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SABI NI 'SIR'

The Journey of man through the ages is nothing but a Journey from darkness to enlightenment, from ignorance to knowledge. No man ever fought and died for freedom without first knowing what freedom is.

Pres. Marcos, Symposium on National Development, June 3, 1973



the national weekly
FORUM
of free expression

FM LIFTS EFFECTS OF MARTIAL LAW

President Marcos has lifted the effects of martial law from Dec. 29 to January 31, 1980 "except in areas that the military authorities may consider critical." This is in order to generate free debate in the campaign for the Jan. 30 local elections, according to Marcos.

VOL. III NO. 36 * PCPM Certificate of Registration No. 387 * FOR THE WEEK DEC. 29, 1979—JAN. 4, 1980 * 50 CVOS. IN METRO MANILA

LOCAL POLLS

NINOY'S LETTER TO PAENG

Beyond the reach of fear, threats



NINOY AND CORRIE—Above is a file cut of Ex-Sen. Benigno Aquino, Jr. and wife Corrie taken during their 25th wedding anniversary last October. Ninoy is spending the holidays at his Q.C. home on a 17-day pass granted by authorities.

(The following is a letter of Ex-Sen. Benigno Aquino, Jr. to his fellow detainee Rafael C. Yabut, the popular radio commentator, on occasion of Yabut's birthday last Dec. 10.—ED)

AQUINO'S AT HOME

Opposition leader Ex-Sen. Benigno Aquino, Jr., is quietly spending his Christmas holidays with his wife Corrie and children at home.

The former Tarlac senator was earlier granted a two-week pass by President Marcos—from Dec. 22 to January 7.

(Page 6, please)

Dear Paeng:

For one who has been deprived of his basic human rights, it is indeed a cruel and an ironic coincidence of fate that Human Rights Day had to fall on your birthday. I pray, the President will release you today as a fitting, symbolic demonstration of this government's oft-repeated commitment to human rights.

Two months before you were arrested, I was allowed for the first time since 1972 to listen to lo-

(Page 5, please)

Opposition is set to proclaim bets

ALL ABOUT 'WE'

Weekly tests RP democracy

(The following article came out in the Dec. 19, 1979 issue of the Asian Wall Street Journal. It was written by its correspondent in Manila, Michael T. Malloy — ED)

MANILA — A tentative step toward Philippine democracy will be tested at the end of this month when the publishing permit expires for a bold little weekly named WE. Renewal or cancella-

tion of the newspaper's permit is especially significant because Filipinos on Jan. 30 will get their first chance in more than eight years to elect their mayors and governors.

(Page 5, please)

JUSTICE MUÑOZ-PALMA ASKS

What are our options today?

PART II

As I have stated earlier, I likewise reject a status quo on martial law.

Martial law in the Philippines today is an institution or condition separate and apart.

(Page 6, please)



COED—Cynthia "Tinggay" Avena, is 20 years old and a 3rd year business management student at the Ateneo. She loves emoting in the stage and baking.

The united opposition is set to proclaim its candidates for local elective posts throughout the country as it filed last Wednesday (Dec. 26) before the Commission on Elections a petition for registration under the name "National Union for Liberation" (NUL).

This developed as the WE that they are members of the National Union for Liberation and as such will actively campaign for the united opposition's candidates in the provinces. Aside from LABAN and the LP, the other members' respective spokesmen told

(Page 6, please)

People have had enough -- DM

Diosdado Macapagal is the grand old man of Philippine politics — and one of the most outspoken critics of his country's current leader, Ferdinand Marcos. Macapagal, 70, the only living former President of the Philippines, is one of the founding members of a grass-roots coalition to

battle Marcos's martial-law regime. In New York, Macapagal spoke recently with Newsweek's Niki Lee about the growing opposition to the Marcos government. Excerpts:

LEE: What is the greatest threat to President Marcos today?

MACAPAGAL: The Fl-

(Page 5, please)

NATIONALIST ALTERNATIVE

The human cost

by RENATO CONSTANTINO

PART V

Central Bank statistics also show that although the money wage rate climbed to 210 per cent in 1978 (using 1966 as base year), the consumer price index went up to 332.4 per cent. Thus, the real wage rate went down to 63.4 per cent.

What is more disturbing is the fact that among ten countries in the Asia-Pacific region, the Philippines has the lowest wage structure. The disparities can be better concretized if one compares what the Filipino worker gets per month to the second lowest as well as the highest in different fields: in production — \$71 vs. \$104 for the Indonesian and \$610 for the Japanese; in administrative and managerial posts — \$464 vs. \$585 for the Korean and \$1,542 for the Australian; and clerical work — \$96 vs. \$176 for the Thai and \$727 for the Australian. The figures are derived from an annual survey of salaries and wages in transnational corporations in the region for 1978.

All these findings are shrugged off as a necessary price of development; the advocates of neocolonial industrialization counter that the Philippines is only on the take-off stage of her own economic "miracle" and predict that things will get better in the future. **The Human Cost of "Economic Miracles"**

Perhaps what can be done to estimate what the Filipino people's future will be is to see what has happened in countries that have travelled the same road.

(Page 4, please)

Speak up!

EMANCIPATION FROM WHAT?

by JAIME B. DALVI
13th Street, Bacolod City

It all started with the Presidential Decree No. 27, the so-called "Tenant's Emancipation Law." Emancipation from what? To begin with, there is a saying that says: "There are no tyrants where there are no slaves." The rice and

corn landowners never compelled their tenants to till their land and share the crop raised with them. The share-the-crop agreement entered into by the landowners with their tenants was resorted to by

(Page 4, please)

At a glance • At a glance

* LOCAL POLLS UNCONSTITUTIONAL, WRITES RAUL GONZALEZ . . . P. 2

PULSE



Editorial

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

Almighty God, the Grantor of all rights, the Wielder of all power, look down upon us, Filipinos, as we step into a New Year and begin anew a decade that poses so much challenges amid the crucible of oppression, poverty and temptation.

Grant us, we beseech You, to strengthen us in hurdling all adversities and keep us united in truth and freedom as we chart our own destiny without fear nor hate.

Give our leaders the wisdom to know and do what is right—not for their sake—but for the sake of their people. Imbue in them the humility to accept their mistakes and the fortitude to correct such mistakes.

Above all, shower on our people the spirit of decisiveness in combatting the ills that beset them so that in the final reckoning, they will be masters, not slaves of no one. This we beg You, in the name of love and justice. Amen

THIS IS MY OWN



MOST VENDIBLE PLAYER

You made me a superstar, remember
You featured me on a magazine cover
And once I was on top, and saw the view from there
How could I ever stop—to think—with all the glare?

