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The Spark, Volume 4 Issue 4

Connecticut College

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THE SPARK**BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUE****The New Right**

In the course of the prolonged campus debate about ConnPIRG, the Students for ConnPIRG have had ample opportunity to present their views to the campus community. In fact, some students are, understandably, tired of hearing about the whole thing. No less tired, one would imagine, are the Students for ConnPIRG who have spent this semester continually defending themselves and their organization.

The designated villains in this lengthy drama have been the Administration and, in particular, the Board of Trustees. The Administration has stated that the Trustees will not accept either of the two funding mechanisms proposed by ConnPIRG.

Both the Board of Trustees and Students for ConnPIRG have forwarded rational, articulate argu-

ments. Students for ConnPIRG is not a wildly radical political group arming itself to dismantle or overthrow The Establishment. Nor is the Board of Trustees a band of tyrants conspiring to block the establishment of ConnPIRG at any cost.

"I think we all agree that there is no question about the merits of ConnPIRG," said trustee Mary A. L. Meyer (class of '42) at a Trustee-Student Liaison Committee meeting on December 4. Present at the meeting were six trustees, the executive board of SGA, three members of Students for ConnPIRG, two members of The Spark, and two "concerned students."

Students for ConnPIRG once again stressed the fact that the funding mechanism was accepted last spring by an overwhelming majority of the student body. They also pointed out that 180 colleges and universities

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Anita Bryant's Conversion

Terry Green

Anita Bryant, synonymous to most of us with orange juice and ravid anti-homosexuality, has turned over a new leaf! She has ended her bitter crusade against gays (as well as retiring from orange juice ads). Her new enlightened, although perhaps not as fundamentalist, view is to "live and let live."

Ms. Bryant, prior to her divorce, having been driven to taking pills, drinking, and near suicide by her marriage, now seems to question her former dogmatic adherence to scripture. Her personal struggles have increased her compassion for the oppressed in our society,

especially gays, lesbians and women in general. She explains, "The answers don't seem so simple now." She adds, "I guess I can better understand the gays and the feminists anger and frustration."

She now looks at the church with some skepticism, "Fundamentalists have their head in the sand. The church is sick right now, and I have to say I'm even a part of that sickness." On the churches treatment of feminism she adds, "Some pastors are so hard-nosed about submission and insensitive to their wife's need that they don't recognize the frustration - even hatred - within their own households. Some of them are going to be shocked to wind up in any boat."

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Bill Butterly

Election postmortems have attributed much of the Republican success in defeating prominent liberal senators to "The New Right." But many voters lack a perception of what the "New Right" consists of and particularly what differentiates New from Old Right. To understand the "New Right" one must understand at least a brief history of 20th century conservatism.

Conservatives in America have been united and organizing since the end of World War II. Conservatives have united in response to a perceived trend of expanding liberalism dating from the inauguration of F.D.R. and the New Deal. In many ways, the conservatives writing in the 1940's were harbingers of the problems of the 1970's and 1980's for they feared the inefficiency which would result from the aggrandizement of power at the federal level. Conservative economists such as F.A. von Hayck in his book The Road to Serfdom predicted that growing federal budgets and federal deficits could only cause the end of the process of upward social mobility and the end of this process could only cause the stagnation of the majority of Americans who are labeled the Middle Class.

In addition, authors such as Richard Weaver, Russel Kirk, Arthur Koestler, William F. Buckley, Jr. and Willmoore Kendall defended the belief in limited government as a government which protected the freedom of an individual both politically and economically and did not seek to needlessly intrude on these rights and freedoms of the individual.

However, throughout the 1950's, 1960's, and even

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EDITORIAL FROM THE BOILER ROOM: Our Lines of Communication

Effective communication is an ideal which all college campuses strive to achieve. Committees have been established at Connecticut College to facilitate the lines of communication between the student body and the faculty, the administration, and the trustees. Some of these committees and means are Advisory Boards, student evaluation of faculty and the Trustees-Students Liaison Committee. As an editor, I have dealt with these channels only to find that many are not used effectively by the students, the faculty or the administration. And that some of these channels are in jeopardy of disappearing. Earlier on in the semester SGA held a noise forum to air complaints by faculty and students concerning the excessive noise from stereo speakers put outside of windows and outdoor parties. One of the grievances mentioned by students was to whom could an individual victim go with their complaint about a noisy neighbor. A housefellow and house council should serve as a place where these complaints can be aired, instead of a Dean serving as this function.

