



PAHAYAGAN SANG PARTIDO KOMUNISTA SANG PILIPINAS ★ ISLA SANG NEGROS

ANG Paghimakas

GINAUBAYAN SANG MARXISMO-LENINISMO-MAOISMO DECEMBER 2022

Confront the intense and sustained attacks of the enemy! Let us knit our brows to creatively advance the people's war!

*Negros Island Regional Party Committee
December 2022*



ON THE MOMENTOUS OCCASION OF the 54th anniversary of the reestablishment of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), we, the Negros Island Regional Party Committee (NIRPC), render our Red salute to all Party cadres and members on the island, all Red commanders and fighters of the Apolinario Gatmaitan Command - New People's Army Regional Operational Command (AGC-NPA), all allied forces of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) in Negros, and all progressive and patriotic Negrosanons who, this year, persevered and succeeded in overcoming a relentless, massive and fierce counterrevolutionary campaign passed on from Rodrigo Duterte's fascist tyranny to a worst kind of state terrorism under Ferdinand Marcos Jr.



We offer the highest revolutionary honors to Comrade Jose Maria Sison (Amado Guerrero), our great communist leader and guiding light of Filipino proletarian revolutionaries, who passed away a few days before today's commemoration. Upon his death, we renew our commitment to carry forward to greater heights the Filipino revolution he jump-started 54 years ago along with scores of cadres from mass organizations of workers, peasants and youth.

We raise our fists, as well, to Comrade Romeo Nanta (Ka Juanito Magbanua), Comrade Ericson Acosta and all revolutionaries who served the people in all possible means until reactionary soldiers cowardly murdered them in cold-blood. We are deeply grate-

ful to all revolutionary martyrs and heroes for their selfless service to the people and the revolution.

This year, we have achieved victories in our revolutionary work despite errors and shortcomings. The Negrosanon masses have gravely suffered as the enemy is hellbent in destroying the revolutionary movement on the island. The coming year is a pivotal time where we must master the integration of revolutionary theory and practice, learn thoroughly from lessons laid down in our 25-year summing up, strengthen Party unity by conducting criticism and self-criticism, and maintain close links with the masses to ensure the defeat of the enemy and achieve revolutionary triumphs.

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DECEMBER 2022

ANG *Paghimakas*

Nagapasalamat ang *Ang Paghimakas* sa mga kontribusyon agud mangin madinalag-on ang ini nga isyu. Sa pagpauswag sang aton *Ang Paghimakas*, ginapangabay sa tanan nga bumalasa nga padayon nga mag-amot sang mga balita, piktyur, istorya kag iban pa nga sinulat. Nagapangayo man kami sang inyo mga suhestyon kag komentaryo paano pa gid ini pauswagon.



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I. Negrosanons suffer gravely under the current US-Marcos regime

GREATLY BENEFITTING FROM AN ALLIANCE with Rodrigo Duterte, Ferdinand Marcos Jr obtained the helm of the reactionary regime through fraudulent victory. Immediately after he was sworn into office, Marcos Jr flexed his power on sugar barons by throwing the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) into disarray with an unauthorized sugar importation order and putting in place his lackeys in the sugar bloc. As loyal puppet to US imperialism, he fulfilled the neoliberal dictates on sugar importation giving way to smuggling, and supply and price manipulation. His control of the sugar industry means further crisis like that of his dictator father who caused famine on the island and instigated a reign of terror that resulted in the Escalante Massacre in 1985.

Big comprador-landlords monopolizing thousands of hectares of sugarcane plantations and owning majority shares in sugar mills (or centrals) and sugar trading on the island easily adapted to the sugar crisis caused by Marcos Jr's reign. When profits from sugar production decline, they opt to transform parts of their sugarcane plantations into non-productive use such as solar fields, commercial and eco-tourism areas, and real estate, or they convert into other high-yielding cash crops according to the demands of the global market. This is to the advantage of foreign and domestic speculators and land-based multinational companies who are eager to grab vast lands and plunder the natural resources of Negros.

The Negros masses, mostly poor peasants and farm workers

including a few tribes of indigenous peoples, continue to suffer intolerable exploitation and oppression that has plagued them for over a century. Farm workers, however, are the most enslaved in a cycle of cheap labor during milling season and starvation in the months of *tiempo muerto* (or off-milling season). Sugar workers on the island, both in sugarcane fields and sugar mills, numbering around 330,000 and 15,000 respectively, endure slave-like conditions and receive cheap wages. Majority do not get benefits at all.

