



CAMPAIGN FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE PHILIPPINES

October 20, 1978

*nuclear resistance in the pacific*

Dear Friends,

We are writing to invite you to take part with us in a Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Philippines. The enclosed documents will explain to you why we feel this is such an important area of concern and why the present moment seems ripe for action.

Our efforts in the U.S. and elsewhere in the world to stop construction of a Westinghouse nuclear power plant in the Philippines follow upon the initiatives of Filipino citizens. Risking imprisonment and torture, 50,000 Filipinos recently signed a petition against the proposed plant.

Because \$644 million of our tax dollars, channelled through the U.S. Export Import Bank, would subsidize construction of this plant, U.S. citizens have a legitimate and major role to play in this struggle.

Fortunately, it is still possible to stop construction. The NRC has not yet granted Westinghouse an export license for this plant. ExImBank funding has been approved but not yet fully disbursed.

A number of lawsuits have been filed by such groups as the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Union of Concerned Scientists challenging the legality of the Westinghouse-Philippines transaction. There is no doubt that a strong public expression of opposition to the project would influence the political climate in which these suits will be heard.

Partly as a result of the hard work of the movement, the nuclear industry is in financial trouble and looking to exports for a way out. If they were now to discover that the same forces which have successfully opposed their domestic operations also oppose their distant activities, they might have to call it quits.

We believe that the Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Philippines is an important test of the readiness of the anti-nuclear movement to extend its concern beyond national borders. Our adversary, the nuclear industry, is global in its sphere of operation. We believe the movement has arrived at a stage of maturity wherein a global perspective is possible.

Very strong support for an International Day of Protest against the licensing of the Westinghouse nuclear reactor export to the Philippines was voiced at the "No Nukes National Strategy Conference" in Louisville, Ky., in August, the Mobilization for Survival National Conference in Des Moines, Iowa, in September, and the Critical Mass conference in Washington, D.C. in October.

*Nautilus Alliance - 112 Hebard Street - Santa Cruz, California 95060 - 4-8-425-5939*

Following are our proposals for the campaign we would like you to join:

1. IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT OF THIS LETTER: Write letters to the NRC modeled on the enclosed sample letter. We feel it makes sense to begin our campaign with these letters in which we state our objections both from a legal and a moral standpoint. Future actions will derive legitimacy from ~~this~~ prior expression of concern. As various agencies of government are involved, please send copies of your letter to: 1.) your Congressperson 2.) Pres. Carter 3.) Katherine Schirmer, Office of the President, The White House (she is an ally) 4.) John Moore, Chairman, U.S. Export-Import Bank, 811 Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20571 5.) us - Nautilus Alliance.
2. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Please review the enclosed Principles of Unity, and if you can agree, send us your endorsement of the campaign.
3. NOVEMBER 30th: The NRC licensing process is extremely erratic, and we have no way of knowing when the Westinghouse reactor export will come up for review --- only that it is likely to be soon. November 30th was selected through a process of international consultation as the date for an International Day of Protest. Actions in the U.S. will focus on NRC headquarters in Washington, D.C.; the 5 NRC regional offices; Westinghouse headquarters in Pittsburgh; and Federal office buildings everywhere. (NOTE: The NRC regions are as follows: Region 1 includes Conn., Del., Wash.D.C., Maine, Md., Mass., N.H., N.J., N.Y., Pa.Pa., R.I., Vt. --- office in King of Prussia, Pa. Region 2 includes Ala., Fla., Ga., Miss., N.C., S.C., Tenn., Va., Virgin I., W. Va., Puerto Rico, Canal Zone, Panama, office in Marietta, Ga. Region 3 includes Ill., Ind., Iowa, Mich., Minn., Ohio, Wis., office in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Region 4 includes Ark., Colo., Idaho, Kansas, La., Mont., Neb., N.M., N.D., S.D., Okla., Texas, Utah, Wyo., office in Arlington, Texas. Region 5 includes Alaska, Ca., Hawaii, Nev., Ore., Wash. and U.S. Trust Territories in the Pacific, office in Walnut Creek, Ca.)