Evaluations are a means by which the student can communicate to the faculty. In October, SGA made a proposal to the faculty concerning the comment sheets one fills out at the end of the semester. The students had expressed a concern about the professors reading these comments before exams and grades were in. So, to insure the confidentiality of the students' comments, SGA proposed that these comments be withheld or not opened until after grades were submitted. This proposal has not even been discussed by the faculty to this date; because of a postponement of the meeting this proposal will not be going into affect until next semester, or perhaps not at all. Evaluations have been questioned by many, how seriously these are taken by the students and the faculty is concerned about their use for deciding tenure. Leaving evaluations to the very last day of

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The Spark Volume 4/Issue 4

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THE SPARK welcomes and encourages letters from its readers on any and all subjects which are relevant to the college, or on articles or letters which have appeared within this journal. Letters should be sent to THE SPARK
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THE SPARK is a student run journal and editorial newspaper dedicated to presenting student and faculty opinion on campus and non-campus related subjects.

In memory of

John Lennon...

EDITORIAL cont.

classes, students are anxious to go home and rush through the comments without giving them much thought. How sincere are the students' comments? Are the comments taken seriously by the faculty?

An advisory board in each of the departments serves as a channel that the students have for input in the process of deciding course offerings and also serve as another means that students may use to voice complaints about faculty. The process of selecting courses is very important, yet how are the students consulted in the process, and how is student input used? These boards have a great influence on education and should be viewed in this light.

The students' link with the administration is an ambiguous channel to pinpoint. The administration as a decision-making body is known

as senior staff, composed of President Oakes Ames, Jane Bredeson, Dean Alice Johnson, Roy Knight, Jeanette Hersey, Francis Johnson, and Roger Gross. The Dean of Student Affairs, Margaret Watson, is not a part of Senior Staff. Where is the students' input to administration?

The Board of Trustees arrives at Connecticut College four times a year for a week of meetings with the administration, the faculty, and the students. The Board has established liaison committees to get input as to what is happening on the campus. As the highest and ultimate decision making power in the hierarchy of the school, these visits and committees are very important for the college community to know about and use. The Trustees-Students Liaison Committee was established as the link of communications from the students to the Trustees. The executive board of Student Government sets the

agenda for this meeting; they invite different groups on campus to present any problems or even any activities. This meeting is not closed to students; however, how many students are aware of this fact?

All the channels of communication are geared in one direction. What the student body is thinking is filtered up through the pyramid to a committee which then takes it to the decision-making body, the trustees, or the administration, or faculty. Communication should not have to travel through a myriad of complications by which it may be distorted. Decisions should be made according to the input and information received. The decisions resulting from these channels affect the college community, but are not always made public. If they are, it is usually through the "grapevine", which causes people to react to partial truths instead of a clearly stated decision.

Letters

Idealism is not Evil

As far back as I can remember (four or five years back), there has been a problem with having the point of view of the student body realized by the Student Government Association and the Administration of the College. This problem is not a constant one, but rather one which surfaces every few months. This problem has arisen during the control of several student assemblies, with different administrative personalities, and as best as I can tell, through at least two turnover of the student body.

A few years ago, the staff of The Pundit chose to reorganize and change the name to The College Voice. About the same time another group of students felt there was a need for an alternative paper. That year was also the first one in which the SGA did the student activity budget. After the confusion and the dust had settled, there were two funded newspapers.

We all know the PIRG story. A majority of the students voted in favor of PIRG establishment and funding procedures at Connecticut College. Others had their opinion.

