

EDITORIAL

Condemn the US-Israel war of aggression against Iran

In solidarity with all the forces and people around the world who uphold peace, and respect for independence of nations and international law, the Filipino people must stand against the unprovoked terrorist attack of the Zionist state of Israel, in collusion with US imperialism, against Iran and its people. The relentless attacks, now more than a week-long, using jet fighters, missiles, and drones, brazenly violates Iran's sovereignty and raises threats to a broader war.

Using weapons provided by the US, Israel is targeting Iran's nuclear energy facilities, oil refineries, industrial areas, research facilities, and even civilian buildings. It is also targeting Iran's top military officials and leading scientists. In just one week, Israel has killed at least 630 people in its attacks, including nearly 270 civilians.

The Zionist Israel's justification for its bombing of Iran, which allegedly aims to preempt Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, is unacceptable. This argument, supported by US President Trump, is strongly disputed by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the United Nations, which upon

inspection of Iran's nuclear facilities, has found no evidence that the country has a program to develop nuclear weapons.

Israel, in fact, is the biggest nuclear threat in the Middle East, with approximately 100 nuclear warheads and the capability to produce 300 more. It has no right to prevent

Iran, an independent country, from developing its own nuclear capabilities, whether for energy or military purposes. Israel's attack on Iran has derailed its efforts to revive the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, a treaty against the proliferation of nuclear weapons, which the US abrogated in 2018.

The strategic goal of Israel's attack on Iran is to impose US imperialist hegemony in the Middle East and control the region's vast oil resources. Its aim is to punish Iran for standing up for its sovereignty and intimidate other countries in the region to surrender to the US and Israeli power.

The attacks of Israel on Iran are contemptible, especially since they come after its close to two-year-long bombing and occupation of the Gaza Strip, the land of the Palestinians. Almost 60,000 Palestinians have been killed in the genocide committed by the Zionist



state of Israel. After thoroughly destroying Gaza, Israel has now imposed a severe crisis of hunger and disease by banning all humanitarian aid, controlling food distribution, and conducting daily indiscriminate shootings at those waiting in line for aid.

With the support of the US in the destruction of Gaza, the Zionist state of Israel has become emboldened to expand its wars of aggression throughout the Middle East. In recent months, it has attacked Lebanon and Syria. Israel's occupying forces have controlled the Golan Heights and other strategic parts of Syria, after collaborating with the US and armed groups to overthrow the government of Bashir al-Assad. The bombing of Yemen, in partnership with the US, also continues.

The democratic forces around the world should support Iran in its defense against the aggression and invasion of US-Israel. Millions of Iranians have gathered in Tehran and other cities in Iran to show their unity and courage in fighting against Israel's invasion. Iran has every right to retaliate against Israel and defend its sovereignty. In re-

cent days, it has launched its own missiles. Many of these, including hypersonic missiles, have broken through Israel's defense systems. As Israel suffers increasing damage, its people are slowly being roused to speak out and stand up against the terrorism of the Zionist state.

Israel and the US are now increasingly isolated from the international community of nations. From Europe to Asia, there is a unified call for Israel to stop its attacks on Iran. In the face of widespread international and local opposition,

Trump is now backpedaling on his planned direct involvement in the war and the dropping of 30,000-pound bombs on Iran.

The call of the democratic forces around the world to stop the US and Israel's bombing of Iran should be intensified and strengthened. At the same time, the call to support the Palestinian people and expel the forces of the Zionist state of Israel from Gaza should be amplified, so that the Palestinians can rebuild their homes and lives. The call for the people of Israel to stand


against the fascist regime of Netanyahu and demand an immediate end to its aggressive wars, should also be strengthened.

The war of aggression against Iran is evidence of the deepening crisis of imperialism, and a major push by imperialist US under Trump to redivide the world's wealth in its favor. From Europe to the Middle East and Asia, the US is becoming increasingly aggressive in pouring massive military resources and launching proxy wars against countries that resist its hegemony over all parts of the world.

The Filipino people should unite and support the people of Iran in their fight against imperialist war. At the same time, the Filipino people should take action against the use of the Philippines by US imperialism as a launching pad for wars. The workers and peasants should link arms and form a broad united front to fight against the US wars of aggression and war preparations.

