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PHILIPPINES

## EDITORIAL

### ON THE FIRST NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE NDF

The Communist Party of the Philippines shares with all patriots and democrats feelings of joy and pride with the successful convening of the First National Congress of the National Democratic Front from July 13-21 at the Bannawag revolutionary base area in Northern Luzon.

The historic gathering was attended by representatives from various sectoral underground mass organizations, the Cordillera People's Democratic Front (CPDF) and the Moro Revolutionary Organization (MORO), the Communist Party of the Philippines and New People's Army, and NDF organizations in the regions and abroad. Prominent nationalist leaders were also present. The AFP Nationalist Core (a group of patriotic officers) sent greetings to the Congress and vowed to pursue nationalist reawakening within the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The Congress ratified the NDF 12-Point Program which contains a historical overview of crisis and revolution in Philippine society, its program of struggle and governance and its vision for the future. It also approved a Constitution.

The Congress engaged in hearty discussions and reached firm agreements on the Political Report, which elucidates the development of the national democratic revolution since the founding of the NDF on April 24, 1973 and the extremely favorable conditions in the current situation for accelerating the revolutionary process. It also passed a three-year Program of Action (see page 6) that serves as a guide in its political, military, economic and diplomatic work towards achieving a historic leap for the revolution.

A National Council and National Executive Committee were elected. The General Secretariat and National Commissions on External Affairs, Agrarian Reform, International Affairs, Mass Movement, Education, Culture and Propaganda, Socio-Economic Work, and Moro, Cordillera and other indigenous peoples were formed.

#### Need for a front-type organization

The Congress marks a high point in the consolidation of the national democratic movement and serves as a stepping stone for major revolutionary advances in the years to come.

A front-type organization is needed to give a single political identity, a greater sense of belonging and a full sense of organization to all organizations, groups and individuals fighting under the banner of national democracy.

By completing the formal organization of the NDF, the Congress seeks to fully harness the breadth, scope and depth attained by the revolutionary movement during the past two decades -- among classes, sectors and peoples and in territories and institutions throughout the country and abroad. This will give full impetus to the rapid growth of revolutionary strength in the succeeding years in terms of political standing here and abroad, military strength, organizational expansion, territorial growth and diplomatic advances.

The front structure is a superior mechanism for eliciting popular participation in the revolution over the existing network of ties and connections round the vanguard party of the revolution. Within it, full play

can be given to the initiatives of the underground mass organizations, people's organizations, groups and individuals in advancing their own specific interests and political work as well as the entire revolution -- charting its direction, formulating programs and policies, implementing them.

By putting together all the forces standing for a thoroughgoing national and democratic solution to the fundamental problems of Philippine society, the NDF hopes to muster a more concentrated and stronger effort to reach the broader ranks of all democratic classes and sectors and win them over to its program and vision. Relying on its organized base, it actively broadens the anti-imperialist and democratic front which includes other forces with varying degrees of espousal and commitment to anti-imperialism, agrarian reform and people's democracy.

The NDF has proven to be a more appropriate and attractive form of organization to elicit the direct and indirect participation of the middle classes and organizations, whether as full-fledged mass organizations, groups or individuals.

A front-type organization is also needed to serve as a channel for unifying the struggles of the indigenous peoples of the country and encouraging their participation in the national democratic revolution. This has been amply proven by the growth and advance of the Cordillera People's Democratic Front. Similar efforts among the Bangsa Moro and the lumads are also steadily gaining ground.

It has been effective as well in uniting, motivating and organizing the broad ranks of overseas Filipinos. Hundreds of cells and scores of chapters have already emerged among Filipinos abroad -- in the US and Canada, Middle East, Europe, Australia, Japan, Hongkong and other parts of Asia.

Apart from all these, the NDF gives new quality and dynamism to the overall effort to lay the ground for the establishment of the revolutionary organs of people's political power on a nationwide scale. As the politico-military strength of the revolution rises, initiatives already undertaken at the barrio, municipal and district levels can be systematized and raised to the provincial, regional and later national levels. The NDF can serve as the rallying point in organizing or convening the people's congresses that set up the organs of political power at various levels.

In the NDF can be lodged many of the major tasks being shouldered directly by the Party organization at present. This will give the Party the opportunity to concentrate on the new and more exacting demands in the exercise of its leadership in the revolution.

