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# We Forum

To seek and live the truth and share a vision



Rally  
for Peace

VOL. 13 \* NO. 117 \*

TUESDAY \* DECEMBER 5, 1989

P2 only

IN METRO MANILA

- Rebel stragglers still holed out in Makati
- Coup leaders named; 'normalcy' restored

# SNIPERS

- Foreigners trapped in hotels
- Classes remain suspended
- Reuben Canoy nabbed
- Trauma of coup lingers on
- Salonga, LP reject coup, takeover
- Opposition hits Cory's position on seeking US military assistance



SENTINEL: A solitary government trooper trains his high-powered gun at snipers holding out in one of the condominiums in Makati which they earlier occupied. Fierce fighting continued to rage yesterday.

## Civic Assembly of Women appeals for peace, prayers

THE CIVIC Assembly of Women (CAW) yesterday urged all its members throughout the country to continue their prayers for peace and to help the victims of the current conflict between the military rebels and the government.

The CAW led by civic leader and publisher Esther Vibal and former Senator Helen Benitez said assistance to the victims of the conflict must pay particular attention to the poor, especially the squatters.

Vibal said the CAW, representing 79 national organizations of girl scouts, doctors, dentists, lawyers, nurses, and other professionals, "will continue to do its utmost for the attainment of enduring peace for all the people, regardless of politi-

cal creed or color."

THE YOUTH Action Development Organization (YADO) yesterday appealed to President Aquino to reverse her "surrender or die" ultimatum to reformists demanding urgently needed changes in the government.

YADO members led by ex-Lt. Col. Alex Villalon warned that Mrs. Aquino's order to annihilate the military and civilian elements demanding government reforms "would only bring about more senseless killings of Filipinos by Filipinos locked in deadly combat that no one will win."

Villalon stressed that "these killings would not solve, much less exterminate the causes of the worsening problems of graft and corruption."



LADY AND A TANK: This contrasting view shows a tool of violence (tank) and a symbol of peace (Our Lady of Peace shrine) along

EDSA, corner Ortigas Avenue where fierce fighting erupted the other day.

## Kalaw urges gov't reforms

FORMER SENATOR Eva Estrada Kalaw yesterday appealed for a government-rebel search for urgently needed reforms "to prevent the further killing of civilians, to confront and destroy the roots of rebellion, and to preserve national honor and dignity".

Kalaw deplored the "disgraceful way the national leadership sought American military intrusion to solve an absolutely Filipino problem."

"Brazenly seeking the intrusion of the Americans in a purely internal affair of the Filipinos is an admission that the Aquino government is

no longer able and capable to contain opposition to numerous government errors," Senator Kalaw said.

"Now," she added, "the Aquino administration will go to the Philippine-U.S. bases talks with an 'IOU tag' against it."

"The hypocrisy of the so-called 'I-will-keep-my-options-open' policy of Mrs. Aquino has been ripped wide open for the whole world to see she had this pro-bases stand up her sleeves all the while," Mrs. Kalaw stated.

She added "now the Americans can say 'you want us out of the bases; how do you intend to protect your country from external intrusion when you cannot even protect yourselves against a reform movement.'"

She warned that U.S. military intrusion in the coup gives the Americans an excuse for a repeat of the Samar massacre when the United States wanted to colonize the Philippines.

"While it might have succeeded in neutralizing rebel strongholds with the assistance of sophisticated but devastating American phantom fighter jets, the Aquino government never exterminated a single root of the nation's socio-economic hardships, including the extensive graft and corruption," Senator Kalaw stated.

She reminded national leadership that the soldiers involved in the current mutiny were the same forces who installed her into power in 1986.

"I am afraid that the might and power of the present leadership is being used to perpetuate a political clique instead of pursuing the reforms that the 1986 rebels fought for," Mrs. Kalaw said.

She concluded by stating that "the Aquino government's blatant and shameless begging for military intrusion betrays not only its impotency but also its lack of foresight."

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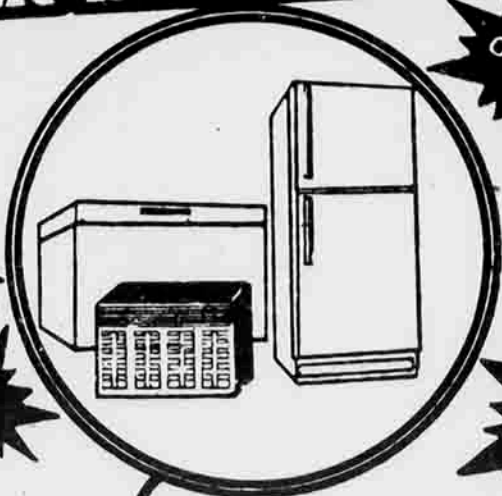
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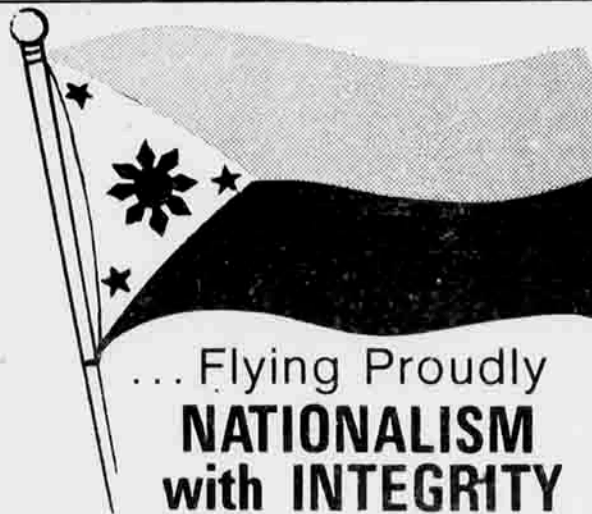
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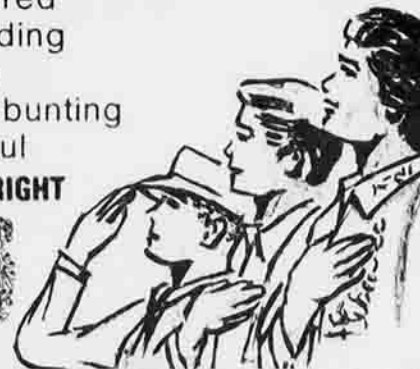
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# Trauma of costly coup lingers on

By ERIC S. GIRON

**I**T WILL take time to live down the trauma of the helter-skelter attempt to destabilize the Aquino government, which entered the fourth day of mopping up operations yesterday (Monday). The government response was likewise some kind of patchwork, pulling out units from here and assigning them to beleaguered areas.

The five previous attempts were contained in one day. But this is a new kind of operation in which the rebels have involved the civilians by occupying their residences in the periphery of Camp Aguinaldo. They demanded food from the homeowners whom they held hostage.

They say even a rat when cornered will fight back. President Corazon Aquino's ultimatum to the rebels to "surrender or die" and her declaration that "what they started, we will finish," could have driven the renegades to vary their operations.

Thus they dispersed to the Makati commercial district where the fighting shifted after the rebels blockaded Ayala Avenue and climbed up towers of plush hotels from where they sniped at government soldiers below.

How the rebels amassed so many rifles and heavy weapons, Armored Personnel Carriers, trucks and other military vehicles, and ammunition to sustain more than four days of battles and skirmishes with government forces is something to reckon with. This indicates how lax Armed Forces control over its weapons, ammo, and vehicles is.

It has been a tragicomic affair of stupid *mirones* (on-lookers) and *ociosos* (idlers) risking being shot or blasted by tagging along with the embattled soldiers merely to retrieve their bullet casings, souvenirs like guns and bullets, even caps of dead soldiers. Others remained in the areas being pounded by

helicopter gunships with rockets.

## REBELS SANS CAUSE

What rankles in the mind is the sorry sight of hungry and bewildered Sad Sacks in battle uniform, slinging Armalite rifles, who came in six-by-six military trucks from Camp Aquino in Tarlac and from Nueva Ecija who did not fire a single shot. The two battalions plus two companies of the 73rd Infantry massed in front of the Unimart at Greenhills, San Juan.

As in the other foiled coups, the soldiers said they were ordered to board the trucks for Manila, not knowing what their mission was. At about 4 p.m. they went up their trucks at Greenhills, hoping to return to their provincial camps.

However, they were directed to get off and turn in their firearms prior to being escorted to Camp Crame as "rebel soldiers." The men were under the command of Brig. Gen. Marcelo Blando who surrendered to Brig. Gen. Manuel Bruan of the PC Highway Patrol Group.

These soldiers move on orders of their commanders because in the military the cardinal rule is to obey without question. What happens now to these innocent soldiers who have been dragged into a mutiny not of their own making? Will they be lined up against the wall and shot? Or should those who gave the orders be the ones punished.

However, a splinter

group from this outfit numbering about 200 were reported to have renewed attempts to engage government troops at Camp Aguinaldo from their position on Connecticut Street.

Inside Camp Aguinaldo, Brig. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon's Marines had pinned against the wall remnants of some 2,000 renegade soldiers. He said 300 of the rebels under Commodore Domingo Calahati had infiltrated through Gate 1 on Santolan on the night of Nov. 30 and had seized the Logistics Command area behind the AFP general headquarters.

Rebels who had withdrawn from Villamor Air Base and PTV-4 station on Bohol Avenue reinforced those at Camp Aguinaldo. These were the same elements pushed back by Biazon from Camp Aguinaldo. They fled to nearby residences at White Plains, St. Ignatius Village, Corinthian Village and the Libis area. Seven civilians died in the crossfire and at least a dozen homes including a vacant P5-million plush residence were decimated by helicopter rockets and howitzer and mortar shells.

As in past attempts, the mutineers failed to retain military camps which they captured like Fort Bonifacio, Villamor Air Base and Sangley Point in Cavite City. However, regrouped renegade soldiers made fresh attempts to reenter Camp Aguinaldo up to Sunday afternoon.

Although the rebels held television Channels 2 and 4

*'The government response was some kind of patchwork, pulling out units from here and assigning them to the beleaguered areas.'*



**RAGE:** The ravages of a coup are dramatized by this photo taken in Libis, Q.C. where an air-strike by gov't forces was launched against the rebels.

briefly, they made no use of the stations for telecasting. Their tactical aim was apparently to deprive the government use of the stations. However, radio stations were actively reporting

blow-by-blow accounts of the firefights for 24 hours.

## COSTLY COUP

The foiled coup proved costly to the economy. Prices

of food items escalated from 25 to 67 percent as vendors and stallholders stayed home during the fighting, causing a shortage in the supply of

(Next page, please)

goods. The closure of the north and south expressways jacked up the prices of vegetables and fish anywhere from four to 15 pesos a kilo.

Business came to a virtual standstill in parts of Manila affected by the military encounters. Millions of pesos were lost as banks were shut down and office workers did not report to work because no buses were plying E. de los Santos Avenue which ran between Camps Aguinaldo and Crame where the action was. It was only yesterday that the buses and the LRT resumed operations.

Business houses, eateries and supermarkets with four to twelve moviehouses had been shut down since Saturday. In lieu of movies, people took to the streets in one big fiesta and glued their eyes to the skies to watch the aircraft sorties, first of three T-28 fighter-bombers and one Sikorsky helicopter, then government F-5 fighters and helicopter gunships conduct sorties.

School children who had been missing classes ever since their teachers went on strike for their salary differentials were given another impromptu vacation up to yesterday. Philippine Air Lines flights abroad resumed at high noon yesterday but on a limited scale. Domestic flights were also resumed.

The affair was a big drawback for rich investors from Taiwan and other foreign countries who were ready to pour cash into the Philippines. The unstable situation has made them think twice. "The image of stability and steady progress we had sought to give our country has been severely compromised," President Aquino herself said. "The cost which we have begun to tally is staggering."

#### COST IN PROPERTY

The destruction of the AFP general headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo, the quarters of Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa and other facilities in the Logistics Command area held by the rebels which were counter-attacked by government Marines which were destroyed will require millions of pesos to reconstruct. The PC-INP headquarters



**SAMARITAN:** Volunteer Dr. Josabel Macote of the Red Cross attends to a young evacuee at the Ramon Magsaysay High School in Cubao, Q.C. (Roly Embile)

at Camp Crame was also set on fire by helicopter bombardment.

Among the serious losses

were the Philippine Air force aircraft at Sangley Point in Cavite City. Brig. Gen. Jose

de Leon, the Villamor Air

Base commander, rued the loss of the entire fleet of planes at Sangley Point by government ground forces

to deprive the rebels of their use.

De Leon revealed that seven T-28 propeller-driven planes nicknamed "Tora, Tora" and one Islander aircraft plus a Sikorsky helicopter were all wrecked. The Islander and the helicopter are now being recommissioned.

The three "Tora, Tora" planes and the helicopter used in the bombing of Malacanang, Camps Aguinaldo and Crame, and in straging PTV-4 station, were destroyed upon landing. All the pilots were placed under arrest.

One of the PAFF-5 pilots who assaulted Sangley Point, however, was shot down and his plane exploded on the ground, de Leon revealed. The pilot died. Earlier rumors that the rebel-held aircraft were destroyed by two F-4 US Air Force Phantom jets that flew over Metro Manila after President Aquino requested for American air assistance, were denied by de Leon.