The man of letters and the builder
The man of virtue and the philosopher
They never make the magazine cover
But we made it many times over
We who are the editor's choice by far
The basketball player and the bomba star

For we are part of the circus
The circus goes hand in hand with the bread
To keep the people's thirst for freedom restrained
We are all supposed to keep them entertained

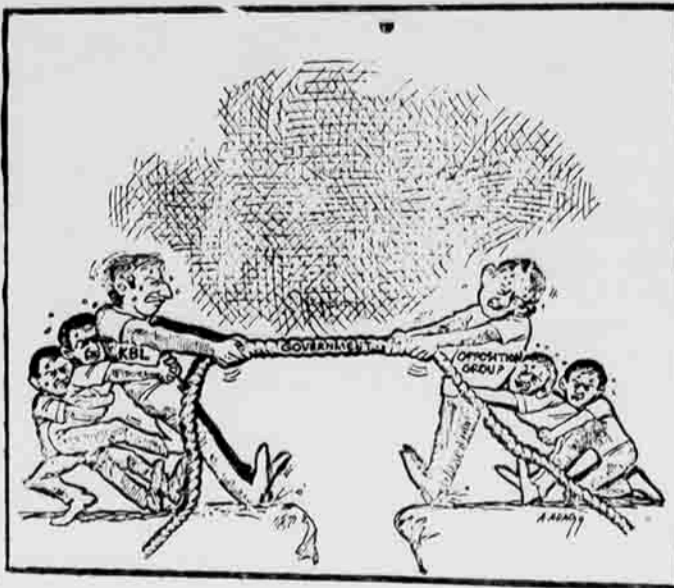
Now I used to play for fun
But they taught me to play for pay
To play for more and more pay
Until all the fun was gone one day
Then I was paid better to play better
Placed under contract to play to the letter

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JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.
Publisher-Editor

TO SEEK AND LIVE THE TRUTH AND SHARE A VISION.



Daily Express

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



THANK YOU TO ONE AND ALL

By JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.

To all our faithful readers and supporters, we offer the following prayer of Fra Giovanni (1513 A.D.) as a way of saying "Thank you so much and here's wishing you a blessed New Year:"

"The gloom of the world is but a shadow. Behind it, yet within reach, is joy. There is radiance and glory in darkness, could we but see, and to see we have only to look. We beseech you to look.

"And so, at this time, we greet you. Not quite as the world sends greetings, but with profound esteem, and with the prayer that for you now and forever, the day breaks and the shadows flee away."

The problem of President Marcos in the forthcoming elections is not so much the opposition which is now ready to slug it out throughout the country come January 30 but how to please all his loyal men and women who want to run under the ruling KBL party.

On the other hand, the opposition has adopted a wait-see attitude over the KBL bickerings. Once the Marcos group breaks, expect the opposition to pick up the pieces and support the disgruntled candidates who may still insist on running.

Here's one from our mailbag:

"Dear Sirs,
I buy your sometimes-publication with the ridiculous sentiment that, my God, its the least and only real thing I'm doing for my country I wonder how many other people do the same. Your stuff is generally the kind read by scholars in the social science field or "affected

segments" of a certain IQ, such as my father. Still it leaves that certain fetching aftertaste that comes from trying to swallow the facts of the Let's all just disco.

Its not as though the rational thinking you represent paints a pessimistic view. Having taken your stand as a vocal opposition, I think you ought to be commended for the hopefulness you have shown. I can say this from the side of unreason, from the side of the feelings we can't justify; for instance, from the side of the nightmares we have over militarization. Not even Freud would understand.

I'm talking about social trauma, and it has no sapient voice. It makes everything absurd. Escalating poverty is absurd by being a fact of life. When you've followed Family Planning and paid all your taxes and invested in the bonds prescribed, it still doesn't make sense! The peso floats longer than Noah's flood.

Ynangbayan comes on like a beauty queen—who could guess that the best of her jewels are in hock? She's number two in US immigrations; anyway Mexico had the favor. Some of her children will never return.

Meantime the lights go off and on for Pavlov's dogs; it makes them feel helpless. They sit on the floor and whine and take the shock.

I could wish I received diplomatic mail.

At least we have a mass. Religion always gives me a sense of community. Please inform the Cardinal to be careful about this exercise. Praying is a dangerous affair, like education. Haven't you ever

VIEW-POINT



LOCAL POLLS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

By RAUL M. GONZALEZ

More than anything else, I would like to greet the readers of WE in particular, and the Filipino people in general, with a wish and a prayer that this Christmastide will bring them cheers and the blessings of a kind Providence in order to give them hopes for a better 1980. Indeed, for our people, nothing much is left except to hope—since hope springs eternal in the human hearts, that the freedoms so long denied us may soon be restored and democracy which we now practise only in words will be returned to the sovereign people as guaranteed by our Constitution.

Seven long years of martial law must have drained so much of our hopes but let us not be dismayed. The advent of Christmas and the coming of a New Year always give us some upliftment which help to rekindle our spirits and energies in order to meet the challenges of the coming year. This Yuletide, therefore, should be a moment of rebirth — of our jaded hopes and dreams and a moment for reflection and a look at our inner selves and find out if we, as a people have done our share in the national efforts to keep this nation a nation of free men, a land of the free and a fitting home of the brave.

Mr. Marcos and his Batasan Pambansa have set January 30 as the date for local elections. Again the next trick and scheme to prevent the opposition from organizing some sporting chance to win have been effected. With all the holidays of the Christmas season and people too busy spending their last centavos in gift giving and gift sharing, it is manifest that all the lopsided advantages to assure a KBL victory have been set. Of course under martial law this is the only kind of election one can expect—a facade of democracy beneath of which remains the dictatorship.

noticed its always the students? Always. Education is naturally subversive to the interests of the state. They should sell more nutritional-buns.

Had enough? I have had to live with unprintables in the most unprintable sense. Please understand that any rational schiz would withhold his identity (ies). Anyway I once dreamed there was a Checkpoint Charlie at our local poll—we hold it in a church—and they tried to convince me I wasn't my name and I didn't exist. Since then I've been thinking about it. It seems I could be better off so.

Unfortunately, it is my view that setting January 30 as election day is violative of Section 6, Article XII of the 1973 Constitution which provides that "Unless otherwise fixed by the Commission on Elections in special cases, the election period shall commence 90 days before the day of election and shall end 30 days thereafter" In the present instance, the Batasan-Marcos election bill violates the aforesaid provision in at least two ways: first January 30, 1980 is less than 90 days from the date when the bill was signed last December 22; secondly, this is a general election and could not be considered a "special case" which can be fixed at a shorter period by the Comelec. Besides, assuming in gratia argumenti that this is a special case, the power to shorten the 90 day election period is vested in the Comelec, not the Batasan, not on Marcos.

But pardon me, ladies and gentlemen: I almost forgot that after all, today, there is really no distinction between Mr. Marcos and the Batasan or the Comelec.

By the way, a naughty news item appeared in the papers a few days back which speculated that an "opposition figure" may be named Cebu Governor. Last Sunday the papers were quoted that a spokesman in Malacañang said that Mr. Marcos is "not stupid" so why should he name an opposition figure as Cebu Governor. Of course why should he? But if he does, there are always plenty of fake oppositionists who could be tapped in Cebu.

I would like to thank the Philippine Transition Government Association (Philtranga) for having awarded me a plaque last December 19 which, however, I failed to personally receive because I did not know I was an awardee. The award cites me as "an outstanding critic of martial law" and considering the distinguished names behind the organization, I am certainly most proud of the honor. The award is more significant to me because I now realize that, even during this long dark night, there are still organizations which have no trepidation in giving recognition to those who dissent for freedom.

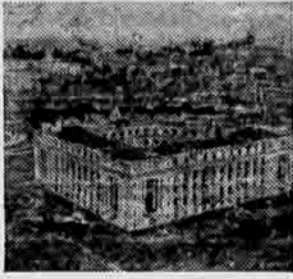
Again, from the bottom of my heart, thank you one and all. It was an honor for me and for our humble paper—WE. Merry Christmas and may freedom be ours in the New Year.

