



The President we have now is one who thrives in deception.

Without hesitation, the President will again deliver her litany of lies. She will begin by persuading the Filipino people that the past year gave way to economic development. Then, she will blame the widespread opposition for the current political instability, and promise to crush rebellion with an iron hand. She will conclude with a call for unity so that the nation can finally progress under her leadership. Her allies in the hall may interrupt her every now and then with the obligatory applause and/or standing ovations.

However, her rhetoric of progress in past SONAs, like "mamamayan muna," "matatag na republika," and "economic takeoff," have proved to be as refutable as her presidency itself.

Since she took office in 2001, we have seen how insincere and untrustworthy the President can get. Various allegations of graft and corruption have

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Editorial

The Beginning of The End



The Beginning of the End

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hounded her administration from the start, including the Jose Pidal, IMPSA, Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard and PIATCO scandals. Last year's Hello Garci exposé only proved the general perception that the President cheated in the 2004 elections. With the administration's credibility continuously in question, the President is finding it more and more difficult to hide the real state of the nation.

As calls for her ouster increased by the day, the President initiated the move for Charter Change, which proposes the cancellation of elections in 2007 and her continuing reign as prime minister. Indeed, in all efforts to save and extend her failing presidency, the President unflinchingly executed policies which directly trampled on the people's right to dissent. These included the implementation of the CPR, which has since been

declared unconstitutional, and the seven-day state of national emergency.

It is now obvious that the country is headed by a President whose policies and actions are aimed at maintaining her grip on power, even resorting to murder in her helpless attempt to quell her dissenters. She trumpets the abolition of the death penalty, while political killings under her watch grow at an alarming rate. The numbers speak for themselves: more than 700 deaths of activists and journalists remain unexplained since Arroyo took office, a death toll which surpasses the total number of killings reported under her post-Martial Law predecessors. A similarly alarming count is the 200 victims of forced disappearances, including the two UP students Karen Empeño and Sherlyn Cadapan who were recently abducted in Bulacan. And the numbers continue to increase by the day.

These actions leave no room for pardon, and instead call for outright condemnation. Indeed, while funding for basic services remain low, she has the capacity to release a billion-peso fund for her all-out war against "insurgency," which constitutes practically all those who oppose her. It is simply unforgivable for a President to allot such a huge chunk of the budget to protect herself in a time when many of our countrymen, like the OFWs in Lebanon and calamity-stricken residents of several provinces, are desperately in need of help.

These are but some of the facts that the President will surely omit from her SONA. These are but some of the grievances that the people will fearlessly continue to resound on July 24 outside the Batasan Complex.

The deployment of the military and police in this year's SONA, the largest in our history, indicates that the President is willing to inflict brute force just to be able to deliver her litany of deception—proof that the President herself is aware and afraid of the people's outrage.

July 24 shall be a day of indignation against the President who has done nothing but aggravate the conditions of deprivation and terror in the country. There shall be no indifference or hesitation, as the President herself has set the conditions for her own removal. The real state of the nation will be heard, not within the Batasan's walls, but outside, on the streets.

This time, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo will deceive no one but herself. And the first step to truly address the state of our nation is to ensure that we never hear from this President again. ■



KENDRICK BUTISTA



Walang pagsukong paghahanap

Bitbit ang litrato ng kanilang mga anak, sinuong ng mga ina nina Karen at Sherlyn ang baha at bagyo upang makarating sa mga komunidad sa Bulacan kasabay ng fact finding mission noong Hulyo 16 hinggil sa napabalitang mga bangkay na natagpuan doon.

JUAN PAOLO S. VERZOSA



Maximum tolerance



Sa kasagsagan ng mga kilos protesta ng mga estudyante para palayain sina Karen at Sherlyn at labanan ang represyong pulitikal, pilit pa rin silang pinipigilan. Kahit pa dumanak ang dugo.

JUAN PAOLO S. VERZOSA

Dalawang dinukot na estudyante ng UP, ipinalilitaw sa militar

VICTOR GREGOR LIMON

INATASAN NA ANG MILITAR NA iharap sa korte ang dalawang nawawalang estudyante ng UP sa darating na Hulyo 24, ayon sa inilabas na resolusyon ng Korte Suprema noong Huwebes.

Tugon ito ng Korte sa petisyong isinampa noong Hulyo 17 ng mga magulang ng mga nawawalang estudyanteng sina Karen Empeño ng College of Social Sciences and Philosophy at Sherlyn Cadapan ng College of Human Kinetics.

Mag-iisang buwan nang hindi natatagpuan sina Cadapan at Empeño, na kapwa hinihinalang dinukot ng mga militar sa Hagonoy, Bulacan noong Hunyo 26.

Isinampa ang petisyon laban kina Northern Luzon Command Major Gen. Romeo Tolentino, Central Luzon Command Gen. Jovito Palparan, at Task Force Bulacan Commander Lt. Col. Rogelio Boac. Kasama rin si Hagonoy Detachment Commanding Officer Arnel Enriquez at dalawa pang sundalo.

Didinig ang kaso sa Hulyo 24 ng Court of Appeals kung saan kailangang iharap ng mga naturang opisyal ng militar sina Cadapan at Empeño. Itatakda sa lalong madaling panahon ang huwes na hahawak sa kaso.

Nauna nang kinundena ng UP Diliman University Student Council at iba't ibang grupo ng mga estudyante ang pagdukot kina Cadapan at Empeño bilang "bahagi ng pagsupil ni Gloria Arroyo sa mga kasapi ng mga progresibong grupo."

Mga bangkay, natagpuan sa Bulacan

Samantala, isang ulat hinggil sa mga natagpuang bangkay sa Bulacan ang nagpabahala sa iba't ibang grupong patuloy na naghahanap kina Cadapan at Empeño.

Nakatanggap ng text message ang Alyansa ng Mamamayan para sa Pantang Karapatan (ALMMA) mula sa isang "Pepe Cruz," na residente umano ng Bulacan, hinggil sa apat na bangkay na natagpuan sa isang lumang military detachment sa Sta. Elena, Bulacan noong gabi ng Hulyo 13.

Agad ipinabatid sa pamilya nina Cadapan at Empeño ang impormasyon, ngunit nang magtungo sila kinabukasan sa nasabing lugar kasama ang ALMMA at ilang miyembro ng midya, hindi na matagpuan ang mga bangkay.

Napag-alamang may tumawag sa mga pulis noon ding Hulyo 13 ng gabi ukol sa pagkakatagpo ng mga bangkay. Ngunit ayon sa mga pulis, wala umano silang nakitang bangkay nang pumunta sila sa lugar.

Binanggit naman ng mga lokal na residente na pinaglagian ng mga militar ang nasabing lugar dalawang linggo na ang nakararaan.

"Pananagutan ni Palparan at ni Arroyo ang anumang mangyayaring masama kina Karen at Sherlyn," ani Eleanor de Guzman, pambansang tagapangulo ng Anakbayan, na nagpahayag ng pangamba sa pagtagal ng pananatili ng dalawang estudyante sa kamay ng militar. ■ (May mga ulat mula kay Wendell Mollenido Gumban)

Protesta para sa pagpapalaya kina Karen at She, dinahas

Karahasan ang dinanas ng protesta para sa agarang pagpapalaya kina Sherlyn Cadapan at Karen Empeño na nilahukan ng mga estudyante ng UP at iba pang unibersidad, na nanawagan din ng hustisya para sa iba pang biktima ng pulitikal na represyon.

Sugatan ang 40 estudyante matapos silang itaboy ng mga pulis sa protesta sa Mendiola noong Hulyo 7, ayon sa ulat ng UPD USC.

Nagsampa na ng reklamo ang ilan sa mga nasaktan sa Commission on Human Rights noong isang linggo para panagutin ang mga pulis na umatake sa kanila.

Patungong España ang mga estudyante bandang alas-tres ng hapon nang harangin at atakihin sila ng mga pulis.

Inatake rin ang ilang miyembro ng midya, kasama ang isang photographer ng *Collegian*. Kagyat na dinala ang ilang nasaktan sa Philippine General Hospital.

Bago ang nangyaring atake, nakapagdaos ng programa ang mga nagprotesta malapit sa kanto ng Morayta at Recto. ■

The World has Turned and Left Me Here

I'm supposed to be happy today. It's Mitch and I's first year anniversary. But she doesn't even want to talk to me. I think I'm going mad. The anti-depressants aren't working.

It's been a week since I last saw Mitch. It was during one of her org's room to room discussions. She walked into my Socio 10 class and vehemently urged my classmates to join the mobilizations demanding

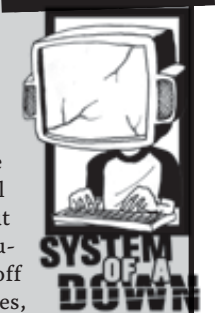
for the release of two recently abducted UP students. As she turned to leave, I jokingly said, "Mitch, aksaya lang ng oras yan. Kasalanan naman nila kung bakit sila nahuli eh!" The entire class heard what I said. She flashed me an angry look before storming out of the room.

