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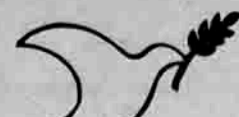
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We Forum

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VOL. 13 * NO. 161

WEDNESDAY * FEBRUARY 7, 1990

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PLEDGE: President Aquino leads Malacanang officials and employees in reciting the Pledge to the Constitution after flag-raising ceremonies at the Palace grounds. Also in photo are Executive and Presidential Coordinating Secretary Catalino Macaraig, Jr., Presidential Spokesman Adolfo Azcuna and Presidential Coordinating Secretaries Vicente Jayme and Jose de Jesus.

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Snap polls or none?

By MAX NOBLE

WHY CAN'T Malacanang say what it means, and mean what it says on the snap polls? Last January 28, the pro-Marcos-turned-pro-Cory Bulletin reported that the President had said "she will leave it to the people to decide in a plebiscite whether there should be a snap presidential election... Earlier, Mrs. Aquino had told presidential aspirants to wait for the May 1992 presidential election as provided by the Constitution."

Another paper, the Inquirer, said it differently: "President Aquino yesterday said she was open to the proposal to advance the May 1992 national elections to November 1991... However, Presidential Spokesman Adolfo Azcuna later cautioned the public against

'reading too much' in Mrs. Aquino's statement." The President, according to Azcuna, "did not mean she was in favor of calling a snap presidential election."

Then on January 30, the President said before TV cameras that she's in favor of resetting the May 1992 local

polls for a later date but not the national elections, either for an earlier or later date.

Which is which now?

There would have been no confusion if only the President and her spokesman were to the point. On this score, Doy Laurel fares much better. He says there



1986 SNAP POLLS: Cory, Doy in happier days.

ought to be snap presidential polls soonest, and he says it clearly.

SINCE MAY 1989

The Vice President has actually been clamoring for snap elections since May 21 last year, during the revival of the Nacionalista Party. The NPs then passed a covering resolution addressed to Ms. Aquino, who immediately turned it down. Said she: "Unang-una, 'yung pagtatawag ng snap election, hindi basta-basta ginagawa 'yon. Noong panahon ni Marcos, dahil parliamentary form of government pa tayo noon, he was empowered to call for snap elections."

On this, we said that while her decision may be right, her reason wasn't. "It was only on paper that the Marcos government was parliamentary... In actuality, it was a dictatorship, plain and shameful. Thus, if Marcos could call for a snap election in February 1986, as he did, it was because he was the Dictator, and not even the Supreme Court could say the election was unconstitutional..." (Editorial report, May 26-28, 1989)

To the NPs, both Cory's decision and reason were wrong. The party's EVP and 1986 Con-Com commissioner Blas Ople said it's constitutionally possible to hold snap elections, while Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile claimed that Cory's position was no different from Marcos's before 1986. "Marcos said he had a contract with the people, and yet Marcos gave way to the clamor of the

people," declared Enrile. Should Ms. Aquino decide to hold snap elections, he went on, she'll be also putting to rest the undying issue of her presidency's legitimacy.

But should the President do otherwise, the NPs promised to avail themselves of the system of initiative and referendum under Sec. 32, Art. VI, of the Constitution. This section provides that 10 percent of the total number of registered voters in a given district may, in a written petition, directly propose the holding of a referendum on such matters as snap elections.

The NPs bragged that they could easily obtain 2.6 million signatures. It has turned out to be an empty boast.

ANOTHER CALL

The possibility of holding snap polls cropped up again after the December coup. Many saw it as a last warning by the fractious military to Cory to step down. The unexpected visit of such Bush emissaries as Robert Gates fueled speculations that the special elections will be held late this year.

Four senators, among them the President's brother-in-law, then filed a resolution setting the polls late next year, only six months before the regular elections.

Soon everybody, including our children, was giving a piece of his mind, so much so that at this writing the brouhaha has become a babel of noises.

Politics is really a fever in

the blood of us Pinoys. It's our way of life. We're probably the most "politicized" people on the face of this planet.

Levity aside, this snap-poll issue is something the President can't just brush aside. Personally, we favor the holding of presidential elections the soonest, arguing that there's no sense in prolonging the people's misery under the present dispensation. Ms. Aquino has had her chances to prove her worth as President. With all due respect to her, we submit she has failed. Broken are most of her pre-election promises, which we discussed in detail in our editorial report "Cory's broken promises" (June 2-4, 1989).

TOO LONG

It's said that four years is too short a time for a good president. Conversely, the same span of time is already too long for a bad executive, and six years (which is President Aquino's term) would be eternity.