When someone offered me more, much more
For me to play and not to score
Till I was confused as hell
In this aura of buy and sell

joaquin r. roces
1979

Your Sometimes Reader

METRO MANILA NEWS



KBL candidates for MM

In three cities and four towns of Metro Manila, the candidates for mayor of the KBL have been ascertained. They are:

Manila—Mayor Ramon D. Bagatsing;

Caloocan City—Acting City Mayor Virgilio P. Robles;

Pasay City—Mayor Pablo Cuneta;

Makati—Mayor Nemesio I. Yabut;

San Juan—Mayor Joseph Estrada;

Muntinlupa—Mayor Maximino Argana; and

Malabon—Mayor Maynardo Espiritu.

Their candidacies were assured following their overwhelming endorsements by the KBL chapters in their respective localities. Their choice as official bets will merely be ratified by their party conventions which President Marcos, as KBL president, has decreed for this Saturday.

In Quezon City, it is a toss-up between Mayor Adelina S. Rodriguez and MMC Assistant to the Gov. Ismael A. Mathay, Jr. There are reports, however, that when a group of local KBL-NP leaders called on the President yesterday (Sunday), President Marcos intimated that Mayor Rodriguez may run for governor of Rizal inasmuch as her husband, Gov. Isidro Rodriguez, would be appointed minister of sports and youth development.

In the municipalities of Marikina, Valenzuela and Navotas, the respective incumbent mayors—Osmundo de Guzman, Geronimo Angeles and Felipe del Rosario—have the edge. Del Rosario of Navotas, who has undergone medical treatment in the U.S., is said to have been cured of his ailment.

For the vice-mayorality candidate in Manila, Bagatsing is reported to have picked Mrs. Aurora Panlilio, head of the Manila council of barangays and president of the Katipunan ng mga Barangay ng Kalakhang Maynila.

In Caloocan City, the KBL chapter has voted for Erlito S. Fider, the mayor's executive assistant and son of Assemblyman Alex Fider, as the standard bearer for vice-mayor.

BARANGAY POLLS SLATED FEB.?

Will the barangay elections be held next February, following the Jan. 30 local polls?

This is the conjecture in political circles, based on reports that President Marcos and the KBL's central committee have agreed to hold the election for barangay officials immediately after the selection of provincial, city and mu-

nicipal officials.

An immediate election of barangay captains and councilmen is held probable in the light of President Marcos' announcement that the local polls have to be conducted early in 1980 because world developments, particularly the increase in crude oil prices, may militate against the holding of such elections.

There are talks that the barangay poll may come by the middle of February, the exact date to be fixed by President Marcos in a proclamation or decree.

Some Metro Manila quarters, however, said that the election of barangay officials should be preceded by a restructuring of the barangay set-up, particularly in the four cities of Manila. Quezon, Caloocan and Pasay.

SEMINAR ON 'B'GAY COURTS

MANILA—A total of 1,800 barangay leaders ended their month-long seminar workshop on the Katarungang Pambarangay last Friday at fitting closing ceremonies, held at the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, with Chief Justice Enrique Fernando as guest of honor.

Barangay leaders who participated in the workshops and were taught the mechanics of the barangay courts as provided for under Presidential Decree No. 1508 were the 900 barangay captains and 900 barangay secretaries.

Among the resource persons who discussed the mechanics of the Katarungang Pambarangay before the city's barangay leaders were: Executive Judge J. Cesar Sangco of the City Court of Manila and Fiscals Luis Peña, Bennie A. de la Cruz and Estela Cabuco, office of the Manila City Fiscal.

Mayor Ramon D. Bagatsing said that the seminars were held for the barangay leaders who will in turn organize their respective "Lupong Tagapayapa" in their barangay zones.

"The 'lupon' will be presided over by the barangay captain with 10 to 20 members who will exercise supervision over conciliation panels who will be known as the "Pangkat Tagapagkasundo".

President Marcos had observed that most cases which clog the courts can be solved or settled amicably through the barangays.

Top NPD police aides awarded

The two most outstanding police aides in each locality in the Northern Police District were given cash awards of P200 each during the Christmas party of the NPD police advisory council held at the Fish Fun Restaurant in Malabon last Dec. 18.

The awardees, chosen by the mayors and who received their prizes from Frig. Gen. Tomas B. Karingal on behalf of Gen. Prospero A. Olivas, MPF commander, were:

Quezon City: Segundo R. Evasco and Santos Villanueva;

Caloocan City: Joseph Diaz and Catalino Ocampo, Jr.;

Malabon: Angelo Tapang and Eugenio Punzalan, Jr.;

Navotas: Eduardo Evangelista and Danilo de la Cruz;

Valenzuela: Erlando B. Bugarin and Nemesio A. Blas;

San Juan: Antonio Verdejo and Luzonico Valdez.

Also given an award for being the best-managed mall in the Northern Police District was the Navotas municipal jail. Its prize was P5,000.

The widows of six policemen and firemen who died during the year were given cash awards by the NPD advisory council. They were: Gloria S. Gutierrez, Anita Razon-Boni Serrano, Pilar Atanacio, Brigidia Guzman, Rosita Barsatan and Honey Castillo.

Rice for barangay leaders

CALOOCAN CITY—The city government is giving one sack of rice each to all officials of the 188 barangays as well as to the executive officers of the various barangay community brigades, according to Secretary to the Mayor Romeo T. Luz.

He said that Acting City Mayor Virgilio P. Robles decided to give the cereal to the hard-working and self-sacrificing barangay officials in recognition of the work they are rendering to the people of the city.

The barangay leaders to be given rice are the barangay captains, secretaries, treasurers and the councilmen.

In addition, the executive officers of the six barangay brigades will also receive one sack of rice each — tanod, traffic, sports disaster, ladies auxiliary and volunteer brigades.



1935 CONSTITUTION

Democracy in RP

By

DR JUAN M. ARREGLADO
Governor of Philconsa and
Secretary-General of Philippine
Ambassador Association



PART II

One hundred and sixty years ago, Fisher Ames contrasted personal government with republican government in a caustic figure of speech which has been widely quoted in recent years. "A monarchy," he said (he would have called it dictatorship today), "is like a merchant. You go on board in comfort and elation, but by and by you strike a rock and go down. But Democracy is like a raft. You never sink, but damn it, your feet are always in the water." If this be accurate, although it may not do justice to our capacity for popular government, the wise men among us will prefer a free life on a raft to the short-lived comfort and elation of the Police-State, which is possible at best for only the few for a moment before they are blotted out.

When the Constitution of the United States was signed in 1787 a woman who met Benjamin Franklin coming out of Independence Hall, asked: "What have we got, Dr. Franklin?" He replied: "A republic, if we can keep it." When James Russell Lowell was Minister to Great Britain in 1882 he was asked: "How long will the American Republic endure?" He replied: "As long as the ideas of the men who made it remain dominant." Unhappily for us, in our country today the ideas of our heroes who made possible the birth of our republic are dominant no longer. But it is not yet too late to give this Republic None of us are too young nor old to do our part in saving this Republic.

Democratic Reign of Law
If our nation is to be strong in a free Way of Life it must first be strong in its faith in and practice of that system of democratic reign of law which is envisaged in our 1935 Constitution. We must be on guard against some mischievous opinions regarding certain asserted weaknesses of democracy which misrepresent its character and tend to destroy confidence in it.

One is that Democracy is doomed in our country because it can never be as efficient or as economic as the regimented state is claimed to be. There are those among our people, both of the extreme Right and of the extreme Left, who speak hopefully of a benevolent dictatorship as if it were possible for a despot to be both benevolent and dictatorial at the same time.

