

## Armed actions launched in Mindoro and Agusan Norte

THREE MILITARY ACTIONS were launched in Mindoro while a series of harassment operations were conducted in Agusan del Norte in the past two weeks.

In Occidental Mindoro, Red fighters from NPA-Mindoro (Lucio De Guzman Command) raided Bluemax Tradelink Inc. in Barangay Malawaan, Rizal, last November 1, at 1 p.m. Five shotguns, three two-way radios, ammunition and military equipment were confiscated in the said operation. (See related article on page 3).

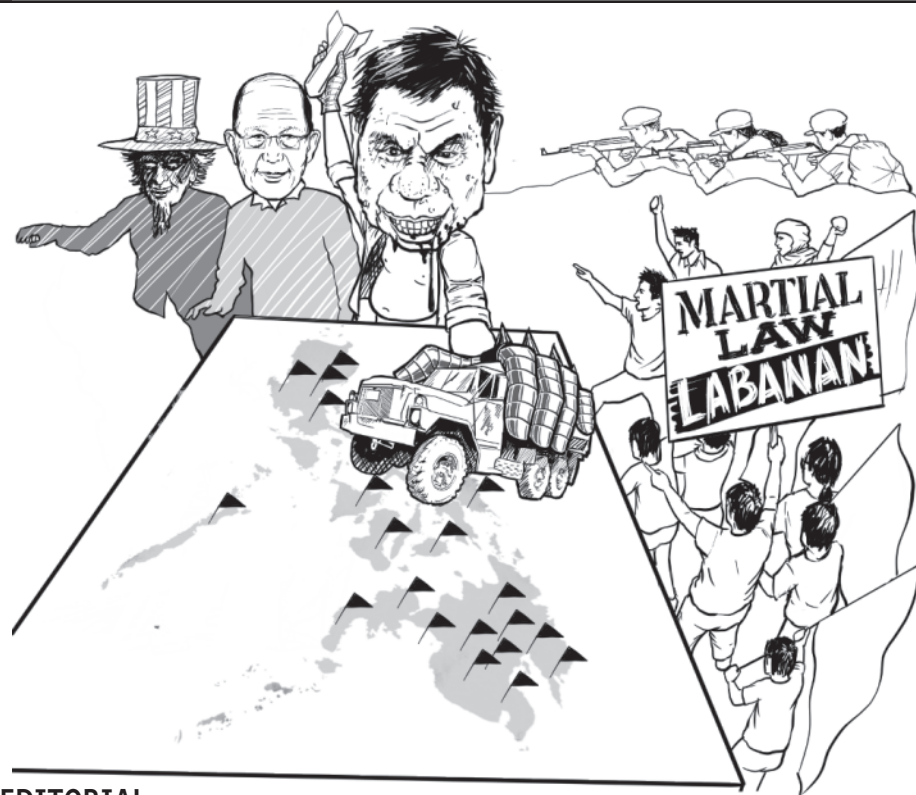
Red fighters also ambushed a squad of military elements on patrol and attacked the 4th IB camp in Brgy. Poypoy, Calintaan in the same province. These AFP troops have a long record of violating farmers' rights.

In Oriental Mindoro, NPA fighters harassed the 4th IB camp in Brgy Sta. Maria, Bulalacao. Dionisio Brutas, a CAFGU element and known enemy of the people, was killed in the operation.

In Butuan City and Agusan del Norte, a series of harassment operations were conducted by units of the Western Agusan del Norte-Agusan del Sur Subregional Command (WANAS) under BHB-North Central Mindanao last October 21-25.

Red fighters simultaneously attacked the police station in

...continued on p. 3



EDITORIAL

## Frustrate Duterte's "full-scale" war with all-out resistance

**G**RP fascist strongman Rodrigo Duterte has repeatedly declared that after the Marawi siege, he will focus his troops against the New People's Army (NPA) in what he recently declared will be a "full-scale war."

Several battalions have already been redeployed back to focus on waging all-out war under Oplan Kapatayan. The AFP leadership has declared the aim of "wiping out" the NPA by the end of 2018.

The AFP has announced that it will complete the recruitment and training of at least 8,000 troops by end-November. It aims to recruit 5,000 more troops by January 2018. The rush in recruitment is in line with the aim of building at least ten more battalions of fascist troops to be deployed against the NPA. Duterte is also feverishly acquiring

automatic rifles, attack helicopters, bombs and rockets from the US, China and Russia to train and fire against the people.

Majority of the new battalions will be deployed under the Eastern Mindanao Command, Duterte's favorite command. The newly-formed 88th IB has already been deployed to Maramag, Bukidnon.

