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We Forum

To seek
and live
the truth
and share
a vision

VOL 13

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JULY 24-25, 1989

P 2 only

IN METRO MANILA



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*Marcos' death throes
winning Americans'
sympathy; sparking
heated debates in US*



**Cory's trips:
Tama na!
Sobra na!**

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₱11-BILLION YEARLY TAKE FROM JUETENG

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**Gov't workers
start mass
walkout today**

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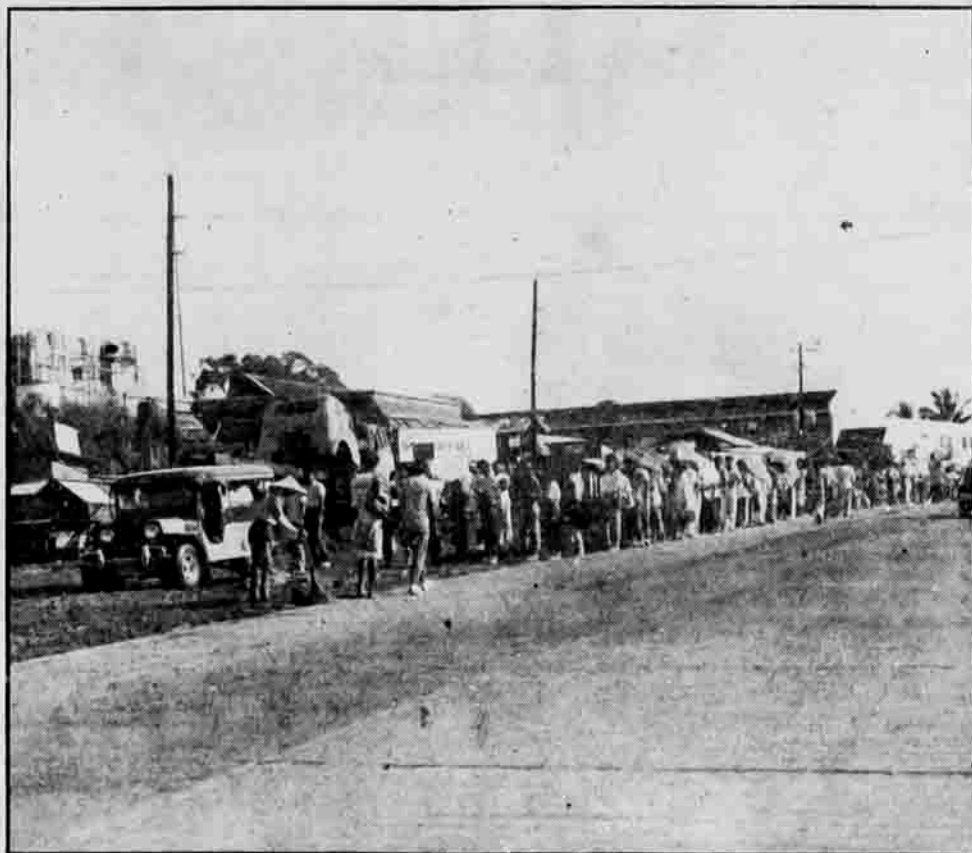
*Alma
sizzles
in new
film*

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TIME OUT -- These street urchins take time out from begging or peddling to try their luck in a penny-ante gambling on an island fronting the SM mall on North Avenue, Quezon City. (Roly Embile)

Sweeps Ticket No. 521942 wins P1-M --Page 13



DISCIPLINE -- Commuters line up for a jeepney ride along Visayas Avenue, near Tandang Sora, Quezon City, in what could be a start to instill discipline and order in an otherwise chaotic city.

Guingona proposes Nat'l Recovery Fund

By PATRIA AMOR

FILIPINO workers and residents abroad can be tapped to solve at least partially the external debt problem of the Philippines.

"The debt burden is still manageable," says Senate President Pro Tempore Teofisto Guingona Jr., who proposes the creation of a novel investment scheme, called the National Recovery Fund.

The Fund, in a bill Guingona has filed in the Senate, will use the foreign-ex-



Guingona: Can be done.

change earnings of the Filipino contract workers to settle a portion of the \$28.2-billion external debt. A specific body, headed by a project director, will carry out the proposed plan.

The Fund will float bonds and shares to be bought by Filipino overseas workers or residents. The proceeds will be used to buy Philippine debt notes at the prevailing discount rates in the international secondary debt markets.

Guingona says the scheme would flush out a substantial portion of the foreign-exchange earnings of Filipinos abroad through attractive incentives being offered by the Fund shares. These shares are not only tax-exempt; they will be free from any inquiry by the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Presidential Commission on Good Government on the source of the money.

Guingona says the Fund shares will enjoy a relatively higher yield, liquidity and a relatively low cost for mar-

keting and management. They will also avoid inflationary and budgetary pressures and assure the professional management of the Fund resources.

Guingona says if carried out successfully the plan can reduce the nation's debt burden by \$10 billion within five years and implement the Government's asset privatization program.

Quoting Sen. Alberto Romulo, Guingona says the more than one million Filipino overseas workers earn as much as \$2.5 billion a year, but only \$854 million, or 30.4% is officially remitted to the nation.

The undocumented Filipino nationals and immigrants in the United States, Canada, Australia and Europe and the "hoarded dollars" of many Filipinos and some foreign investors can also be tapped, generating an annual sale of \$1 billion of Fund shares a year.

Says Guingona: "It would not be unrealistic to project that with an aggressive and sustained marketing pro-

Marcos bout with death winning Americans' sympathy

By ALBERTO M. ALFARO

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Former President Marcos appears to be winning the sympathy of some Americans by his protracted bouts with death in a Honolulu hospital.

His dying wish to return home has been generating media mileage since his hospitalization last January. In his latest crisis, Marcos's transplanted kidney was removed because doctors suspected it was causing the widespread infection in his body.

This new crisis has once again given him and his wife, Imelda, the needed forum to press President Aquino to allow them to return. Mrs. Marcos tearfully told CBS News and newspaper reporters that Marcos will probably survive "if we could just tell him he could go home. I know that would save him."

Recently, she told Barbara Walters on ABC's 20-20 program about her new plea to Mrs. Aquino to grant her husband's wish. She read the full text of the letter, which she said was ignored by Mrs. Aquino. Walters



Marcos: Dying.

remarked that for humanitarian reasons, Marcos should be allowed to die in his homeland.

Asked if she intends to appeal directly to President Bush, Mrs. Marcos said she might do so as a last resort. During the entire 15-minute program, no mention was ever made of the fact that Marcos's mother, Dona Josefa, remains unburied in the Ilocos, waiting for the return of her son.

Another media opportunity surfaced recently when it was announced that Mrs. Marcos, together with the singer Imelda Papin, had produced an album of songs. While it made Mrs. Marcos an object of ridicule among some Filipino Americans, she

gained another media mileage by saying the songs were dedicated to her dying husband whose only wish is to die in his homeland.

Some Filipino American publications here have taken up the cudgels for Marcos. They point out that if there is now political and economic stability as claimed by Mrs. Aquino, then there is no more reason to stop Marcos's return. One columnist says Aquino is so vindictive she wants the Marcoses to suffer as much as she did when Ninoy was jailed after martial law and gunned down in Manila after his return from exile in 1983.

The issue has given rise to lively debates in Filipino American community gatherings all over the US. Many are prepared to forgive and forget, provided Marcos repents and returns all the money he got from the Filipino people. Some point out that Marcos, alive or dead, would still be capable of creating unrest because of his legions of followers. (Associated Editors)

gram, sales of the Fund shares can reach an average of \$1.0 billion annually, or \$5.0 billion in five years, which under prevailing secondary market discount rates of 50 to 60% can be translated into \$10 billion of our foreign debt."

The Fund will also procure and negotiate for the management of any Government asset to be privatized by a "qualified and competent group" under a five-year contract. The group has the option to buy the shares of stock of the enterprise.

The Fund will require the management group to buy Fund shares with a face value equivalent to at least 20% of the market value of the enterprise's paid-up capital stock and to provide all the operating capital necessary to run the enterprise or activate non-performing as-

sets.

The country has more than 100 non-performing assets worth P140 billion. They are now being disposed of by the Asset Privatization Trust, a Government body tasked for that purpose.

Guingona says the retirement of a substantial portion of the nation's foreign debt and the Fund's linkage to the asset privatization program will make available for the Government the money for its socio-economic projects.

"It will promote the sense of patriotism and unity of the Filipino people everywhere just as what the Liberty Bonds did for the American people at a time of crisis in their country's history," he says.

As proposed, the Fund shares will consist of "A" and

"B" shares. The "A" shares will be sold and paid in US dollars at a par value of \$500; the "B" shares will be in Philippine pesos at a par value of P5,000.

The Fund's project director, who will run the investment program, will be appointed by the President on the recommendation of an **ad-hoc** committee composed of the Finance Secretary as chairman and the chairmen of the committees on banks and financial institutions in the two houses of Congress.

The project director will recruit the personnel and draw up a marketing program for the sale of the Fund shares abroad. Sales agents will be named and they will earn corresponding commissions in their sale of the shares. (Associated Editors)

Jueteng: Illegal empire protected by the powerful

By ABE P. BELENA

SOON after the EDSA revolt, a cynical newsman commented, "I'll start believing in this government when it shall have stopped *jueteng* operations in this country."

His skepticism was well-grounded. Today, *jueteng* and other forms of illegal gambling have not only proliferated. They have spread to most of the provinces in the Philippines, from Cagayan and Ilocos Norte in the north to the predominantly Muslim provinces of Mindanao.

A MULTIBILLION-PESO EMPIRE

A recently "retired" *jueteng* king reveals that nationwide, illegal gambling, primarily *jueteng* and *masiao*, is a multibillion-peso business activity rivalling the biggest conglomerates operating in the archipelago.

He estimates that daily collections range from P30 to P50 million or at least P11 billion a year. Few business conglomerates gross that much, he points out. He notes that in Cebu City alone, illegal gambling lords rake in P1.8 million a day.

Up north in the small city of Baguio with only a 200,000 population, city councilor Eddie Aguilar reveals that a *jueteng* operator grosses an average of P1.2 million a day out of four successive secret draws.

In the whole Central and Northern Luzon which is under the solid grip of a lone *jueteng* banker from Guagua, Pampanga, the daily gross tops P15 million cold cash. Only a fraction of that is paid in prizes to winning numbers. The bulk of the collection goes straight to the gambling lord, his men and their protectors.

POLICE, PC AND POLITICIAN GODFATHERS

The retired *jueteng* king asserts

that *jueteng* could not survive without the protection of powerful men in government. He recalls that during the time of Marcos, he used to elude law enforcers who had a knack for practicing *hulidap* -- they would catch his men drawing the winning number combinations and then pocket all the collected bets.

They operated practically in the underworld, much like guerilla units.

The situation today is entirely different. Just last week, military operatives stopped the experimental small town lottering operations of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) in Baguio, not because it is illegal, but to protect the lucrative *jueteng* operations in the area, says Councilor Eddie Aguilar. It was the second time in less than a year that the military stopped the PCSO's small town lottering in the city while *jueteng* collectors go unmolested.

To demonstrate this fact, a Baguio newsman brought this writer to a popular restaurant. At the restaurant's table closest to the door were two enlisted men, one with an Armalite rifle and a policeman.

Inside, two waiters were busy taking in bets from the regular habitues. Below the menu board, the local newsman explained, is the bulletin board on daily winning numbers. That's how open the illegal numbers game has become in that resort city.

These observations came on the heels of a sensational case in Masbate where a community journalist was forced by the PC provincial commander to eat a copy of his newspaper for writing critical stories on *jueteng* while a gun was poked to his



A DAY'S TAKE: A provincial "correador" (*jueteng* bet taker) tallies his day's collection for an afternoon draw. (Roly Embile)

head.

This writer's insider source reveals that a typical set-up is for protection money to be shelled out to military officers and politicians including mediamen, and this usually ranges from 10 to 20 percent of daily collections. The military cut, he explains, is usually channelled through the provincial commander and the police chief or both. The military gets at least six percent, the mayor four percent, and the governor, three percent.

Some radio station managers and community paper editors are given fixed monthly honoraria to keep their mouths shut.

Jueteng payola is not limited to local politicians, military officers, newsmen and policemen. Baguio Congressman Honorato Aquino told this writer several congressmen from different parts of the country are involved. Since 1987, Aquino has been pressing for a thorough investigation of

the organized illegal gambling racket. After just one hearing, he recounts, most of those concerned congressmen cooled off.

Congressman Aquino has appealed to AFP chief of staff Gen. Renato de Villa and National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) director J. Antonio Carpio to investigate the matter so Congress can pass a good law on illegal gambling. Until this week, Congressman Aquino's appeal has not been acted on.

Further researches made by this writer give some clues as to why government investigating agencies are hesitant to dig deeper into illegal gambling operations. In some provinces, the military's share and those of local officials are partly used in the government's counterinsurgency campaign. In Abra, the money is allegedly used as additional incentives for certain CAFGU members who receive only a minimal monthly allowance from the

government.

The same practice is reported in other provinces where the government is fighting an expensive anti-insurgency war.

SYSTEMATIC CHEATING

Illegal gambling lords can afford to shell out huge sums to their protectors simply because there is no way they can lose to the bettors. In the case of *jueteng*, insiders call it *discarte* or *kalag*. A bettor selects a combination of numbers 1 to 37 or a winning odd chance of one is to 1,269.

