



EDITORIAL:

Celebrate the victories of the NDFP, honor the heroes of the people's war!

Read on page 2

CPP condemns brutal killings of Tiamzons, 8 others (p. 2)

Belligerent action of China in Ayungin Shoal, denounced (p. 3)

Workers march united for jobs, wages, rights in PH labour day (p. 4)

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Celebrate the victories of the NDFP, honor the heroes of the people's war!


Fifty years ago on 24 April 1973, the National Democratic Front of the Philippines was formed amid the declaration of martial law by the US-Marcos fascist dictatorship. Since then, the Filipino people have possessed three powerful weapons: the Party, the New People's Army and the NDFP.

As we celebrate this momentous occasion on the 50th anniversary of the united front, the NDFP honors the heroes and martyrs of the people's war. We give the highest tribute to NDFP Negotiating Panel members and leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) Comrades Benito Tiamzon and Wilma Austria-Tiamzon. The martyrdom of the Tiamzons is a testament to their revolutionary fervor serving the people and the interests of national democracy and liberation until their last breath.

The NDFP also pays tribute to Comrades Jose Ma. Sison, Fidel V. Agcaoili, Antonio Zumel, Julius Giron as well as other key leaders of the CPP and the NDFP, and peace consultants who have passed away or murdered by reactionary state agents. Further, we also express our deep gratitude to the countless allies of the NDFP who continue to serve the national democratic revolution.

As the most consolidated united front organizations of the Filipino people, the NDFP binds together all progressive classes and sectors of Filipino society in support of the people's democratic revolution through protracted people's war. In the course of waging the people's war, organs of political power at village or inter-village levels, as well as at municipal and inter-municipal and even district levels, have been built based on the organized strength of revolutionary mass organizations, the local Party organizations and armed strength of the New People's Army. These perform state functions including implementing land reform policies and programs, dispensing justice and resolving contradictions among the people, conducting education and health services.

Taken together, all these comprise the embryo of the People's Democratic Government of the Philippines, a united front of all progressive and patriotic classes based on the basic alliance of workers and peasants, and under the leadership of the proletariat.

Presently, two governments exist in the Philippine countryside: the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the PDG represented by the NDFP. The PDG is Red and revolutionary; while the GRP is White and reactionary. Both sides are belligerents in the civil war of the past 54 years. 

CPP condemns brutal killings of Tiamzons, 8 others

The brutal torture and cowardly killing of Benito Taimzon and Wilma Austria-Tiamzon was condemned by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) in a statement issued on 20 April 2023. Benito Tiamzon and Wilma Austria-Tiamzon, together with eight other revolutionaries who belonged to the guerrilla force of the central headquarters of the CPP were captured in Samar province on 21 August 2022.

The ten, who were unarmed, were traveling on two separate vans along the national highway towards Catbalogan City. They were flagged down between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. All communications with the group were lost afterwards.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) later released a report that in the early hours of 22 August 2022, the Tiamzons were killed after their supposed boat exploded off the coast of Catbalogan, while engaging in a firefight with forces of the Joint Task Force Storm, the 8th Infantry Division and the Joint Special Operations Task Force-Trident, a unit trained and commanded by the US military.

The lifeless bodies of the Tiamzons and their eight companions were dumped on a motorboat filled with explosives and and tugged from Catbalogan midway towards Taranganan island before it was detonated. Only eight bodies were subsequently retrieved by the military.

It took months of investigations for the Central Committee to find out the
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image: philippinerevolution.nu

(continued from page 2) truth of how the Tiamzons and their companions were killed. Benito Tiamzon was the Chairman of the CPP Executive Committee and Wilma Austria-Tiamzon was the Secretary General of the CPP.

On 20 April, *Ang Bayan* the official publication of the CPP, published a special issue in which it quoted the Central Committee declaring “Ka Benito Tiamzon and Ka Wilma Austria as martyrs and true heroes of the Filipino people.”