In the history of government there has not been a democracy which has been featured by either efficiency or economy in its operation such as one

might ideally, if incorrectly, associate with a military state. Our democratic form of government may sadly need more proficiency, more intelligence, and more business and intellectual integrity at all levels, national and local, and it is our duty to devote ourselves seriously and persistently to remedying our shortcomings in these respects. But we should never allow any slurs about the innate dishonesty, wastefulness and inefficiency of democratic government to induce us to put any faith in the fictitious honesty or efficiency of despots or dictators, whose corruption and low politics, not to mention worse evils, outstripped the poorest records of popular government. Because popular government rests on free discussion and consent, it will always be abused by impatient critics far no better than a debating society. Naturally it will always be colored by politics, sometimes high politics and sometimes low politics, because politics is the process by which the people direct and control their officials. The wise man who has a choice between free government and efficient and economical government will always plump for free government, realizing that it will be as efficient and honest as he and others work to make it so.

In the second place, we must be on guard against the accusation that Democracy is bound to fail because it is incapable of supplying either economic prosperity or justice; because it cannot provide for all the people as rich an array of goods and material satisfactions as a regimented society can bestow upon them. Democracy, it is said, is too indisciplined for the team play which modern conditions require. Furthermore, it is charged that democratic governments, whatever be their claims and pretensions, are actually run by the few in their own interest; the control group, being greedy and selfish will never peacefully surrender their economic advantage. When it comes to the final tests the usual process of the ballot box will break down; the final arbiter will have to be force and blood in the streets. In other words, Democracy is doomed as unable to achieve social justice; only dictatorship can do it.

Like all doctrinaires, these prophets of doom have not stopped to look at the profound significance of the peaceful changes which democracy has accomplished in our country within the space

of two generations since the promulgation of the 1935 Constitution, towards the very goals which they tell us are unattainable under popular government. The test of the soundness of contending social orders is thus reduced to the question of which can supply the most material goods and satisfactions. As we all know, the most subtle exposition of this materialistic viewpoint is found in the dogma of economic determinism as expounded by Karl Marx. It was he who gave moral respectability to the ham and cabbage school of human values by asserting that ethical codes and standards are but reflexes of the prevailing economic order. This sophistry, which is the basis of Communism, has colored the thinking of thousands who are neither Communists nor fellow travelers.

Of course, if our nation is to be strong in a free way of life, as envisioned in the 1935 Constitution, both our economy and the opportunity to share in it must be ever-expanding. To be a united people we must be happy, unfrustrated people. Our economy must be capable of affording more and better education, health, wealth and contentment as the years go by. We, however, need to remember that our capacity for growth in these respects is not confined by any means to the benevolence of government. There are still untouched possibilities remaining to be developed under the aegis of what has become known, rather derogatorily in some quarters, as free enterprise. In the long run it will be found that free men are capable of producing more wealth with economic justice than men living under the shadow of even the best intentioned regimentationists, however expert they may be.

Economic success must never be allowed top priority in the catalog of tests of the right of a free society to survival. The day of a free society is over the moment it accepts material goods and enjoyments as the ultimate values of life. If the continued existence of a free state is to be settled on this issue, if no higher human abstractions are to have priority, we may as well concede at once victory to the revolutionists who wait to overthrow it. For economic wants will always outstrip man's capacity at the moment to satisfy them; and it will always be possible for subversive agents to convince the people that the existing order, whatever it happens to be, is the best (Page 4, please)

WE Classified Ads**BUSINESS DIRECTORY * LEGAL NOTICES**

Republic of the Philippines
IN THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE OF RIZAL
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Branch XVI — Quezon City

IN THE MATTER OF THE INTESTATE
ESTATE OF FAUSTO A. UY,

SP. PROC. Q-27587

ROBERT L. UY,

Petitioner.

x - - - - - x

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been issued in the above-entitled case in favor of ROBERT L. UY of No. 67 Nicanor A. Roxas St., Quezon City.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN requiring all persons having claims for money against the decedent Fausto A. Uy, arising from contract, expressed or implied, whether the same be due, not due, or contingent, for funeral expenses or expenses for the last sickness of the said Fausto A. Uy, and judgment for money against him, to file said claim with the undersigned Branch Clerk of Court, Court of First Instance of Rizal, Branch XVI, Quezon City, sitting at the 6th floor, New City Hall Building, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, within six (6) months from date of first publication of the notice, serving a copy upon aforementioned Robert L. Uy, the appointed Administrator of the estate of the decedent.

Let the Notice be published at the expense of the petitioner in the newspaper of general circulation selected by raffle in the Province of Rizal and in this City, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, to which newspaper, this Notice was assigned after a raffle duly held pursuant to Rep. Act 4569, as amended by Rep. Act No. 4883, and further amended by Presidential Decree No. 19, dated October 11, 1972.

Witness the Honorable Sergio A. F. Apostol, Judge of this Court, this 3rd day of December, 1979.

(Sgd.) VIRGINIA M. PAGOROGON
Officer-in-Charge

CFI Branch XVI — Quezon City

Dec. 22, 29, 1979; Jan. 5, 1980

THE HUMAN COST (from page 1)

Brazil can be taken as an example.

The Brazilian economic "miracle" of 1968-73 solidified that nation's position as the leading power in Latin America. The economy grew at 10 per cent annually, fed by a heavy infusion of capital from both government and private, mostly foreign, companies. To help pay for its explosive economic growth, Brazil has become one of the most heavily indebted countries in the world. Foreign banks and governments hold more than \$40 billion in Brazilian obligations, and more than 40 per cent of the nation's foreign exchange earnings are used to service the debt.

But large business profits have not improved life for most Brazilians. Government statistics show that real wages for unskilled laborers, for example, have fallen by almost half since the 1964 coup, while profits and executive salaries have risen substantially. Millions of new jobs were generated as the Gross National Product rose more than 150 per cent between 1964 and 1976, but the gap between the wealthy elite and the poor masses has grown.

Half of Brazil's population lives untouched by the "miracle." The Brazilian government itself figures that 18 per cent of the nation's 115 million people live in "absolute misery." Many rural areas, especially the backward northeast, offer nothing but unrelieved poverty and seem beyond the reach of government. In Rio de Janeiro, not far from the spectacular beaches where tourists play, children die of hepatitis and malnutrition every day.

Another favorite imperialist example of "development" is South Korea. As in Brazil, the Korean "economic miracle" was realized at a great human cost. As explained by one author, "The particular kind of industrialization policies the Park regime has pursued have achieved the paradoxical feat of combining increased production with greater poverty." From 1962 to 1976 the Gross National Product rose at an average yearly rate of 10 per cent, reaching its peak in 1973 (16.5 per cent) and in 1976 (15.2 per cent). Per capita (GNP increased from insignificant levels to \$380 in 1974 and \$700 in 1976. However, as observed by the same author,

The statistics of per capita GNP, often flaunted by the regime as if to suggest it represents an average actual annual income, is meaningless in a country where the inequalities in the distribution of wealth are as pronounced as they are in South Korea and where inflation has eaten into hard-won wage increases.

In fact, it may even be said that increased productivity was realized at the expense of the Korean workers, whose wages in the manufacturing industry were about one-eighth of the wages of their Japanese counterparts in 1975. Wages are even lower in export-

SPEAK UP

(from page 1)

the owners to prevent the pilferage of their palay prior to harvest time. The relation between the landowner and his tenant is no different than that of the profits — or proceeds-sharing basis; akin to that of a sugar miller and the sugar-cane planter or the rice miller and his palay-producing customer.

