "eradicate" the NPA in the region by the end of 1978.

The order was given by the regime's defense minister, Juan Ponce Enrile, a native of Cagayan. In response, the 21st Infantry Battalion (Philippine Army) and other units of the reactionary Armed Forces of the Philippines, launched Oplan (Operation Plan) "Aurora Borealis".

Earlier, the fascist regime had beefed up its paramilitary forces in the region by creating what it calls the "posse comitatus", an enlarged version of the notorious CHDF, with town mayors leading these units.

**A slap on Marcos, Enrile**

Administering a stinging slap on Enrile and his master Marcos, the people in the region displayed a fine example of revolutionary initiative and boldness and, in the process, showed how vulnerable the forces of the martial law regime are.

In front of the church near the 21st IB camp in Temblique, Baggao, the people put up a large streamer reading "21st IB Kriminal!". The streamer stayed on until after noon when the puppet soldiers finally mustered enough courage to remove it.

In retaliation, the fascist military conducted searches on people's homes in the Baggao town proper. They found nothing.

And in Gattaran, the regime's most diehard puppet, Mayor Fruto Elisaga, was terrified when he discovered a people's streamer right in his municipal hall. The streamer read: "Smash martial law!"

Actually, this was not the first time the regime had bragged about "wiping out" the NPA in Cagayan Valley. In the early months of martial law in 1972-73, Brig. Gen. Tranquilino Parania, commander of the regime's Northeast Command (Noreascom), had boasted of "sanitizing" the Sierra Madre mountains in a short while.

**Five big enemy campaigns**

Many years have passed since then, and despite the five big military campaigns by the enemy, the people's army has sprung back time and again and continues to gather strength day after day.



The first of these operations was the one launched by 7,000 enemy troops from 1971 to August 1972, the second from September 1972 to March 1973, the third from December 1975 to March 1976, the fourth from December 1977 to the first quarter of 1978, and the fifth, code-named O-Plan "Aurora Borealis", which ended last December 31.

The NPA not only has survived all these counter-revolutionary campaigns of the enemy but continues to flourish. The mass actions on the night of December 31, 1978 attest to the NPA's close links with the people in the region.

The advance of people's war in Cagayan Valley can also be gleaned from the statement issued by the Executive Committee of the Party Regional Committee on December 26, 1978 commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Party's reestablishment.

The committee reported through its official organ, Lagablab (Flame), that since the first regional Party conference in August 1977, the Party and people's army have made big strides in the region, especially in mass work. It said:

#### Party members, areas of operation double

"We more than doubled the number of towns we operate in, compared to those before the conference. Where we used to operate almost exclusively in mountain areas, we are now in touch with the masses in the foothills, lowlands and even in some provincial capitals and key towns in the region. The political prestige and influence of the revolutionary movement...has reached areas beyond our areas of operation.

"Since the conference, the Party membership has also more than doubled. Because the majority of new members come from the ranks of local mass activists, Party work has advanced in the localities and among revolutionary mass organizations, and local Party organizations have acquired bigger roles. This offers an excellent condition for the expansion of the mass movement. It also lays a strong foundation for the development of our guerilla warfare.

"...Our regional Party organization is now stronger ideologically, politically and organizationally."

Of the regional Party conference of August 1977 itself and the program it drew up, the executive committee said these pinpointed fundamental errors in the region in past years, launched a rectification campaign and strengthened inner Party unity, deepened comprehension of Marxism, and advanced revolutionary work.

It was after the 1977 conference that the Party led the revolutionary forces in breaking through enemy blockades from the narrow areas they had previously been confined in so they could carry out mass work in more towns than before.

#### NPA scores military victories

While concentrating on mass work, Party cadres and Red fighters have also been carrying out military operations against scattered enemy forces. Among the most recent are the following:

1. Red fighters ambushed a PA patrol in Mabirabira, Gattaran, Cagayan, last December 9. They killed three puppet troops and wounded another, and confiscated two M-16 rifles, two ammunition belts, magazines and ammunition.
2. Red fighters killed five puppet troops and a CHDF member at the boundary of San Mariano and Benito Soliven, Isabela, last October. They confiscated five M-16s, two Garand rifles and hundreds of ammunition.



3. In San Pablo, Isabela, Red fighters killed three mercenaries and confiscated two .45-caliber pistols and a .38-caliber revolver.

