

The financing of a revolution

Part 1 of a series on foreign support of the New People's Army in the Philippines, by our Investigative Team.

In December 1987, *EIR* exposed the networks in Western Europe that are supporting logistically and ideologically the Communist Party Philippines/New People's Army (CPP/NPA). Although that investigation did not turn up the canceled checks and shipping invoices, it did turn up a nest of effectively Soviet proxy organizations, including the Green Party of West Germany, and government-funded organizations within the Protestant and Catholic Church groups under the control of leftist clergymen, which were funneling money to the NPA and its various front organizations.

The report hit a nerve. In response, the NPA issued an official denial of the charges and the NPA underground threatened the life of a member of the *EIR* investigative team.

Official and unofficial reports from Manila and European capitals have verified the *EIR* charges, and revealed a dense international net that feeds the NPA guerrillas.

The intelligence on the NPA's international support definitively puts to rest the notion—given prominence in both Manila and abroad—that the NPA represents a “home-grown” “people's revolution.” The NPA exists as a capability of Soviet irregular warfare against the West and its allies in Asia, and is funded through organizations in the West that are identified as Soviet-linked, such as the World Council of Churches and the Green environmentalist movement.

In the Philippines, the Soviet link is direct. The founders of the CPP/New People's Army, Jose Maria “Joma” Sison and Bernabe Buscayno, both came out of the old Soviet-backed Communist Party. The former was a card-carrying member of the Soviet-backed Party Komunista Pilipina (PKP) and the latter, alias Kumander Dante, was former commander in the HUKs, the guerrilla group of the PKP which led a postwar rebellion against the Philippine government. Jose Sison, much touted as a dissident against the Soviets in the 1960s, now seems to be overcoming his misgivings of Soviet “social imperialism” and is seeking ties to the socialist states. Sison recently sent letters to Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachov.

The second current into the CPP/NPA is Liberation Theology. Many of the leaders of the CPP/NPA hold positions throughout the Church hierarchy in the Philippines. Many have been trained by leading European and American liberationist theologians such as Hans Küng at Tübingen University in West Germany or François Houtart at the University of Louvain in Belgium.

Alms, computers, and guns

In March 1988, a Philippines Armed Forces raid on an NPA hideout produced a yield that included documents and computer disks containing information on NPA money-flows. The information showed that the NPA is hooked into a nexus of shipping and forwarding companies, and possesses an interlocked set of bank accounts that facilitate the transfer of funds from abroad for the purchase of weapons and other materiel.

This apparatus interfaced directly with CPP/NPA networks in such organizations as the National Council of Churches, the National Secretariat for Social Action, Justice and Peace (NASSA).

These organizations in turn receive foreign monies from such European and North American Non-Governmental Organizations as the German Protestant Church's Bread for the World, or the Catholic Caritas Chapter in the United States. These organizations channel millions of dollars into “social

FIGURE 1
Organizational structure of the Asia Pacific Committee



FIGURE 2

Church organizations believed infiltrated by the CCP/NPA for the transfer of funds

National Secretariat for Social Action, Justice and Peace (NASSA)
Visayas Secretariat for Social Action (VISSA)
Mindanao Secretariat for Social Action (MISSA)
Luzon Secretariat for Social Action (LUSSA)
Association for Religious Superiors
Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace
National Council of Churches of the Philippines
Asia Partnership for Human Development—Hong Kong based

action” and “self-help” projects and entities designated as Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) by the United Nations. The increased funding of so-called NGOs is a trend fostered by the “appropriate technology” policies of the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and other supranational institutions such as UNESCO.

Between 20 and 60% of the CPP/NPA budget is financed through these channels.

According to informed sources, this activity is central-

ized through the CPP/NPA’s Asia Pacific Committee (ASPAC) of the International Department. The former is codenamed Combank and the latter is codenamed Illiad. Within ASPAC are a Manila-based “Research and Documentation” center (codenamed RCBC) and a Hong Kong-based Research and Documentation Center codenamed Republic Bank (see **Figure 1**). Their purpose is to identify possible funding agencies, developing necessary information for extraction of funds from identified sources. These centers also conduct intelligence activities for the CPP/NPA.

On-the-ground activity is conducted through various support groups including: the Japan Support Group codenamed Ivy I; the Hong Kong Support Group codenamed Ivy II; and the Australian Support Group codenamed Ivy III.

Parallel with this apparatus, CPP/NPA cadres are employed in church-related organizations. It is here that anywhere between 10 and 60% of the CPP/NPA budget is being financed. National Secretariat for Social Action, Justice, and Peace (NASSA), the National Council of Churches, or the Hong Kong-based Asia Partnership for Human Development (APHD) which oversee project aid from European church-related NGOs (**Figures 2 and 3**).