The relation between two parties can be negotiated and a mutual understanding and/or agreement can be arrived at, beneficial to both. For instance, if the conditions are not acceptable to them, like any other labor group, tenants are free to: (1) Seek better conditions through collective bargaining, or even through the intervention of the Ministry of Labor, (2) Quit their status as tenants or, (3) Acquire land of their own from the Government's preserve of public lands. If the Government has no land to distribute to the landless tenants but has enough cash to pay for the land of the owners, affected by the land reform decree, the decree would have been fair and justifiable; but, as it is, it is the other way

DEMOCRATIC

(from page 3)

pens to be, is an obstacle to more ham and cabbage for all and some new, Utopian order would quickly bring these desirable satisfactions to their door. No society can be stable that feeds from such shallow roots alone. If we let our eyes become fixed on economic values alone, if we lose sight of the deeper qualities which set men apart from animals, man is doomed to pass through one violent revolutionary change after another as each new school arises to persuade him that it put more ham and cabbage on his plate. And

oriented industries such as textiles and electrical appliances which employ mostly women because they "cost less than half their male equivalents." To keep workers in their abject condition, they are virtually denied their three basic rights: to organize, to bargain collectively and to strike. Their state of impoverishment is reflected by the fact that in 1976, the average Korean worker was earning \$93 a month when the Economic Planning Board itself declared that \$142 was needed to sustain an average family.

Where then does all the wealth of South Korea go? Mainly to Japanese and American capital dominant in key and export industries as well as to the ruling political and technocratic elite. South Korea, as all other neocolonies, has been pushed into the debt trap; its outstanding foreign debt increased from \$3.3 billion in 1973 to \$8.1 billion in 1976. To earn the necessary foreign exchange, she is exporting labor and promoting tourism, even prostitution.

The South Korean "economic miracle" therefore is premised on dependence on foreign capital, impoverishment of the Korean masses, and repression to preserve the status quo. The same blueprint is being foisted on the Philippines by the advanced capitalist powers. Is this the future Filipinos want?

(TO BE CONTINUED)

EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH POWER TO COLLECT

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Eulalio Resurreccion, Sr. who died intestate on September 28, 1979, consisting of a savings deposit with the Banco Filipino Savings and Mortgage Bank, Sta. Cruz, Manila branch, amounting to P6,565.76 was extra-judicially settled by his heirs with power to collect as per Dec. No. 483, Page No. 98, Book No. XII, Series of 1979, of Notary Public Domingo A. Mendez of Manila.

Dec. 22, 29, 1979; Jan. 5, 1980

around. **Nihil Dat Qui Non Habet!** What was resorted to was the zero-sum punditry of "someone must win, someone must lose."

Under the P. D. No. 27, rice and corn landowners were, by executive fiat, deprived of their land holdings, — which by the way was not ill-acquired — and the same distributed to their tenants in parcels, in most cases, of less than two hectares. For a tenant with four, or more children, the intended benefit is short-lived. According to the decree, upon the demise of the tenant, the land is assigned to his eldest son, but the rest of the children will have their share of the proceeds therefrom. Is this provision not discriminatory and hard to enforce?

The rice and corn landowners are paid either in cash and in bonds by the Government after the appraisal of their land, or on an instalment basis by the tenants before the appraisal of their land. The value of the land is based on two and one half times the average total production of palay in cavans of 50 kilos, corresponding to the

such revolutions are expensive; they are socially wasteful; they set nations back.

The Philosophy of Paternalism

The framers of the 1935 Constitution repudiated the philosophy of paternalism and declared that individuals are their best guardians, that property is most secure and the public welfare most advanced when property is privately owned and individually cared for, and that too much government is a calamity.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

last three years before the promulgation of the decree, multiplied by the price of palay at that time. In the latter case, while the Government compel the tenants to pay a yearly amortization to the landowners for a period of about 15 years, the tenants can do whatever they want with the portion of the land assigned to them, as if they are already the owners. This is, no doubt, due to the way the decree was written. It says that upon its effectivity, the ownership of the land is transferred to the tenants. What was probably meant was possession, but certainly, not ownership, for how can the Government compel the tenants to amortize a property they already own? The tenants should not claim ownership of the land assigned to them unless, and until, they have fully paid for them. Then, can they rightly claim absolute and complete ownership when titles are issued to them. On the other hand, how can the decree deprive the landowners of their proprietary rights when they have to wait about 15 years for their due compensation? This controversial aspect of the decree has spawned misunderstanding, confusion and dissention.

While the owners are left holding their Torrens Titles, previously a highly regarded and respected public document, the tenants receive their Certificates of Land Transfer (CLTs). With their CLTs as collateral, the tenants can secure a loan; but, the landowners, with their TCTs, cannot. With the "easy" credit facility extended to the tenants, many, if not the majority, will wind up minus their CLTs. It will be the repeat performance of the Masagana Loan.

While previous to the land reform decree, the tenants could "run for help" to the landowners, now they are burdened with so much Government intervention that many of them are wondering if the "new set-up" is really to their advantage. As a matter of fact, failure of a tenant to comply with the payment of his yearly amortization for two consecutive years, will deprive him of his inchoate rights over the portion of the land assigned to him. In such event, another member of the Samahang Navon will be assigned to take his place.

In the appraisal of his rice and/or corn land the landowner has no choice. His Torrens Title may clearly indicate, say an area of 17 hectares, but he is fortunate if he will be paid for 15 hectares. This is because there are areas exempted from payment, one being the area covered by the home lots of the tenants. Once the land of the owner is arbitrarily appraised, (the area of the rice paddies are measured with a piece of rope instead of with a steel tape and a transit), the owner is paid (?) thus-

ly: 10% of the appraised value in cash and the balance of 90%, with bonds of the Land Bank of the Philippines. While in the money market the Certificates of Indebtedness are being offered at prime rates (the CBCI bonds of the Central Bank gives 9%, tax-free), the bonds of the Land Bank yields only 6%; and, to add insult to injury, the bonds of the Land Bank mature after 25 years. With the weekly depreciation of the Philippine Peso, how much would a P100,000-bond of the Land Bank worth after 25 years in terms of the 1972 value of the peso? If a citizen cannot be deprived of his property without due compensation, does this mode of payment constitute due compensation?

The low rating of the bonds of the Land Bank in the money market is such that bondholders are compelled to sell them at 57% of their face value. Although the Land Bank primer says: "A bondholder, using his bonds as collateral, can secure a loan from the Bank up to 80% of their face value", the requirements imposed by the Bank to secure the loan are such that any applicant is driven to desperation and thus resort to selling the bonds at much lower rates. The Land Bank also says that the bonds can be "used as security for loans with the PNB, DBP, GSIS, SSS and other Government financial institutions." The author and no doubt many other bondholders, had the sad experience of applying for a loan in all these Government institutions, and repeatedly failed.

The 10% cash paid to the landowners, affected by the land reform decree, together with the funds appropriated for the Ministry of Agrarian Reform (MAR), the Land Bank of the Philippines, the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development (MLG-CD), the Court of Agrarian Relations (CAR) and for the construction of Barrio and Barangay Roads, could have been judiciously used to open roads into vast tracks of public lands in Eastern Luzon, Mindoro, Samar, Palawan and the provinces of Cotabato and Agusan in Mindanao. The Ministry of Human Settlement (MHS), with the cooperation of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Ministry of Public Highways (MPH), could have undertaken this project with less expense.