4. In an encounter in Ilagan, Isabela, they killed an AFP officer and seized his M-16 rifle.

5. In an ambush in barrio San Lorenzo, Ilagan, Red fighters killed three sergeants and seized their arms--two .45 pistols and a .38 revolver. Dead on the spot were T/Sgt. Eladio Gubguban, S/Sgt. Romeo Blando and Sgt. Martin Balatan, intelligence officers of the 5th IB (PA).

Meanwhile, the peasant folk of Bunugan, Baggao, Cagayan, are still talking about how a youth activist seized an M-79 (grenade-launcher) from a patrol of the 21st IB (PA) on the night of last November 28.

According to the report, the puppet soldiers were tired after checking up on a nearby barrio. The youth activist waited for them to fall asleep and then sneaked into their ranks to seize the M-79. He fired at the soldiers before making contact with the NPA and turning over the weapon.

As in other parts of the country, the Party organization and NPA units in the Cagayan Valley enjoy the people's support.

This the regime itself was forced to acknowledge when December 31, 1978 came and went and the NPA continued to flourish in the Cagayan Valley.

In a radio interview in Cagayan, key AFP officials in the region admitted before Enrile their failure. Some of their remarks went like this:

"...The NPA is highly mobile...", "...When we conducted military operations in Cagayan, they were in Isabela...", "...When we conducted operations in Isabela, they were in Cagayan...", "...Their mass support is good and very effective."

. . .

#### LAVAITES AND OTHER REACTIONARIES MAKE ANTIPEOPLE STAND ON U.S. BASES

The Lavaite revisionist renegade clique and the anti-Marcos reactionaries in the United States say they are against the continued existence of U.S. military bases in the Philippines as provided for in the recently-signed treaty between the Carter administration and the Marcos puppet regime.

How real is their opposition? Whose interests are served by the two groups' respective protestations of nationalism?

In a statement, the Lavaite revisionist renegades merely deplored the secrecy that accompanied the negotiations between the U.S. and the Marcos regime. They conveniently ignored the regime's puppetry to U.S. imperialism, calling instead for a "real actual take-over" of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base by Marcos' Armed Forces by 1984--as if the reactionary regime could ever dare go against the wishes of its masters.

Not only that, but the Lavaite revisionists actually expect the Marcos puppet regime to encourage an "educational campaign" to be waged by a "broad united front of anti-imperialist forces". The target of the campaign would be, according to the Lavaites, the take-over of the two bases by the reactionary AFP.

So complete is their trust in the Marcos fascist regime that they would have the "Batasang Pambansa" make the decision in situations where the use of the U.S. bases would create the danger of involving the Philippines in war.



The masses of the Filipino people today are more aware than ever of the criminal collusion between U.S. imperialism and the Marcos puppet regime, but the Lavaitees try to insist that the latter is all right while the former is not.

The reason is that they are merely acting in behalf of Soviet social-imperialism, which is trying by hook or by crook to replace U.S. imperialism as the reigning superpower in Southeast Asia. Only a completely rotten regime such as that of the Marcos ruling clique could attract the social-imperialist vultures, and so they are keen for it to continue its fascist rule over the Philippines.

#### MFP statement

Meanwhile, the CIA-directed Movement for a Free Philippines (MFP) joined the statement of protest against the bases which was signed by many prominent oppositionists in the Philippines (see Ang Bayan, January 15, 1979).

From MFP headquarters in Washington, D.C., CIA puppet Raul Manglapus seized the chance to cozy up to the growing anti-imperialist movement in the Philippines. In fact, he is worried that continued U.S. support for the Marcos ruling clique would only discredit imperialism or, as he put it, "create anti-American feelings".

The declaration calling for the dismantling of U.S. bases in the Philippines, Manglapus said, "demonstrates a dramatic unity that is the key to a prompt and peaceful restoration of democracy".

What Manglapus calls a "restoration of democracy", of course, is merely a return to the old procedures of imperialist-feudal rule, and not the creation of a genuinely democratic state of the Filipino working people and other allied classes.

But to the broad masses of the people, it has become clear by now that only a thorough-going people's democratic revolution will be able to dismantle U.S. imperialist bases in the Philippines, break U.S. imperialism's stranglehold over the country's economic and political life, and put an end to the successive puppet regime of the local big landlord and big bourgeois classes.