The New People's Army and the armed struggle throughout the country should be strengthened. The people's war and revolutionary movement are the strongest weapons of the Filipino people to fight the puppet Marcos regime, frustrate its plan to drag the country into the wars being ignited by the imperialists, and fight for genuine national freedom.






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The people's army perseveres in Northern Negros

After two years, the 79th IB—the battalion focused on the counterinsurgency campaign in Northern Negros—will once again change commanders. Like the previous battalion commanders who aimed to crush the New People's Army (NPA) and the revolutionary movement in the area, Lt. Col. Arnel Calaoagan will step down from his post as a failure.

Calaoagan became battalion commander on June 29, 2023, succeeding Lt. Col. J-Jay Javines who also served for two years. Upon his appointment, he promised to continue the “success” of the 79th IB's previous commanders.

On April 6, 2021, the battalion and its higher command officially declared having dismantled the Northern Negros guerrilla front. After this and the supposed dismantling of other fronts on the island, Negros was categorized under state of stable internal peace and security (sips) in the first quarter of 2024.

Rectification

The Northern Negros revolutionary movement's situation is far from Calaoagan's delusions. The NPA-Northern Negros (Roselyn Jean Pelle Command) reported its decisive steps to overcome weaknesses, rectify, and advance in line with the Communist Party of the Philippines' call for the rectification movement.

The Red army has worked hard to raise their knowledge of guerrilla warfare through ideological studies. Commanders and fighters furrowed their brows to apply these in their specific area. They resolved the problem of self-constriction and raised their capability in guerrilla tactics of concentration, shifting, dispersal, and quick movement.

According to the unit, even amid



the 79th IB's most intense combat operations and focused military operations in the guerrilla front, it managed to maintain its forces and launch timely counter-encirclement campaigns and expand their area of operations.

The NPA-Northern Negros carried out more than 20 offensive operations of various types and scope during Calaoagan's term. In these operations, they seized five high-powered firearms, more than 10 lower-caliber firearms, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition and other war matériel.

Contrary to Calaoagan's pronouncements of dwindling NPA in the area, the unit recorded a 12% increase in the number of full-time Red fighters. The unit also increased the number of people's militia in the area by almost 20%.

The Northern Negros mass base also significantly expanded as organizing committees daringly formed full-fledged mass organizations. The masses initiated dialogues and alliances with barangay officials. They stood their ground and confronted the military in defense of their rights.

Alongside this, creative and secret party courses are being conducted right under the enemy's nose. Party members completing the basic party course continue to increase in numbers.

“Calaoagan's empty declaration of ‘strategic’ victory is pure fiction. He will leave his post without any victory while the Party-initiated rectification movement continues to deepen its roots in Northern Negros,” NPA-Northern Negros spokesperson Ka Cecil Estrella said.

Calaoagan and the 79th IB under his command can only boast of his long list of human rights violations. In his two years of service, the 79th IB forces in Northern Negros committed no less than 49 cases of human rights violations. More than 22,000 people, including 5,000 children, fell victim to these cases.

With Calaoagan's departure from the 79th IB, he is expected to be assigned to a higher position in the division in Negros. The masses of Negros must continue to unite to expose and resist Calaoagan and butchers like him.

AB

Ka Louie Jalandoni, hero and martyr of the Filipino people

Organizations, parties, and groups from various regions of the Philippines and other countries honored and paid tribute to Ka Luis Jalandoni (Ka Louie), who passed away on June 7 in Utrecht, the Netherlands, at the age of 90. He was recognized as a steadfast advocate of peace, an internationalist, and an exemplary revolutionary.

Ka Louie was born on February 26, 1935, into a family of rich landlords with vast sugarcane plantations in Silay City, Negros Occidental. He studied and graduated from a private school and was later ordained a priest of the Catholic Church.

During the Marcos dictatorship, he served as a strong voice for the oppressed and exploited, especially the sugarcane farmworkers, as an activist priest. He was one of the founders of Christians for National Liberation (CNL) and became part of its leadership.

Ka Louie became a Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) member in March 1972 and performed various duties for the revolutionary movement. He was formally appointed as the International Representative of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines in 1977.