Soon after all bets get in, the *revisador* reviews all the betted numbers and then selects the number combination with the least bet to be the winner. This way, they collect big and pay back small in winnings. This is done simply because *jueteng* is illegal and draws are done only by the gambling lord's men surrounded by their armed protectors.

Masiao, the game's counterpart in the Visayas and Mindanao, is done worse. At a time when *jai-alai* was still going on at the fronton in Manila, the *masiao* operators accepted bets on the winning numbers. Bettors are made to believe *jai-alai* has been revived. Out of the blue, they just come out with winning number combinations. For a touch of legitimacy, these are either announced by a popular radio announcer during his program or published as an advertisement in the Manila dailies.

Either way, the bettors are consistent losers while the *jueteng* and *masiao* kings, their Godfathers and their men are sucking in millions of pesos on bets in a nation of gamblers.

SOCIAL IMPACT OF THE RACKET

In relatively affluent cities like Baguio and Cebu, the independent observer

(Next page, please)

COMMITTED JOURNALISM



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RAID -- Military authorities load gambling paraphernalia after a sweep of an illegal numbers game.

cannot detect the direct impact of illegal gambling. It is in poor farming communities in Pangasinan, Tarlac and Pampanga and the island province of Mindoro where the social impact of **jueteng** becomes evident.

Observing the game in his home province of Mindoro, **Reuter** chief photographer Erik de Castro notes that it saps dry the money in circulation in a village until a time comes when the number of people betting dwindles.

The same trend has been observed by this writer in Pangasinan. The pathetic part of it is that, the poor keep on betting their last peso in desperate hopes to hit the jackpot.

Jueteng and **masiao**'s biggest come-on is that, it promises hope. A lucky peso wins a thousand pesos and the chances of winning are better than in ordinary sweepstakes draws.

ATTEMPTS AT LEGALIZATION

A newspaper editor who vehemently denies receiving bribes from the **jueteng** operator in his city says it simply. It is illegal so it must be stopped. But who will stop the operators when all those who must do so are on the

take?

The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, realizing the difficulty of stopping illegal numbers games, and wanting to raise more funds for charity and social programs, has initiated two projects in competition with **jueteng**.

First, it launched the Instant Sweepstakes tickets. After an initial public interest born of curiosity, instant sweepstakes were ignored. Winners were few and far between, unlike **jueteng** and **masiao** which never failed to come out with daily winners, the news of which spread like wildfire among bettors.

And then PCSO experimented on small town lotteries operating under the same principles as **jueteng** and **masiao** where these are popular to bettors.

In some experimental areas like Palawan, STL or lotto, as the experiment is called, has been proven effective in killing its illegal sister. And the communities where these are operated did benefit from the legal percentages.

But in other provinces, the **lotto** franchise holders found to their dismay that local officials and military personnel do not easily shed

their bad habits. One of them admits that besides giving away the legal percentages to local government units and military officers, they still have to shell out additional percentages for the pockets of those officials.

In other words, it is more expensive to operate the legal small-town lottery than **jueteng** or **masiao** in provinces where those in power have been used to receiving fat protection allowances.

WORDS OF WARNING

The nationwide proliferation of illegal numbers games is proof that life is getting harder in the rural areas now than during the past regime. It is the utter hopelessness and drudgery of living that prompts people to cling to that last straw of salvation in gambling.

But what alarms Congressman Aquino more is its corrosive effect on those who are supposed to uphold and enforce the law; government officials, military and police officers and the media.

He likens to termites, the corruption that **jueteng** breeds -- slowly but silently eating up the foundation of society until it simply crumbles for being rotten at its core. (PNF)

P550-M AID

German gov't prefers NGOs

By JUAN V. SARMIENTO, JR.

THE decision of the West German Government to channel some DM50 million (approximately P550 million) to non-government organizations (NGOs) in the Philippines is a recognition of NGO ability to effectively and efficiently use foreign assistance.

This also indicates the disenchantment of donor countries over the Philippine Government's failure to spend billions of dollars in Official Development Assistance (ODA).

The DM50 million grant to Philippine NGOs is part of the DM110 million (about \$61 million) the West German Government offered the Philippines during the visit of President Aquino to that country last week.

About DM60 million of the German aid package will be channeled through the Philippine Government.

A report of the German Development Institute

(GDI), "Cooperation of Official Donors with Philippine NGOs," said official aid agencies welcome cooperation with NGOs because of the "red tape and numerous project failures" of government-initiated programs.

GDI, a West Berlin research institute, found that about \$1.7 billion committed by foreign donors had not been used for local projects by the Philippine Government.

The Philippine Government's inability to efficiently use foreign assistance led to the creation of the Committee on Official Development Assistance (CODA) headed by the Philippine Aid Plan chief Roberto Villanueva precisely to unclog the ODA pipeline.

GDI found that NGOs in the Philippines are closer to the grassroots and are able to assist target groups in articulating their needs. NGOs can also carry out

projects at relatively low costs because they attract committed volunteers and have lower overhead costs.

Charlie Ocampo, executive director of the Ecumenical Center for Development (ECD), an NGO that processes project proposals of NGOs in the country, says NGOs are "less bureaucratic and are more efficient in using foreign assistance than the Government."

In addition, Ocampo said, "they have clearer development objectives."

Because of these built-in advantages of NGOs, other foreign donors have sought cooperation with them. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank, and the Canadian, Australian as well as the US Governments, are tapping the NGO community in the Philippines.

ADB defines an NGO as "one dedicated to the socio-economic upliftment of the

poor and disadvantaged, but which is private in nature, not having been established by any act or directive of the national or local government."

ADB has five classifications for the NGO community in the Philippines.

- 1) business-sector sponsored;
- 2) religious-or academe-supported;
- 3) private foundations;
- 4) cooperatives; and
- 5) cause-oriented.

The German Development Institute said that of the estimated 20,000 NGOs in the Philippines, only some 200 to 300 are involved in ODA-financed programs.

Most Philippine NGOs, said GDI, emerged as a response to the authoritarian Marcos regime.

Development-oriented NGOs focused on community-organizing to enhance people's capacity to express their aspirations while the

Marcos regime favored large-scale industries in urban centers which widened regional disparities.

These NGOs then formed umbrella organizations along ideological lines that enabled the "highly-politicized NGO movement" to help topple the Marcos regime in 1986.

GDI said Philippine NGOs, many of which are highly politicized, may not easily work with foreign government donors and with such financial institutions as ADB and the World Bank. Many NGOs perceive the ADB and the World Bank as responsible for promoting anti-poor development programs in the Philippines.

The West German Government's offer to finance NGO programs in the Philippines could be used by the Philippine Government in using German aid as a porkbarrel, however.

This possibility arose when Aquino directed Ex-

ecutive Secretary Catalino Macaraig to identify all NGOs which will be recognized as "direct grantees" of the German aid.

Aquino herself suggested that NGOs working with the government's Regional Development Councils be the first batch of grantees. It is likely that NGOs critical of the Aquino Government but which provide services to the poor will not be given financial assistance.

NGOs critical of the Government may not be tapped by the Government to use part of the German financial assistance since not a few of them have also been tagged by the military as "communist fronts."

On the other hand, NGOs which are non-political are likely to get the funds offered not only by the German Government but also by ADB, the World Bank and some Western Governments. (PNF)

Need to study conditions imposed on German aid

By GASPAR BALTHAZAR

THERE is considerable confusion about the amount and the nature of the aid pledged by the West German government to the Aquino administration. Until the confusion clears up, a sound judgment on the acceptability of the assistance cannot be made.

Official reports on the commitment of the Kohl government vary from those of the local press and foreign news services. At any rate, there are certain matters brought out in local and foreign reports that call for close and serious examination. One is to the effect that the delivery of West German

aid is contingent on the improvement of the Philippine government's performance vis-a-vis observance of human rights. Another is that the aid is to be given to non-government organizations through the Philippine government.

The complaints aired against the Philippine government for alleged violations of human rights on the occasion of President Aquino's recent state visit to the Federal Republic of Germany, were chiefly aimed at the Armed Forces of the Philippines. As the National Democratic Front, political arm of the Communist Party

of the Philippines, is behind the propaganda campaign against the Aquino administration in Western Europe, which inspired such complaints, it can be expected that similar complaints will be made while the military presses the government's counterinsurgency drive. This certainly will make it difficult for the West German government to determine the delivery or non-delivery of the promised aid.

In any event, it will be extremely difficult for the West German authorities to decide whether, by virtue of Philippine performance in the observance of human rights, it is called upon to extend aid to the Philippines.

The rigidity of the precondition for West German aid is remarkable and intriguing. This kind of treatment usually is reserved by the major industrialized democracies for authoritarian and totalitarian governments. The Philippines is a

democracy, modest but vibrant. It is, besides, a friendly country. How the Philippines has come upon such "cold treatment" invites speculation and inspires concern.

The stipulation that West German aid is destined for allotment to Philippine non-government organizations, popularly known as NGOs, tends to vitiate the spirit of foreign aid. Foreign aid is, by definition, assistance from a friendly donor country to a friendly recipient country. By tradition and practice, the recipient country determines the administration and employment of such aid. To stipulate that the aid must be committed to NGOs is to make the Philippine government a simple conduit, a mere agent.

The policy-makers and decision-makers in Bonn apparently are not aware that NGOs, as they are constituted and function in Western Europe, do not exist in



Cory in Germany: Wise use of aid.

the Philippines. NGOs are subsidized by the state in the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, and other countries in Western Europe. Non-government organizations in the Philippines do not have a similar

relationship with the state. In fine, there is no parity between NGOs in West Germany, the donor country, and the Philippines, the recipient country.

It is important to take (Page 6, please)

Food riots feared

A consumer movement is proposing a "buffer fund" to protect low-income consumers from the impact of price increases that would result from oil price hikes next month.

The Citizen's Alliance for Consumer Protection (CACAP) said July 21 that since the Energy Regulatory Board (ERB) protects oil companies from incurring losses through OPSF (Oil Price Stabilization Fund), government should also create a fund that would protect the poor from the impact of oil price increases.

President Aquino had earlier said that oil companies will be allowed to raise their prices in August because OPSF is already depleted.

OPSF shields oil companies from losses due to increasing crude oil prices and the declining peso-dollar exchange rate. The losses of oil companies arising from these two factors are reimbursable from the Fund.

CACAP spokesperson Raul Segovia, said that if the Aquino government does not create a buffer fund for low-income consumers and yet allow oil companies to jack up their prices in August, a "powderkeg" will be created.

Segovia said so many people cannot afford to buy necessities anymore and are literally going hungry because of the onerous terms

of the Letter of Intent (LOI) government submitted five months ago to the International Monetary Fund in exchange for \$1.3 billion in additional loans.

"Instead of eating three times a day, many people are eating only twice or even once a day," Segovia said.

During the past five months, government has withdrawn subsidies on electricity, transportation, rice and water, causing prices of basic goods and services to go up.

CACAP said the effects of the LOI during the past five months along with the impending oil price hikes would push "people to take abnormal responses to the government."

"I would expect mass mobilizations, rallies and demonstrations again. Food riots are a possibility," said Segovia.

For instance, because of the withdrawal of farm subsidies as a result of the LOI, farmers have already staged food blockades. Segovia said that this is a desperate response of producers against the LOI.

A "buffer fund" for low-income producers could defuse the powderkeg at least in the short-term, said CACAP.

Since the problem is critical, said Segovia, the President should immediately issue an executive or administrative order creating the

"buffer fund."

Congressional action that would create the "buffer fund" is a long-term solution, explained Segovia.

FUNDING FROM TWO SOURCES

CACAP said the fund could be financed in two ways. Funds may come from the prices of oil or from other sources like the national budget.

"If we are setting aside over 40 percent of our national budget to pay our foreign creditors, why can't we get a percentage of that to protect consumers?" Segovia asked.

Although CACAP admits that the mechanism for the fund is not yet in place, the fund could be applied not only for oil products but also for other commodities.

"If you want to increase the cost of diesel fuel and at the same time protect the low-income users, jeepney drivers for instance, should be given reimbursement coupons."

Segovia explained that the jeepney driver will still pay for the full cost of diesel -- the fuel used by buses, jeepneys and other modes of transportation -- but would be entitled to a percent rebate.

The rich would of course pay the regular cost of diesel.

The same thing could be done with other products. Eggs, for instance, could cost



MARKET SCENE: Will there be enough food to buy for cheaper price?

P3 each for everyone but the low-income groups. Everytime a poor consumer buys eggs he would be entitled to a deduction coupon which he could use to buy more eggs.

Segovia said CACAP is asking the Aquino government to sit down with consumer groups and establish a mechanism on the buffer fund to protect consumers.

The buffer fund would

actually serve not only as a buffer for consumers but also a buffer for the government since this would help defuse, at least temporarily, the powderkeg, said Segovia. (PNF)

Need

(From page 5)

into account that private organizations in the Philippines do not necessarily have the same socio-economic agendas as that of the government.

There is a marked tendency in the news media and political circles to interpret West German policy and attitude toward the Philippines in the light of the harsh and rather vitriolic lecture on human rights inflicted on President Aquino by the governing mayor of West Berlin. The uncivil speech of the West Berlin mayor did not reflect the policy and attitude of the

Kohl government -- nor the state of propriety and decorum in the Kohl government. West Berlin is a political entity separate from the Federal Republic of Germany. As plainly indicated by Chancellor Kohl, his government is firmly committed to the support of the Aquino administration.

