

Some Asian Leaders Back Obama's 'War on China'

by Michael Billington

Dec. 17—Although the majority of the Asian nations have clearly rejected President Obama's insane demand for military confrontation with China, which he pushed during his November trip to Asia, the would-be dictator has won a few adherents to his war policy. On Dec. 12, Philippine President Benigno "Noy" Aquino, took steps to prepare the nation's paltry armed forces for a military engagement with China over contested islands in the South China Sea—a move which is militarily absurd, but openly positions the Philippines as a U.S. asset (and target) in Obama's planned war with China.

Meanwhile, the secretary general of Japan's opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Nobuteru Ishihara, speaking at the right-wing Hoover Institution in Washington, called for Japan to build military bases on the Senkaku Islands, contested by Japan and China, in the East China Sea, threatening to rekindle tensions between the two Asian powerhouses.

This follows Obama's announcement during his stop in Australia last month, that extensive U.S. Air Force and Naval capacities are being introduced into a new U.S. military facility in Darwin, out of range of Chinese ballistic missiles. In addition, Singapore has agreed to allow the U.S. to "station several of our newest littoral combat ships at Singapore's naval facility," according to the chief of U.S. Naval Operations, Adm. Jonathan Greenert. Greenert said that the ships would focus on the South China Sea, the site of conflict between China and several other nations, regarding sovereignty over various islands and raw material rights. Greenert added: "Similarly, 2025 may see P-8A Poseidon aircraft or unmanned broad area maritime surveillance aerial vehicles periodically deploy to the Philippines or Thailand to help those nations with maritime domain awareness."

The "Ring around China" policy, long the dream of the neo-conservative China-hawks in the Bush/Cheney

Administration, is being implemented by British puppet Obama as part of his global war plan.

The Japan That Says Yes to Obama

The call by the LDP's Ishihara for Japan to build military bases on the Senkaku Islands (called the Diaoyu Islands by China) is very much in keeping with the racist anti-China sentiment of famous father, Shin-aro Ishihara, the Governor of Tokyo since 1999. Known as the spokesman for the right-wing resurgence in Japan, the governor was the co-author with Sony chairman Akio Morita of *The Japan That Can Say No*, promoting Japanese cultural superiority, and calling for a break from U.S. domination of Japan. Now, with a British asset in power in Washington, Ishihara is ready to say "yes."

Son Nobuteru, whose LDP governed Japan for half a century, until its defeat in the 2009 election, has called for building Japanese military bases on the contested islands in the East China Sea. In the Nov. 14 Hoover Institution speech, Ishihara said, "I further believe that we must seriously begin contemplating the establishment of a permanent post for the Self-Defense Force" in the Senkaku Islands. He said China has become "assertive, one may even say aggressive. Emboldened by its new economic weight and growing military might, China's proclamations of its 'peaceful rise' appear more and more at odds with the emerging reality."

Nobuteru also announced during his visit to Washington that he is preparing to run for the presidency of the LDP. He met with many senior Administration and Congressional figures while in Washington, parading his belligerence towards China as a credential for U.S. support for his bid to run the LDP, and potentially the Japanese government.

Aquino: NerObama's Clone

Philippine President Aquino played front-man for Obama during the U.S. President's Asia tour, by insist-



Philippines President Aquino (right) is one of the few Asian leaders to join Obama's "Ring around China" policy; he is also mimicking the U.S. President's dictatorial ambitions. The two are shown here at the ASEAN-U.S. summit in New York, September 2010.

ing that China be denounced as an aggressor with respect to the territorial issues in the South China Sea, in the various Asian conferences which Obama attended. On Dec. 12, at the inauguration of a newly appointed chief of staff of the Philippine Armed Forces, Aquino announced a military mobilization against China. "We need to prepare for external challenges," Aquino blustered. "There are claimants to territories that are clearly ours. If before, the focus of the Armed Forces was on internal threats such as the MILF [Moro Islamic Liberation Front] and the New People's Army [communist insurgents], now we have to prepare for external challenges."

This is in keeping with Obama's pronouncement during his Asia tour that the "counter-insurgency wars" of Iraq and Afghanistan were being superseded by the large-scale war plans needed for confrontation with China. This is known as the "Air-Sea Battle" strategy, recently adopted by Obama to prepare for his war (on behalf of the British Empire) against Russia and China.

Noynoy Aquino is the son of former puppet President Cory Aquino (1986-92), who was placed in office by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his Deputy Paul Wolfowitz, after running the so-called "People's Power" coup against Ferdinand Marcos in 1986. Cory Aquino obediently shut down the industrial and agricultural policies implemented under Marcos, including

the first nuclear power plant in South-east Asia; her policies caused the collapse of the nation which continues today.

In addition to declaring the Philippines to be a launching pad for the U.S. military campaign against China, Noynoy also demonstrated that he is trying to beat Obama to the punch in creating dictatorships in their respective nations.