In 1989, Ka Louie was appointed as the NDFP chief negotiator in peace negotiations with the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP). Since then, Ka Louie played a key role forging significant agreements signed by representatives of the NDFP and GRP. He formally stepped down from his position in 2016 and has since served as a senior adviser to the negotiating panel.

Red salute of the people's army

New People's Army (NPA) units paid tribute to Ka Louie and honored him with a silent 21-gun salute on June 12, in accordance with the instructions of the CPP Central Committee. During these gatherings, the Central Committee's

message of tribute was read.

The Red fighters collectively recited the "Tribute and Pledge to Ka Louie." In Southern Tagalog, a "Kapehan" (discussion over coffee) was also held to discuss and honor Ka Louie. NPA political officer Ka Maxie said, "Ka Louie can be assured that we will take the pledge to heart and live it out. The life he offered for the revolution and the people will not be in vain."

Regional chapters and allied organizations of the NDFP also paid tribute to Ka Louie. These included the NDF International Office, CNL, Liga ng Agham para sa Bayan, Compatriots, Pambansang Katipunan ng mga Magbubukid, Kabataang Makabayan, Lupon ng mga Manananggol

ng Bayan, at Artista at Manunulat ng Sambayanan at Makabayang Kilusan ng Bagong Kababaihan. Most statements came from organizations based on the island of Negros, Ka Louie's birthplace.

According to the Central Committee, even as the revolutionary movement mourns the passing of Ka Louie, it firmly vows to continue his legacy of selfless service, boundless humility, revolutionary integrity, and commitment to waging the people's democratic revolution until victory is finally won.

Local and international recognition

Hundreds attended the tribute organized by the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan for Ka Louie at the University of the Philippines-Diliman on June 17. Relatives, colleagues, and companions of Ka Louie, veteran activists, the new generation, and young heirs to his legacy of struggle gathered in one hall.

Government representatives from Venezuela and Norway who joined the program recognized and praised Ka Louie. Members of the GRP negotiating panel from previous peace talks also acknowledged him.

Legal national-democratic organizations from various sectors of society paid tribute to Ka Louie. They regarded him as an excellent model of selfless dedication of life and strength for the cause of the Filipino people.

From abroad, parties and organizations from Ireland, United States, Afghanistan, Germany, Turkey, Kurdistan, and other countries expressed recognition of Ka Louie. For them, Ka Louie made a significant contribution to advancing the global people's movement against imperialism and all forms of reaction.



3 fascist 62nd IB soldiers, killed in NPA-Central Negros operation

THE NEW PEOPLE'S Army (NPA)-Central Negros (Leonardo Panaligan Command) fired an M203 grenade at the operating troops of the 62nd IB in Sitio Lip-o, Barangay Imelda, Guihulngan City, Negros Oriental on June 14. The attack killed three soldiers.

Residents said the 62nd IB stealthily transported the bodies on the night of June 14 to the center of Guihulngan City to conceal their loss. As in previous incidents, soldiers hid such ordeals to protect their image of "victory" against the people's army.

The NPA carried out this armed action to seek justice for the 62nd IB's numerous crimes against the people of Central Negros.

Impeachment trial against Sara Duterte deliberately delayed

THOUSANDS OF CITIZENS protested before the Senate in Pasay City on June 11 to push the trial of the impeachment case against Vice President Sara Duterte. People expressed disappointment at the Senate, which serves as the impeachment court, for apparently protecting Duterte, who used tactics to deliberately delay the trial.

Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) and other groups condemned the pro-Duterte senators and even Senate President Francis Escudero, for their maneuvers. The formal opening of the impeachment court was initially set for June 2, after already four months of delay, but this was moved to June 11, the last day of the senate session.

Pressure from some senators forced Escudero to convene the impeachment court on June 10. On that day, Senator Bato dela Rosa pushed for the dismissal of the impeachment case. Some senators disagreed but the majority (18 senators) voted in favor of remanding or returning the complaint to the House of Representatives.

The case was returned to the Lower House to supposedly confirm whether congressmen followed the constitution in filing the impeachment case against Duterte. Groups denounced this move and many lawyers and legal experts said it violated the constitution.