On the other hand, the establishment of a full-fledged front organization will require from the Party new ways of doing things, new styles and methods of leadership. The most important among these is being able to exercise initiative, independence and active leadership in the front while going through debates and discussions and the process of forging consensus, agreements and compromises among the various other organizations and leaders of the front.

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#### 12-POINT PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT

*(This is the final draft of the NDF 12-Point program which was approved at its First National Congress last July 13-21. The 12 Points are enumerated below, together with a brief condensation of major parts of each section. -- Editor)*

1. Unite the people for the overthrow of the semicolonial and semifeudal system through a people's war and for the completion of the national democratic revolution.

The strategy of people's war requires the total mobilization of the people for the armed overthrow of US imperialist-comprador-landlord rule. Armed struggle is the most decisive form of struggle for the Philippine revolution and, for a long period, is mainly waged in the countryside, together with the agrarian revolution. In the cities and big town centers, the legal and open struggle is the principal form of struggle, at the same time that the underground and partisan warfare are developed.

Through the combination of armed and unarmed forms of struggle, the revolution seeks to steadily destroy the military, political and economic capability of the enemy until its final overthrow. Or, given the opportune moment, these two forms of struggle, or aspects of the two, can combine in a national insurrection that will hasten or even bring about the collapse of the ruling system.

2. Establish a people's democratic republic and a democratic coalition government.

Upon the victory of the national democratic revolution, a people's democratic republic will be established and a democratic coalition government will be set up. In its Constitution and practice, the PDR shall have the character of a genuine modern-day republic that is a united front of all democratic classes. All power in the PDR resides in the people, who have the sovereign power to elect their officials and to recall them from office. The people exercise state power through the system of people's congresses at various levels, the highest being the National People's Congress.

Prior to this, a political consultative conference may be convened, with NDF participation, consisting of representatives from all allied political forces. It shall form a National Revolutionary Council, which shall ensure the transition to peaceful conditions and to a regular state machinery.

3. Build a people's revolutionary army and a people's defense system.

At present, the most powerful army fighting for the victory of the national democratic revolution is the New People's Army. The NPA upholds democratic principles in its dealings with the masses as well as practices democracy within its ranks. It is guided by revolutionary principles and a strict code of conduct and discipline.

Upon attainment of victory, the NPA and other revolutionary armed forces that have arisen under various antifascist and anti-imperialist initiatives during the struggle shall be integrated to form a single national revolutionary army under the democratic coalition government. The national police force shall be drawn from the local police forces that have defended and protected the people in the course of the revolutionary war.

4. Uphold and promote the people's democratic rights under the new democratic system.

The Filipino people's struggle for democratic rights has been waged side by side with their struggle for nationhood and social justice. Their experiences under US imperialism and the puppet republics have clearly shown that the fundamental individual freedoms as well as the expanded human rights in the political, social and economic spheres can only be realized and can only flower under a condition of national freedom and class freedom for the oppressed classes.

Upon the establishment of the people's democratic republic, the

democratic rights of the people, especially those most oppressed, shall be promoted, expanded and guaranteed.

5. Dismantle the US military bases and terminate all unequal relations with the United States and other foreign entities.

The unequal treaties with the US and other foreign interests that have long violated the national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Philippines and been used to interfere in our internal affairs shall be terminated. New treaties based on the principles of mutual benefit and non-interference in each other's affairs shall be negotiated.

The US military bases, together with all US military forces, intelligence and civilian counterparts, shall be removed from Philippine soil. The land occupied by these bases shall be used for military and civilian purposes by the democratic republic.

6. Implement genuine agrarian reform, promote rural cooperation, raise rural production and employment through modernization of agriculture and rural industrialization, and ensure agricultural sustainability.

The general land reform policy of the revolutionary movement is to distribute agricultural land to the landless tillers equitably and at no cost. Beneficiaries of land reform and other owner-cultivators shall be given incentives and support services to increase production and incomes in agriculture and side occupations. Agricultural cooperation shall be vigorously promoted.

Agriculture shall become the base of the economy, providing food and other necessities to the people as well as raw materials for industry. Ecologically sound farming practices shall be promoted to ensure agricultural sustainability.

The state plan for rural industrialization shall utilize the expansion of rural markets and agricultural modernization to increase manufacturing activities in the rural areas and create greater employment opportunities there.