Duterte and his military officials' declaration that "not one" member of the CPP/NPA will be left by the end of 2018 is a pipe-dream. He seems to be in a drug-induced dreamland for him to wish that the

AFP will accomplish in one year what it has failed to achieve in the past 50 years of abuses and armed suppression.

There are now close to 100 cases of extrajudicial killings of civilians, 91 of whom are peasants, under Duterte's Oplan Kapayapaan. With Duterte's, the US and AFP's obsession of "wiping out" the NPA, there will surely be a rise in the number of extrajudicial killings and cases of human rights abuses. These war-frenzied AFP units occupy more rural communities, target and liquidate peasant activists demanding land and opposing mining and plantations, destroy self-organized schools, cooperatives, community farm lots and other socio-economic undertakings for poor communities which the AFP invariably label as "NPA projects." More civilians will fall prey to military bounty-hunters running after the price-per-NPA-head award offered by the regime.

The AFP has heeded Duterte's "flatten the hills" call to arms. With full US support, the AFP has subjected more and more civilian com-

munities to aerial bombardment and heavy artillery fire in order to overawe and traumatize the people and force them to submit to AFP's abusive military rule. The AFP glorifies the images of the complete destruction of Marawi City and uses these to threaten the people in the revolutionary base areas.

The Party calls on the Filipino people to firmly resist and frustrate the US-Duterte regime's heightened all-out war against the broad masses of the people and their revolutionary forces.

The Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL) must be popularized to heighten the people's awareness of their political, socio-economic as well as cultural rights and raise their militancy to defend these.

The Filipino people demand an end to martial law in Mindanao and will resist Duterte's declared threats to impose a fascist dictatorship. The peasant masses, especially, are ever determined to defend their homes and communities and relentlessly oppose the AFP's

occupation. They demand the withdrawal of AFP troops.

The people demand the demilitarization of the bureaucracy and delivery of social services. The Filipino people demand cuts in the budget for the AFP and a stop to the expansion of the number of fascist troops which they equate with more killings, abuses and aerial bombings.

The people demand an end to US military intervention, war-mongering and direct and indirect support to counter-insurgency operations. They demand an end to such lopsided military agreements as the Mutual Defense Treaty and the Visiting Forces Agreement which perpetuate and tighten US control of the AFP.

The people are united firmly in demanding an end to the use of aerial bombardment as a weapon of widespread destruction which endangers the lives of civilians, damages the people's livelihood, destroys the environment and causes mass trauma, especially among children.

The New People's Army continues to solidly advance armed resistance against the US-Duterte regime's intensified all-out war. It will frustrate Duterte's ambition to wipe-out the armed revolutionary forces by the end of 2018. Guerrilla warfare continues to be waged nationwide, as the NPA seizes weapons from the enemy, recruits more and more young Red fighters, expands the number and scope of guerrilla zones, carries out agrarian revolution and consolidates the revolutionary base areas.

By unleashing fascist violence in its triple war of mass murder and death and destruction, the Duterte regime has succeeded in rousing the people to wage all-out armed and non-armed resistance. The Filipino people are taking the initiative in waging all forms of struggle to resist the regime's triple wars, all-out economic liberalization and subservience to US imperialism. AB

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Barangay San Mateo, Butuan City and the 23rd IB camp in Barangay Balungagan, Las Nieves, Agusan del Norte last October 25, 3 p.m. Five soldiers were killed while three were wounded.

Last October 23, NPA fighters harassed troops of the 23rd IB in

Purok 4, Brgy. Nongnong, Butuan City. NPA fighters confirmed that 12 military elements were killed in the said operation. In retaliation, AFP troops used fighter jets and dropped bombs in the nearby community.

Red fighters paralyzed several equipment of Gil M. Cembrano, a construction company based in

Purok 7, Brgy. Bonbon, Butuan City last October 21 for destruction of the environment due to its quarrying operations. According to Ka Omar Ibarra, spokesperson of WANAS, the company's plans to extend its operations will definitely lead to demolition and dislocation of residents in the area. **AB**

## State agents illegally arrest human rights defenders

Since the US-Duterte regime created the Inter-Agency Committee on Legal Action, harassments and illegal arrests against activists and human rights violations have escalated. At the same time, killings of civilians and militarization in the countryside continue.

A Banwaon human rights worker and five other Lumad activists were illegally arrested in their homes in Barangay Balit, San Luis, Agusan del Sur last October 27. Soldiers first arrested Julito Otacan, a staff of the Rural Missionaries of the Philippines-Northern Mindanao Region. Next, they arrested Alejandro Barluado, Jonas Acosta, Noli Tahu-dan, Marlon Talatayod and Joel Trasona, all members of the Banwaon organization Tagdumahan. Guns and grenades were planted inside their houses to implicate them as members of the New People's Army.