#### Neither imperialism nor social-imperialism

Thus, the anti-bases movement can be meaningful only in the context of the Filipino people's struggle to overthrow the present reactionary state that represents U.S. imperialist, big landlord and big bourgeois interests. In short, the anti-bases movement cannot be considered apart from the national democratic revolution in the Philippines.

Neither do the Filipino people have any intention of kicking out the U.S. imperialists only to find themselves in the clutches of another power power. Soviet social-imperialism has a long and dirty record of economic exploitation, and political oppression in the countries that it subjugates. Moreover, as recent events in the region have shown, it does not hesitate to sacrifice the victories gained by socialist countries at so much cost, fomenting civil war and national antagonisms, in its bid to expand hegemony.

As the national democratic movement grows in strength, all sorts of opportunists will latch on to it and try to make it serve their own selfish interests.

To ensure that this strength will serve their own national and democratic interests and not those of U.S. imperialism, Soviet social-imperialism or the local reactionary ruling classes, the masses of the Filipino people must constantly rely on their own efforts and initiative.



The test of whether certain groups and sectors are sincere in their anti-imperialist stand is whether they support the national democratic revolution. Constantly making concrete analyses of concrete conditions, the Communist Party of the Philippines perseveres in building the broadest possible national united front for waging armed struggle against the imperialist-feudal state.

#### GEN. ABAT'S SON AMBUSHED BY FELLOW PUPPET SOLDIERS

A son of Maj. Gen. Fortunato Abat, chief of the reactionary Philippine Army (PA), 2nd Lt. Tito Abat (PA), was killed while two others were wounded in military operations conducted by the U.S.-Marcos fascist regime in the Samar provinces, Eastern Visayas.

The regime's newspapers made much of the death of the young Abat who, it is claimed, was killed in an ambush launched by the New People's Army in Calbang, Sta. Rita, Eastern Samar, last February 4.

What really happened is that PC troops ambushed Abat and his men, something that the regime refuses to admit.

Abat, who graduated from the Philippine Military Academy only last 1978, was second in command of the Scout Rangers Company. He had undergone PA training in counter-revolutionary "special warfare" tactics. At the time, he was on a secret mission in Samar.

His group entered the barrio without informing the other puppet troops stationed there. Thinking they were NPA fighters who were then launching tactical offensives, the PC troops pounced on them.

News of his son's death reached General Abat at once. His rage was great, for not only had they failed to get a single Red fighter, but his own son had gotten himself killed.

To cover up the reactionary troops' disastrous lack of coordination, the fascist military simply poured in more forces to conduct operations against the people and the people's army. More than 1,000 PA, PC and Philippine Air Force troops are presently carrying out raids all over Samar in a terror campaign against the people.

Before this, the U.S.-Marcos fascist regime had been unleashing violence against the people of the Samar provinces in the past several years, such as massacres, abusing and molesting women, kidnaping, arbitrary detention, forcible evacuations, arson and destruction of the people's property.

But the people know that Abat's death is merely an excuse for these operations, and that the real target is the growing and rapidly expanding revolutionary movement in the area.

#### HERE ARE THE WHYS AND WHEREFORES OF INFLATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

One mistaken view often held about inflation in the Philippines is that it started only with the sudden increase in the price of oil in 1971 or with the devaluation of the peso in February 1970.

The truth is that inflation has long been a problem in the country, and the conditions spawning it have been created ever since U.S. imperialism



started to distort the development of the Philippine economy and mold it according to imperialist interests and needs.

Inflation is also oftentimes mistaken simply as an increase in prices. The whole meaning of inflation is the persistent increase in prices. It may be slow, or fast, but the important thing is that the price increase is continuous.

This constitutes a serious problem for our people because never have incomes or wages caught up with price increases. Every time prices increase, the people's livelihood is eroded.

Before the outbreak of the second world war, and under direct imperialist rule, prices hardly increased. But this was due to the fact that penetration of the local economy by imperialist investments and goods was not yet extensive and deep.

Imperialism possesses two features which bring about inflation in any country that falls under its control. The first is speculation by bank capital. The role of banks is enlarged to allow capital to grow even without investing it in production, thus expanding the supply of money to the point where it causes price increases.

And the second is monopoly pricing. By virtue of their monopoly position in various industries, the imperialist companies can easily raise their prices to maximize profits.