7. Break the US-comprador-landlord dominance over the economy, carry out national industrialization, and build an independent and sovereign economy.

The economy will be a mixed economy consisting of private, cooperative and state sectors.

National industrialization shall break up the present colonial pattern of trade based mainly on the export of agricultural and extractive raw materials, the importation of finished goods and capital, and the re-export of reassembled or repackaged industrial imports. The establishment of heavy industries shall be undertaken, as well as those which produce basic and intermediate raw materials for industrialization and agricultural modernization.

All vital and strategic industries shall be nationalized. Private monopolies shall be dismantled. Non-vital industries owned or controlled by imperialist interests or their allies shall be operated on a joint venture by the state and national capital, or turned over completely to capable Filipino entrepreneurs.

State policies and laws shall be instituted to encourage private entrepreneurs to contribute positively in developing the nation's productive

forces and capital resources. Foreign investments shall be allowed, based on specific economic plans.

8. Adopt a comprehensive and progressive social policy.

The new government's social policy will aim to redistribute the benefits of economic growth with priority given to the socially disadvantaged classes and sectors. It shall promote social justice and enhance the dignity and quality of life of the people. Social services shall become an integral part of the long-term economic and social development of the nation.

This includes a new health care system with emphasis on preventive services, alongside the development of a national drug industry; a nationalist, scientific, people-oriented system of education; a comprehensive program for urban renewal; the institution of mechanisms to protect consumers, especially against hazardous technologies and products; and the restructuring of the social security system.

9. Promote a national and progressive people's culture.

The new government will propagate a culture that promotes national consciousness and a liberating, progressive and pro-people outlook. It shall foster and promote the people's culture through the educational system, the arts, the mass media and direct campaigns among the people.

It shall institute free education at the primary and secondary levels; provide support for the development of the creative arts; undertake the propagation of science and technology education; promote the development and popularization of Filipino as the national language; and insure the preservation of our national cultural heritage.

10. Uphold the rights of the Bangsa Moro and the Cordillera peoples and other indigenous peoples to self-determination and democracy.

Upon its establishment, the democratic coalition government shall affirm the right to self-determination of the Bangsa Moro, the Cordillera peoples and other indigenous peoples. It shall guarantee them genuine autonomous rule and rightful representation and participation in the central government. It shall commit itself to the resolution of their claims to ancestral lands with due recognition of historical realities and to redressing their long-standing grievances. It shall guarantee them equal political, economic and social rights as well as respect for their way of life.

The right to self-determination includes the right to secede, more so under conditions of national oppression. The Bangsa Moro had raised the banner of secession in its struggle against the US-Marcos dictatorship. Under a democratic Philippines where the equality of peoples and nationalities is guaranteed, the Bangsa Moro is urged to take the valid and viable option of a genuinely autonomous political rule.

11. Advance the revolutionary emancipation of women in all spheres.

Only by overthrowing foreign and feudal rule and later on, smashing other social structures that buttress patriarchy, can the basic condition for the liberation of women be established. On the other hand, only by taking up the cause of emancipation of women -- motivating, encouraging and supporting our women as they unshackle themselves from the bondage of home and tradition -- can the revolution fully unleash the mighty force of women in the task of liberating our nation and society.

Under the new society, patriarchy will not disappear overnight, but the condition for greater social freedom and material plenty will have been provided that will hasten the full liberation of women.

12. Adopt an independent and non-aligned foreign policy.

We wage people's war on the fundamental principle of self-reliance but we also need expanded international support from peoples and revolutionary forces abroad, especially in the face of escalating US intervention and possible all-out aggression. In no instance, however, will we become beholden to any foreign entity as to consider sacrificing the sovereignty, national independence and democratic rights our people are fighting so hard to attain.

The democratic coalition government that will be installed shall reject and vigorously defend itself against all forms of foreign intervention and interference in the country's internal affairs. It shall support the just aspirations and struggles of other peoples and actively participate in establishing a just international economic order. It shall establish diplomatic and economic relations with all countries irrespective of ideology or social system, based on the principles of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, mutual benefit and the resort to peaceful resolution of inter-state conflicts.