On June 11, protests also took place in Iloilo City and Bacolod City. Bayan member organizations held demonstrations on June 12 in Cebu City and on June 13 in Baguio City and La Union against these maneuvers.

Other groups and alliances also took action against the delay in the trial of Sara Duterte.



Killing of proposed wage increase condemned. Kilusang Mayo Uno and labor groups protested in Quezon City on June 12 to condemn the US-Marcos regime and its lackeys for killing the proposed law to increase workers' daily wage by ₱200. The Senate claimed that "there is no more time" and "there is not enough study" to discuss the proposal at the bicameral conference level of the 19th Congress.

Workers condemn dismissal at Sun Ace Polymer. Sun Ace Polymer Manufacturing Corporation workers picketed before the Department of Labor and Employment-National Capital Region on June 10 to demand the immediate reinstatement of the dismissed workers. The company illegally dismissed 31 workers after they complained about labor-only contracting and abuses at work. Sun Ace is located in Valenzuela City and produces plastic bags.

Toiling masses fight for compensation in Batangas. Over 1,000 farmers, fisherfolk, farmworkers, and sugarcane workers from Batangas first district attended a dialogue at the Department of Agriculture-Calabarzon in Balayan, Batangas on June 18. They demanded the immediate distribution of compensation for disaster victims and the allocation of disaster funds for the genuine rehabilitation of their livelihoods.

Resistance against land grabbing in Zambales. Residents and farmers of Barangay Taltal, Masinloc, Zambales erected a barricade on June 19 to block the scheduled demolition in their community. Police arrested five residents for resisting. The Yap family is grabbing the 32-hectare land being cultivated by farmers in the area because it was delisted from the coverage of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program. Before barricading, farmers went to the Department of Agrarian Reform-Zambales in the town of Iba on June 10 to call for the reopening of the agency's investigation regarding their land rights.

Free political prisoners in Quezon! Human rights groups in Quezon picketed on June 16 to demand the release of political prisoners in the province. The picket was held in the town of Pagbilao and Lucena City, where the case of Lino Baez and Willy Capareño was also being heard that day.

US further tightens control over Philippine military and security affairs

On June 12, various patriotic groups commemorated the 127th year of the country's false independence through a protest before the US embassy in Manila. They condemned the US for its intensifying intervention and military involvement in the Philippines, as well as its criminal role in the genocide in Palestine.

They condemned the US for its ongoing expansion of military bases, increasing stockpiling of its weapons, and its conduct of war games in the Philippines. They recognize that the US-Marcos puppet regime uses the conflict in the Philippine Sea with China to justify war preparations that turn the country into a staging ground of war.

In the first half of this year alone, the US conducted three major simultaneous war games, before and after the massive Balikatan. Thousands of American troops participated, bringing hundreds of vehicles and weapons stationed in various parts of the country. The war games used the Typhon Mid-Range Capability missile system, the Marine Expeditionary Ship Interdiction System (NMESIS), and the Marine Air Defense Integrated System (MADIS). Recently, the US announced the deployment of additional Typhon missile systems in the country.

One of these war games was Salaknib Phase 2, held in Nueva Ecija, Cagayan, and Batanes, until June 20. As in 2024, the US Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center-Exportable (JPMRC-X) led the exercise for a "realistic coordination" among the US, Philippine, and other troops against "security threats in the Indo-Pacific," clearly referring to China. Alongside Salaknib 2, Kamandag was held in Luzon and Kasangga of the Philippines and Australia in Mindanao.

The Marcos regime's subservience stands out for the number of military agreements which it, and

the fascist Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), have entered into with the allies of US imperialism.

Within the US Indo-Pacific Strategy's framework, Marcos agreed in 2023 to increase the number of US military bases in the country under EDCA. He and the AFP bound themselves to the Bilateral Defense Guidelines and formalized intelligence sharing with the US on sensitive national security information through the Military Intelligence Sharing Agreement signed in 2024.

The regime has signed or will sign at least five more military agreements with US allies from 2022 to 2025. Through these agreements, Ferdinand Marcos Jr granted foreign troops unlimited access to Philippine resources, land, airspace, and waters. He also allowed Japanese, New Zealander, Canadian, and French troops, as well as others invited by the US, to operate in the Philippines with almost no accountability to local regulations and laws.