Clarification of the terms and conditions of West German aid should be secured by the Foreign Office and the Philippine Embassy in West Germany from Bonn to enable President Aquino and Congress to formulate a policy on such assistance.

Foreign aid is devoutly to be sought. But it must not come with any term or

'Killing fields' of the Philippines

By ARJUNA

I VISITED the Philippines last month but unlike previous trips where I felt safe going from boomtown to boondock and back again, this time I had second thoughts about travelling even a few kilometers from the airport.

With good reason. Day in and day out, Manila's dailies, specially the tabloids, put condition repugnant to national dignity and self-respect. (Asian News & Features

out screaming headlines of murders, ambushes, massacres and just about every grisly happening that occurs in the country.

In fact, it has come to the point that, for the uninitiated, the Philippines is one big abattoir where the principal butchering animal is a human being.

But before our dear readers will come to the conclusion that the Philippines holds the sole and dubious distinction of being "a slaughterhouse," the same

holds true with other countries not only in Asia but also almost everywhere in the world.

This is the age of the terrorist, the assassin, the political hitman. Be it in Manila, Tokyo, Jafna or Beirut, the shadow of the killer looms large over airports, out-of-the-way places, government buildings and even in busy thoroughfares.

And who is the most vulnerable? Sad to say, it is not the ordinary man in the street, not the newspaper-

man like us (although quite a number of journalists have been murdered) but the high-placed politicians, the generals, lawmen, government bigwigs and even the wealthy who are constantly in danger of being at the receiving end of a gun.

There was a time when I thought that in the matter of hired killers impassively shooting down a President or a Prime Minister, Red Guard terrorists and hijackers take the cake as the most

(Page 12, please)

'Thou shalt not steal'

THE festering issue of graft and corruption may haunt this nation until doomsday, given the tolerance and the ineffectual government of the lady President. It is with this conviction in mind that the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines read its pastoral letter yesterday in all its churches in the country, calling on all the faithful not to steal. We can just imagine a host of pious congressmen and government officials squirming in their seats as the priests reach out to their conscience during these solemn moments.

As early as two years ago, the religious represented by the Cardinal and the bishops have spoken out against this evil in government. Seeing no visible response from Mrs. Aquino or the presence of political will to stop corruption, the CBCP minced no words at the pulpit yesterday.

"Graft and corruption -- in the plainest of language, stealing from the public through the misuse of influence or position -- has become, to our shame as a people, an ordinary fixture of our nation's public life...."

"Such stealing, in and out of government is, to be sure, nothing new. But we are dismayed that it has become so widespread and has largely gone unpunished. In fact, many who steal seem to no longer care to hide the illicit fruits of their stealing...."

"What makes us even more sad is this: acts of graft and corruption are no longer viewed as sin, but are often considered as acts of cleverness (when uncaught) or mistakes (when caught)."

It is good to hear that stealing has now become an operative word under the present administration. It was so seldom used before, as if it was too much to describe the crooks, both recycled and new. When the need was for ostracism and the evisceration of respect from their person, they were still called honorable, in obscene travesty of the word. Congressman Magnanakaw or Secretary Magnanakaw is certainly not deserving of the appellation honorable before their moneyed names.

The battered public can only agree with the bishops who are convinced that corruption "is especially hateful" because it steals money from the poor. Thus, in geometrical progression, the poor gets poorer and the rich richer when a congressman denudes a whole province's forests or a top official of a government bank takes undue advantage of stock dispersal. Both rob the small people in services and opportunities denied them, while the thieves luxuriate in sybaritic splendor in heavily guarded private enclaves and imported cars. It is much too one-sided, and so reminiscent of the remote causes of revolutions, like the French's, when statesmen led by Mirabeau were practically begging the nobility and the clergy to go slow on their excesses and privileges. For the sake of the country, we like to hope that Mrs. Aquino learned something during her visit to that country.

Perhaps convinced that exterminating graft and corruption by the government is beyond hope, the CBCP has proposed the formation of private anti-graft councils in every province, city, town and village, which will be supported by church congregations, dioceses and parishes. The mechanics of this laudable effort by the bishops may present quite a hurdle, but with the people's total cooperation, the distant goal will be attained. They should be galvanized into action through nobility in motivation and sincerity of resolve. Once the people are convinced, there is no stopping the limit of what they can do for their country and themselves.

In the meantime, as a visible gesture that the battle against graft will from hereon be pursued with unrelenting purpose, church leaders may be well-advised to have across their pulpit a streamer, and emblazoned in big, bold letters the biblical injunction: Thou shalt not steal.



Cory's trips: Tama na! Sobra na!

PUBLISHER'S
NOTES



by JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.

IT'S truly incredible! Madame Aquino seems to be mocking the sense of righteous outrage of many Filipinos against her insensate travels to foreign countries in the face of an almost insurmountable crisis facing the nation.

Hardly has the din of debates over her recent one-week European jaunt died down when here she comes once again with an almost devilish delight to announce that she's dropping all state worries and problems to attend a royal ceremony in Brunei early next month. Earlier, she bared her plans, again with an impish glee, to visit the USSR, the US, Spain and, hold your breath, a sidetrip to Kuala Lumpur after her Brunei sojourn.

What makes Mrs. Aquino's trip to our ASEAN neighbor doubly nauseating is the reason behind her trip: To bear witness to the so-called "rites of passage" of Brunei's crown prince although the actual "rite" itself (circumcision) will certainly be shut off to the visiting dignitaries, including Mrs. Aquino.

At the rate Mrs. Aquino has been traipsing all over distant shores, she

may soon outpace the former First Lady, Mrs. Imelda Romualdez Marcos, whose travels to other countries had been the butt of harsh criticisms during the Marcos rule. The fact is, the lady Chief Executive is turning out to be more "imeldific" than Imelda herself in splurging the hard-earned taxpayers' money in her foreign travels.

It would seem that Mrs. Aquino has turned deaf to the groans of desperation from hungry and impoverished Filipinos. And the groundswell of protests seems to be the least of her current concern for as long as she can merrily hop from one country to the next.

Such callousness on the part of Mrs. Aquino only proves our suspicions that the housewife the people catapulted to power is no plain Juana dela Cruz. She is a haughty heiress to the elitist aristocracy that has subjected the poor to slavery since time immemorial.

Mrs. President, Tama na! Sobra na!
And if things remain as they are, we may have to add: Palitan na!

We Forum



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OUR DAYS



by F. T. OCAMPO

Lovely picture

ONE of the loveliest pictures we have seen in a long, long time was that of an Arabian billionaire being led in handcuffs to a New York jail. It is as refreshing as news reports detailing the death by firing squad of four Cuban military officers, one of them a very close comrade-in-arms of Fidel Castro himself, for drug-dealing, dollar-laundering and other forms of corruption. The newspaper headline reads: "In New York, Khashoggi is just another prisoner." The story then recounted how the jetsetting, high-living arms dealer accused of abetting Marcos in a massive real estate fraud was led into the confines of an over-crowded jail, how he swept his cell floor and made his own bed.

How true is the observation that life is so full of ironies. Khashoggi, who has 12 houses located in the world's most glittering and glamorous watering places which are fully staffed at all times, now shares a cell with another inmate at a prison in Lower Manhattan housing 850 prisoners, but originally built for only 449. (It seems that even in the wealthy US of A, they have over-crowding problems in their penal institutions, too). According to a prison executive, Khashoggi had to shed off his "trendy bottle-green safari suit with brass buttons for a brown prison jump suit and sneakers...and is being held in a small cell with a steel door, toilet, wash basin, clothes cupboard, desk and bed." Compared with Metro Manila denizens existing in the slums and ghettos like that of Smokey Mountain, being jailed in the US might still be extremely comfortable -- and preferable.

Still, the man who used to have dinner at nine in the evening at his yacht or at the most expensive restaurant in Monte Carlo or France, may now have to adjust himself to prison regimen. He cannot order out for meals, which means he has to eat whatever the Metropolitan Correctional Center serves, and "at given times no jetsetter would dream of eating -- 6 a.m. for breakfast, 11 a.m. for lunch, and 5 p.m. for dinner." What a comedown for the man whose fortune was once estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$4 billion.

Khashoggi would have been jetsetting on his merry way if he did not have the misfortune of being associated with the globe's most rabid social climbers -- Marcos and Imelda. But being with the conjugal thieves at that time was considered very "in" for the crooks and rogues, international and local. It was as if being close with the Marcoses automatically deodorized the odium of plunder and thievery, as if stealing has become the yardstick of public service and flaunting stolen wealth the pinnacle of high living and international recognition and acceptance.

The best of times and the worst of times

TOMORROW, Tuesday, the 25th day of July, I will be 78-years-old. Among others who will celebrate their birthday tomorrow are Mrs. Luz Banzon-Magsaysay, former Chief Justice Enrique M. Fernando and the comedian Dolphy. Also my father if he were alive, (and that's why I'm a "junior.") I was born on July 25, 1911, which was the very day the late Mrs. Patria Gil-Puyat saw too the light of day.

What happened on July 25, 1911? On that day, Bobby Leach became the second person to survive the trip down Niagara Falls in a barrel.

July 1911 was a month of disasters. On July 1, that year, San Francisco was rocked by the severest shock since the earthquake of 1906; on the 12th, 221 died in New York from heat exhaustion reported since July 1; on the 16th, an unprecedented heat wave swept Europe; on the 23rd, Constantinople was devastated by fire, with 7,000 houses razed to the ground.

On the 28th, French Commander-in-Chief Gen. Michel was forced to resign over the Dreyfus Affair and Republican Joseph Joffre succeeded him. Two days later French racer Victor Garigou won the eighth Tour de France. On July 5 that year French statesman Georges Pompidou was born (he died on April 2, 1974) while Maria Pia, queen dowager of Portugal passed away.

Also, on July 1, a device that eliminated the need for cranking in order to start on automobile engine was developed by an American inventor, Charles F. Kettering, while a Polish biochemist by the name of Casimir Funk, suggested the name "vitamin" to describe those chemicals which are necessary in the diet of both animals and human beings. All these facts appear in Clifton Daniel's "Chronicle of the 20th century". (Daniel, a former editor of *The New York Times*, is married to Margaret, President Truman's only child.)

The College Editors Guild of the Philippines will be 58 years old tomorrow. I founded it on July 25, 1931. President Garcia on July 20, 1961

Khashoggi was no doubt mesmerized by the possibilities his acquaintances with the Marcoses opened for him and his illegal trades. He now stands accused of helping the Marcoses cover up the ownership of four Manhattan skyscrapers bought with funds looted from the Philippines and illegally transporting and hiding national treasures like paintings for his masters. For the very first time in his privileged life, Khashoggi may be having second thoughts about his future, now that he is face to face with the great system of American justice that plods its way inexorably.

The handcuffed Khashoggi flashed on the television screens and splashed in the pages of newspapers worldwide cannot fail to stir a sense of wonder among Filipinos. They will not fail to wonder why a rich man, a congressman or a government official was never jailed in this country, or be handcuffed like any ordinary criminal who deserves such treatment. They will wonder especially why

declared in Proclamation No. 767 Tuesday, July 25, 1961 as "College Editors' Day." Said proclamation mentioned the fact that the CEGP "has been instrumental in fostering closer understanding among our student constituencies, insuring freedom of the college press, encouraging good literature, elevating the standards of collegiate journalism and rendering service to the country through the dissemination of knowledge and information."

So much for me and my birthday, which is really nobody else's concern.

I was much intrigued by a story which appeared in the *Malaya* of July 20, 1989 entitled "Miriam won't run after Juico." The first two paragraphs of the item read: "Agrarian Reform Secretary Miriam Defensor-Santiago said her predecessor, Philip Juico, appears to be criminally liable for approving seven anomalous voluntary offers to sell (VOS) for which the government paid a total of P32 million.

"But she said Juico will not be included in the list of officials the DAR is recommending for criminal prosecution, based on the FERIA committee findings which she said 'should bind all executive offices.'"

The FERIA Committee's report, of which I have a copy, states, among other things that "the Committee is firmly convinced that, without any evidence received pointing to the contrary, the acts of Sec. Juico as stated in No. 24 supra negate and militate against any suggestion of criminal or malicious intent or motives on his part. His asking the Department of Justice and the National Bureau of Investigation to investigate even himself confirms the Committee's conclusion in this regard.."

However, in view of the significantly large amount involved, this case should have merited more than an ordinary scrutiny on the part of Secretary Juico and less reliance on the review conducted by his sub-

the vultures who profited immensely under the dictatorship are still with us, and in fact are back in the government or have become congressmen and are now seen pretending to pray in church every Sunday and in high society shindigs, shining like rotten fish. There must be something rotten in a society that accepts them -- and in fact honors them by calling them honorable -- when their conception of honorable is equated with stealing from the public coffers and plundering the national resources for their own personal benefit.

The tragedy of this country is that it cannot have a Fidel Castro who would send even his close friends to the wall when they commit graft. What we have instead is a President who would, at the first sign of a scam, instantly absolve the suspects of any wrongdoing before the first question is asked at the initial investigation. If anything could encourage corruption, it is this open toleration of criminal acts by the

POLITICS & POLITICOS



by ERNESTO R. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

ordinates...

"...Rather it is the vulnerability to deceits that can possibly be exercised on him by his subordinate officials and employes and which Secretary Juico did not guard against which should be counted as his failing.