The current minimum wage of agricultural workers is P410 in Negros Occidental and P382-P392 in Negros Oriental; clearly below half of the P1,119 family living wage needed by a family of five to live decently. Much worse is that hacenderos have never implemented minimum wage in haciendas and even short-changed their farm workers of just benefits. High cost of basic necessities, including sugar, are in stark contrast to farm worker wages averaging P250 per day. On the other hand, two

out of three sugar mill workers are already engaged in contractual labor.

Small planters, with the absence of government support, confront difficulties in keeping up with the rising cost of sugarcane production such as high prices of farm inputs (quality fertilizer is currently around P3,000 per sack), and are giving in to various schemes of land grabbing and usury by old and new type land lords. They are facing threats of losing their lands and are forced to sell their labor power. In the end, many of them become full time farm workers.

Apart from sugarcane production, farm workers and tillers who have no land or who do not have enough land producing rice, corn, banana, coconut and other crops also experience various forms of feudal and semifeudal exploitation.

Those in urbanized cities, town centers and shorelines on the island also grapple with the rapidly worsening conditions aggravated by the US-Marcos II regime. Workers, urban poor, semi-proletariat, fisherfolk, youth, pro-





professionals and other sectors face low wages, mass layoffs, rampant unemployment, skyrocketing prices of basic commodities, and privatization of public services. There is also land use conversion and reclamation that escalates land grabbing, demolition and environmental destruction.

The people of Negros, like the entire Filipino people, also suffer from other neoliberal attacks perpetuated by Marcos Jr's reign. They protest the rising cost of oil, importation of agricultural products and the entry of big mining firms. They resist land monopoly by greedy big comprador-landlords based in Negros that generate severe hunger and destitution mainly on the toiling masses but also affects the middle class.

In contrast, the Marcos family is using the country's coffers to consolidate their wealth and amass more, and further strengthen their political hold. The Marcos-Duterte clique is united in counterrevolution and puppetry to US imperialism, but theirs is a fragile alliance that is already showing cracks. Each camp is competing over loot and influence resulting to further deterioration of the political situation in the country.

The people's resistance against imperialism, feudalism

and bureaucrat capitalism is gaining ground. They fight for just wages and benefits, for land to till, for accessible social services such as education, health and housing, for national sovereignty, and demand accountability from the regime for its corruption and puppetry. Desperate to suppress such mass resistance, the Marcos-Duterte clique resorts to state terrorism that uses violence and deception. It unleashes its rabid armed forces on the people that resulted to monstrous and violent military attacks particularly on peasant communities in Negros. Rodrigo Duterte's Memorandum Order 32 has laid the groundwork for de facto martial law and widespread human rights violations.

Human rights abuses evidently increased by 300%. From 44 monitored cases within the last six months of Duterte's regime, it rose to 178 from July to December 2022, the onset of Marcos Jr's reign. Of the 222 incidents this year involving more than 19,000 victims, 17 cases directly involved children. These abuses, perpetrated by state forces and their paramilitary usually during focused military operations (FMO), were monitored in 73 barangays across 19 towns and cities in Negros Island. Himamaylan City in Negros Occi-

dental and Guihulngan City in Negros Oriental were the center of human rights violations.

In most cases, elements of the Philippine Army simultaneously force their way into peasant homes and threaten and harass innocent farmers they accuse of being NPA members or supporters. These reactionary soldiers, in connivance with the PNP, illegally arrest or unlawfully detain civilians and subject them to interrogation, physical assault, and mental torture. They force civilians to surrender as NPA members and supporters, and collect the pro-mised assistance from the E-CLIP.

Indiscriminate bombings have especially magnified the unspeakable effects of state terror on Negrosanons. The Himamaylan City martial law this October 2022 affected 18,000 individuals. The bombings devastated farms, sugarcane fields and the environment, as well.

Peasant killings whitewashed as armed encounters were also a common modus of military butchers. Brazen murders of captured revolutionaries already rendered *hors de combat* escalated following the "take no prisoners" policy of the AFP's counter-insurgency campaign. The AFP and PNP also compete over bounty placed on revolutionaries. This is a big source of their corruption.

Redtagging is rampant on the island aiming to neutralize activists and any opposition to Marcos Jr's reign. Sharpening contradictions in land struggles make peasant leaders the main target of redtagging and vilification campaigns of state forces and its deception machineries. The worst attack on the legal democratic movement in Negros this year is the forced disappearance of urban poor leader Iver Larit last April.

The cases of human rights violations in Negros are already overwhelming yet there are still numerous unreported incidents that have not reached the media and human rights advocates.

From the Duterte regime's

bloodthirst, brutality and tyranny, the second half of 2022 gave a taste of Marcos Jr's brand of state terrorism that raised the intensity and ferocity of the AFP's counterrevolutionary war in Negros to a different level.

