

Harros, Ferdinand - Administration

ONE 'YEAR OF MARTIAL LAW

IN THE PHILIPPINES

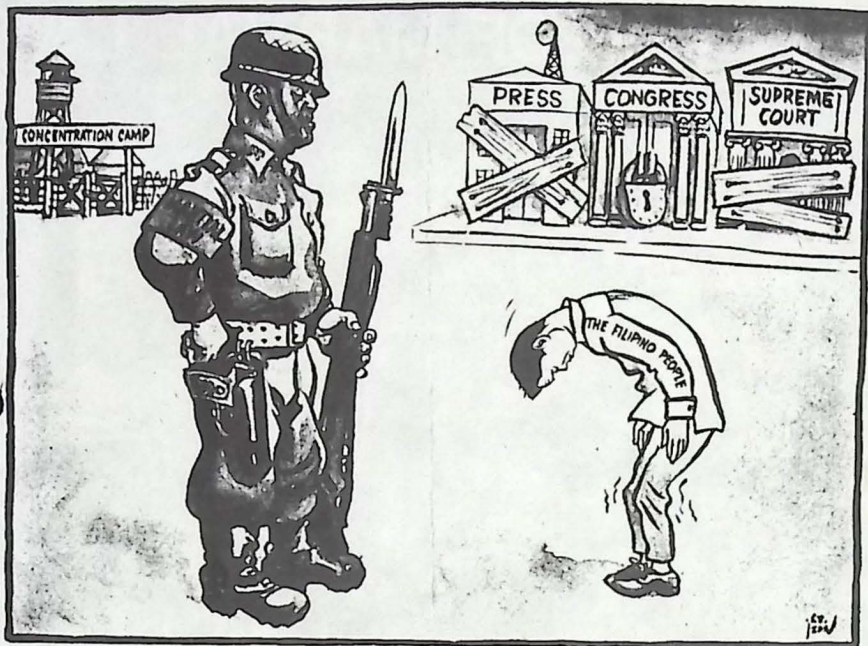
40 Million Filipinos need your help



(these are just a few of them)

RALLY FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES

September 22, 1973

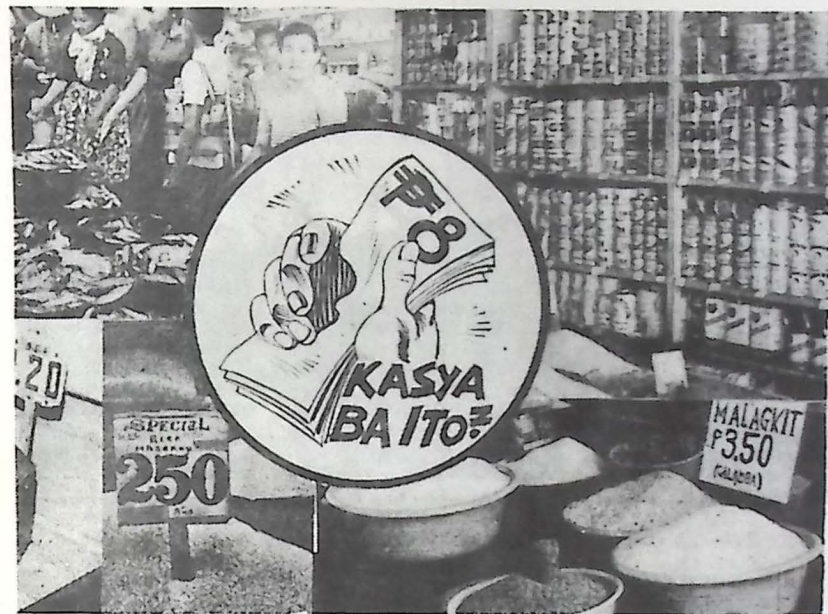


SEPTEMBER 22, 1973 marks the first death anniversary of constitutional democracy in the Philippines. On this date last year, Ferdinand Marcos appointed himself dictator by issuing PROCLAMATION 1081 DECLARING MARTIAL LAW OVER THE WHOLE COUNTRY.

Since then, the Filipino people have been deprived of their democratic rights and civil liberties by the ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES under the command of Marcos. Congress has been abolished, the judiciary bypassed, and a "new Constitution" has been forced upon the people through the so-called "citizens' assemblies."

The New Society is a Phony Society.

The so-called NEW SOCIETY is nothing but a phony society. The government controlled press gives a prettified image of martial law. This is to hide the fact that the NEW SOCIETY is actually a mirror image of the OLD SOCIETY, only now President Marcos and the military have absolute control.



This is simply the bitter fruit of floods in previous years caused by the uncontrolled logging operations of U.S. and Japanese Capitalist companies condoned by the Marcos administration. Not learning this lesson Marcos is encouraging still more foreign investment, more exploitation of the national patrimony.

As the crisis worsens, the people's patience with Marcos' empty promises dwindles, talk of all-out revolution, and armed overthrow of the regime is growing among the population. Gradually, town and countryside are being transformed into a battlefield between a disgusted citizenry and the Marcos government.

