



EDITORIAL:

The revolution outlives the AFP's lies

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The revolution outlives AFP's lies

General Romeo Brawner Jr.'s recent statement on the 56th anniversary of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) is a desperate attempt to undermine the revolutionary movement's resilience. His assertion that the New People's Army (NPA) has only "one weakened guerrilla front" is not just misleading but deliberately crafted to bolster the illusion of the Armed Forces of the Philippines' (AFP) supposed success in "ending armed struggle."


Curiously, General Brawner does not identify the location of this supposed "last front," leaving the public to question the sincerity of his declaration. Meanwhile, the AFP continues military operations across no fewer than 20 provinces, deploying troops, drones, and artillery in pursuit of what they characterize as a "decimated" force. If the NPA has truly been reduced to a single weakened front, why does the AFP require such extensive, costly, and destructive operations?

This narrative also disregards the broader political context. The AFP's campaign is not merely a military offensive but a means to suppress dissent and maintain the status quo of US-backed state power. The revolutionary movement in the Philippines led by the CPP has long been and remains the most consistent and determined opposition to US imperialist intervention, bureaucrat capitalist corruption, and the AFP's reign of terror. The revolutionary forces serve as a formidable barrier to the Marcos regime's betrayal of national sovereignty, particularly through agreements that expand US military bases under the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA).

General Brawner's claims of a "leadership vacuum" within the CPP betray the AFP's frustration. Despite assassinations, extrajudicial killings, abductions, and arrests targeting revolutionary leaders, the movement continues to stand firm. The CPP's Central Committee has repeatedly emphasized its commitment to advancing the people's struggle for genuine democracy and social justice. As the CPP's anniversary message from the Central Committee highlighted, the worsening conditions under the Marcos regime—subservience to foreign powers, rampant corruption, rising poverty, and relentless state-sponsored violence—make the revolution ever more urgent and just.

Instead of celebrating fictitious victories, the AFP would do well to reflect on its role in perpetuating the very conditions that drive people to join the armed struggle. General Brawner's statement inadvertently underscores the enduring relevance of the revolutionary movement. His rhetoric cannot mask the fact that the revolutionary movement remains a significant force—one that continues to inspire and mobilize Filipinos to resist oppression and fight for a genuinely free and just society.

The Filipino people see through the AFP's lies. They recognize that the revolution is not a spent force but a growing tide fueled by the regime's betrayal of national interests, widening inequality, and escalating state repression. If anything, Brawner's statement is a testament to the fact that the revolutionary movement remains the single greatest threat to a system that thrives on exploitation, poverty, and violence. It is a system that must—and will—be dismantled through the collective struggle of the fighting Filipino masses.

The revolutionary movement's strength lies not only in its resistance to oppression but in its capacity for self-criticism and renewal. The ongoing Rectification Movement within the CPP exemplifies this commitment. By addressing errors, strengthening ideological foundations, and deepening its roots among the masses, the movement is forging a path toward resurgence. General Brawner's hollow proclamations will falter as the revolutionary movement surges forward, more determined and united than ever. 

Railroading of Japan-Ph RAA blindsided the Filipino people - CPP

The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), through its Chief Information Officer Marco Valbuena, on 17 December, 2024, strongly condemned the Philippine Senate railroading the ratification of the Japan-Philippines Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA) which completely blindsided the Filipino people.

The CPP condemned the Marcos regime for signing the RAA which will pave the way for the entry of large numbers of Japanese military forces in the Philippines and for the prepositioning of their war vessels and weapons in the country.


The CPP asserted, "The RAA further erodes and tramples on Philippine national sovereignty. By signing the agreement, Marcos completely took away the Philippines' capacity to exercise an independent foreign policy. It firmly binds the country into the US Indo-Pacific Strategy, under which Japan plays an important role as a junior imperialist power in the US plan to contain and counter China."

The CPP warned that "with the RAA, Marcos is practically erasing from the nation's memory the brutal history of colonial occupation and abuses perpetrated by Japanese fascist troops against the Filipino people... Imperialist Japan is bound to take advantage of the RAA to turn the Philippines into its launching pad for international naval operations, which are becoming increasingly aggressive against China."

It can be recalled that similar military access agreements involving Japan and pertaining to the Indo-Pacific region have been made with several countries in recent years: the 2020



image: philippinerevolution.nu

ratification of the Quadralateral Security Dialogue between Japan, India, Australia and the US, the 2022 RAA between Japan and Australia which strengthens the one signed in 2014, and the 2023 RAA between Japan, the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. “The Filipino people must oppose the Japan-Philippines RAA and demand its abrogation. Instead of promoting peace in the South China Sea, the military agreement will only fuel further armed tensions and drag the country further into inter-imperialist conflicts,” concluded the CPP. 

Marcos Jr. plans to deploy US Typhon missile system in Ph condemned

The plan to buy and deploy the costly US Typhon missile system in the Philippines has been widely assailed, both in the Philippines and abroad.

