

Manila, September 1, 1976

TO ALL FRIENDS CONCERNED
ABOUT FREEDOM AND JUSTICE
FOR THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

Dear Friend,

We would like to call your attention and invite your sympathy for the cause of the Filipino people suffering under martial law.

On September 21 the government will celebrate the fourth anniversary of the declaration of martial law. Mr. Marcos and his supporters have cause for celebration, but not the broad masses of the Filipino people.

As a people in subjection we plead for the much needed support of our friends abroad. You still enjoy the freedom that was taken away from us a long time ago; you have the freedom to speak out; you can call the attention of others to the struggle of the Filipino people for freedom and justice.

The enclosed papers present the issues that confront us and what we are doing about them.

If you are interested in our cause, we suggest that you get together with other friends concerned about the Philippine situation and set up a plan of action to protest, along with us, against martial law, sham referendums, and foreign domination of our economy. Suggested actions are:

- a liturgical celebration, perhaps ecumenical (see enclosed liturgy);
- press releases to the media in your country/city;
- joint letters, cables, or statements to The Philippine Government, asking for the lifting of martial law and the full recognition of human rights, the postponement of all referendums under martial law, and the rejection of impositions by the multinational corporations and finance institutions allied with them;
- protest demonstration at the Philippine Embassy or Consulate;
- dissemination of the enclosed materials, plus the brochure on "Political Detainees in the Philippines" (copies may be purchased at US\$1 from Ms. Jim Drew, Room 504, 110 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C., U.S.A.).

In connection with the conference of the International Monetary Fund in Manila, October 4 to 8, we suggest that you communicate all the information on the Philippines to your country's delegates. In particular, we recommend letters to the president of the World Bank, Mr. Robert S. McNamara, asking him to accept the invitation by the Tondo Foreshoreland slum dwellers to a dialogue on squatter problems on October 3.