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#### THREE-YEAR PROGRAM OF ACTION (July 1990 to July 1993)

1. Forge a new and higher unity of all anti-imperialist and democratic classes, sectors, forces, organizations and personalities to hasten the downfall of US imperialist and puppet comprador rule and the victory of the national democratic revolution.
2. Rally the broadest participation and support of the people for the intensification of the war effort.
3. Wage a most vigorous and determined anti-bases, anti-imperialist movement and prepare the people to fight direct US intervention.
4. Generate as much participation and support for the agrarian revolution, base-building and the setting up of revolutionary organs of political power in the countryside.
5. Promote the struggles of the broad masses of the workers, peasants, urban poor, youth and students, intelligentsia and other sections of the middle classes for economic demands and democratic rights.
6. Fight the intensified fascization and militarization of Philippine society, and prepare the people to wage the broadest and fiercest resistance to the reimposition of fascist rule.
7. Push forward the struggles of the minority peoples for self-determination and democracy, and encourage even more their participation in the national democratic revolution.
8. Take greater strides in arousing, organizing and mobilizing the middle classes and sectors for the national democratic revolution.
9. Continue advancing the women's liberation movement.
10. Wage a vigorous propaganda movement for national democracy.
11. Encourage the nationalist and democratic stirrings within the reactionary AFP. Launch a sustained campaign to win over the puppet troops to the side of the revolution.
12. Appeal to the patriotic consciences of the leaders of the churches, media, business circles, professional clubs, academe, and public and private institutions, and enlist their active involvement in the struggles of the people.

13. Build the NDF nationwide and abroad.
  14. Further expand and develop international support work for the Philippine revolution.
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#### CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST DEEPENS PHILIPPINE CRISIS

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It was a nightmare that turned all their dreams to dust -- the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2 which sparked a crisis in the Middle East and forced thousands of Filipino workers in the two countries to flee. Enduring hunger and sickness, and even rape and abuse, they crossed the searing desert to reach safer havens in Saudi Arabia and Jordan and, finally, home to the country they had left behind.

Even before, their dream of good fortune abroad had been marred by bitter experiences. There had been many reports of our countrymen and women being beheaded in Saudi Arabia, raped in Singapore, maltreated in Hongkong or forced into prostitution in Europe and Japan.

But the tragedy of thousands of Filipinos caught in the turmoil of an impending war in the Persian Gulf has been the worst of all the misfortunes that have befallen them. It emphasizes the sheer folly of the Aquino government's policy to export our human resources abroad as a way of reducing unemployment in the country and earning dollars for the debt-plagued economy.

The dislocation of tens of thousands of our workers in Kuwait and Iraq -- and hundreds of thousands in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere in the region, should a shooting war erupt -- is likely to generate economic and political storms for the Aquino government. War in the Persian Gulf would also bring about an oil crisis of tremendous proportions -- wreaking further havoc on a Philippine economy already deep in crisis.

#### Policy of manpower export

The extreme vulnerability of the country to external developments is mainly the result of the misguided economic policies of the Aquino government. For example, instead of setting up real industries, implementing genuine agrarian reform and modernizing agriculture, which are the basic solutions to the problem of widespread unemployment, the government relies on palliatives and external factors -- exporting labor power just as it exports mineral ores, logs and bananas.

These palliatives have replaced permanent solutions. The Aquino government has enshrined as one of the pillars of the economy the export of Filipino laborers, and the dollars they remit home have become essential to the continued payment of our gargantuan foreign debt.

The Philippines now tops all other Asian countries in the export of manpower. In 1988, for example, 471,030 Filipino workers went abroad, according to an official report of the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency.

This policy is merely a continuation of Marcos' manpower export program. Then, as now, economic hardships, political turbulence and the government's own campaign triggered the exodus of Filipinos to foreign lands in search of jobs and prosperity.

Today, there are half a million Filipinos in the Middle East -- 60,000 in Kuwait, 3,000 in Iraq and 300,000 in Saudi Arabia. Last year, their sweat and sacrifice brought into the country \$99 million from Saudi Arabia and \$27.5 million from Kuwait.



In all, the remittances of our overseas workers constitute the country's third largest source of dollars (\$857 million in 1988). These account for 25 per cent of the total payments for our foreign debt.

Because of the dollars they infuse into the hard-pressed economy, Aquino praised the contract workers abroad as the "new heroes" of our time.

