



EDITORIAL:

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US war of aggression against Iran underscores dangers posed by EDCA bases

Last February 28, US Imperialism and Israel Zionists massively attacked Iran using missiles and aircraft. Iran predictably responded by raining missiles against Israel and 27 US military bases located in many countries in West Asia. The hostilities been escalating since then, reaching even as far as the Indian Ocean. These have not only brought untold hardships and danger to the overseas Filipino workers (OFW) in the region —one died in a missile raid-- but there is also rapid inflation in the Philippines brought by rising scarcity of oil products. More ominously, nine US bases under the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) and other US military installations are in danger of being attacked in the event of a hot war between US and China.

More than two million OFWs are in West Asia, also called Middle East. The region is the largest hub for Filipino workers worldwide. Their remittances contribute a large portion to the country's economy. As the war rages in West Asia, the Philippine economy dependent on labor export migration is greatly affected.

Sectoral groups in the Philippines and abroad are calling for providing OFWs in West Asia with safe shelter and ensuring that lines of communication are open. They also call for speedy processing of documents and unconditional repatriation of them. At last count, about 1,000 migrants have expressed a desire to return home.


The Philippines imports 90% of its oil consumption, with a significant portion coming from West Asia, particularly through the Strait of Hormuz, where a fifth of global oil flows. The monopoly capitalists, especially the big oil companies, have taken advantage of the war to drive up the prices of crude oil and refined oil. This will create a more serious crisis. As of this writing, the country is brazing for a huge increase in the price of oil products which will raise the prices of everything else with it.

Amidst its aggressive war against Iran, US Imperialism continues its malevolence in the Indo-Pacific region. It keeps inciting Taiwan to declare independence from China. It uses the Philippines to stockpile weapons, station its troops and mount war exercises to provoke China. These we must resist.

It is urgent for the Filipino people to build a broad united front against US war provocations. They should demand for the US and Philippine governments to dismantle all US military bases and facilities in the Philippines, remove missiles and other weapons stockpiled in secret locations, pull out US military troops and withdraw US ships from the West Philippine Sea and the South China Sea. The Filipino people must demand to abrogate all military treaties and agreements, including the EDCA, the Visiting Forces Agreement and the Mutual Defense Treaty.

On top of these, Filipinos must firmly demand independent foreign policy and freedom from foreign domination.

The US occupation and plunder of the Philippines, colluding with the local ruling class and using the AFP as an instrument of repression, is the main obstacle to the development of the Philippines and the cause of the suffering of the broad masses of the people. The Filipino people must fight for true freedom from US control and interference.

The revolutionary sectoral member organizations of the NDFP express solidarity with the freedom-loving people of Iran. We vehemently condemn the missile and aircraft attacks which are a gross assault on Iran's sovereignty and violate universally accepted international laws. 

Protest marches at home and abroad mark EDSA Uprising's 40th Anniversary

All over the Philippines and abroad, tens of thousands, mostly youth, joined protests rallies to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the EDSA Uprising. Workers, peasants, urban poor, youth, women, church people, teachers, staff and others call out: "The Fight Against Corruption and Poverty Continues! Everyone involved should be held accountable!"

Ang Bayan Ngayon reported on February 26, 2026, that Kilusang Bayan Kontra Kurakot, Youth Rage Against Corruption, Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan), Article XI, Bunyog Pagkakaissa, Sanlakas and other groups and parties came together in the protest at the EDSA Shrine. Also present at the gathering were Bishop Gerardo Alminaza, president of Caritas Philippines and chairman of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines Episcopal Commission on Social Action, martial law veteran Sr. Mary John Mananzan of the Movement Against Tyranny (MAT), Rep. Leila de Lima of the Mamamayang Liberal and representatives of the Makabayan Bloc. In addition to the EDSA in Manila, protests were also held in the provinces. Thousands of protesters marched in the cities of Baguio, Iloilo, Bacolod, Dagupan, Angeles, Tuguegarao, Santiago, Naga, Legaspi, Kalibo, Roxas, Tacloban, Cebu, Dumaguete, Cagayan de Oro and Davao. 90 dioceses of the Catholic Church across the country also participated in the commemoration.

Outside the Philippines, chapters of Migrante, Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, Gabriela, Anakbayan, and allied organizations held protests and fora to mark the 40th EDSA Uprising. In Europe, they protested at Philippine embassies in Berlin, Germany; and Leicester Square in London; and in Italy and The Netherlands. In Australia, Filipino Australians for Justice, Accountability and Peace protested at Fed Square in Victoria and in Melbourne. Groups also launched discussions in Perth, New South Wales, and Canberra.

In Canada, organizations gathered for a discussion in Montreal and Quebec. In the US, groups protested at the Philippine Consulate offices in Chicago



image: philippinerevolution.nu

and San Francisco, at the Philippine Embassy in Washington DC, and in Los Angeles. They also held discussions in San Diego, Florida, Portland, and Hawaii.


Migrante South Korea, Migrante Taiwan, and Migrante Thailand expressed their solidarity, while the Kalipunan ng Bagong Bayani-Japan and Migrante Japan held a discussion on February 23 at the Catholic Omori Church in Ota-ku, Tokyo.

In Hong Kong, the coalition Filipinos Against Corruption and Impunity Network Hong Kong (Fil-ACTION-HK) and other organizations protested at the United Center in Admiralty on February 23 and 25, with the theme “EDSA@40: Remembrance, Accountability, and Resistance.”

“EDSA People Power is a reminder that the people have the power to overthrow corrupt and fascist regimes like that of Marcos Sr. The struggle of nearly 8,000 Filipinos leaving

the country every day proves that the Marcos father and son have done nothing good... Marcos Jr continues to sell us out to foreign interests while pocketing billions in remittances,” UNIFIL-Migrante Hong Kong secretary general Lai Besana said.