"Wherefore, the Committee, in the light of all the facts obtained and its assessment and appreciation of the same, finds no alternative other than to recommend the acceptance of the offer of resignation of Secretary Philip E. Juico as Secretary of the Department of Agrarian Reform, because the goals and objectives of CARP may not be achieved even by a well-intentioned leadership which is buffeted by mounting and widespread criticism."

Secretary Santiago herself is reported to have "earlier said 'negligence through reckless imprudence resulting in the commission of fraud or estafa' could be considered a criminal act."

No wonder most people cannot make heads or tails of what the present administration is all about.

Comes now the blistering pastoral letter of the Catholic Bishops Conference entitled "Thou Shalt Not Steal." There has been no time in our history when any government in power has been as bitterly called to task by the "numerous Church" (to borrow Recto's words), in a language so clear there is no mistaking its target and its utter disenchantment. And what is obvious is the fact that it speaks for the

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crooks. This is the main reason why we see the continuing spectacle of corruption in high places, why former Marcos thieves are now congressmen and government officials. The charade will never end as long as the political will is absent in the Presidency.

Last Sunday, the faithful heard their priests read a pastoral letter on the evils of stealing. We suggest that in the coming Sundays, the priests look their crooks straight in the eyes if only to let them know that they cannot hide behind the simulated piety. They are easily recognizable, for the churches they attend are in the enclaves of the rich like Greenhills, Dasmariñas, Forbes Park, Ayala-Alabang, Corinthian Gardens, Valle Verde and such. They look well-fed and are chauffeur-driven, wear signature clothes and jewelry and look like harmless lambs. But the priests should not be disarmed, once their back is turned, they will steal the gold in the altar.

Need for a new IBP elections

ALWAYS fast to react, my friend and "adopted" brother, Senator Rene Saguisag, wrote me his reactions to my item on Senator Joey Lina, aka GarchitoLINA. Rene calls him pal Joey, like that movie where Frank Sinatra was the lead man. I shall quote Rene's letter in full:

"I am not going to prejudge the case of pal Joey. However, in my office, I even have a Constituency Relations and Assistance Group, which does a lot of referrals daily. In the last few days for instance, a five-star hotel settled fairly with an employe. I also interceded with PAL to fly out, as soon as possible, a Cebu brain tumor patient to Baltimore. (He and his companions are paying but PAL was concerned about possible complications if something happened in the flight.) Today some chess players are asking for help to compete abroad. ETC.

"When I spoke out for you, I did so, as in duty bound, since I consider every Filipino in this Country with a grievance as part of my constituency. If that be using influence and fixing, then so be it.

"We will look at Joey's case with an open mind to see whether he has crossed some fine line.

"With every good wish -- sincerely,
RENE".

I understand Rene's position and, perhaps it is only natural to give the benefit of the doubt to a colleague. But with due respect, the instances cited by the good senator -- like those for an ailing person, or for some chess players, definitely cannot be

IN MY CORNER...



by RAUL M. GONZALEZ

parallel to the manifest interest shown by Mr. Lina in the Garchitorenna scam. And as I said, his situation became worse when he at first profusely denied any relation with the Lina involved in the dubious transaction only to be unmasked afterwards. Anyway, I accept Rene's position, so be it. Still I would like to repeat that I never heard him say a word about the Senate Lothario who violated a colleague's daughter.

By the way, with due respect to our dean columnist's item (I refer to my esteemed colleague Ernie Rodriguez), I'd like to make a slight correction to what he wrote that when Gen. Marshall authored the Marshall Plan he was US Secretary of Defense. The venerable 5-Star General, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs in WWII, was Secretary of State under Truman when he authored the Marshall Plan for Europe in 1947 -- June 5, 1947 to be exact. The US Congress voted \$12 billion for the plan; at that time the US Defense

Secretary was James V. Forrestal. Of course General Marshall did become Secretary of Defense but that was in 1950 when General Omar N. Bradley was the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. But anyway, Ernie was correct, Marshall did become Secretary of Defense.

Two City Officials of Ozamis City were recently suspended by Secretary Luis Santos. It seems a good move. However, I am wondering why the Governor of Zambales, faced with five serious graft charges in the Sandiganbayan and a murder case before the Ombudsman, with the corresponding administrative charges before the DLGCD, because of that infamous Danak Bunga ambush where 4 persons were killed in cold blood, remains merrily untouched. He was reinstated on orders of the Supreme Court because of the new rule that preventive suspensions cannot last beyond 90 days but he should have been suspended on the administrative charges because the acts committed were clearly related to his duties as governor. But what is happening? Deloso still roams Zambales merrily, threatens employes and mayors and keeps on boasting that he is "untouchable" because according to him he is Peping's fair-haired boy. He also boasts to anybody who cares to listen to him that he has already "ayos" his cases. "Ayos"

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BEYOND HYPOCRISY



by PLACIDO P. DIAZ

Last chance for Cory

THERE is such a thing in human life as a point of no return. Cory is fast approaching hers, insofar as her stint in the Presidency is concerned. Many a wrong turn in her crossroads has she made but she can still make it back to safety and finally reach out for a glorious perch in history. And there's much reason to hope she'll succeed for she's such a gritty lady who has bounce; reverses always manage to knock her back to her senses. And she must have learned at least enough by now not to follow the path trodden by her predecessors.

The one thing she needs to do is to roll the dice herself, not let her minions continue to play the game for their benefit at the expense of the people and her good name. She alone will rise or fall at the end of her term. They: the sipsips and balimbings around her have already demonstrated their capacity to weather, survive and even prosper in the changes of administration. The rats and the barnacles will not sink her ship; they will simply transfer to the next vessel in sight.

Her expressed willingness to hold a ceasefire with the rebels is a first step in the right direction of ending the LIC: the fever that must first subside before the patient can be operated on and nursed back to health. A bit of hindsight should be enough to make her realize most of the insurgents would have gladly submitted themselves to become "her soldiers" had she accepted them as much as many of those she "welcomed home" proved more loyal to Marcos, Enrile and Ramos and the Americans. It was simply foolish of her to expect the military abusers of human rights during the Marcos era to be "born again" with a wave of her hand.

But the ray of light piercing the dark storm clouds in the horizon we have seen buried in the Sunday (July 16) section of the **INQUIRER** we are now pointing it out for it can assuredly be the harbinger of our salvation: "THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT HAS YET TO RESPOND TO AN OFFER BY IRAN TO SUPPLY CRUDE AT BELOW

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is. It is a bureaucratic institution. A few months ago, its Secretary, Tony Arizabal, was dismissed by Cory Aquino upon petition of about 120 Ph.D.'s and professors of science at the UP, including myself, for "inefficiency". It is a pity, I know Arizabal in the 1960s when he and I were directors in the office of the President of the Philippines (Macapagal); at that time he was all right. It was Sixto Roxas III, my cousin, who put him there. (TO BE CONTINUED)

Pelaez vs Gonzalez in N.Y.-2

Q. You said something about industrialization, Professor, what did Pelaez say about that?

A. He said the Cory Government is starting now to industrialize by inviting foreign investments and technology transfer to the Philippines. I told him that not all foreign investments lead to industrialization, in fact what foreign capital is doing to our country is to make it only a buy-and-sell country. Foreigners bring the "industrialized goods" which are produced in the investors' home countries and sell them in the Philippines, we hardly produce our own to give our own people real jobs in manufacturing, by producing our own goods instead of salesmen jobs and the role of dummies.

Q. Will you explain this further?

A. Well, take electronics and electrical gadgets. According to Pelaez, they are one of the "top" exports of the Philippines if not the top now. What he forgot to say is that about 80 percent of the components are imported, and the devices are assembled in the Philippines where labor is cheap. You see, we don't produce the chips and wafers, we import them even if we have silicon in our country. We don't have the advanced scientific knowhow, which is a closely guarded secret among industrialized nations. We need mathematicians and physicists and engineers of the research and graduate level for that. In fact, the Philippines produces only one Ph.D. in physics a year, one in mathematics, one in chemistry, one in molecular biology on the

average, and no Ph.D. in engineering.

Q. What did Pelaez say to that?

A. Like many who do not understand much about science and technology and their role in advanced research and industrialization, he said that the Philippines does not need to produce top scientists but hire them from abroad.

Q. What's wrong with that? It's cheaper, isn't it?

A. It is the thinking of servants who cannot rise above their masters. He doesn't know that it is the production of national scientists, not in the sense of the NSDB or National Science Development Board whose so-called "national scientists" have hardly contributed anything great in international science, that has made Japan great, South Korea great, Singapore great, Taiwan great.

Q. Come to think of it, was it not Pelaez who sponsored the bill in 1958 that created by law the National Science Development Board?

A. Yes, in 1957 I helped a group of scientists to get Congressman Puey and I think Senator Gil Puyat to sponsor a bill for the creation of a Center of Advanced Studies for Science -- and it was passed. I had to leave for Cambridge, England, and was happy for it. Our meetings were in the house of my godfather, Engr. Amando Mirasol in Kansas corner Herran, Manila; Engineer Mirasol had two engineering degrees from Cornell University and was an adviser to President Garcia. The CENTER was supposed to be

VIEWS & INTERVIEWS



by SALVADOR ROXAS GONZALEZ

run by top scientists and we had in mind Theodor Brings, Ph.D., a physicist and naturalized Filipino, Austrian refugee, a Jew during the time of Hitler. You remember Dr. Werner Von Braun, the German missile expert whom the Americans brought to the United States from Germany after World War II and who helped develop US missile capabilities and space satellites and space-ships? Well, we thought Dr. Brings would be the man to develop the Philippine science capabilities and manpower on the highest level, we did the same. But this was in 1957, for in the next year, when the NSDB law was approved, the law to create the CENTER was cancelled. Second rate scientists took over the NSDB, and later doctors of medicines who did not know much about industrialization became chairmen, and thus the NSDB failed to produce top level scientists and top science in the Philippines. It came to be known as "National Sayang Development Board". Go to the Congressional records.

Q. Is it still called by that name?

A. I think not, for it is now under the Department of Science, whatever its new name

Preparation for and conduct of trial-(30)

6. Examinations of Expert Witnesses

IN Topic 4.9 of this series, we gave a few brief pointers on how to present expert witnesses. We have received several letters asking us to give a more detailed treatment of the subject with emphasis on the qualification and evaluation of experts in the field of ballistics, forensic medicine and questioned document.

The succeeding series is in response to the demand.

The general rule is that a witness cannot testify about his opinions or conclusions. He must testify only regarding facts within his own personal knowledge, observation and recollection (Sec. 36, Rule 130, Rules of Court). For instance, he cannot testify as to whose negligence caused an accident, or whether plaintiff was acting in a careful or careless manner, or whether the condition of the road as dangerous. The conclusion as to whether plaintiff was careless or careful, or whether the road was safe or dangerous, is to be drawn by the judge.

However, there are exceptions to this rule. A lay witness can offer certain types of opinions, (Sec. 50, Rule 130) and a witness who qualifies as an expert can offer opinions in his area of expertise (Sec. 49, Rule 130). Such opinions, acceptable as evidence by way of exceptions to the general rule, are called OPINION EVIDENCE.

6.1. Cases in which opinion evidence is admissible.

There are two classes of cases in which

LAW AND (DIS)ORDER



by ANTONIO P. CORONEL

opinion evidence is admissible.

- (1) Expert testimony; and
- (2) Laymen's opinions formed by them in regard to the common transactions of life at the time of their occurrence and which cannot be reproduced before the court. For example, an ordinary witness can testify as to the direction from which a sound seemed to come, or as to the apparent size or weight of an object, as to whether a person appeared to be sick or well, drunk or sober, sane or insane, and countless other instances more easily imagined than enumerated. By express provision of Section 50, Rule 130 of the Rules of Court, the opinion of a witness regarding the identity or handwriting of a person, when he has knowledge of the person or handwriting, is admissible in evidence. So is the opinion of a subscribing witness to a document as to the mental sanity of the signer. The opinion of an intimate acquaintance respecting the mental sanity of a person, is likewise admissible in evidence. In any of these cases, the reason for the opinion must be given.

In this series, we are concerned only with

the 1st class of opinion evidence, expert testimony.

6.2. Purpose of Testimony

In these times when it is impossible to know everything, but it becomes necessary for success in any vocation to know something of everything and everything of something, the expert is more and more called upon as a witness in both civil and criminal cases.

The testimony of the expert witness is a powerful litigation tool. At the trial, an expert may be called upon to perform one or more of the following functions:

- (1) to render an opinion based upon his firsthand knowledge;
- (2) to render an opinion based upon facts supplied by others;
- (3) to render an opinion on a matter of abstract scientific principle relevant to the case but without considering the facts of the case; and
- (4) to testify to a fact -- as opposed to an opinion-- which he observed through the employment of specialized knowledge and techniques.

In this age and time, the ways and means by which an individual, in his contact with the apparatus of modern society can be harmed in his person, or damaged in his property, or affected in his rights, have multiplied beyond count. Correspondingly, the areas in which we must have recourse to the unique skills of experts are constantly expanding. Whenever judicial determination

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9 lives of Ramos and Mitra

SPEAKER Moses Mitra cheated death because his plane didn't crash.

The speaker has no originality because he apes DND chief Fidel Ramos.

After cheating death for countless times, Secretary Fidel's DND means "Do Not Die."

Or "Daring 'N Defying."

Coming soon: "The Death Cheaters." Starring: Eddie Ramos and Moses Mitra.

The Egyptians believe that a cat has nine lives.

We are not only sure if the Egyptians also believe that Ramos and Mitra are cats.