“They dedicated their entire lives to serving the oppressed and exploited masses and gave all their body and minds to advancing the aspirations for national freedom and democracy, socialism and communism.” On 19 April 2023, National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) Consultant Rogelio Posadas (Ka Cocoy) and his three companions, Lyngrace Marturillas, Renel delos Santos and Renal Mialen. was arrested along the Isabela-Hinigaran Road in Negros province.

On April 17, 2023, Eric Jun Casilao, an alleged member of the New People’s Army, was extradited to the Philippines after being arrested in Malaysia. He is a consultant of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) on socio-economic reforms. His family has demanded that he be allowed to be visited and to meet his lawyers in person.

“This is totally unacceptable and is not only in violation of basic human rights and international humanitarian law but is shamelessly inhuman,” De Lima said. “Only real terrorists parade their captives in public for humiliation and ignominy that is a throwback to the dark ages of uncivil conduct,” De Lima ended. 

Belligerent action of China in Ayungin Shoal, denounced

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (BAYAN) condemned the latest aggressive and dangerous actions of the Chinese Coast Guard in the waters surrounding Ayungin Shoal, a Philippine occupied maritime feature in the Spratly Islands and well within the country’s exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

The latest incident involved a Chinese Coast Guard ship blocking the Philippine Coast Guard’s BRP Malapascua as it was on its way to Ayungin Shoal, resulting in a near collision.

BAYAN declared that China has no right to block the Philippine’s access to its own EEZ, the Kalayaan Island Group (KIG), Scarborough Shoal, and other maritime features and waters within and surrounding Philippine territory. China’s claim of “indisputable sovereignty” over these areas have been debunked time and again as having no legal, moral, or historical basis. (continued to next page...)




image: philippinerevolution.nu

(continued from page 3)

“China’s aggressive actions based on its unfounded territorial claims not only heighten tensions between the two countries but, ironically, are being used to justify the increased military presence in the region of its big power rival, the United States of America. The militarization of the South China Sea serves neither the Chinese nor Filipino peoples and, in light of US saber rattling especially in the Asia Pacific, is bringing us closer to a war that neither the Filipino, Chinese or American people want.

Contrary to its long history of anti-imperialist struggle, its peaceful rise as a world power, and whatever claims it has of being socialist, China’s bullying tactics confirm that it has become an imperialist itself.”

BAYAN reiterated their call for de-escalation of conflict and demilitarization of the South China Sea, the withdrawal of all foreign troops and military vessels in the West Philippine Sea, and the use of political and diplomatic solutions to settle disputes in the area. 

Workers march united for jobs, wages, and rights in PH Labour Day



image: philippinerevolution.nu

Last 29 April, in a press briefing by the labor federation Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) and the All Workers Union, KMU Secretary General Jerome Adonis said “This First of May, we have a runaway president. BBM (Marcos), running away from the workers who have legitimate demands.”

Adonis elaborated that the major demands of workers include living wage, decent working conditions and the right to union and freedom of association. He also condemned the government’s lack of action on the ILO High Level Tripartite Mission recommendations, saying culture of impunity worsens as another worker was killed in Bacolod.

In the briefing, Sarah Prestoza, Vice Chair of BPO Industry Employees Network (BIEN) Philippines pointed out that when “we organise a union to insist our fundamental rights, the government does not defend us. We suffer harassment, red-tagging and killings.”

The body of BIEN member and union organizer, Alex Dolorosa, was found in Barangay Alijis, Bacolod

City, on 24 April. Dolorosa was seen still alive the night before. He and other union activists have been subjected to heavy surveillance, threats, slanders in the social media and subjection to false charges, reported Bien Philippines.

Ang Bayan, Communist Party of the Philippines’ news organ, reported last 27 April that the Labor Day march rally was being organized by a bigger coalition, All Philippine Trade Unions (APTU), composed of the KMU, Nagkaisa! Labor Coalition, Trade Union of the Philippines (TUCP), Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (BMP) and other confederations. The APTU was formed last January in connection with the Philippine submission of the report on the situation of workers in the country Philippines to the ILO High Level Tripartite Mission.

“The workers are together for the fight for higher wages. We will March from Mendiola (Malacañan) to the US Embassy. Where ever BBM is, we will make sure he will hear our voices,” said Adonis. 