Tahudan was detained in the headquarters in 26th IB in Poblacion, Talacogon while the others were sent to the police station on Rubako, San Luis where they were charged with criminal cases.

Last October 29, the Ilocos Sur police and soldiers from the 81st IB harassed Windel Farag-ey Bolinget, Cordillera People's Alliance chairperson, while he was on his way to Quirino. Bolinget was on his way to the province to investigate the 81st IB militarization and encampment inside Brgy. Patungcaleo.

He was de-

tained for several hours in the police precinct and was only released due to his insistence and media response. He was again subjected to harassment on the way back to Baguio where he is based.

**Harassment against activists.** Aisah Mariano, 23, a student, called on the military to stop harassing her and her mother, Rachel, whom the AFP accuses as NPA fighters. Aisah and Rachel, along with Sarah Abellon-Alikes, Sherry Mae Soledad, Joanne Villanueva, Asia Isabella Gepte, Shirley Ann Angiwot and 18 more have been implicated by the military in its encounter with the NPA in Sitio Mabileg, Brgy. San Ramon, Sigay, Ilocos Sur on August 4.

On October 24, Rudy Villareal, Balikwas Kadamay chairperson, was illegally arrested and detained at the Pasig police station.

Meanwhile, elements of the 24 IB and 7th ID forcibly entered the house of Pastor Eugene Antonio in Mudiit, Dolores, Abra on October 27. Around 27 soldiers in civilian clothes searched the house on the basis of a warrant stating that he is hiding an M16 rifle, a .45 pistol and a shotgun. As expected, the soldiers did not find any guns.

**Killings.** Two soldiers riding in tandem killed Edwin Pura,



### Destructive Bluemax

Bluemax is a foreign-owned company mining the Lumintao river for mineral ore for export. The river covers the towns of Calintaan, Rizal and San Jose in Occidental Mindoro. The local government here authorized its operations in anticipation of a P180 million windfall. This is despite the damage the quarrying operations will bring to farmers' and fisherfolks' livelihoods and the destruction of the river and environment.

Bluemax is in cahoots with Lerma Bulaclac and her associates in deceiving the affected residents by offering them livelihood projects. They serve as public relations officers of the company while AFP troops serve as its guards. Residents from San Jose, Mansalay and Bulalacao already know Bulaclac's operations. In the beginning, they will try to get on their good side and encourage people to support bogus government projects to make Bluemax' operations acceptable in the end.

As defenders of the environment, the NPA stands for the livelihood and future of the country. This is the NPA's guiding principle in punishing predatory projects that only benefit foreign companies. The Bluemax raid is a warning to all destructive mining companies in the island. **AB**



a paralegal and among the staff of NUPL-Luzon vice president Atty. Ron Ely Espinosa, last October 25 in Gubat, Sorsogon.

Pura is an alumnus of the League of Filipino Students and previously served as the chairperson of BAYAN-Bikol and Provincial Transport Alliance. A civilian bystander, Wilfredo Brono, was killed in the incident while Grace Merilo was wounded. Earlier, there had been attempts to kill Atty. Espinosa in August.

In October 20, PNP and AFP operatives killed Romel Deniega

Sium, an ex-NPA member, in Sitio Baribag, Barangay Bibincahan, Sorsogon City, around 8:00 p.m.

Due to the presence of many witnesses, the police declared that Sium was a robber to make their operations appear legitimate.

Before this, on October 17, suspected police and soldiers shot dead civilian Alan Nolasco, a tricycle driver residing in Barangay Tabi, Gubat. His brother who was with him at the time managed to survive. On October 18, another tricycle driver, Alden Enano of Barangay Monbon, Irosin was also killed.

**Militarization.** A platoon of the 25th IB encamped inside Sitio Let-ter V, Barangay Mt. Diwata, Monkayo, Compostela Valley on October 23. They forced their way inside the community's Lumad school, tore books and destroyed other school properties.

Meanwhile, Caloocan City police harassed and interrogated members of the local chapter of the Youth Movement Against Tyranny while the latter were gathered to launch their organization in San Roque Cathedral in the said city.

AB

## ASEAN Summit 2017: Facilitating imperialist control

The ongoing series of meetings culminating in the 31st Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit on November 12-13 and the East Asia Summit (EAS) on November 14 is focused on measures to strengthen imperialist economic, political and military control of the Philippines and other developing nations in the region. US imperialist chieftain Donald Trump is set to attend the EAS as the last part of his visit in the region.