We are keenly aware of the fact that time for organizing is short, and that each group must adapt this proposal to its local circumstances. For coherence, we suggest that whatever you decide to do with this, you make the demands listed at the end of "Principles of Unity" the focus of your action. Be sure to let us know what you are doing! Friends abroad should cable NRC.

We hope it may be possible for your group, before November 30th, to hold an educational meeting to explore the issues more deeply. In many areas, we can recommend resource persons. Also we will soon have a 30-minute tape ready. Please consult us.

We anticipate that most of the support for this action will come from anti-nuclear activists. However, as there is a clear basis for outreach to human rights groups, other Third World groups, as well as consumer groups concerned about taxes, we urge you to do as much outreach to these groups as possible.

4. We urgently need your financial contributions, in addition to your contributions of time and energy in order to carry out this campaign. Should it be difficult for your group to make a contribution, an easy and pleasant way to raise money as well as interest in the campaign would be to hold a benefit Filipino dinner. Filipino cuisine is delicious, easy to prepare, and has the appeal of the exotic for most Americans. We are hoping that groups involved in the campaign can contribute at least \$25.00 each. Checks should be made payable to Vanguard Foundation, and earmarked to Nautilus Alliance, Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Philippines.

5. We expect shortly to be in contact with individuals, at least, in each area to get your response to these proposals. We very much hope that this Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Philippines will be an important step toward a strong and successful campaign for a nuclear-free Earth.

Peace,

*Judith Hurley*

Judith Hurley  
Nautilus Alliance,  
Western United States Coordinator,  
CAMPAIGN FOR A NUCLEAR-FREE PHILIPPINES

USEFUL ADDRESSES:

Eastern States Coordinator:

Nikki Perlas  
Center for Development Policy  
401 C Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
703-528-7399

National office of Friends of the Filipino People:

Friends of the Filipino People National Office  
318 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
202-546-2283  
(Has lists of Filipino resource people throughout U.S. and Canada)



november 30, 1978

international day of protest  
against westinghouse nuclear reactor export  
to the philippines



ernesto nazareno



"I AM A NATIVE OF THE TOWN OF NAGBALAYONG, MORONG BATAAN. AT PRESENT WE ARE FACING A VERY BIG PROBLEM WHICH WE HAVE NO POWER TO STOP EVEN IF THE WHOLE TOWN JOINS FORCES. A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. THIS PLANT ALARMS US BECAUSE WE ARE ALREADY EXPERIENCING THE EFFECT OF THE PROJECT ON OUR LIVELIHOOD AND ON OUR HEALTH. MANY OF US HAVE NO MORE LAND TO TILL. THE LANDS WHERE WE USED TO GET OUR FOOD AND LIVELIHOOD FROM ARE EITHER BOUGHT AT LOW PRICE OR CONFISCATED BECAUSE THEY ARE NEEDED BY THE PLANT. BEFORE, THE FISHERMEN USED TO FISH NEAR THE SHORE. NOW, THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION HAS DRIVEN THE FISH AWAY BECAUSE EARTH FILLINGS ARE WASHED DIRECTLY INTO THE SEA. PARTS OF THE MOUNTAINS ABUNDANT IN FRUIT TREES AND OTHER CROPS ARE ALREADY LEVELLED OFF AND ARE NOW REPLACED WITH NPC CONTRACTORS' BARRACKS. SINCE THE TOWN IS NEAR THE PLANT SITE, WE MIGHT BE RELOCATED. IF SO, WHERE SHALL WE GET THE LIVELIHOOD TO SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN? I HOPE THAT YOU WILL HELP US IN OUR PROBLEM. I HOPE THAT WE WILL NOT SUFFER TOO MUCH POVERY AND SICKNESS IN THE FUTURE BECAUSE OF THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION."

(signature withheld)



# MODEL FOR LETTER TO BE SENT TO NRC:

The Commissioners  
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
1717 H Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20002

(Note: It is important to send separate letters to each of the 5 commissioners --- Ahearne, Bradley, Gilinsky, Kennedy, and the Chairman, Joseph Hendrie.)