U.S. Interests in the Philippines.

In more ways than one, the U.S. government and U.S. corporations are involved in the Philippines. Consider the following facts:

1. U.S. monopolies have over \$2 billion worth of investments in the Philippines.



F4 Phantom fighter jets in formation prior to departure from flight line at Clark Base in Pampanga.

2. The largest American Air Force Base outside the continental United States is Clark Air Force Base in Pampanga, Luzon Island.
3. The home of the U.S. Seventh Fleet is Subic Bay, Olongapo City.
4. Over 20,000 U.S. troops are now stationed in the Philippines.

Clearly the U.S. has massive military and economic interests in the Philippines. Furthermore, the U.S. government has not changed its policy of giving aid to the Marcos dictatorship, thus helping to perpetuate Martial Law.

Because of these factors we believe that there is a clear and present danger of another Vietnam type situation in the Philippines.

The only way that such a tragedy can be prevented is if Marcos steps down from power at the end of his elected term on December 30, 1973, and restores civil liberties and democratic processes. The U.S. government should condition its policy of giving aid to the Philippines upon the restoration of democracy there.

The pro-Marcos vested interests (the Ablans, the Zobels, the Sorianos) and businessmen from the Kuomintang Party like the rice and sugar hoarder, Antonio Roxas-Chua still dominate the scene. At the same time Marcos and his cronies have taken over the wealth and business interest of their political and commercial rivals, like the Lopezes and the Jacintos.

Eight Thousand Political Prisoners.

To this day eight thousand political prisoners are under the custody of the Philippine Constabulary and other military agencies, few of them given the benefit of fair and democratic trials. These include some of the country's finest men and women: working people, leading intellectuals and social critics, journalist, students and youth, religious leaders, even members of Congress.



SENATORS JOSE DIOKNO and BENIGNO AQUINO are among the eight thousand political prisoners being held by the Marcos regime. Both were strong critics of the president before Martial Law.

A reign of terror remains despite the rosy picture that is painted by the government controlled press. Many people live in constant fear, as Marcos' army sweeps towns and cities making arbitrary arrest of innocent people.

The War in Mindanao

On the Southern Island of Mindanao, fully one-third of the Armed Forces is engaged in an all-out civil war with the Muslim people. On the pretext of fighting "rebels and insurgents," whole villages have been razed to the ground. In fact, foreign new correspondents have told of Muslim and Christian civilians left dead and dying in the wake of the army's numerous military campaigns. Zamboanga City to this day is filled with some 30,000 homeless refugees. Thousands more are spilling into the neighboring islands of Borneo, Malaysia and Indonesia.



The War in Luzon.

IN THE NORTHERN REACHES OF LUZON and in the Central Islands, the peasant population now experiences some of the terrors of VIETNAM, as Air Force planes flown by U.S.-trained pilots drop bombs and napalm on towns and villages suspected of harboring guerrillas.

The Rice Crisis.

Under the rule of Marcos, the Filipino people are suffering unimaginable hardships. At this time, the Philippines is reeling from the worst rice shortage ever in history; wholesale starvation and famine threaten to engulf the less privileged sectors of the population. Now the price of rice is ₱12 a ganta if you can find any at the market.

Anti-martial Law Movement in the U.S.

Here in the United States, we patriotic Filipinos and freedom-loving Americans have consistently opposed the anti-popular and unjust policies of Marcos' Martial Law dictatorship.

Since the formation of the National Committee for the Restoration of Civil Liberties in the Philippines on September 23, 1972, just one day after Martial Law was declared, literally thousands of people have seen the injustices of Marcos' regime and now demand the abolition of the dictatorship. Many new organizations, such as Senator Raul Manglapus' Movement for a Free Philippines have joined the fight to restore civil liberties and prevent another Vietnam.

Despite the arbitrary blacklisting of 109 individuals and continuous unseen espionage by the Philippine Consulates, we pledge ever-strengthened efforts to fight for the establishment of a true democracy in the Philippines. TODAY, we forge a broad front of civil libertarians and democratic personalities calling for an end to Marcos' Martial Law regime.

WE CALL ON ALL FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE TO UNITE WITH US BEHIND THE FOLLOWING FIVE POINTS:

- I. Opposition to martial law.
- II. Restoration of Civil Liberties.
- III. Freedom for Political Prisoners.
- IV. Protection from harassments of Marcos' agents in the U.S.
- V. Demand that the U.S. abandon support for Marcos.

SEPTEMBER 22nd COALITION

JOIN THE MARCH and RALLY on SATURDAY, SEPT. 22



PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

- Fr. Bruno Hicks
- National Committee
for the Restoration
of Civil Liberties
in the Philippines
- Filipino Forum
- Katipunan ng mga
Demokratikong Pilipino
- Union of Vietnamese
- SF Mime Troupe
- NCRCLP Cultural Group

**March begins at 10am
from 7th & Howard, S.F.**

Proceeds to Union Square (Powell-Geary)

Rally begins by 12 noon

Sept. 22 Coalition

info: 845-1644