I immediately ran after her. I apologized and told her I was just kidding, that I said it in jest, just to spite her. I held her hand and gave her a kiss. I've

been doing that a lot lately, as arguing over politics has now become part of our usual conversations. But instead of eventually laughing it off as she usually does, she just fell silent.

Abruptly, she looked at me and

NOEL PACIS HERNAIZ



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Sanib pwera



Nagkaisa ang mga miyembro ng UP Janitorial Services Association at Ambulant Vendors Association sa isang protesta noong Hulyo 20 laban sa malawakang tanggapan ng mga guwardiya at paghuhuli sa mga manininda.

APRIL DEEVIAN B. MOSQUERA

Dagdag na sakong bigas para sa mga kawani

MELANE A. MANALO

MATATANGGAP NA NG MGA kawaning di-pang-akademiko ngayong Agosto ang una sa dalawang sakong bigas na subsidyo bawat taon, matapos ang matagumpay nilang paggiit nito sa administrasyon ng UP.

Sa pulong ng Board of Regents noong Hunyo 30, pinahintulutan ang pagpapalabas ng pondong aabot sa P7.8 milyon para sa isang sakong bigas bawat kawani.

Sa pinakahuling negosasyon sa pagitan ng UP at ng All-UP Workers' Union (AUPWU) noong Oktubre 2005, napagkasunduang dalawang sakong bigas ang matatanggap ng mga kawani kada taon simula ngayong 2006. Kasama rin dito ang pagbibigay sa kanila ng grocery allowance tuwing Pasko na nagkakahalaga ng P1,000.

Noong 2002 pa nagsimula ang kampanya ng mga kawani para sa subsidyo sa bigas, na hiningi nilang

maging apat na sako bawat taon.

Itinakda ang pagbibigay ng UP ng naturang subsidyo sa Collective Negotiation Agreement noong Abril 2002, ngunit hindi natiyak dito ang dami ng bigas.

Ngunit ani Emerlinda Roman, pangulo ng UP, mas napaaga pa umano ang pagbibigay ng susidyo. "Usually, this is given in December. [U]pon the request of the union, we [are giving] the rice subsidy earlier even if the UP budget has not yet been approved."

Itinuturing na malaking tagumpay ng mga kawani ang pagbibigay ng UP ng mga dagdag na benepisyo. Ani AUPWU President Clodualdo Cabrera, ito ay "pagkilala rin sa kontribusyon ng mga kawani sa pagtupad ng UP sa kanyang misyon ng edukasyon."

Kabilang sa mga kawaning di-pang-akademiko ang mga gumagampan sa mga gawaing klerikal at administratibo. ■

Frat-related clashes reach 7 in 3 weeks

Three attacks recorded in one day

VICTOR GREGOR LIMON

JUST OVER A MONTH INTO THE semester, and UP Diliman (UPD) has already seen seven incidents of fraternity-related violence.

The latest assaults happened on July 7, two at Palma Hall (PH) and one at the National College of Public Administration (NCPAG), allegedly involving members of Alpha Phi Beta (APB) and Alpha Phi Omega (APO) fraternities.

Only three weeks earlier, APB had also been involved with another fraternity, Sigma Rho, in two separate clashes on June 16 at the PH lobby, and in another two on June 20 at the NCPAG and at the College of Law.

AS attacks

According to UP Diliman Police (UPDP) records, Geography major and APO member Ronald Baccay said he was walking along the PH first floor corridor at around 11:30 am on July 7 when students he identified as APB members approached him and punched him on the face, accusing him of looking like he wanted to "pick a fight."

Baccay sustained a fractured nose bridge and was brought to the UP Health Service (UPHS). As of presstime, he is already recovering at home.

At around that time, another fraternity brawl happened near

Dulaang UP's office, also in the first floor of PH.

According to APB member Timothy Flores, he was heading towards his fraternity's tambayan when the suspects, whom he identified as APO members, came up to him and punched him.

Flores, who is also English Department representative to the College of Arts and Letters student council, suffered cuts and bruises and was also brought to the UPHS.

APO denied the attack on Flores, saying they do not even know that such an incident happened.

Five students present in the incident were arrested for questioning by the UPDP but were released upon denying involvement in the attack, as they were of the same fraternity as Flores.

APB, on the other hand, declined to comment on the issue.

NCPAG assault

A few hours later, NCPAG Student Council Chair Ralph Degollacion and Councilor Paul Martin Marasigan, both APB members, were attacked by four masked men while the council was holding a meeting at their office at around 5 pm, UPDP records show.

Marasigan said he was beaten up with steel pipes when he tried to stop the assailants, who initially aimed for Degollacion. The suspects fled using a green Suzuki van parked near the Commission on Human Rights building.

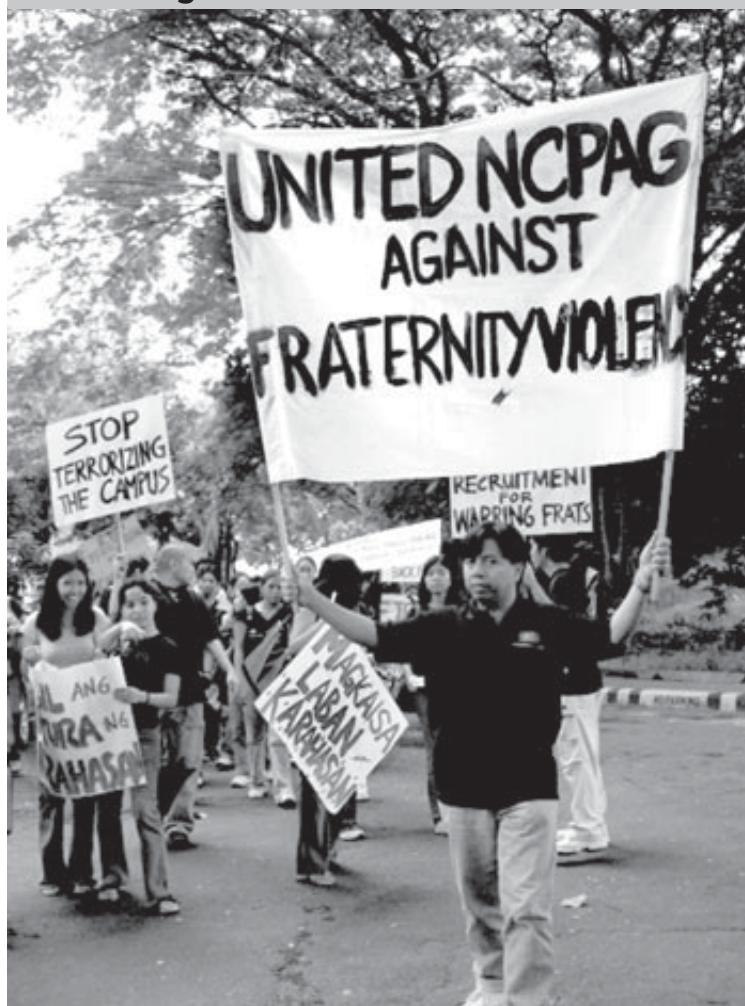
Suffering cuts and bruises, Marasigan was sent to the East Avenue Medical Hospital after the UPHS refused to admit him due to the gravity of his condition and the infirmary's lack of facilities. Marasigan is now recovering at home.

Marasigan told the UPDP that APB has suspicions on the affiliation of the assailants but he refused to divulge details.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Elizabeth Enriquez said her office will await the outcome of the ongoing investigation of the UPDP on all three cases.

UPD University Student Council (USC) Chair Juan Paolo Alfonso said they will coordinate with the admin-

Denouncing frat violence once more



The NCPAG student council and Dean Alex Brillantes led almost a hundred students from their college as they march around the campus last July 11 in a protest against fraternity violence.

CANDICE ANNE L. REYES

Gusto mo bang pumayat? Sali na sa Kulê!

Umakyat sa Room 401 na open 24/7, rain or shine. Bukas ang lahat ng seksyon, magdala lang ng mga sumusunod: **Balita, Lathalain, Kultura:** Bolpen at dalawang bluebook. **Grapiks Illustrator:** Bond paper at art materials. **Layout Artist:** Bluebook at maikling portfolio. **Online staff:** Magpakilala at mag-email ng portfolio sa kule0607@gmail.com.

Swarmed



A UP Fighting Maroon was hounded by the Ateneo cagers in the fourth quarter of their match last Sunday. The Blue Eagles' pesky defense in the second half put the Maroons down, 98-89.

ROUELLE UMALI

Following UP's first win

Blue Eagles trounce Fighting Maroons

RONNEL V. ISTURIS

OVERSHADOWING EARLIER victory, UP Fighting Maroons suffered its first loss from Ateneo de Manila University (AdMU) Blue Eagles in July 16's University Athletics Association of the Philippines' (UAAP) game at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium, 89-98.

Fiery lay-ups from the forward-guard tandem of UP cagers Marvin Cruz and Nestor David Jr. burned the ring as the first quarter opened. Consecutive fouls by the Maroons were however exploited by the Eagles, bringing the quarter to a tie, 30-30.