Granted the Administration must look out for the College's interests and welfare. The students are sometimes wrong. Right or wrong, left or right; misrepresentation, false representation, lying, name-calling, etc. is uncalled for and unnecessary at any time and in any place. This college is no exception. PIRG is not the question. The students wanted the papers, but they had to expend much energy and time to realize their goal, energy and time which could have been used for study and/or production of the school papers.

Once again last year a group of students decided to form a Connecticut College Chapter of PIRG to enrich their educational experience and broaden their scope of vision. Granted, there are several differences between PIRG and the College papers. It has just become the scapegoat. The question is ed-

ucation. PIRG is just one type of organization which allows students to follow outside interests, learn more about the current concerns of our country and global neighbors, and allows them to pursue these important interests in a constructive manner.

As I see it, people at this college feel extremely threatened. The students feel threatened by the administration. The administration and SGA feel threatened by the students. The circle goes on and on. There is no need of outbreaks of name-calling and arguing back and forth till a point is completely dull. This kind of malarkey has no place at our college. It wastes time and creates much tension.

A college is a place of change, experimentation and experiences for the entire community. We should be working together to create a better environment and to promote freedom of thought. No, there will not be a utopia, but idealism is not evil.

Anonymous

Letters continued

The Pill and Sexual Freedom

It's different now. Modern man has come up with answers to every question, solutions to every problem, and, in the process of developing technology to deal with all the crises that mortal men face, has managed to create new problems and questions in order to assure continued business. This soon seems to be the case with the Birth Control Pill. American women have gotten down on their knees to praise those brilliant men who have invented such a wonder and have shown their overwhelming appreciation and gratitude by (freely sleeping with) those few men who have heralded their sexual freedom.

But can you really call the ability to daily pump chemicals into your body freedom? Should women stop to listen, they would probably hear the woeful moaning of their bewildered bodies, at a loss with how to deal with these alien entities who adeptly lie, forcing

pill-oriented society and although having revoked my membership I find myself continuing to subscribe to its philosophy. My society continually bombards my every sense telling me that sexuality is not an evil to be hidden but a magical, natural wonder to be nurtured and explored. What goes unsaid and consequently often forgotten at this point is the simple fact that the invention of the pill is the major building block upon which this theory of sexual freedom is built. This notion of open sexuality permeates our culture and there are countless significant others like myself who bypass the luxuries and perils of the pill and continue to absorb the subliminal signals of our society which encourage sexual freedom. But, I have revoked my license to (sleep with men) freely and have finally come face to face with the dilemma faced by past generations of women. I wish I could say better late than never.

Religious mores aside, the problem with having sex

imagine how wonderful it would be to actually 'make love' with someone you loved and at the woman-child I am today - who still can only imagine its glories - I have yet another sigh.

As I am not a total fool in the matters of biology, I did make my trip to the inevitable clinic-around-the-corner and purchased my diaphragm in which I had implicit confidence as I had with the pill. This was my mistake which I recognize now. The diaphragm is far from infallible - a fact I should have realized as it was not its invention which prompted the sexual revolution. Such is the problem I face. My mind is nauseatingly in tune with the signals of my society and I fear that my body has finally followed its natural course. The greatest irony here is that my body did not betray me; it has presented me with the greatest gift I, as a woman, could receive, and have dreamt of receiving at some time in the future. If there was any betraying to be done, it was at the hands of my modern 20th century mind which insisted that it could actually control the natural process of my body. If only I could, I would laugh.

Anonymous

"...the pill is the major building block

upon which

this theory of sexual freedom is built."

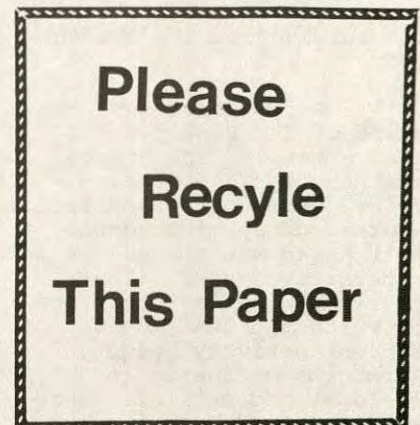
them to think that they are going to produce the most sacred of all creations (not solely "man made") only to prevent such miracles from occurring...