More than 150 organizations and 400 individuals signed a statement of unity declaring that efforts taken to hold the masterminds in the systemic corruption in the country are still not being investigated and arrested. Corruption continues in 2026 because billions of pesos in pork barrel-style allocables, insertions, and unprogrammed funds remain in the National Budget,” the statement said.

They collectively declared: “We’ve had enough of the excessive system running the government for profit! Let us collectively continue the fight against corruption and poverty and for truth, justice, and accountability!” 

ICC case: due process for a man who denied due process to his victims

From 23 to 27 February 2026, the International Criminal Court (ICC) held a hearing for the Confirmation of Charges in the crimes against humanity case against former President Rodrigo Duterte. The sole purpose of this hearing is for the judges to determine whether or not there is sufficient evidence to establish substantial grounds that Duterte committed the crimes of which he is being charged. If these charges are confirmed, in full or in part, the case will proceed to trial.

Duterte’s lawyer Nicholas Kaufman failed to produce reliable testimony or any material proof that meaningfully contradicts the body of evidence already before the court and the public, instead choosing to attack the press. Kaufman claimed that the media prioritized to highlight “salacious” content over facts and curated photographs “to shock the conscience and sway the emotions.”

On the second day of the hearing, both the prosecution and the Common Legal Representative of Victims (CLRv) presented a clear and coherent picture of Duterte’s intent, his policy and the systematic violence carried out under his bloody “War on Drugs.” The consistent pattern behind the killings was highlighted: how the victims were found with packing tape wrapped around their heads, their hands bound and gunshot wounds to the head. This makes it even more reprehensible that the defense attempted to downplay the extrajudicial killings on the third day, claiming that the deaths were only a slim percentage of the total number of individuals arrested under the drug war. They aimed to reframe the killings

as “lawful self-defense” and question the definition of “neutralize.”

The final day of the hearing gave a voice to the victims, who are not mere statistics as Duterte’s defense team tried to portray. The prosecution and the CLRv ensured that their long ignored voices were heard on the international stage. For years, the victims, survivors and their families have been facing political vilification. They became targets of disinformation campaigns, one example during the ongoing hearing was a manipulated photograph that was circulated online.

Following the conclusion of the confirmation of charges hearing, the ICC pre-trial chamber now has 60 days to issue a written decision on whether the case will proceed to trial. While the Filipino people, starved for justice, await the confirmation for the trial to proceed, they also await members of the current administration to be held accountable. While Duterte’s arrest is a victory for the Filipino people, it is not enough. The corrupt must also be held accountable and punished, above all current President Marcos Jr. and Vice President Sara Duterte, who have both received billions from the misuse of confidential and intelligence funds. Marcos Jr. himself oversaw and approved the national budget with all the anomalies and discrepancies that were later discovered.


The Filipino people deserve to see all fascist and bureaucrat capitalist politicians locked up and paying for their crimes. 



image: philippinerevolution.nu

NPA repels AFP attacks, wipes out 5 fascist troops

NPA Red fighters dealt severe blows to the fascist AFP's 11th Infantry Battallion wiping out at least 5 of its troops after repelling its attacks on the guerrillas and the peasant masses.

The battles occurred in Barangay Santo Nino, Tanjay City, Negros Oriental February 15 when fascist troops swooped down on the village and attacked while a unit of the Rachelle Mae Palang Command-New People's Army (RMPC-NPA) was looking into the problems of the peasant masses in that village.

Three encounters took place early that morning, and in all the successive battles, the guerrillas were able to seize the initiative in the fighting leaving the fascist enemy with their casualties and wounded as the NPA unit safely withdrew without any scratch.

NPA-Southeast Negros spokesperson Comrade Estrella Banagbanag said the defeat suffered by enemy troops was a slap in the faces of the fascist AFP-Philippine Army commands (11th IB, 302nd Infrantry Brigade) in the region, which continue to harbor illusions they could defeat the revolutionary movement.

"As long as the peasant and working masses are exploited and oppressed, the toiling masses' army will continue to forge its strength," Banagbanag stressed. Despite the relentless fascist militarization across the island of Negros, Banagbanag said the NPA remains steadfast in building Red political power.

In related reports, the NPA also meted punishments to enemy intelligence assets. Last February 17, the Romeo

Nanta Command-NPA, South Central Negros Guerrilla Front conducted a punitive action against Rey Norqui-ana, an intel asset of the 94th IB, in Sitio Solbud, Barangay Santol, Binalbagan. Norqui-ana had long served as an asset to the fascist military in the town and was one of the founders of the intel network in the village of Santol.

On February 28, special operations units of the Roselyn Jean Pelle Command-New People's Army (RJPC-NPA, Negros Occidental) implemented the standing order of the people's court on two armed military intelligence assets in Sitio Biga and Sitio Malasaging both in Barangay Pinapugasan, Escalante City, Negros Occidental. Those meted punishments were Eddie Catipay, a rabid intelligence asset of the fascist AFP in the village, and, Jerry Lapus, who was responsible for the death of two Red fighters and one farmer who was tending a nearby rice field after an encounter in Sitio Mansulao, Barangay Pinapugasan, Escalante City on February 21, 2024. The asset tipped the fascist troops of the presence of the guerrillas resulting in the encounter. The guerrillas also confiscated two .45 caliber and .357 pistols with ammunition.

The martyred revolutionaries during that encounter were Emarie "Ka Janine" Pastidio and Joshua "Ka George" Sultan, and farmer Jose Caramihan. 