She may have the best of intentions but this, it goes without saying, isn't enough. It's no excuse for her to say hers is not a government of saints and holy angels.

Like the NPs, this paper believes that the holding of snap polls is constitutionally possible. Admittedly, it will be expensive (which undertaking is not, nowadays?) but that's the price our people have to pay to get the government they deserve.

And they deserve better.

They're worth dying for, the President's husband said before he was assassinated.

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The Cordillera: Now, what?

By ABE P. BELENA

BAGUIO CITY -- It is final and irrevocable. The Manila government's package of autonomy for the Cordillera has been crushed in all provinces in the region and the city of Baguio except in the ancient province of Ifugao.

The palace's lame explanation that the recent plebiscite was a triumph of democratic processes could not hide the fact that after spending at least P38 million in cash, the administration has found itself swallowing the bitter pill of rejection, spurned by a people it has failed to understand.

As heated arguments and impassioned speeches die down, Eddie Aguilar, veteran radioman, Baguio councilor and a key campaigner for rejection sums up the result of the plebiscite with a one liner: "We are back to being friends." It is the understatement of the day. For there is more than meets the eye to the plebiscite result than just betting on one side against the other like in a cockfight.

THE VICTORS

Traditional politicians like former Baguio mayor Luis Lardizabal, former Benguet governor Ben Palispis, Congressman Samuel Dangwa and former Benguet Congressman Andres Cosalan have proven one point. In any political contest in that upland region, they are still a strong force to reckon with. Congressman Dangwa now says that autonomy lost because framers of the rejected organic act did not consult the people. They want self-rule, but the type of self-rule they themselves determine, not something imposed on them.

Beyond the rhetoric, however, is the fact that the chief victors in the plebiscite are the giant mining companies in Benguet. The autonomy act threatened their monopoly of economic power in the area. There are provisions turning power over to the region's natural wealth to the autonomous government. As such, the mines will be forced to play an entirely new ball game outside of Manila where political clout

is presently concentrated. They will be forced to pay a minimum wage scale not lower than the poverty line. They will be forced to buy outside or plant and grow their own trees for use in their underground mining operations. And they will be forced to share a bigger bulk of their taxes with the locals.

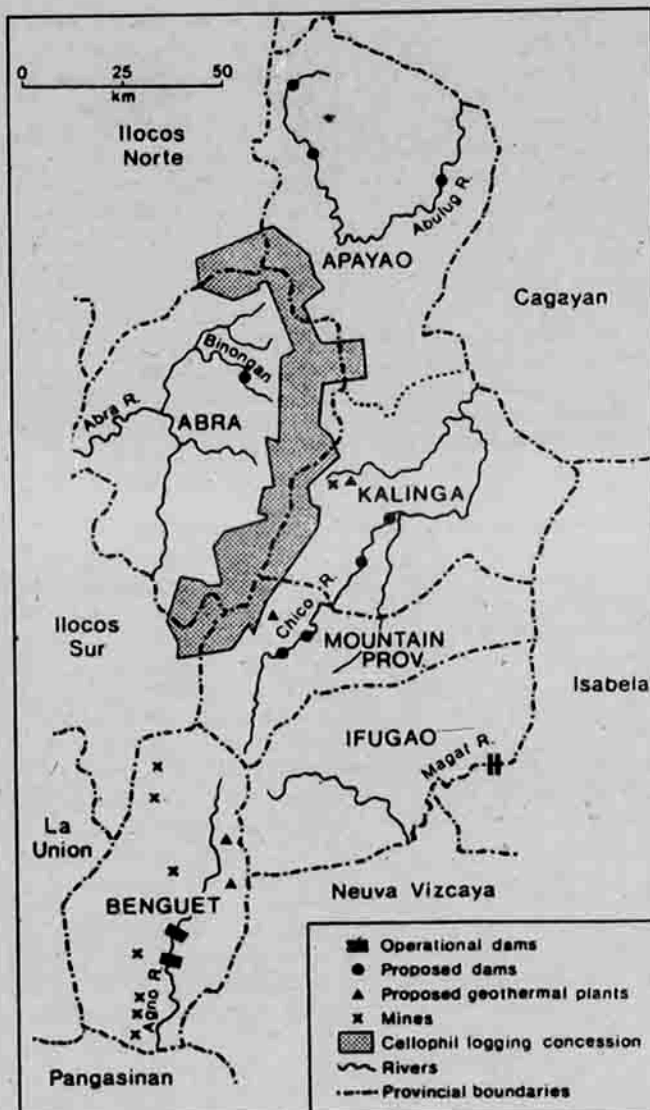
They won that one, no doubt about it.