As all things - thank god - do come to pass, more and more women are questioning the mental and physical affects of the pill and opting to forego the luxury of its beguilingly "innocent" convenience. I find myself in just such a position. The peace that now exists in my "chemical-free" mind and body is darkly tainted by a new batch of problems whose recent revelation evoked many cups of Penny Royal tea and sympathy for myself and all women.

I am a woman who was once a paying member in a

B.P. (before the pill) was not the shame of sharing your body with someone you wanted to be close to, but the possibility - a large one then - of unwanted pregnancy. As I was born in 1960, by the time I reached the age of sexual awareness, fear of pregnancy was barely a consideration when contemplating engaging in sexual activity; it was a matter of the mind. My society was telling me that sex was a game anyone could play as long as your head could deal with it. Having not much of a mind at seventeen and an all-too-convenient prescription to the pill issued by my family doctor in order to alleviate menstrual cramps, my sexual indoctrination consequently began. I can only smile with pity at that little girl-child I was who would

Editor's note: The words which appear in parenthesis were not originally part of this contributor's letter. However, we felt it necessary to change these words to make them fit for print.



BOTH SIDES continued

in 25 states are members of the PIRG network.

The Trustees object to the proposed \$6/year added to each student's bill to fund ConnPIRG because they feel it makes Students for ConnPIRG a privileged organization. They are afraid this may set a precedent; other equally valid groups may want the same kind of funding mechanism. ConnPIRG pointed out that this hasn't happened at the other 180 institutions. Nor is it likely that another group at Connecticut College could be approved, as ConnPIRG was by an 8 - 1 majority of students. The Trustees feel this doesn't preclude the possibility.

The Trustees also think it is inappropriate to fund through the College an organization which hires an outside staff member. They feel that the Administration should be able to oversee any campus employee.

These points are valid. However, so is the establishment of ConnPIRG. It is a dilemma to which there appears to be no easy solution.

The question we should all be asking is, are the objections that the trustees have voiced compelling enough to justify denying ConnPIRG

NEW RIGHT continued

the early 1970's, conservatives in America were inexperienced in politics. They were trying to defend the Great Tradition of a Constitutional Republic in the face of liberal politicians who, with 30 to 40 years of political momentum, were clamoring for change. Conservatives were predicting the collapse of the liberal philosophy of spend and tax at a time when its full effects had not yet even begun to be perceived.

As the Conservative movement grew and took shape, a new breed of conservative began to assume leadership roles in conservative movement organizations. These new leaders typified the change to the "New Right" from the old right. The "New Right" became a politically sophisticated

existence on this campus?

The Students for ConnPIRG have proved that they are persistent and responsible. They would, at this point, do well to find out if the 180 other PIRGs in the U.S. have faced the same problems in establishing themselves that ConnPIRG is facing at Connecticut College. If not, why have the other institutions been able to ignore the things Connecticut College is objecting to? If other colleges have faced the same problems, then how have they solved or overridden them?

The trustees should not be faulted for trying to avoid granting what they consider a special privilege to one organization that other organizations might also desire, or for their insistence that employment policy be consistent and fair.

But ConnPIRG is a genuinely concerned group of students that has been and will be dealing with such issues as accidents at the local nuclear power plants, consumer prices, safety hazards in the workplace, and student housing, to name a few. Surely these issues take precedence over the objections that the Administration and the Trustees have.

"Old Right." The "New Right" leaders emerged in control of the Capitol Hill Conservative Network in 1975, primarily in three organizations: the American Conservative Union, Young Americans for Freedom, and the growing Richard A. Viguerie Fund Raising Company.

They were trying to defend the Great

Tradition of a Constitutional Republic. . .

The New Right sought to copy the tactics of the Left in the 1960's. In fact, most of the New Right leaders were in college in the 60's and realized the need to know how to win in the political process. The

Postscript: The SPARK has learned that the Board of Trustees has again decided that the funding mechanism of ConnPirg is unacceptable.

success of the New Right can be attributed to their ability to utilize Direct Mail Fund Raising to secure financial resources, the ability to train thousands of younger individuals to play important roles in campaigns and later to effectively staff Washington offices. Finally, the ability to target constituencies with which to form coalitions and the ability to use polls to target which races to enter to defeat liberal candidates are of utmost importance.