Up to Monday, Mactan Air Force Base in Cebu was held by rebel Brig. Gen. Jose Comendador, the base commander, who was willing to dialogue with the Visayas Command chief, Brig. Gen. Renato Palma. More than 300 mutineers were reported to have come by boat from Agusan del Norte and landed

at Mactan. They tried to seal the Mactan airport. However, a TV announcer from Cebu said jeepneys were allowed to enter and leave Mactan freely.

In Legazpi City (Albay), rebel troops seized radio stations and the local telephone office but left after one hour. A radio station in Baguio City was likewise entered by rebel soldiers.

By Sunday afternoon, 53 rebel officers and 450 enlisted men had given up to government forces at Camp Aguinaldo. Seized from them were 478 Armalite rifles, mortars, recoilless rifles, howitzers and machineguns. However, General Biazon said about 100 more who had dug in Corinthian Village and along Ortigas Avenue had sent him surrender feelers.

#### MAKATI FIGHT

The damage wrought on hotels and other edifices in Makati has yet to be assessed. From Camp Aguinaldo, the renegade soldiers deployed in Makati commercial district where fierce fighting broke out when government troops engaged the scattered rebels at nightfall.

The renegades had blockaded Ayala Avenue and climbed up towers of plush hotels like Twin Towers, Nikko Manila Garden and Inter-Continental, the PCI Bank building and carpark at the corner of EDSA and Ayala.

Major Gen. Ramon Montano, PC-INP chief, went to Makati to oversee the flushing-out operations. Captcom Chief Brig. Gen. Alexander Aguirre, his driver (Sgt. Arias Sabado) and a civilian were wounded by bullets in a rebel attack of their convoy at Makati-Gil Puyat Avenue. Aguirre was released by the Makati Medical Center after being treated of a bullet wound in the leg.

The government force was bolstered by two battalions from Camp Capinpin in Tanay, four battalions from Recon 3 in Central Luzon and two battalions from Southern Luzon, bringing the total to 5,000.

However, a group of (Page 5, please)

## Dead reckoning for Cory

By MAX NOBLE

THAT IT should learn its lessons and learn them well, is the one big lesson the latest coup should have instilled in the Aquino administration. All too obviously, the administration has failed to do so, for six times already. It is either stupid or hard-headed, or both.

Whichever it is, the administration should bury its head in shame. *Nakakahiya talaga.*

As we have said, Honasan and company gave the lie to Pres. Aquino's boast before her American counterpart last month that the 1987 putsch had been "crushed completely."

"There will be no terms...to these traitors," she vowed after the almost successful uprising in 1987 had ended. Up to the present, however, not one "traitor" has been meted the punishment he deserves. This is probably one reason the RAM boys have done it anew. Who knows, those who have surrendered may just be required to do, as before, some thirty pushups. Which is even a good exercise not just for the renegades but also for Secretary of National Defense Fidel Ramos (who is a health buff), Chief of Staff Renato de Villa, and Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, chief of the National Capital Regional Defense Command, which is tasked to secure Metro Manila.

In a press interview a couple of weeks before the latest coup exploded, Biazon bragged that the Honasan group would not stand a Chinaman's chance if they waged another coup. "They cannot generate the number of followers anymore," he declared. "The conditions now are very different. In 1987, they were free to move around; they had use of military facilities; they could politicize, recruit and organize. That was because they were still officially connected with the AFP...another factor is the loss of issues with which to agitate potential recruits to the rightists' cause. An example was the plight of ordinary soldiers. It has now improved."

The general must be talking through his hat or was simply following his commander-in-chief's example when he uttered those statements.

At any rate, the bloody events in the last four days not only deflated Biazon's complacency but more importantly, exposed once again the gaping crack in the military establishment. A crack which the administration has glossed over with palliatives, not with concrete, long-term solutions.

So much has been written about the ills plaguing the AFP, and the remedies to choose from that to state them again would only be an exercise in redundancy. One coup should have been enough for this administration.

When will it ever learn? Another coup, perhaps, will give us the answer. Finally.

# Technology transfer by transnationals a myth

By EDWIN P. DAIWAY

**O**ne of the arguments raised to justify increased foreign investments in the Philippines is that the country will benefit from the transfer of technology from transnational corporations, which account for 85% of the world's advanced industrial know-how.

Citing the experiences of South Korea, Taiwan and Japan, several Government and private-sector leaders say the Philippines can achieve the status of a newly industrialized country by further opening up the economy to these international corporate giants.

This argument has been challenged by a Filipino group of scientists, the Science and Technology Society (STS), which maintains that no real technology transfer has ever occurred despite the presence of foreign firms in the country.

The STS cited figures from the Government-run Technology Transfer Board, which showed that the Philippines averaged only 52 licensing agreements with foreign firms a year compared with 1,103 agreements a year for Japan.

It also cited a United Nations study which says that 50% of all technical agreements with foreign companies "contain onerous and restrictive clauses that hinder any true transfer of technology."

The STS gave at least four reasons why the "technology-transfer" argument is untenable:

1. Transnationals are able to hold back entire industrial technologies through "complementation." This practice consists in parceling industrial operations and assigning these to subsidiaries operating in various countries. The Philippines, for instance, is confined to merely packaging or assembling products of these firms;

2. Transnationals undertake most of their research and development (R&D) as well as their engineering designs in their mother country. They spend only 0.7% of their net sales on local R&D, focused mainly on quality control or marketing strategies rather than on basic re-

search or product development;

3. The patent system hinders technology transfer by institutionalizing foreign monopoly on technology. Over 98% of patents worldwide are registered in the United States, Japan, West Germany, Great Britain and Switzerland, according to the STS; and

4. The technologies actually transferred to the country are those considered obsolete or dangerous in their countries of origin, such as the pollutive diesel trucks of Japan or the toxic agricultural insecticides from Europe and the United States.

## PROHIBITIVE

Despite these drawbacks, transfer of technology continues. According to the STS, technology can be acquired through direct purchases of capital goods and equipment; training of Filipinos in specific technologies; hiring of foreign experts and consultants; and establishing joint ventures and licensing contracts.

Technology in the form of capital goods and equipment is prohibitive, the STS noted. It pointed out that the bulk of the country's importations today consists of "complementary" semi-processed materials shipped to transnational subsidiaries by their mother companies.

In 1982, 95% of the Philippines' imports were spent on capital equipment and on raw semiprocessed materials for transnationals, the STS said.

Also, transnationals apparently do not set much store by training Filipino workers in specific technologies. Of 15 firms based in the Bataan Export-Processing Zone, only two had orientation training for their workers, according to a study cited by the STS.

In another survey, 80% of Manila-based foreign corporations interviewed had training programs, but only 9% of the workforce benefited from them.

The STS also noted that the hiring of foreign consultants, when done excessively, actually hinders transfer of knowledge to Filipino manpower and that some transnational consultants even withhold information from their Filipino counterparts.

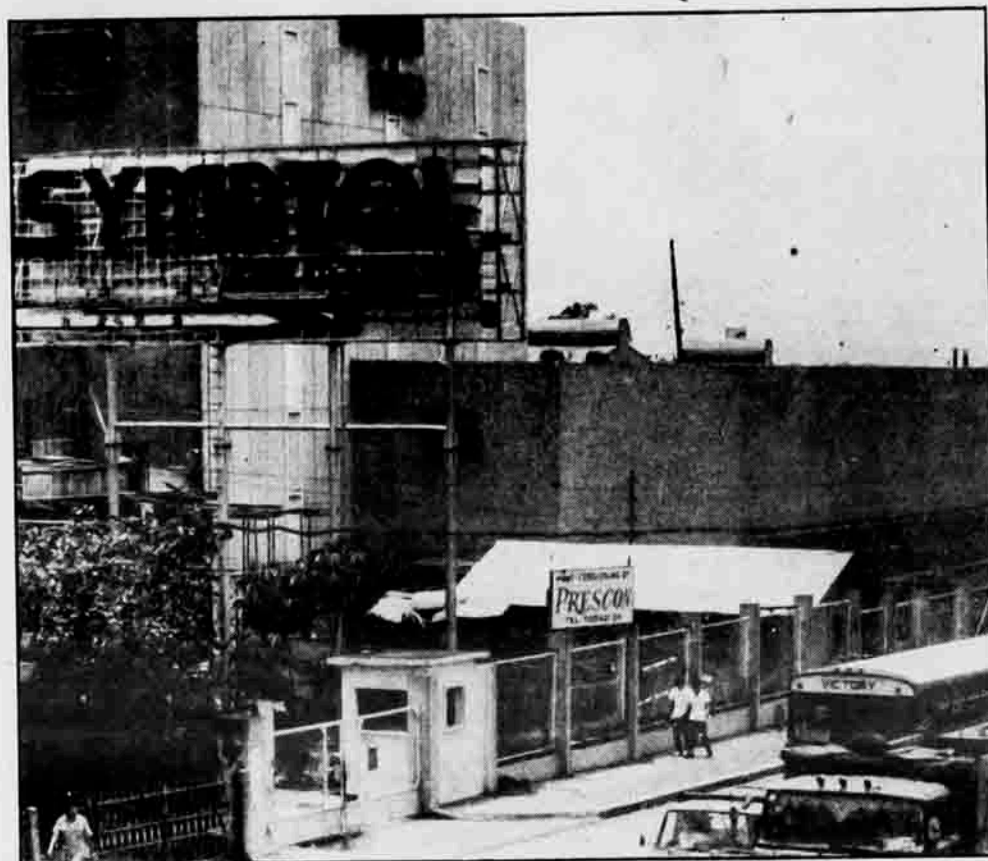
Most joint ventures approved by the Board of Investments do not involve significant technology transfer from foreign partners. Several are simply licensing agreements calling for the sale or distribution of foreign trademarked products.

## CAPABILITY

The STS, whose members come mainly from academe, decried the lack of Government interest in promoting R&D. It maintained that although technology transfer is essential to national development, the need to build up the country's capability to develop "its own processes and products based on previous and new knowledge" should be pursued.

At present, transnationals dominate agricultural, electronic and metal technologies in the country. Of the 22 fertilizer firms in the Philippines, 15 are foreign subsidiaries and two are joint ventures. All the suppliers of mechanical farm equipment are either Japanese or American firms. Even R&D in the coconut industry is controlled by transnationals such as the Philippine Refining Company, Procter & Gamble, Colgate Palmolive and Pilipinas Kao.

In the copper mining and metal development industry, 27% of total assets are owned by Filipinos despite



MULTINATIONALS IN RP: Deceptive technology transfer.

local laws providing for 60% ownership of such firms. All the capital equipment is imported, the STS said, and the only thing Filipino engineers and technicians do is to maintain it.

In electronics, specifically

semiconductors, 33 such companies in the Philippines are limited to assembling electronic chips and boards, which are exported for further assembly into finished products.

The STS urged the Gov-

ernment to realign its priorities the promotion of R&D and to the allotment of a bigger budget for scientific activities, which make up only 0.2% of the gross national product. (Associated Editors)

## Trauma of costly coup lingers on

(From page 4)

2,000 soldiers near Camp Aguinaldo were strafed by PAF F-5 fighter planes, thinking they were rebel soldiers. Six soldiers were killed and 20 were wounded. Nine of their jeeps and a truck were destroyed. Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said it was a case of "mistaken attack."

Such are the misfortunes in a civil war. The mopping-up operations which General Biazon thought would be over by Saturday, Dec. 2, has been extended up to Monday because of the hold-outs in Makati.

The rebels are demanding the resignation of President Aquino, all other top government officials like the vice president, Senate and House chiefs and all Cabinet officials. They offered the presidency to Supreme Court Chief Justice Manuel

Fernan who declined it, saying he would be violating the Constitution if he accepted the position.

President Aquino announced a tough policy on the rebels: "We leave them two choices: surrender or die." The rebels answered that they were determined to "fight to the end."

How the Aquino government will cope with the captured rebels may determine whether or not there will be other coup d'etat tries in the future. With the Armed Forces being depleted in fights against the dissidents and secessionists, now even the air power is crippled with the destruction of outdated hand-me-down planes at Sangley Point.

The Armed Forces strength has been further dissipated in repressing the coup attempt. Although the

number of rebels represented a minimal part of the Armed Forces, they proved their capability to destabilize with the aid of three planes and one helicopter. The rebel army has grown considerably this sixth time. If there is a next time and the rebel force is strengthened further, will the Armed Forces be in a position to cope with them?

This latest experience should point out to the military leaders that there is need to unite the fragmented elements of the Armed Forces. As of now the units seem to be operating under their respective commanders independently of each other. It might take more than just being in contact with the commanders by phone to weld the military organization into a solid compact outfit.

# Inventions for fame and profit

By ORLINO SOL PALACPAC

NECESSITY, it is said, is the mother of invention. And inventions consequently alter conventions.

This truism finds no greater validation than in the efforts of inventors and creative thinkers around the world, especially in the Philippines, to attain an improved quality of life for all.

