



TI PROGRESIBO

VOL. I No. 7
October '80

Newsletter of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (K.D.P.)

1980 Elections

Voting on Issues Or Personalities?

November 4 is election day in America, the day when Americans vote for candidates they want to run the public offices, including the president of this country. Elections happen every two or four years. But even with all the money that candidates spend for expensive advertising on radio, t.v., and newspapers to convince voters who to vote for, more and more people don't trust politicians and their promises.

Many voters today feel that no matter who gets into office nothing much will change. Do we really believe that politicians can stop prices for food, housing and gas from going up? Can politicians stop war from breaking out? The answer is a big NO! see 'Elections' p.4

Eleksiyon Manen

Adtoy manen iti eleksiyonen. Inton Nov. 4, pillien dagiti agboto ditoy Amerika dagiti agturay iti gobierno. Adu iti mabasbasa wenna mangmangngeg a pakdaar dagiti kandidato a dumawatda iti boto tayo. Ngem uray pay no nakaadadu dagiti gastosda a mapan kadagiti a pakdaar, umadadu iti tao nga maa-wanan iti pamatida kadagiti pulitiko ken eleksiyon.

Umado iti umili a mamati nga awan maaramid dagiti pulitiko a mangpaimbag kadagiti problema. Kayat a maamuan
see p.4

* **INSIDE** *

* *Significance of 75th Anniv....* p.2 *

* *Immigrant Rights Conference...* p.6 *

* *Sariling Gawa Prepares for* *

* *Youth Conferences.....* p.7 *

* *Martial Law & Extradition.....* p.9 *

VIEWING the SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR 75th ANNIVERSARY

The Filipino community in Hawaii will see many fiestas and celebrations this coming year. There will be the usual cultural programs, terno balls, beauty contests, etc., which will contribute to the 75th anniversary celebration of Filipino immigration to Hawaii.

1981 will be an important year for Filipinos in Hawaii, but not because of all the fiestas that are being organized.

What makes the 75th anniversary of Filipino arrival to Hawaii significant is that the occasion gives the community an opportunity to celebrate our history in this state and look back on the contributions we have made in building the social, economic, and political life in these islands.

Very few in our community know about the history of Filipinos in Hawaii. As the Filipino population increasingly becomes a community of new immigrants, very few will be left to remember what it was like when Filipinos first arrived here in the early 1900's and how our community has developed since then.

If we are to fully appreciate the meaning of the 75th anniversary of Filipinos in Hawaii, we must look back on our history. Knowing our history gives us an understanding of the continuing development of our community. But more importantly, our history provides us with the foundation from which to build our future. see '75th' p.3



75th Anniversary...

We celebrate the 75th not only as Filipinos but also as workers in this land. We have a heritage as a people who played a major role in building the labor movement in Hawaii. Together with other workers, Filipinos helped build the plantations which provided the wealth of Hawaii's economy long before tourism became the state's main source of income.

As the last major ethnic group recruited to work on Hawaii's plantations we faced the hardships of labor exploitation and racial discrimination. But through struggling for our rights, we gained our strength in being united, first as Filipinos, and later as workers united with other laborers of different ethnic backgrounds.

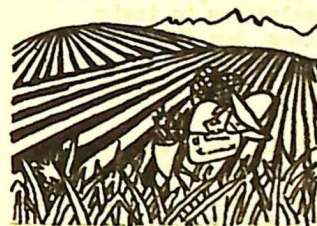
The Filipino community today continues to experience the problems of labor exploitation and racial discrimination. Newly arrived immigrants are being used as a cheap source of labor, even though they may be professionals with college degrees from the Philippines.

Many Filipino elderly receiving SSI benefits have experienced harassment from

the INS just because they left the United States to visit the Philippines.

And our immigrant youth are faced with the lack of an adequate bilingual education program which is sensitive to their needs.

At this point in our history, it's up to us to continue the struggle for our rights in the same spirit as those who pioneered Filipino immigration to Hawaii in the early 1900's. We have our history and the lessons learned from our past struggles from which to build our future. ■



Elections . . .