#### Devaluation was a failure

When imperialist investments began pouring in during the 1950s, prices began to climb, slowly at first, then going faster and faster. See the data on the annual inflationary rate during the following periods: from 1955 to 1960--2.2 percent; from 1961 to 1968--4.5 percent; from 1969 to 1974--17 percent; and from 1974 to 1978--10 percent.

Inflation has slowed down a bit during these past few years, but prices still increase, and the living conditions of the people today are worse than ever.

In the years between 1950 and 1970, two factors stood out as the most important immediate causes of the general price increase.

The first was the increase in the price of food. It accounted for almost 60 percent of the overall increase in prices.

And the second was the devaluation of the peso in 1962 and February 1970.

Each is related to the other. Although there were other reasons for the rise in the price of food, like the devastation wrought on crops by storms and drought, it was greatly affected by the devaluation of the peso in 1962 and 1970.

The purpose of the devaluation was to end the country's perennial deficits in trade by increasing its export of raw materials. Certainly, exports were promoted, but in turn, the prices of food and other commodities increased.

#### Semicolonial trade system

Owing to the diversion of vast tracts of land to export production, food became scarce in the local market. And because the prices of these products were higher in the world market, the compradors stepped up even more their export of food and other raw materials.

Moreover, as the value of the peso declined, the imported products and raw materials for production of local industries became even dearer.



More unfortunate is the fact that the Philippines incurred even greater trade deficits. Indeed, exports were expanded, but the imperialists never stopped cheapening them and inflating the prices of imports. Such price manipulation by the imperialists intensified even as their economic and political crisis worsened.

Inflation, therefore, has its roots in the semicolonial system of trade and the dominance of imperialist capital over the economy.

Upon assuming power in 1966, the U.S.-Marcos clique further aggravated the conditions for inflation in the country. Exports were expanded to include not only raw materials, but also some manufactured items, like textiles and machinery parts. And what is more, foreign monopoly capital was allowed to enter practically every local industry, and even agriculture. These policies have been carried out more brazenly since the declaration of martial law in 1972.

The factors for inflation have thus multiplied. Shortages in food have continued, while they are being exported in increasing amounts. For example, the price of cooking oil was raised by 67 percent, following the expansion of copra exports last year as a result of the favorable prices for this product in the world market.

It is true that the textile materials and the machinery parts being produced by certain imperialist subsidiaries are not sold inside the country, but they certainly raise the volume of imports. From 1972 to 1977, the value of imported materials and machinery for making textile and spare parts increased by three times. In this way, they helped push up prices by enlarging the country's trade losses and bringing down the value of the peso.

#### Increased oil consumption

Because of the entry and dominance of imperialist investments in all its industries, the country has become more subject to the "transfer pricing" scheme of imperialist firms. They can freely raise the prices of their products because they hardly have any competitor, and they depend for their raw materials on their mother companies in the imperialist homeland.

And not only this. Since the late 1960s, U.S. imperialism has started penetrating the production of rice and corn. As a result, the importation of fertilizers, pesticides and other agricultural inputs has increased, especially when the planting of the so-called "high-yielding varieties" and later, the "Masagana 99" program, were forced on the masses. For fertilizers alone, their imports have risen by three times from 1972 to 1974.

The rapid increase of imperialist investments in all major sectors of the economy, including agriculture, has resulted in the consumption of more oil by the Philippines, thus making the oil price hike a significant reason behind inflation in the country.

Part of the increased takeover by the imperialist system of the Philippine economy is the increasingly active role of the reactionary government in implementing imperialist policies. Parallel to the influx of imperialist investments in the country, the Marcos regime has increased the money supply, through loans and taxation, to finance the simultaneous, massive and relentless construction of infrastructures, many of which are unproductive. The regime has also raised the budget of the military and the bureaucracy in order to further suppress the revolutionary movement. Both serve to intensify the problem of inflation in the Philippines.

The roots of inflation can be found in the semicolonial and semifeudal character of the Philippine economy. Only from this viewpoint can we understand that the solution to this problem lies not in mere reforms but in revolution.



## ANTI-MARCOS REACTIONARIES PERSIST IN REFORMIST TRICKS

A small group of anti-Marcos reactionaries is circulating a public appeal that seeks to capitalize on the people's anger at the U.S.-Marcos fascist dictatorship in order to create a situation favorable to their own seizure of power.

Contained in a "chain letter", the appeal throws some light on the directions and methods espoused by Marcos' reactionary rivals.