However, the revolutionary movement was able to surmount these brazen and rabid attacks against its ranks and the people of Negros with the guidance and leadership of the CPP.

II. Revolutionary movement in Negros led by the NIRPC confronted and frustrated enemy attacks

THE CPP, THROUGH THE NIRPC, leads the revolutionary movement in Negros Island. With Marxism-Leninism-Maoism as theoretical guide, we strive to apply revolutionary theory to the concrete conditions on the island and raise our revolutionary practice. We endeavor to understand, study and solve our current problems in our revolutionary work. But what is more decisive is transforming correct ideas into revolutionary practice.

The NIRPC's previous summing up of its revolutionary experience from the early parts of the 1990s up to the recent years have correctly identified the ideological, political and organizational strengths and weaknesses of the proletarian revolutionary leadership in the region. It remains a guide and a point of unity for Party cadres and members to build on our strengths and rectify our errors and weaknesses. Thus, achieving profound collective unity and effective implementation of revolutionary tasks.

To develop a deep bench of Party cadres that are able to perform the numerous tasks in the revolution, we conducted the three-level study courses of the Party in the different guerrilla fronts and white areas despite relentless military operations. We

made strides in finishing three batches of the advanced party course this year. We have continued our efforts in giving Party education and PADEPA courses, including Ang Bayan, Ang Paghimakas and Ispading, to the mass membership of the Party and the revolutionary forces.

The CPP absolutely leads the NPA in waging a national democratic revolution with a socialist perspective. This revolutionary war is an antagonistic means to solve the contradiction between the exploited and oppressed workers, peasants and other classes against the big comprador-landlords, big bureaucrats and their imperialist master. History teaches us that exploitation will not perish on its own, rather a democratic revolutionary movement of the people is necessary to get rid of it.

The Party, the NPA, revolutionary movement and the people of Negros have experienced the worst kind of attacks launched by the coercive apparatus of its class enemy, the AFP and PNP, through its FMOs and Retooled Community Support Program (RCSP) on the island. But through the leadership of the NIRPC, the NPA Negros and revolutionary masses were widely mobilized to retaliate with organ-

ized, scientific and resolute counter-campaigns characterized by various forms of struggle. It mounted annihilative and attritive military actions, launched different anti-feudal struggles, campaigned against militarization and human rights violations, organized teams for area expansion, and carried out education and organizing campaigns among other revolutionary work.

The entire revolutionary movement in Negros is ever determined to frustrate the enemy and its intent to destroy the revolutionary forces on the island.

This year, leading Party cadres and NPA commanders seriously discussed the major or key chain of experience in waging armed struggle during the counterrevolutionary campaign of the Duterte regime. We studied the problems in waging armed struggle and how to solve them to advance the people's war on the island.

Under the absolute leadership of the Party, the NPA in strategic defensive confronted the strategic offensive of the enemy. The enemy is many times bigger and stronger compared to the NPA in matters of numbers and size of its forces, numbers and power of its firearms, and other powerful war equipment such as artillery,

helicopters and attack planes, 500-lb bombs, spy planes and surveillance drones, and abundant logistics, food and other support services. In this perspective, the enemy is very superior and the NPA is inferior. We can say that this fight is a battle between the big comprador-landlords against the most exploited and oppressed masses.

But there is an opposite condition. First, the counterrevolutionary war is anti-people. It is against the interests of the broad masses of workers, peasants and other exploited and oppressed classes. It protects the interests of the one percent of society which are the big compradors-hacenderos-landlords and big bureaucrats against the majority of the people of Negros Island. In fact, in their counter-insurgency military operations, they harm the peasants and farm workers, and violate human rights. Their counterrevolutionary war is not just.

The NPA, on the other hand, have the infinite support of the broad masses of peasants, farm workers, fisherfolk, urban poor, small professionals, youth and women because it supports and defends their democratic rights and interest and fights for genuine