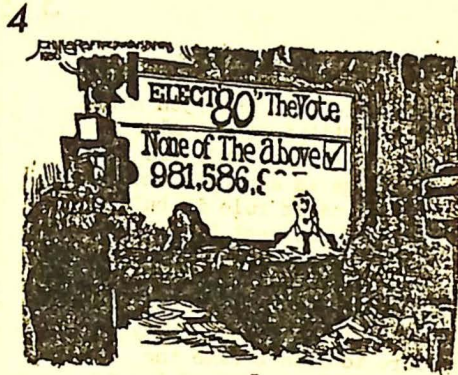
These past few years, more Americans have lost trust in their government. This is not hard to understand with all the Watergate and Nixon scandals and the recent news of corruption in Congress. These scandals have shown how much control the big corporations (like the oil companies such as EXXON), and the big banks have on our elected public officials.

By buying favors, big corporations are able to have their interests protected. Who loses? It is the consumers, the majority of all working people. With no protection for consumers, prices of gas, food and rent keep rising while worker's wages cannot keep up.

People today are looking for solutions to their problems, but they don't see electing new politicians into offices as the answer.

That is why a government study showed that more Americans don't vote than the number who do vote. Only 46% of those eligible actually vote - which means more than half don't.

continued next page



AT THIS POINT WE ARE PROJECTING A WINNER....

dagiti tatao no kabaelan dagiti pulitiko nga isardeng ti panagpangato iti presyo ti magatgatang a taraon, gas wenno renta ti pagbalayan? Maisardeng ngata dagiti pulitiko iti panagbettak iti gubat? Ti sungbat ket SAAN!

Bassit ti panagtalek dagiti umili iti gobiernoda kadagitoy a tiempo panggep iti adu a panagalallilaw iti pulitikos kaniada - kasla ni Nixon (ti napanaganan a "Watergate"), ken dagiti madamdag a "corruption" idiai Kongreso. Impakita dagitoy a eskandalo ti kapigsa ti panagtengngel dagiti dadakkel a negociantes (kas iti akin-kukua iti gas ti gas wenno dadakkel a banko), iti gobierno. Catangen dagiti dadakkel a negociantes ti pabor iti pulitikos tapno

"Elections...."

5

After going through endless elections every two or four years, we can hardly tell the difference between this year's elections and the years before. With so many similarities in style, approach, and political promises, the only differences left is what ethnic group they are. Is the candidate a Hawaiian? Japanese? Chinese? Caucasian? or Filipino?

How often have we heard our kababayans say, "I voted for so and so because he/she is Filipino."

The fact that we are left to chose our public officials on the basis of common ethnic backgrounds instead of on issues that directly affect our lives shows a serious weakness in our political system.

When candidates begin to run on issues like decent affordable housing, making discrimination and racism illegal, restriction on the power of corporations, and giving more power to common working people in running the government -- then, the community will have a real choice!■

(...from p.4)

ipangrunada dagiti interesda. Daytoy iti rason no apay ngumato amin a magatang iti pakadangaanan ti pagimbagan iti umili.

Ammo dagiti umili dity Estados Unidos nga saan a nasayaat daytoy a sistema. Isu gapu nga agbotboto. Agsapsapul dagiti umili iti pakailaw-lawagan kadagiti nadagen a problemada. Ammoda a saan a dagiti pulitiko iti makasolbar kadagiti problema a kas iti inflation, unemployment, ti diskriminasyon, ti pagbalayan a kabaelan ti tattao iti renta, ken adu pay. Masapul nga suportaran iti umili a Pilipino dagiti a kandidato nga sibubulos a mangsupiat iti sistema wenno mangitaguyod iti interes dagiti ordinaryo a mangmangged, popobre ken dagiti minoria a komunidad.■



Immigrant Rights Conference To Be Held In November

Bilingual education and services, anti-alien laws in Congress, national discrimination in employment, and denial of social welfare benefits to immigrants are among the many issues to be addressed at the national conference of the National Task Force for the Defense of Filipino Immigrant Rights.

The conference will be held on November 22 and 23 in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The conference will bring together representatives of local task forces from all over the U.S. -- Hawaii, New York, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, San Jose, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

The National Task Force was born out of a resolution from the immigration workshop at the 1979 Filipino Peoples Far West Convention in Sacramento.