#### Government incompetence and corruption

But actual concern for Filipino workers did not measure up to the presidential rhetoric. Nowhere was this shown more graphically than when the Middle East crisis blew up last August. When the "heroes" badly needed the care and support of government to get out safely and immediately from the areas of conflict, they were met by incompetent and indifferent officials, more interested in competing over turf or going on a junket -- the mirror of the utter bankruptcy of government bureaucracy.

The government dilly-dallied instead of taking a firm decision to evacuate affected workers and exert the utmost efforts to bring them home, to the point of saying there was no "hysterical demand" for such measures. Government officials gave false assurances that the situation in the Middle East would get better. Labor Secretary Ruben Torres even announced that Saudi Arabia was willing to take in the displaced workers -- something which the Saudi government later soundly denied.

Soon, the illusions peddled by Cory's boys were dispelled by the bitter truths. Through the reports of independent journalists in the Middle East, news of the miserable conditions and dire straits of Filipinos in the troubled areas reached the country -- stories of flight from the war zone, the harrowing trek through the desert without sufficient food or water, women raped, others stricken ill or subjected to abuses, and -- worst of all -- deaths due to sheer exhaustion or in the hands of enemy troops.

The government has been reluctant to send these workers home because of the expenses that would be incurred in bringing them back and the dollar revenues that would be lost. Apart from this, in the government's view, they would merely become a burden to the country because there are simply no jobs available for them here.

Little wonder that after the first month of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, only 2,000 out of the 100,000 affected workers were able to return to the Philippines.

#### Implications of the Mideast crisis

There is little doubt that the Middle East crisis has sent another severe shock through the ailing Philippine economy. Before this, a powerful earthquake had wrought massive devastation in many parts of the country.

More than 100,000 Filipino workers in the Middle East are in danger of losing their jobs and falling into the ranks of the unemployed and underemployed. The unemployment/underemployment rate, which reached 40 per cent in 1989, will definitely worsen. Including the families and dependents of these workers, more than half a million Filipinos stand on the brink of economic disaster. This has already become a grim reality for those working in Kuwait and Iraq.

For the government, this means the loss of dollar revenues amounting to \$100 million every year. Furthermore, the skyrocketing of oil prices coupled with shortages in and disruption of oil supplies once a shooting war in the Persian Gulf breaks out could deal a fatal blow to the crippled economy.

The impact of the oil crisis on the broad masses of the Filipino people is greatly aggravated by the multinational oil companies' greed to retain their superprofits and the government's imposition of a heavy oil tax burden. Both policies are part of IMF-dictated "economic reforms."

The full implementation of the other components of the "economic package," such as all-out import liberalization, peso devaluation, elimination of price subsidies, wage freeze in the public and private sectors and the imposition of new taxes, will bring their own terrible effects to compound the economic woes of the people.

All these IMF-sponsored policies are certain to result in double-digit inflation, the widening of the trade deficit (expected to hit \$3 billion by the end of the year, compared to nearly \$2.6 billion in 1989), and a drop in GNP to 3.8 percent or less this year.

Because of the crushing weight they are made to bear, the people are resisting. Filipino workers abroad are waking up to the truth: the roots of the economic hardships which drove them to seek work in foreign lands, the motives of government in peddling Filipino workers to foreigners. They are joining the broadening ranks of those who hold the Aquino regime mainly responsible for intensifying the people's misery and suffering -- and who march in the streets to fight for their survival and for basic solutions to the economic crisis.

The transformation of the people's anger into a broad political upsurge looms in the horizon.

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#### NPA OFFENSIVES IN NEGROS SHOW FAILURE OF AFP'S "GRADUAL CONSTRICTION"

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This year, it has become increasingly clear that the US-Aquino regime's dream of crushing the revolutionary movement in the island of Negros by 1992 is headed for total failure. Since Aquino came to power, the island has been a laboratory for the regime's most intense and comprehensive counter-insurgency campaign.

Several years after the launching of the enemy's bloody campaign, mass support for the revolutionary movement in Negros has remained firm, the New People's Army has maintained its ground and even grown stronger, and the armed struggle has continued to progress. The AFP's military strategy of "gradual constriction" has failed to inflict a decisive defeat on the revolutionary forces and people.