Consider some Filipino inventors who have become famous worldwide for their innovative achievements. Among them are:

Eduardo San Juan, a Mapua Institute of Technology graduate, who designed the moon buggy used by astronauts of the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration in exploring the surface of the moon during man's first landing there in 1969; Dr. Gregorio Zara, of Feati University, who devised a television-phone system that allows phone callers to see on a TV screen the other party at

each end of the line; Agapito Flores, a Manila high-school dropout, who made the prototype of what is now known as the fluorescent lamp whose patent was issued in Paris and later acquired by the General Electric of America; Marcelo Dy Buncio, who introduced the motor-vehicle signal light; Phil Delfino, the musician, who recycled the rundown military Jeeps used in World War II into a public transport "jeep-nee" (meaning, former Jeep), which later became known as the jeepney; Annapolis graduate and diplomat Alejandro Melchor, who designed the pontoon bridge (now known as the Bailey bridge) in World War II to help the Allied forces; and many others from various walks of life who labored hard to help others.

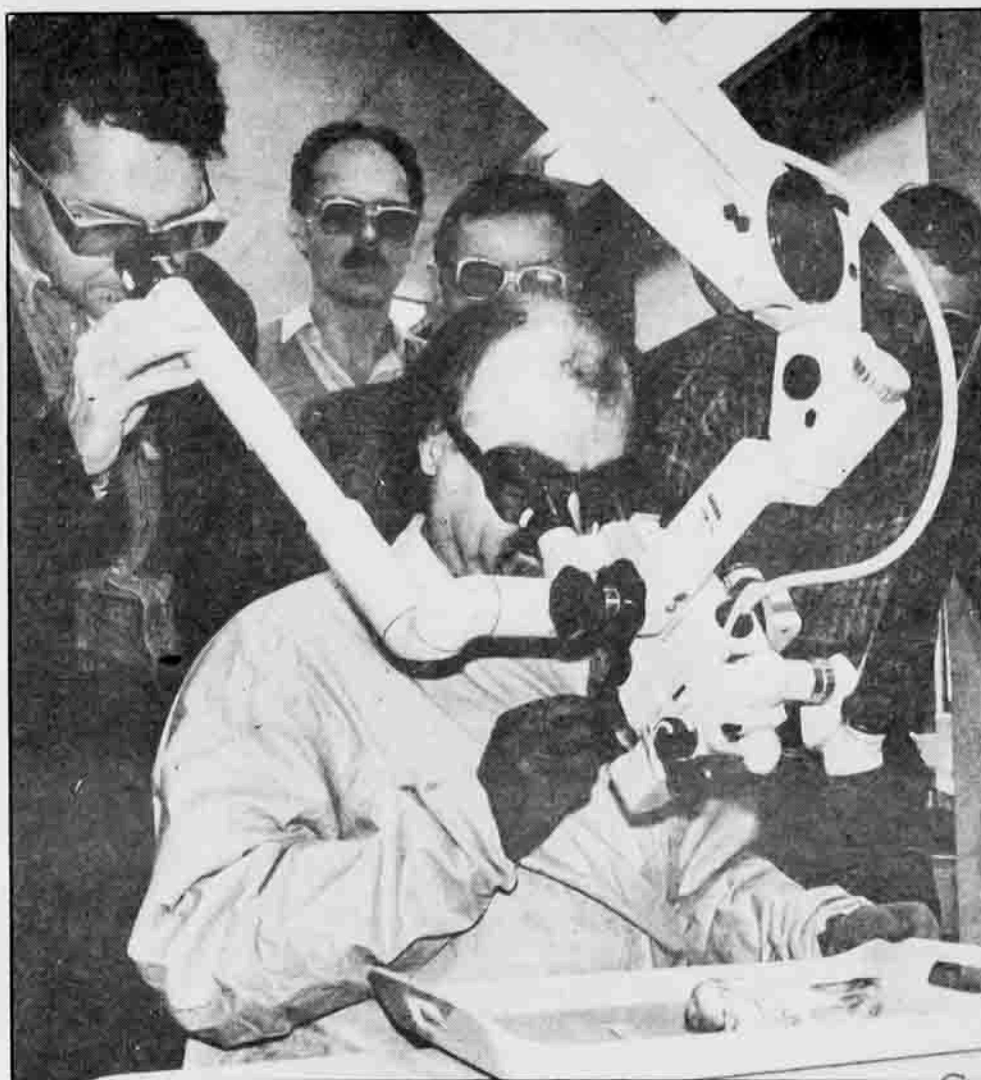
All these inventions required a lot of hard work and came about as a result of necessity.

In the Philippines, the Government since the early sixties has been encouraging inventors and creative thinkers to come up with useful designs and models to help achieve national development. This was fortified by the creation of the Philippine Inventors' Commission (PIC) as an agency of the National Science Development Board (NSDB), the forerunner of the National Science and Technology Authority (NSTA), which later became the Department of Science and Technology.

The PIC encouraged, and financially assisted, inventors to develop prototype models of their inventions--and secure letter patents for them from the Philippine Patent Office.

The PIC also held yearly Inventors' Week from 1967 to 1987, and awarded substantial rewards to winners. The first Inventors' Week was held in April 1967 under the auspices of the NSDB, through Presidential Proclamation 187, which declared the week on which April 13 fell yearly as such. The first National Exhibition of Inventions was held in 1955 through the sponsorship of the Filipino Inventors' Society (FIS), which was organized in 1943 by Teo Purugganan, Pastor Reyes-Torres and Dalmacio S. Buenaventura.

When the NSDB was replaced by the NSTA, the PIC was renamed the Philippine Invention Development Institute, which was later abolished in 1988.



**HIGH TECH:** Filipino scientists and inventors are not far behind from their foreign counterparts.

Soon the holding of Inventors' Week was discontinued, and the Filipino inventors were left to their own resources.

Through representations made by the FIS and the Likhaan Institute Foundation, Inc. (LIFI), the Government has reactivated the celebration of Inventors' Week this year. Presidential Proclamation 355 declared the last week of February from 1989 to 1993 as Inventors' Week, and every five years thereafter as Festival Years of Filipino Inventions.

A Festival of Filipino Inventions was held last February under the auspices of the FIS and the LIFI, the private organizations of inventors and creative thinkers designated by Proclamation 355.

The festival drew 262 entries, which consisted of three categories: invention, 35; utility model, 185; and creative research, 42. The prizes were donated by both Government and non-Government organizations.

The success of the festival

has inspired a "first" in the history of inventions in the country, according to Nelson B. Aboganda, Likhaan Institute president. The National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons has teamed up with Likhaan and Inventech Management Corporation to launch an invention contest among, and for, disabled persons.

The contest, titled "Imbensyon Ko, Handog Ko '89," is a special competition on inventions to create scientific yet practical products for disabled persons. It is intended to encourage or promote inventions embracing transportation, household equipment and technical aids. It seeks to:

1. explore local inventive talents and ingenuity in producing gadgets, devices and machinery to provide ease and comfort in mobility, accessibility and independent living to disabled persons.
2. provide ways to improve jobs and educational accessibility among the disabled.

Entries are concerned

with the promotion of disability prevention, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities for the disabled.

The awarding ceremonies will be held on December 8. The first-prize winner will receive P30,000; the second, P20,000; and the third, P10,000.

Prizes of P5,000, P3,000 and P2,000 will be awarded to the top three winners in each of the following categories: education, employment, household, technical aid, and mobility/accessibility--all intended for the disabled.

The entries will be judged on utility, affordability and originality in design.

About 50% of the entries submitted have come from disabled persons themselves. Considering the number of disabled persons in the world benefiting from inventions, it may be assumed that winning entries in this contest will help alleviate further their plight--and bring fame and fortune to Filipino inventors, disabled or not. (Associated Editors)



**JEEPNEY:** An invention of a musician that has served the nation.

## Back to Square One

**S**O IT'S back to square one for the nation after that three-day siege that almost wrote finis to the Aquino government.

It must be recalled that just one day before the aborted coup, the lady President announced an unconscionable increase in the price of oil despite a glut in the international market that has in fact forced a price reduction by the oil-producing countries in the Middle East. It was supposed to be a Cabinet decision that Mrs. Aquino, either for not knowing any better or out of malice, immediately approved and announced with glee to the nation. That must be the cue for the rebels, for the very next day, the fighting began.

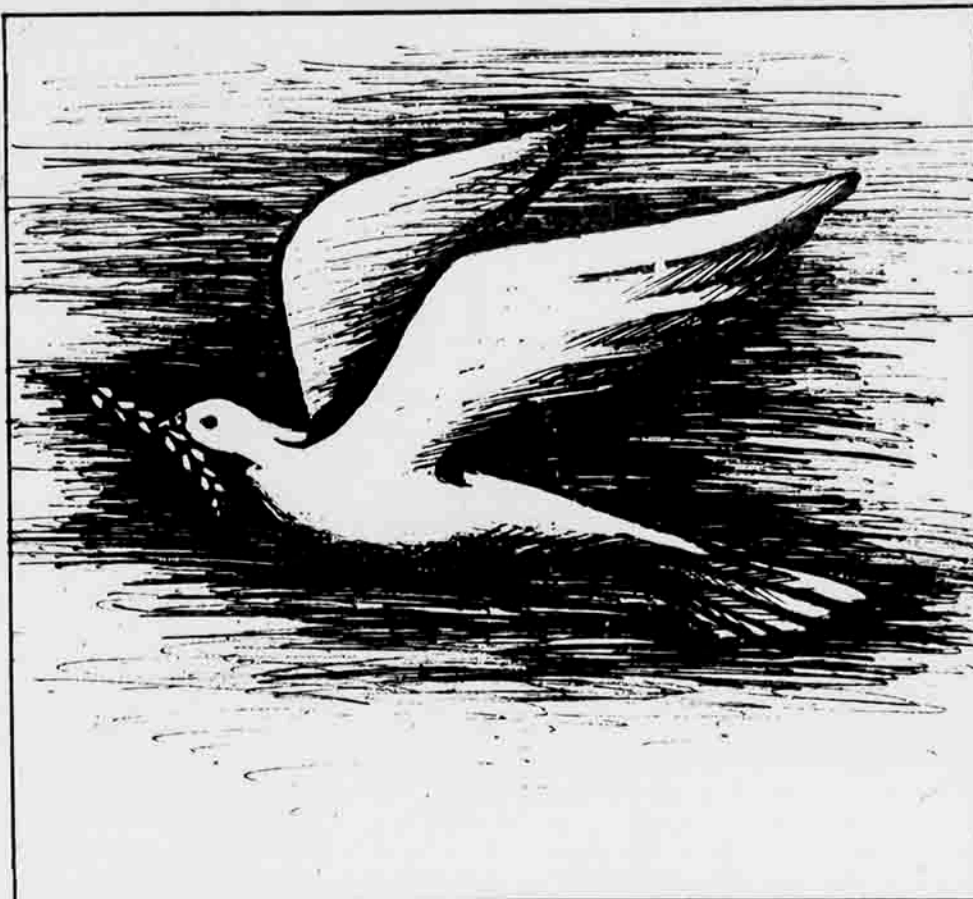
It was a welcome intrusion for the beleaguered government. Forgotten in the confusion were the transportation crisis, the daily brownouts, the issue of high prices. As it fought for its life, the government was pushed to the wall. In time, it had to seek American intervention and compromise its sovereignty as Mrs. Aquino tried to cling to her position of power which her incompetence had forfeited a long time ago. As expected, the United States was only too willing to be called upon to interfere in this country's internal affairs. For the US, whose military bases in Zambales and Pampanga are coming up for a renegotiation regarding their continued stay, Mrs. Aquino's request for assistance was a godsend, an answer to a prayer. If the US staged the violent scenario itself, it could not have divined a happier ending.

The nation is now back to its old form, with a business-as-usual attitude as Congress opened anew its session yesterday. And as "normalcy" returned, so did the concomitants of that blessed status as practiced by the Aquino government. Through its agencies, the state immediately after the announcement that it had crushed the rebellion, approved a P1.00 minimum fare for buses and jeepneys. This is an expected result of the oil price increase that will soon be reflected in the hiked rates for other prime commodities. If the inefficient Aquino government is efficient at anything, it is at making life miserable for 60 million Filipinos.

Thus the housewife cannot buy a kilo of rice for less than P10.00, despite announcements to the contrary of the National Food Authority which had promised to deliver 10,000 bags for Metro Manila consumption. "*Sa diyaryo lang mababa ang presyo*", people are wont to say as prices continue to spiral. As reported in a reputable newspaper, the price of eggs rose from P1.50 to P1.90 a piece, pork from P56.00 to P60.00 a kilo, beef from P80.00 to P90.00 a kilo, and chicken from P48.00 to P54.00 a kilo. Very soon now, the increases will become unmanageable with the oil price hike and the anticipation by businessmen of escalating demand for the holiday season. The situation will be aggravated with an expected shortage in grains and meats. The same story goes for vegetables where a kilo of the lowly eggplant (*talong*) reportedly fetches some P40.00 a kilo in some markets. Just coping with the demands of daily existence has become a nightmare for many Filipinos not only in the provinces but also in Metro Manila.

With the advent of Christmas, the situation will definitely worsen. The greedy traders will always have their pound of flesh at the expense of their poor fellowmen. With only 20 days remaining, they have to make a killing to make up for lost opportunities during the rebellion. The government could make all the threatening noises against profiteers and air self-serving announcements in the media about price monitoring teams, but the people know that they will merely be an acoustical exercise. After a few palms are greased, the businessmen can raise their prices skyhigh for all the government cares. After all, its crooked officials and politicians will not be affected by any price fluctuation; they have already stolen millions legally in salaries and allowances, plus the other sources of filthy lucre the public do not see. They cannot possibly imagine how a P1.00 minimum transport fare could affect the pocketbooks of ordinary wage earners.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Aquino continues to report that everything's all right in this country.