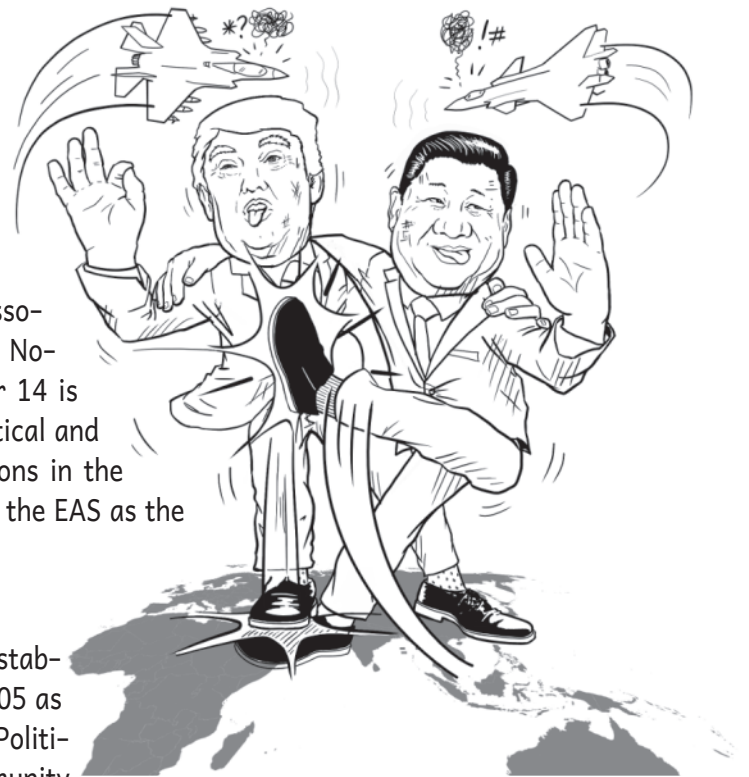
### Geopolitical positioning

Imperialists give importance to the EAS, which includes Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Russia and US as members. This meeting will be held a day after the ASEAN Summit, which Trump will attend because he considers this as "actually the most important day" in the conference. The US uses its economic and military weight to push the EAS to adopt a position against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). While building up its military presence in South Korea and around the South China Sea, the US uses the ASEAN anti-nuclear provisions to pressure DPRK. The Duterte regime acts as an additional noise-maker to foment a war against this country, which has responded by rapidly building its nuclear capacity to defend its

sovereignty.

The ASEAN established the EAS in 2005 as part of its ASEAN Political-Security Community which it counts as a main pillar in achieving "stability" in the region. The ASEAN is one of the flashpoints of rising inter-imperialist rivalry, mainly over control of the South China Sea trade route which has resulted in US and China sabre-rattling. The US is also pushing for closer cooperation against "piracy," to justify its plans on strengthening military presence in the Malacca Straits, the narrow international sea passageway from the Indian Ocean through Malaysia's waters to Southeast Asia.

The EAS is yet another mechanism in addition to the annual Asean Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM) and ADMMPlus which have been in



place since 2010, providing a venue for increasing intervention by imperialist powers. The ADMM and ADMMPlus and the EAS include Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Russia and US which are all located outside Southeast Asia but have political and military interests in the region. According to the 2016-2017 ASEAN report, these formations have discussed the conduct on South China Sea and the situation of the Rakhine State in Myanmar. Under these, four field exercises have been carried out from 2016-2017 on maritime security, disaster, military medicine, humanitarian mine action and counterterrorism.

## Enhancing economic control

The ASEAN Community Vision 2025 is set on advancing a single market agenda regarding trade in goods, effective resolution of non-tariff barriers; deeper integration in trade in services; and a more seamless movement of investment, skilled labour, business persons, and capital.

With this integration, any business within ASEAN members can move around the region without tariff barriers or other protection in the nations hosting the investments. But the reality is that only big foreign capital will benefit from this removal of restrictions. There is collusion among the leading global capitalist powers in so far as pushing for all-out liberalization is concerned. Their investments and factories are already within ASEAN countries and the integrated economy favors their rapid transfer of capital, unhampered plunder of resources and exploitation of cheap

labor.

This falls smoothly within the framework of China's "one belt, one road" and Factory Asia program, as well as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership currently being pushed. This agreement constrains colonies and semicolonies to underdevelopment, allowing the continued imperialists plunder of their resources. China gains additional benefits in the ASEAN Highway Network project that absorbs its surplus steel while facilitating the transportation of its products and services to the semicolonies.