There is now a multiplicity of groups within the New Right network which are tailored to different constituencies. These include The Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress, The National Conservative Political Action Committee, The National Employer's Rights Committee, The Committee for Responsible Youth Politics, The Moral Majority, Gun Owners of America, The National Tax Foundation, and the list continues.

The effectiveness of the New Right still can be improved upon considerably; however, they were responsible in part for the Republican victory in 1980. The purpose? The Wall Street Journal has best summed up the purpose of the New Right: "The aim of the New Right is nothing less than creating a conservative middle class majority in American politics." Con-

sidering the number of blue collar Democrats, middle class Americans all, who voted Republican this election day, the aim of the New Right has been, in part, achieved. From this writer's perspective, it's about time!

U.S. ROLE continued

Monte plantation reportedly displaced 3,000 independent farms in the Mindanao Province. There are 800 American companies in the Philippines.

U.S. Military Involvement

Clark Air Field, the major U.S. military installation in the Philippines, is the largest overseas base in the world. Subic Naval Base is a major U.S. repair station.

Upkeep of these bases has cost the American taxpayer over \$200 million. In the 80 years of American presence in the Philippines the bases there have served as springboards for intervention in China, Korea, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

The type of weapons sold in the Philippines in the past few years are those appropriate for fighting against guerrilla movements. American weapons have been used by the Phil-

CLOSE-UP continued

powerful families that they were not immune to government retaliation against criticism.

Lopez and Osmena were held in relatively privileged conditions. Their imprisonment resembled house arrest. They were kept in a former military camp in private rooms with their own TV's and radios. This is in stark contrast to most prisons in the Philippines. As time went on, supervision became increasingly lax.

In 1977, after several escape attempts, Lopez and Osmena managed to stage a successful escape. With tools that Roberta's family had smuggled in, they chipped away at their bars, then climbed over barbed wire fences, ran across a field to a place prearranged with Roberta's brothers, rode in the trunk of a car to a military airfield, and went by helicopter to Hong Kong. From there they came to the U.S. Marcos lifted the travel ban in 1977

ippine military against opposition groups such as the National People's Army (a Marxist group) and the Moro National Liberation Front (a Muslim resistance group).

By 1978 Marcos' regime had spent about \$1 billion on the war against popular opposition.

U.S. Foreign Policy in the Philippines

The U.S. is heavily supporting a repressive military regime which has been condemned by both Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists for frequent use of torture, arbitrary arrests and summary executions. American military aid is being sent to a country to defend itself against a nonexistent external threat.

The problems undermining the Marcos regime are not military, but social and economic. Military aid can do nothing to combat hunger, poverty and social inequity.

and the rest of the Lopez family left the Philippines. Marcos announced that he had "allowed" Eugenio Lopez, Jr. to leave.

For Roberta, as for most of the leading families of the Philippines, life in Manila was extremely cloistered. She and her friends were chauffeured around, chaperoned, and, in general, isolated from the political situation. Although she was aware of economic and social problems in her country, she didn't realize until she came to the United States that the Marcos government was extremely repressive.

After the imposition of martial law, people in her family's social circle were afraid to talk about the government. Those who were cohorts of Marcos cooperated with him out of necessity. They disagreed with the regime, but chose not to dissent, fearing arrest, or being reluctant to leave the country.

In the past year, the Philippines has often been compared to another repressive dictatorship supported by the U.S. - Iran. As yet, the Philippines does not have an equivalent revolutionary movement. But popular insurgency is on the rise, and the Iranian analogy is fitting enough to warrant our attention.

It cannot be in the interests of American foreign policy to support a weak, corrupt dictatorship and then wonder what happened when the popular opposition movement becomes a full-scale revolutionary one. Our military bases there exist to support U.S. intervention in Southeast Asia. That is certainly not worth the price of repression and brutalization of the Philippine people.