Others are employed in a network of shipping and forwarding companies and other fronts based in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and Japan. The respective support

FIGURE 3

Organizations infiltrated by or fronts for the CPP/NPA

National Democratic Front of the CPP/NPA
Christians for National Liberation
League of Filipino Students
Kabataang Makabayan (Nationalist Youth)
Katipunan ng mga Gurong Makabaya (Association of Nationalist Teachers)

Organizations heavily infiltrated and influenced by the CPP/NPA which receive foreign aid

Kilusang Mayo Uno (May First Movement trade union federation)
Bayan: New Nationalist Alliance
Partido ng Bayan (Party of the Nation)
Kilusang Magbubukid sa Philipinas (Peasant Movement of the Philippines)
GABRIELA: General Assembly Binding Women for Reform, Integrity, Equality, Leadership and Action
MABINI: Movement of Attorneys for Brotherhood, Integrity and Nationalism
National Alliance For Justice, Freedom and Democracy
Bicol Coconut Planters Association
Bicol Institute for Rural Development
Citizens Alliance for Consumer Protection
Church Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines

Makabayang Kilusan ng Bagong Kababaihan (Organization of National Women)
Pambansang Kaisahan ng mga Magsaka (Revolutionary Peasant Organization)
Makabayang Samahang Panghalusugan (Revolutionary Health Workers Association)
Association of Revolutionary Workers
Citizens Disaster Relief Committee
Ecumenical Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines
Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace
IDEA: Institute for the Development of Education and Ecological Alternatives
MIND: Mindanao Institute for Development
Media Mindanao News Service
Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition
National Federation of Sugar Workers
Palawan Center for Appropriate Rural Technology
Resource Center for Development Issues
Spring of Science and Appropriate Technology
Task Force Detainees of the Philippines

committees penetrate Filipino overseas communities throughout Asia, Europe and North America. Intensive penetration of Filipino workers employed as contract laborers in Malaysia, the Middle East, Libya, and elsewhere is practiced. The whole operation is coordinated through computers.

One Noel Villaba, alias Ben, recently captured by Filipino authorities, revealed how the system works. Rev. Leonardo M—, secretary of the CPP party group in the National Council of Churches in the Philippines, receives a project proposal from a Philippine NGO heavily infiltrated by CPP/NPA and its supporters. The project is then forwarded to Bread for the World, the German Protestant Church funding organization. Following approval, the money is deposited in the National Council of Churches' Philippines dollar account with the International Bank of Asia and America. Funds are withdrawn by installment as required for the implementation of the project. While \$60,000 may be transferred from Bread for the World, only \$40,000 finds its way to ASPAC, which takes responsibility for dispersing it for purchase of weapons or its own expenses. In a Potemkin Village-type operation, the remaining \$20,000 is dispersed to the "legitimate" project, so at the end of the year Reverend M— may quite honestly report on the progress of the humanitarian project.

In an intelligence briefing earlier this year, the Philippine Constabulary reported that foreign support received by the CPP/NPA in this manner was at least \$8 million annually.

The Bishops' Conference of the Philippines conducted its own 1987 investigation of NASSA, confirmed that a large percentage of funds was finding its way to the CPP/NPA and front groups. A subsequent reorganization aimed at stemming such transfers is not believed to have been effective.

The accompanying figures show: 1) the apparatus of ASPAC; 2) church organizations believed to be heavily infiltrated by the CPP/NPA and responsible for identifying projects to be financed, with the result that funds end up financing the revolution; and 3) organizations in the Philippines that are a direct front for, or are heavily infiltrated by the NPA and which are known to receive foreign aid from West European and American NGOs including the large church-related donor organizations.

Funds acquired through these procedures are then handled by the Financial Commission (Fincom) of the NPA, which deposits the money into special accounts in the Philippines, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Tokyo. A full 80% of the money is put under the control of the Military Commission (Milcom) for the purchase of weapons. Through shipping and forwarding companies based in Singapore and elsewhere, it is believed that the NPA is able to purchase Soviet SAM-7 surface-to-air missiles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers and mortars. Although SAM-7s, which cost \$40-50,000 apiece, have not yet been seen, captured documents indicated that NPA cadres have already received special courses in their use.

Italian tuning bill wins support abroad

by Liliana Celani

When the Italian Parliament resumes this month, a number of important legislative proposals will be on the agenda. But the one which has provoked the most discussion and amazingly broad support not only in Italy, but on three continents (Europe, Ibero-America, and the United States) is certainly the legislative proposal launched by the Schiller Institute to go back to Giuseppe Verdi's classical tuning (of concert A at 432 vibrations per second, corresponding to a middle C of 256 vibrations per second).

The Schiller Institute legislative proposal was officially introduced in the Italian Senate last July thanks to two Christian Democratic senators, Sen. Carlo Boggio and Sen. Pietro Mezzapesa, and will be discussed in October by the Italian Senate Education Committee. If approved by the Senate, it will pass to the Chamber of Deputies, and then become law. The reason for this legislation, as readers may remember from previous issues of *EIR*, is that unless the classical pitch used and defended by the greatest composers, such as Mozart, Beethoven, and Verdi, is revived, singers' voices and precious instruments such as the Stradivari, Guarneri, and Amati violins will not be saved from the destruction wreaked by today's higher and higher pitches. These have reached absurd heights such as A-448-450 in Herbert Karajan's Berlin Philharmonic and orchestras in Vienna, Salzburg, Florence, and Dresden.

The Schiller Institute-Italian Senate legislation has an important historical precedent: In 1884, Giuseppe Verdi had a similar pitch decreed by the Italian War Ministry, which then retooled all wind instruments of the military orchestras to A-432. That's why the world press has often referred to the Schiller Institute proposal as "Verdi's A."

100 endorsements from France

Besides the more than 400 singers, teachers, conductors, and instrumentalists from all over the world who have endorsed the Schiller Institute draft proposal since April (among