

MARCOS IS A FASCIST PUPPET OF U.S. IMPERIALISM¹

Since U.S. imperialism is in a grave economic and political crisis, it is inevitable that its Philippine puppet government finds itself in the same morass. That is because the imperialist master must squeeze more profits and political advantage from its semicolony like the Philippines. In a futile attempt to facilitate the intensification of exploitation and oppression, both master government and subject government collude in a partnership of deception. Thus, have the imperialist chieftain Nixon and the puppet chieftain Marcos adapted their rhetorics to that partnership.

The more the Philippines is laid prostrate by the blood-sucking activities of U.S. imperialism and by the local reactionaries, the comprador bourgeois, the landlord class and the bureaucrat capitalist, the more are Nixon and Marcos heard preaching "self-reliance" and "nationalism" in order to obscure the oppressive and exploitative relations between the foreign and local tyrants on one hand and the Filipino people on the other.

Marcos tries to take advantage of the fact that he was confronted with the kind of opposition put up by such a fossil of outright proimperialism as Osmeña in the last elections. Putting himself into false contrast with Osmeña, Marcos declares that his terroristic and fraudulent reelection is a victory of his "platform of nationalism." In this manner, he tries to conceal the antinational and antidemocratic character of his regime and to put into disrepute the very slogan of nationalism that the national bourgeoisie and quite a number of intellectuals have been uttering to denounce the unjust impositions of U.S. imperialism.

We can certainly expect Marcos to prate more often and even more raucously about his "New Filipinism" and "new morality" as a measure of his futile attempt to counteract the rising revolutionary mass movement and hoodwink the various classes and strata which are now increasingly suffering from the evils of U.S. imperialism and puppetry. By his nature as a bureaucrat capitalist, with large comprador and landlord interests of his own, Marcos will continue to serve U.S. imperialism and all the exploiting classes. He shall deceive those he can deceive and he shall attack those he cannot deceive with the full force of the reactionary state. The

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more he acts as a fascist puppet of U.S. imperialism, the more shall he picture himself as a nationalist. This is his way of trying to parry off the attacks against his masters.

The broad masses of the Filipino people have been vigorously calling for the abrogation of unequal treaties and executive agreements that oppressively tie down the entire nation to U.S. imperialism and the local reactionaries. But the clever bureaucrat capitalist Marcos, instead of unilaterally and clearly asserting the national sovereignty and democratic interests of the people, prefers to call vaguely for "renegotiation" and puts himself into the position of a broker or fixer. U.S. imperialism actually goes into a duet with the Philippine puppet government in belching out in a monotone the line of "renegotiation." They stop their ugly duet as soon as they presume that they have sufficiently headed off the popular call for abrogation. They merely issue press statements calling for "renegotiation" only when an imperialist abuse, like the murder of a Filipino, within the U.S. military bases occurs and becomes an occasion for the just demand for the abrogation of the RP-U.S. Military Bases Agreement, Military Assistance Pact and Mutual Defense Treaty.

The termination of the Laurel-Langley Agreement is scheduled for 1974. Both U.S. imperialism and the Filipino puppets led by Marcos have acted to renew and aggravate the same imperialist privileges contained therein. The Marcos puppet regime has, with canine devotion, continued to implement the recommendations of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank that were first implemented with gusto by Macapagal. The single purpose of these recommendations is to render the Philippine reactionary government financially desperate in preparation for the termination of the Laurel-Langley Agreement. After its first four-year term, the Marcos puppet regime now finds its own puppetry, corruption and the resulting bankruptcy of the reactionary government as the very excuse for begging U.S. imperialism to grant trade preferences and "stabilization" loans in exchange for the extension of U.S. privileges in the Philippine economy. Already U.S. imperialism has extorted from the Philippines the Investment Incentives Act and the Magna Carta of Social Justice and Economic Freedom which are being deliberately propagandized as "nationalist" documents but which actually give all the incentives, guarantees and legal phrases that the U.S. monopolies can easily use to perpetuate their economic and political domination of the country.