## Will she listen now?

PRESIDENT AQUINO has always turned a deaf ear to criticisms against her administration and complaints against her favorite officials. Nay more: in many instances she turned up her nose on public protests as, for instance, those directed at escalating prices, especially of *galunggong*. She listened only to her anointed advisers who must have assured her that she had nothing to worry about. The people were restive, but they had everything under control.

Very well. The bombs that fell on Malacanang Palace should have accomplished the task of penetrating the sound barrier that separated her from the voices of the people she has sworn to serve. And their blasts should be enough to clear her mind sufficiently for her to realize that the rich whose interests she has protected all these past years and months she has been holding office are the ones who are behind the *putschists*. I am not saying, though, that they are altogether unreasonable in their discontent: after all, Cory has been coddling with motherly care practically only the Cojuangco and Concepcion Industries.

But even if she's willing to listen and learn now from public opinion, is it not too late? Her options have indeed been pried open: in the pinch, she will depend on American support and expect to get it. So, after all the casualties have been counted, the debris

### BEYOND HYPOCRISY



by PLACIDO P. DIAZ

carted away, and the smoke from all the spent gunpowder lifted, we Filipinos have to bury with our dead our pretense at sovereignty. Let's grieve for our dead. But not for the sovereignty. It has always been a sham anyway.

Now let's turn our attention to our senators who are tasked to pass the 1990 budget before the 15th of this month. Since the issue of defending the Constitution was raised because of the coup, let us see if our lawmakers will now abide by it. But even now, I seriously doubt it. Salonga, in his statements to media, has already indicated that our government officials are incapable of distinguishing personal from national interest. Will they at least see to it that Filipino victims be indemnified first before paying the foreign debt?

There's another thing we can thank the coup for: we have so far been spared from the brown-outs. The NAPOCOR officials have been exposed as liars, liars, liars. They must face the firing squad before the leaders of the rebel soldiers.

### We Forum

MEMBER



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## The Yankees won the Battle of Metro Manila

NO QUESTION about it. The Yankees won the Battle of Metro Manila. Just the sight of those two F-4 Phantom Jets of the US Air Force turned the tide of what could have been an unmistakable victory for the rebels. George Bush snatched Cory Aquino from the jaws of defeat. That's a fact.

**Without firing a single shot, the United States won another lease on the military bases in the Philippines. And set to naught all the rhetoric against their continued stay in our country.**

Our armed forces were caught with their pants down. And if they had not cried "uncle" (which Uncle Sam heard loud and clear on his way to Malta), the president and her uniformed aides would all now be in the "protective custody" of the revolutionary junta, signing away all the democratic gains achieved since EDSA. The victory-if victory it was-of the government forces was indeed a pyrrhic victory.

**The Establishment had already been warned by the elusive Gringo about an impending coup. Linggoy Alcuaz had voiced his fears about a possible dislodgement operation against Malacanang. But all the military brass did was to laugh things off. And say that the rebels were in no position to mount another coup. Camp Aguinaldo always insisted that it was on top of the situation.**

I do remember that my good friend, Commission on Audit Chairman Eufemio C. Domingo, told me a few months ago that he was expecting something explosive to happen before the end of the year. I wrote about this in my column at least two times. Last July, Rear Admiral Timothy W. Wright, US deputy

assistant defense secretary for East Asia and Pacific Affairs, testified before the US House of Representatives' subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs that "coup plotting and other destabilizing actions ... have not altogether ceased, and internal AFP divisions have not fully healed. There remains particularly in middle and lower levels of the officer corps, a desire for greater and more rapid signs of structural reform in the military."

**All the signs were there but nobody seemed to care much. It was like the weather: everybody's talking about it but nobody is doing anything about it. The wielders of power were more interested in pajeros, junkets, bonuses, parties, talk shows, etc. What they have failed to observe was the ever-growing and irreversible disenchantment of our people. After all, they are in power and we are not.**

Make no mistake about it. While I'd feel happier with a change of administration, I am strongly opposed to the use of violence for the fulfillment of that dream. Violence begets violence. And it should never be employed by those who are particularly expected to contain it as enforcers of the law. The military should be the last to raise its hand against the duly-constituted authorities.

**It is only when the limits of a people's patience are reached that the use of naked power can be justified. For, as Thomas Jefferson so well says in the American Declaration of Independence, "... Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to**

**abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."**

That time set down as vital for change by the Sage of Monticello has not yet come to pass. But it may come to pass one of these days if the present dispensation does not mend its ways. If the president does not do anything about her Cabinet, her advisers and her relatives, another coup d'etat would crop up, as surely as the sun rises in the East, and when it does, that would be the end of a government that failed its people.

**The American "intervention" in the last power grab attempt of the rebels will mean a change of heart and of mind among our nationalists. The cost of the fuel used by those two Phantom jets is a very cheap price to pay for the retention of the US bases in Clark and Subic. So, I can only imagine how happy they must be now at the Pentagon. Of course, one must understand the reason for Mrs. Aquino's request for US plane cover for the military in the Battle of Metro Manila. It was a question of national (let alone her) survival. And who are we to complain about it? She has no ear for unsolicited advice. As for the Senate's super-nationalists, they just did not want to lose their sinecures.**

Remember that column I wrote regarding the letter of appeal of US Rep. Stephen J. Solarz (D-NY) for contributions to his congressional campaign kitty, which he had been sending to Filipinos and Americans of Philippine descent both here and in the United States? And which column elicited a

### POLITICS & POLITICOS



by ERNESTO A. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

reaction from my friend Ariel Bocobo, of the *Manila Standard*? Well, here is this item in the *Malaya* of Dec. 3, 1989, entitled "Discrimination against doctors," which reads in part:

*"Another Congressman who has solicited funds from the PACS (Political Action Committees) of foreign medical groups is Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-New York), as (sic) adopted son of Batangas and friend of President Aquino. The (Washington) Post said the PAC gave Solarz a \$1,000 donation in 1987 a week after he introduced a bill for foreign medical graduates. (Dr. Oscar) Laserna said his group stopped giving donations to Solarz after learning he had more than \$1 million campaign funds."*

Here is a sequel from newsman Ariel Bocobo in the *Manila Standard* of Dec. 4, 1989:

*"US Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-New York), described by the Aquino camp as the Lafayette of the Philippines, was in Taipei when the US jets first began bombing rebel positions. He excitedly called up Manila to say he was coming over. Stay there, he was told by Palace advisers. Did they feel he might only make things worse?"*

*"They deprived him of still another gimmick to ensure his reelection from New York's seedy Bronx district."*

## Neglected Alabang dairy farm

A FEW days ago, I dropped by the Philippine Dairy Corporation in Alabang and my heart sank. Here is the flagship, the pride and government show window of our dairy industry right in suburban Manila. The government borrowed P200 million to put up that plant. That was one project I would salute Dictator Marcos.

But what did I see today? A picture of neglect, waste, mismanagement and unpardonable bungled policies. You see in Alabang long lines of milking barns with no cow to milk. There are 15 Sahiwals and 19 Holsteins, not one of them milked. They are very thin. All those costly equipment bought from abroad are rotting. The Bureau of Animal Industry personnel there told me they are ashamed of receiving salaries but not giving the service they are supposed to deliver.

Romy Santos, an Araneta graduate with 29 years service in the bureau lamented the deterioration of the service. In the past, he said, he was busy helping farmers take care of animals, feeds, artificial insemination, processing and even marketing.

A dairy cooperative of farmers from San Pablo, Santa Cruz, Calamba and other neighboring towns corral 200 cows and pro-

duce 500 liters of milk daily. They are brought to Alabang for pasteurization.

Shocked at this condition of our model dairy farm, I asked employes at the plant, "Does Secretary Dominguez not visit you here?"

"Yes, Sonny visits Alabang once in a while to ride his prized stallion. The last time he visited was last May when he mounted his horse and it threw him off. He almost broke his neck."

Yes, the lamentable condition of our Alabang farm is indicative of the national neglect of our dairy industry. While we formerly had 11 milk collection centers in the provinces, we now only have three -- Sorsogon, Santa Maria, Bulacan and Southern Tagalog based in Alabang. We have not heard from the Dairy Training Institute in UP Los Banos.

We are the only country on earth that imports 99% of our milk needs. Last year we wasted \$175 million buying milk from abroad. This is silly because we have two million cattle, three million carabaos and two million goats. P1 is extensive grazing lands and surplus graduates in animal husbandry.

Back in the sixties, UP Los Banos teemed with students from Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and many other Asian countries. Now

no more. Now we are importing milk from Thailand.

Who is to blame for this shameful condition of our dairy industry? Who else but our government, Congress and Malacanang. Three years under Cory, not one bill has been passed by Congress to develop our dairy industry. Senator Aquino and Congressman Peping Cojuangco, both from Tarlac, are chairmen of the agriculture committees of their Houses. If they are too busy with other matters, they should relinquish chairmanship of those committees because agriculture is one of the most neglected branches of our government. Can you imagine we are now importing rice, sugar, fish, garlic and even salt? Incredible neglect because these products were some of our exports. Looks like Sonny loves to import, import and import.

For years we have been pounding on the government to do something tangible to make us self-sufficient in milk. At least for our children, malnourished kids.

Our filled milk factories had become so powerful a syndicate and monopoly that even some newspapers are afraid to write any

### LET THERE BE LIGHT



by JUAN G. FRIVALDO

story about dairy development lest they lose advertising. How much bribes are given to some government officials to keep them silent?

There are even some writeups urging mothers to avoid breastfeeding alleging canned milk are possibly better. They forget that milk is the most perfect food on earth. An infant lives on nothing but milk the first few months. And they said canned filled milk is better. Horrendous and criminal.

In America, Europe, Japan and other countries, you go to grocery and department stores, you buy fresh milk in bottles or tetrapacks with exact dates when to use. Here you are lucky if you can buy fresh milk.

I have been writing and lecturing about the need to develop our dairy industry. It is very frustrating. But it would be worse if fools like me stop and be a friend of the milk syndicate, the milk monopoly.

## For a while, I thought I was in Beirut

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV, USSR's charismatic leader visited the Pope in the Vatican before he proceeded to his summit with President George Bush. Gorbachev is the first Soviet leader in living memory who visited the Pope and it augurs well for Christianity in the Soviet Union. Now the persecuted church since the revolution in 1917 will open its doors to the faithful without fear of ostracism or harassment from the secret police KGB. It has been said that one of the Lady of Fatima's secret was that "Russia will be converted". Are we now seeing the conversion of Russia in this decade?

\*\*\*\*\*

The recent bloody coup -- the most serious since Mrs. Aquino assumed her presidency reminds me once more of the predictions made by Zenaída Seva's article which appeared in the variety page of the *Sunday Times* issue of October 29, entitled: "November Outlook; watch for the danger signs". In her article, astrologer Seva predicted that November will be the "most difficult month", to quote her, "uncomfortable for the Philippine chart as a whole, it can be downright dangerous for President Aquino". In the same article, Seva said that "her popularity continues its decline". She adds: "Trouble also brews and rumbles in the military establishment. Dissension and discontent could grow. Although the worst could still be on December 8 and 9 when transiting Mars hits its progressed sun in Aquarius -- another explosive combination". Here are the rest of Seva's predictions: "A lot of dangers this month, aside from the cluster of planets in Scorpio, arises from the country's progressed moon (public sentiments, feelings, and desires) in Aries, a sign ruled by Mars, planet of war and aggression. This gives transiting Mars undue significance and strength. With Mars in Scorpio from November 5 all the way to December 19, this will affect the temper of

## Lady of Darkness

WHERE IS Gringo Honasan?

They seek him here,  
They seek him there  
They seek him everywhere.  
Is he in heaven  
Or is he in hell,  
That damned, elusive  
Scarlet Pimpernel!

To the thousand and one speculations on his whereabouts, I would add one centavo worth of mine: the Scarlet Pimpernel is with the gringos, maybe in an air-conditioned room deep in the labyrinthine security cave of Olongapo naval base.

\*\*\*\*\*

President Cory Aquino has quelled the sixth coup attempt by sheer military power. But it was not the last chapter of her administration that has trekked on a bloody trail all along. Sometime in July, 1986, her blood-strewn road started at the Luneta

IN MY CORNER...



by RAUL M. GONZALEZ

the people. Mars in Scorpio is very violent; pent-up anger is released with the force of a volcanic eruption or nuclear explosion. Its conjunction with Pluto (on November 28), ruling planet of Scorpio itself, can be awesome in its destruction. With the moon in Scorpio on that day, it will trigger all aspects to it. It will conjunct with Colonel Gringo Honasan's x x x progressed Moon and the AFP's Venus".

All the foregoing predictions, to my mind came true with the coup attempt last November 30 which was the most violent and destructive, with a very strong military participation, just as Seva predicted.

But why do I still write about it? Because according to Seva the danger may really last until December 19 "although the worst could be on December 8 and 9". So if Seva is correct, the worst is not yet over.