Big land owners in Baguio City have likewise won the plebiscite. They could now be assured that no urban land reform will come their way and threaten their positions of privilege in a land-scarce city where the most expensive pieces of real property are highest in the whole country.

The communist underground also shares in that victory because it can now rightfully claim that instituting radical reforms through parliamentary struggle is an exercise in futility and only an armed insurrection could accomplish the job.

Fr. Conrado Balweg and his Cordillera People's Liberation Army could also claim victory especially when a landslide no vote was evident in territories where he and his Cordillera Bodong Administration are known to be of influence. This could boost his faltering credibility at a time when he is being portrayed as the head of the biggest Low Intensity Conflict (LIC) force in the Cordilleras.

The biggest victor of them all is the Manila government which could now stop worrying about where it will borrow the promised P1.5 billion national government subsidy a year for the next five years in development funds for an autonomous region. It is also assured of the power to determine the region's share from the national coffers and dictate programs and policies affecting the area.



THE CORDILLERA: Only Ifugao opted for autonomy.

THE LOSERS

Incumbent political leaders who threw their support to the ratification campaign like Congressmen Honorato Aquino, Rodolfo Bernardez and Victor Dominguez are already written off by their political opponents in any future political exercise. In their league are the Bugnosen brothers, Jimmy as mayor of Baguio and Andy as governor of Benguet.

The number one casualty is the autonomy movement, assesses Abrino Aydinan, chief architect of the organic act as chairman of the Cordillera Regional Consultative Commission subsidized by the national government to prepare the original draft.

"It is a big blow to the au-

tonomy movement, perhaps a crippling one," Aydinan tells this writer. "And it is bound to further fan armed insurrection in the region's hinterland."

Aydinan does not see any opportunity in the next few years for a new draft acceptable by a majority of the Cordillerans to be written and resubmitted to Congress and again be thrown back for ratification.

"It has been an opportunity missed," adds Reynaldo Bautista, president of the University of Baguio, the second largest educational institution in the region. "We could have established a legal framework on which the region could be truly unified and for fundamental changes to be introduced."

In the field of education

alone, an autonomous regional government could initiate the needed reforms in the educational system where the Department of Education in Manila has failed, the head of a national organization of private educational institutions laments. As one of the most vocal advocates of ratification, Bautista has offered to serve without pay in the proposed regional government to set into motion a restructuring of the educational system in the area.

BACK TO SQUARE ONE

Even those who campaigned for rejection are beginning to realize it has been a hollow victory. Eddie Aguilar understood it right when he said, we are back to being friends. No change for better or for worse. Just a simple perpetuation of the status quo.

Status quo means that for the year 1990, the Cordilleras receives the smallest share in funds for infrastructure projects in comparison to 12 other administrative regions in the country.

And if President Aquino does not change her mind, the Cordilleras with the exception of Ifugao, will fall under an administrative region under Executive Order No. 220, an agreement inked between the Cory government and Fr. Balweg as a condition for peace in the highlands.

The central governing body with very limited powers is the Cordillera Executive Board headed by an executive director with governors of Abra, Mt. Province, Kalinga-Apayao, Benguet and the mayor of Baguio as key members. The Cordillera Bodong Administration of which Balweg is executive director will stay as a parallel government in areas where the bodong or peace pact is practiced.

Regional policy making will remain in the hands of

the Cordillera Regional Assembly whose members were appointed to serve in an interim capacity. Line government agencies of the Cordillera Administrative Region will function directly under their central offices in Manila.

QUO VADIS CORDILLERAS?

The plebiscite resulted not in an autonomous region but in an anomalous situation where just the province of Ifugao is entitled to an autonomous government while the rest will have to stay as parts of a reduced administrative region. How that anomaly will be corrected still beats people in the central government. For if Ifugao is granted autonomy, it will be having two governors, one regional and one provincial, two lawmaking bodies, six regional line agencies of government and P1.5 billion yearly subsidy if the national government lives up to its promise.

While the administrative region composed of the other provinces and Baguio will enjoy no subsidy, they will have to make do with their regular allocations. Baguio and Benguet will have nothing to worry about asking for national government help to run their affairs because they generate sufficient local revenues. Abra, Kalinga-Apayao and Mt. Province resource rich but economically poor, will have to make do with any additional funds doled out by the central government for whatever economic, social and infrastructure projects the latter wants to subsidize.