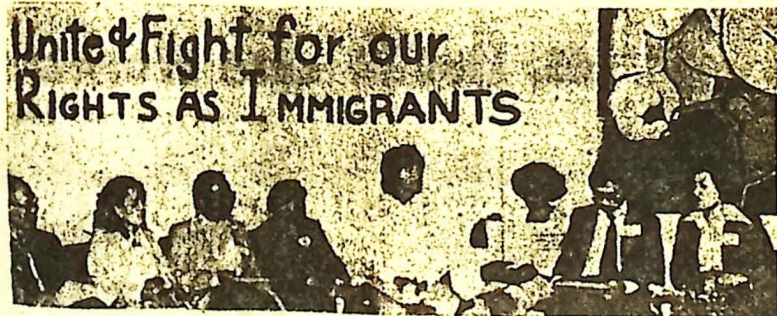
It was formed as a concrete and organized response to the growing anti-alien trend in this country.

Like many other newcomers to this country, Filipinos have been subject to anti-alien attacks.

"Aliens are taking away our jobs and living off welfare."

"They are a threat to the 'American' way of life."

(continued next page)



San Francisco Task Force Conference Held in March 1980

SARILING GAWA PREPARES FOR YOUTH CONFERENCES

Why do so many Filipino youth drop out of high school? How do we help parents understand what their children go through in school? How do we increase the political involvement of Filipinos in Hawaii?

These are just some of the questions that will be discussed in the upcoming series of conferences to begin January 1981 and culminating in the main conference on Oahu on March 6, 7 and 8.

Entitled "Challenges of Filipino Young Adults - A Conference Series" the end goal

of the conferences is to establish a youth organization which will carry out the plans put out in the main conference.

Sariling Gawa (Our Own Work) is presently developing liaison committees on the outer islands to help build the conferences there.

Youths between the ages of 16 to 24 are encouraged to participate. Sariling Gawa will be doing outreach to high schools and colleges to attract students to participate in the planning as well as in the conferences themselves.

(continued p.8)

(...from p.6)

These are common remarks directed to newcomers who are arriving at a time when the United States is facing economic difficulties.

But this has not been the only time that newcomers have been subjected to anti-alien attacks during economic difficulties. The Chinese in the 1880's and Filipinos in the 1930's were targetted as scapegoats for the economic crisis of those times.

A strong organized resistance was the only way to beat back these attacks.

The conference will discuss and look back on the past year's experiences and set out new plans for the coming year. With the worsening economy, the struggle for immigrants will surely heighten.

(...from p.7)

Support and assistance is in the process of being obtained from the 75th Anniversary Commission, United Filipino Council of Hawaii, Oahu Filipino Community Council, Oahu businesses and neighbor islands' community groups.

A \$2000 grant was received from the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to help fund the project. Sariling Gawa will stage their own fundraising projects for operational and promotional costs.

Interested students, individuals, and organizations who wish to support or participate in the conference preparations should contact Milli Macugay, Coordinator, at 947-5140 (evenings).

 * **SUBSCRIBE NOW!** *
 * * * * *
 * *TI PROGRESIBO is a monthly* *
 * *publication of the Union of* *
 * *Democratic Filipinos (KDP)* *
 * *in Hawaii.* *
 * * * * *
 * *To subscribe, just send \$1.* *
 * *to:* *
 * *K.D.P.* *
 * *P.O. Box 17381* *
 * *Honolulu, Hi. 96817* *
 * * * * *
 * *Please include your name* *
 * *and correct mailing address.* *
 * * * * *

The next meeting will be held on November 17, Monday, at 7:00 p.m. at the University of Hawaii Campus Center. ■



We need more than just green stamps.

OPPOSE MARTIAL LAW! OPPOSE EXTRADITION!

The Philippines is once again making national news and people are wondering what to make of the bombings, "terrorism," and Marcos' push for an extradition treaty with the United States.

- And foreign multi-national corporations continue to gain enormous profits while Filipino workers don't even make half of what they need to just survive.

While it's true that the recent bombings are senseless, we cannot excuse Marcos for continuing his dictatorial rule that the Filipino people have lived under for years.

How are Filipinos suppose to view these events? First reactions will indicate, "They shouldn't be doing it. Bombings are senseless. It hurts innocent people. It only gives Marcos more reason to continue martial law."

Martial law itself is responsible for the conditions that has forced people to take up armed resistance.

But looking at the Philippine situation more closely, we can see that the Filipino people have already been living in violence and terror under martial law for over eight years. While tourists and balikbayans don't see tanks and soldiers around Manila, (who's going to put tanks and soldiers where Imelda puts her pet projects anyway?) - millions are living as squatters in constant hunger and poverty...

