

Appendix B

AFFIDAVIT

OF

D. BOONE SCHIRMER

(National Coordinator, Friends of
the Filipino People)

1377 260

AFFIDAVIT OF D. BOONE SCHIRMER

I, the undersigned, D. Boone Schirmer, being first duly sworn do depose and say:

I am the National Coordinator of the Friends of the Filipino People. I have been on its Standing Committee since attending the organization's founding conference in 1973.

The Friends of the Filipino People is a non-profit organization incorporated in Washington, D. C. Its purpose is to spread information about the Philippines, and to bring such information to the attention of the people of this country so that they may make enlightened decisions affecting our government's relations with the Philippines.

The Friends of the Filipino People has chapters in twenty cities and towns and a national office located in the United Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, N. E., Washington, D. C. 20002, telephone 543-1093.

The Friends of the Filipino People engages in a program of independent and non-partisan research on questions of the Philippines and U. S. - Philippine relations. It publishes a quarterly bulletin and numerous pieces of educational material in book, brochure, and leaflet form.

Representatives of the Friends of the Filipino People have testified on numerous occasions before Congressional committees.

I am authorized to testify regarding the Friends of the Filipino's position on the proposed Westinghouse nuclear reactor in the Philippines.

The Friends of the Filipino People is opposed to the grant of an export license to the Westinghouse nuclear reactor in the

2.

Philippines and urges the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to hold a public hearing on this issue and to deny such an export license.

Our opposition is based on the following major reasons, all of which are spelled out in more detail in the application to which this affidavit is appended.

- 1) We believe the Westinghouse nuclear reactor is unsafe as planned since it is located on the slope of Mount Natib, a volcano authorities believe to be active, and on the site of a geological fault line presenting earthquakes of greater intensity than the plant is designed to withstand. Prevailing winds would tend to blow radioactive gases released by any accident at the reactor site to areas of very dense Filipino population and areas where U. S. military personnel are stationed. The problem of disposal of radioactive waste from the reactor has not been adequately provided for.
- 2) The Westinghouse reactor is planned even though there has been no adequate and free public discussion of the matter and possible dangers involved in the Philippines because of the repressive effect of the present Marcos martial law government. Despite this, however, large numbers of Filipinos have indicated their opposition.
- 3) The absence of free public discussion is not the only questionable political and social element in the plant's proposed construction. There is evidence that the plant contract was secured by Westinghouse corporation after the passage of a considerable sum of money to a person closely connected to President Marcos and his wife, i. e., to the leaders of the martial law government. The proposed plant suffers from the taint of corruption.

3.

4) Public opinion in the United States is making it increasingly difficult for corporations like Westinghouse to market unsafe nuclear technology in this country. We believe it is unwise, however, for the U. S. government to encourage such corporations to dump such unsafe technology on Third World countries like the Philippines where dictatorships exist and public opinion is repressed.

5) We do not believe that the U. S. government should encourage a U. S. corporation to distort Philippine national development by sponsoring a project that is unsafe, uneconomical, irrelevant to basic Philippine needs, and of extraordinary cost.

6) Whereas various political personalities, including those in the Carter Administration may be inclined to favor the granting of the export license to Westinghouse in order to curry favor with an influential U. S. corporation as the elections of 1980 approach, we believe the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as an independent body should rise above such considerations of supposed political advantage.

7) This Westinghouse nuclear reactor is to be financed largely by a loan to the Philippine government from the Export-Import Bank. This bank is largely financed by U. S. tax monies. We believe that the financing of the Westinghouse reactor would be an inappropriate use of U. S. taxpayers' money, especially because in the long run it is possible that it will be a cause of bad feeling on the part of the Philippine people towards the United States.

All of the above major reasons are more fully explained in

4.

the application to which this affidavit is appended.

/s/
D. Boone Schirmer

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on this _____ day of
_____, 1979.

Notary public

My commission expires _____.

1377 264