Three-point shots and seamless free-throws from guards Miguel de Asis, Victor Epres and Cruz propelled the Maroons in the second

quarter. Mid-quarter, though, the UP cagers' performance visibly waned, as the Blue Eagles' impenetrable defense undermined their already shaky offense.

By the end of the second quarter, the Eagles have already established a formidable edge over the Maroons, 56-48.

Opening the third quarter were Maroons center Galen Cacha's swift steal and precise two-point shot, followed by charged rebounds from forward Virgilio Serios Jr. Nonetheless, the quarter ended with UP still trailing AdMU, 71-77.

Aggressive offense proved to be a doomed tactic for the Maroons, as David and Serios were booted out with five consecutive fouls. Gaining momentum, the Blue Eagles scored a

whopping 10 points in the last three minutes of the game, thus sealing Maroons' defeat, 98-89.

Just a week earlier, the Maroons conquered the first basketball match with University of Sto. Tomas, with Cruz's buzzer-beater capping the game at 94-92.

Despite the loss, Fighting Maroons head coach Jose Lipa was all praises for his wards. UP College of Human Kinetics Dean Hercules Callanta also hopes that the Maroons' fourth-place standing last season will improve to advance to the championship.

The 69th UAAP season, hosted this year by the University of the East, formally opened on July 8 at the Araneta Coliseum. ■

Manininda sa kiosks, nangangambang mapaalis

JOHN GLENN A. PLATIL

MATAPOS NA MAILIPAT SA mga kiosk ang mga manininda, nananatili pa rin ang bantang pagpapaalis sa kanila ng administrasyon ng UP dahil sa paglabag umano sa ilang probisyon ng kontrata.

Frat-related... FROM P.4

istration and the involved fraternities to resolve the three incidents.

Revisions to student conduct rules

Enriquez, meanwhile, said the UP administration has begun reviewing the guidelines on student conduct, including those that regulate the activities of fraternities.

"The primary objective is to improve them (rules) so they can be better instruments for dealing with problems such as fraternity-related violence," Enriquez said. She did not yet divulge which rules are up for revision.

Alfonso said fraternities must be involved in the revision of the said guidelines to create consensus between the administration and UPD fraternities.

The NCPAG administration and student council held an indignation rally on July 11 condemning fraternity wars. The NCPAG administration is also planning to conduct an inter-fraternity dialogue among fraternity members in the college this week. ■

isinasaad ng kontrata.

Ngunit ani Narry Hernandez, pangulo ng Samahang Manininda sa UP Campus Inc. (SMUPC), pinayagan umano sila ni La'O na gumamit ng LPG sa kanilang pag-uusap noong Hunyo 16, sa kondisyong maglalagay sila ng airvent. Kinumpirma ito ni Daniel Dacuna, kinatawan ng University Student Council, na naroon din sa nasabing pulong.

Sa nasabing pag-uusap, pumayag

din umano si La'O maging sa pagbenta ng fishball dahil ito lang ang makakayanan ng mga manininda sa ngayon, ani Hernandez.

Mariin namang itinanggi ni La'O sa isang panayam sa Collegian ang naturang pagpapahintulot at iginiit na hindi irerebisa ng administrasyon ang kontrata.

Isinasaad sa kontrata na ipawawalang-bisa ang permit ng mga kiosk vendor na mahuhuling

Walang drowing dito dahil kulang kami sa illustrator.

Punan mo na ang espasyong ito! Pumunta na sa Kulê opis at magdala ng bondpaper at art materials. Hanapin si Ivan o kahit sinong taga-Grapiks section...

gumagamit ng LPG o nagbebenta ng kanin, sago, gulaman, iced tea, buko juice, bottled softdrinks at alak.

Ngunit ani Hernandez, sadyang hindi kayang bilhin ng mga manininda ang mga itinakdang de-kuryenteng kagamitan sa kontrata.

Inihayag din ni Hernandez na umaabot sa 60 porsyento ang kanilang pagkalugi kada linggo simula nang lumipat sila sa mga kiosk.

Aniya, mataas na ang arawang kintang P200 hanggang P300 na hindi pa naibabawas ang kanilang puhunan.

Matatandaang 17 manininda sa paligid ng Academic Oval ang pin-alipat sa kiosks noong Hunyo 19.

Ambulant vendors, nanganganib din

Samantala, nagbabala rin si La'O na batay sa alituntunin ng Business Concessions Office, dapat na umanong paalisin ang mga walang permisong ambulant vendor sa campus.

Tinutukoy niyang kabilang dito ang mga naglalako ng banana cue, ice cream, monay, at lumpia, na walang permanenteng lugar.

Tinutulan naman ito ng ambulant vendors na nakapanayam ng Collegian, na nagnanais umanong mag-ing lehitimong kasapi ng SMUPC upang mabigyan din ng permisong magtinda sa loob ng UP.

Sinang-ayunan ito ni Hernandez na patuloy na nakikipag-ugnayan sa mga ambulant vendor. ■

Para sa kinabukasan nila

Nakaukit na sa mga susunod na henerasyon ang pagpapatuloy ng laban para sa katarungan na pilit kinikitil ng kasalukuyang rehimen.

CANDICE ANNE L. REYES



MISSING in ACTION

ALAYSA TAGUMPAY E. ESCANDOR

PICTURES OF TWO FACES ARE NOW posted all over the university. The first is that of Karen Empeño, wearing a bandana, her cheeks stretched in a wide grin. The second is Sherlyn Cadapan, her lips pursed like she just finished sharing a joke. Their smiling faces, however, are stark contrasts to the posters' outcry: Palayain si Karen at Sherlyn, mga biktima ng Oplan Bantaya Laya (OBL)!

It has been three weeks since the news of Karen and Sherlyn's abduction stunned the entire UP community. According to reports, it was at dawn on June 26 that about 20 armed men in black bonnets pounded on the doors of the house where Karen and Sherlyn were sleeping. Sherlyn was two months pregnant at that time. They were forcibly brought out, their hands tied behind their backs. Karen's shirt was used as her blindfold. Both were shoved into an XLT van.

Today, Karen and Sherlyn remain missing.

Pendant for play

From the pictures alone, one can get a glimpse of Karen's friendly persona. The 22-year old, BA Sociology major is full of life, her passions as numerous as her friends. Her brother, Ogie, shares that one of Karen's most striking characteristics is her love for music. He remembers staying up late with her, just strumming the guitar and singing. Among the progressive songs they played, "Awit ng Buklod" was her favorite. But Karen also appreciated mainstream music. To the consternation of her friends, Karen would suddenly jump up to dance every time Madonna's "Crazy for You" was within earshot.

Similarly, 29-year old Sherlyn has a passion for dancing. She even invented a "Sherlyn-Cadapan dance step," friend Christina Guevara shares. Yet, beneath her carefree demeanor lies a strong resolve. The awards and scholarship grants she got as a tri-athlete and a UP Varsity player proves her prowess and discipline. Moreover, her stint in the University Student Council as college representative is a testimony to her leadership.

Progressive pursuits

Living by the measures of activism can take on the aspect of self-sacrifice, but to Karen and Sherlyn, serving the people is its own reward.

Even before Sherlyn arrived in Bulacan, she served as a community organizer in Payatas. Later, she became a research volunteer of Alyansa ng mga Magbubukid

ng Bulacan. At the time of the abduction, she was doing community organizing for Anakbayan, a militant youth organization.

Karen, on the other hand, was an active member of League of Filipino Students (LFS), an organization that sought to address various campus and national issues. "Matapang iyan. Talagang matatag ang loob," Ogie proudly shares. Her cousin, Yena, adds that her fearlessness was perhaps one of the factors that explain her uncompromising commitment to serve others.

Karen and Sherlyn shared common advocacies which brought them together in Bulacan. They sought to alleviate the local farmers' plight by studying their condition and exposing anti-peasant policies. It was for the commitment to such cause that the two were abducted.

Various militant and human rights organizations were unanimous in blaming the military for Karen and Sherlyn's forced disappearance. However, Major General Jovito Palparan, the commander of the infantry that operates in the region, brazenly denied the allegations, saying that "Many people are happy that they have disappeared because they have been threatening and extorting money from them, so we are happy as well that they are gone, if it's true that they are gone." He later conceded that other military groups outside his command might have seized them.

Marco delos Reyes, meanwhile, president of National Union of Students in the Philippines, condemned Palparan's statement. He asserted that Karen and Sherlyn's abduction is a clear violation of their human rights. Moreover, the lack of any government action to redress the problem belies the government's passive stand. Its policy of impunity can only heighten the number of politically motivated violations.

Human rights organization Karapatan affirm that Karen and Sherlyn are but two of the estimated 200 victims of forced disappearances caused by Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's ongoing all out war against the Left. With the release of one billion pesos to fund the war (*see related article on this page*), it is clear that Arroyo seeks to sentence the entire opposition spectrum to its death.

As Karen and Sherlyn have yet to be found, their fellow youth are called to persist in demanding for their release. The government has to be made accountable for its atrocities, and military offensives such as OBL must firmly be condemned, lest more innocent lives end up on the search list. ■



Battling The Camouflage

GMA'S OPLAN BANTAY LAYA AND ITS TRAIL OF BLOOD

UNDER THE GUISE OF A "war against terror," Oplan Bantay Laya (OBL) is touted as a strategy to crush the 37-year old communist "insurgency" in the country. Sinister tactics behind OBL reveal, however, that the Arroyo government is waging an ominous war against the Filipino people.