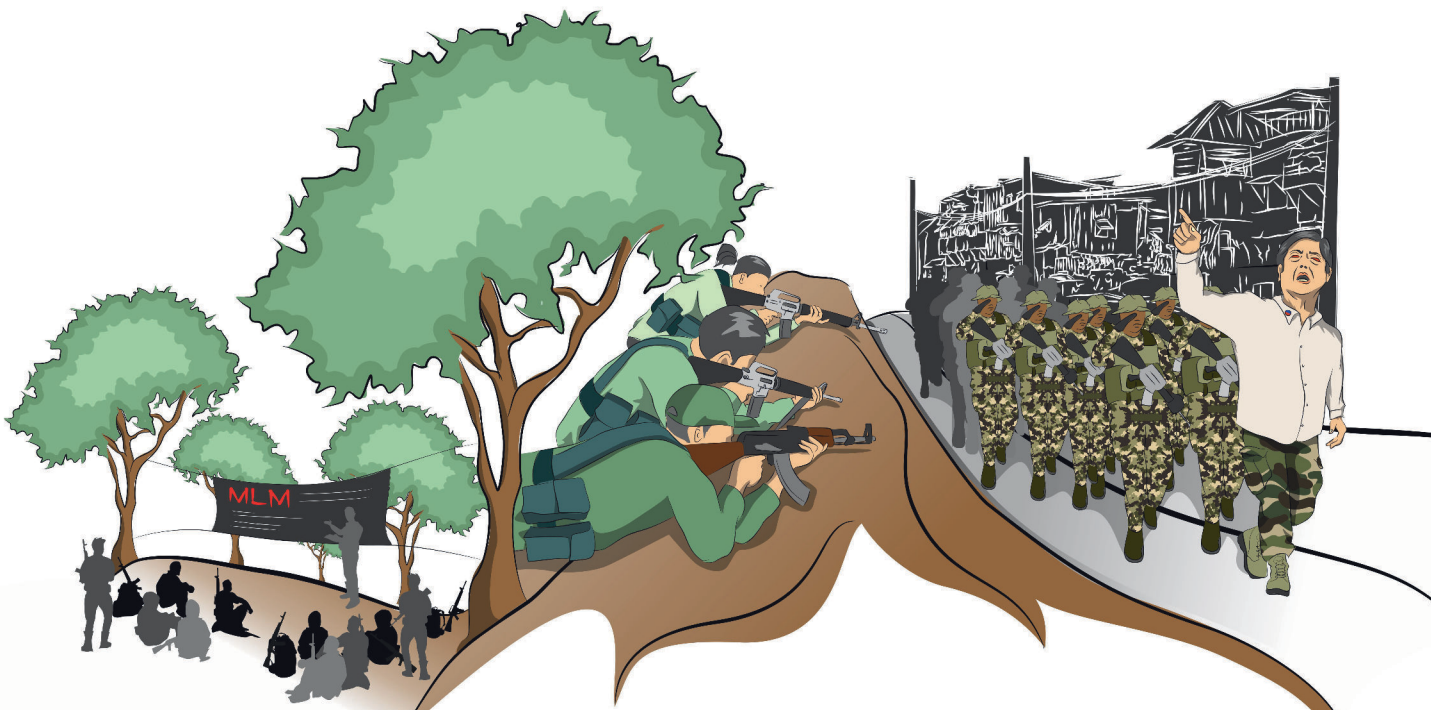
land reform and national industrialization. The revolutionary war of the NPA is supported and participated in by the people because it is a just war. In that sense, the NPA is superior while the enemy is inferior.

Second, troops of the reactionary army have low morale and motivation to fight. The masses often hear enemy troops saying, "we're only after the salary," or in armed encounters when the enemy calls for reinforcements, their reinforcing units would respond, "if it were for bread, we would be there in a hurry." Reactionary soldiers are aware of rampant corruption of top military officials in the purchase of war materiel, uniforms, combat boots, through the E-CLIP and others. They also know that they are cannon fodder for ambitious officials desiring promotions. They are also aware of the fakery of encounters, surrenders and deaths of *hors de combat*. MGen. Arevalo, BGen. Peña and BGen. Pasaporte compensated their deception by giving out token accolades and flattery to their foot soldiers for "outstanding" performance on the field in their effort to increase morale and motivate their troops to fight.

The political unity of enemy troops is very weak or shallow and easily breaks while Red fighters are forged in firm political unity, sacrifices and difficulties, close comradely relations between officials and fighters, and with close links between the NPA and the oppressed and exploited masses. In this regard, the NPA is superior and the enemy inferior.

Third, even though fascist troops of the enemy (302nd Brigade, 303rd Brigade, 32nd Division Reconnaissance Company, 33rd Division Reconnaissance Company, 542nd Engineering and Construction Battalion, 16th Scout Ranger Company, 33rd Civil Military Operations Company, Military Intelligence Battalion; and PNP's 6th Special Action Battalion, 6th and 7th Regional Mobile Force Battalions, 1st and 2nd Provincial Mobile Force Companies, plus CAFGUs) are greater in number, the land area of Negros Island is still wide for the NPA's maneuver. The countryside is relatively vast and majority of the people in Negros, peasants and farm workers, who reside there deeply support the fight of the NPA. With this, the NPA is superior while the enemy is inferior.