One of these agreements is the Japan-Philippines Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA), which the Japanese parliament ratified on June 6. Representatives of both countries first signed it last year, and the Philippine Senate ratified it in December 2024. In both Japan and the Philippines, the people strongly opposed the agreement, saying it serves only the geopolitical ambi-

tions of both Japan and the US.

In April, the Marcos regime successively signed the Defense Cooperation Agreement with Germany and the Status of Visiting Forces Agreement (SOVFA) with New Zealand. The first allows Germany to sell its weapons to the Philippines with US approval, while the second permits New Zealand troops to enter and leave the country to participate in US-led war games and combat operations. Two more SOVFAs, with Canada and France, with the same purpose and rationale, are set for Marcos's signature this year. These add to the SOVFA signed by the Philippines with Australia in 2007.

Through these agreements, Marcos invites all US colluders to trample on Philippine sovereignty and use the country and its people as pawns in its conflict with China. This is a major mistake because it further isolates the Philippines from neighboring countries and increases tensions in the Asian region.



9TH YEAR

the Philippines remains among the 10 worst countries for workers.

Source: International Trade Union Confederation



₱39.8 billion*

or \$700 million will be squandered by the AFP to buy 12 additional **FA50 jetfighters** for its bombing campaign against civilian communities in rural areas.

*at the exchange rate of \$1=₱56.85

\$869.4 BILLION

the amount allocated by the **69 largest banks** in the world to fund coal, gas, and oil projects in 2024, which is 23% higher compared to \$705 billion in 2023.

10 cans of sardines

some rice, sugar, coffee, and chocolate were “granted” to fishermen in Zambales as compensation for their loss of income caused by the Balikatan war games in April and May; **228 out of 6,300** registered fishermen “benefited.”



30%

only of classrooms were in good condition when classes opened on June 16;

165,443

classrooms were in shortage.

41%

of 916 foreign domestic workers in Hong Kong are **made to work 11-16 hours per day** by their employers; 11% of them work more than 16 hours, according to the research of the Asian Migrants Coordinating Body-Hong Kong.

June 26, 1994

the first **Pride March** in the Philippines and in all of Asia, led by Pro-gay Philippines and the Metropolitan Community Church.



₱11/kilo

the lowest farmgate price of **palay** during the peak of harvest in April-May, while the price of regular milled rice in the market remained at ₱44.92/kilo.

Crimes of the butcher 8th ID in Samar Island

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) units under the 8th ID have repeatedly violated international humanitarian law in their desperate pursuit to declare the island of Samar “insurgency-free.”

On June 15, operating 63rd IB soldiers shot and killed 16-year-old student Jayson Grafil Padullo in Bagong Bario, Barangay Pinanag-an, Borongan City in Eastern Samar. Together with a friend, Padullo was only on his way to the fields to fetch his father.

On June 8, the 20th IB massacred three farmers in Barangay Na-goocan, Catubig, Northern Samar, and made it appear that they were among the five killed in an alleged armed encounter. According to PKM-Northern Samar, Noel Lebico Sr, Arnel Aquino, and Nonoy Norcio, whom the 8th ID identified to have killed in an encounter, were ordinary farmers who had long been targets of the 8th ID’s brutal campaign of forced surrender. The 20th IB had previously arrested Aquino in 2017.

During those same days, residents of several Northern Samar towns circulated messages and videos on social media showing the hardships caused by the hamletting of their villages. Residents of Las Navas, Catubig, Mapanas, Gamay, and Palapag exposed their situation and demanded the 8th ID end the hamletting imposed since June 8 so they could tend to their farm. They

expressed concern about mounting school expenses, outstanding debts, and daily needs.

Hamletting of communities

Hamletting has long been practiced in the region, but has been referred to since 2020 as a “lockdown” to justify it during the pandemic. Fascist troopers under the Retooled Community Support Program or RCSP deployed in the villages forced the residents’ compliance. Under the pretense of a census, they combed houses to interrogate the masses about the revolutionary movement.

After the pandemic, all 8th ID units became accustomed to conducting zoning operations whenever it “encounters” NPA members, suspects people’s army presence, or forces a farmer to “surrender.” Hamletting could last from a week to several months. There could be four or more large-scale, simultaneous, and unrelenting hamletting operations in a year.