At face value, OBL resembles any other counter-insurgency program the government has implemented in the past. To "decisively defeat" the communist insurgency, as how OBL parlance puts it, an all-out military operation is launched against the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), the New People's Army (NPA) -- a strategy first employed by Ferdinand Marcos's Oplan Katatagan. At the same time, OBL adopts strategic offensives from Oplan Lambat-Bitag, both implemented by the Aquino and Ramos administrations, which aimed to destroy the CPP-NPA's political networks in rural areas.

Unlike past counter-insurgency programs which only engage armed combatants, however, OBL also targets civilians who are members of suspected "sectoral front organizations" of the CPP-NPA. In a slide presentation entitled "Knowing the Enemy," the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) identifies these sectoral front orga-

nang maghayag si GMA ng digmaan laban sa New People's Army (NPA), naglaan siya ng karagdagang P1 bilyon sa Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) upang aniya'y tuluyang sugpuin ang rebelyon. Kasabay nito, inilalahad niyang nais niyang masupil ang mga rebelde sa loob ng dalawang taon sa ilalim ng kanyang Oplan Bantay Laya. Ngunit kung susuriin, tila malayong matupad ang kanyang layon.

Sa alokasyon ng isang bilyong piso, P400 milyon ang mapupunta sa AFP pambili ng mga kagamitang pandigma, P300 milyon sa pag-aayos ng mga lugar na apektado ng rebelyon at ang natitirang P300 milyon sa kapulisan. Bukod dito, magdaragdag ng 3000 pang sundalo para sa Oplan. Kamakailan, nagpadala na ng karagdagang 1,500 tropa o tatlong batalyon sa Gitnang Luzon, Timog Luzon at Sorsogon -- mga sinasabing pinamumugaran ng mga rebelde. Ayon din sa AFP, nakahanda na ang tala ng mga helikopter, sasakyan, gamit pangkomunikasyon, mga baril at balang gagamitin sa mga taktikal na opensiba.

Ayon kay Rolando Andaya, kalihim ng DBM, nanggaling ang P1 bilyon sa revenue surplus ng bansa noong 2005. Ngunit isang usapin ang pinanggalingan ng gayong kalaking pondo, habang kinakaltasan ng pamahalaan ang badyet para sa serbisiyong panlipunan at iba pang kagawaran nito.

Sa kasaysayan, hindi birong halaga ang nakokonsumo ng mga Oplan upang supilin ang mga rebelde, partikular ang komunistang NPA. Ayon kay Prop. Miriam Coronel Ferrer ng UP Center for Investigative and Development Studies, P21 milyon ang nagasta ng pamahalaan sa bawat rebelde sa mula 1986 hanggang 1990.

RED ALERT Oplan Bantay Laya's attacks on human rights

MA. ANNA KRYNESSA L. RIVERA

nizations, which include, among others, legal political parties such as Bayan Muna, Anakpawis and Gabriela Women's Party and youth organizations such as League of Filipino Students and Anakbayan.

AFP documents also recognize groups espousing programs included in the National Democratic Front's 12-point agenda, such as genuine land reform and national industrialization, as front organizations of the CPP-NPA. Bayan Muna Representative Teodoro Casiño even claims that mere opposition to the government earns the ire of OBL. "Lahat ng grupo na kritikal sa gobyerno, suspected na front [ng CPP-NPA]," he said. The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines for example, has also been included in the cited presentation.

Consequently, the AFP includes the

cited organizations to their order of battle, a list of targets for neutralization with corresponding deadlines. Neutralization, in this case, translates to murder.

It is no surprise then that political killings have numbered more than a hundred annually ever since OBL was implemented in 2002, as recorded by Karapatan, an alliance of human rights organizations. Karapatan also reports that the number of political killings has increased yearly since 2002. As such, Lovella De Castro, acting Deputy Secretary-General of human rights group Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace, regards the OBL as a major catalyst for human rights violations in the country, including the people's inherent right to life.

De Castro, moreover, relates that OBL

has become the most dangerous counter-insurgency program so far as it blatantly tramples on people's democratic rights. "It's almost tantamount to you having a political conviction, and if you're living up to that conviction, you're a criminal," she said.

The Arroyo government peddles OBL as the "end-game plan" that would deliver the final blow to the "communist insurgency" in the country. However, given OBL's ruthless crackdown on legal organizations and civilians alleged to be supporters of CPP-NPA, it merely works as Arroyo's desperate effort to defend her ruthless leadership.

History, however, has attested to the impotency of the previous "oplans" employed by past administrations. A militarist solution to the insurgency problem, evidently, is bound to fail since it essentially ignores the root causes of rebellion like poverty and government corruption. "Pwede nilang patayin lahat ng aktibista, pero hindang-hindi nila mapapatay ang dahilan kung bakit may nag-aaktibista kung laguing militarist ang approach," De Castro said.

Violence only begets fiercer resistance. As long as OBL treads on a bloody path and violently tramples on the people's democratic rights in the name of political stability, it will only add fuel to the fire of rebellion in the country. ■

Oplan P1 Bantay Laya

PIB GIYERA ni GMA

MINI U. SORIANO



hanggang P52.4 bilyon. Samantala, naglaan lamang ng P13.7 bilyon para sa kalusugan at P2.8 bilyon para sa pabahay.

Gayunpaman, malinaw na sa kabila ng operasyong militar, mahirap sugpuin ang kilusang sinusupportahan ng mga mamamayan. Ani Dominador Calamba II ng Komisyon ng Karapatang Pantao, "hindi mo masisi ang mga sibilyan lalo na iyong mga nasa lugar na may NPA dahil sila ang nakatutulong sa kanilang kabuhayan gaya ng pagpapautang at pagbibigay ng pataba -- bagay na nakakaligtaang ibigay ng pamahalaan."

Bukod dito, masasabing hindi magtatagumpay ang digma ni GMA laban sa mga rebelde kung hindi tutugunan ang mga batayang suliranin sa Pilipinas. Kaya naman payo ni Anakpawis Rep. Crispin Beltran, "mapapatunayan ng gobyerno ang layunin nitong makamit ang kapayapaan kung ilalalan na lamang nito ang P1 bilyong counter-insurgency fund sa mga serbisiyong panlipunan, tulad ng edukasyon at kalusugan, at sa usapang pangkapayapaan nito sa CPP-NPA-NDP."

Sa huli, hindi masusupil ng isang bilyong piso at dalawang taon ang malaon nang umiral na mga kilusan. Hanggang nananatili ang hindi pantay na bahaginan ng kapangyarihan at yaman ng bansa, tiyak na hindi rin mapapawi ng apoy ng paghihimagsik. ■

ARTWORK: JETHER AMAR
PAGE DESIGN: KARL CASTRO

Pleasantville

ANA IRIS B. ALCALA

In and Out of UP Village's Suburban Spaces

Here is suburbia: tranquil, pleasant, idyllic. UP Village lies southwest of UP, one of the many communities that surround the campus. Tricycles rumble past sprawling residences, quaint shops and restaurants that offer a varied mix of cuisines. Schoolchildren carry their schoolbags as they head home in the afternoon.

These are the usual sights and sounds of Maginhawa St., the main artery of this suburban neighborhood.

Spaced Out

Though technically not part of UP property, UP Village is an ideological expansion of UP in many ways. They both reflect how the colonial influences on the country are localized and infused into our society. In the same way that the University was a legacy of our American colonizers, the idea of creating suburban areas through housing projects is also an American influence. UP Village was established as one of these housing projects, specifically for UP professors.

The village is still occupied by some professors, but its population has diversified through the years. Though the village was initially populated by members of the academe, a number of them have already sold or leased out their properties. As a result, the area is no longer just populated by academicians. It is now home to students and professionals as well, including those who are not necessarily affiliated with the University.

Despite the variety of people who populate it however, the area remains as a territory of the upper middle class. An area is perceived by residents and outsiders depending on the demographics of its occupants, thus UP Village is differentiated from the more modest adjacent communities of Krus na Ligas and San Vicente. Gates have been placed at the end of some streets upon the request of residents, asserting a sense of exclusivity.

Much like other neighborhoods, UP Village is divided into smaller clusters. Streets and rows of apartments can each develop a more intimate sense of community. These clusters,

however, are not just formed because of proximity but also because of class distinctions.

AdSpace

Communities are usually centered on certain civic nuclei, complexes wherein the whole community can congregate and socialize. These include parks, sports facilities, and local government headquarters. In the Philippines, religious structures usually serve as centers and can become lucrative areas for commercial ventures.

While these town centers do exist in UP Village, they are not situated at the middle of the village, according to the standard area plan. Instead, they are spread all over. Major ones, like the Barangay Hall complex and the church are separated by Maginhawa St. Even this street itself is a town center because of the commercial establishments located along it. Smaller versions of these town centers are also developed along the other streets as well.