Therefore, the superiority of



the enemy is not absolute. It has weaknesses that can make it inferior to the NPA. The NPA is likewise not absolutely inferior against its enemy. It has strengths that render it superior over the enemy. It is beyond question that the NPA is far superior to the enemy in the matter of the support of the broad masses. In strategy, the enemy is superior, however, in tactics, it has many weaknesses that the NPA can take advantage of in launching attacks that are sure to win.

For the past 12 months, we have confronted the enemy with many attritive military actions and some annihilative tactical offensives that used superior force against weak units of the enemy. The guerrilla fronts under the Apolinario Gatmaitan Command have mounted 44 military offensives and punitive actions wherein at least a platoon of enemy troops were killed-in-action and another platoon was wounded.

We combined our counter-encirclement campaign with ideological and political education and activities for our Red commanders and fighters. While we fought the enemy, we also raised and sharpened the ideological and political weapons of the Party, the NPA and revolutionary forces.

In the course of confronting the enemy, we also launched anti-feudal struggles to effect the minimum land reform program of rent reduction, elimination of usury, raising of farm wages, improving farm-gate prices of the peasants' produce and promoting agricultural production and sideline occupation. We also launched mass campaigns to train the people in self-defense, improve public health and sanitation, raise their education and cultural level and develop

simple cooperation and production.

Because the Party openly declared its determination to militantly resist the massive focused military operations of the enemy in order to defend the rights and interest of the people and deliver justice for all victims of state terrorism, the masses responded with significant support for the needs of the NPA units and many were encouraged to join the NPA full-time. The masses eagerly contributed rice, food and other supplies for their genuine army. During tactical offensives, some were mobilized to cook food for NPA units and others were tasked to monitor the enemy's movement.

The victories of the NPA stir the enthusiasm of the masses. They are eager to build their mass organizations and from there springs the organs of political power and the local Party branches and groups. Despite the efforts of reactionary forces to sever the ties that bind the people to the NPA and the Party that leads it, we have maintained close links with the masses. In fact, in the course of confronting the intense and sustained attacks of the enemy, we were still able to generally consolidate and expand our mass base.

In general, systematically facing the enemy's armed campaign of suppression was breakthrough work for the Region and the guerrilla fronts. We must firmly grasp the valuable lessons from our revolutionary experience and carry on in developing the different components of armed struggle, agrarian revolution and building



the mass base to advance our efforts in frustrating the massive and sustained attacks of the enemy.

As we resolutely and militantly launched armed resistance, we also wielded the united front as a weapon to defeat the current Marcos regime. The rottenness of the semifeudal and semicolonial ruling system as manifested by the return of the Marcoses has opened doors to building new and expanding existing alliances. Under the leadership of the working class, we must develop further the basic alliance of workers and peasants, the progressive alliance of the toiling masses and the urban petty-bourgeoisie, and the patriotic alliance of progressive forces and vacillating national bourgeoisie, and the broad united front of patriotic and reactionary forces that are temporary and unstable allies against the worst reactionary forces, which at this point is the Marcos-Duterte clique.

State forces have not only launched an all-out war in the countryside but in the cities as

well. It wants to disable the legal democratic mass movement that broadcasts the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal and anti-fascist calls of the people and exposes the anti-people, morally bankrupt, and kleptocratic US-Marcos II regime. In Negros, it specifically targeted peasant leaders and organizers who bring the anti-feudal and anti-fascist struggles from the countryside to the cities and the public eye.

Although it has yet to unleash its full potential, the urban-based legal mass movement on the island in the past year aroused, organized and mobilized workers, urban poor, youth and students, drivers, fisherfolk, professionals, church people, environmentalists, and other sectors in campaigns to increase wage and benefits, end contrac-

tualization, stop oil price hike and junk jeepney phaseout, cease land use conversion and reclamation, stop sugar importation and other neoliberal policies, and put an end to human rights violations and demand justice for all victims of state terror.

The legal democratic movement highlights the evils of the ruling system and persuades the people to fight the reactionary regime. However, its forms of struggle cannot change the fundamental character of the oppressive and exploitative ruling system. It cannot sustain against the ongoing fascist crackdown perpetuated by the AFP and PNP without building a deep, resilient and expansive underground core. Furthermore, it is bound to fall into right oppor-

tunism and reformism without the leadership of the Party.

The Party in Negros is deeply rooted among the masses of workers and peasants. Majority of its Party cadres and members are doing revolutionary work in the countryside while there are those in the localities, and underground and legal mass organizations. It recruits its membership from the most militant Red fighters and advanced mass activists of workers, peasants, women, youth and professionals who are tempered in mass struggles. It combines senior, middle-aged and young Party cadres in revolutionary work to strengthen Party leadership at all levels and develop and train cadres capable of performing a wide range of revolutionary tasks.