If the tenants were relocated to these thinly populated sections of the country, they could have acquired, not two hectares or less, but ten or more each, of fertile land, reap a better quality of life for themselves extended down to the level of their grandchildren, eased the population pressure in the congested provinces of the country and contributed immensely to greater agricultural productivity.

(Page 5, please)

cal radio broadcasts. After hearing for the first time, your early morning commentaries and the phoned in response of your listeners, I knew it was only a matter of time before you were cut off from the air. Why? Because you spoke the TRUTH and you shamed the devil!

You have become too dangerous to the powers-that-be because you walked by faith — that justice would ultimately prevail — and not by sight and be blinded by the awesome power of repression.

As John (8:32) said: "x x x know the truth and the truth shall make you free." And tyranny's greatest enemy is truth.

You have articulated by your unbridled tongue the unspoken thoughts that have troubled our countrymen for the last seven years. There has been a consistent effort to atomize our society and isolate our people from each other — by denying them access to vital and factual information thru blatant media manipulation — so that they would not find strength and courage in unity and in mutual misery. Your pointed commentaries like the proverbial consistent drops of water were beginning to erode the walls of individual isolation. Your fearless testing of the limits of free speech was slowly emboldening a growing majority of erstwhile timid souls. Cold logic therefore dictated that you had to be brought to heel at any cost.

Through the ages, the man of the word has been more dangerous than the man of the sword: Buddha, Confucius, Christ, Muhammed, Rousseau, Jefferson, Marx, Gandhi and our own Rizal to name but a few. Your firm resolve to persevere till the tyrant's rod is bent regardless of consequences to you and your loved ones has made you more dangerous than a thousand armed insurgents.

I share your unshaken faith that our nation will be free again. Soon, a majority of our countrymen will realize that the fear of imprisonment is even worse than imprisonment itself. When that day comes, no power can stop their march to freedom. Paradoxical as it may seem, but you and I discovered genuine freedom only after we crossed the prison gates. After crossing that fearful barrier we have placed ourselves beyond the reach of fear and threats. We said and did what had to be said and done and we now have peace of mind for the worse is over. The dreaded knock in the night has lost its potency. How truly sad — the fear of imprisonment has caused many good men to bite their tongue between their chattering teeth and to betray themselves and their birthright.

You were an oasis in the desert of present day

President Marcos promised Monday that his martial law regime will allow free speech during the campaign. But WE's permit expires Dec. 31. The six-page weekly is the most important newspaper outlet for Mr. Marcos' opponents. It's often the only tool that Filipino readers have for decoding the curious political stories that appear in the managed daily press.

In September, for instance, establishment columnists bristled for days over a speech in which a distinguished former senator apparently broke a long alliance with President Marcos. But their papers didn't report the speech, so their readers had to buy WE to find

broadcasting. Yours was the voice of truth amidst the deafening yelps of sorry pups. While your intimidated colleagues in the broadcast medium tried to manage the masses thru shameless propaganda, you tried to mobilize them with incontrovertible facts. They tried to manipulate people as they are, you inspired them to heights they could attain. While they commanded obedience, you awoke the sleeping masses from their torpor and lethargy and challenged them to transcend their puny selves. Your apologist-colleagues personified power, while you personified true leadership. The gap between you and them, between power and leadership is the quantum leap from the arithmetic of mundane and trivial contacts to the calculus of sublime mass interaction and movement.

When Senator Diokno and I still shared the same detention room here in Fort Bonifacio several years ago, he never tired telling me that "it is always darkest before the dawn" and never to doubt that dawn will surely come.

I join the millions of your faithful admirers in wishing you well, and we all pray that soon, very soon, you shall be let out to see the sun, unobstructed by barb wires and concrete walls, bursting forth in its meridian splendor.

It has been said that God offers to every mind its choice between truth and repose. Take which you please, you can never have both.

It is a credit to our race, that we still have men, who, at a time of great moral crisis and at terrible risks to life and freedom, have chosen to turn their backs to comfort and repose, can cast their lot with TRUTH!

Please accept the highest admiration and respect of my family and I for your steadfast conviction and our prayers that you and yours will be blessed with true happiness during the coming vuletide season.

LABAN!
NINYO

cut what the man had actually said.

BIGGER FLAP

An even bigger flap surrounded the public warnings of a possible "civil war" by Jaime Cardinal Sin, this country's leading Roman Catholic clergyman. The establishment press either denied that the Cardinal said it or wondered what he meant if he really did.

Again, Filipinos had to turn to WE to get the text of the Cardinal's remarks.

So even pro-Marcos businessmen can be seen halting their chauffeur-driven cars nowadays to buy copies of WE from street-side newsboys in order to learn about some of the things that go on in their country.

The little tabloid's circulation was less than 3,000 a year ago and few Filipinos had heard of it. Today, publisher Jose Burgos, Jr. says circulation is 20,000 and only kept at that level because he can't afford to buy newsprint.

His figures aren't guaranteed by an outside audit, but they seem honest in view of the paper's widespread appearance in the hands of commuters and recently on newsstands in far-off provincial cities such as Davao and Cebu.

WE got its publishing permit several years ago as a weekly for young people, and only gradually evolved into being the lone voice of the opposition.

But now it publishes all the major statements of Mr. Marcos' non-Communist opponents. It carries a front-page column by the only anti-Marcos member of the national parliament. Its masthead is decorated each week with a paragraph from old Marcos speeches in which the President praised the freedoms that he has abridged under martial law. Example: "It's all right to be efficient, but it's better to be free."

In spite of his paper's anti-government tone, Mr. Burgos says he's felt no overt pressure from the government. Some of his newsdealers have been threatened, but the publisher says this seems to be the work of pro-Marcos individuals and not a concerted campaign.

Indeed, WE can be said to be subsidized by the Philippine government. Like most small, poor papers its advertising revenue comes from publishing legal notices from government agencies.

The newspaper used to carry about seven of these ads in each issue, but they've dwindled lately to only two advertisements in the issue dated Dec. 15. The drop is hard to explain because the ads are distributed in a weekly lottery that's supposed to be free of political influence.

But the crucial test is Dec. 31, when the paper's permit expires.

The government doesn't officially control

The rural lands that these tenants have been tilling for so many years are "overworked and exhausted" — devoid of their richness. No amount of fertilizers can restore the lands' fertility.

The land reform decree has, if any, only a temporary benefit. Like a palliative, it cannot cure the malady that the population explosion has created. The decree sets people apart by creating special interest groups and pitting one group against another; it stifles discipline and stunts the pioneering spirit; it encourages indolence and tolerance, resulting in low productivity, which characterizes Philippine agriculture when compared to that of other countries. Instead of stop-gap measures with temporary benefits, we should concentrate in averting widespread famine, predicted by economists to take place in the 1980s, by expanding our agricultural output.

Definitely, P. D. No. 27 is unfair because it is one-sided. Being coercive and confiscatory, it violates human rights; it subverts the cause of justice and makes a mockery of the Rule of Law. It is said that law is the science that is good and just — Jus Est Ars Boni Et Aequi — a rule of reason for the common good of rational beings. The law must always appear human with a noble pur-

pose and relevance, instituted to bring order and justice in society by defending the life, property and rights of its individual members. If the land reform decree was intended "to pull out the cork and let the bottled steam hiss out innocuously" at the expense of one sector of our society, it will then appear as a diversionary tactic for political expediency — an affront to the revered memory and the pioneering spirit of the ancestors of most of those adversely affected by it. The New Society will leave a festering legacy of bitterness that will linger for years to come.

the press here. Mr. Marcos has decreed a form of self-regulation in which permits are given or withheld by a council of publishers who are almost all beholden to his regime.