How these clusters are organized and structured influence the image of the district. Like advertisements, space can also be marketed as commodities with respective target consumers. The location and predominant class occupying an area determines the value of the space in the property market. Since UP Village was initially occupied by relatively well-off residents, the space is advertised and perceived by outsiders as more upscale than neighboring communities, attracting those who are financially capable.

Aside from the fact that space is a commodity in the sense of real estate, it is also marketable in the way that it entices outsiders. UP Village has witnessed a growth in the number of various commercial establishments along its main thoroughfare, Maginhawa St. The

moderate influx of outsiders resulting from this commercial growth has affected the lives of its residents. Though the atmosphere is generally inviting, homeowners can experience the popularity of their area negatively, prompting them to set limits on how far outsiders can go.

Space Invaders

While the number of boarding houses in the village sends out a welcoming message to outsiders, it is not that easy to move into the neighborhood. These living spaces aren't exempt from commercial competition. Some signs advertising bed spaces have specific requirements for those interested, whether they should be of a certain age or profession. Homeowners promote their space by convincing people that they are ideal housemates. In effect, they advertise and commodify themselves as well.

For this reason, UP Village has become a relatively popular destination for outsiders. Nonresidential consumers, because of the number of commercial establishments along Maginhawa and the boarding houses all over the village can feel at home in the area. Ironically, this can make the residents feel like intruders in their own territory. They can feel out of place because they walk around the village in house clothes, while yuppies frequenting nearby shops are all dressed-up.

Villagers may feel like their private space is being invaded because of the openness of Maginhawa to outsiders particularly from the nearby University. In fact, this "intrusion" bothered some elder residents so much that they requested for the closure of drinking bars along Maginhawa St. Some streets have also been enclosed with gates, limiting the number of places outsiders may enter. This shows how, in some instances, outsiders become alienated from residents.

This ironic situation perhaps results from what happens when a single space is utilized by two different kinds of people: the locals and the outsiders. These two groups perceive, experience and treat space differently. Because they coexist, a dialectic between residents and outsiders is developed, characterized by how both groups can feel like intruders and intruded

Though technically not part of UP property, UP Village is an ideological expansion of UP in many ways. They both reflect how the colonial influences on the country are localized and infused into our society. In the same way that the University was a legacy of our American colonizers, the idea of creating suburban areas through housing projects is also an American influence.

at the same time. Space then is viewed not only based on the person's social background but also on the person's spatial interaction with other people.

The interaction between those who populate UP Village and the spaces that contain them affects the development of this community. The seemingly welcoming atmosphere of the village masks the tensions that emerge from this spatial interaction. Outsiders feel at home in some establishments, yet their movement is limited by the gates that enclose most streets. To cope with the invasion of their space, residents separate themselves from the outside.

Tranquil, pleasant, idyllic. UP Village is the quintessential suburbia. ■

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Ang Huling Ulat*

SARAH RAYMUNDO

At sa wakas napuno na ang gusgusing backpack Gaya ng paghahanda sa mga nagawa nang ulat Ang kasalakuyang pakay ay may malalim na ugat Tigib ng sidhi at dalisay ng matalim na panulat

Hindi nagkasya sa puspusang pagkilos, sa pagpapatag ng toreng garing na tila may tinutubos.

walang kursong hindi tinapos, walang pulong na hindi iniraos

Liban sa isang ulat.

Kung ang pakikibaka ay may dalang awit Bakit hindi suriin ang konteksto sa likod ng mga tinig?

Bakit hindi tuntunin ang kalikasan ng mga pananagisag kung ang bawat teksto'y may kasaysayang dapat ihayag?

Peligroso ang panlipunang pagsisisyasat Sa Hagonoy, ang bawat tanong punglo ang katapat.

Nanaig ang sinsin na naisaulo, Walang sosyolohiyang sumusuko sa pagpapakatao

Ngunit dumating na sa wakas ang laging inaasahan

Sa digmaan ng tao't berdugo, dayuhan ang kapanatagan

Habang may lamig pa ang hangin ng bukung-liwayway,

Habang 'di pa mawari kung ang orasan at gabi'y ganap nang nagkahiwalay,

Habang pilit na kinikilala ang mga yabag, Habang ang guniguni'y nagiging pagtitiyak Wala palang karahasan ang hindi nakagugulat Saksihan mang paulit-ulit, hindi napapawi ang sindak.

Hindi pa dahil sa naduduwag ang katawan Kundi dahil mahigpit ang tangan sa katuwiran Katuwirang naninindigan para sa bawat katawan Na matagal nang nilalabag nitong di-kaayusan.

Sa puntong iyon, tila walang bisa ang awit ng protesta

Walang berdugong nadadala sa tipa ng gitara Wala pang pagbabagong inianak ng mga makapangyarihang kanta

Ang suma-tatal: bala ang katapat ng bala

Dala ni Karen ay ang matalim niyang panulat Dala ni Karen ay debosyon sa kanyang huling ulat Na magmamarka ng kanyang pagtatapos Na magpapasinaya ng susunod niyang pakikipagtuos

Sa mga sigalot sa nakilala niyang bayan, na niyakap niyang parang sariling kasintahan. May pwersa sa likod ng bawat balang nakatutok May uring nakikinabang sa bawat aktibistang dinudukot

SARAH KATRINA MARAMAG

Desaparecidos

IT HAS BEEN ALMOST A MONTH SINCE UP students Sherlyn Cadapan and Karen Empeno were abducted and I shiver at the horror of what may or has become of them for every minute that they remain missing and incommunicado.

The new breed of activists in UP were immediately aghast when they found out about Karen but they barely know Sherlyn. This is because immediately after her stint as College of Human Kinetics Rep. in the UP University Student Council, Sherlyn decided to become a community organizer in Tungkong Mangga.

The fact sheet on their disappearance did not mention her being pregnant. Most of us did not

even know that she got married, or that her work got her transferred to Hagonoy. But she IS pregnant and only monsters will have the gall to hurt, injure or as much as lay a hand on her and her unborn baby.

Karen's case, on the other hand, hit me with a sense of deja vu.

I vividly remember when a close friend of mine suffered the same fate.

My friend was also a UP student doing research for a poetry book in Isabela. She got caught in a crossfire between rebels and military forces, mistaken for an NPA, got arrested and was held incommunicado for a week. Then UP President Francisco Nemenzo even asked for her custody but was denied. She was later on released on bail and charges against her were eventually dropped for lack of sufficient evidence.

The grim difference of her case and Karen's, however, is that the present military and the government is currently out to 'annihilate' not only the NPA rebels but any warm-blooded, progressive, nationalist individual who has

Ang ulat na sana'y maglalaman ng napiping kasaysayan

Malamang ay nasa backpack na naiwan sa kanayunan.

Pero si Karen at ang ulat ay wala nang pinagkaiba: Inaabangan, inaasahan, ipinaglalaman. ■

*Thesis na lamang ang kulang ni Karen para magtapos ng kursong Sosyolohiya sa UP-Diliman. Bago siya magfile ng residency, nakakuha si Karen ng markang INC sa thesis na sa mga panahong iyon ay minarapat niya sanang tumalakay sa mga awit ng pakikibaka.

Si Sarah Raymundo ay propesor ng Sosyolohiya sa Kolehiyo ng Agham Panlipunan at Pilosopiya. Kasapi rin siya ng Congress of Teachers/Educators for Nationalism and Democracy.

taken the cudgels for truth and democracy.

Worse, Karen, Sherlyn and Manuel were abducted in a Central Luzon, where the devil-incarnate Gen. Jovito Palparan is presently designated. Palparan who transformed Mindoro into a killing field, Samar into a ghost town. Palparan who boastfully declared that the Philippines will be 'Red-free' by the time he retires this September. Palparan who human rights activists and advocates aptly call "The Butcher."

A statement from Palparan said that they (the victims) are better off gone because they have allegedly been extorting money from the townsfolk. Assuming for the sake of argument

that this was true, it still does NOT justify that the three were unarmed, defenseless and were arrested despite not being engaged in actual combat. Their arrest and continued 'forced disappearance' violate ALL existing international humanitarian laws and due process.

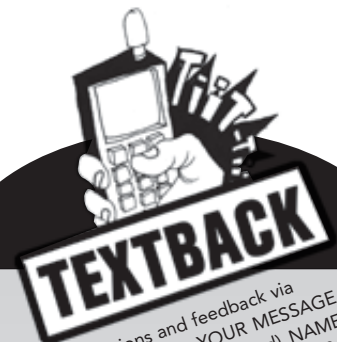
Even NPA and military fighters caught alive by opposing parties during combat have the right to be treated humanely as prisoners of war (unfortunately a principle not being practiced and respected by the members of the military in past incidents).

But NPAs, Sherlyn and Karen are NOT. Extortionists? Very highly unlikely. They are simply student activists who chose to make their lives more meaningful by actually living what they learned outside the auspices of UP.

Karen's teachers in UP profess that she was in Hagonoy doing research for her thesis. According to her teacher Ms. Jonabelle Asis, an instructor from the Department of Sociology, "Dahil habang ang karamihan sa akademya ay pinipili para sa kanilang thesis ang mga mas "safe" na paksa tulad ng identity, sexuality, citizenship at kung anu-ano pang chorva, mas pinili niyang mag-engage sa usaping mas mahalaga at napapanahon -- ang usapin ng mga magsasaka."