"Swiss-same Street" presents a \$7.5 billion production "Operation Big Bird."

Starring: Jovie Salonga as "The Bungler."

"Operation Big Bird" is produced, written and directed by Michael de "Goose-man."

Before his elevation as writer-director, Michael was a former actor, being the lead star in *Bagman and Robbin'.*

"Bagman and Robbin'" was conceptualized and produced by Ferdy de Macoy.

Who also starred in the movie as "Robbin'."

Ferdy de Macoy gained international prominence via the Bagong Lipunan Productions' "Robbing Hood."

But the movie was banned after a successful 1986 review-lution. But because of its unprecedented success, a spin-off is now a blockbuster.

It is entitled "Robbing Hood, Part 2."

Imeldific on her everyday singing to Macoy: "Kahit sabihin nilang ako'y naloloka if I give music to a dying man, that's alright with me. Wala akong pakialam."

* Wala rin akong pakialam but did Meldy include in her repertoire a Patsy Cline megahit "Crazy?"

Meldy pa rin: "Malinis akong babae. Wala akong kinatatakutan. Madaling magsalita ng katotohanan."

Pero Tita Meldy, mas madaling maglubid ng kasinungalingan.

Mrs. Marcos: "Si Pangulong Marcos, ano man ang mangyari sa kanya, hihingin ko pa rin na maibalik ko siya sa Pilipinas."

This statement only proves that Meldy does not recognize Tita Cory's government.

PUNNY LINES



by FUNDADOR SORIANO

Why is Tita Cory's government like a pizza?

Because it is "Shakey."

Imelda Romualdez-Marcos: "If the United States will succeed in jailing me, so be it."

Coming soon at your favorite record bars, Meldy's second long playing album entitled "Jailhouse Rock."

Perfume began as an ancient ritual and ended as a woman's modern cover-up.

Wearing perfume is not really necessary to a Filipina because our women take a bath everyday.

And make good use of the tabo several times daily.

A good fragrance lasts for several hours on the body.

While a bad odor stinks from that

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SA LOOB AT LABAS



by ANDRES CRISTOBAL CRUZ

NGO nga kaya?

ANG nongovernment organization (NGO) ay silang higit na pagkakatiwalaan sa paggamit ng mga pondong PAP. Hindi ito masama kung kilalang talagang pambayan at hindi pangsarili ang NGO. Kaya lamang, baka mauwi sa kawalan pa ng kredibilidad dahil mababawasan ang pagtiwala sa gobyerno. Nais ng Pangulong Aquino lumakas ang absorptive capacity (kakayahang gumamit ng pondong mula sa labas) ng bansa. Maaaring magtampo ang mga local government leaders, lalo na ang mga magagaling at may kakayahan. Bakit hindi kami pagkakatiwalaan? Maaaring dumami pa ang opposition. Kapag ang mga NGO ay naging matagumpay sa mga proyektong pang-rural, hindi ang Gobyernong Aquino ang pasasalamat. NGO, di kasi, ang lalong paniniwalaan. Ang mangyayari, ang mga kapapanagutan ng gobyerno ay mababawasan.

Kung sa bagay, tila nga ibig ng Gobyernong Aquino ay huwag masisi sa mga kapalakanang nangyayari. Gayunman, ang matitino pa sa administrasyong Aquino ay nababahala sa maaaring mga maging suliranin kung NGO ang magkakaroon ng higit na pondo mula sa PAP funds.

Dadami pa ang NGO. Ang mga ito'y tuwirang tutulungan ng donor country. Ang tanong sa atin na dapat sagutin ng OPS at ng alinmang tanggapan nito, lalo na ng PIA, -- ano ang nakuha para sa PAP, utang, grant, concessionals, magkano ang pambayad sa utang sa labas, magkano ang para sa mga proyektong isinabmit ng mga kasama ni Speaker Mitra? Hindi dapat talikuran ang pagnanais ng Kongreso na malaman ang puno't dulo ng PAP. Kung sa bagay, wala pa naman ang mga pondo. Kaya ngayon pa lamang dapat lantaran, o may transparency na.

Ngayon, binabalak gumawa ng information campaign abroad dahil sa mga bansang pinuntahan ng Pangulong Aquino, malakas ang isyu tungkol sa human rights violations. Hindi propaganda campaign ang tanging paraan. Dapat talagang harapin ang paglabag sa mga human rights ng libu-libong Pilipino. Hindi dapat kalimutan na mas magaling ang human rights monitoring system ng NGOs at cause-oriented groups. Sayang, ang ginagawa ng Senado, halimbawa ng Committee on Justice and Human Rights (chairman si Sen. Tanada) na mga public hearings ay hindi nabibigyan-pansin. Kung nagpokus din sa mga ganitong pagdinig sa mga kaso ng human rights violations, marahil nakatulong, kahit bahagya, upang mabalanse ang impormasyon tungkol sa human rights situation sa Pilipinas sa France, Germany, Belgium, at sa iba pang bansa.

NGO nga ba ang mamamahala sa PAP funds? Bakit wala na bang tiwala sa government agency? Paano ang human rights isyu?

Medium is message

WHAT We Forum bannered as **Corruption in RP media** (3-4 July), what Eric Giron wrote up (**The good, the bad, the ugly in RP press**), were not so bad -- and not so good either. Not enough.

Behind the scene is that too many journalists would have us believe the clear country picture is **fear**. They're saying we all are afraid. I believe all. I'm afraid some of us are afraid the Aquino Government is collapsing. And some of us are afraid the Aquino Government is **not** collapsing. The rest of us are not even in this country. This is no joke.

While Eric was no joke either, he was mostly recounting Apo Ferdi journalism: "The sidelining newsman kept silent on government shortcomings or whitewashed them; columnists apologized for government slip-ups or venality." And the count on Tita Cory journalism? "It would be hypocrisy to say that such a situation does not exist today. On what scale corruption is perpetrated cannot be determined. But where there are corruptors, there are corruptible newspapermen." (Not the other way around, huh?)

By Eric's statistics, there are two corrupt contemporary columnists, and there are movie publican publicists. Which means, if we cleaned up film journalism, Philippine media will come out smelling nice and clean?

Not when the spirit is willing and the flesh weak. I smell corruption in media up to two thousand miles away. By "media" I refer to methods (hardware and software) of communicating person to person (as by phone or letter), face to face (as by conversation, in meeting or congregation), and in mass (by print, radio and TV, including record, video and film, of course). In short, the flow of information (and disinformation) happens on the air, in black & white, or in living color.

When we communicate --

Mostly through envelopmental journalism.

Mostly to excite audiences to mass hysteria.

Mostly gossip, rumor, fabrication of any and all kinds.

Mostly through brusque language to decry the climate claimed, or elegant edification to declaim a message of despair as old as history.

Mostly toilet humor, or rehash.

Mostly that which glorifies bravado, or deifies it.

Mostly that which caters to the baser instincts.

Mostly songs and stories of eternal longings for another person, or achievement.

Mostly success stories in agriculture, as if a new fertilizer, chemical, variety of crop, strain of animal, or an improved version by a Returning Native of an old practice like contour farming, can solve all the problems of 36 million poor farm families.

Mostly rapes, murders, incests, bank robberies, NPAs, student protests, labor



marches, driver strikes, rising prices of commodities, conspiracies.

Mostly the idea that the world has only two sides (right and wrong), or only three (the eternal triangle).

Mostly what is wrong with Cory Aquino or her Government, or what crimes economic, social and political Government officials and citizens of privilege continue to commit in the name of progress -- and we do **not** do something positive except to denounce it all, as if to condemn it enough is patriotism enough, **as if patriotism is enough** --

There is enough corruption in enough media.

The medium is the message. Enough!

FRANK HILARIO

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Los Banos 4030, Laguna

Antonio CORONEL

(From page 10)

can be aided, the use of expert evidence is allowed if not encouraged. Difficulties arise, however, in deciding whether or not prerequisites exist for the right to use such evidence. The discretion to permit or exclude it rests in the courts, and they have exercised it according to the existing horizons of knowledge.

For example, one recently developed technique by which a person can be identified from graphic representations of his voice, is the scientific process known as Spectrogram Voice Identification. It makes identification possible on the basis of the scientifically established fact that an individual's voice mechanism is unique and cannot be duplicated in all aspects by any other voice mechanism belonging to another person. Hence, the voice-expert can identify a particular voice from the unique sound patterns formed by the voice mechanism through the use of the spectrogram.

The existing horizons of knowledge have not yet broadened enough to allow the unqualified admission in evidence of the testimony of the Spectrogram Voice Identification expert, although in some jurisdictions it is fast gaining ground as an area where expert testimony is allowable. As early as April, 1966, voice-prints as evidence were allowed in a New York Court to sustain the judgement of conviction of a suspended policeman charged with perjury. Also in 1966, May, in the California Court, an airman from Travis Airforce Base was convicted of making obscene telephone calls upon the testimony of a voice-print expert, and at about the same time, in Los Angeles, identification of an arsonist was arrived at on the basis of a voice-print of a television interview where an unknown person, later on identified as the accused, boasted that he

What system of government?

WASHINGTON, DC -- It is precisely to try to prove that changes in a country need not come through revolution that Gorbachev has instituted the idea of perestroika, or restructuring. Without calling the goal by any name it must also be the idea of the Filipino rebel group when it sought peace talks with the President. If changes could be effected without bloodshed, and with Filipinos talking to Filipinos without the interference of a third power breathing down the neck of our President, the effort would be well worth the trying. But the President has unsheathed the sword of war. An American acquaintance remarked at the incipience of the Chinese students' uprising, when it still looked peaceful and innocent, that a number of countries in the world had watched and ad-

Saddening

THE sudden resignation of NEDA Sec. Monsod is deeply saddening, to say the least.

The Filipino people lost a nationalist advocate in Pres. Aquino's cabinet which is now dominated by the likes of Luis Santos, Jobo Fernandez, Joe Concepcion, Ting Jayme, and Amboy Eddie Ramos.

I do not know why President Aquino chooses to listen to the dictates of the IMF-WB duumvirate rather than to the cries of Juan and Juana de la Cruz.

Secretary Monsod was only voicing out the dreams of the people for a truly free, independent and sovereign Philippines.

We share her vision.

DAVE TABANIAG

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was responsible for setting fires in commercial areas during the student riots of that era.

It is safely predicted that in due time, the Spectrogram Voice Identification process will gain full recognition in courts in the same manner as the fingerprint system is fully accepted as conclusive evidence of identification. In this jurisdiction, the fingerprint system of identification is unqualifiedly admissible in evidence. In a 1950 case, the Supreme Court took judicial notice of the fact that "thumbmarks never lie" (People vs. Abatayo, G.R. No. L-23151, Dec. 27, 1980).

6.3. Expert Witness, definition and qualifications, generally.

Although there are both statutory and judicial definitions of an expert, it is quite clear that at best these definitions are mere general guidelines for the courts to follow. They all agree that an expert must possess the skill, knowledge, learning or experience necessary to make his opinion helpful to the trier of fact in his search for truth.

Section 43, Rule 130 of our Rules of Court provides that the opinion of a witness regarding a question of science, art or trade, when he is skilled therein, may be received in

WOMAN SENSE



by PURA SANTILLAN CASTRENCE

mired our "revolution" and were following our way of attaining democracy. Mention was made of Korea, then China, and finally the "success" of our own "revolution." When I answered that ours was not a revolution for changes and reforms, but a public clamor to oust a tyrant, and, therefore, could not be a model for protests for change, my interlocutor disapproved vehemently of my reasoning.

To him the fight in the Philippines is between communism and capitalism which he mistakenly equates with the term democracy, and he is elated that democracy (capitalism) is winning and is reigning. He does not realize that the conflict can very well be, and it is, between neocolonialism and imperialism. If the Filipinos decide not to be neocolonial anymore, and are free to enjoy their national sovereignty in the true spirit of self-determination and human dignity, then will be the time for them to decide what system of government is appropriate for their kind of country and people, and their kind of circumstances.

I recall the Chinese students' call for changes, reforms, for a stopping of corruption. They would lay down their lives for these goals. They rebelled against the **status quo**. They knew that changes could not be effected by following the **status quo**.

On the other hand, our country is following the path of the **status quo**. How can it lead any other peoples to effect changes they need for better and more self-respecting living, when they are a neo-colony following the old line of rule of their past?

evidence.

In an early case, *US v. Gil*, 13 Phil. 530, the Supreme Court defined an expert as "one possessing, in regard to a particular subject or department of human activity, knowledge not usually acquired by other persons.

On the basis of such a definition, the Court, in *Dilag & Co. vs. Merced, et al* (45 OG 5536), considered as an expert an inspector of the Bureau of Public Works who was in charge for a number of years of the verification of motor numbers of trucks on the issue of whether or not the motor number on a vehicle is genuine or tampered with, the Court saying that the special knowledge or skill necessary to qualify an expert may be acquired not only by knowledge and formal learning but also by study and experience.

However, the Court ruled as incompetent to testify as an expert on handwriting (genuineness of signature) a district auditor of the government, although it was shown that at various times it was necessary for him to identify signatures on money orders and registered mails, on the ground that he had not made any special study of chirography and is not skilled in this art (*Dirilo vs. Roperos*, 22 Phil. 246).

Bigger military operations in Negros

Triple taxation in Mindanao, Osmeña warns

ILOILO CITY -- "Oplan Thunderbolt," the Army's biggest offensive so far against the communist-led New People's Army (NPA) on Negros, merely foreshadows bigger military operations on that sugar- and prawn-rich island.