In that kind of situation, the grounds on which rebellion grows and spreads, get more fertile as the desperate situation of the poverty stricken rural population sees no hope of getting saved.

What happens next will only be the subject of speculation.

LOOKING AT THE FACTS

On the allegations vs Fr. Cullen

By CARLOS SANTIAGO

MODERN DAY prophets are few and far between.

They are dangerous men and women and like those before them, Amos, Jeremiah, John the Baptist and Jesus Christ Himself. They were all marked for vilification, stoning and death. In Olongapo, Father Shay Cullen has had his share of stones and curses over the years for his work among the women and children protesting their exploitation and dehumanization. Now death threats after the legal defeat of his detractors from Olongapo's sleazy hotels and clubs. In recent weeks the evidence presented in the packed and stuffy court room of the Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) revealed the shoddy and inept frame-up that was supposed to discredit him and his work before the world. The fabrications were uncouth and fantastic enough to catch the attention of a scandal-hungry media but the outpouring of solidarity by thousands of supporters and now the letter of support from the 110 Bishops of the Philippines has vindicated Father Cullen and badly backfired on the perpetrators. The CID will be only too happy to get rid of this scorpion of a case after the prosecutor Renato Mabola brought ridicule and derision to the Commission by trying to claim that Fr. Cullen wrote news reports damaging to himself and that foreigners had lesser human rights than Filipinos. Filipinos abroad will be outraged because they might be all the more treated as 2nd class citizens.

The CID hearing officer Atty. Ledesma after allowing Atty. Sergio Cruz, the counsel of Fr. Cullen to argue his motion to dismiss the false charges stopped all proceedings and cancelled future ones and said he had heard enough to decide the merits of the motion to dismiss. That was some victory for Fr. Shay Cullen after he was denied the chance to present his side to the court and the public. It is also a bitter disappointment to those who cooked up this charade. Some of

the media kept repeating the false charges in their reports without asking the prosecutor if there was evidence to support them. Had they looked they would have found nothing. There is none. Then the story would have been PRIEST FRAMED BY CID?

No reporter got that angle. Many including the wire services just kept repeating the false charges; they never sent a reporter to look for the so-called evidence. I decided that this case deserved a bit of investigative journalism and a touch of personal reflection on the events surrounding the charges and arrest order for Father Shay Cullen, Columban Missionary. A visit to the Preda Center in Olongapo and talking with both Government officials and other people who know Fr. Cullen shows this case to be a cheap farce and a disgusting display of injustice. In the case of Father Shay Cullen, did they just presume the priest was guilty without a further thought or investigative question? Let's look at the facts.

THE EVIDENCE EXONERATING FR. CULLEN

The evidence presented by Fr. Shay's counsel at the CID hearing was sufficient to show that the false complaints were instigated by bar and club owners from Olongapo and without the benefit of due process, or listening to what Father Cullen could say in his defense. Charges were immediately typed and filed, then released to the press on November 28, 1989. If we study the court documents, we should have seen that there were no affidavits or other documentary evidence to back up the charges. Many of the false charges stemmed from the year-old incidents, points of conflict between the Preda Child Center where the priest works and the mayor of Olongapo and his mother. The affidavits supporting the false charges were made up later when the CID

hearing officer Atty. Ledesma ordered that Fr. Cullen's counsel Atty. Sergio Cruz be given the affidavits. After weeks of delay, three were produced, two of them had dates showing that they were made after the charges were filed. The other was made the previous April for some other purpose.

What was the purpose of this ham-fisted attempt to frame up a well-known Catholic priest who has been prophetic in his work, is a writer and poet and internationally known as a defender of women's and children's rights? Who would likely benefit from such a contrived injustice? What could his detractors gain by falsely accusing him of land grabbing, of being an enemy of the people because he wrote about the sexual abuse of women and children and had been irresponsible in taking care of the drug dependents and street children in his care. Other charges of throwing dead bodies out of graves and sponsoring lewd shows are too preposterous for intelligent Filipinos to consider. They should be treated with the contempt that they deserve. Whoever prepared these inane complaints had little respect for the education and intelligence of the Filipino and as such they are insulting.

These are the facts we gathered:

1. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources stood by its lease contract with the Preda Center, where Fr. Cullen works. It expires in the year 2008.

2. The priest is writing irresponsibly and defaming the city of Olongapo, they claim. But the priest has given his life to save the people from every kind of exploitation and to protest the injustice of the cruel system. His articles, if we take the time to read them, show profound respect and a hunger for justice for the poor. Besides, the evils of Olongapo are well documented elsewhere but they are not being sued.

