



GABRIELA NETWORK, Los Angeles Chapter
A Philippine-US Women's Solidarity Mass Organization
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**GABRIELA NETWORK LA TO HOLD “PUBLIC SCREENING” AND MARCH
IN PROTEST OF POLITICAL MURDERS IN THE PHILIPPINES**

Since her initiation into power January 2001, Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has forged a list of human rights violations longer than that of former dictator and tyrant Ferdinand Marcos. According to the Asian Human Rights Commission, over 4,300 cases of human rights violations affecting 235,000 individuals, 24,500 families and 240 communities have been documented that are attributable to the military, police, paramilitary, and death squads of the government of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. According to an Amnesty International report, those most at risk for political repression and murder included members of legal leftist political parties, including GABRIELA Women's Party, other human rights and community activists, priests, church workers and lawyers.

To date, 752 journalists, community leaders and activists from across the social sectors have been murdered. The Paris-based organization Reporters without Borders has identified the Philippines as the second most dangerous country for journalists for the third year in a row, being beat out for the most dangerous country by Iraq. Of this steady growing list of victims at least 75 are woman, half of whom were organizers or leaders of Gabriela Women's Party and/or GABRIELA national women's alliance. Scores more have disappeared, been illegally detained, assaulted or harassed.

Since U.S. President George W. Bush has declared his so-called “War on Terror,” over 400 million U.S. tax dollars have been spent to support Mrs. Macapagal-Arroyo's campaign of murder – the fourth largest US foreign military aid package in the world.

Simultaneous protests will be conducted by GABRIELA Chapters in various U.S. cities and in the Philippines:

WHO: GABRIELA Network Los Angeles, its supporters and members of other community and activist organizations

WHAT: A spontaneous slideshow presentation of the victim's names and faces will be projected on the side of a building on busy Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood. A march to the intersection of Hollywood Boulevard and Highland Avenue will follow.

WHERE: Near the corner of Sunset Boulevard and Vine Street in Hollywood (in front of the Arclight).

WHEN: Friday, October 27, 2006, 7 PM – 8:30 PM

VISUALS: Giant projections of the victim's of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on Sunset Boulevard during rush hour traffic; protesters wearing black and donning purple veils marching through Hollywood; protesters carrying crosses bearing the names of murdered Filipina activists.

GABRIELA Network is a Philippine-US Women's Mass Solidarity Organization which has been in existence since 1989. ###