Visayas military brass said recently that more and bigger military sweeps would follow "Thunderbolt" and a battalion of elite Scout Rangers would be dispatched to augment the infantry battalions currently deployed there in a new offensive called "Oplan Kahilwayan (Freedom)."

They said "Thunderbolt" which started April 19, a day after guerrillas overran an Army detachment in barangay Caningay, Candoni town, had "succeeded in decimating the communist terrorists" and that the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) only needed additional pressure to crush them completely.

"Thunderbolt" drove some 35,000 peasants from their mountain homes in Negros Occidental's "CHICKS area," or the towns of Candoni, Himamaylan, Isabela, Kabankalan, Cauayan and Sipalay. Church leaders and human rights organizations criticized "Thunderbolt" as "unpatriotic" and "un-Christian" because "it hurt civilians mostly."

About 270 children in fact died in evacuation centers due to unhygienic conditions and shortages of food and medicines. Although "Oplan Thunderbolt" has officially ended, the evacuees have not returned to their homes allegedly because of abuses committed by religious fanatics, the Greenans, Pulahans and Putians (Greens, Reds and Whites), so-called because of the color of their headbands.

"The continued operations against the NPA and the deployment of the 5th Scout Ranger Battalion does not mean that the situation in Negros has become more



NPA REBELS: On target.

serious," declared Lt. Col. Robert Victor del Pilar, newly-appointed operations chief of the Cebu-based Visayas Command (Viscom) of the AFP.

"The rebels are already beaten but we are still conducting more intensified operations in order to end the war before the year ends," Del Pilar said in an interview July 20. He said that under "Oplan Kahilwayan," the Army would resort "to more actions and would hit NPA targets."

Negros Island (population 3.2 million) is considered by the AFP as the Visayas' strongest NPA base. Brig. Gen. Renato Palma, former head of both the Negros Island Command and the 3rd Infantry Division, the latter in Capiz, placed the number of his adversaries at over 900 armed combatants.

Palma's first act after his promotion as Viscom commander based in Cebu was to intensify the war on Negros to conclude it "before the year ends," in compliance with the directive of Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos to use the "total war approach" in the effort to end the war in Negros.

The "total war approach" is being implemented by both the military and civilian sectors. Brig. Gen. Raymundo Jarque, Negros Island deputy commander and chief of the 302nd Brigade which spearheaded "Oplan Thunderbolt," revealed that the

anti-insurgency drive on Negros has followed the "clear, hold and consolidate" phases of government strategy.

First, the area is "cleared" of guerrillas by "mobile strike forces," followed by the formation of local paramilitary to "hold and defend" it after the Army withdraws. The third and last stage is the delivery of government services that would "consolidate" the people's confidence in the government, he said.

Jarque hinted, however, that "Oplan Thunderbolt"

had failed to drive out the guerrillas. "More operations are needed to completely drive them out and thus pave the way for peace and prosperity in the area," he said in the same interview.

Jarque admitted that the "no man's land" abandoned by the evacuees was being patrolled by the military Citizens' Armed Force Geographical Units (CAFGUs) and religious fanatics. But he denied these have committed abuses against civilians. He said the religious fanatics were "spontaneous organizations" built by hinterland people for "their own survival against the terrorism of the NPA."

"It is their moral obligation to defend themselves even without the sanction of the government," he added.

Jarque dismissed reports of human rights violations committed by the religious fanatic groups as "mere propaganda and distorted news." "They (fanatics) are also Catholics. They follow their own ten commandments aside from the ten commandments of the church," he said. (PNF)

ZAMBOANGA CITY -- Sen. John H. Osmeña warned the people of Zamboanga City that if they vote "Yes" to the proposed Muslim Mindanao Autonomy Act, they could end up paying triple taxes to the local, regional and national governments.

Speaking during the general meeting of the



OSMEÑA: Warns vs. taxes.

Zamboanga Jaycees here, Osmeña claimed that the biggest flaw in the autonomy law is that the national government would not surrender the taxing powers which the national government now wields.

"This means that while you will already add to your taxes those that are due to the regional government, you will still be paying the local as well as national taxes," he said.

The senator cited liquor and gas as among the goods on which taxes are collected by the national government. He said what he envisions is for the national government to transfer its taxing powers to the local governments to strengthen them under a federal system of government. He said it would be a better scheme than the P2 billion annual subsidy which the autonomy law will grant to the autonomous region annually for two years.

"The subsidy sounds tempting, but Congress can just cut it off when the congressmen get jealous of it," he said. Osmeña said that it is unlikely that the autonomy law can solve the Mindanao problem because it is the wrong solution. He said the members of Congress were legislating out of fear when they passed the law. (Arvin A. Acuna)

Killing

(From page 6)

ruthless.

Not anymore. Even in the smaller nations like the Bahamas and the Latin American countries, the murderer can do his job with as much efficiency and dedication as an Oswald or the Palme gunman.

And so it has come to pass that, to my observation, the Philippines is one vast "killing fields." Before, perhaps barely a year or two ago, I had no fear of visiting Baguio, which is some 300 kilometers up in the mountains of Luzon Island. Or Cebu City, the "Queen City" of Southern Philippines. There was also Zamboanga and Sulu, the home of the sea people. One could travel to these places with no thoughts of danger to life or limb.

Not anymore, I repeat. Today, especially in the big city and the large municipalities, the big man, the important fellow is constantly under threat of death. Good if that threat is justified; the scary part of it is the fact that just about anybody can do you in for just about any reason.

One can be a police officer and the Communist New People's Army (NPA) assassination squad "Sparrow Unit" immediately puts you on the hit list; if a politician, your ideological foe hires a paid killer and your days are numbered. If you are a top government official and you incur the ire of, for example, a gambling syndicate, the next time you buy a cigarette at the corner store some teenager high on drugs plunges a knife into your belly and that's it.

When I was last in the

country, the papers feasted on a bold holdup atop a busy bridge where a ranking police officer and a companion were shot dead and 2 million pesos (US\$100,000) was taken by a gang composed of former soldiers.

And there was the political bigwig of an island province who was waylaid as he visited a kin and mercilessly gunned down.

More recently, the chief of police of Makati, a part of Metro Manila only a spitting distance from Malacanang Palace where President Aquino lives, was shot and killed as he was buying something at a marketplace.

In the countryside, from up north in the Ilocos region where hired hitmen recently killed a town mayor to the Central Philippines where thousands of people left homes and hearths because of bandits to the remote is-

land of Mindanao where more than 40 men, women and children were massacred as they prayed in a chapel, unnatural death is the rule instead of the exception.

I have visited the Philippines many times, and it has been a second home to me. I was not prepared to believe what I saw these past months. It seemed to me there is violence in every nook and corner of the land.

No matter how vehemently government officials -- from Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos to the lowly barangay captain -- swear that they are on top of the peace and order situation, the reality belies the assumption.

Even in the areas near the military bases, murders and killings occur as a matter of course. (Depthnews Asia)

Is subcontracting key to Cebu's economic recovery?

By LILET SANTOS

CEBU CITY -- Sub-contracting -- the practice of hiring a family or families to manufacture products for sale to big export firms -- is being touted here as the Central Visayas region's key to economic recovery.

By pushing the practice of sub-contracting in the countryside, the Department of Trade and Industry says it hopes to transform the Philippines into a newly-industrialized country (NIC) by the year 2000.

However, unlike Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand, whose export-oriented manufacture of garments and electronic gadgets, among others, was accompanied by the development of their own basic industries, the Philippines still has no program for developing or strengthening such industries as steel, cement, chemicals and drugs.

Economic analyst Alejandro Lichauco has underscored the importance of developing a nation's basic industries when he said "the steel industry is the backbone of all industries."

"At the rate we're going, we'll never be an NIC," Lichauco said in a recent TV talk show.

Philippine economic policy emphasizes exporting to earn much-needed dollars with which to service the country's \$28 billion debt. Some 46% of all Philippine export earnings goes to the payment of interest.

In Cebu, the local DTI is eyeing potential rural-based sub-contractors for strictly light-manufactured products such as costume jewelry, rattan furniture and garments. There are at least 287 registered sub-contractors manufacturing furniture, garments, and fashion accessories, all of which are urban-based.

"Exporting happens to be the fastest way out of unemployment and debt-sevicing," said Roberto Varquez, provincial chief of the DTI's trade development division. "And by developing a sub-contractors exchange (or "Sub-conex," as the DTI program is called,) exporters can sell the goods at cheaper prices

and be more competitive in the world market."

Sub-contractors are paid

below the P64 minimum wage (often between P20-P35 per day) or are paid per

piece or by bulk (pakyaw). All mean less overhead expenses for the exporter.

Because of the low wages of sub-contractors, Varquez said DTI is often misinter-

preted as biased in favor of big companies at the expense of small workers. (PNF)

Ticket No. 521942 wins P1-M Sweeps Draw

JULY 23, 1989 SWEEPSTAKES DRAW

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645580 645581 645582 645583 645585 645586 645587 645588 645589

44 FIFTH PRIZES OF P1,500.00 FOR EACH WHOLE TICKET:

129179 193949 248591 301485 325097 395243 457516 525511 570729 609993
139475 198357 267314 308219 343209 398570 460627 545210 578983 622799
149055 215972 268834 311522 357125 414623 501270 557470 595804 638054
189008 218467 274867 313907 371346 446293 502737 565863 596720 647449
191749 226064 275311 319461 -000- -000- -000- -000- -000- -000-

Tickets with the same first five digits as the winners of the FIFTH PRIZES shall win a Consolation Prize of P50.00 per share (1/5 unit).

88 SIXTH PRIZES OF P1,200.00 FOR EACH WHOLE TICKET:

100927 136300 164291 214768 321519 365781 408662 463609 566810 591927

105725 137114 165074 215284 322936 366917 411647 488922 568673 597917
108357 142988 166870 217178 325173 368576 416804 498722 568986 598610
109451 149239 172410 231785 328960 382927 416862 517234 570088 609603
114212 150205 172440 243095 332614 386596 417904 519428 570549 627217
115494 151706 179439 261017 335379 390309 428466 521971 577518 632365
128826 152926 181617 272079 336697 398477 428959 535271 580689 633926
129927 154009 182046 265403 340107 401587 446062 559240 582854 648807
130925 162021 200100 298889 362954 406476 459315 561294 -000- -000-

Tickets with the same first five digits as the winners of the SIXTH PRIZES shall win a Consolation Prize of P40.00 per share (1/5 unit).

176 SEVENTH PRIZES OF P1,000.00 FOR EACH WHOLE TICKET:

101040 159957 229358 306631 353686 414585 485537 515106 578823 615638
101348 166337 236742 307688 355280 417080 490842 519297 579324 616993
102224 168440 237535 308420 361226 425526 492591 521883 580486 617079
109315 170118 244765 308662 364475 425939 492657 528550 583921 617869
110757 180012 258241 308841 365481 428194 493470 529251 584072 621686
111197 180124 263716 312001 366321 433246 494960 531578 585016 626930
113725 183078 264497 315425 369040 435236 495703 538000 587616 627383
114384 183784 265568 320153 370800 438314 498167 553351 587985 628565
116864 192084 266136 320468 372541 445068 498409 556937 592544 635924
119141 197533 268066 324044 375915 457411 498783 558821 594703 639366
126685 200148 270880 324718 379610 458914 499667 561742 599947 640083
128413 205959 272186 330789 382419 459812 500429 563804 600197 643362
145230 206393 274614 334262 382457 464100 501342 565643 607723 644016
149046 208180 275592 337792 388637 468092 504096 565831 611100 644903
150024 215313 298616 341717 391816 470756 506185 567807 612500 645291
154555 217494 299395 343325 396937 473413 507346 570058 614938 647907
156127 222395 304496 348754 399508 473968 510031 575505 615332 648913
156137 225984 305049 353201 401788 484597 -000- -000- -000- -000-

Tickets with the same first five digits as the winners of the SEVENTH PRIZES shall win a Consolation Prize of P30.00 per share (1/5 unit).

352 EIGHTH PRIZES OF P800.00 FOR EACH WHOLE TICKET:

103211 158479 248521 300959 344901 401989 440620 503049 560457 600288
104578 159202 250325 301605 351178 402539 443288 505458 561176 601229
106250 162115 250694 302099 351773 407698 448855 506290 563678 602443
106979 162709 251065 305018 352057 409740 449742 506598 564890 603823
107077 164345 256412 306584 352625 413128 454879 508076 565381 604309
111228 165681 256747 306908 357384 413875 457395 508176 565838 604878
111987 165709 256955 307412 359023 414033 458056 513296 566131 605010
114823 174980 258346 308359 360409 414400 459588 515796 566592 606358
116111 177047 258509 308832 361026 414705 460027 518648 567143 606393
121128 177433 261735 310100 361357 414723 460429 519221 567299 606404
121504 178108 262744 311147 361424 414809 463513 519754 570666 610866
121625 179327 266044 311489 361602 415364 468839 519779 571415 611751
123318 181033 266788 312263 362876 416677 468894 525167 571834 615600
130052 190813 267741 312542 363612 416846 470343 527348 573462 616070
133397 191189 268262 315360 363667 416921 471661 527461 574422 617113
134187 192004 273611 316803 364575 418027 472232 531058 576399 617733
135616 192526 277855 316820 367090 418357 472813 532369 577193 618590
137201 194286 278771 317814 367106 419246 473272 533205 579139 623425
138005 194948 279939 321151 370271 419541 474749 536188 579399 624464
138735 196225 280994 322446 372104 420371 477295 536429 580231 625649
139195 202760 283295 322548 374453 421883 478543 537197 580526 625786
140479 208375 283336 323981 374573 423951 480287 537431 580767 627899
140753 209533 286102 325167 375377 427760 480855 539242 582961 631742
141334 214555 286927 326427 382390 428649 481927 540612 582976 634320
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145195 215872 289072 328890 383295 431235 486178 547082 584563 640124
145376 216171 291166 329574 383690 433632 488939 549108 585231 640674
146841 219235 292320 329663 385957 433707 489056 549593 586620 642206
147160 221365 293463 330185 386017 435228 489443 550564 587815 642888
147400 225475 296820 331745 388217 436166 493103 551907 589740 643020
147500 227815 296936 335190 389840 436222 493347 553644 595269 645431
149120 236427 298545 335588 390353 437286 496363 555257 595474 646489
150834 236924 299210 338842 391905 438240 497068 556850 596258 647589
151923 238947 300484 339599 392231 440074 500529 558678 596660 648666
155646 241772 300920 341826 394715 440417 500758 559965 600111 648900
158268 245682 -000- -000- -000- -000- -000- -000-

Tickets with the same first five digits as the winners of the EIGHTH PRIZES shall win a Consolation Prize of P20.00 per share (1/5 unit).