3. He sponsored a lewd show at the Marmont hotel in 1981, they falsely say. I have learned from the records that Fr. Cullen filed a suit against the organizers of that event because they used the name of Preda without permission to get a charity permit and they claimed it was a fashion show which was granted a license by Mayor Richard Gordon. Gordon is blaming the priest for his own mistakes. The son of the former congressman promoted the show, it seems.

4. Mismanaging donations to the Foundation has not been supported by any single incident and I have checked with the government agencies monitoring Preda's finances and there has not been a single complaint in the 14 years since Preda Center began services to the drug dependents and street children of Olongapo and elsewhere. The place is well and professionally run and strict bookkeeping is the order of the day by a dedicated staff.

5. The detractors claim that the priest desecrated a grave. During my research I found that the mayor's mother allegedly wanted to bury her godson on the Preda land beside the Preda driveway. She claimed it was hers and sent bulldozers at night to level all that was there. The Preda objected and angered the political family who apparently bore a grudge against the priest ever since. If you visit Preda you will see that the politicians got their way.

6. As for mistreating a resident at the Preda Center, I searched for the name of the patient in the files of the Dangerous Drugs Board in Manila and there was none. This bears out the account of the Preda staffers who say that such a patient came and stayed for screening only and then left. There was no hard work during his brief stay as detractors claim and the poor at Preda are supported free of charge. The well-off only pay for food.

7. There is an affidavit

of a woman who claims her informally adopted child Ching Castro was illegally brought to the Preda Center. The street children at Preda say Ching came once a month for a few hours to eat, sleep and go away. He has a record as a street child with the Department of Social Welfare. Based on a newspaper story wherein Ching told Mike McIntyre of the San Diego Union he had no mother now but she once worked in a bar and said he was shaved off by Mayor Gordon's bodyguards and jailed by them. The boy was

for sex and drug dealers selling in night clubs and the authorities raking in the money. We, so proud to be Filipino sit around doing so little. When a prophet stands among us and confronts the devil, we turn our backs and presume him guilty. We Filipinos cannot deny the truth that we bring a lot of our poverty and corruption on ourselves by bowing to our dominating masters. We are gullible, so quick to believe the accusations of our oppressors and helping them stone our priests



SUPPORT: Fr. Cullen greets his supporters led by Fr. Brian Gore.

in Preda the day McIntyre dropped by, according to McIntyre himself. Later that night he was found by McIntyre in the jail. Many articles critical of Olongapo are wrongly attributed to Fr. Cullen.

I could find no basis to the charges and all the official documents bear out the rebuttal of Father Shay Cullen. There is no shred of evidence to back up the allegations but there is evidence to show that it was a blundering frame-up that did not come off. Perhaps that is why some people say we Filipinos deserve what we get, that is why our children go on being sold, raped and sex-abused by tourists and American sailors before our eyes. A baby of 18 months getting gonorrhea, young women sold to sex dens here and abroad, small children sold

and prophets. We should be stoned ourselves for our stupidity and self-defeating attitude. To be true Filipinos we have to stand and fight and answer back the oppressors with the truth or we will never see justice in this land. Fr. Cullen, a Columban Missionary, an order dedicated to being in solidarity with the poor and working for justice and saving the ecology that our rich destiny came here and gave his life for us by helping the victims of drugs and sex abuse. The least we can do now is stand with our priests and bishops and join Fr. Shay Cullen in fighting the immorality and the evils that plague our country especially that major source of the poison, the Olongapo City night club industry and the US military bases, which it serves.

Filipino people versus whose case: Olongapo crimes or Fr. Shay Cullen?

By CITA SORIENTE-REYES

LAW ENFORCERS and crime busters have been going after a defender of the abused in Olongapo. In so doing, they are dangerously abetting the social poisons emanating from crimes like prostitution, drug and child abuse, making these more degeneratively vicious to Filipino women and children they victimize.

This is the case of the harassment that Irish priest Fr. Shay O. Cullen has been experiencing from the Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) and the Olongapo City officials. Cullen, who has been described as "perhaps more Filipino than his Filipino adversaries in government", bears witness to extensive sex, drug and gambling scandals abusing countless hapless Filipino women and minors. His tale also bespeaks of rare courage that has stood up against these injustices withstanding a decade of harassment and intimidation.

For more than two decades, this Irish clergyman had been doing mission work in Olongapo City. He built up the PREDA, principally, a rehabilitation center, for victims of drug and sex abuse in Olongapo.