The Typhon Mid-range Capability (MRC) missile system has the capability to launch Tomahawk and SM-6 missiles that can fly up to 1,600 kilometers. The US began manufacturing such weapons in 2019, which were previously banned under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, a nuclear treaty between the US and the then USSR signed during the Cold War. The US withdrew from this treaty in 2019. The Marcos regime through its factotums in the Armed Forces announced last December 23 that it was buying the missile system. The cost of this missile system is reportedly around 500M USD (around 29B Php), an amount more than enough to build more public schools and homes, and agricultural subsidies for farmers especially those left more miserable as a result of recent typhoons.

Philippine regime officials have said the planned purchase of the missile system is intended to boost the archipelago's maritime defense and “protecting the country's sovereignty”.

Bayan Muna, a progressive political party denounced this plan that puts the country in greater danger.

“The purchase of Typhon missiles will only push our country towards greater danger. The Filipino people are justified in holding the Marcos Jr administration and its US master accountable for dragging the country as a target for nuclear war from countries that are not even our enemies,” Bayan Muna leader Carlos Zarate emphasized.

Zarate said buying these high-tech weapons is not a solution as he called on the Marcos administration to adhere to the constitution by promoting an independent foreign policy. “There should be no nuclear weapons and foreign military troops in the Philippines,” he said. The Philippine reactionary constitution prohibits nuclear weapons in Philippine territory.

Zarate also pointed out that such costly purchases of weapons from the US will only further drown the Philippines in debt. This action, he said,




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also reveals the Marcos regime's brazen subservience and subordination to US imperialism at the expense of Filipinos.

The US-Marcos regime is complicit in trampling the country's sovereignty by giving US forces extraterritorial rights, allowing the US military to store its weapons of war in the country and use it as a launching pad for US imperialism's wars of aggression.

Last December 26, a US naval formation, led by the USS Carl Vinson aircraft carrier, carrying a massive nuclear arsenal, crossed Philippine sovereign waters between Leyte and Mindanao. The CPP said in a statement: "This show of brute military force is a gross affront on the dignity and senses of freedom-loving Filipino people."

Countries like China and Russia have repeatedly denounced and warned against the US's positioning of the Typhon MRC missile system in the Philippines last April. The missiles were brought to the country and used in the largest series of Balikatan war games early in the year. Initially concealed, these openly displayed offensive weapons have been positioned at the Laoag civilian airport in Ilocos Norte, a region undeclared as a US military base or "EDCA site", and Bongbong Marcos' home province. 

Cuban people demand end to US imperialist embargo



image: philippinerevolution.nu

On December 20, in Havana, Cuba, hundreds of thousands of Cuban people protested in front of the US Embassy demanding the end of the US' crippling embargo and remove the country from its list of countries "supporting terrorism". The protest was led by Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel.

Marchers chanted "down with the blockade" and "we will never surrender" as they waved Cuban flags.

Cuban officials have repeatedly deplored President Joe Biden's failure to lift restrictions imposed by Trump during his first term, on top of already comprehensive sanctions.

"Biden in a disciplined and cruel manner complied with the policy that Trump approved during his mandate," President Diaz-Canel said as he rallied protesters.

The embargo had crippling impact on food, clean water, medicine, and other economic needs of the Cuban population.

This month, the largest electricity deficit of the year caused blackouts across more than half of the island.

On October 30, 2024, the resolution, titled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America

against Cuba," passed with 187 votes in favor, two against (Israel and the US), and one abstention (Moldova).

Though non-binding, the result drew attention the relative isolation of the US regarding the embargo, which was first imposed in 1960 after former leader Fidel Castro came to power following the revolution.

US imperialist tags anyone inimical to its interest as "terrorist", but conveniently proclaim them as "heroes" when it suits its geopolitical aims. The group known as Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS, the new rulers of Syria, is a clear case of US hypocrisy.

Until now US imperialism maintains a military base—the Guantanamo Naval Base— in Cuba. This was forcibly imposed by the US on Cuba, even though the former US puppet Dictator Batista was ousted by the revolution led by Fidel Castro.

Within the naval base is the Guantanamo Bay detention camp, where the US detain, torture, and interrogate freedom fighters – in gross violation of the International Humanitarian Law.

US imperialism is relentless in its efforts to regain control of Cuba. The Bay of Pigs invasion was an abortive invasion of Cuba in April 1961 by some 1,500 Cuban exiles opposed to Fidel Castro. The invasion was financed and directed by the U.S. government.

Together with Venezuela, Cuba organized the Bolivarian Alliance for the Americas (ALBA) in 2004. At present, the regional political and social implications of ALBA have greater significance than the economic impact. It is building a barrier to U.S. domination and European capital penetration. ALBA serves as counterpole against the US controlled OAS (Organization of American States). 