Even a single period of hamletting is severely devastating. The masses cannot farm, soldiers ransack homes and scrutinize belongings, and accuse anyone

encountered outside the village of being an NPA member or supporter. Not a few civilians have been strafed for running away from soldiers in fright.

In Barangays Hitapi-an and Roxas, Catubig, residents were distressed when forced to log all movements even for short walks near the village. Soldiers also restricted their time for farm field work.

Forced surrender campaign

During hamletting, the military intensifies its campaign for forced surrender. In 2024, the 74th IB opened fire on several farmers working in the coconut plantation in Sitio Canonghan, Barangay Osmeña, Palapag. The victims, including minors, were arrested and brought to a “surrenderers” facility in Mondragon town. Those captured were used as bait to pressure their relatives, long pursued by the military, to “surrender.”

The military is further incentivized to impose hamletting by large amounts of funds they siphon from the Enhanced Community Livelihood Integration Program or E-CLIP, the program that offers meager rewards to “surrenderers.” More “surrenderers” mean bigger profits. Through hamletting, it becomes easier to force more starving masses to “surrender.”

In the town of Palapag, some residents forced to surrender were presented as having received ₱40,000 each in livelihood, aid despite having received only ₱4,000. In Gamay, ₱10,000 was allegedly given to each “surrenderer,” but ₱6,000 of this went directly into the pocket of Renato “Renay” Rebay, a notorious traitor and murderer.

In Las Navas, the “surrenderers” were not allowed to take home the canned goods and sacks of rice used in photos after being paraded along with the mayor and 20th IB officials.



Neglect and land grabbing lead to agricultural job loss

The economic situation of the peasant masses in the countryside continues to worsen. Most farmers have little or no land and have no other means of livelihood.

The US-Marcos regime cannot conceal this, even with manipulated statistics. The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) recently reported that more than 609,000 lost their jobs in the agriculture sector from March 2024 to April 2025. An estimated 483,000 of these are rice farmers. According to data from Ibon Foundation, up to two million lost their jobs in agriculture in 2024, while 276,000 fisherfolk lost their jobs in 2024.

The worsening livelihood crisis in the countryside mainly results from the backward state of agriculture and lack of industry. Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas chairperson Danilo Ramos said the continued increase in the number of unemployed is not simply a matter of “mismatched skills.” He said this is a direct effect of stagnant agricultural and industrial sectors, which supposedly provide sustainable jobs.

The poverty situation of the peasant masses is worsened by climate change, successive typhoons and disasters, the continued drop in farmgate prices, the influx of imported agricultural products, land use conversion, militarization, and many other factors.

The dire situation of farmers is further deteriorating under the US-Marcos regime. In addition to the bogus Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), it implemented other neoliberal programs such as the Support to Parceliza-



tion of Lands for Individual Tilting (SPLIT), New Agrarian Emancipation Act (NAEA), Build Better More, and EO 18 or Green Lanes for Strategic Investment for energy projects.

These policies result in the eviction of farmers from their land, division of land to facilitate control of farmers, while favoring landlords, the oligarchy, and foreign investors. Examples of this include the eviction of farmers from Lupang Ramos in Cavite, Hacienda Tinang in Tarlac, the BTL community in Bukidnon, and the most glaring example of CARP’s emptiness, Hacienda Luisita of the Cojuangco-Aquino family.

From July 2022 to January 2025, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) brags of having distributed nearly 195,000 land titles. However, 68% of these came from SPLIT—subdivided collective Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOA) and not new land distributed to landless farmers. Despite the large budget, the SPLIT program achieved only 12% of its target.

To make it appear that the US-Marcos regime fulfills its duty to farmers, he went around various provinces to distribute worthless

titles. In reality, SPLIT and NAEA are schemes to prepare land for the “free market,” where agricultural land will be sold, leased, or converted to other uses.

Ramos said, “These programs aim not to ensure farmers’ rights but to pave the way for real estate, infrastructure, and energy companies to acquire land under CARP.”

According to KMP data, only 28% of land parcels are owned by farmers, thus 7 to 8 out of 10 farmers do not own land. Landlords own 20% of farmland while 68% of all farms are squeezed into 13% of the land.