Unabated and wanton sex, drug and gambling scandals involving more and more women and children around the Subic Naval Base have compelled Cullen to speak up and write about them for the past 10 years in several newspapers like the *We Forum*, *Malaya* and the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*.

The freelance writer and *Inquirer* columnist has counseled countless of women who were promised marriages only to be abandoned, beaten and bruised by the American servicemen. He has listened endlessly to stories of ladies shipped to Hongkong without ever knowing when they will ever see their families again. He has seen 18-month-old babies with gonorrhea and little children at 9 and eleven being

peddled to pedophiles.

The 47-year old cleric assesses that these evils have threatened "the life of the Filipino family, the traditional values of the home, the sanctity of marriage, the respect and love for children" in Olongapo. Cullen is also actively campaigning for the removal of the US military bases which he claims promote prostitution, drug addiction and child abuse in Olongapo. He adds that very recently, he and some other writers, were told by their sources that the US Naval authorities are aware that certain drug dealings going on in several Olongapo night clubs involve some of their men.

Cullen claims that powerful forces are trying to silence him. The latest harassment he has received involves charges filed with the CID on the basis of complaints of six Olongapo residents. Cullen says he has not been informed of the charges against him or of the identity of the complainants, and was not given the chance to file a counteraffidavit. The cleric also curiously notes that the case against him was released to the media on the very same date of his alleged order of arrest.

Cullen asserts that the charges against him are "baseless, false and malicious and that the prosecutor has conspired with (his complainants) to do the most damage and discredit me personally and the work I do." He adds that "it's a form of intimidation, prior censorship, and an attack on press freedom."

Cullen also asserts that



FR. CULLEN: Beleaguered.

the reason behind this intimidation involves the vested interests of bar and night club owners, prostitution and drug syndicates. He says that his exposes of how young lives are being destroyed in Olongapo has put a threat in the incomes of these groups, since public opinion will eventually compel the US Navy to ban minors from these dens. He says that certain owners and politicians who give them protection have in effect become accessories to crime involving illegal drugs.

Cullen also adds that he has angered some people because he has helped children file charges against American servicemen who have sexually abused them and that there are now two Americans facing charges in court. He has also exposed trafficking of women to Hongkong being escorted by US servicemen. He claims one syndicate has been organized by a former American serviceman now in the custody of the

CID.

A month before the December scheduled talks on the bases, some 17 Olongapo City officials have filed a petition with the CID demanding the deportation of Cullen. They claimed that he was "an undesirable alien and an enemy of the Filipino people." Weeks before the filing of the petition, Cullen testified before a Senate Committee hearing on the US military bases.

But Cullen relates that these series of attempts to deport him began way back in 1982 when he wrote an expose for the *We Forum* (July 17-20 and September 24-26, 1982) involving US serviceman Petty Chief Daniel Dougherty. The dozen youngsters, victimized by the prostitution ring led by Dougherty, admitted to have been forced or lured into prostitution and they were found to be ill of acute venereal diseases (VD) including the recurrent *Herpes genitalis*. Dougherty

was allowed to escape the country through the connivance of some City officials and US Admiral Richard Dunlevy, Cullen recalls. The other Filipino pimps with Dougherty also went scot-free after posting bail. Meanwhile, pressure was exerted to silence Cullen and he was accused of tipping off Dougherty and maligning the integrity of Olongapo children and Mayor Gordon. It would be recalled that city and Base authorities have long hidden from the media exposes of such crimes. At that time, he also incurred the ire of some City officials when Cullen opposed the demolition of a fishing village and destruction of some community projects to give way for putting up a beer garden owned by a local official.

The Missionary Society of St. Columban asserts in a statement that Fr. Cullen is "legally and morally bound to report and prevent" "the abuses to women and children. The statement further reads that the charges against Cullen "is an attempt to stifle free speech and cover up gross immoral-

ity that is tearing apart the spiritual lives of the people especially the youth who turn to drugs to forget their problems. Fr. Cullen and the PREDA Center has taken a stand against this and his work is prophetic and an act of Christian witness for Faith and morals."

Last November, when the Olongapo City officials filed a petition for Cullen's deportation, 23 Bataan and Zambales priests also rushed to his defense. In a joint statement countering the charges against Cullen, they said he was "a priest of good standing in our diocese who has been denouncing the moral evils that beset Olongapo."

More recently, after Cullen addressed its 2nd National Congress last January 27, the Philippine Movement for Press Freedom (PMPF) promised to defend the Irish priest's right to expose truths. "The people's freedom to know is more important than any public official's hypocrisy and false sense of dignity," said Atty. Ricardo Valmonte, reelected president of the nationwide media alliance.