"Pumunta siya sa Bulacan upang manaliksik ukol sa kalagayan ng mga magsasaka roon. Dahil sa mga panahong tulad nito, ang mga intelektwal, lalo na tayong mga iskolar ng bayan, ay dapat pumumisyon. Dahil sa totoong mundo, ang mga tunay na nakagagagap sa reyalidad ay ang mga taong ginigipit ng pamahalaan." ■

An expanded version of this article was originally published in Adarna's Attic, the author's web log. Currently the media officer of Anakbayan, she is a former guest editor and features staffer of the Philippine Collegian.



Send your opinions and feedback via SMS! Type: KULE <space> YOUR MESSAGE <space> STUDENT NUMBER (required), NAME AND COURSE (optional) and send them to 0927.723.5370. Non-UP students must indicate any school, organizational, or sectoral affiliation. WARNING: We don't entertain textmates.

Ano ang masasabi mo sa pagdukot sa tatlong estudyante ng UP sa Gitnang Luzon?

Truth shall set us free! Hanapin ang katotohanan.-05-36391, Abram, BS Econ

Grabe naman sila! Wala na ba silang hindi pabalampasin?! -06-78499

Hindi makatarungan ang pagdukot sa mga iska. Sila na mismo ang lumabag sa karapatan nating mamahayag nang malaya. -06-09656, Kevin dela Cruz

The abduction of Karen and Sherlyn only shows the weakness of our institutions, the military being swayed to betray the people whom it should serve. RP is a failed state! -03-09045, BA Polsci

Kung isa kang militar na makakasama sa mga sikyu ng UP, sinong personalidad sa kampusang iyong mamatayangang?

Mamamanman ko ang mga LFS. Hardcore kasi sila! Bwiset na militar yan! Mga pasista! -04-12345 Si Mmmm. Gusto kong magpabaril sa kanya -00-05175

Masaya ka ba sa pagkapanalo ni Manny Pacquiao? Bakit o Bakit hindi?

Pagkatapos ng Laban, MEDYO, nung na-interview na si pacman, HINDI na ako natuwa, and yabang niya! Sana natalo na lang siya! -06-03962. CFA

Masaya kasi di nalugi ang mga pinoy, sana nga lang magretire na si Pacquiao, baka may di magandang mangyari. -05-36391, Abram, BS Econ

I'm not happy kasi lalo siyang aangas, lalong sasakit ang ulo ko sa sami ng komersyal niya at maririndi ang tenga ko sa kanta niyang jologs. I think di siya makabayan. -06-02440, RJ, BAA

Masaya ako sa win ni Manny kasi malaki ang tax na mabibigay niya sa Philippines, which is good. Biruin niyo isa siya sa mga malalaking tao na nagbibigay ng malaking pera sa bansa kahit sa totoong buhay ay hindi naman siya malaki, which is good pa rin kasi diba dapat agile ang mga boxers? -05-44522, Pio, BS IE

Hindi. Kasi napayabang niya nung sinabi niya na pinatagal niya ang game para di lugi ang viewers, if I know nahirapan din siya dun. Kainis, dadami na naman commercials niya at yayaman siya ng husto. -04-63323, Aries

Next Week's Questions

1. Maniniwala ka pa ba sa SONA ni Gloria?
2. Ano ang masasabi mo sa headbutt ni Zidane kay Marco Materazzi nung World Cup Finals?

INBOX

GMA will be hard put to explain economic crisis at SONA

Gloria Arroyo will certainly have a lot of explaining to do if it's the economy she'll be focusing on in this year's State of the Nation (SONA) address. She will certainly be hard put to explain to the Filipino people why hunger levels, unemployment rates, and foreign debt have reached record-breaking levels under her administration, despite her supposed economic reforms.

The Palace can no longer resort to vague and rosy rhetorics this time. Nobody in his or her right mind will believe GMA if she asserts in her SONA that her administration uplifted the lives of poor Filipinos. The statistics indicate that more Filipinos have gone hungry or jobless under the Arroyo administration. A first quarter Social Weather Stations survey showed hunger was highest in the country in the past eight years, affecting 15.9 percent among the

families of the unemployed, 13.2 percent among the self-employed, 11.6 percent among the private employees, and 6.4 percent among the government workers. The President will also be held accountable for her administration's suppression of the P125 legislated wage hike bill, which would have provided some significant economic relief.

Economic analysts should note that the President, herself a former economics professor, has tolerated blatant intellectual dishonesty by her administration's fabrication and manipulation of economic figures and statistics, in order to dilute signs

of the current economic crisis.

GMA will also have to explain the current crisis of unemployment and underemployment Filipinos are suffering from. The unemployment rate of 11.8% for 2004 is one of the highest in the country since 1956. This would have even been higher in 2005 and 2006, had not the government adopted a new official definition of unemployment last year. Around half of 32 million who were "employed" in 2005 did not find jobs in the formal labor market, and were only able to gain jobs as migrant workers, unpaid family workers, or self-employed workers.

Clearly, the current administration is only bluffing in saying that this year's SONA would be "reflective of the normalizing situation and increasing stability in the country". This pathetic soundbyte of "less politics" is only a Palace tactic to divert national and international attention away from the outrageous state of political repression, corruption-related scandals, military unrest, and the anti-peace talks stance of the Arroyo administration.

Anakpawis Party-List
From the Office of
Anakpawis Representative
Crispin B. Beltran

***Rep. Crispin Beltran is confined under police custody at the Philippine Heart Center in Quezon City. By July 24, it will be the 149th day of his arbitrary detention by the Arroyo administration.**

Write to us!

SEND YOUR STUFF via snail mail or submit a diskette copy to Rm. 401, Vinzons Hall, UP Diliman, Quezon City. **EMAIL US** kule0607@gmail.com. Format all MSWord attachments with .rtf extension, with INBOX, NEWSSCAN or CONTRIB in the subject. **FAX US** 9818500 local 4522. Always include your full name, address and contact details.

Inbox We welcome questions, constructive criticism, opinions, stands on relevant issues, and other reactions. Letters may be edited for brevity or clarity. Due to space constraints, letters should preferably have only 400 words or less.

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Contributions We are open for contributed articles from student writers, subject to the approval of the Editorial Board. All submitted articles should have a maximum length of 900 words.

LAYOUT ARTIST DESPERATELY WANTED!

Must be familiar with Adobe Photoshop and Pagemaker/InDesign. Come to our office with your portfolio. Look for Noel.

SIPAT

Engkwentro

ROUELLE UMALI



"Papatayin namin kayo" sigaw ng pulis nang tangkain ng mga estudyanteng raliyista na magmartsa patungong Mendiola. Makaraan ang ilang minuto, walang awang pinaghahampas ng mga pulis ang mga estudyanteng kasama sa rally. Ilan pa sa mga midya ay pinagbitangang kasama ng mga raliyista at pinagtutulak papalayo sa Mendiola. Tila sa mga pulis, ang mga kabataang nagrali ay mga batang paslit na walang alam.



NEWSSCAN

UP Shirt Design Contest!

Halina't mag-design ng trip mong UP tshirt para sa mga iksa! Ikaw na ang baha, basta't maganda, ipadala na!! Hanggang July 28 lang 'to! Kailangan mo lang ng: isang astig na design (1 bond), 300 word explanation, at personal information (Name, course, college, student number, email, contact num) . Ipadala sa: upshirt-design@yahoo.com, sa USC Office dropbox, o sa inyong College Rep! Prizes: 1st prize: P3000, 2nd prize: P1500, 3rd prize: P500. Ang dali noh? Sali na! For inquiries, text 0920-9617600 o magemail sa haliccana@yahoo.com.

UP Muslim Student's Association

THE UP MUSLIM STUDENT'S ASSOCIATION is calling for all Muslim students in UP to join the only Muslim student organization in UP. Application process is easy, fun, relevant, and quick. For interested applicants, orientation is set every Thursday for July, 4pm at AS lobby. Contact Nizh 09204231353 or Klif 09157829584.

UP Tomo-Kai Week!

UP Tomo-Kai, in cooperation with Saisaki and ForPals.com, will be celebrating their 16th anniversary with the theme "EIEN NI KAGAYAKU JUUROKU: Kislap ng Tomo-Kai Buhay na Buhay". The week-long celebration will be highlighted by the following: Interactive Cultural Exhibit, July 17, 2nd Floor Lobby, Palma Hall, 1 - 4 P.M.; Ramen-Polvoron Relay, July 18, Roces Ave, 4 P.M.; Kissaten, July 20, 2nd Floor Lobby, AS; and the Cultural Night, July 21, Aldaba Hall, 7 - 10 P.M. Sponsored by OICA and Colgate-Palmolive.

