



EDITORIAL:

Ignite the people's war, smash imperialist domination

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The message is clear, urgent, and uncompromising: the Filipino people are being driven deeper into crisis by a collapsing global system and a ruling regime that serves foreign masters and entrenched elites. At the center of this analysis stands the statement of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), which cuts through illusion and exposes the roots of the suffering—imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucrat capitalism. The crisis gripping the world today is no accident. It is the direct result of intensifying imperialist rivalry, led by the United States, whose wars of aggression are aimed at seizing resources and maintaining global dominance. These wars—from the Middle East to Latin America—have unleashed economic shockwaves: skyrocketing oil prices, inflation, and instability that batter the most vulnerable nations.

In the Philippines, these global tremors become daily hardship. Prices surge, wages stagnate, and millions sink further into poverty. The country's dependence on imports, foreign loans, and labor export lays bare the bankruptcy of the ruling system. The CPP does not mince words: this is a semicolonial and semifeudal order, designed not to serve the people, but to enrich foreign capital and local elites.

The Marcos regime stands exposed as a willing instrument of this exploitation. Corruption runs rampant, public funds are plundered, and dissent is met with repression. Military operations blanket the countryside, targeting not only armed resistance but entire communities. This is not governance—it is rule by force, sustained by foreign backing and directed against the very people it claims to serve.

Against this backdrop, the CPP asserts a decisive conclusion: the crisis will not be resolved within the confines of the existing system. Reform is a dead end. The only path forward is revolutionary change.

This is where the New People's Army (NPA) emerges—not as a relic of the past, but as a living force shaped by decades of struggle. Despite relentless military campaigns, it persists, adapts, and grows. Its strength lies not in firepower, but in its roots among the masses—peasants, workers, youth—whose grievances fuel the movement's expansion.

The Party's ongoing rectification movement underscores this resilience. By confronting its own weaknesses and reaffirming its principles, the movement sharpens its capacity to wage protracted people's war. This is not blind persistence—it is strategic renewal, preparing for intensified struggle in a rapidly changing landscape.


Across sectors, the same call resounds. Youth organizations speak of a stolen future, where education leads only to unemployment or war. Migrant groups highlight the abandonment of millions of overseas Filipinos, forced to choose between poverty at home and danger abroad. Allied formations expose the state's indifference to suffering and its hostility to dissent.

These are not isolated grievances—they are the collective voice of a people pushed to the brink.

The CPP's statement transforms this anger into direction. It calls on the masses not merely to protest, but to organize, mobilize, and fight. It frames the current moment as a turning point: a time when the deepening crisis of the ruling system opens space for revolutionary advance.

The anniversary of the NPA, then, is not just remembrance—it is a call to action. A declaration that despite decades of suppression, the struggle endures. That the forces of resistance are regrouping, rebuilding, and preparing to surge forward.

History is not standing still. The contradictions of the system are sharpening. The suffering of the people is intensifying. And from this crucible, the CPP insists, a revolutionary future can and must be forged.

The challenge is stark: endure the crisis, or rise to end it. 

Nationwide strikes highlight growing resistance vs US-led war in Iran

Mass actions across the Philippines, including a transport strike on March 19 and 20 and a general strike last March 26 and 27, highlight the Filipino people's growing resistance against US-led war in Iran and its impacts on Filipino workers and communities.

Transport groups, labor unions, and progressive organizations mobilized nationwide, with jeepney drivers, workers, and students staging coordinated protests in major urban centers in recent weeks. The actions disrupted transport services and drew attention to both domestic economic grievances and Marcos Jr.'s subservience to the United States.

With the ongoing war in West Asia driving up global oil prices, transport workers have been among the hardest hit, facing soaring fuel costs without corresponding increases in fares.

"For drivers, every increase in oil prices means less income for our families," one organizer said, linking the crisis directly to the war. "But beyond that, we are also opposing the Philippines being used as a base for imperialist wars."

Groups pointed to the country's long-standing military agreements with the US, including expanded access to bases under security cooperation deals and the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA), as evidence of its role in supporting US strategy in the region. Activists argue that this alignment exposes the Philippines to economic and security risks.

Transport workers and commuter groups launched a nationwide strike on March 26, with protests centered along Aurora Boulevard in Quezon City. The mobilization, led by the No To Oil Price Hike Coalition and spearheaded by the transport group PISTON, drew drivers, commuters, and student groups demanding urgent government action to address soaring fuel prices.

Protesters called for fuel prices to be reduced to 55 pesos per liter, the removal of Value Added Tax and excise taxes on petroleum, and the repeal of the Oil Deregulation Law, which they say has enabled unchecked price increases.

With diesel prices reportedly reaching as high as 120 pesos per liter in the National


Capital Region, transport leaders said existing subsidies and cash assistance are insufficient. Mody Floranda of PISTON warned that these measures last drivers barely a day. 



image: philippinerevolution.nu

The NPA is steadily advancing - CPP

Majority of NPA units across the country are steadily advancing stressed the CPP's Central Committee on the occasion of the 57th anniversary of the New People's Army (NPA) March 29.