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As an official casino management arm directly under the Office of the President, PAGCOR commits itself to being a dependable economic ally by supporting our government's national economic recovery program. The government's share from casino earnings are then utilized as a major source of funds envisioned to finance the government's priority projects and programs.

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PAGCOR aims to help fight and fund the war declared by President Corazon C. Aquino against poverty, malnutrition and other social deprivation.

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Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
PAGCOR HOUSE 1330 ROXAS BOULEVARD, MANILA

Why not import rain?

IT IS now official. This rice-producing country will import 200,000 metric tons of rice to make up for the shortage of the staple caused by the drought, according to the Department of Agriculture and Food. The volume of the projected importation is speculated at this time. DAF headman Senen Bacani says it may well go beyond the initial 200,000 metric tons, depending on how long the drought will last and the future increase in damage to the present crops. With the dry spell expected to last until May at the earliest, the next few months may prove crucial to the nation in terms of the staple's availability. Thus the need for importation.

The effect of the drought is actually manifold. Right now, the country is trying to come up with a belt-tightening plan, in cooperation with the International Monetary Fund geared to fight the inflation which continues to increase at an alarming rate due to the drought that has reduced rice output and several other factors. Being seriously contemplated are two complementing measures: increase taxes on liquor, tobacco and soft drinks, and a drastic cut in public spending which naturally includes government hiring. (If the Aquino government is sincere, why not fire the 200 undersecretaries and assistant secretaries who do nothing but exacerbate the bureaucratic red tape and who are costing the government some P200 million annually? Since they will not resign from their positions despite Mrs. Aquino's call for voluntary resignation, no other recourse remains but to fire them).

It is not actually Bacani's fault that six palay-producing regions have been hit by the drought. If one must look for culprits, nobody is to blame for this sorry mess but the government itself who cannot summon enough political will to stop all kinds of logging that has depleted the country's forests and astronomically enriched a few greedy concessionaires and loggers in connivance with presidential relatives and the congressional leadership. That he is trying to avoid a repetition of this proposed importation next year is laudable, but his efforts might not prove rewarding due to circumstances beyond control. He may be granted all the money he needs in fertilizer subsidy to raise this year's palay output and institute short-term measures like crop production to temporarily stop-gap the farmers' plight and prod the National Irrigation Administration into building more irrigation systems and repairing or renovating old existing ones. But as long as forest destruction continues with government tolerance, all his efforts will come to no avail. The extent of ecological destruction has, in fact, reached such alarming proportions that a concerned director of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources has recommended the blowing up of bridges leading to the remaining virgin forests to spare them from the loggers. If nothing is done by the state, he warns, the remaining 988,000 hectares of virgin forests will be lost before the decade is over and some unbelievably greedy congressmen will become if they are not yet billionaires.

In desperation, someone proposed several days before that it might not be such a bad idea if we pray for rain and he cited some instances where prayers have actually worked wonders. And about two or three weeks ago, the government had sought the assistance of giant American Air Force planes based at Clark in Pampanga for some cloud-seeding operations to induce rain. This was to complement the Philippine Air Force's own brave efforts several days before. Sad to say that both ploys did not work sufficiently to relieve the drought. Perhaps in answer to the prayers and the cloud-seeding operations, some puny drizzles fell everywhere but if they fell anywhere near the La Mesa or Angat, they were not enough to raise the water level in the dams. So what is left for the inept government to do?

Here's a bright idea that the Cabinet has not thought of yet: Since the administration is in an importing mood, why not import rain?



Panggigipit sa media

ISA NA namang kasamahan sa media ang pinaslang dahil sa kanyang pakikibaka upang lumitaw ang katotohanan. Siya'y si Enrique "Ike" Lingan, editor ng *Quezon Times* weekly newspaper at broadcaster ng radio station DZEL. Binugbog siya diumano ng isang pulis ng Lucena City hanggang sa mawalan siya ng ulirat at namatay sa ospital.

Nakikiramay kami sa mga naulila ni Ike bagama't ubos na ang luha namin para sa mga katulad niya na naglaan ng buhay upang ipagtanggol ang adhikain ng malayang pamamahayag. Natira na lamang ay matinding galit at pagkamuhit sa isang lipunan na nagbubulag-bulagan sa katotohanan na ang mga mamamahayag ngayon ay kasama na sa tinaguriang "endangered species".

Nagtingitngit kami dahil sa unti-unting pagkalagas ng aming mga kasama sa peryodismo. Dalawampu't anim na peryodista na ang nangamatay magmula sa panahon ni Marcos hanggang sa ngayon. Pang dalawampu't pito na si Ike.