According to the 2016-2017 ASEAN report, 96% of internal tariff rates are already at zero. Negotiations for agreements on traditional medicines and health supplements are expected to be finalized this 2017, as are agreements on prepared foodstuff, automotive products, construction materials and non-automatic weighing instruments. Malaysia and the Philippines

have signed the agreement on banking integration last April, and taxation cooperation agreements are currently being pushed to ensure timely implementation of tax-related initiatives.

Measures to integrate small and medium enterprises into the imperialist system continue. There are also on-going negotiations with Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea, India, New Zealand, and Hong Kong.

ASEAN was established in August 8, 1967 in Thailand in the context of the US war of aggression on Vietnam and the national liberation struggles of Kampuchea and Laos. The first five signatories, including the Philippines, were joined by another five from the 1980s-90s. Since then, it has carried out semi-annual meetings. The ten ASEAN members comprise a land area of more than 2.74 million square kilometers, with a 630-million population and producing a \$2.8 trillion nominal GDP. **AB**

## Labor enclaves are garrisons

From July 2016 to March 2017, the US-Duterte regime opened 13 new special economic zones (SEZ) for foreign investors. Majority of these are offices for call centers, while two are labor enclaves in Palawan and Pangasinana. A total of 40 locations await Duterte's signal for conversion into special labor zones.

The regime wants to make it appear that the creation of new labor enclaves will generate employment, especially in the provinces. In relation to this, Duterte has long promised to maintain low wages as a come-on for foreign investors. He relayed this promise when he went on a begging tour in China and Russia.

Since the 1970s, neoliberal policies have intensified the exploitation of Filipino workers by foreign capitalists and big bourgeois compradors. Among these policies is the creation of export processing zones (EPZ), en-

claves where capitalists are allowed increased authority to exploit workers without impediment from any law or regulation.

Under martial law then, the Export Processing Zone Authority (EPZA) was created through Presidential Decree No. 66 in 1972, to administer the EPZs. The first EPZ

was constructed in Mariveles, Bataan. In 1974, the 120-hectare Food Terminal Inc. or FTI was put up in Taguig. Operations in the 276-hectare Cavite Economic Processing Zone started in 1986. The

EPZA has the exclusive jurisdiction and authority inside the EPZs. Companies within these are given incentives such as tax holidays and free business licensing.

Workers describe these enclaves as garrisons. Ordinarily, they work for more than eight hours a day, every day of the week. They mostly stand in assembly lines from morning till afternoon. Sexual harassment against women workers is rampant. Policies against organizing are strictly enforced, as well as the "No union, No strike" policy.

The reactionary state and capitalists created enclaves outside the national capital region, particularly in Southern Tagalog (ST), for its strategic trade location due to the presence of international ports and airports and lower labor costs. Presently, 34 out of 71 manufacturing EPZs are in ST. An additional 16 SEZs are either in the works or are already in construction. Five of these are manufacturing zones in



Batangas and Cavite. Laguna has the most number of EPZs.

In the name of "industrial peace," the reactionary government protects capitalist interests inside these enclaves. It uses the assumption of jurisdiction to pre-empt or derail budding strikes. Workers are threatened with dismissal if they form trade unions. Capitalists are given the right to file criminal charges and use all means, including military force, to suppress workers' unions and strikes.

Despite all these, workers' resistance has grown, both among contractals and regulars. They put up associations and unions, and launched collective actions and strikes. Some of these actions include the strikes in Asia Brewery Complex in Laguna, Hoya Glass Philippines Inc. inside the First Philippines Industrial Park in Batangas, and NXP Semiconductors inside the Light Industry and Science Park I in Cabuyao, Laguna. The formation of associations of contractual workers inside these enclaves have effectively strengthened the workers' movement in ST.

Faced with militant resistance, the reactionary state, through the DOLE, has been forced to regularize some workers inside these enclaves. However, capitalists rarely enforce these orders, pushing the workers to persistently fight for their status. In any case, this only serves to spur the workers to expand the workers' movement inside enclaves to reach their goals in struggle. AB

## Ka Lia: Worker, Red Fighter

In the mountains of Southern Tagalog, a former industrial worker leads a unit of the New People's Army (NPA).

Ka Lia worked in a labor enclave in Laguna for almost a decade. She began working in a spare parts factory for DVDs when she was 18 years old. For eight months, she endured the difficulties, along with 17,000 other workers in the company.