Our aid packages and our foreign policy need to be reevaluated. Our commitment to international law and human rights should be balanced against our military and political interests.

Roberta describes the Philippine view towards America as conflicting. Although Filipinos agree with Carter's human rights policy, they don't see it being put into action in their own country. In general Roberta says, they feel used by the U.S. because of the military base agreement. They still have a very colonial attitude.

There is a strong sense of xenophobia in the Philippines because it has always been an isolated country. Social circles are tight foreigners are not easily accepted.

Since she has come to the U.S., Roberta feels that her values have changed. She has a heightened awareness of the problems in the Philippines and feels more patriotic towards her homeland. She has recently joined Amnesty International and will be working directly with a Philippine group.

SKATING RINK: A MULTI-PURPOSE FACILITY?

If you have had the misfortune to hear a band play in the ice-skating rink, you already know that the building was not designed with acoustics in mind. At the Trustees-Students Liaison Committee Meeting on December 4, Kenny Abrams, chairman of Social Board, reminded the trustees of the problem.

The \$2 million rink had been billed as a multi-purpose facility to a student body that was not entirely receptive to the idea of its construction. The construction of the rink had been a subject of many campus debate. Students objecting to a large amount of money being allocated for an athletic facility were appeased by the fact that the rink could be used for concerts, parties, public speakers, and graduation ceremonies. Unfortunately, the roof of the rink needs to be adapted to accommodate any activities that are not athletic. An estimated \$25,000 is needed for the roof of the rink. Kenny Abrams asked the trustees to ensure that this adaptation be made.

The overriding question is why was the rink designed without adequate attention to acoustics? Was it made clear to the architects that it was to be a multi-purpose facility, or were the architects unqualified for this type of design?

It is unfortunate that \$25,000 more must be spent to build a "false ceiling" that will catch the sound. We hope that in the future, the college will be more efficient in overseeing building plans.

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REASONABLE, EFFICIENT, PROMPT!
(References available upon request)

ANITA continued

While Bryant still doesn't support the Equal Rights Amendment she is much more sympathetic to feminism. She proclaimed, "There are some valid reasons why militant feminists are doing what they're doing...Having experienced a form of male chauvinism among Christians that was devastating, I can see how women are controlled in a very ungodly, un-Christ-like way...The problem is that most men are insensitive to women's needs. We have been so conditioned and taught."

She looks back at her previous mission against gays with regret. "I could see that a lot of people got involved in the crusade who had a personal vendetta

about gays...They harbored hatreds. They were as wrong as the gay extremists were and they're going to hate Anita Bryant for saying that."

While it is unfortunate that much has already been done by Anita's battles against homosexuals, it is certainly commendable of Ms. Bryant to face up to her mistakes. If her new message of compassion is as effective as the previous wave of fear and hatred she spread, perhaps we can look forward with some hope from society, and religion, with emphasis on exclusion, oppression, and mere rules, and toward a society based on humanitarianism, caring and equality.

My Kind Of Christmas . . .

Renee Mercaldo

The icy wind blows sharply against the fallen trees of the thicket. The World is a blur of grey and white, cold and abandoned by almost all of nature's creatures.

Set back deep in the glen lies a small cottage. All is still except for the slow wavering grey smoke rising from the chimney. Suddenly a dark figure emerges from within the cabin and stoops to lift the sturdy logs from the stack by the door. He returns inside to a roaring fire, which lightens the otherwise darkening room. The figure sets the two logs down by the fireplace. Then, after removing his cloak, he joins his family around the pine table in the farthest corner of the room. Several candles are lit on the table, their twinkling flames casting shadows upon the wall and their bayberry scent filling the air.

All join hands and lower their heads for a moment in solemn prayer. Now the room bustles with the excitement of Christmas Eve dinner. The clattering of plates, the warmth of friendly voices and joyful laughter. The Christmas tree by the window reflects the glow of the fire in its ornaments while the brightly wrapped presents can't wait to be opened.

Dinner is finished, a security and closeness engulfs all as they sit by the fire, sipping hot chocolate and tossing a twig or two into the crackling blaze.