Anyway I felt exactly what the people in Beirut must have been experiencing because of the Lebanese civil war when in my residence at Valle Verde 6, some stray bullets fell in my yard at the height of the heavy fighting between government troops protecting Camp Aguinaldo and the RAM forces December 2-3. During the intense bombardment from both sides in the early morning of December 3, I could feel the vibrations in my house as the cannonade and shelling went on for hours. It was worse during the bombing runs by the F-5s and the helicopter gunships of the nearby RAM strongholds near the Mormon

when the political partisans of Marcos rallied against her election victory mauled Steve Salcedo mercilessly to death.

Then on, the bloody trail led to Mendiola street before the first year of her office had passed. At this demonstration of peasant groups crying for farmlands and for the end of serfdom by the supposedly enlightened Aquino administration, the Armed Forces, firing point-blank at the unarmed marchers to disperse them, killed 19 peasants on Mendiola.

The trail next led to Lupao, Nueva Ecija, massacre of peasants, women and children. Then back to Metro Manila in the fifth coup attempt of August 28, 1987 where 53 were killed and 300 wounded, and on to Dec. 1, Friday, 2, 3, and 4 where the toll of dead, wounded, and property losses are going to be much higher than ever.

The lull today is temporary only, because it will surely pick up again somewhere,

Church, barely a kilometer from my house.

\*\*\*\*\*

But speaking of Lebanon, I was touched by the statement of Lebanese President Elias Hrawi who suspended military operations against rebel General Michel Auon. Hrawi said that he disallowed military operations "because of mass demonstrations around Auon's palace". The president added that "if there had not been innocent people around the former Lebanese army commander Auon, we would have suppressed the mutiny and finished the story, because we don't want there be a military operation against residential areas and to kill innocents and destroy houses". I am impressed by the decision of the Lebanese Chief of State because I cannot help comparing the death and destructions which resulted from the bombing runs made by the F-5s of the Philippine Airforce and its gunships at White Plains just because RAM soldiers were bivouacked in that area. Here, the government disregarded civilian lives for the sake of military expediency.

That is why blood is also in the hands of the administration for allowing the bombing of heavily-populated residential areas even at the height of the conflict, especially not when the fighting is among fellow Filipinos. To me, military expediency does not and cannot justify repeated bomb runs against heavily populated areas like White Plains. To say that bomb strikes against RAM positions in White Plains was justified because the Tora-Tora planes also bombed Camp Aguinaldo and Camp Crame is erroneous because the military camps were clear military targets. Anyway this is water under the bridge but I only hope it will not be repeated again. Filipino blood is precious.

\*\*\*\*\*

I agree with many people that the request

(Page 15, please)

TOWN CRIER



by VIC BARRANCO

sometime. Corazon Aquino has shown in her almost four years in the administration that she is a weakling, that by her pathological stupor and indolence she cannot control her security and defense forces; that she cannot contain the agents and forces of destruction as she pursues a divisive policy.

The latest landmark of her bloody trail, the coup this week, was a hollow victory for her. She emerged a captive of alien forces and influences that put her on a pedestal of clay as a figurehead and a puppet, kowtowing promptly to their bidding.

We thought she was the Lady of Light. Now, alas! we know that Cory Aquino is the Lady of Darkness.

WOMAN SENSE



by PURA SANTILLAN-CASTRENCE

## Strong leader

A VIEW of the solution of the present critical situation in which the country is in for a leader to appear who is strong and firm enough to withstand the winds of corruption sweeping the country and the insinuating influence of foreign intervention masquerading as aid. I do not know if the idea stems from the sudden appearance of a Gorbachov on the scene coming in just time enough to save Russia from an economic catastrophe.

Here is a man, it must be felt by those who think a miracle-man is the solution of our crisis, brave enough to admit the mistakes of his country, and institute reforms no matter how painful. Even George Kennan thinks of him as a welcome surprise arrival, and, in fact, did not hesitate to call him a "miracle."

People have respectfully contested Kennan, who is considered a seasoned statesman and analyst and elder statesman for what is termed an exaggeration. Not that Gorbachov is not unique and unusual, but that he could be considered as having sprung from the clear blue, without any precedents, without any warning. They call attention to earlier would-be-reformers who had already questioned Stalinism, and who could be early forerunners of Gorbachov, notable among whom would be Krushchev.

Circumstances, unplanned, help shape a man's destiny and the circumstances around made possible his moves of openness and reforms. The people, in a large measure, were prepared. The political will needed Gorbachov had, and he used it and uses it with equal firmness and reasonableness.

If a similar "miracle" as Gorbachov was to be expected, he or she would have to be shaped by circumstances and the readiness of the people to accept changes. Indeed, the "miracle man or woman" may come from among those who are being educated or educating themselves to get weaned out of the souring milk of the status quo. He or she would not be a putok-sa-buho creature, all wise and all powerful, all-firm and reasonable, sounds like a benevolent dictator, who would put order into our beleaguered land. A person I was talking to who had this opinion dismissed the idea of the education of the masses to help produce the right kind of leadership. He does not believe the masses can be educated. It is such people as my interlocutor who need to be persuaded to put their faith in the people. To them (generally of the comfortable middle class) the people are "they".

It is sad to admit that there are still a number of educated Filipinos of this kind of thinking.

## Laughter at the Bar (and the Bench)-15

The judge was talking to his son just before the son's marriage, explaining what the son could be looking forward to in his marriage.

He said, "Son, in the very beginning, it's *tri-weekly*. After you've been married ten years or so, it's *try weekly*. But then after your silver anniversary, it's *try weekly*."

\*\*\*\*\*

"Have you ever been sent to prison?" asked the magistrate.

"No, your Honor," said the prisoner, sobbing.

"Now, now, don't cry," said the judge. "You're going to be sent now."

\*\*\*\*\*

A lawyer, when pleading the cause of an infant, took the child in his arms and presented it to the judge suffused with tears. This had a great effect, but the opposing counsel asked the child what made him cry. "He pinched me," said the little innocent.

\*\*\*\*\*

Judge: You are charged with pushing your mother-in-law out of the window of her sixth floor apartment.

Pedro: I did it without thinking, sir.

Judge: Yes, but don't you see how dangerous it might have been for anyone passing at that time?

\*\*\*\*\*

"Your Honor," said the distraught woman, pointing to her husband, "he won't give me enough money to feed and clothe our four children."

"Young lady," the judge announced, "I'm going to see to it that you get at least P500 a week."

At this, the husband jumped up and exclaimed, "That's very kind of you, your Honor, and I'll try to give her a few pesos myself, every now and then."

\*\*\*\*\*

The cranky judge was quizzing a witness with his usual severity.

"Let me see, you have been convicted before, haven't you?"

"Yes, sir, but it was due to the incompetence of my counsel rather than to any fault of my own."

"It always is," smiled the judge, "and you have my sincere sympathy."

"And I deserve it," agreed the man, "seeing that you were my counsel on that occasion."

\*\*\*\*\*

A Chinese describes a trial in the English law courts: "One man is quite silent, another talks all the time, and twelve men condemn the man who has not said a word."

\*\*\*\*\*

I WANTED to tell the truth, but every time I tried, my lawyer objected.

\*\*\*\*\*

The jovial lawyer, rising to address a gathering after dinner, noticed that in the audience was another gentleman who was well known as one of the foremost after-dinner speakers in the nation.

The lawyer, striking an informal pose, with his jacket open and his hands in his pockets said, "How odd to see my good friend George in the audience, demonstrating that a speaker can listen to someone else's words on occasion."

\*\*\*\*\*

And from the audience, George cried out, "And how odd to see my good friend Henry on the podium, demonstrating that a lawyer can have his hands in his own pocket on occasion."

\*\*\*\*\*

A young barrister had gotten into a heated controversy with the Judge over some aspects of a case. Their remarks grew more and more heated and personal. At last the Judge said, "Young man, you are extremely offensive."

"Yes," said the lawyer, "we both are. But I am trying to be, and you can't help it."

\*\*\*\*\*

"Pills, coils, condoms—they are none of them fool-proof," said the lawyer to his drinking companion at the club bar. "There's only one tried-and-true method of keeping your wife from becoming pregnant—good secretarial service!"

\*\*\*\*\*

In one divorce case, the co-respondent had firmly denied the allegations and appeared to be the innocent victim of a grave slur on his good name. Unfortunately for him, he turned out to be a trifle naive.

"You were friendly with the respondent for many years?" he was asked.

"Yes," he nodded politely.

"You often went to dinners and dances together?" another nod of agreement.

"You spent weekends at Baguio together?" He nodded unsuspectingly.

"Have you ever slept with the lady?"

"No, sir," he replied emphatically and

### LAW AND (DIS)ORDER



by ANTONIO P. CORONEL

without hesitation. "Not a wink."

\*\*\*\*\*

After a consultation with an attorney, Elmer ran into his friend, Mike.

"What did you see a lawyer for?" Asked Mike.

"I needed some advice," replied Elmer.

"Waste of money," said his friend. "Remember when you sat in the lawyer's office, did you see all the books there? Well, what he told you, you could read in those law books and it wouldn't cost you anything."

"That's right," said Elmer, "but he knows what page it's on."

\*\*\*\*\*

Mrs. Rich, a wealthy old lady, sent for her lawyer to make out her will.

The lawyer was gentle and sympathetic. "Now don't you worry about this," he said to the ailing dowager. "Just leave it all to me."

"I might as well." The old woman sighed. "You'll get it, anyway."

\*\*\*\*\*

The lawyer was reading the will of the departed millionaire to the relatives who had gathered in his office. "And to my nephew, who asked that he be remembered," the lawyer read, "I want to say, 'Hello, Mario.'"

## Boo-boo ni Manglapus

ANG "BOO-BOO" ay hindi kagunggan at kagagahan kundi mental lapses ng isang uyaning opisyal ni Sultana Puso. Ang aming tinutukoy ay ang Kalihim ng malihim na Department of Foreign "Appearances" na si Gurang Raul Manglapus na dahil siguro sa katandaan ay hindi niya matandaan ang kanyang tungkulin sa kaharian.

Ang aming "interbyu" ay naganap sa isang Chinese temple na hindi namin matiyak kung sa Beijing o sa Taipei dahil hindi naman kami marunong bumasa ng Chinese characters maliban kung nasa mesa ng mahjong.

Kumusta po ang kumander ng "Steak Commando?"

MANGLAPUS: (Ateneo-cum-Markano accent) "Very well, thank you. Malapit nang bumagsak ang rehimen ng diktadurang Marcos."

\*\*\*\*\*

Gurang Manglapus, iba na po ang diktador, este... sultan ngayon. Si Sultana Puso na.

MANGLAPUS: "Oo nga pala. I'm very sorry for my mental lapse. Ang sabi kasi ni Jarius Bondoc ng *Globe*, senile na raw ako. 'Senilin' n'ya ang may utang sa kanya. Lintik na Jarius 'yan. Komo Jarius ang pangalan niya kaya siya nagtatrabaho sa *Jariu*."

\*\*\*\*\*

Bakit hindi n'yo alam ang pagbabalik ni "St. Danding *Cohaco* sa kaharian samantalang kayo ang kalihim ng "Foreign Appearances?"

MANGLAPUS: "Papano ko malalaman e lagi akong nasa labas ng kaharian dahil nga sa aking mga foreign appearances."

Ano naman ang inyong ginagawa sa labas ng kaharian?

MANGLAPUS: "Nagpi-perform ang aking 'Sicklyutib' combo. Nakalimutan mo na bang piyanista ako? Kung hindi sana ako nakatakas noong Martial Law di pinagpiano sana ako ni Gen. "Ver-dugo" sa Aguinaldo, Bonifacio at Crame."

\*\*\*\*\*

Bakit n'yo nga pala iginiit na ang Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) ay sinuportahan ang Organic Act for Autonomy in Muslim Mindanao samantalang binuking kayo ng OIC at humirit sila na hindi raw totoo ang sinabi n'yo?

MANGLAPUS: "Baka sakaling makalusot. Alam mo naman ang mga tuta ng Sultana, mahilig lumusot sa gusot. Hindi ba kaya nagkaroon ng krisis sa sasakyan dahil 'yang si 'Araynerio' ay mahilig sa passing the bus."

\*\*\*\*\*

Mayroon kayong sariling memo na nag-

babawal sa mga opisyaes ng kaharian na dumalaw sa Taiwan. Bakit kayo nagbirthday sa Taiwan?

MANGLAPUS: "Taiwan ko. No. Kidding aside, mas maganda na kilalanin natin ang dalawang Tsina, hindi ba? Kung baga sa mamimili, buy one, "taiwan."

\*\*\*\*\*

Bilang kalihim ng "Foreign Appearances," minsan ay ipinangako ninyo sa isang kakilala ang puwestong kinatawan ng ating kaharian sa UNESCO. Nguni't ibang tao ang pinirmahan ninyo ang appointment. Hindi ba't ito'y maliwanag na boo-boo Gurang Manglapus?

MANGLAPUS: "H'wag mo akong tawaging bobo at baka ikaw ay inaaldabis ko. Si Teddy Boy Locsin lang ang may lisensiyang tumawag ng bobo sa mga tauhan ng Sultana."