Under the banner of “green” development, the US-Marcos regime accelerated granting of permits to companies, especially foreign investors, to grab land. Renewable energy projects worth ₱5.239 trillion threaten to displace thousands of residents.

In addition are the 207 infrastructure projects like the Bulacan International Airport, New Clark City Pampanga, and the TARI estate in Hacienda Luisita that will displace farmers and indigenous people, destroy livelihoods, and raise land prices to the benefit of investors.

AB

Soldiers kill 2 youths

Relatives demand justice for 24-year-old Junjun Binoy, whom 94th IB soldiers killed in Sitio Bugtangan, Barangay Buenavista, Himamaylan City, Negros Occidental on June 6. The soldiers falsely claim he was a New People's Army (NPA) member and died in an armed encounter.



Meanwhile, the soldiers tortured and beat Binoy's 59-year-old father, Judy, who was with him at the time.

In Surigao del Sur, military's special forces elements killed 25-year-old Davie Ugking at Km 9, Barangay Diatagon, Lianga on June 6. The victim was on his way home from work when the military targeted him. Ugking was tortured before being killed, as shown by the bruises and wounds on his body.

Arrest. In Agusan del Sur, police and soldiers stopped nine people traveling individuals at a checkpoint and arrested them in Bunawan town, on the night of June 13. Those arrested were Charisse Bernadine Bañez, Ronnie Igloria,

Louvaine Erika Espina, Sinag Lugsì, Larry Montero, Daryl Man-Inday, Arjie Guino Dadizon, Grace Niknik Man-aning, and Leo Taba, along with two drivers. They were detained on various criminal charges and accused of being New People's Army members.

Authorities reportedly forced them out of their vehicles and made them lie face down on the pavement for two hours. After this, officers conducted a "search" of their belongings and vehicles, confiscating weapons and explosives. The next day, Taba and the two van drivers arrested with them went missing.

In Bohol, police arrested Hugpong sa mga Mag-uumang Bol-anon (HUMABOL)-KMP secretary general

Joemar Pogio at his home in San Miguel on June 8 over an unclear case.

Demolition. In Bukidnon, Central Mindanao University, with the force of hundreds of police officers, violently demolished the homes of farmers living in Barangay Dologon, Maramag on June 16, despite strong opposition from residents. The residents are members of the Buffalo-Tamaraw-Limus Multipurpose Cooperative and the Musuan Inhabitants' Landless Farmers Association.

The demolition destroyed hundreds of homes, leaving 1,566 farmers homeless. Police arrested five residents after pleading to harvest their rice crops.

AB

Filipino activists in the US join protest against Trump

MILLIONS OF AMERICANS launched protests named the "No Kings" day on June 14, to oppose the fascist and anti-people policies of the Trump regime. The protests were held in nearly 2,000 in 1,500 cities across the country.

The protest was called "No Kings" to oppose Trump's king-like behavior and seizure of powers beyond a president's scope. The protest also called for his "dethronement."

In Los Angeles, this protest followed over a week of widespread demonstrations against the persecution of immigrants and the deployment of the National Guard and Marines in the city. Protests participants include Migrante LA, Anakbayan LA, Gabriela LA, and the National Alliance for Filipino Concerns. ICE detained up to 330 immigrants in the city since June 6.

National democratic organizations attended the "No Kings" protest, with members of Anakbayan Philadelphia holding a streamer with the call "US out of the Philippines" on Vine Street Expressway, Philadelphia.

Duterte's appeal for temporary release from ICC detention opposed

FAMILIES OF VICTIMS, human rights lawyers, and progressive organizations strongly opposed former president Rodrigo Duterte's appeal for temporary release from International Criminal Court (ICC) detention in The Hague, The Netherlands. They said that this move threatens justice for the thousands killed under the "war on drugs" and strengthens the culture of zero accountability for crimes against humanity.

Victims and families of victims emphasized that the appeal is dangerous because Duterte's camp could use it to intimidate those calling for justice.

They called on the ICC not to grant the appeal. They said that the Duterte family remains politically powerful in the Philippines, and in fact, Duterte's daughter Sara Duterte continues to trot around despite the impeachment case against her.