The sun has slipped below the horizon and the winter night has settled in. Snow begins to fall as the sharp wind continues to cut the thicket. Somehow the forest doesn't seem quite as desolate anymore.

Human Rights and the Role of the U.S. in the Philippines

Hedy Kalikoff

In 1972, President Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law in the Philippines. Since then, opposition to his regime has been brutally repressed by the military. 70,000 people have been arrested, many of them tortured, and an estimated 1,400 to 6,000 people have been imprisoned for their political views.

Although the Philippines receive more aid from international lending agencies than any other country in the world, almost 80% of its preschool children suffer from inadequate nutrition. Distribution of income is cruelly inequitable. 85% of the population lives in substandard rural conditions.

U.S. military aid to the Philippines increased by 138% last year (from \$32 million to \$76 million), despite the fact that the Pentagon has clearly stated that "the Philippines is neither perceived as a threat by other nations in the region, nor is it threatened by them."

In return for allowing the U.S. to maintain two major military bases and twenty other installations in the Philippines, Marcos now receives \$100 million from the U.S. in military and economic aid every year.

Background, Martial Law

In 1946, the U.S. granted the Philippines independence. However, that title is purely formal; U.S. businesses have retained trade and ownership privileges and the U.S. military is firmly entrenched in the Philippines.

Criticism of the U.S. by Filipinos reached a peak in the 1960's and 1970's. Economic strife, a rise in nationalism, and opposition to the American use of Philippine bases in the Vietnam War led to an attack on the U.S. role in the Philippines. Responding to rising anti-American protests, the Phil-

ippine Congress passed laws limiting foreign ownership of business and land. Americans began to withdraw their investments. Opposition to the Marcos regime continued.

In retaliation, President Marcos established martial law, dissolved the Congress, repealed laws limiting foreign ownership of land, business and banks, shut down universities and newspapers, forbid labor strikes and union organizing, and passed a new constitution granting him "Constitutional Authoritarianism."

U.S. Aid and Investment

Since the establishment of martial law, aid to the Philippines has increased. In the late 1970's, the Marcos regime received over \$1 billion in aid every year from international lending agencies (the World

Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank). Yet there is still widespread poverty and hunger. The upper 20% of the population receives 54% of the total family income while the bottom 20% gets only 4%. In 1976, inflation was 7.8%. By 1979 it had reached 25%. Clearly, the billions of dollars being poured into the Philippines are not reaching the right people, nor are they boosting its seriously troubled economy.

American and multinational corporations control a huge percentage of Philippine banks, businesses and land. These foreign corporations justify their presence in the Philippines by claiming they provide employment for the Filipinos. They neglect to mention that many Filipinos have been driven off their land by foreign businesses. A Del

continued on p.6

Close-up on the Philippines: One Family's Story

Hedy Kalikoff

Roberta Lopez, a sophomore at Connecticut College, lived in the Philippines until 1977. The Lopez family had always been considered a distinguished, well-established member of the Philippine elite. But, immediately upon declaration of martial law, Roberta's father, editor of a family-owned newspaper, was arrested and imprisoned. Five years later, Eugenio Lopez, Jr. staged an extraordinary escape, and today Roberta and her family live in San Francisco.

The Lopez family had long been associated with the Philippine media. Roberta's grandfather owned a newspaper, a TV/Radio station, and an electric company. The family newspaper had been printing moderate criticism of the

Marcos regime. One night in 1972, military police came to the Lopez house and took Eugenio Lopez, Jr. away for interrogation. He was soon imprisoned on false charges of attempted assassination.

It was not only criticism of Marcos' regime that led to the arrest of Lopez, but also ownership of an electric company, Meralco. While Eugenio was in detention, Marcos forced his family to sign the company over to the Marcos Foundation for \$1,400. A few years later he sold it to the government for over \$140 million.

The arrest of Eugenio Lopez, Jr., along with Sergio Osmena (the son of another leading oligarch), was a symbolic gesture as well as a practical measure. It was a warning to other

continued on p. 6