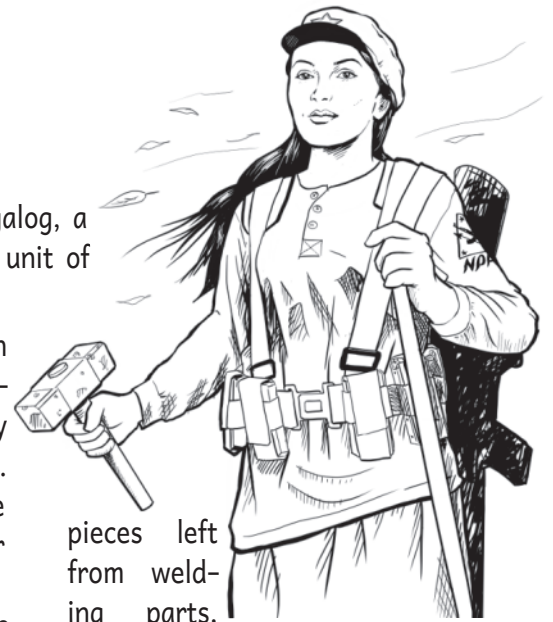
"When I applied for the job, the management immediately asked if I knew anything about unions. My abdomen was also checked for signs of previous pregnancies. That's when I realized they do not like unions, and do not hire employees with children so you can devote your time to the company," said Ka Lia.

At that time she was not aware that forced overtime was prohibited even by reactionary law. For 12 hours, she and her fellow workers were only allowed 30 minutes for meals and rest from standing for a long periods of time..

"I could prolong my break in going to the restroom so I could rest for a while, but I was concerned that my soldering work would pile up and upset the job of my co-workers in the production line," she added.

"I was not politically conscious yet. That is why when I was terminated with 200 others after eight months, we did not complain. We thought that's just how it was. We should be have been regular workers by that time." More than 90% of the workers in the labor enclave where they worked were women. They knew that capitalists were more interested in employing women because they thought women were weak and will not complain.

Ka Lia belied this in a factory where she was transferred. Days after being retrenched from the DVD factory, she was hired in a vehicle pedals factory. Ka Lia's first job was to chip off the superfluous metal



pieces left from welding parts, using a hammer and file.

Aside from the heat and noise within the factory, the work was very tiring for Ka Lia.

"I carried heavy equipment," she said. "On my second day, I could hardly climb up the shuttle bus from too much exhaustion. But I stayed there for five years."

Slowly, she became aware of her rights, when they boycotted overtime work because the vice president of their company scolded them when they were caught taking a break although they had finished their work for the day. They resented being treated like slaves and demanded an apology from the official.

The company's production was affected for three days due to the boycott. Even other departments had to stop because the production line was brought to a standstill in their department. This is where Ka Lia realized the importance of workers' interconnection with each other and their correlation to the entire struggle.

Ka Lia became aware of the importance of the workers in the enclave, who stream into factories in their thousands, but are divided by the capitalists who are united in exploiting and suppressing them. These capitalists have their own organizations within the enclaves. They devise measures to stop workers from organizing themselves. They actively attack workers' rights to join unions, using laws and regulations by the re-

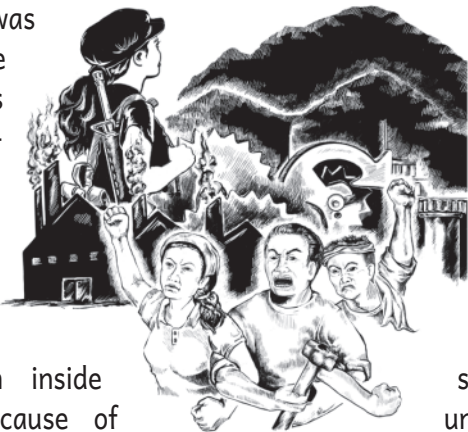


actionary state.

At the first signs that a union is being organized, the company holds seminars. These contain topics to encourage the workers' individualist tendencies and sully anyone who dares to form unions or associations. The company immediately terminates emerging leaders who are contractual while relentlessly finding excuses to terminate regulars.

Ka Lia was a victim of this persecution when she headed a grievance committee. She was suspended from work on the flimsy charge of using a cellphone while in the factory. This happened when she appealed and was able to reverse the company's decision to arbitrarily terminate a contractual. She also represented them in their demand to solve ventilation inside the factory. Because of this, the company watched her every move with her fellow association leaders. "The company wants us to become machines," said Ka Lia.

Everything became clear to Ka Lia when she attended educational discussions upon invitation from her fellow workers. First were discussions on genuine, nationalist unionism. Eventually, she was able to study Philippine society and revolution, the Basic Party Course and several other revolution-



ary writings.

"Making the workers attend the discussion is a huge challenge," said Ka Lia. Aside from lack of time, they were afraid to lose their jobs, especially the contractuels. Because of this, discussions were held in their homes. This way, leaders get to know the workers they organize, and utilize their actual experience in their discussions. Organizers must take advantage of the opportunity.