180 EXTRA PRIZES OF P500.00 FOR EACH WHOLE TICKET:

104123 154684 195491 244020 272941 317863 388130 457383 526513 581386
111350 157281 197893 245577 274210 318647 390752 464128 530386 583970
113592 157965 203837 245677 277148 323517 394311 471787 530752 593307
113911 158085 204689 249042 277731 326020 397137 472472 536461 597002
114323 159968 207302 252675 278901 328616 402914 476823 536987 603990
114704 160713 210215 254024 280611 333047 404694 478220 540572 605515
124124 165025 216182 254206 285464 338506 407580 480120 542586 612199
134966 167268 217708 254595 288073 343862 409143 481193 543290 612446
136798 168425 218796 256405 289892 344584 417745 485376 545326 613121
138158 170433 218868 258922 292557 349654 419832 487737 542447 613878
139573 174164 220431 259422 294234 352908 421050 501160 552970 614485
147251 180150 229549 261421 297170 353359 427185 509857 559219 615754
148611 180723 230937 262841 308722 358330 428170 513859 559441 630369
149593 182810 237886 263321 308939 363263 428548 515321 560708 634385
152275 185441 241758 266955 309244 365040 435129 520247 560761 635032
152651 189187 243305 268629 309642 372130 440262 524117 562249 635902
152824 189461 243901 269160 316102 382943 444634 526181 577057 646036
154114 190711 243928 269770 317324 386891 451773 526562 579697 649641

Tickets with the same first five digits as the winners of the EXTRA PRIZES shall win a Consolation Prize of P20.00 per share (1/5 unit).

55,000 NINTH PRIZES (LAST DIGIT) AT P25.00 EACH WHOLE TICKET OF FIVE SHARES FOR ALL TICKETS ENDING IN 3 (THREE) (SPECIALLY DRAWN).

NOTE: EACH PRIZE IS FOR ONE (1) WHOLE TICKET OF FIVE (5) SHARES.

Eric Quizon talks on Dolphy

AT last, Eric Quizon has made himself available to the press. There was a time when he warded off movie reporters at the height of the controversy involving his father Dolphy and Zsa Zsa Padilla and Alma Moreno. He had all the reasons to avoid the press. Although it was inevitable for his name to be dragged into the controversy, he did not want to be a big part of the imbroglio.

"Marami ngang nagsasabi na salita daw ako ng salita. Actually, I'm not saying anything. I really avoided reporters not because I don't like to talk to them. I just didn't want to talk about what happened. If I talked, baka ako'ng ma-put sa spot," he said.

Now that his dad is here, Eric can freely talk about him. He said they have seen each other and they have talked the day after Dolphy arrived. "He's OK. He looked so

happy. Medyo tumaba siya and he looked younger, ang pula-pula nga ng pisngi. Hindi na namin pinag-usapan 'yung mga bad publicities about him. Sabi ko nga, it's just a passing fancy. Sabi na lang niya, pasensiya na lang muna kami sa naglalabasan dahil hindi talaga maiwasan na masangkot lahat."

Eric and his family are going to celebrate Dolphy's birthday tomorrow (July 25). It has been a tradition for them to prepare something for their dad's birthday. "S.O.P. na naman sa amin 'yon na every birthday ng daddy, we have a get-together either dinner or lunch, kung hindi eve ng birthday niya, sa mismong kaarawan."

There are reports saying Dolphy and Zsa Zsa are getting married. How does Eric react to this? "That's his life. Kung ano ang gusto niya, it's up to him."

Dolphy's love life may be very colorful but that doesn't mean Eric's will pale in comparison. Rumors linking him with movie queen Vilma Santos continue to circulate. No, it's not a gimmick because they are not doing a movie together at present.

It is said that Eric is badly smitten by Vi's charms that he follows her everywhere. He is often seen at Vilma's recording for her show. Eric does not deny that he and Vi are very close.

"But there's nothing ano with that. 'Yung ini-issue nila na nililigawan ko or may special something kami, wala 'yon. It's true, I go to her recording. 'Yun 'yung kapag may times na wala naman kaming ginagawa. We go there at nakikipagkwentuhan. We talk about a lot of things. I enjoy talking to her and to the 'Vilma' staff dahil marami talaga kaming natutuhan. Masarap talagang kausap si Ate Vi," Eric said.

that additional fragrance. And a plus "Factor."

Purefoods Hotdogs are on a winning streak in the PBA.

The Hotdogs are really hot.

The Hotdogs massacred their opponents with impunity.

The coldcuts specialists became overnight mad Hotdogs.

Our fearless forecast for the championship: Purefoods Hotdogs vs. San Miguel Beer.

Inumin kayang Hotdogs ang Beermen o gawing pulutan ng Beermen ang Hotdogs?

Coach Baby Dalupan transformed the lost dogs into mad dogs, like the German Panzer Brigade.

Overnight the Hotdogs became terrorizing German shepherds.

If the Hotdogs maintain their killer instinct they will annihilate the Beermen.

The San Miguel boys will kiss the championship goodbye and from Beermen they will be dubbed "Biermen."

But here's what. I was able to stumble on something. By the time this issue comes out, Eric and his Ate Vi shall have left for Hongkong. I asked Eric about their scheduled trip.

"Kasi naman, this is courtesy of Mother Lily. I mean, in-invite niya si Ate Vi eh nu'ng time na 'yon, I was present. Niyaya ako ni Mother kaya sumama ako," Eric explained.

OK Eric, you don't have to explain. I just wish you and your Honey Vi, este Ate Vi, a good time together.

The male fans of Alma Moreno will not be disappointed with her in the movie "The Rape of Virginia P." I saw the trailer and I tell you, the very bold and daring Alma is back. There are her usual wet scenes and those scenes showing her running topless in the bushes.

I was able to get some of those rather revealing photos of the "come-backing" bold queen which were taken from the movie and we are printing it on this page.

The hottest issue on PBA today is the accident that Samboy Lim met during the Purefoods-San Miguel match last week. Samboy had a bad fall (his head hitting the floor first) that caused a long cut on his brow which required 18 stitches. Now some of the basketball fans are blaming Jojo Lastimoso who tried to block Samboy when he did a lay-up.

I was able to catch Jojo and his wife Butchick at the Tokyo House Restaurant in Makati and I didn't waste time to ask him about what happened. "Unang-una, naramdaman ko na 'yun sa play ni Samboy,

FIZZ BIZZ



by L HAR SANTIAGO



ALMA: Stills of her bold movie "Virginia P."

iyung lundag niya, natamaan ko 'yung head niya. Pero hindi ko inakala na it would be hard enough to make him fall. In the first place, hindi ko sinasadyang tamaan ang ulo niya, kasi iniwas niya 'yung bola. Nu'ng nakita ko na pabagsak pa lang siya, nagsa-sommer-sault na kaya I was the first person to really come to him.

"Medyo na-shock ako na medyo natakot kasi iniisip ko, it might be the end of his career. Even after the incident, 'yung nangyari sa amin, it was always on my mind and I thank Samboy because I talked to him after that and he was the one who encouraged me to forget about the incident. Huwag ko raw isipin 'yon at baka maapektuhan pa 'yung game ko," Jojo said.

good governor because they realized that he, too, was concerned about their plight in the hamlets in this remote community. I, too, applaud Governor Pagdanganan for his interest in our Aetas so unlike some bigshots in Zambales itself who pay lip service when it comes to the search for solutions to the problems confronting these people who may well be our last frontier. And speaking of the Aetas, they feel aggrieved because they claim they were insulted by a top provincial official who called them "labuyo" or mercenaries. According to them, this official called them unflattering names, said that they cannot be trusted and their loyalties are for sale. I have visited the remotest Aeta settlements in Zambales and I find them very respectful and polite. They deserve better treatment from those of us who are better situated.

I would like to congratulate Mrs. Viring Olegario, wife of the Vice Mayor of San Antonio, Zambales for winning the presidency of the Bgy. Councilmen's Association of San Antonio. Mrs. Olegario is very active and well prepared to lead her fellow barangay councilmen and I have pledged them fullest support for endeavors that will redound to public weal in San Antonio.



ERIC: Bats for Dolphy.

Fundador SORIANO

(From page 10)

part of the body.

"Opium" and "Poison" are not a bane but a boon to women who wear this perfume for

Placido DIAZ

(From page 9)

MARKET PRICES. Sen. Mamintal Tamano visited Tehran last month where he was told of the crude supply offer. The Muslim solon said Iran's offer might yet prevent or reduce the planned increases in the prices of fuel next month. Iran has gone on an aggressive marketing drive to sell crude to generate funds needed to rebuild its economy...

Come on, Cory, don't heed the American Caltex and Shell magnates and their Filipino stooges for once. Go on a trip to Iran and buy up all the oil we need with the money you have allotted for the Oil Price Stabilization Fund. This is your last chance at bat. Please, for the sake of the Filipino people, do score an honest-to-goodness home-run. We might even be grateful enough no longer to begrudge Hacienda Luisita to your family and posterity.

Raul GONZALEZ

(From page 9)

with whom?

There should be new IBP elections for the national board of officers under strict Supreme Court supervision so that there will be a clean bill for the IBP leadership between now and 1991. Anyone who reads the Free Press and other news accounts of that election will get nauseated. Then those involved in the shenanigans must be disqualified from running and if found guilty, suspended from practice, if not disbarred.

I was in Bgy. Morasa, at Sitio Barretto which is one of the most remote barangays in Botolan, Zambales last July 8, Saturday. I addressed some 200 members of the various tribal councils of the minorities who were gathered for a seminar by Chito Balintay, the National Northern Cultural Minorities head in the province. One of the special guests was Gov. Obet Pagdanganan of Bulacan who graciously visited this remote barangay in his capacity as Region 3 RDC chairman. The people in Morasa were happy to welcome the

RP employment situation improving

By MITCHELL P. DURAN

MORE Filipinos were employed during the first quarter this year compared to 1988. The latest national government figures released by the National Statistics Office (NSO) indicate improvements last January as compared to its year-ago level.

From 20.8 million last year, the number of employed increased to 21.6 million. This also reflected a rise in the employment rate (ratio of the total number of employed to the labor force) which registered at 91.8 percent in January as against the 1988 figure of 90.9 percent for the same period-in-review.

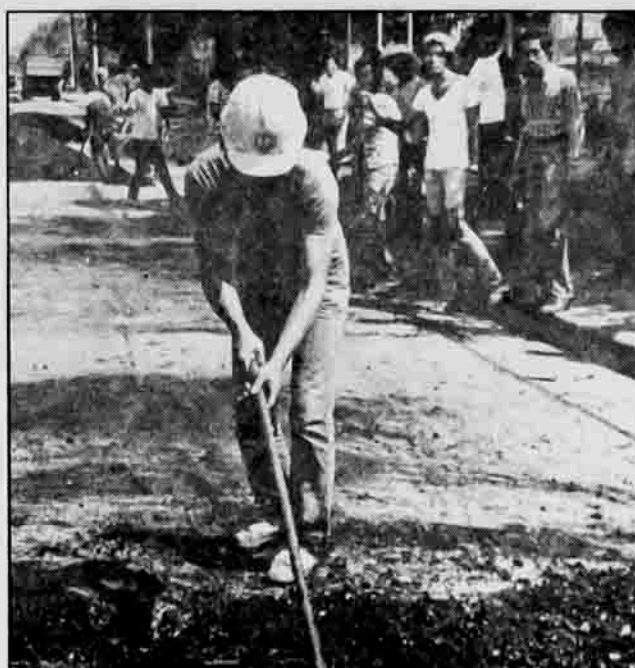
The problem of underemployment (employed persons working less than 40 hours a week) was also abated as it decreased from 6.9 million to 6.5 million. The underemployment rate, likewise, dipped to 30.2 percent from 33.6 percent last year.

These statistics are incorporated in the "Employment Bulletin" for the first quarter of 1989 published by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Inter-Agency Committee on Employment Pro-

grams Monitoring (IAC-EPM) which is composed of 13 government departments and agencies. The Institute for Labor Studies (ILS-DOLE) acts as the Technical Secretariat of the IAC-EPM.