The letter lists several actions that could be undertaken, hopefully, to scare the "Marcos-Romualdez dictatorship" out of its wits. Notice the term as applied to the fascist regime; no mention is made of U.S. imperialism which is the ruling clique's main support, and that of the anti-Marcos reactionaries too.

The actions that are suggested by the letter are easily carried out, safe, and, above all, quite useless--because they avoid facing up to the necessity of organizing and arming the broad masses of the people to destroy and replace the entire reactionary ruling system.

For example, there is the suggestion to boycott the stores, hotels and restaurants owned or controlled by Imelda Marcos, which ordinary people cannot afford anyway.

Aside from this, the people are asked to write letters to known supporters of the "Marcos-Romualdez regime", as well as to well-known torturers in the fascist military, warning them that it is time to "repent" and go abroad before justice is meted out to them.

Additionally, there is a suggestion not to pay taxes, or to reduce the amount of taxes paid, or to delay payment at least; to slow down work which could affect the ruling clique's supporters; to participate, "safely but concretely", in rallies and demonstrations.

And, finally, urge the anti-Marcos reactionaries, people must pray "that we may succeed, as quickly as possible, as bloodlessly as possible".

### Fooling the people

They are a tricky lot. While doing their utmost to divert the national democratic revolution towards reformism, the anti-Marcos reactionaries want to make it appear that their schemes are part of the revolutionary struggle that enjoys the support of the Filipino masses.

They even hint that they are responsible for the recent fires that struck some government offices and Marcos-owned establishments. In the same breath, they egg the people on to commit arson themselves.

Their appeals are aimed at the middle sections of the people, who already recognize the necessity of armed revolution and wish to support it, but who have not yet lost their fear of the "disorder" that accompanies revolution, and who still doubt the abilities of the masses of the people.

It should be explained to these vacillating people that radical economic, political and social change can only be brought about through the violent overthrow of the present ruling system and the building of a new set-up that will satisfy the aspirations of all the democratic classes in Philippine society.

Such is the strength at present of the enemies of the Filipino people--the U.S. imperialists and the native big landlord and comprador classes, of which the Marcos clique is only one faction--that they can only be defeated by a protracted people's war led by the most advanced class, the proletariat, and basically relying on the latter's alliance with the peasantry.



It won't do, therefore, to hope for genuine changes to come about quickly and painlessly. On the other hand, these changes can't be obtained either by simply frightening the reactionary ruling clique, or by the use of terrorist tactics like arson, bombings, kidnappings and so on.

#### Trying to lead the revolution astray

The reactionaries want to deceive the people and make them believe that there is an easy way to make revolution. They incite the people to undertake spontaneous actions, hoping that the resulting disorder would enable them to sneak into state power, with the help of their U.S. imperialist masters.

But the broad masses of the people are resolutely taking up the protracted struggle that is sure to achieve significant changes in Philippine society. They have complete confidence in the justice of their cause and in their own ability to attain victory; and they no longer place their hopes on prayers.

From the ranks of the people, more and more are joining the Communist Party as they come to realize that this is the party that can lead all the classes that are struggling against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism. Through the Party's patient and painstaking efforts, people's organizations are being formed at the basic level all over the archipelago, laying the strong foundations of their own revolutionary political power.

To arouse, mobilize and organize the broad masses of the people for the people's democratic revolution is the task that confronts all patriotic and progressive Filipinos. There is no other way to vanquish the people's enemies and build a democratic and free society.

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#### IMELDA MARCOS BUILDING P185-M BASILICA FOR THE DICTATOR

An extravagant basilica envisioned to become the fascist dictator's burial site is being built by his wife Imelda Marcos.

To be constructed at Lungsod Silangan in the hills of Antipolo, Rizal, the salakot-shaped basilica will be called "Dambana ni Santo Nino". It is estimated to cost anywhere from P50 million to P185 million. (The National Housing Authority gets a P50-million annual budget.)

As planned, the basilica will be much bigger than the Araneta Coliseum in Cubao, Quezon City. Two or three hills will have to be leveled and five construction firms have been contracted to build the huge structure.

Although the Catholic church hierarchy refused to give its permission, the groundwork for the basilica continues.

Meanwhile, 20 church people signed a letter denouncing this extravagance of the "first lady". In a letter sent to the Daily Express (February 8), they said that putting up the basilica would be scandalous considering that millions of poor people, especially those living in the area, "do not even have salakots (hats) to cover their heads with".