\*\*\*\*\*

Ang ibig ko hong sabihin sa boo-boo ay boner o blunder.

MANGLAPUS: "To err is human, and 'four-gives' is paiyakan."

\*\*\*\*\*

Hindi ba kayo nahihya at nakabalik dito sa "St. Danding, the Vindictive" ng hindi ninyo alam?

MANGLAPUS: "Usong pa ba ang hiya sa

### PUNNY LINES



by FUNDADOR SORIANO

Pinoy ngayon? Kung may kahihyan pa ang Pinoy di noon pa sana nagresign ang mga idiots, incompetents, imbeciles at mag-nanakaw sa kaharian."

\*\*\*\*\*

Ano ang inyong gagawin kung sakaling palitan kayo ni Sultana Puso at gawin niyang kalihim ang isang tago ang kalandiang baklita sa Senado?

MANGLAPUS: "Kapag ginawa 'yon ng iyong beloved Tita, bow na lang ang byuti ko. Pero kailangang palitan n'ya ang Department of Foreign 'Appearances' at gawin n'ya itong Department of Foreign 'Apir.'"

\*\*\*\*\*

Ano sa palagay n'yo ang dahilan at umuwi si Danding?

MANGLAPUS: "Hindi kasi niya makuha sa kanyang teevet set sa Ta-te ang laban ng San Miguel at Anejo. Alam mo naman si

# Politics, manpower lack hinder coral ban drive

By LILETTE SANTOS

CEBU CITY - Lack of manpower and political intervention are hindering efforts by local government agencies to enforce the ban on coral gathering here.

Although several cases against coral-gatherers have been filed in municipal courts in this region, not one has progressed either because of the exceedingly slow wheels of justice or a politicians' interference.

"We have had strong cases against coral-gatherers which were just dismissed for lack of evidence," said Jeffrey Cortes, section chief of the regulatory division for fisheries of the Department of Agriculture-Region 7.

"We can't do anything because even if the local government is supportive of marine conservation, sometimes these coral-gatherers are backed by bigger politicians," he added. Cortes, however, refused to identify who the politicians were.

The DA's problem is compounded by lack of man-

power. "We have only three persons in the division for the whole region (comprising the provinces of Negros Oriental, Siquijor, Cebu and Bohol) and we are not just involved in law enforcement, we also do technical jobs," said Cortes.

Since the ban was enacted in 1980, the DA has confiscated some ten truckloads of ordinary coral worth P300,000. Cortes said the amount is only 15 percent of coral-gathering activities in the region.

Coral-gatherers abound in the northeastern coastal towns of Cebu such as Daan Bantayan, Liloan, Punta Engano in Lapu-lapu island and Panga-an in Olango island.

The coral-gatherers go as far as Talibon, and Bien Unido in northern Bohol to dive for coral which they remove from the reefs with crowbars.

Coral-gathering, like muro-ami, cyanide and dynamite fishing, deprives reef-

dwelling fish and other marine species of food, shelter and breeding grounds with the inevitable destruction of the corals. Data from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources show that 70 percent of the country's coral reefs are heavily damaged and their productivity seriously reduced as a result.

"Coral-gathering is for those who want easy money," said Cortes. "These are marginal fishermen who refuse to work in factories in Mandaue and refuse to acclimatize to any other type of work."

However, these fishermen would have to gather as many corals as they can since coral buyers buy them at a very cheap price. The corals are first bleached with chlorine and dried under the sun for three to five days. An ordinary piece the size of a person's head sells from 50 centavos to one peso.

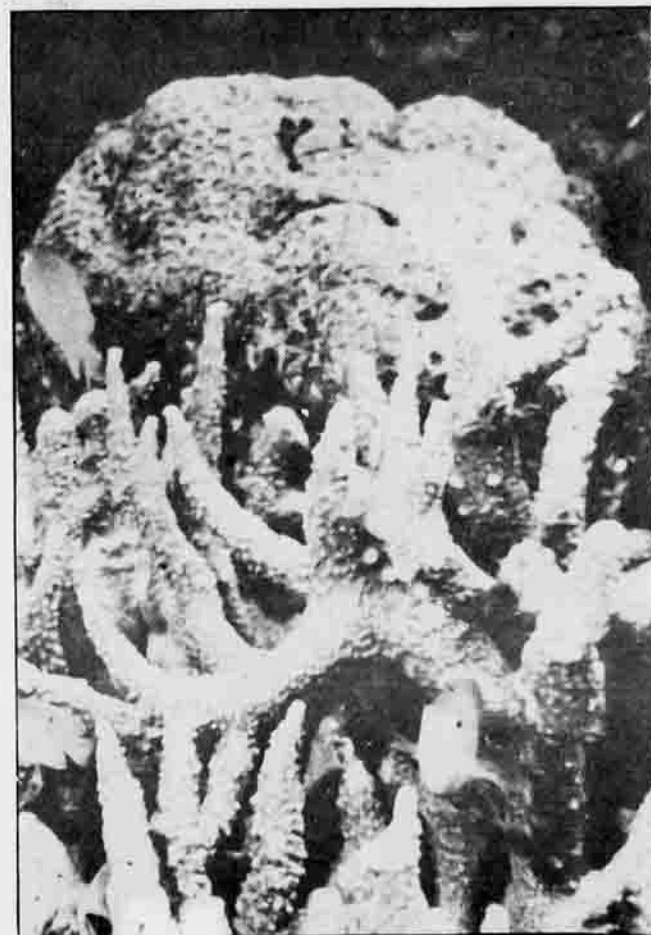
It is the coral buyers who benefit most from fisher-

men's labors. "I know of many people in Lapu-lapu City who became rich from buying coral," said Ido Tipait, head of the marine conservation section of the Philippine Tourism Authority in this region. "Many of them have shifted to the more lucrative (and legal) business of shell-buying," he added.

Tipait said coral buyers, particularly those based in Punta Engano, sell the coral to Mandaue-based manufacturers for P10-P15. Manufacturers then make these into fashion accessories or costume jewelry, most of which are then exported.

Semi-precious coral, like the red, blue and pink, are also gathered although they are more difficult to find (at depths of more than five fathoms) and are thus more expensive.

Fishermen sell semi-precious corals at P60 per kilo. Enterprising exporters, according to lawyer Marcelo Guinto of the Economic



Intelligence and Investigation Bureau, utilize semi-precious corals as fillers in their vans. Such corals are sold from P3-5 per kilo.

"Most shell buyers sell semi-precious coral to foreigners who ask for them," Tipait said. The ban on coral-gathering also prohibits the sale of coral. "A foreigner may end up paying as much as P500 to P1,000 for a beautiful coral."

violated the Code's provision on occupational safety and health standards.

"The planters should give workers what is due them because the price of sugar has greatly improved in the

Tipait, Guinto and Cortes agree that there is only one reason behind the foreign market for semi-precious corals. "Many foreigners, especially those living in the mountains, haven't seen coral. They do not even see the sea. So when they look at the decorative coral on their shelves or in their aquariums, it's as if they're already seeing the sea." (PNF)

world market. There is no justification for the continued oppression of the sugar workers except greed on the part of the sugar lords," said Serge Cherniguin, vice president of NFSW-FGT.

## Millions lost in Negros workers' strike

By MA. DIOSA LABISTE

BACOLOD CITY - Some P20 million in sugar earnings was lost due to work stoppages mounted by about 58,000 workers and their families last week. The strikers belonged to the National Federation of Sugar Workers - Food and General Trades (NFSW-FGT) in 215 sugar haciendas in Negros Occidental.

NFSW-FGT struck November 21-25 over minimum wage law violations and other issues. Sugar planters reportedly ignored the workers' demands for the minimum wage law (P73.50 for agricultural workers) implementation, thereby prolonging the workers' strike.

Federation spokespersons said total man-hours lost would cost *hacenderos* more than P2 million a day. Each of the ten sugar mills now operating in the prov-

ince were denied some 10,000 metric tons of sugar-cane daily.

Labor leaders here told PNF that the sugar landlords could not ignore the work stoppage because of its crippling effect on Negros' sugar production which has recovered only recently. Cane left uncut lose their sweetness and so does unmilled cane.

"The profits of the planters will fall drastically," an NFSW-FGT organizer said. "They have to see to our demands because they cannot afford to be poor like us."

The sugar workers also protested against alleged harassment of organized hacienda workers by the military and members of Citizens Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU) and other paramilitary units reportedly or-

ganized by planters here.

Trucks hauling cane to the sugar mills were prevented by phalanx of workers from leaving the farms. The workers also held talks with their employers, requesting them to comply with the minimum wage as mandated by Republic Act 6727.

As workers were idled, planters in the northern towns of Negros reportedly resorted to hiring CAFGUs to haul cane to trucks for the sugar mills.

The NFSW-FGT said 98 percent of some 12,000 to 15,000 sugar planters in Negros do not pay the minimum wage of P73.50. Most pay their workers only P15 to P25.

The survey of the local Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) however said that 62 percent of the 87 sugar farms inspected

this year have violated the minimum wage law.

Aside from violations of the wage law, DOLE also noted other violations of the Labor Code such as non-payment of the 13th month pay (23 percent), holiday pay (10 percent), service incentive pay (61 percent) and violations on subcontracting or *pakyaw* rates. The haciendas inspected also

### Fundador SORIANO

(From page 10)

Danding, lasing man o hindi lasing ay aangkinin niya ang koponan ng serbesa."  
\*\*\*\*\*

Hindi nga ba't bago nag-EDSA revolution ay siya ang may pinakamalaking sosyo sa San Miguel?

MANGLAPUS: "H'wag mo ng uulitin 'yan kung ayaw mong ipakulam ka ng mga gurang sa PCGG."  
\*\*\*\*\*

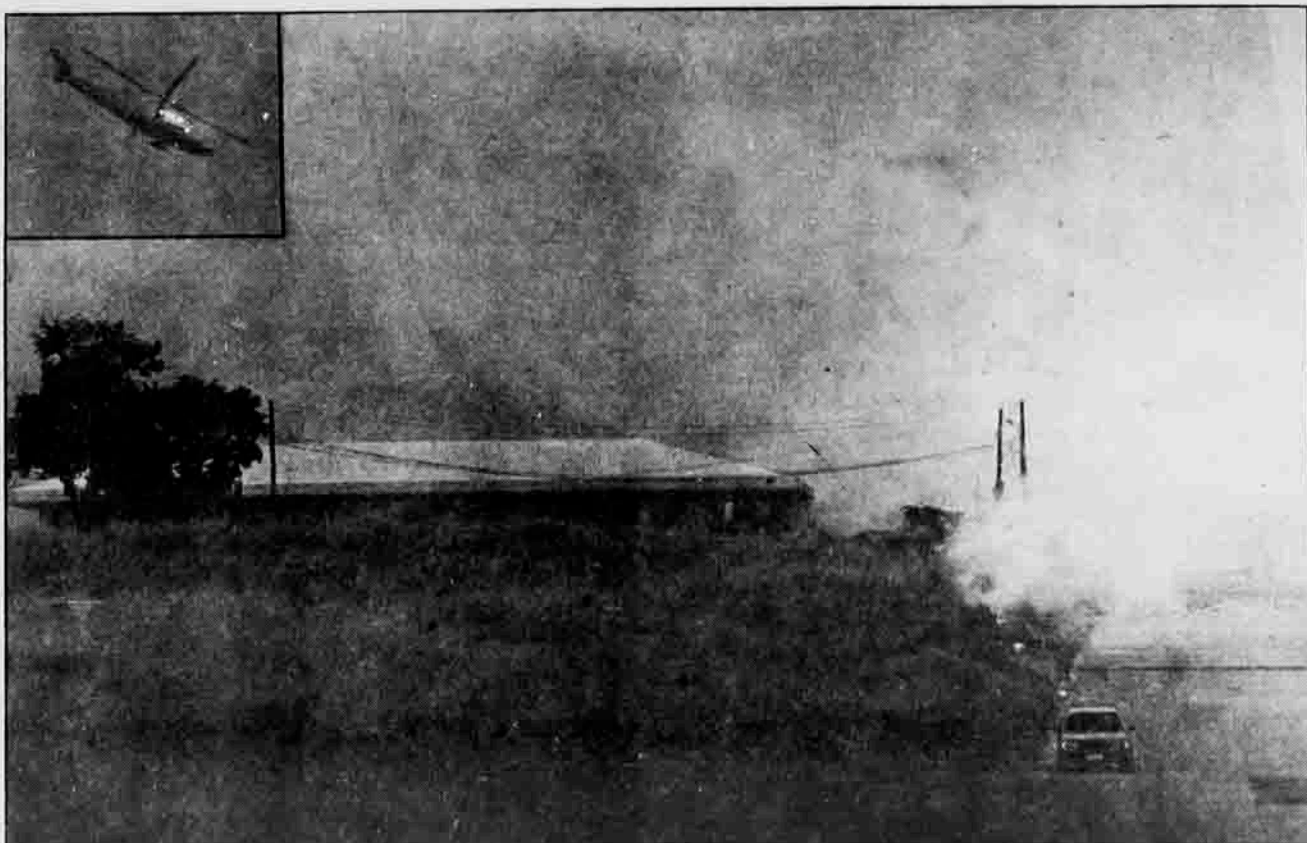
Dahilan sa pagbabalik ni Danding na "curse cousin" ng Sultana nang hindi ninyo

alam, nagsabi raw kayo na kayo ay nakahandang magresign.