In a press release on the anniversary of the NPA, the CPP said that the People's Army has successfully preserved their strength, expanded their operational areas, broadened their mass base, recruited new Red fighters, and executed various tactical offensives and guerrilla actions. The CPP also said that since the launching of a rectification movement in 2023, positive developments have outweighed the setbacks and losses by some Red Army units.

The CPP cited the CPP Negros Island Regional Committee report as an example of this steady advance, noting that units under the Negros Island Regional Operational Command (Apolinario Gatmaitan Command) continue to operate across five guerrilla fronts, and have consolidated existing mass organizations and recovered territories previously subjected to intense militarization. As a result of these efforts, the CPP said, the revolutionary movement in Negros Island recorded a 21% increase in its mass base and that between March 2025 and the present, NPA units launched 56 military actions of varying scales, successfully seizing 16 firearms, ammunition, and other war materiel.

"Step by step, adjustments are being made in the mode or method of guerrilla methods, to ensure the tight bond with the masses while raising our ability to evade and outmaneuver the enemy's heavy presence," the CPP Central Committee said. The leadership declared that

the NPA is firmly regaining its strength and anticipates a resurgence in the coming period.

The Party also dismissed President Marcos' declaration from last year that there are "no more guerrilla groups" in the country as mere bluster. "Another year has passed without them achieving their stated goal. In various parts of the country, NPA guerrilla units continue to fight," the Central Committee asserted.


The Party further emphasized that the Marcos regime's NAP-UPD scheme, NTF-Elcac and anti-people policies are driving more people, particularly the youth, toward the movement, as it reported a rise in the number of young recruits from both urban and rural areas responding to the call to support and join the people's army. "The NPA is continuously being infused with new blood, renewing its strength to advance the armed struggle," the statement concluded. 



image: philippinerevolution.nu

US-Philippines Balikatan exercises drags the region into the war in West Asia

The largest ever contingent of foreign troops in the Philippines will join the US's annual Balikatan exercises scheduled for April to May. Japan will directly participate with 1,000 troops, along with troops from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and France, according to a report by Ang Bayan on March 21, 2026. Some 18 countries will join as "observers".

Australian and Japanese troops started conducting non-stop voyages with the US in the Philippines' territorial waters in February to challenge Chinese vessels. Since 2023, foreign vessels have launched up to 25 such voyages and interventions all over the country. Balikatan exercises also involve large-scale joint military drill between the AFP and the US military. In 2025, over 14,000 troops underwent high-level combat training, including the use of anti-ship missile systems (NMESIS) and other coastal defense and offense mechanisms.

On March 9, 2026, in Burgos town, Pangasinan, in Luzon, more than four thousand Filipino troops took part in the so-called Littoral Defense Live Fire Exercise, in preparation for the Balikatan. This is part of the Combined Arms Training Exercises and preparation of local troops for the US war games series under Balikatan. In the Visayas, The National Democratic Front (NDF)-Eastern Visayas, condemned the presence of US military troops in Tacloban City for the upcoming Balikatan war exercises. The US troops arrived in the city airport in a US Air Force C-17 to participate in the largest edition of the annual US-PH war exercises. The NDF-EV said it "forms part of the effort by US imperialism and its puppet the Marcos Jr regime to establish the Philippines as a launching pad of war in the Asia-Pacific.

The NDF-EV asserted that aside from attempting to incite regime change in Iran, long a stalwart of resistance against US imperialist subjugation, the US-Zionist Israel war on Iran also aimed to curtail shipments of oil from the country to one of its major buyers, China. It condemns "...the treasonous Ferdinand Marcos Jr for kowtowing to US imperialist interest to establish world hegemony... Marcos continues to welcome US troops, armaments, and war exercises with open arms. He fails to allay fears by Filipinos of being dragged into a war that will cause the most destruction and suffering to the ordinary masses."

In Mindanao, US troops and the AFP's 4th ID participated in war games held at the Lumbia Air Base, an EDCA (Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement) site. Ang Bayan said the sudden arrival of foreign troops terrorized the residents. "They worry the city, and the entire Philippines, will get dragged into the US-ignited war in Iran and the Middle East.

The NDF-North Central Mindanao Region strongly condemned the presence of American troops in the city. The American operations at Lumbia are not "humanitarian assistance and disaster relief training" as claimed. The concentration of training at the EDCA site exposes the true militarist intent of their operation, it added.

Besides Lumbia Airport, the AFP and US plan to build a naval base in the 3,000-hectare PHIVIDEC Industrial Estate in Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental. This will transform Northern Mindanao into a forward base for US aggression, according to the NDF-NCMR. It endangers Filipinos and drags the country into US wars anywhere in the world. ⚠️