Vignettes of Imaginative Perception

An exhibit of works on the Principles of Design, Visual Perception and Awareness By The Students of the University of the Philippines-Diliman College of FineArts Department of Visual Communication, FA 10-11 Section V AY 2005-06, curated by Prof. Mitzi Marie Aguilar-Reyes. from July 10 - July 31 2006 at The Corredor Gallery, Bartlett Hall, UP-College of Fine Arts, E. Jacinto St., Diliman, Quezon City. For inquiries, please call 0919 661 1955

TAMPISAW "Good grief, Save the Reefs!" Benefit concert for Bantay Dagat

The Institute of Social Order Coral Reef Champions Project in cooperation with SEAIR and KUBLAI's proudly presents TAMPISAW "Good grief, Save the Reefs!" Benefit Concert for the Bantay Dagat of Camarines Norte and Quezon on July 21, 2006 6:00PM, ISO Parking Lot, Ateneo de Manila University. Artists include Urbandub, Akafellas, Join the Club, Kapatid, Kiko Machine, Out of Body Special, Severo, the Bloomfields, Subscapular, Elevator Action, Lampara, Formula Juan, Village Idiots, Cryola and more! To avail of the tickets, contact kenneth at 09176421845

Go against the grain. Join UP Sining at Lipunan.

SILIP is a university-wide, CMC-based organization which aims to affirm the vital role of art in shaping and changing society. Formed in 8 Mar 2003, the group highlights the power of film as the medium where all art forms meet. Sign-up booths will be at the College of Mass Communication Skywalk (July 24-28) & Faculty Center (July 31-August 4). Applicants' Orientation (August 4) at the CAL New Building. Questions? Comments? Love notes? Contact Val (0919.371.9249) or Divs (0906.496.0939)

UP OBEM presents Memoirs of a Geisha

The UP Organization of Business Economics Majors (UP OBEM) will be holding a movie rerun of Memoirs of a Geisha on July 25, 2006, 5pm at the UP Film Institute for the benefit of the World Vision Development Foundation, Inc. The movie, based on the internationally acclaimed novel by Arthur Golden, is an epic story of love and betrayal set against the broad and rapidly changing social canvas of 20th century Japan.

Thursday High!

Jogging na jogging ka na ba? Simula ngayong Thursday, dalhin na ang iyong best jogging outfit at sumamang tumakbo paikot ng Oval. Meeting place: Grandstand, 5pm. Sama-sama tayong lahat kaya walang hiyaan! Healthy ka na, marami ka pang makikilala. O diba? Sama sama na tayong mag Thursday High! For inquiries, text 0920-9224451, o magemail sa mesh_it_up@yahoo.com

Uprising: USC SONA Week 2006 Free Concert

The University Student Council invites you to UPRISING Concert (together with ANAKBAYAN - UP Diliman) today at UP Lagoon across FC, 8pm onwards. The concert is free!

Mag-AKLAS (Alternatibong Klase)!

Malugod kayong inaanyayahan ng University Student Council na lumahok sa Alternatibong Klase (AKLAS) sa Hulyo 26, 2006, 8:30am - 5pm, CAL New Building. Ito ay may sa temang "Iskolar ng Bayan, Sumanib sa Sambayanan, Pag-aralan ang Lipunan!" Magkakaroon ng pagtalakay sa Philippine Social Realities, Crisis and Change, On Fascism, On Imperialism at On Semifeudalism.



The World...

FROM P. 3

“Kung hanggang ngayon hindi mo ako maintindihan, tigilan na natin to.”

I was stunned. I felt my heart stop as I watched Mitch walk away.

I’m at an all time low. I can’t get myself to do anything productive. Mitch hasn’t been answering my calls. I tried waiting for her at the places we frequent together, but to no avail. But I refuse to believe that she’s calling it quits, not just yet. Last night, she finally texted: “Pumunta ka sa susunod na mob kung gusto mo pa kong makausap.”

How did we end up like this? Mitch and I were blockmates when we first met. I was being my anti-social self, seated at the back row of the classroom, when she casually came up to me and introduced herself. I gave her a nod and looked away because I was busy sifting through an Alan Moore graphic novel. But she didn’t go away; instead, she pestered me to lend her what I was reading. Normally, I would have snubbed her, but for some reason, I just couldn’t say no to Mitch. She can be very persuasive.

Mitch and I, we like the same things: Weezer, comic books, science fiction, and animated movies. I love spending time with Mitch, she’s brought me out of my shell, and she’s the only one who understands my mood swings. I love her most for not giving up on me when I got diagnosed with depression. I don’t know if I can manage without her.

But when she joined an activist organization, we gradually spent less time enjoying ourselves, and more time arguing about politics. I don’t blame her for joining the org, it’s her right and I respect that. In fact, I saw it coming, it’s in her nature. She’s so passionate about everything, and that’s one of the things I love most about her.

But I hate how she’s spending practically all her time doing activist work. She boycotts her classes on walk outs, it’s like she’s trying to beat my low academic record. What’s more, I can’t remember how many of our dates she’s cancelled because she’s off joining rallies, organizing forums and other events, or running around campus for room to room discussions.

I hate fighting about politics, but I just can’t reconcile my individualist principles with her activism. We’re drifting apart, and I feel like she’s the one who is pulling away from me. And I’m scared shitless.

Mitch, it’s our first year. I’m sorry for what I said, and I hope we get to talk soon. I’m sorry for writing about us in this column, but it’s the only way I can reach you now that you’re doing your best to avoid me. Please know that despite everything, I’m not giving up on us.

I hope I can muster enough courage to come to you during the next mobilization, I’m sure you will be there. But forgive me now if I can’t. ■



Da Rayter KoRayter Imoral Suporter Edisyon

Ahalowa mga shupatembang sa pananampalataya sa mga lumalambiting Katakatakei sa keni ni Oble! Aaay! Pagkatasapos ng papa kong si Pierre Ynaki “Pinky” Camacho at ng pokpok kong karibal na si Brando “Barbie” Pormiendyu, akembang naman ang na-jassign para sumulat nitrez. Nakalawka ang mga half-awake half-asleep na utaw ditembang sa ofisina. Pressure to the nth level! Heniweiz sisimulan ko na ang pambabalaj!

Primadonna

Habang kumakalog ang ASSet ko sa jeef from PhilCollins, umiikot naman ang ASSETS ng mga the Bozzes ng Kule ofis. Winafaaz nila akembang pag-set foot ko sa ofisina, saying late na naman akei therefore late itong EPI! Pwe, excuse me! Sino’ng late? Waitereth!

‘Yung edhitoryahl kaya ng mga the Bozzes e wiz pa nasisimulan. Lagi na lang “it’s all locked up in here.” Mga paksyet! Forever na lang kaming mga writer kinukurot sa singith dahil late ang mga artik namin. Dhuy! Kung may contest ng most late artik ang winner na i-aaward ay walang iba kundi ang edhitoryahl. Ahuhuhuhu! Pagkasulat ko nitong first draft mag-fafly na ang byuti ko sa Shortipunan para magkape at lumandi. Ang joy joy!

Pantawid-Kati

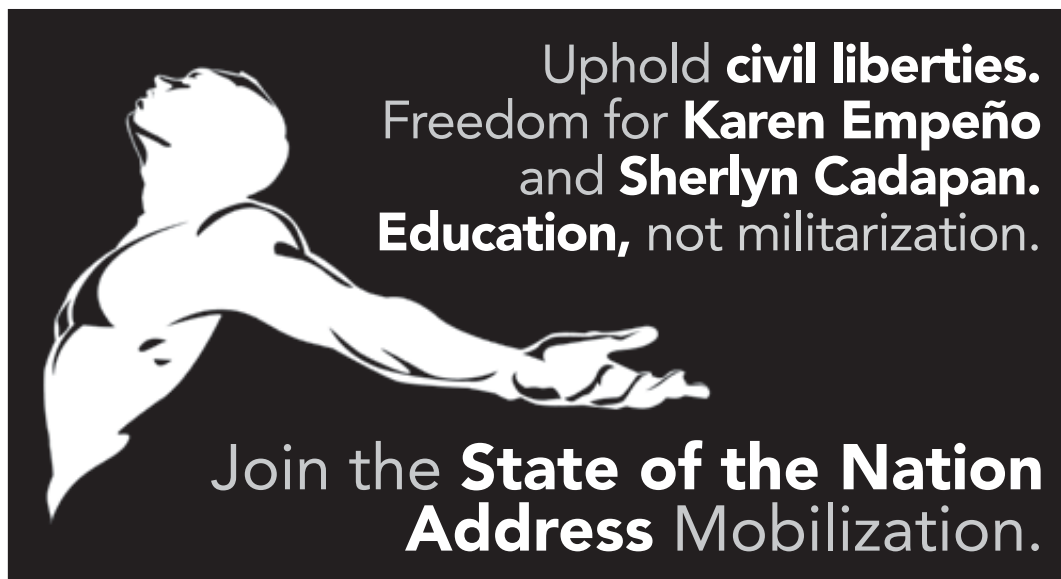
Ispokening op the land of Landian, silipan este silipin natin ang gwapings na SSBBoys sa obal. Kase ba nameyn, ang flashiest newz ay ang pagdatangan ng mga pop-eye Marino. Ayiii! Nanginig nameyn ang two tuhodz nikei nung nag-eye contact kami ng isang SSBBoy. Pa-discrete pang sumishilip nang fatally si SSBBoy sa aking malaking ASSet.