MANGLAPUS: "Hoy, walang tauhan ng Sultana ang nagresign sa puwesto, dahil ang Sultana Cabinet ay yari sa pinakamakapal na kahoy. 'Yan ang aming maipagmamalaki, kapal ng apog."  
\*\*\*\*\*

Closing statement, Gurang Manglapus?

MANGLAPUS: "The world turns, man progresses. But the Sultana Cabinet love their positions forever. Isn't it nice to know some things never change? Kaya malas n'yo na lang kung kayo ay na-shortchange. Ha-Ha-Ha!"



**BOMBS AWAY:** A Sikorsky helicopter gunship (inset) pounds a rebel stronghold in Libis, Quezon City, causing instant death and destruction in the area.

# UNEASY

**W**HILE A semblance of normalcy descended on some parts of Metro Manila yesterday, intermittent firefights between rebel stragglers and government troopers paralyzed the seat of commerce and industry in Makati.

An uneasy peace near the Makati commercial district may have settled, if not temporarily, but the Buendia-Ayala-Makati Avenue-EDSA remained a battleground of sporadic but fierce encounters.

While the coup attempt, launched midnight of Thursday, may have been apparently aborted by loyal Armed Forces elements, the Makati stand-off has continued to wreak havoc on life and property and choke economic activity.

In this spread are select photos of Metro Manila under siege -- from Day One to Day Four, a continuation of We Forum's pictorial presentation started in our issue yesterday.



**AIR STRIKE:** Smoke darkens the sky as an Armed Forces jetfighter plane (inset) strikes at rebels who had earlier retreated in nearby houses at the back of Camp Aguinaldo.



**DOA:** Grim-faced soldiers carry a casualty, one of their colleagues. So far, more than 60 military personnel and civilians have died in the four-day aborted coup. (Diego Andal)



**NO PICNIC:** Kibitzers, sympathetic to the rebels, clamber atop a V-150, commandeered by the mutineers during a lull in the fighting.

# PEACE

The devastation, the terror, the anguish and the grief, are dramatically portrayed in these photos taken by our intrepid photographers.



**WHO'S HE?:** A masked mutineer at the rebel-occupied Twin Towers in Makati. (Ariel Nazario)



**DO OR DIE:** A government trooper, true grit written over his face, is ready to wipe out the enemy.



**LADY OF PEACE:** With the Shrine of the Lady of Peace in the background, loyalist soldiers take a breather before the clash.



**THE GREAT ESCAPE:** A lady resident of Camp Aguinaldo, with her valuable transistor radio, rushes out to safety through a gaping hole caused by mortars.



**SQUEEZING THROUGH:** Another resident in a similar bid to safety at the height of the bombing of Camp Aguinaldo.



**YOUNG EVACUEES:** Years from now these children, evacuated to a nearby school building, will be talking of the "war" in December of '89. (Roly Embile)

## Even showbiz is affected by coup

THE LATEST coup d'etat affected everything. Yes, even the world of fantasy that is showbusiness. Everything in showbiz was at a standstill. All shootings, tapings and live concerts were cancelled. Movie producers whose films were being exhibited in theaters reported big losses at the box-office. The coup, of course, is getting all the blame.

Dolphy and Zsa Zsa Padilla's movie "My Darling Domestic" earned well during the first day until the coup progressed. The comedy king feels sad that his movie (his first under his production after a long period of time) had to suffer. "Nu'ng una pa lang, may mga problema na, eh. Bago maipalabas, napabalita nang hindi matutuloy. When they were able to prove that they could have the movie shown on time, heto naman ang coup



ZSA ZSA

planned so many things for the press people to have a great time partying. They even prepared a grand raffle with big prizes.

Many reporters were looking forward to attending the party until news of the coup exploded. The party was postponed indefinitely.

\*\*\*\*\*

There were about 60 ABS-CBN people who were trapped inside Channels 2 and 4 compound in Bohol Avenue during the first day of the coup. Most of them were the people involved in the two shows taped from Nov. 30 to the early hours of Dec. 1 -- "Still Goin' Bananas" and "Palibhasa Lalake".

"Nasa editing kami nu'ng biglang pumasok 'yung rebel soldiers," said one of the persons trapped. "Hindi na kami nakalabas. Pinatay na nila 'yung ilaw. Tapos, it was announced that the women can go. Hindi kami pumayag. Ayaw naming iwan ang mga lalake so nagsama-sama na lang kami sa loob. Nagtiis ng gutom at ng pagod."

\*\*\*\*\*

Richard Gomez, Joey Marquez and the rest of the cast of "Palibhasa Lalake" were almost trapped. They had just packed up and left the place when the rebel soldiers arrived. "Kung medyo nagtagal pa rito sina Richard at Joey like what they used to do na after the taping they stay and talk with the people, naku, kasama sana sila sa mga nakulong dito sa loob," said one production insider.

Not as lucky were Jay Ilagan, Edgar

Mortiz, Johnny Delgado, Monica Herrera and the other members of the cast of "Goin' Bananas". I was able to talk to Jackie Lou Blanco who was their guest that night and she related to me what happened.

"Late kasi kaming natapos. Nu'ng pumasok 'yung soldiers, hindi namin alam kung ano 'yon. They did not allow us to go out during the first hour. Hindi naman nila kami inaano pero basta ayaw silang magpalabas. Mas mahirap 'yung ganu'n na wala kang alam. The soldiers were not talking kahit tanungin sila. After the first few hours naman, eh pinalabas na rin kami. Convoy-convoy na kaming lumabas ng studio.

"It was scary kasi, baka biglang magputukan tapos mahuli ka sa gitna and besides, we did not know what was really happening," said Jackie.

When she got home, she told husband Ricky Davao what happened and when they turned the radio on, they knew what was

### FIZZ BIZZ



by L HAR SANTIAGO

happening. They stayed at home the whole duration of the coup.

\*\*\*\*\*

Most of the stars just stayed at home and waited for the result of the coup. I was able to talk to some of them on the phone. Jess Lapid, Jr. who lives near Camp Aguinaldo stayed at home with his family. "Dinig na dinig namin ang putukan. Kitang-kita rin 'yung eroplanong nagbagsak ng bomba sa Aguinaldo," said the action star.

Stars who live near the camps like White Plains, St. Ignatius and Green Meadows stayed in their houses. Rudy Fernandez and Lorna Tolentino stayed in their house and so with the TV newscaster Angelique Lazo.



DOLPHY

na pahamak," said a person close to Dolphy.

Even Tito, Vic and Joey's "Hot Dog" and Ramon Revilla's "Alfredo Lim" suffered the same fate at the box-office. Now, they are just hoping that everything will be back to normal at the soonest. "Gusto rin naman naming makabawi sa takilya," said one reporter who helped to promote Ramon's film.

\*\*\*\*\*

The first Christmas party to be given in showbiz was supposed to be thrown by German Moreno for the members of the movie press. They were supposed to hold it Dec. 1 at the Vera Perez Gardens. They have

### NOW SHOWING

#### MANILA

AVENUE -- My Darling Domestic  
CAPITOL -- My Darling Domestic  
CAPRI -- Hot Dog  
DART (Paco) -- Target: Police General  
DYNASTY -- Masikip Ang Langit Sa Lupa  
DYNASTY-A -- Cross Mission  
DYNASTY-B -- The Fighter  
EASTERN -- Willow  
EVER -- Target: Police General  
GALAXY -- Hot Dog  
GLOBE -- My Darling Domestic  
GOTESCO -- Hot Dog  
GOTESCO-A -- Old Gringo  
GOTESCO-B -- My Darling Domestic  
LUNETTA -- My Darling Domestic  
MAJOR -- My Darling Domestic  
MANILA CINEMA-1 -- My Darling Domestic  
MANILA CINEMA-2 -- Target: Police General  
MAXIM -- My Darling Domestic  
MIRAMAR -- Target: Police General  
NEW DILSON -- Hot Dog  
NEW HARRISON SUPER -- Hot Dog  
NEW HARRISON-A -- Old Gringo  
NEW HARRISON-B -- My

#### Darling Domestic

NEW LOVE-4 -- Kickboxer  
NEW PACO CINEMA -- Hot Dog  
NEW PODMON -- Bihagin Ang Dalagang Ito!  
NEW UNIVERSAL -- Hot Dog  
ODEON-1 -- Target: Police General  
ODEON-2 -- Willow  
REGAL -- Hot Dog  
ROBEN -- My Darling Domestic  
ROBINSON-1 -- Hot Dog  
ROBINSON-2 -- Old Gringo  
ROBINSON-3 -- Kickboxer  
ROXAN -- My Darling Domestic  
STATE -- Pink Cadillac  
TANDEM-1 -- My Darling Domestic  
TANDEM-2 -- Pink Cadillac  
U-BELT -- Hot Dog  
VISTA-1 -- Hot Dog  
VISTA-2 -- Target: Police General

#### QUEZON CITY

ACT 1 -- Hot Dog  
ACT 2 -- Pink Cadillac  
ACT 3 -- My Darling Domestic  
ACT 4 -- Sinbad of the Seven Seas  
ACT 5 -- Target: Police General  
ALI 1 -- My Darling Domestic  
ALI 2 -- Hot Dog  
ALI 3 -- Target: Police General  
ALI 4 -- Old Gringo

OCEAN B -- My Darling Domestic  
QUEZON 1 -- Target: Police General  
QUEZON 2 -- My Darling Domestic  
REMAR -- My Darling Domestic  
SM 1 -- Old Gringo  
SM 2 -- Hot Dog  
SM 3 -- Twins  
SM 4 -- Target: Police General  
SM 5 -- My Darling Domestic  
SM 6 -- Pink Cadillac  
SM 7 -- Willow  
SM 8 -- Bihagin Ang Dalagang Ito!  
SM 9 -- Dead Poets Society  
SM 10 -- Target: Police General  
SM 11 -- Hot Dog  
SM 12 -- My Darling Domestic

#### MAKATI

ABC-A -- Bihagin Ang Dalagang Ito!  
ABC-B -- Hot Dog  
ABC-C -- My Darling Domestic  
ABC-D -- Target: Police General  
ABC-E -- Kickboxer  
GREENBELT 1 -- Willow  
GREENBELT 2 -- My Darling Domestic  
GREENBELT 3 -- Old Gringo  
GREENBELT 4 -- Hot Dog  
MAKATI SQUARE 1 -- Target: Police General

Republic of the Philippines  
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF VALENZUELA,  
METRO MANILA  
Branch 72

IN THE MATTER OF THE  
INTESTATE ESTATE OF THE  
LATE JOSE D. SANCHEZ --  
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF  
ADMINISTRATION.

MILAGROS S. EROLES and  
CORAZON S. RUEDA,  
Petitioners.

x-----x

Sp. Proc. No. 360-V-89

### ORDER

A verified petition dated October 6, 1989, having been filed by the

above-named petitioners, thru counsel, alleging among others that on February 28, 1989, Jose D. Sanchez, father of the herein petitioners, died without leaving any will, in Valenzuela, Metro Manila, which was his residence at the time of his death, as evidenced by his Death Certificate attached to the petition and marked as Annex "A"; that the names, ages and residences of the surviving heirs of the said deceased are the following: (1) Rosa N. Sanchez, 73 years old, wife and residing at 22 Florencia St., San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City; (2) Rogelio N. Sanchez, 51 years old, son and residing at 811 South Kenmore, Apartment 107, Los Angeles, California, 90005 U.S.A.; (3) Reynaldo N. Sanchez, 49 years old, son and residing at 37 A. Mabini St., Arty Subdivision, Valenzuela, Metro Manila; (4) Rodolfo N. Sanchez, 48 years old, son and residing at 811 South Kenmore, Apartment 107, Los Angeles, California, 90005 U.S.A.; (5) Romeo N. Sanchez, 42 years old, son and residing at 811 Sought Kenmore, Apartment 107, Los Angeles, California, 90005 U.S.A.; (6) Milagros S. Eroles, 45 years old, daughter and residing at Mikesell Subdivision, Talon, Las Pinas, Metro Manila; and (7) Corazon S. Rueda, 34 years old, daughter and residing at 22 Florencia St., San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City; that the deceased, at the time of his death, left several real estate and personal properties with a total probable value of

P1,000,000.00; that at the moment petitioners do not know of any creditor of the deceased Jose D. Sanchez; and that letters of administration are jointly prayed for by herein petitioners who are the daughters of the deceased, so that the later's estate can be taken care of and ultimately judicially settled among the surviving heirs.

WHEREFORE, the Court hereby orders that said petition be set for hearing on January 18, 1990 at 8:30 a.m., in the session hall of Branch 172 of the Regional Trial Court of Valenzuela, Metro Manila, on which date, time and place, all interested persons may appear and show cause, if they have any, why said petition should not be granted.

Let a copy of this Order be published at the expense of the petitioners in any newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines, to be selected through a raffle to be conducted by the Executive Judge of this Court, once a week for three consecutive weeks before the date of the hearing.

SO ORDERED.

Valenzuela, Metro Manila, November 21, 1989.