They also said that building the basilica would be "outright squandering of blood money". The fact that the laity were not consulted on this matter was also denounced.

In a similar act of extravagance and self-adulation, the fascist dictator is building the "Marcos National Park", with a huge statue of himself at the entrance.



With a total land area of 300 square kilometers, the park stretches along both sides of the "Hanoi Highway", which runs from Agoo, La Union, to Baguio.

The park is intended to become another tourist attraction complete with luxurious hotels, gambling casino and other recreational facilities catering to the affluent and foreign tourists.

As a result, 75 families in a barrio have already been evicted. Two more barrios are scheduled to be displaced soon to make way for the construction of the park.

The relocation area allotted to them was a filled-in swampland. The nipa huts that had been built have been tilting since the area sank with the river rains. They have not been given any land to cultivate.

Harcos is only following the extravagant lifestyle of the other fascist dictators who are puppets of U.S. imperialism. Like them, he will be overthrown by the masses of the people. Then there will be no use for his basilica, for he will be cast into the dustbin of history.

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#### CHINESE TROOPS ATTAIN GOAL, START WITHDRAWING FROM VIETNAM

Giving concrete proof that it does not covet a single inch of Vietnamese soil, the People's Republic of China has started withdrawing its frontier troops that have been carrying out a limited military action against Vietnam since February 17.

Through the Tsinhua (New China) News Agency, the Chinese government announced on March 5 that "the Chinese frontier troops have attained the goal set for them" and have been ordered to return to Chinese territory.

Hanxin Kihon (People's Daily) reported on the withdrawal in these words: "Having given the Vietnamese aggressors the counter-blows they deserved, our frontier troops are now victoriously returning to their original positions and will stand guard watchfully on the frontiers of the motherland."

The Chinese government coupled its withdrawal order with a warning to Vietnam's leaders against making any more armed provocations or incursions on Chinese soil.

"The Chinese government solemnly states that the Chinese side reserves the right to strike back in self-defense in case of a recurrence of such Vietnamese activities," the announcement said.

China reiterated its earlier statement that it is prepared to give serious consideration to any proposals that would safeguard peace and tranquility in the China-Vietnam border areas and resolve outstanding disputes.

It also appealed once more to the international community to "urge the Vietnamese authorities to stop promptly their aggression against Hanoi and withdraw all their forces of invasion back to their own territory".

#### Heavy fighting still going on

Although China's troop-withdrawal order was issued as early as March 5, there was still heavy fighting between the two sides as of press time. This was because Vietnamese forces were taking advantage of the situation by attacking the withdrawing Chinese troops, forcing the Chinese to carry out defensive counter-attacks.



China launched its limited military action against Vietnam because of repeated Vietnamese armed incursions into China. It meant to punish the Vietnamese leaders for these adventurist activities and teach them a lesson for their armed aggression on Democratic Kampuchea, at the instigation of Soviet social-imperialism.

It also intended to stop Soviet provocations towards a new war. By halting Soviet-inspired expansionism of Vietnam's leaders, China would blunt the social-imperialist scheme to gobble up the countries of South-east Asia and, in the process, surround China.

After inflicting heavy casualties on Vietnam's frontier troops during the 17-day period from February 17 to March 5, and disabling them from launching further armed incursions into China, the Chinese troops were deemed to have accomplished their mission.

But with Vietnamese troops assaulting the withdrawing Chinese forces, the latter administered them additional punishment.

Vietnamese troops have been sustaining heavy casualties not only in its armed encounter with Chinese troops but in the people's war being waged by the Kampuchean people under the leadership of their Communist Party and revolutionary army.

On the prodding of Soviet social-imperialism, Vietnam's leaders had invaded Kampuchea late last year and installed a puppet regime in Kampuchea's capital, Phnom Penh. But the Vietnamese aggressors cannot consolidate their occupation of Kampuchea because of the Kampuchean people's heroic resistance.

At last report, there were as many as 150,000 Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. Although they far outnumber the relatively small Kampuchean army, the Vietnamese are being surrounded in many areas because the revolutionary Kampuchean people are firmly resolved to fight until the last Vietnamese soldier is driven out of their country.

#### Further rebuffs for Soviets, Vietnamese

While Vietnam's leaders and their Soviet social-imperialist mentors were suffering a sound thrashing in the battlefield, they were likewise sustaining political setbacks in international councils.