Por dat bakla, kinaladkahdz ko si cute SSBBoy sa CR ng mga maKULEt. Dun kasi, pwede kaming ma-lock ng isang dekada or even poreber. O diveyn? Magpapakitaan kami ng kyemelar! Panu ba nameyn, lahat na yata ng pintuan sa ofisang itrez ay isa-isa nang natitigukan ng mga knob-knob. Kasalanan itembang ng pusang si Budget Cat, na laging nanlalande ng mga the Bozzes ditembang. Nawafaaz na ang mga pambiliz ng mga bagong knob-knob dahil may-I-prioritize sa mga cut food ang drama ng the Bozzes.

O sha, sha. Let’s go na. Bago fa tuluy-ang tumigosh ang tuhodz ko. Catch you latereth!

P.S. May co-writer dapat akembang sa kolum na itrez pero hanggang immoral support(er) lang daw siya. Wafaaz!

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Una nating nakilala si Jose Rizal sa piso. At tulad ng karaniwang barya, pamilyar na sa atin ang pambansang bayani, mula pa pagkabata.

Bunsod ng Republic Act (RA 1425) o Batas Rizal, ginawang bahagi ng kurikulum ang pag-aaral tungkol sa pambansang bayani. Pagdating ng high school, natunghayan natin ang mga nobela niyang *Noli Me Tangere* at *El Filibusterismo*. Pati rito sa UP, hindi tayo nilubayan ni Rizal. Mapapa-PI ka nga naman.

Tila kalbaryo ang pag-aralan at unawain si Rizal at ang kanyang mga akda. Subalit, anu't anoman, itinakda na siya'y pumaloob at umiral sa ating kamalayan.

Paglilitis

Abril 3, 1956 nang ipanukala ang Senate Bill (SB) 438 (na magiging RA 1425), na naglalayong ituro sa mga paaralan ang mga nobela ni Rizal. Bagaman wala namang pagtutol dito ang mayorya ng Senado, naalarma ang Simbahang Katoliko. Anti-Katoliko raw ang mga nobela ni Rizal. Ayon kay Florentino Iñigo Jr., propesor sa Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas (DFPP), “ikalawang paglilitis ito kay Rizal,” lalo pa’t inakusahang “subersibo” ng Simbahan ang mga akdang binanggit.

“Kinakailangan ngayong itanim ang binhi ng nasyonalismo sa mga kabataan,” anila Senador Claro M. Recto at Jose P. Laurel Sr, ang mga pangunahing nagsulong ng Batas Rizal. Tila naayon ang gayong panawagan noong panahong iyon, sapagkat sa loob at labas ng Senado, umiinit ang panawagang muling sipatin ang relasyong United States (US) at Pilipinas, sampung taon matapos ang “kalayaan” ng ating bansa. Kontrolado ng US ang ating ekonomiya sanhi ng pag-export ng ating mga produktong agrikultural sa ilalim ni Pangulong Ramon Mag-saysay. Panahon din ito ng matinding kampanya ng pamahalaan laban sa rebelyong Huk.

Naging maiinit ang deliberasyon sa Senado. At noong Hunyo 12, 1956, pinirmahan ni Pangulong Magsaysay ang RA 1425.

Diskurso

Isang tagumpay na sana ng RA 1425 ang muling pagpapakilala kay Rizal. Batid nating nakibaka siya para sa kasarinlan ng bayan. Ngunit sa ganitong antas din dapat himayin ang kanyang pagkabayani, na hindi gaanong napaglilimiang mabuti sa klase.

Hindi maitatangging iginawad ng kolonyalismong Amerikano ang titulo kay Rizal noong 1901, dahil isa siyang tao ng kapayapaan, ayon na rin sa kanyang mga sinulat. Angkop na angkop ang paglalagay kay Rizal sa pedestal bilang kinatawan ng programang “mapagkandiling asimilasyon.” Pabor siya sa pagbabagong pulitikal ng bansa sa pamamagitan ng pagsasagawa ng mga reporma, kahit na dayuhang mananakop ang mag-aaprubang at magpapatupad ng mga repormang ito.

Bagaman may mga mapang-himagsik na ideya ang *Noli* at *Fili*, hindi siya sumang-ayon sa isinusulong na rebolusyon ng Katipunan.

RIZALOHIIYA

Si Rizal sa loob at labas ng klasrum



Ayon sa kanyang sanaysay na “The Philippines: A Century Hence” noong 1889, marahas at mapanganib ang ganitong anyo ng pagbabago “kung ito ay magmumula sa masa.” Magiging “mapayapa at mayaman sa resulta” kung mula ito sa nakaangat na uri sa lipunan. Kaya’t nang idiin

siya ng kolonyalismong Español sa salang rebelyon, tahasan niya itong itinanggi.

Samantala, tinitingala pa rin si Rizal ng marami, kahit noong siya’y nabubuhay pa. Sa katunayan, isa siya sa inspirasyon ng Katipunan sa pagsulong ng rebolusyon. Sa ibang bansa

naman gaya ng Tsina, Alemanya, at Espanya, may mga nakatayang bantayog si Rizal bilang pagkilala sa kanyang kaisipan at mga nagawa para sa ating bayan.

Lihis

Napakarami pang maaaring lin-

awin ukol kay Rizal, ngunit hindi matatalos ng kurso ang ganitong mga bagay kung dispalinghado ang pagtuturo.

Lahat nga ng paaralan sa bansa ay may kursong Rizal. Subalit nauwi ito madalas sa pagkabisa ng mga datos ukol sa kanyang buhay at mga akda, at pagtatanghal sa klase ng matamis na suyuan nina Ibarra at Maria Clara, at ng pagkabaliw ni Sisa. Ayon kay Choy Pangilinan, nagtuturo ng PI 100 sa UP Baguio, “pinapatay ang kabataan ng kursong Rizal” dahil sa ganitong de-kahong lapit. Hindi nito nailalapat sa kasalukuyang panahon ang mga kaisipan ni Rizal, lalo na ang pagiging makabayan.

Lumalabnaw at lumilihis sa orihinal na sentimyento at layunin ng *Noli* at *Fili* ang pagkalat ng mga pinadali at pinagaang bersyon ng mga ito. Ipinatangal ng Simbahan ang mararahas na anti-Katolikong pahayag sa mga nobela ukol sa sigalot ng mga orden at pagbabayad para sa kaligtasan sa kabilang buhay.

Marami rin sa mga kolehiyo at unibersidad sa bansa ang nagtuturo ng kursong ito sa Ingles, tulad ng Rizal Technological University at Jose Rizal University. Taliwas at kakatwa ito sa tinuran ng ating bayani sa kanyang tulang “Sa Aking mga Kababata” at ng kanyang tauhang si Simoun ng *Fili* ukol sa pagmamahal sa sariling wika. Ayon kay Dr. Bienvenido Lumbea, Pambansang Alagad ng Sining at iskolar sa panitikan at kulturang Filipino, ang paggamit ng Ingles sa mga asignaturang gaya nito ay pagtugon sa pangangailangan ng mga bansang may maunlad na teknolohiya at industriya. At dapat tayong umakma sa wika ng industriyalisasyon upang diumano’y makasabay tayo sa kalakaran ng daigdig.

Isa rin sa kakatwang rekesito ng ibang guro ng kurso ay ang field trips sa Bundok Banahaw, pugad ng sektang Rizalista. Ayon kay Prop. Ramon Guillermo ng DFPP, bahagi lamang ng ating folklore ang ganitong pagsamba sa bayani at wala itong kaugnayan sa mga akda ni Rizal. Nauwi lamang ang ganitong mga paglalakbay sa mistisismo ni Rizal, isang paghihintay sa ikalawang pagbabalik ng isang pinaniniwalaang mesias.

Dahil sa ganitong mga paggamit kay Rizal, nababansot ang dapat na damdaming makabayan ng mga mamamayan. Naluluoy na lang si Rizal bilang bahagi ng nakaraan – na lumipas na’t aksaya ng panahon kung babalikan pa’t uuriratin.

Sa labas ng paaralan, kung gagamitin man ang mga tinuran ni Rizal, madalas ang mga ito’y lisyang sa nais niyang ipahatid. Nang ideklara ni Marcos ang Batas Militar, kinasangkapan niya ang linyang “sa ikaunlad ng bayan, disiplina ang kailangan” ni Rizal. Maging noong Disyembre 30, 2003, nangako ang Pangulong Arroyo sa harap ng rebulto ni Rizal sa Baguio na hindi tatakbo sa eleksiyong 2004 – na isa diumanong sakripisyo para sa bayan. Binabaluktot ng mga personaheng ito mula sa nakaangat na uri ang mga pahayag ng bayani.

Sa lahat ng ito’y naibabalik tuloy sa hukay ng paglimot si Rizal dahil sa ganitong mga pagsipat. Nagiging isang karaniwang mukha na lamang siya sa bumabagsak nating piso: patuloy na lumiliit, nawawalan ng kinang, at ng silbi. ■

Maraming salamat kay Prop. U Z. Elisario sa kanyang tulong para rito.