



NORTHWEST COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF FOREIGN BORN

316 Bay Bldg., Seattle, Washington

The late Justice Frank Murphy, U. S. Supreme Court who in 1945 wrote: " The Bill of Rights belongs to them (aliens) as well as to citizens...once an alien lawfully enters and resides in this country he become invested with the rights guaranteed by the Constituion to all people within our borders. Any other conclusion would make our constitutional safeguards transitory and discriminatory in nature..."

Article VIII of the U.S. Constitution: Excessive bail shall not be required, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted.

The Case of Filipino-Americans:

The Filipinos were imported into the U.S. by big shipping interests and agricultural barons to work on a peonage basis in the rich farmlands of the Pacific Coast, especially in California-- the factories in the fields. They were herded in bunk houses devoid of sanitation and living facilities. But living in communities where victims of discriminations and exposed to individual if not group annihilation, the human instinct to preserve themselves vigorously asserted itself. It is no wonder, then, that they had to find common interests in their type of work which eventually expressed itself in the fight for collective security vanguarded by organized labor.

Only recently Filipinos were permitted by law to buy, lease real estate, practice in the professions, marry a person of their choice, and become naturalized Americans. The manifold opportunities secured for them by these long delayed privileges, strengthened by their economic and political gains, their trade union alignments, have solidified & driven the Filipino workers into

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ERNESTO MANGAOANG is the number one target of the Justice Department-employer drive against the cannery workers. Mangaoang is so honored because for many years he has been and still is one of the leaders of not only the cannery workers, fishermen, warehousemen, agricultural workers and longshoremen. Mangaoang, like Harry Bridges, symbolizes the strength and power that workers feel when they work and fight together for the common good.

Mangaoang has been arrested four times illegally. He has been jailed and denied the right to bail and released only after vigorous mass protest. After numerous deportation hearings and a Federal court trial, Ernesto Mangaoang's case has reached the U.S. Court of Appeals. His fight to stay in the U.S. and carry on for the workers has cost lots of money. It will take more. For example the record in the Appeals Court alone cost \$ 665.00. More thousands of dollars will be needed to carry Mangaoang's fight to eventual victory.

The case of PONCE TORRES, another long time leader of the cannery workers, is just one step behind that of Mangaoang. It has recently been argued in the District Court and that an appeal is now being prepared to the U.S. Circuit Court.

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The Case of Filipino-Americans
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(Ponce Torres...Cont. from P 1)

the mass organizations striving for a democratic America.

Because of their unrelenting economic and political struggles over the years, against complete annihilation they were often found in many battle fronts fighting for better living conditions and higher wages in industries and organizations that affect their security. Is it a crime, then, that out of them there arose leaders who gave a challenging voice of protest--who gave meaning to their desires and aspirations of equality and to be accorded the same opportunities for the improvement of their social status as other Americans? Is not the desire to elevate one's status the fundamental principle of American Democracy?

We unequivocally maintain that the mass arrest and hysteria to deport Filipinos because of their uncompromising labor activities is a grave violation of all that America stands for. It is un-American. It contravenes our concept of freedom. It is naked fascism--the negating historical force that we fought against in the last war. For it is not only Filipinos and other foreign born that are affected--14 million foreign born of which 3 million are non-citizens--but also native born Americans as well. Under the McCarran Acts and the malignant forces enforcing it, no one is free, no one is safe. The whole concept of freedom is in danger.

Deportation Drive is

Union Busting:

As of this date nine Filipinos have been arrested for deportation to the Philippines by the Immigration Service under the thought-control provisions of the McCarran Acts, while hundreds of ILWU Local 37 members have been questioned & intimidated, and other arrests may be forthcoming upon the enforce-

Even before the appeal is accepted -- \$ 250. dollars has to be handed to the court as bond.

This attack upon the Unions and union members can be stopped by the united demand of the people in our community. Such demands can be made in the form of letters by individuals and organization to John F. Boyd, Westcoast Immigration Director, Attorney General James P. McGranery, and President Truman.

The money that you send to stop the deportation of Ernesto Mangaoang and Ponce Torres is for your insurance. It insures that your civil rights and rights to work under union conditions will be protected. Foreign born Americans may be the first target of the employers and the Justice Department but native born Americans are next in line.

ment of the new Walter-McCarran Act. An attempt has already been made by the Immig. Service to denaturalize naturalized citizens, for the same reasons for trying to deport Filipino-Americans.

Achievements of Local 37-ILWU

Local 37 is affiliated to ILWU with a membership of 3,000. The union's policy clearly states that it does not discriminate against sex, racial origin, religious creeds and political beliefs. The Union opposes all reactionary trends and tendencies. It makes alliances with other labor groups and progressive organizations in the world wide demand for ending the Korean war, for a peace conference of the great Five Powers.

Over the years, Local 37 has won for its members, raises in wages and other valuable benefits. Up to 1933, workers in the Alaska salmon

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canneries earned about \$ 30 per mo. The work day was 12 hours under inhuman conditions without overtime. Living facilities were bad. Food was not fit for human consumption. Hiring was done by pro-industry labor contractors. The workers paid big fees for two months' jobs that left them practically penniless at the end of the season. Workers ended in debt to labor contractors.

Contrast present day conditions of Alaska cannery workers. Local 37 members get a 2 month guarantee of \$500 dollars for unskilled labor, plus overtime, sick benefits, and reasonable yearly wage increases. Living conditions are better, food is good. Transportation is paid to and from Alaska. Victories were won by the workers in the face of continued opposition from the employers in the salmon industry--- stoolpigeons, thugs, murderers, and discredited labor leaders,

Justice Department Takes Over:

The justice Dept., in keeping with its long anti-labor tradition came willingly in support of the employers' union busting program. The employers asked for the aid of the Justice Dept. after informers and

hired agents proved ineffective.

Hundreds of Local 37 members were "investigated" for so-called subversive activities. A reign of terror was started among Filipinos on the Pacific Coast, using the revocation of citizenship and threats of deportation if they did not "testify" that their officers were members of the Communist Party. Laws passed during World War 1 were revived. The Smith Act and the McCarran Acts were put to use. The Bill of Rights was pushed aside.

But the government did not want decent Americans. It sought stool-pigeons and perjurers. It had nothing to do with workers who believed in the ideals of democracy. This was fascism at work.

Investigations were conducted from Alaska to the Mexican border. Militant union men were grabbed in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. They were held in jail incommunicado and without bail. Most of these arrests and intimidations were made during union negotiations & NLRB conducted elections, the purpose of which is to bust the Union.

Besides Ernesto Mangaoang and Ponce Torres, the following have been arrested and face deportation solely because of their alleged political beliefs: Chris Mensalvas, President of Local 37 for the past 4 years. Father of three American-born children. Organizer and leader of California agricultural workers since the early '30s. A legal resident of the U.S for 23 years; Camimiro Absolor, past member of the Union's Executive Board. Now practically blind. A legal resident of the U.S. for 24 years; Joe Prudencio, Veteran of World War 11, Rank and file leader of Local 37. Father of two young American-born children; Ramon Encoloco, cannery Foreman and militant pioneer member of Local 37. A wife and a year old baby boy; Jose Raymundo, over 25 years in the U.S. and a militant rank and filer from Portland; Peter Cabornay, a legal resident of the U.S. for 30 years; Constancho Cargado, legal resident of the U.S. for over 30 years (now deceased over a year ago.); Pete Bonilla, Local 37 militant rank and filer from Honduras, Latin America.

The U. S. Immigration & Naturalization Service has also tried and still seeking to de-naturalize the following: Eulogio de la Cruz, a widower with a young daughter of San Pedro, California; and Roman Pesito, Local 37 pioneer member of Spokane, Washington, formerly from Portland, Oregon.

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" The impact of deportation upon the life of an alien is often as great if not greater than the imposition of a criminal sentence. A deported alien may lose his family, his friends and livelihood forever. Return to his native land may result in poverty, persecution and even death. There is thus no justifiable reason for discarding the democratic and human tenets of our legal system and descending to the practices of despotism....."
HON. FRANK MURPHY, FORMER U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE.

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I enclose \$.....as my contribution for appeals pending in the United States Circuit Court for Ernesto Mangaoang, Local 37-ILWU, Bus. Agent; and Ponce Torres, Local 37-ILWU member.

I pledge \$.....by.....

Name.....Address.....

City.....Zone.....City.....