When workers from other factories arrive, like those who deliver supplies, they can be asked about their own work conditions. Discussions and sharing on workers' gatherings must also be kept alive and propaganda in their line of work must be actively pursued.

Workers must face the maneuvers of capitalists in the enclaves together, Ka Lia added. They can do this by strengthening the trade union movement and the people's army.

Ka Lia joined the NPA because she understood that the working class must lead the revolution and strengthen the people's army. During the time she led the Party branch and organized workers, she longed for the actual practice of armed struggle which was often part of the theoretical discussions. In the middle of her integration with the NPA, she declared she wanted to join the NPA full time. AB

## Peasant's Lakbayan successful

The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) successfully concluded the Peasant's LAKBAYAN from various regions to call for genuine land reform and national industrialization; and oppose political killings nationwide. At the same time, different sectors continued their mass actions to push for their rights and oppose the Duterte regime's anti-people policies.

### Lakbayan ng mga Magsasaka (Peasant's Journey)

On October 25, on the last day of the Peasant's Lakbayan in Metro Manila, thousands of farmers marched from their camp at the Department of

Agrarian Reform (DAR) office in Quezon City to the foot of Mendiola Bridge near Malacanang. Students and youth joined them in front of the University of Sto. Tomas in Manila. They held a program in Mendiola where they

### CNL-Negros holds 1st Regional Congress

AS IN other regions, the First Negros Regional Christians for National Liberation (CNL) Congress was successfully concluded recently. The congress was attended by 35 delegates, both of the "old guard" and the young members from the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant denominations. Aside from the message of the representative of the Communist Party of the Philippines Regional Committee, a message from Fr. Frank Fernandez of the Democratic Front-Negros was read at the gathering.

The CNL National Executive Council shared the most recent developments of the political situation under the US-Duterte regime, the revolutionary situation, and the resolutions of the Eighth National Congress of the underground organization. Videos of the said national congress as well as those of martyrs and heroes were shown. The new leadership was elected and the 3-4 Year General Plan of Action was approved. This was capped by the newly elected chairperson's closing message.

The members of the CNL-Negros were full of vigour and determination to expand their membership. They plan to hold congresses at the provincial and city levels next. AB

burned Duterte's effigy .

Earlier, members of the Baktas BTL warmly welcomed farmers from Central Luzon and Bicol who arrived in front of the DAR office on October 24. That day, they held a picket at the Camp Aguinaldo gate to condemn military abuses in the countryside and the ceaseless arrests and killings of their ranks. Come nightfall, they staged a cultural presentation which was attended by Luis and Coni Jalandoni and other members of the NDFP negotiating panel. According to Ka Luis Jalandoni, "your strength and perseverance inspires us, we get our strength from you to help us give your demands priority in the peace negotiations."

On October 21, around 15,000 Bicol peasants marched to Naga City as part of their Peasant Month commemoration. They highlighted their condemnation of the widespread political killings and repression of peasants, especially in the Sorsogon province that has the second highest number of killings in the country. They demanded the release of the coco levy fund which was stolen by Eduardo Cojuangco, crony of former dictator Marcos.

After the program in Naga, their representatives proceeded to Metro Manila to join the peasant campout there. Before they reached Manila, their buses were stopped by police forces in Pagbilao, Quezon.

Meanwhile, hundreds of peasants led by Danggayan dagiti Manalon sa Cagayan Valley picketed the office of the Department of Social Work and Development (DSWD) to condemn the agency's neglect of typhoon Lawin victims. This was while their leaders were holding a dialogue with the agency's officials. After this, they marched to Mall of Valley in Tuguegarao City to call for the implementation of genuine land reform and the end to political killings.

In Negros Occidental, farmers successfully occupied Hacienda Sua in Pontevedra town on October 24.

They intended to till a 15-hectare parcel within the 90-hectare land appropriated by this town's Mayor Alonso.

On November 6, farm workers led by ARB One Movement (AOM) and UMA held a picket in front of the Ombudsman office in Quezon City to demand that land seized by Tadeco be returned to the peasants. They pushed for the repeal of the joint venture agreement between Rep. Antonio Floirendo and BuCor, since the Ombudsman had already been ruled as anomalous. The farmers declared that Rep. Floirendo must be made accountable for his landgrabbing activities in Davao.