We Forum  
Dec. 5, 12 & 19, 1989

(SGD.) TERESITA DIZON-CAPULONG  
Judge

# Salonga backs Cory on US military aid

SENATE PRESIDENT Jovito Salonga yesterday said his Liberal Party backs the stand of President Aquino in seeking American military aid in quelling the latest coup to topple the government.

Salonga, who is also president of the LP, also said he rejects any coup d'etat and any attempt to overthrow the government by armed violence, adding that "the LP will not support any military government or any puppet government established and backed up by military force."

In defending Mrs. Aquino's position on the US military aid, Salonga said:

"The first and most fundamental right of any State and any legitimate Government is the right of existence and self-preservation.

This basic right, along with the Military Bases Agreement of 1947 and the Marcos-Carter Exchange of Notes of January 7, 1989, under which the Philippines guaranteed 'unhampered military operations involv-

ing US forces in the Philippines,' I took into account when I issued a statement in the evening of last Friday on the flight of two US planes in the afternoon of that day (December 1, 1989). That one-sentence statement reads:

"Within the limits of international law, American assistance in a time of great crisis and at the request of the Philippine Government should not be condemned and viewed with understanding."

## ...but Oppositionists condemn it

OPPOSITION MEMBERS of the Lower House yesterday condemned what they described as "murderous intrusion of American military forces into purely internal affairs of the Philippines as a sovereign and independent nation."

In a statement which was also supported by former ex-

ecutive and legislative officials belonging to the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan, the congressmen also appealed to US President George Bush and the US Congress to "stop anti-Filipinos in the American State Department and Ambassador Nicholas Platt from participating in the killing of civilians and to make the Filipinos decide their own fate."

"In asking for American military intrusion in the uprising against her badly mismanaged government, President Corazon C. Aquino brazenly disgraced the nation for abdicating the honor and dignity of the Filipinos and for openly admitting that she no longer enjoys the people's support."

The statement continues: "The denial of Ambassador Platt that American military forces have not interfered in the controversy is

the highest form of hypocrisy and cowardice. Even Local Government Secretary Luis Santos has boasted of open American support.

"Ambassador Platt himself read on radio and television what he claimed was the order of President Bush for US military assistance to the Aquino government as requested by Mrs. Aquino herself.

"Mrs. Aquino conveniently forgets that the Filipino soldiers now pressing for reforms and change were the same forces who installed her into power, not her American steak commandoes.

"The soldiers were constrained to rise against her government because the grievances of the people repeatedly expressed in petitions, demonstrations, marches, rallies and other means of communication have remained unheeded."

## Reuben Canoy arrested

(From page 16)

ing the US for militarily aiding the beleaguered Aquino government in crushing the military revolt.

"The Alvarez accusation only tends to douse more fire to the crisis while the critical

need of the hour is for the Aquino government to restore national unity and look deeply into the obvious grievances of the people and the deep divisions in the military which, among oth-

## Makati

(From page 16)

Kalaw's opinion over the airplanes as condemnable.

ers, could be the root causes of these recurring coups," Laurel said through spokesman Ike Gutierrez.

## Maceda identifies

lion cut in the DND and AFP budget so the military can use it in repairing destroyed military equipment.

After consulting with Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, Maceda also agreed to have the PNP bill reviewed and to withdraw his objection against the confirmation of Brig. Gen. Marino Filart of the Bicol region.

Meanwhile, Sen. Jose Lina, linked to the failed coup Gregorio Araneta III, son-in-law of the late President Marcos, and Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco, the President's first cousin.

Also yesterday, Sen. John Osmena warned that tourism will dry up for the next year because of the coup attempt.

He said that although the constitutional government was saved, it has to survive by heeding the clamor for reform to regain the confidence of the people.

Also at the Senate, Sen. Orly Mercado asked Pres. Aquino to institute swift and immediate action in handling the economic backlash the people would be facing following the aborted coup.

Mercado said the greater

crisis confronting the people now is the shortage and escalating prices of basic food items and commodities, increase in transport fares and oil prices.

(OMER ALMENARIO)

## Blockade

Armed Forces chief Gen. Renato de Villa yesterday ordered the setting up of a naval blockade around Mactan island in Cebu.

De Villa's order also included the sinking or disabling of any ship or sea craft that may attempt to penetrate the naval barrier around the island.

## Raul GONZALEZ

(From page 9)

to the US government for planes to be used against the RAM forces last December 1 compromised national integrity and sovereignty. Definitely that request of President Aquino for American support weakened her hand in the bases negotiations. I wonder how the 13 senators opposing the bases now feel?

Many people are asking what will be the effect of the coup and the government having prevailed, on President Aquino? Personally, I don't know considering the President's very hardline position. Still I hope that having been given a new lease in

her official life, Cory Aquino will sincerely reassess her positions especially as regards the clamored revamp of her cabinet by the people. This crisis showed that Cory's presidency has truly weakened and, in fact she would have fallen without American intervention. I reiterate my suggestion, unsolicited as it is, for a coalition cabinet, drawing from the best talents, the most experienced, the most honest and dedicated in the nation, regardless of political color. Even the MNLF and the Left can be invited provided they forsake the use of force to attain political aims. Let us not speak about reconciliation and unity anymore by mere words; let us translate these hopes into reality.

The NTC commissioner, however, commended DZRH for doing a splendid job in information dissemination.

In Camp Aguinaldo, authorities released an updated list of military casualties in the four-day coup, to wit: Killed - Philippine Army, 7 and wounded - 79; Air Force, 2 and 12; Philippine Constabulary, 0 and 31; Navy, 44 and 54; AFP General Headquarters, 2 and 32; Others, 10 and 5, or a total of 65 killed and 213 wounded.

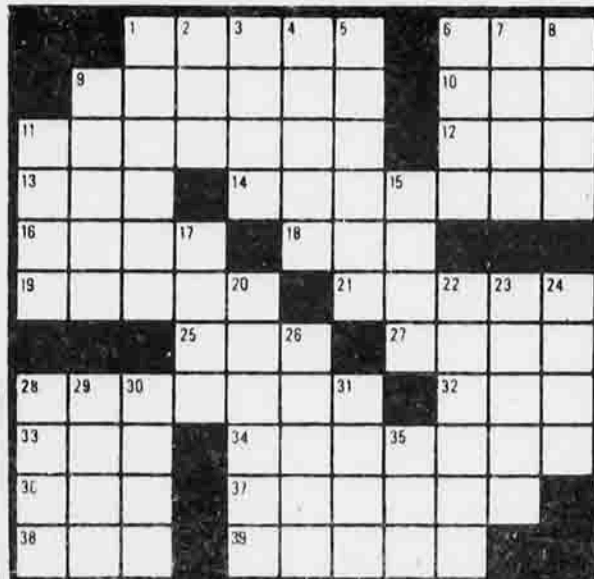
## Forum Crossword

By JOSEPH JACOB

### ACROSS

- 1 Look steadily
- 5 Adage
- 9 Pullover sweater
- 10 Inventor Whitney
- 11 Recurrence
- 12 Floor covering
- 13 Each and everyone
- 14 Egotistical
- 16 Prayer

- 18 Mariner
- 19 Lucigen
- 21 French revolutionary
- 25 Equip
- 27 Neap
- 28 Groomed
- 32 From: Ger.
- 33 Scepter
- 34 Distributors
- 36 Hall!
- 37 Landed property



- 38 Powerful currency
- 39 Biblical grass: pl.

### DOWN

- 1 Vendor
- 2 - la la
- 3 Deadly serpents
- 4 Bowling lane button
- 5 Flirtatious stare
- 6 Light truck
- 7 Woe is me!
- 8 Together
- 9 Gelatine product
- 11 Captivated
- 15 School group
- 17 Land measure
- 20 Hold back
- 22 Metal fasteners
- 23 Worship
- 24 Decades
- 26 Flock birds
- 28 Implore
- 29 Meander
- 30 Utopia
- 31 Appointment
- 35 Stripling

(Answer to previous puzzle)





# 'NORMALCY'

## Classes still suspended

By MARICAR MOLINA

NORMAL LIFE in Metro Manila appeared to have been restored yesterday, except in some parts of Makati.

The measure of "normalcy" could be gleaned from the resumption of work in both public and private offices, the plying of regular transportation routes by buses and jeepneys, the reopening of banks and the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and the purchase of housewives of wet and dry goods in the markets, although their prices were slightly higher than before the Dec. 1 coup.

Classes in all levels, however, remained suspended although Education Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing had earlier announced their resumption in both public and private schools. But complaints of parents prompted the Education official to withdraw her order because of the still unstable conditions marred by the presence of rebel soldiers in Makati.

At the International airport, international flights were resumed at 2 p.m., although the embarking points had been transferred to the nearby Philippine Village Hotel.

Cargo trucks containing agricultural products were allowed to enter Manila, particularly from the north to augment the dwindling supply of vegetables and rice.

Also, the usual traffic that compounded daily commuters' woes was "back to normal". People ran after the already jampacked jeepneys and buses to reach their destinations -- except Makati.



**NORMAL SCENE:** Fish vendors, unperturbed by the coup attempt, continued peddling their wares in public markets yesterday. The only problem was the jacked up prices. (Roly Embile)

# Maceda identifies coup leaders

SEN. ERNESTO Maceda yesterday disclosed that five generals, 30 senior officers and about 6,000 military men were involved in the coup attempt.

As this developed, Maceda immediately created a 9-man commission to look separately into major military units in the country, believed linked to the coup plot.

These units, Maceda disclosed, are First Scout Rangers Regiment, Fort Bonifacio; 7th Infantry Division, Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija; Philippine Army; 2nd Division of the Philippine Air Force in Mactan, Cebu; the GHQ and the Air Force Logistics Command in Camp Aquinaldo and the Philippine Marines.

Maceda said the 9-man

commission will be composed of three retired justices, three retired military officers and three from the business, labor and socio-religious sectors.

Maceda, chairman of the

# Reuben Canoy arrested

MINDANAO OPPOSITION leader Reuben Canoy was arrested yesterday for reportedly openly expressing his support to the ongoing coup d'etat.

Canoy, a former assemblyman and a vocal critic of the Marcos dictatorship, was picked up by military authorities in Cebu after meeting with coup plotters holed out in the Mactan International Airport, according

Senate committee on national defense and security, also disclosed that certain AFP men from Cagayan Valley, Legaspi, Sorsogon, Bataan, Cebu, Agusan and Davao extended their geo-

graphical support to the coup plotters. On the damage wrought by the coup attempt, Maceda said he will return to the armed forces the P373 million.

(Page 15, please)

(Page 15, please)

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(Page 15, please)

Vice President Salvador Laurel yesterday assailed Sen. Hcherson Alvarez for his alleged "baseless and irresponsible statements" linking the mainstream opposition leaders to the coup.

Alvarez was earlier quoted as having accused Laurel and Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile of collaborating with the rebel forces in conder-

(Page 15, please)

# We Forum

16

TUESDAY \* DECEMBER 5, 1989

P 2 only

IN METRO MANILA

# Makati snipers continue siege

THE POSH Makati commercial district remained a "war zone" the whole day yesterday as rebel snipers engaged pursuing government troopers in fierce gun fights, killing several persons, including civilians caught in the crossfire.

As the fighting raged, hundreds of foreigners billeted in several five-star hotels in the area were reported stranded and converted the place into a virtual ghost town.

At least four foreigners, including two Americans, were reported to be among the casualties in the sporadic firefights between some 393 RAM-SFP (Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People) who had holed out in several hotels and skyscrapers within the Ayala, Buendia, EDSA, Makati Avenue and Paseo de Roxas area.

The rebels, reportedly led by Lt. Col. Rafael Galvez and Maj. Abraham Purugganan, were said to have occupied 15 buildings in the area, including the Twin Towers (71 rebels), the Ritz Tower (40), The Landmark (25), Hotel Nikko Manila Garden (30), Quad Park (30), Hotel Intercontinental Manila (45), PLDT (30), Manila Peninsula (12), the Mandarin Oriental Hotel (16), PCIBank (30), Gilarmi Apartments (20), Pacific Plaza (30), and Solidbank (14).

Earlier in the day, the rebel snipers shot at an AFP helicopter while under reconnaissance in the Makati area, wounding a crew and disabling the aircraft. The pilot, however, managed to fly back the helicopter in which Brig. Gen. Ruben Abadia and some mediamen were riding, to the Vil-

amor Air Base.

At presstime last night, Capcom troopers and other military elements were still engaged in an exchange of gun fire with the stragglers.

The rebels' ranks were, however, decimated when about 70 of them surrendered to the authorities. Several enlisted men had also expressed their desire to yield over interviews with broadcast media but claimed they were being prevented from leaving their nests by their superior officers.

Meanwhile, residents of condominiums within the "war zone" sought government help for their evacuation as bullets whizzed through the air.

In Malacanang, Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos announced the capture of Col. Romelino Gojo of the Philippine Marines, in Lubao, Pampanga.

Also yesterday, Undersecretary Josefina Lichauco of the Department of Trade and Industry, who is also the chairman of the National Telecommunications Commission, warned certain radio stations for airing misleading information in relation to the ongoing conflict among members of the AFP.

She strongly reacted to the statement of former Sen. Eva Estrada Kalaw, who was interviewed over radio station DZRH, saying that political statements should not be aired. Lichauco described

(Page 15, please)