Mr. Burgos says the publishers' council called him on the carpet early this year for failing to print balanced views of political issues. He says he replied that his paper only balanced the one-sided view of the rest of the press. He received no further answer from the council.

NO ANSWER

But Mr. Burgos says he also hasn't received any answer to his application in November to extend his publishing permit beyond the end of this year.

"It's my decision to maintain the publication" even if he gets no permit to operate in 1980, the publisher said. If necessary, he said he'll take his case to the Philippine Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has followed Mr. Marcos almost all along the line since he declared martial law, but it's a cantankerous body that could uphold WE or at least give it a new lease on life during a long period of litigation.

THE PEOPLE...

(from page 1)

lipino people themselves. They are fed up with him.

Q. Does the Communist insurgency movement pose a significant danger to the Philippines' security or to Marcos's regime?

A. There has been a Communist insurgency in the Philippines ever since independence, but it has never been a meaningful threat to our country's security. Marcos is citing the Communists merely as an excuse to continue martial law. There is no doubt whatsoever that Marcos imposed martial law just to keep himself in power. All his allegations about Communist threats are simply ploys. But his actions could backfire. Some people who are disgusted with Marcos are now joining the Communists. Instead of suppressing the Communist threat, Marcos is causing people to align themselves with the Communists because they want to get rid of him.

Q. Is the Roman Catholic Church associated with the Communist insurgency?

A. Cardinal Jaime Sin (the archbishop of Manila) has denied it. But he admitted that there is a group of clergymen who believe that when peaceful means are no longer available, violence is then justified. These members of the clergy are exasperated and disgusted with this government's violations of people's human rights and with the economic and social plight of the people.

Q. Do you see a trend toward unification of the different opposition forces?

A. Yes.

Q. What new alignments may form in the future?

A. Since the Communists are getting stronger, the moderates join with them.

Q. Why has martial law lasted so long if there is so much opposition?

A. When the fruit is still young, it is not easy to shake it off the tree. But in due time, the dictator becomes ripe for a fall. After seven years of martial law, Marcos is now ripe for that fall. The people are now rea-

dy to act in order to restore true democracy.

Q. Why are the people rebelling against martial law at this time?

A. The problems in our country have actually worsened during Marcos's fifteen years of rule and the people are simply growing tired of Marcos. Developing nations try to industrialize and to develop exports in order to earn foreign revenue. It is quite remarkable that under Marcos's martial-law regime, the Philippines has chalked up the poorest performance record in industrialization and export development among the non-Communist nations in Asia. Even worse, the living conditions of the Filipino people have worsened while the President and members of his family have been increasing their wealth through graft and corruption. The people have simply had enough.

Q. Is the rising cost of oil a major cause of the economic crisis in the Philippines?

A. That is not the problem. The real cause is the mismanagement of the economy. The government has squandered billions of pesos by borrowing excessive amounts of money from foreign countries and paying huge interest rates. It has raised taxes to the maximum, and has ignored the fact that the people cannot pay those taxes. The Marcos government is marked by corruption and extravagant spending. This is the problem — not the increased price of crude oil.

Q. Doesn't Marcos command the support of the business sector?

A. Not anymore. Filipino businessmen are now turning against him because of his mismanagement of the economy. Marcos has turned our country into a treasure trove for foreign businessmen, giving them countless financial benefits. He has cut the wages of our own people and taken away the workers' right to strike. Wages, in fact, have been practically frozen for the benefit of foreign businessmen. Filipino businessmen are very unhappy today.

Q. Has Marcos's land-reform program been successful?

A. The land-reform program is a fiasco. It is nothing more than a gimmick. The tenants are disgruntled because prices are so exorbitant that they cannot buy any land. And the landowners are upset because Marcos has allowed tenants to take over some land without paying for it.

Q. You have said that the many factions in the opposition are beginning to unify. What kind of unity could result?

A. The longer the Marcos dictatorship lasts, the closer the relationship between his moderate opponents and the radi-

(Page 6, please)

KURO-KURO

Ang punong kawayan

FRANCISCO "SOC" RODRIGO



Ngayon ay panahon ng Pasko. Embes na tumalakay ng mga isyung kontrobersyal, nalto ang isang tulang sinulat ko noong Enero 29, 1973 —

ANG PUNONG KAWAYAN

Isang dapit-hapong palubog ang araw, Ako'y nag-lisang nagtungo sa parang; Sadya kong dinayo ang katahimikan Upang pagwarlin ang di akalaing nangyari sa bayan.

Aking nabanaag sa di kalayaan Ang luma nang bakod ng luksang libingang Waring naglalaho at natatabunan Ng dilim ng gabing mistulang aninong doo'y gumagapang.

Sadyang nag-ibayo ang lungkot ko't panglaw Nang biglang sumagi sa aking isipang Doon nakalibing ang ama kong mahal Na nakipagdigma upang makalaya Itong ating bayan.

Mata ko'y humapdi't bumukal ang luha Nang napagwari ko sa aking gunita Ang panganib ngayong lubos na mawala Ang minana natin sa ating magulang na dangal at laya.

Tunay bang ang diwa ng mga bayani — Tulad ng libingang binura ng gabi — Ay nililimot na at iwinawaksi Sa puso ng bayang dahil sa pangamba'y handang magpaapi!

Ito ba ang angkan nina Lapulapu, Mabini, del Pilar, Rizal, Bonifacio; Ito ba ang piling lahing Pilipino Na ang kagitingan ukol sa paglaya'y natampok sa mundo?

Lubhang nagugulo ang aking isipan, Ang aking damdami'y nagsasalawahan; Ano ba ang tunay na katotohanan — Hinubad na nga ba ng mutya kong bayan ang kabayanihan?

Sa gitna ng ganyang pagaagam-agam Ay biglang napukaw ang katahimikan Nang sa dagling hihip ng hanging amihan Ay naglangitngitan ang siksikang siit ng mga kawayan.

Ako'y napatingin at aking napansin Na sa baw't hampas at sampal ng hangin, Dulo ng kawayay sumusunod mandin — Nguni't umilingit, waring tumututol, parang dumaraing.

Matapos yumuko ay muling tutuwid, Babalik sa dating maringal na tindig; Kahit humihilig ay ayaw padaig Sa dagok ng hanging nais na maghari't lubos na manlupig.

Biglang nagliwanag ang aking isipan At biglang naparam yaong agam-agam Pagka't nawari kong ang punong kawayay Mistulang larawan ng diwa't ugali ng mutya kong bayan.

Tulad ng kawayang kahit yumuyuko Ay hindi kailan man kusang sumusuko, Bayan ko'y ganyan din... maamo ang anyo Nguni't pag dinusta'y handang makibaka't magbubo ng dugo.

Kapag dumarating ang bagyo at ulan, Ang mga kawayay nag-aalalayan, Sila ay mistulang nangaghahawakan, Nangagayyakapan, nangagadamaya't nangagsasandigan.

At kapag may ilang natumbang kawayan, Sila'y kinakalong sa mga kandungan Ng ibang kawayan, upang alalayan Na huwag masubob sa dumi at lusak ng lupang putikan.

Kapag nababali ang mga kawayan, Parang mga punglo na nagpuputukan; At sa mga suppong na kinabalian Ay nag-igkasan ang mga matulis na punyal at sundang.