Even those who opposed violence in any form years ago, (like the April 6th Movement), are now recognizing that armed repression can only be fought with armed resistance. We can credit that idea to the national democratic forces who understood that fact over ten years ago when they began armed resistance in the countryside.

- Thousands have become refugees fleeing from Mindanao and Samar to escape the terror of Marcos' military...

Now that the people's forces, led by the New People's Army (NPA) are increasingly gaining strength - despite being
continued p.10



President Marcos decorates an official of Caltex, the largest U.S. investor in the Philippines.

....from p.9

pictured in the U.S. press as "small" and "not a threat" to the ruling elite - the so called "third force" represented by the April 6th Movement is playing catch-up.

What this tells us is that the elite opposition led by the likes of Aquino, Manglupus, Salonga, Lopez, etc., are getting desperate. These traditional politicians - (meaning in the past they've traditionally put their own personal interests ahead of the masses of Filipino people) - are opposed to Marcos because he has the backing of the U.S. and not them.

What does the U.S. have to do with this? The large investments in the Philippines

by Ford, General Motors, Castle & Cooke, Exxon, CalTex, etc., should give us an idea. Plus, two large military bases to protect all other U.S. businesses around the world.

Aquino and company of course think they can do a better job than Marcos in protecting U.S. interests without martial law. Up to now, their efforts to woo Uncle Sam have only failed. In desperate frustration, they must make things look so bad for Marcos that Uncle Sam should at least not forget to keep them in mind just in case.

Meanwhile, Marcos has his own plans. How do you deal with people of your own class

....from p.10

who want your wealth, your power, and your U.S. support? An extradition treaty should do it while you're still in good terms with Uncle Sam. This way you can order the arrest and conviction of any Filipino who opposes you in the United States, whether they are Aquino or just plain Juan de la Cruz. In other words, you have an easier time exporting martial law abroad to arrest and even get rid of those who seem to be a threat to your power.

Now that the split within the Philippine's elite class (Marcos vs. Aquino & Company, or the "ins" and "outs"), has turned into a violent contest, to the Filipino people this shows how weak our traditional leadership has become. While they're caught up in their own class rivalry, they set themselves up to be defeated by the national democratic move-

ment which continues to progress to reach its goal of eventually overthrowing the rule of this privileged elite.

We do not condone the bombing tactics of the elite opposition who are desperate to regain the power they lost to Marcos. But as long as they are on the side of the vast majority seeking to end martial law, they do not deserve to be called "terrorists." They have only faced up to the fact that the Filipino people can only fight back with armed resistance.

Marcos' move to get an extradition treaty must be opposed by the entire anti-martial law movement. He has no right to impose his martial law in the U.S. where we still have the right to speak out against repressive governments. ■

ang KATIPUNAN

KDP's national newspaper.
Published twice a month.
News from the Philippines
and Filipinos in the U.S.

Clip and Mail to:

K.D.F.
P.O. Box 17381
Honolulu, HI, 96817

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

\$7.50—Individual \$10—Institution
 \$12.50—Foreign

Name _____

Address _____

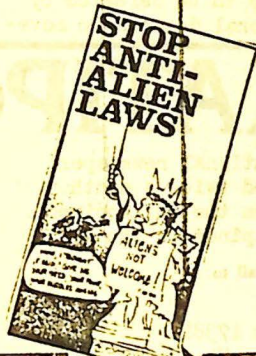
City _____ Zip _____

FEEDBACK/SUPPORT

TI PROGRESIBO welcomes your comments--criticisms, suggestions, contributions. We want feedback! We hope the TI PROGRESIBO can heighten community awareness around a variety of issues, so we encourage input from all parts of the community.

TI PROGRESIBO is also self-sustaining, so we look forward to your financial support as well. If you find the newsletter useful and interesting, we hope you will subscribe and make a contribution to keep it going.

New brochure now available from the National Task Force for the Defense of Filipino Immigrant Rights. For copies, call 841-6429.



UNION OF DEMOCRATIC FILIPINOS (KDP)
P.O. Box 17381
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Serials Librarian
Asia Collection, UH
2550 The Mall
Honolulu, HI 96822

BUICK
RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Honolulu, Hawaii
Permit No. 1337

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED