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Counter-revolutionary Groups Target Syria's Infrastructure

Hiding behind the slogans of "freedom" and "human rights", counter-revolutionary groups based in Turkey have spent the last 2 years systematically targeting the industrial and public infrastructures of Syria, including oil and gas pipelines and power grids.

Damages to the power infrastructure alone now total over \$3.1 billion U.S. dollars.

Especially over the last 50 years, the people of Syria have waged one struggle after another to ensure that the wealth and resources of the country remained in the hands of the Syrian nation itself.

The resources and infrastructures targeted by counter-revolutionaries in Syria are part of the national patrimony

and an essential part of the means necessary to guarantee the country's freedom from imperialist pressure and domination.

The Syrian government and people continue to defend the national heritage and collective rights of the Syrian people by waging a stern struggle against the wreckers of the Syrian national liberation movement.

Today, when U.S. imperialism is occupying Iraq and declaring that the entire region must come under its thumb, the struggle of the Syrian government and people in defense of their independence and sovereignty is assisting peoples everywhere to defeat the colonial agenda and aggressive war program of U.S. imperialism and its allies.

Filipino People Protest Against U.S. Military

On January 17 a U.S. Navy ship ran aground in the environmentally protected Tubbataha coral reef off the coast of the Philippines. After the incident, not only were the U.S. troops involved allowed to evade questioning by Filipino authorities but they were allowed to leave the area and return to their base in Japan.

The ship remains grounded on the reef, damaging some 4,000 square

meters of the world heritage site.

This crime is a direct result of the "Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA)" which tramples on the Philippine's dignity and sovereignty by giving the U.S. complete jurisdiction over the actions of its soldiers even when they are in violation of Filipino law.

Since the incident occurred the movement in opposition to the Visiting

Continued

CPP Denounces Plan to Deploy U.S. Navy "Volunteers" around Tubbataha

On February 6, the Communist Party of the Philippines issued a statement. The following translation is reprinted from philippinerevolution.net.

The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) today denounced the Aquino regime for planning to allow the U.S. Navy to deploy "peace corps-like volunteers" around the Tubbataha Reefs supposedly to "guard" the area and ensure that no sea vessel will run aground again in the reefs.

"Such a plan smacks of hypocrisy! After the USS Guardian intruded into the Tubbataha wildlife protected area, caused substantial damage to the corals and exhibited bellicosity against Philippine park rangers, it would constitute extreme stupidity and servility for the Aquino regime to allow the U.S. military to deploy its so-called volunteers in the park area and entrust them with the task of protecting the reefs," said the CPP.

"In the first place, the U.S. Navy should be held accountable and be punished for its complete disregard for Philippine sovereignty," added the CPP. "The Filipino people should reject the U.S. offer of compensation if this will serve only to evade the payment of fines concomitant to being held accountable for violations of existing Philippine laws."

"More so, such U.S. offer of compensation should be rejected if this will serve only to justify the deployment of more American naval forces, whether they be volunteers or not, in the Tubbataha area or elsewhere," added the CPP. The CPP pointed out that the U.S. Peace Corps is a U.S. government interventionist tool that uses various socio-economic

projects as covers to carry out intelligence and social mapping.

The CPP also denounced the docking yesterday at Subic Bay of another U.S. warship, the U.S. naval guided missile destroyer USS Stockdale. The USS Stockdale arrived just a few days after a U.S. nuclear attack submarine, the USS Cheyenne, docked at the same area.

In accordance with U.S. plans to shift its foreign naval operations to the Asia-Pacific, more dockings by U.S. warships and submarines in the Philippines are expected.

"Under the Visiting Forces Agreement, the U.S. military is being allowed by the Philippine government to freely enter, patrol and dock in Philippine sea facilities and make effective use of the country as its military outpost and platform for its hegemonist operations in the Asia-Pacific."

Filipino People Protest

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Forces Agreement has grown dramatically. Over the last month, the Filipino people have organized hundreds of protests and mass actions, all across the country, to demand "Junk the Visiting Forces Agreement! U.S. Troops Out Now!"

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