Because of the present state of financial bankruptcy on the part of the reactionary government, the U.S. imperialists, the comprador bourgeoisie and the landlord class are riding

roughshod over the Filipino people even more viciously. Nevertheless, while the Marcos reactionary regime piously calls for "austerity," the broad masses of the Filipino people who have always led lives not only of austerity but of dire poverty can see through the hypocrisy even more easily. The inflation that has already started to smash the subsistence income of the toiling masses of workers and peasants will be more telling than any slogan dished out by the Marcos reactionary regime. At a time of deep financial and economic crisis for U.S. imperialism and all other imperialist powers, the local reactionaries cannot perpetually rely on foreign investments in the form of loans and direct investments without getting into deeper economic and political trouble. The United States and other imperialist powers are now extracting every ounce of profit from the colonies and semicolonies in order to make up for their own internal economic crisis. Openly, they now speak frequently of their own nationalism as Nixon does.

The Marcos puppet regime has already dug its own political grave by incurring an extremely huge budgetary deficit and foreign debt. To pull back, it has to cut down credit and dollar support for the national bourgeoisie. It has to lay off government employees wholesale. Local enterprises which are so dependent on imported raw materials, spare parts and fuel will also have to lay off their workers in great droves and will further hold down the wages of those retained. The conditions of employment will worsen as the prices of commodities rise. Widespread strikes of the proletariat are certain to occur. The student masses who are so dependent on the salaries of their parents will intensify their campus and extramural protest actions against the reactionaries. The high prices of commodities and increased landlord and merchant exploitation of the peasantry will produce more armed fighters in the countryside. The reactionary government will increasingly fail to make its farcical tokens of "land reform." The "civic action" of the reactionary armed forces will also be increasingly exposed as a mere camouflage for spying on and suppressing the people.

Marcos has seen the handwriting on the wall. That is why he is desperately resorting to counterrevolutionary dual tactics by calling himself "nationalist" even as he attacks the beginnings of widespread rebellion. It is his foolish illusion to stamp down the students and workers' strikes in the city and the growing revolutionary mass movement in the countryside at an early stage. He obscures the actual depth of the crisis and the truth that more suppression will only engender more resistance.

The reactionary armed forces have been ordered by the Marcos

puppet regime in compliance with the dictation of U.S. imperialism to concentrate in Tarlac in a futile attempt to suppress the peasant masses. Yet he is using the same tactics that have failed and that have proven to be disastrous for the reactionary puppet regime in south Vietnam. Mass murders and assassinations are being committed almost daily in Central Luzon. Innocent civilians are arrested arbitrarily and then tortured. Oftentimes, they are misrepresented as "surrenderees." Homes are ransacked daily by cowardly troops moving in battalion and regimental strength. The people's democratic rights are abused with impunity. These are all committed by the Armed Forces of the Philippines, especially by Task Force Lawin, by the local PC command, "Monkees" and Home Defense Forces. After being thoroughly exposed and isolated as a mercenary force of U.S. imperialism, the bulk of the Philcag has been brought home to participate in the suppression of the people.

Yet Marcos boasts of respecting civil liberties. To project an image that his regime is "democratic," he calls for the repeal of the Anti-Subversion Law. This only exposes the fact that the reactionary government is colluding with the local revisionist renegades to combat the Communist Party of the Philippines and the New People's Army. Jesus Lava who is an idol of the local revisionist renegades has publicly stated with the effrontery of a scab that Marcos is veering towards their cause. Accommodation of the local revisionist renegades within the present system is in line with the counterrevolutionary alliance of U.S. imperialism, Soviet social-imperialism and Japanese militarism in Asia today.

Within the Philippines, the fascists and the local revisionist renegades collude and compete with each other under the mutual signboard of "nationalism" and in opposition to the Communist Party of the Philippines. The counterrevolutionary alliance of U.S. imperialism, Soviet social-imperialism and Japanese militarism dictates upon the local fascists and local revisionist renegades to serve U.S. imperialism in keeping a "low profile" and in opposing the people, communism and China.

The great Chairman Mao teaches us: "We must be clear-headed, that is, we must not believe the 'nice words' of the imperialists nor be intimidated by their bluster."

Correctly describing the general trend of the world today, Chairman Mao says: "The enemy rots with every passing day, while for us things are getting better daily."