III. Resolve our current problems to advance the people's war on the island

PARTY CADRES AND MEMBERS, RED commanders and fighters and the revolutionary forces and allies in Negros must be determined and militant in resisting the evil and counterrevolutionary but futile plan of the lackeys of the reactionary regime to dismantle the NPA in Negros and force the entire revolutionary movement to surrender. Connected to and part of the people's war nationwide, we must grasp, study and solve the new problems of our own specific people's war on Negros Island based on the particular new circumstances that arise along with the existing conditions. We must remember that problems in war become complicated and develop while war advances.

Building on Duterte's counter-

revolutionary war, the current fascist and kleptocratic regime called for "heightened operational tempo" or "increasing the momentum of operations" which translated to more intense and violent massive attacks on guerrilla fronts and guerrilla zones of the NPA since the second half of 2022 up to the first half of 2023 in the context of destroying the revolutionary forces in Negros in the first two years of Marcos Jr. It systematized its national internal security plan and counter-insurgency campaigns, and optimized its capacity with new and high-tech war equipment. At the same time, it censored information on successful tactical offensives of the NPA to maintain the narrative of "dismantled" and "weakened" re-

volutionary forces on the island.

This is a challenge and opportunity for NPA Negros with the Party at the lead to seize the initiative and achieve a series of big and small victories against operating troops of the enemy through politico-military resistance. We must all persevere and overcome current challenges to achieve greater victories in the people's democratic revolution.

Marxism-Leninism-Maoism must be applied as a sharp weapon in facing the intense and violent massive attacks of the monstrous enemy. Likewise, balance between discipline and freedom, between unity of will and full play of initiatives in fighting the enemy must be maintained by adhering to the

principle of democratic centralism.

It is presently a big challenge to overcome narrow-minded, empiricist and mechanical methods of studying problems in our people's war on the island. It is hard to always grasp the complicated objective situation. In the national level, we have been taught and are familiar with principles of operation and guerrilla tactics to advance our people's war. However, as war develops, many problems continually emerge. Old problems are solved and are replaced by new ones. But if old problems are left unsolved, it will be overtaken by new ones and various problems will accumulate and develop into complicated matters, and war becomes complicated as well while time passes.

But if we put in our collective efforts and knit our brows to make complex investigation and extensive analysis, we will be able to rectify mechanical and empiricist methods of study and solving problems. We can then creatively advance our people's war.

We must keep in mind that circumstances, no matter how difficult and complicated, presents new opportunities and opens our eyes to the truth that we have not yet understood. It is an additional challenge how we can achieve opportunities and transform to a higher level the truths that we understand to solve the big problems confronting us.

Furthermore, the ideological and political unity of Party cadres and members, the entire force of the NPA and the revolutionary masses is key to consciously and firmly grasp the calls of the Central leadership of the CPP and resolutely attain victories while advancing the people's war in a creative way. Party organs must ensure the NPA and revolutionary masses

in their respective areas are united on our objective, direction, and call for resistance including on the burning issues that worsen the conditions of the peasant masses and other oppressed classes.

The ruling reactionary regime's more intense and violent counterrevolutionary war in Negros must be defeated.

Our rich experience in people's war have proven that strategic defensive in general can be transformed into tactical offensives through guerrilla warfare. The combination of favorable physical and social terrain in Negros Island is the best condition for small and weak guerrilla units of the NPA to sustain in launching guerrilla warfare that is sure to win and to continually expand and strengthen the NPA. Some units of the NPA must overcome lingering in consolidated but limited space and neglecting wide areas that we have not reached. The opportunity for wide space can be put to good use by the NPA by daring and prompt expansion and consolidation in the guerrilla fronts and building new guerrilla fronts that is beyond the enemy's capacity to occupy based on the politico-military line of extensive and intensive guerrilla warfare in an ever widening and ever deepening mass base in the stage of strategic defensive.

However, we have been content with the level we achieved. It is a strong tendency not to take circumstances seriously and underestimate the enemy. We have loosened our grasp of our weaknesses—the NPA is a small and weak force while the enemy is still big and strong, and in a long time, we remain in strategic defensive while the enemy is in strategic offensive. While we are struggling with military conservatism,



the monstrous enemy is heightening its intense and violent massive attacks. These are errors that we must firmly overcome.

That is why our minds must not be stagnant in one level since things and processes in our particular revolutionary war are not at rest but instead continues to change. We must understand, study and solve specific problems on our people's war in Negros Island based on particular circumstances we are in.