Dear Commissioner:

We are writing to you in connection with the Westinghouse application for a license to export a nuclear power plant to the Philippines, an application which now awaits your decision. We believe that the life and property of millions of Philippine citizens, and, with them, thousands of Americans resident in the Philippines, is endangered by this plant.

Before making this important decision, we urge you to consider the following points:

1. The proposed Philippine nuclear power plant is located near three major American establishments, Subic Naval Base, Clark Air Force Base, and the Bataan Export Processing Zone, the latter of which is dominated by American investors.

The proposed plant is plagued with all sorts of siting, reactor design, and environmental problems. Of special relevance is NRC's own staff critique of the plant. Briefly, your own staff people have found that: a) the orientation of the turbine generator offers unacceptable safety risks; b) the plant is located near the Subic Naval Base where U.S. fuel and ammunition are stored; c) the area has a long history of intense seismic activity, the proposed plant being located 10 miles from a volcano which is considered active according to NRC standards.

The above-mentioned circumstances, because they endanger the lives and property of U.S. citizens, as well as Philippine citizens, make it necessary for the NRC, according to the requirements of the Atomic Energy Act and by its own admission (NRC Staff Analysis of Health and Safety Considerations in Reactor Exports and Assistance Programs, P. 1), to do a detailed health and safety analysis of the proposed plant.

2. Congressional hearings on Export Import Bank's financing of the Westinghouse-Philippines transaction have demonstrated the expected negative impact of this sale upon social and economic conditions in the Philippines.

While the applicability of the National Environmental Protection Act of 1969 to U.S. exports is a matter

of controversy, we feel strongly that the socio-economic as well as environmental impact of any nuclear export substantially assisted by U.S. funds should be assessed prior to licensing. The environmental impact assessment for this plant has not yet been done.

3. The alleged bribery of a close associate of President Marcos by Westinghouse is presently under investigation by the Department of Justice. Apart from the generic issues mentioned above, it would be irregular for a license to be granted while such an investigation is under way.
4. The Marcos government, which, by its own admission, has detained over 60,000 political dissenters since the declaration of Martial Law in 1972, has been identified as repressive by numerous human rights organizations, including Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists. 50,000 Philippine citizens have risked imprisonment under martial law to express their opposition to the construction of the Westinghouse plant. Certain of these have been imprisoned and tortured.

Therefore, ExImBank support for the financing of the Westinghouse-Philippine transaction appears to be in violation of the Human Rights Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1977 which prevents aid to repressive regimes unless it can be shown to directly benefit the needy. Again, it is irregular for the decisions of any governmental agency or agencies to result in the violation of a duly enacted law of Congress.

For all of these reasons, we urge the NRC to suspend any decision that would grant an export license to Westinghouse for the Philippines nuclear power plant or any of its components until:

1. the NRC has done a detailed health and safety analysis of the proposed plant as it would do for a similar project within the United States;
2. an environmental impact statement for the plant is prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Protection Act of 1969;
3. the Justice Department has cleared Westinghouse of charges of bribery;
4. a review of the applicability of the Human Rights Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1977 to U.S. assistance to this project is undertaken by Congress.

Above, we have listed several points at which we believe the proposed Westinghouse reactor export to the Philippines to be in violation of the law. Beyond these particularities, however, our study of the total impact of the proposed nuclear power plant not only upon U.S. and Philippine citizens, but, in addition, upon the indigenous peoples of Canada and Australia,

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whose land rights may be violated to secure uranium to fuel the reactor, as well as the native people of Micronesia, who are likely to be burdened with the wastes from the reactor, not to mention all living beings on earth, who will be put to risk from radioactive contamination of the biosphere, leads us to a complete and principled opposition to the licensing of this or any other nuclear export to the Third World.

We appreciate your very serious consideration of these matters and hope to hear from you in the near future.