On a region-to-region perspective, unemployment remains very high in the National Capital Region (NCR) although its unemployment rate decreased from 19 percent to 17.2 percent from January last year to the current level. The other two regions which experienced higher unemployment rates than the national average are Regions I and III at 8.7 percent and 9.3 percent, respectively. Slight increases in unemployment rate were registered in Regions II, VIII, X and in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR).

NCR, on the other hand, had the least number of underemployed and the lowest underemployment rate for 1988 and 1989. High underemployment rates were posted in Regions XII, V, VIII, VI, XI, I, VII, X, all of which even had higher rates than the national average. Except for Regions I and V, all regions showed de-



WORKERS: Future bright?

creases in the underemployment rates and only Region V registered an increase in the total number of underemployed. During the first quarter of 1989, the government generated about 364,124 jobs through the various programs of its departments/agencies. Notable contributions to employment creation were made through the various infrastructure projects of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the approved investment projects of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). Short-term jobs were also provided by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) through its Food-

for-Work Assistance Program.

The employment of about 128,900 persons was facilitated through the local placement network and overseas employment services of the DOLE, while 26,653 were equipped with industrial and other skills through apprenticeship, learnership and other training programs.

Under the livelihood program, more than 140,000 beneficiaries were provided with financial and other types of assistance. Of this total, almost 96 percent were assisted through the Self-Employment Assistance Program (SEAP) of the DSWD. (ANF)

As long as Emil Ong and Luis Santos remain in their positions, the credibility of the campaign against graft will also remain a joke. Well have the bishops said that "graft and corruption -- in the plainest of language, stealing from the public through the misuse of influence or position -- has become, to our shame as a people, an ordinary fixture of our nation's public life." And the President herself has admitted that it has returned, if not to the same extent, at least with equal shamelessness during her administration. But, of course, the solution is all words, words, words. Pure rhetoric.

The bishops (God bless them!) are rightly dismayed because "many who steal seem to no longer care to hide the illicit fruits of their stealing. What makes us even more sad is this: acts of graft and corruption or toleration and connivance with them are no longer ordinarily viewed as sin, but are often considered as acts of cleverness (when uncaught) or mistakes (when caught)." How true, how true!

"Under the present circumstances," the bishops say of the graft and corruption, "it becomes a sin of the blackest hue, a sin that cries to heaven for vengeance (cf. James 5:4)."

Indeed, it is easy to believe that the enemies of those who are temporarily in power are correct in their perception that we have a government that does not govern and a leader that does not lead. And that the administration is the most incompetent ever. Let alone, we say, the most corrupt in Philippine history.

On this the eve of my 78th birthday, I can now say, in all honesty that I have lived in the best of times and in the worst of times.

Limited price control expected

By EMMANUEL V. BERNARDO

ALTHOUGH Malacanang continues to frown on proposals to reimpose price control, it is held likely by political observers that a limited coverage might yet be resorted to by the government to satisfy demands coming from both the consumer and labor sectors.

President Aquino has, time and again, opposed such a reimposition, insisting that pricing is a function of free enterprise. To Mrs. Aquino, the law of supply and demand should be the main determining factor in the pricing of goods and services that the private sector produces, and not government intervention.

But in a country where the law of supply and demand is vaguely understood or even followed, prices can rise dramatically at the slightest hint of a shortage or increased consumption.

At least five basic commodities are being proposed by both labor and consumer groups for inclusion in a new price control listing. The five commodities are rice, corn, sugar, soap and cooking oil.

According to the petitioners led by the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) and the Philippine Consumer Foundation (PCF), the prices of these commodities have been skyrocketing despite their adequate supply.

Vicente Arniago Jr., president of Sandigan ng

Manggagawang Pilipino, said the "unreasonable increases in the prices of these most basic commodities cannot be attributed to lack of supply but to the tendency of businessmen to rake in more profits at every opportunity."

Arniago said another round of increases is expected in August when the government approves the petition of the oil companies to raise the prices of gasoline and other petroleum products.

"Limited price control on the country's most basic items such as rice, corn, sugar, soap and cooking oil will spare the people from the new round of price increases expected to be triggered when the gasoline price goes up in August," Arniago warned.

According to the labor and consumer groups, price control could immediately be lifted on these products once their prices stabilize and production increases.

The prices of these products, they said, immediately went up when the new minimum wage law took effect last July 1, a legislation which the business sector had vigorously opposed, warning that the measure would worsen the unemployment rate, increase the cost of production and result in higher commodity prices. (Asian News & Features)

Ernesto RODRIGUEZ (From page 8)

overwhelming masses of our people. What is hurting is its assertion that graft in government is "so widespread, largely unpunished." The wonder is why it took the Church too long a time to make up its collective mind and meet the issue head on. Of course, it required courage and courage is not easily acquired in these times. Now that it is there for all the world to know, what comes next?

The nation can no longer afford the luxury of watching this epidemic of graft and corruption maintain its course. The government is, on its own, in complete disarray and anarchy may soon set in if those who walk the corridors of power do not mend their ways. Why even Secretary Santiago, who is Malacanang's "Peter in the dike" has warned that the people may rise if the CARP fails in its mission of helping the landless and the oppressed.

The teachers, the students, the government workers, the labor unions, are in ferment. Killings, bank robberies, gambling, smuggling, they are on the rise. The prices of commodities and drugs have gone up. Transportation is a mess. Massacres of the innocent have become commonplace. Junkets are no news. Why the President even intends to attend the religious rites marking the circumcision of the crown prince of Brunei! Why, can she not see that Rome is burning?

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council
Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that KEY ESTATE, INC. has filed with the Housing & Land Use Regulatory Board a sworn registration statement for the sale of lots/units at CRYSTAL COURT II TOWNHOMES located at Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Metro Manila specifically identified/described as Lot 9, Block 16 (LRC) Pcs-6818. That the titles covering said units are currently undergoing judicial reconstitution; that the registration statement and all papers attached thereto are available for inspection during business hours by any person having legal interest thereon and upon proper application; and that copies thereof shall be furnished to such person upon payment of the proper fee.

Any person with valid objection to the registration of the project may file his objection in writing with the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, 393 Goodwill Bldg., Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati, Metro Manila, telephone nos. 87-83-90 or 85-98-11 to 26 local 383, not later than two (2) weeks from the date of the last publication.

Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines, July 10, 1989.

WILLIAM L. JASARINO
Director, Development Control
Enforcement Office

WE FORUM
July 21, 24, 1989

Cory: We'll push debt reduction

THE government will push for debt reduction measures from international creditors, even as it continues to pursue its policy to honor all outstanding debts, President Aquino indicated yesterday.

She likewise expressed hope that the country's official creditors are now realizing that debt reduction is inevitable among various debt relief options, because it helps both the debtor country and the rich industrialized states whose Third World markets are shrinking as a result of the latter's debt-related problems.

Mrs. Aquino detailed her persistent efforts to talk at a "political level" on the debt issue with the leaders of the Group of 7 industrialized countries when she visited Europe recently.

Speaking at her weekly broadcast show "Magtanong sa Pangulo," the President said the leaders whom she talked to appeared pleased with the economic progress that the Philippines has made despite the fact that it has had to use up almost half of its resources for debt service.

Actual debt reduction, Mrs. Aquino said, will complement the Philippines' efforts to get new money by way of fresh concessional loans and grants, and a higher level of investments.

In the same show, Senator Vicente Paterno and Manila Rep. Ramon Bagatsing Jr. said Congress is now exploring ways to address concerns raised by European businessmen regarding the Philippine in-

vestment climate.

Paterno cited his own efforts to amend the 60-40 equity rule that limits the foreign investors' equity in corporations here.

Bagatsing proposed the setting up of a European desk with members of Congress and the Executive to deal regularly with European officials on a four-to-five year basis.

Meanwhile, Press Secretary Adolf Azcuna conceded that government had in the past not given much attention to countering the well-orchestrated disinformation campaign on the Philippines' human rights record being waged by the National Democratic Front in Europe.

However, he said, the recent state visits have taught the government the need to give more attention to this problem.

Meanwhile, the President said several measures are now the subject of negotiations between the Philippines and European governments regarding the situation of Filipino workers there.

One measure seeks to allow Filipina workers in France to collect their social security benefits -- for which deductions were made on their salaries there--once they decide to return to the Philippines.

Efforts are also underway to address the complaint of some Europe-based Filipinos that they are being doubly taxed, as they pay taxes both here and in the countries where they work.

We Forum

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JULY 24-25, 1989

p 2 only

IN METRO MANILA

300,000 gov't workers start walkout today

By FELIPE ESUDERO and BOBBY TUAZON

SOME 300,000 government employees will walk out of their jobs today (July 24) in protest against a bill granting huge salary increases to President Corason Aquino and other top government officials.

The protesters warned over the weekend to escalate nationwide their mass leave within a week if Congress fails to grant better salary increases to teachers and other government workers.

Some 30,000 teachers from Metro-Manila and Central Luzon will walk out of their classes today. Simultaneously, strikes will also take place in the cities of Manila, Caloocan and Pasay, and in the towns of Malabon, Navotas, Valenzuela and Muntinlupa as well as in the Central Luzon provinces of Bulacan, Bataan, Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambales and Nueva Ecija.

Similar mass actions are expected to erupt in Negros Occidental, Bicol, the Cordilleras and Mindanao.

The consolidated Compensation and Position Classification Act of 1989 (HB 10054 and SB 862), spon-

sored in the Lower House by Rep. Rolando Andaya (LDP, Camarines Sur) and in the Senate by Sen. Alberto Romulo, increases the salaries of top government officials including the President (from P25,000 to P42,000 per month, or by 68%), cabinet secretaries (P17,000 to P31,000 per month, or 82.35%), and others. The Andaya bill also retains these officials' fringe benefits, their national and local COLA (cost of living allowance), and their discretionary funds.

While the Romulo bill grants "reasonable" salary increases for government teachers and employees, the Andaya bill sets the starting monthly pay of public school teachers at P2,464 including COLA (from the current P1,764 basic and P700 COLA) and that of workers and other employees at P1,700. Both bills are silent on the fringe benefits already won by government employees in previous protest actions.

Today's mass leave is spearheaded by six organizations of teachers, and

health, office, and bank employees: the Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT, 104,000 members), Confederation for Unity, Reforms and Advancement of Government Employees (COURAGE, 80,000), Alliance of Health Workers (AHW, 60,000), Alliance of Government Financing Institution Employees (AGFIE, 30,000), Manila Public School Teachers Association (MPSTA, 17,000) and the Philippine Government Employees Association (PGEA, 10,000).

Leaders of the six organizations are pressing for a monthly starting pay of P4,500 for teachers and P2,800 for workers and for the retention of fringe benefits.

They have also branded the bills as "elitist and discriminatory" because they provide 20% hikes for rank-and-file government employees while giving 68% to 82.35% increases to high government officials including congressmen, senators and others.

Meanwhile, in a related development, Miss Delia De Veyra, Regional Coordinator of ACT for Eastern Visayas, reported yesterday at ACT National Office

in Pasay City, the on-going hunger strike of Prof. Jose Juego, President of the Visayas State College (VISCA) Faculty Association, an affiliate of ACT, supported by 80 faculty members who have been on sit-down strike since June 29.

The teachers, supported by some 4,000 students of VISCA, are calling for the dismissal of college President Dr. Marianito Villanueva, who is facing many cases of graft and corruption before the Tanodbayan. (PNF)

Espinosa killing suspect nabbed

A brother of former Masbate governor Jolly Fernandez was arrested Friday by authorities as a prime suspect in the killing of Rep. Moises Espinosa, four months after the assassination; and almost a month after Fernandez himself was seriously wounded in an ambush.

Florencio Fernandez Jr. was nabbed by members of Task Force Masbate at his residence on Danao St. in Masbate on the strength of an arrest warrant issued by Judge Nilo Barsaga.

Fernandez Jr. was pointed to by witnesses as one of the armed men who fled the scene on board a motorcycle shortly after Espinosa was gunned down at the Masbate airport last March 17. The Fernandez and Espinosa clan feud has triggered tension in the Southern Luzon province.

Last June 28, Jolly Fernandez narrowly escaped death when his party was shot at by unknown men while on board a motorized banca.

2,704 vehicles netted in anti-smoke belching drive

THE anti-smoke belching campaign has netted 2,704 vehicles in only two weeks from July 3 to 14 or an average daily apprehension of 270 vehicles a day.

Since the campaign was intensified in June, a total of 4,908 vehicles have been cited as of July 14. The intensified campaign has exceeded the apprehensions from January to May which total 3,914.

From January to June, a total of P1.5 million of fines have been collected. The present campaign has drasti-

cally improved the previous apprehension rate of 1,000 vehicles a month under the old campaign.

It is expected by the end of July, some 5,000 smoke vehicles shall have been apprehended.

DENR Undersecretary Celso R. Roque, chairman of the Executive Committee on Smoke Belching said that ten (10) Composite Apprehension Teams (CATs) were fielded starting June resulting in the dramatic increase in the apprehension of

smoke-belching vehicles.

Under the present campaign, Roque said smoke-belching vehicles are stripped of the registration plate and are required to pay a series of fines. The fines are as follows: 1st offense, P200; 2nd offense, P500; and 3rd offense, P1,000.

He said that smoke belchers are required to pass the smoke emission test prior to the release of the vehicle plate. Otherwise, the vehicle is grounded or is recommended for the cancellation of its franchise.



SMOKE-BELCHERS: Drive intensified.