With the FMOs and RCSPs of the enemy, there will be plenty of targets for tactical offensives. We can study and single out the weak parts of the enemy. Strong and weak are opposite aspects of a thing. The strong columns of the enemy can become weak after many days of operation. Generally, the offensive enemy after facing difficulties, exhaustion and hunger following weeks of operation transforms into a defensive posture. The soldiers already want to rest and do not want to engage in a gunfight. This is the opportunity that the defensive

of the NPA can be transformed into counter-offensive and mount an annihilative attack against the weak section of the enemy. This is applicable even with "rigodon" tactics of the enemy wherein they alternate troops to tire out the NPA. Because of the very fluid and quick progress of war, NPA commanders must be sharp in observation and study.

We must continue to study how to correctly employ the superior force of the NPA that will surely deliver a blow to the weak parts of the enemy. In the case of assault tactics (similar to raids), when concentrated troops of the NPA launches a surprise attack against a small and exhausted enemy troop, it can annihilate them and can surely triumph. NPA units need daring, militance and determination to confront the enemy and win.

In our annihilative tactical offensives, we must master using concentrated NPA troops against weak parts of the enemy. Our attritive military actions are not effectively combined with our annihilative military actions. We need to train Red fighters and develop utilizing small NPA teams to weaken or demoralize big columns of the enemy as preparation for annihilative blows

of the main NPA unit against weak columns of the enemy. Attritive operations done widely and frequently such as laying command-detonated explosives on the path of enemy units, sniping at them, assaulting them with grenades; and attacking enemy supply and transportation lines can inflict serious damage to the morale of enemy personnel and on their material resources. We must also subject to punitive actions diehard counterrevolutionaries who have blood debts to the people.

Our aim is to transform attrition to annihilation and ensure victory. But with this, we must be wary of the opposite—transforming annihilative tactical offensives into attritive action. We give priority to seizing and accumulating a significant number of firearms and ammunition from the enemy to build new NPA units and guerrilla fronts.

This year, as we contend with the widening scale and escalation of enemy attacks, we must strive to enrich the experience of the NPA in fighting the fascist enemy; advance the capabilities in command and coordination, intelligence, planning and operations, in tactics and technique; and develop further

the combat capabilities of the NPA's guerrilla units. We must strive to seize the initiative and overcome passivity against the intense and complicated enemy attacks. Generally, we must struggle against the existing current of military conservatism in the NPA units in the Region and the guerrilla fronts.

We must firmly raise the political consciousness, courage and confidence of Red commanders and fighters. Red commanders must learn to knit their brows so that step-by-step and in a painstaking way they can correctly study and solve problems in our people's war. If we sharply observe the existing conditions and situations, if our mind corresponds or has close approximation with objective conditions, we will be able to make correct resolutions to solve the existing problems. We must enliven NPA recruitment and politico-military training to advance as well the fighting capabilities of Red fighters.

Reverberant and triumphant tactical offensives of the NPA gives inspiration to the people of Negros and further persuades them to support and directly participate in advancing the revolutionary armed struggle. This inspires and persuades as well the workers, peasants, farm workers, urban poor, jeepney drivers, fisherfolk, and urban petty-bourgeoisie to launch various forms of struggle to advance their economic and democratic demands against exploitation and oppression of the reactionary ruling class of big business-compradors, big landlord-hacienderos and military bureaucrats on the island.

Amid the worsening crisis of the semicolonial and semifeudal ruling system, it is necessary to widely arouse, organize and mobilize the people in economic



and political movements along the national democratic line to advance their class, sectoral and national demands. We must sharpen our grasp of the exploitative and oppressive conditions suffered by the people by always carrying out social investigation. We learn from the masses the correct approach, tactics and methods of arousing, organizing and mobilizing the people in large numbers. We must ensure the political education of leaders and mass activists, and the wide reach of national democratic propaganda in all mass campaigns.

Urban-based mass organizations of workers, urban poor, student youth, low-income professionals and intellectuals and other democratic sectors must be expanded and strengthened through painstaking work. Mass mobilizations and mass campaigns should not only be sweeping. It is a means to exercise the current strength of mass organizations as well as a way to attract more members.

The demand for wage increase and benefits based on family living wage for workers, farm workers, semi-proletariat, and peasants (poor peasants and lower and middle sections of middle peasants become farm workers from time to time) must be given priority this year amid unbridled price increase of oil and basic commodities. Massive land grabbing under the slogan

of development in the entire island through land use conversion and reclamation projects must also be firmly opposed as this will displace homes and livelihood of peasants, fisherfolks, urban poor and the lower middle class; affect food production; and devastate the environment. We must win over the church people, the academe, politicians, lawyers and other sectors to gather support for the mass movement against blows of imperialist neoliberal offensives and the current kleptocratic regime.

