

# TANZAWAN

COTABATO

MARCH 22, 1973

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES:

The history of the Moros is a martial history. From the fifteenth century up to the present Marcos Era, the Moros have never experienced the blessing of a peaceful and secured life. However, war of aggression was never a part of their history. The so-called Moro Wars were always fought in Moroland, a land watered with their own blood and tears. They fought almost all the races of humanity in the land they called theirs. Each of these foes was formidable nevertheless the Moros fought just the same. To them, life without Liberty is as good as death itself. The freedom they have enjoyed were all paid in full by the blood of their martyrs.

War was always resorted to by the Moros as a last alternative. In fact, the Moro Wars were forced upon them. The scars of history upon the Moros are very clear. Prior to the advent of any Whiteman in the Philippines, the Moros were the majority group and held most of the islands under their sway. Today, they are barely (5) five million in number and occupy a tiny portion of Mindanao, Sulu, and Palawan. But they did not regret nor are they going to bow down their heads against any obstacle; for persecution is worse than slaughter. There is no other alternative left for the Moros except to face squarely the war-of-extinction initiated against them.

In spite of this facts, the Moros are still pictured as the villains. We want to reiterate once more that we are not against the Christians nor any tribal group. This is not a religious war. We are fighting for the cause of all oppressed masses regardless of tribal group. The enemies of the Moro Fighters are very clear: the oppressive Marcos Government and any people, Moros or Christians, who are fighting with the government. The Christians have nothing to worry. As long as you are not fighting with the government, you will be assured that you will not be harmed but rather you will be protected. Any abuse of authority or crime committed by any member of the Moro Fighters, we advise you to report to the nearest Moro Fighters' Command. You must be aware that the government is trying to use you as instrument for the fulfillment of the master plan of Marcos. We must understand that no civilian is supposed to do police works.

Let it be known that we are not Communists and can never be Communists. We are GOD-fearing people and firmly believe in the freedom of religion. However, we earnestly congratulate the NPA and the CPP for their unceasing efforts for the emancipation of the masses and their heroic struggle against the oppressive Marcos Government.

We are reminding the members of the AFP to come to your senses. You must understand that you are fighting a wrong battle. You are only fighting for the interest of Marcos and the "AFP" men. The interest of the country is never at stake. General uprising is everywhere. Central Luzon, Negros, Cebu, Samar, Sulu, Basilan, Zamboanga del Sur, Cotabato, and lately Lanao del Norte are all burning. Marcos is the cause of all these miseries and the sufferings of the people. His lust for power caused the rape and death of democracy in this part of the world. He is a curse that defiles practically the whole machinery of the government including its much-valued democratic processes.

The Marcos Government is now bankrupt. With the entire ill-power of the AFP barking, Marcos must have spent billions of pesos.

-Back page please-



If the government could spend or utilize P 25,000 a day, P185,000,000 and 5,000 ground forces not counting the participation of the Navy and the Air Force against Kamlon and his 70 men, how much more when the firing magnitude is much greater. Only Marcos and his men know the accounting.

Everywhere the Moro Commandos are completely routing the forces of the Marcos Government. In Cotabato alone, it suffered no less than 1,000 casualties including 3 captains, 7-10 lieutenants, and scores of sergeants. The government mobilizes all the forces it could muster and brought in Patton tanks, armored cars, Sabre jets, reconnaissance (U-17) planes, transport planes, helicopters, and all the big guns available including howitzer, mortar, grenade launcher, M-75, M-60, 50 cal. MG, 30 cal. MG., etc. Jet Planes wantonly strafed and bombarded all Moro occupied areas. Moro innocent civilians were always the victims.

Personal emissary from Malacanan is here in town asking why we and other oppressed people are rising in arms. Marcos must search his own heart and surely he will find the answers. One of the demands, a very simple one, is : Who and Where are the killers of the Jabidah Massacre, Manili Massacre, Zibayan Massacre, and other similar massacres? Most, if not all, were done by men in uniforms.

On with the struggle until victory is achieved....

VICTORY OR TO THE GRAVEYARD ! ! !  
VICTORY OR TO THE GRAVEYARD ! ! !

MORO FIGHTERS