On the same day as his declaration against China, Aquino (1) declared war against the Catholic Church, perhaps the most influential institution in the largely Catholic nation; and (2) initiated impeachment proceedings against the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, to finish off the "separation of powers" in the (American-modelled) Philip-

pine Constitution.

While announcing his war mobilization against China, Aquino simultaneously boycotted the installation of Bishop Luis Antonio Tagle as the new Archbishop of Manila. Another influential Archbishop, Ramon Arquelles, said of the boycott: "The absence of the President for the very first time in the history of the Philippines was very conspicuous. He snubbed the most important religious group in the country."

It is of crucial importance that the Church has mobilized massive opposition to a population-reduction bill known as the "Reproductive Health Bill," which is virtually the only issue Aquino sponsored during his years in the Senate, before following his mother into the Presidency on behalf of the same foreign financial interests who ran her administration, and virtually all subsequent Philippine governments.

Assault on the Court

Even more blatant is Aquino's assault on the Supreme Court. Chief Justice Renato Corona, a former top aide to former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (2001-10), is accused of being overly partial to his former boss in judicial proceedings against her by the Aquino Administration. In particular, when Aquino attempted to prevent Arroyo from leaving the country to receive medical care, the Supreme Court ruled against him. Aquino disregarded the Court's ruling, and de-

tained the former President when she tried to leave, spitting in the face of the Supreme Court's Constitutional powers.

The Philippine House of Representatives, controlled by Aquino's party, impeached Chief Justice Corona on Dec. 12, and the Senate was sworn in to try the impeachment over the coming weeks. Corona, speaking on the steps of the Supreme Court, called Aquino a would-be dictator: "If this impeachment succeeds, what will happen? Mr. Aquino already has his cabinet, he controls the Congress, and he will have the Supreme Court in his hands. What he is sowing will surely yield a dictatorship—a dictatorship that results from deception and the poisoning of the minds of the people. I will resist the emerging dictatorship of President Benigno Simeon Aquino III."

Corona added, "The real objective is to destroy the judiciary, destroy democracy and impose the will of the 'beloved king.'" Several Filipino commentators have compared Aquino's actions to those of Adolf Hitler in destroying the only checks and balances to his personal absolute power. The Philippine LaRouche Society has prepared a poster of Aquino modelled on the now world-famous LaRouchePAC poster of Obama sporting a Hitler mustache.

Aquino's Justice Secretary Leila de Lima, asked how she could order the detention of Arroyo, in violation of the Court's ruling, responded that the Constitution must be considered "fluid"—as in *Alice in Wonderland*, words and institutions can mean whatever they want them to mean.

De Lima went even further following the impeachment of Corona, declaring that any Justice who defended the Chief Justice would face the possibility of impeachment.

While it is true that former President Arroyo was wildly corrupt, fixed elections, and packed the Supreme Court with faithful allies, Aquino is lying when he claims that his actions against her are based solely on considerations of justice. As Philippine LaRouche Movement chairman Butch Valdes has suggested, Aquino may have made a deal with Arroyo before the elections to prevent or delay criminal prosecutions against her and her family in exchange for her control of the electoral process to allow his victory in the Presidential elections of 2010.

Aquino protected Arroyo for over a year, but when the Supreme Court ruled that the massive feudal estate

known as Hacienda Lucita, owned by the Aquino family (including Noynoy and his mother Cory), must finally live up to the land-reform laws requiring them to make the land available for sale to the peasants who worked on it, this was too much for the Aquino feudal blood. The assault on the Supreme Court was then unleashed.

It is ironic, if not surprising, that the Ishihara family, which favors restoring feudal relations in Japan, and joining Obama in precipitating a nuclear confrontation with China, is famously close to the Aquino family in the Philippines.

Impeach Obama—and Aquino?

Lyndon LaRouche has insisted that the current total collapse of the Western financial system in Europe and the U.S., and Obama's mad dash for war against Russia and China, can only be stopped with the removal of Barack Obama from office through impeachment or other Constitutional means. There are those in the Philippines who recognize that the potential for the nation to contribute to the Great Pacific Alliance—the alliance of Russia, China, and the U.S. under post-Obama leadership, to join forces in replacing the bankrupt global financial system with a credit system to facilitate great infrastructure development as joint endeavors of the Pacific nations—will require removing Aquino from office through Constitutional means.

The bishops who have battled Aquino over his population control bill are also speaking out in regard to his effort to assert a dictatorship in the Philippines. A member of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, Deogracias Iniguez, has warned that the next high official to face impeachment could be President Aquino, once it is proven that he is employing a dictatorial style in running the government.

Bishop Arguelles said that Aquino's impeachment of the Chief Justice will fail, because many sectors of society will oppose dictatorial rule, and he doubts if the military would throw its support to him.

It is crucial for those opposing the dictatorial policies of Aquino that they also identify the most drastic aspect of this policy as Aquino's subservience to President Obama's insane push for global war, and work with those internationally who are fighting this threat to the survival of civilization.

mobeir@aol.com