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## PRINCIPLES OF UNITY: CAMPAIGN FOR A NUCLEAR FREE PHILIPPINES

### Global Perspectives

Stopping nuclear power and weapons in advanced countries may have little effect in the long run if the nuclear industry continues unlimited nuclear exports. Because of the strong and growing resistance to nuclear power in the U.S., Europe, and Japan, Westinghouse and other suppliers of reactors are now turning to the Third World to increase their sagging sales. Of the 527 reactors now operating, under construction, or on order worldwide, over 300 have been built or licensed by United States multinational corporations.

It is, therefore, no surprise to learn that, in the U.S., American taxpayers, through the Export Import Bank, have been facilitating these sales via loans to Third World buyers. In fact, such financing represents a direct public subsidy to the domestic nuclear industry and to foreign weapons proliferation. Government subsidies of this sort are also found in nuclear-exporting countries like Canada, France, and West Germany.

It is no surprise that some of the most eager customers are countries controlled by repressive dictatorships, countries where human rights such as freedom of speech and assembly died years ago. Most of these countries, such as Chile, the Philippines, Pakistan, Korea, Iran, and Brazil, read like a Who's Who in Amnesty International.

Furthermore, nuclear power is the last thing that these countries need. First of all, most developing countries cannot afford investment in this capital-intensive power source. Secondly, nuclear power further strengthens the centralized control a dictatorial regime has on its people. Thirdly, inequity is aggravated because electricity tends to serve the interests of a few. Fourth, the nuclear regulatory capabilities of these countries are inadequate, increasing the likelihood of loss of life and property through nuclear accidents. And, finally, other, more viable alternatives are available.

But nuclear vendors pay no attention to such considerations. They will turn anywhere they can to gain their profits. In fact, the nuclear industry, especially in the U.S., has argued that if their country does not sell their nuclear facilities and materials abroad, others will. This argument is clearly bogus: one does not prevent an evil by promoting it. There are also strong anti-nuclear and anti-export movements in the other vendor nations.

Therefore, it is not enough to oppose nuclear power in our own backyards. We cannot stand still and watch our hard-won victories against nuclear power turned against the people of the Third World. We must move now to expose and stop the export of nuclear reactors to the Third World. We must also move now to defend the rights of indigenous peoples in Australia, the U.S., Canada, and South Africa, people under whose land much of the uranium which will fuel these reactors lies. We must act in solidarity and together contain the global spread of the nuclear cancer.

We have an immediate opportunity to put these general principles into practice. The Westinghouse nuclear reactor presently being constructed in the Philippines is a textbook case in the negative side-effects and dangers of exporting reactors: It is a case of bribery, human rights violations, health and safety hazards, oppressive foreign military and economic policy, government subsidy for the nuclear industry, inappropriate technology and development concepts, exploited labor, and so on. While construction of the plant is 20% complete, the reactor license has not yet been obtained from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Moreover, ExImBank funds have been only partially disbursed. These facts offer us a handle on stopping the Westinghouse nuclear power plant in the Philippines, while stopping the Westinghouse-Philippines deal is, in turn, a key to stopping all ExImBank-funded nuclear exports to the Third World.

#### OPPOSITION TO THE PHILIPPINES REACTOR

WE DECLARE OUR UNITY WITH THE STRUGGLE OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THE PHILIPPINES TO STOP THIS REACTOR FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

##### HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARDS

Westinghouse is building this reactor in the face of obvious safety hazards, including the absence of any viable plan for waste disposal and the proximity of the site to four active volcanoes and a major earthquake fault.

##### BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION

Corruption surrounds the Philippines deal. Payoffs to a close relative of Marcos, estimated at \$35 million, illustrate the extent to which Westinghouse is determined to go to sell its dubious technology.

##### VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Filipino people do not want this reactor. Despite martial law restrictions, approximately 50,000 Filipinos have signed a petition urging President Marcos to stop construction of the plant and abandon all further nuclear energy plans for the Philippines.