Resistance to massive militarization in the countryside and rampant violations of human rights all over Negros must be broadened further and anti-fascist calls must reach the public and international community. With their genuine army fighting for them, the masses led by their mass organizations must organize themselves and launch an anti-fascist campaign to drive away the FMOs and RCSPs in their communities. The heinous crimes perpetuated especially against peasants, women and children in the intense and violent armed campaign of suppression of the AFP and PNP in Negros must be widely exposed and opposed. This will amplify the call for an end to de facto martial law on the island that worsened since Memorandum Order 32 and NTF-ELCAC.

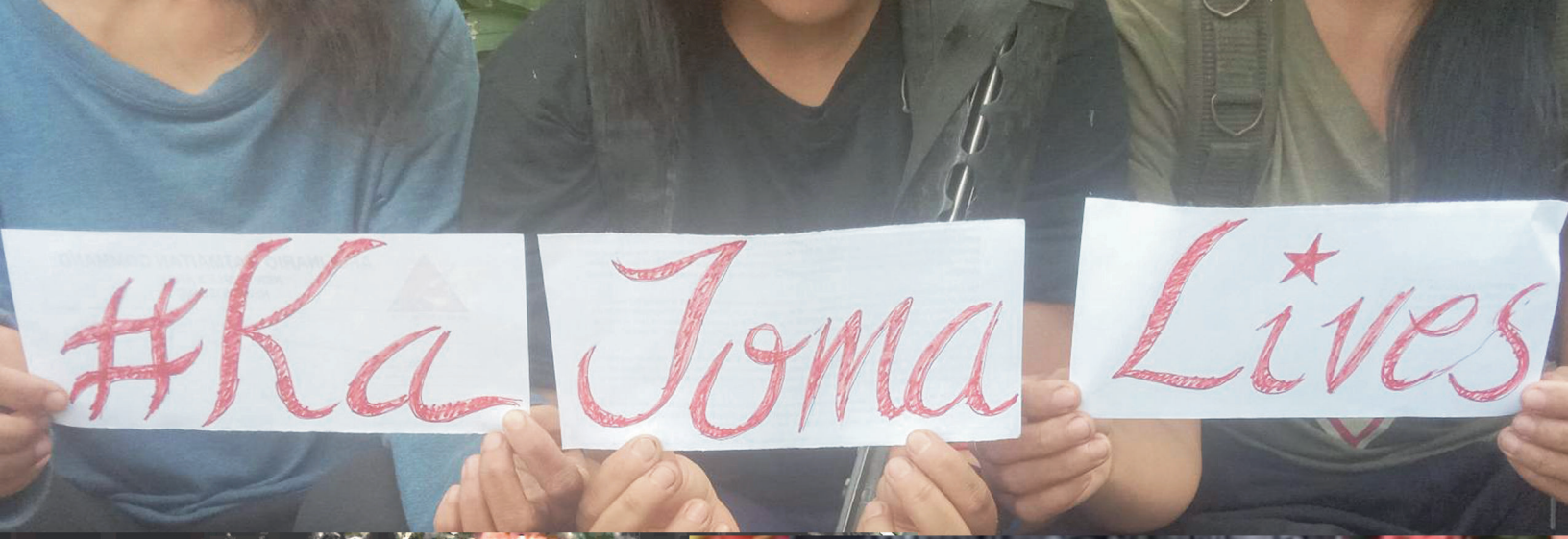
The most barbaric human rights violations are unleashed

by big compradors-hacenderos-landlords to extinguish the life-and-death struggle of Negrosanon peasants and farm workers against feudal and semifeudal exploitation and oppression in a monocrop sugar economy. Thus, the anti-fascist struggles must be linked and raised to the anti-feudal and anti-imperialist line.

The Party in Negros must continually strengthen itself to effectively lead the people's democratic revolution on the island. While we implement our revolutionary tasks to bring our plans this year to fruition, we must expand our ranks conscious of not letting a single undesirable in. There must also be deployment of Party cadres and members from the cities to the countryside for the people's war. Revolutionary activists should have a program for them to participate in revolutionary work particularly in armed struggle.

As we intensify armed struggle on the island in harmony with a vibrant open mass movement, the revolutionary forces of the Party, the NPA and the organs of political power will be strengthened as well as the united front against the US-Marcos II regime. We will then be in the most favorable position to contribute to the national advance of the people's democratic revolution until its ultimate victory. *AP*





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