The latest of these was the 35th session of the United Nations' Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) held in Manila.

The Soviet social-imperialist delegates created disturbances while Chinese Ambassador Chen Hsin-jen was addressing the gathering.

This notwithstanding, the delegates heard the Chinese envoy warn that a superpower--the Soviet Union--was interfering in the Asia-Pacific area in an attempt to gain new footholds and expand its hegemony, or sphere of influence, in this part of the world.

The Soviet and Vietnamese delegates also walked out when the Kampuchean delegate, Ambassador Keat Chhon, denounced the continuing Soviet-Vietnamese aggression upon his country.

The ESCAP rebuffed the Soviet-Vietnamese demand that the Kampuchean delegation be expelled from the commission in favor of the puppet regime they had set up in Phnom Penh.

With the Vietnamese leaders and their Soviet social-imperialist mentors suffering one defeat after another, they have resorted to more trouble-making.

They are egging on Laos, a small nation with common borders with China, Kampuchea and Vietnam, to abandon its fraternal ties with China and to regard China with hostility.



Laos is virtually occupied by thousands of Soviet "advisers" and Vietnamese troops, and the latest report indicated that the leaders of Laos were allowing themselves to be deceived by Soviet-Vietnamese intrigues.

The social-imperialists, who are socialist in words and imperialist in deeds, may initially attain success with their mischief-making. But they will be found out and repudiated sooner or later.

It is not too late for the Vietnamese and Laotian leaders to disengage themselves from Soviet social-imperialism and return to the correct path of socialism.

#### THAI REVOLUTIONARIES SHOW FINE EXAMPLE OF BASE BUILDING

A good example of close coordination between revolutionary work in the cities and the countryside may be observed in the base areas that have been set up in the mountain ranges of the fraternal country of Thailand.

The base areas serve as strong centers and launching grounds for guerrilla warfare being waged by the people's army to overthrow the U.S.-Kriangsak regime.

The building of stable base areas has been going on in the country's northeastern, northern and southern regions since 1965, when the Communist Party of Thailand launched the armed struggle against the reactionary rule of U.S. imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat capitalism over their country.

Under the correct leadership of the Party, the People's Liberation Army of Thailand has done well in fulfilling its main tasks of fighting, production and base building.

When U.S. imperialism staged a coup d'etat in Thailand in October 1976, white terror reigned in the cities, especially in Bangkok, the country's capital. The fascist military killed numerous people in the demonstrations that were held in the cities.

It was then that the Party called on all the revolutionary people to come to the base areas in the countryside and continue the armed struggle. Thousands of youths decided not to return to their studies, took up arms and joined the war.

The revolutionary ideals of the urban activists are tested and tempered in the base areas. In their discussions with the village folk living inside the base areas, in their production activities, and in the hard struggle in the mountains, they gain a better understanding of the true meaning of revolution.

Life in the revolutionary base areas is described in several reports published recently in the periodicals Southeast Asia Chronicle and Japan-Asia Quarterly Review.

The comrades rise early to do their morning exercises, followed by military training. Then they join villagers' meetings or go to work in the fields. They give study courses and present cultural programs.

#### Security on the bases

Some are assigned to work in the printing press that turns out newspapers, books and magazines right there in the jungle. Others render service at the base hospitals or in the schools.



Actually, some of the bases are not so far away from the enemy. But because of good organizational work in the lowlands and the cities, information about the enemy's movements is rapidly relayed. Aside from the army units' own mobility and watchfulness, the enemy has a hard time finding out where the bases really are. Careful attention is paid to the methods of avoiding enemy surveillance; for example, kitchen stoves are provided with tunnels dug in the ground, so the smoke will not be seen from the air.

The intellectuals who join the base find little difficulty in adjusting to life in the mountains, according to the reports. They are a great help in sharing their knowledge, such as in medicine. They teach what they know to the comrades coming from the worker and peasant classes, and at the same time learn from them.

With the Party's guidance, democratic organizations in the cities and countryside are fast expanding. The people's activities, whether in the armed struggle or elsewhere, are closely linked. Workers', students' and professionals' organizations contribute to the strengthening of the armed struggle in the countryside. These urban mass organizations do not only provide material support to the people's army. They also give valuable political support and provide cadres and fighters for the army.

The advance of the revolutionary struggle in Thailand is an inspiration to all peoples, like ours, who want freedom and democracy.

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