The local opposition has met severe repression from the military. A Methodist pastor was threatened with arrest merely for asking a government representative questions pertaining to nuclear accidents. Ernesto Nazareno, who was arrested and brutally tortured before his disappearance, is feared to be the reactor's first murder victim.

The Marcos government, which, by its own admission, has detained over 60,000 political dissidents since martial law was declared in 1972, has been identified as repressive by Amnesty International and the International Commission of Jurists. The U.S. government's financial support of the project expressly violates the Human Rights Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1977. This Amendment requires the President to cut off economic aid to governments which grossly and consistently violate the human rights of its citizens, unless that aid can be shown to 'directly benefit needy people.' Nuclear electricity hardly qualifies as benefiting the needy.

#### INAPPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY

Electricity from this reactor will principally benefit foreign corporations and the rural and urban rich and not the great majority of Filipinos who cannot afford electricity, much less electrical appliances. Foreign-owned industries operating in the nearby Bataan Export Processing Zone will be supplied from the plant. Filipinos who must eventually pay for this nuclear plant are thus subsidizing the same industries which pay them little over \$1 per day in wages.

The reactor project deprives the Philippines of funds needed in other more vital areas of development such as land reform and rural transformation. Over 30% of Filipino children under the age of 6 are severely malnourished, and diseases relating to poor water supplies and sanitation are the leading causes of death. In spite of this, \$1.1 billion in foreign exchange has already been devoted to the purchase of this reactor --- an amount equivalent to over 15% of the country's external debt.

Nuclear electricity production will sharply reinforce the dependence of the Philippine economy on the United States. The creation of a technologically dependent energy complex will give the U.S. an unparalleled degree of control over the Philippines and a strong veto over the country's policies.

The reactor threatens massive disruption of the economic existence of at least 11,000 Filipinos living in the vicinity of the plant. Its construction has already caused the loss of grazing fields, the destruction of rice-paddy by landfill from the plant site, the destruction of fish spawning grounds and fruit trees, and the displacement of nearly 100 families from the plant site who now live in flimsy shacks on the rocky hillside overlooking the plant. The poor subsistence farmers and fishermen of the area have already suffered great losses, and many fear they will have to leave the area entirely once the reactor starts operation.

##### GENOCIDAL THREATS TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Because uranium to fuel the proposed reactor is expected to come from the native lands of the indigenous peoples of Australia and/or Canada, despite their opposition to uranium mining, and because the wastes from the proposed plant are likely to end up on the same islands which were used for nuclear bomb tests, islands inhabited by native peoples of Micronesia, and because all these traditional peoples have already suffered such a political, economic, social, cultural, and technological onslaught at the hands of the advanced industrial countries that they are barely maintaining the most minimal hold upon their traditional ways of life, it is no exaggeration to state that this reactor proposal constitutes a threat of genocide to these indigenous peoples.

##### NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROLIFERATION

The nuclear project will give the Marcos regime access to a nuclear fuel core which can become the base for nuclear weapons development. To provide the Marcos regime with nuclear fuel and technology is to invest in long-term instability not only in the Philippines but in the whole of Southeast Asia.

FOR ALL THESE REASONS, WE DEMAND:

1. THAT THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REFUSE TO LICENSE THE WESTINGHOUSE REACTOR EXPORT TO THE PHILIPPINES.
2. THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HALT ANY FURTHER DISBURSEMENT OF EXIMBANK MONEY TO FINANCE THE WESTINGHOUSE-PHILIPPINES REACTOR SALE, AND IMPLEMENT THE HUMAN RIGHTS AMENDMENT TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1977.
3. THAT PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE U.S. CONGRESS PRESSURE THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT AND LAUNCH THEIR OWN INVESTIGATION INTO THE WHEREABOUTS OF ERNESTO NAZARENO AND SECURE HIS IMMEDIATE RELEASE.
4. BECAUSE CONDITIONS PREVALENT IN THE THIRD WORLD RESEMBLE THOSE IN THE PHILIPPINES, THAT LICENSING OF NUCLEAR EXPORTS TO ANY THIRD WORLD COUNTRY BE DISCONTINUED.