The series of blows by the NPA in Negros against the AFP and despotic landlords amply prove that the revolutionary movement has remained whole and on the advance. From January to August 1990, the people's army posted victories in several tactical offensives as well as defensive actions, according to reports in Paghimakas, revolutionary newspaper in the island.

In these battles, the Red fighters seized a total of 25 weapons from AFP troops, including two machineguns. No fewer than 22 elements of the PA, CAFGU, PC and private armies of despotic landlords were killed while many more were wounded. One helicopter was destroyed. The NPA had no casualties.

The following are some of the successful tactical offensives and defensive actions of the NPA:

At the start of the year, an NPA platoon raided an enemy detachment in Bgy. Bagong Silang, Don Salvador Benedicto in northern Negros. The camp was razed to the ground and its CAFGU contingent fled. After the raid, the guerillas called the people in the area to a meeting, including the families of the CAFGU members, and explained the revolutionary cause to them.

On the 21st anniversary of the NPA last March 29, the Red fighters and organized masses were holding a celebration in a barrio in Victorias town when an enemy column approached. The NPA security unit was able to spot the movements of the fascist troops and readied themselves for a fight in order to ensure the safe retreat of those who were engaged in the celebration.

A fierce battle ensued, raging throughout the afternoon. The enemy sent in reinforcements, including a war helicopter.

The guerillas were able to bring down the helicopter through simultaneous and rapid firing from three machineguns and one M14. Six of the soldiers on board were killed while two were wounded. All those who attended the celebration were able to make an orderly retreat.

The following day, the 331st PC Company special unit under Capt. Torcita managed to encircle an NPA unit. The Red fighters were not able to slip through the net at once because of the large number of PC soldiers surrounding them and the lack of cover on the terrain.

When dusk fell, the enemy troops tried to assault the guerillas' position. A PC soldier firing an M60 led the attack. The guerillas picked him off and killed him. They got hold of the M60 and made full use of it to break through the enemy cordon.

Last May, an NPA unit ambushed a combined force of the 6th IB and CAFGU in a mountainous area near Isabela town. Two regular troops and two paramilitary elements were killed. The NPA confiscated three M16s, one M14 and one Garand.

Also in May, guerillas shot and killed a soldier of the 6th Engineering Battalion while the latter were on patrol in Bo. Magballo, Kabankalan. The guerillas seized his Armalite rifle and rounds of ammunition.

In the same month, an NPA team attacked soldiers of the 7th IB who were bathing in a river within the Sipalay mine area. The soldiers scampered away and took refuge in a deep cave. The guerillas left them alone but took all their weapons and equipment -- one M16, five rifle grenades and one ICOM handset.

In another incident within the month, the NPA entered the lair of the Greenan, a fanatic religious group, in Sitio Korokan and Spur-7. Many of the Greenan members fled while the others surrendered. Their .38 caliber revolvers and knives were confiscated.

There was no let-up in the NPA offensive in June. Seven guerillas immediately set up ambush positions as soon as they heard that two approaching vehicles were carrying some big landlords and members of their private army from Hacienda Mansiginon, Silay. Two paramilitary elements were killed and nine, including three landlords, were wounded in the NPA attack. The guerillas were able to seize an Uzi, M14, M16 and .45 caliber handgun.

In another incident, an NPA unit harassed a platoon of former Scout Rangers in northern Negros. Four of the fascists were confirmed dead.

At about the same time, an attack was launched in the town of Escalante. One shotgun, one ICOM handset and boxes of medicine were taken by the NPA.

Also in June, CAFGU member Saturnino dela Cruz abandoned his detachment

in Bo. Bactolon, bringing with him one M60 machinegun. He donated the firearm to the NPA. Dela Cruz was a peasant forced by the AFP to join the CAFGU after OPLAN Thunderbolt in 1989.

The latest June offensive was an NPA ambush on an INP patrol jeep in Sitio, Manuling, Cauayan. The operation netted four M16s, one M2 carbine, one .38 caliber revolver and some military equipment for the NPA.

In July, the NPA ambushed Enrique "Ike" Ballesteros, a despotic landlord and CAFGU organizer, and CAFGU elements accompanying him in Toboso. The NPA seized three M16s from them.

In the same month, an NPA unit pounced on members of the CAFGU and the CVO (civilian volunteer organization) who were riding in a pick-up in Tabugon, Kabankalan. The guerillas took the enemy's M14, M16 and Garand.

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