#### **Miners' protests .**

On October 23, small miners of Mt. Diwalwal in Compostela Valley held a protest action in front of the Philippine Mining Development Corporation (PMDC). Led by Nagkahiusang Bomilan sa Diwalwal (United Ball Millers in Diwalwal), they slammed the measures that prohibited them from mining at Mt. Diwalwal and relocating them to Mabatas, which is far from their present mining areas. They also opposed mining of big capitalists in the area.

According to the organization's chairperson Judan Euraba, their eviction from Mt. Diwalwal will result in the loss of livelihood of thousands of small miners, mine workers, their families, and other related businesses around the mines.

The miners further declared that mining in Mabatas will add at least P150 per day to their expenses. They are getting only P350-400 per 0.3 grams of gold at present.

Meanwhile, Kalikasan staged a picket-protest on November 6 in front of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources office to denounce the continued open-pit mining that destroys not only the mountains but also pollutes the waters.

#### **National Women's Day of Protest**

GABRIELA launched a mass action on October 27, National Women's Day of Protest. Among the rallyists were children carrying streamers written with the call: "Children's cry: Fight for the right to shelter." Many urban poor dwellings remain uncertain in relocation areas because the government does not assign permanent places for their residence.

Gabriela Rep. Arlene Brosas said that the US-Duterte regime did not allocate funds for urban poor housing but earmarked billions to projects for foreign interests. The protest was joined by Kadamay members from Tondo, Valenzuela, Marikina and other areas adjacent to Metro Manila who are facing threats of demolition under the US-Duterte regime's Build, Build, Build projects.

On October 28, hundreds of women protested in Davao City to call for the lifting of martial law in Mindanao. According to Mary Ann Saplor, Gabriela-Southern Mindanao secretary general, they have been calling for an end to martial law because this has caused worsening human rights violations since Duterte declared that Marawi has been "liberated."

IN LAGUNA, the Liga ng mga Manggagawa sa Timog Katagalugan held a picket at the Calamba Crossing on October 27 to condemn Clarmil Manufacturing's (Goldilocks-Calamba) refusal to regularize the company's workers.

Earlier, they held a campout, together with workers of Coca-Cola Femsa, in front of the Department of Labor-Office of the Secretary from October 23-27.

Also on October 27, Migrante International set up a picket at Mendiola to decry the US-Duterte regime's Executive Order 44 establishing an Overseas Filipino Bank. This is an additional scheme to profit from migrant workers' remittances. The bank aims to collect



migrant workers' incomes and use these for the regime's anti-people programs and businesses. According to Migrante, this only bolsters the reactionary state's labor-export policy while further exploiting workers.

Meanwhile, a campout has been set up in Mendiola since October 25 by around a hundred families who lost their homes due to the Manggahan Floodway demolition in Pasig City. The camp out itself faces the threat of demolition when the country starts hosting the ASEAN Summit on November 12.

The Movement Against Tyranny participated in the church people's march against political killings held at the People Power Monument on November 5. A mass was held at the Edsa Shrine before the march, which called for an end to killings and justice for all victims of extrajudicial killings.

In Baguio City, students of the University of the Philippines (UP)-Baguio and St. Louis University held a picket on October 26 to condemn the Duterte regime's fascism and violence across the country. Among the protesters were students who are facing trumped-up charges from the police and military. AB

## Groups celebrate October Revolution centenary

GUIDED BY THE theories of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism, revolutionaries and progressives celebrated the centenary of the October Revolution across the country. The Philippine revolutionary movement in the Philippines learned from the October Revolution, the first revolution won by workers and peasants.

On November 7, revolutionary groups under the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) held a lighting rally in Mendiola, Manila City as part of their centennial celebrations. They raised the flags of the Communist Party of the Philippines and the NDFP and called for the workers to join the New People's Army.

Other CPP and NPA units also launched celebrations. A program by the NPA-Southern Tagalog (Melito Glor Command) led by Comrade Diego Padilla kicked off the celebrations. The NPA-North Central Mindanao also held a program where Pedro Codaste, NDFP consultant, attended. Meanwhile, the *Ang Bayan* came out with a special issue featuring messages from the Central Committee and from Prof. Jose Maria Sison. The *Sine Proletaryo* featured Red fighters singing the Internationale.

On October 21, peasants and other sectors celebrated the October Revolution centennial in Cebu where they waved a hundred flags printed with the hammer and sickle. The activity was launched on the last day of the *Lakbayan ng mga Magsasaka sa Visayas* and the Summit of the Rural Poor.

In Davao City, a cultural program was held at the Holy Cross of Davao College Auditorium in celebration of the centennial. Hundreds of activists participated in the celebration which featured cultural numbers. The venue was spruced up by communist party flags. In Northern Luzon, a celebration was held in Tuguegarao City. AB