Sa baw't kawayang binali ng hangin, Agad hahalili ang maraming supling Na magsisiputan at magmamadaling Lumaki't yumabong upang mahalinhin ang sawing kapiling.

Ibang punong kahoy ay nangabulagta, Lubusang napigtas ang ugat sa lupa; Nguni't ang kawayan, bagama't salanta, Bali man ang tadyang ay hindi tuluyang subasob at dapa.

Ang bagyo'y lilipas, tatakas, papanaw; At muling ngingiti't sisikat ang araw... Ang mga kawayay magbabagong buhay, Tingala ang noo sa langit na bughaw — parang nagdarasal.

MALAYANG BAGONG TAON SA ATING

BAYAN!

PEOPLE HAVE... (from page 5)

cal elements will become. troyed our democracy and liberty.

Q. President Carter has urged Marcos to improve his human-rights record and has called upon him to held free elections. Yet you accused the United States of supporting the Marcos regime. Why?

A. The United States has been supporting the Marcos dictatorship. President Carter has committed at least \$500 million over the next five years to provide increased military and economic aid to Marcos — the man who has des-

stroyed our democracy and liberty.

Q. Are the opposition groups in the Philippines anti-American?

A. We are not against the American people, but we are against the Carter Administration. We are fighting for democracy and the United States is against us. The Carter Administration is helping the dictator.

Q. Elections were held only last May.

A. They were rigged.

Q. Marcos has said that he will call local elections within eighteen months and that he plans to hold national elections shortly thereafter. Do you believe he is sincere?

A. He has reneged on many promises in the past. I do not believe what Marcos says. I only believe what he does. People who exercise power, particularly absolute power, get drunk. And when they get drunk, they do not improve, they get worse.

WHAT ARE OUR

(from page 1)

rate and distinct from constitutional authoritarianism.

Notwithstanding the protestations of the present political dispensation that human rights are safeguarded in this country even under martial law, and that it is not a government policy to violate or curtail human rights, we know for a fact that martial law has resulted in violations of certain rights guaranteed under the Constitution.

1) There is no freedom of the press. One eloquent example of this is the continued suppression of publications of the religious such as the "Communicator" and the "Signs of the Times" which allegedly were publishing subversive articles although in truth they were merely reporting instances of military abuses, of unjustified arrests, tortures, and unexplained disappearance of arrested persons.

2) There is no freedom of speech. Although I am now making use of the right to speak, however, there is the sword of Damocles over my head that at any time I may be picked up and charged with subversion for voicing a dissent to the present political set-up. A classic example is that incident of a birthday celebration of a top political leader of the country during which some speeches were made assailing the present government and urging the lifting of martial law. The following morning the newspaper headlines were screaming a warning of the President to his detractors not to try his patience or else... And if I may share with you my own deductions from the press release of the Ministry of National Defense that a 'third' force has been discovered seeking the overthrow of the present government and that churchmen are involved more particularly, Fr. Intengan, a Jesuit. This statement came after the closing of the Manila Synod and in it was a veiled threat directed at the Jesuits as a result of the active participation of the Fr. Provincial in the deliberations of the Synod on human rights and martial law.

3) There is no freedom of peaceful assembly. Under martial law public demonstrations or gatherings are outlawed. There is always the danger that an assembly or gathering even if peaceful or religious in character will be termed by the military as a subversive activity if the same is organized by or participated in by the religious, the farmers, the workers, the students, and slum-dwellers. Can we forget the arrest and detention of the men and women, some priests and nuns, who after the last election for the Interim Batasang Pambansa marched in a procession to proceed to the Manila Cathedral in peaceful protest of the results of the elec-

tions which were considered fraudulent and manipulated. And more recently, we had the news of the arrest of some student leaders who were at the head of a movement against the increase of tuition fees, and among other things advocated for the students' right to form legitimate student councils and organizations. We can mention many more instances but time does not permit, but the fact is that persons are being arrested and detained for speaking against the government.

4) There is no security against arbitrary arrest, for there is the almighty power of the military on its own initiative and judgment to issue an arrest, search and seizure order (ASSO) against persons who easily may be tagged by the establishment as subversives on the pretext of distributing alleged subversive materials, or participating in or cooperating either with the NPA, CMP, or a so-called "third Force".

5) Arrested persons are detained in military camps indefinitely against many of whom no charges are being filed either before military tribunals or the civil courts. Only recently the President ordered the release of more than a thousand from military camps. For how long had those persons been deprived of their liberty, how many had been tortured, how many were truly innocent and merely the victims of a military reign of terror and abuse? Yesterday's "Bulletin Today" carried the news of the protest of two groups of close to 100 Muslims, nuns, and Catholic and Protestant lay leaders from Pikit, North Cotabato, against alleged military abuses during a recent operation in that town during which houses were looted and civilians arrested and maltreated on mere suspicion that they were NPA's although they were simple farmers. Then there is the complaint against

AQUINO'S...

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Aquino was reported to be in fine spirits and looked physically fit.

It was gathered that relatives, friends and sympathizers have been trooping to the Aquino residence in Quezon City to greet the 47-year-old arch political rival of President Marcos. There had been several occasions in the past when Aquino was allowed to leave his prison cell in Fort Bonifacio. Last October, he was granted a 32-hour home leave to celebrate his 25th wedding anniversary. Before this, Aquino was granted short furloughs to attend funeral services for a relative and to celebrate the graduation of a daughter from college.

Aquino was one of the first persons arrested when martial law was declared in September, 1972. He has been under detention for the past seven years.

OPPOSITION

(from page 1)

groups of the NUL include the Nacionalista Party, Mindanao Alliance, the splintered Puso Bisaya and the Concerned Citizens Aggregation of Zamboanga.

It was learned that former Rep. Rogaciano Mercado of Bulacan and former Con-Con delegate Abraham Sarmiento have been designated chairman and secretary-general, respectively of the NUL.

A working committee has been formed to switch on the NUL's machinery in key cities and provinces. Earlier, several teams belonging to independent opposition groups outside Metro Manila were organized.

Other developments: * Ex-Sen. Ramon V. Mitra, Jr., announced that he will not participate in the coming elections. Mitra was supposed to have been a candidate for Manila Mayor under the Laban banner.

* President Marcos continues to thresh out intramurals among KBL contenders and was reported to have cracked down hard on party recalcitrants to produce official candidates for the KBL.

* KBL hierarchy warned KBL rebels to abide by party rules and not to run as candidates of the opposition.

* The National Union for Democracy and Freedom (NUDF) announced that it is not fielding any candidates since the NUDF is not a political party.

* Justice Minister Ricardo C. Puno has rebutted the claim of the LABAN that the election law passed by the Interim Batasang Pambansa was discriminatory, and was apparently aimed at banning former Sen. Aquino, Jr. from running for any public office. Puno countered that the special disqualifications of candidates were "aimed at those who breach the peace and not those who keep the faith." He pointed out that Military Commission No. 2 found Aquino guilty of murder, subversion, and illegal possession of firearms. Furthermore, Puno added, any person declared disloyal to the constituted government in a final judgement or order of a competent court or tribunal, is disqualified from running as provided in Articles 30, 42, and 135 of the Revised Penal Code and the 1971 Election Code.

the activities of military men dubbed as the "Lost Command" in Agusan del Sur, the outcome of which can be easily predicted after the Constabulary authorities of the region had reported that the "Lost Command" is but a group of dissidents or criminal elements. (See Bulletin Today Issue of Sunday, December 9, 1979)

(TO BE CONTINUED)