Nagkimkim kami ng aming mga kamao noong kadiliman ng batas militar. Akala namin, nalipol na ang mga kalaban dahil naibalik na ng taumbayan ang ninakaw na kalayaan. Nagkamali kami.

Sa panahon ng tinatawag nating demokrasya, apat na ang pinaslang sa hanay

PUBLISHER'S NOTES



by JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.

ng media, kasama na ang pinakahuli na si Ike Lingan.

Kaya't tinatawagan natin ang mga kasama sa media na itataas muli ang kuyom na kamay upang ipahatid sa kinauukulan ang ating patuloy na pagtutol sa mababangis at walang budhi na kaaway. Kung kailangang buhay natin mismo ang ipapalit upang matigil na ang pag-aalipusta sa mga mamamahayag, handa kami. Sapagka't alam namin na ang mapupugto, ang mamamatay ay ang aming katawang lupa lamang. Hindi ang aming isip, diwa at prinsipyo na guhit na ng aming larangan - ang pamamahayag.

Bawat isang peryodistang namamatay, libu-libong iba pa ang mabubuhay upang ituwid ang kamalian, isabog ang liwanag sa kadiliman.

Ito ang aming panata. Ito ang aming gabay magpakailan man.

We Forum

MEMBER



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LET THERE
BE LIGHT

by JUAN G. FRIVALDO

Science

YESTERDAY AFTERNOON I visited the Science Centrum exhibits at the Film Center Bldg., Cultural Center compound on Roxas Bldg. My main purpose was to see if there is any appreciable interest by our people on science and technology. I feel very glad there were plenty of students and youngsters. Very few adults, not one congressman. Only Senator Lina was there, probably because he is the chairman of the Centrum Project.

Science exhibits like these are essential because our country appropriates only one third of one percent of our Gross National Product (GNP) for science and technology. Most countries earmark three percent or more to technology. That is the touchstone to progress. Science, technology and research.

Here we do not give a damn to science. That is why most of our neighbors are booming economically because they did not neglect technology. Whereas we, with a P234 billion budget, three times the Marcos budget of 1986, devoted most of public funds to the inconsequential -- discretionary, intelligence, travel, unitemized funds that run into billions of pesos.

For the past few years, the Department of Science and Technology had been begging for additional appropriation. Their appeals fall on deaf ears. That is, the Congress we have today -- lovers of UZI, Pajeros, buko and the likes of Jun de Guzman.

That neglect of science and adoration of the frivolous reflect on our country today. Corruption, unemployment, high prices, insurgency, crimes, series of coups.

My visit to the top of the Film Center building is also momentous. I had a good bird's eye view of the vast cluster of squatter hovels right next to the pride of Imelda's palaces by the Bay. The Cultural Center, Folk Arts, Convention Center, Philippine Plaza Hotel, PNB, GSIS. Yes, billions and billions of pesos to build those beautiful buildings. But next to them are the hovels of dirt, disease, poverty and crime.

A sharp contrast of the rich and famous versus the wretched and the beggars; the widening gap between the rich and the poor in our country, the rising notoriety that we now have an elitist society.

Yes, those squatters on the reclaimed area is just a tiny segment of the squatters in Tondo, Quezon City, all over Metro Manila. Why flock to Manila? Simple. There is hunger, joblessness, insurgency, fear in the provinces. Rise in population is a minor factor. The big reason is a negligent government. It did not plan wisely and long enough. It moves by reaction to every crisis.

ALA E, meron na namang namumuong coup, kuno. Bakit, tapos na ba 'yung nakaraan? Hindi ba, kumbaga sa minus one, nakalagay lang sa pause? Kahit kailan, pwedeng pindutin ng Mababang Halaman (Bush) sa Puting Bahay (White House) ang buton upang ipagpatuloy. Pwes, bahala na ang Diyos sa puntong ito, tatalaga siya naman talaga ang tunay na "on top of the situation" at hindi si Heneral Palaspas (Ramos). Maghintay na lang tayo ng susunod na mga kaba-kaba-kaba-nata.

Mabuti pa, ang pagtuunan natin ng pansin ay ang patuloy na coup-ra-coup-tan (pangungurakot sa kaban ng bayan) na pinaggagawa ng mga magagaling nating mga lingkod-bayan (kuno). Napapunta ako sa Luzon Avenue upang magmisa sa isang kapilya roon dahil hindi na pinagtiyagaan ng kura paroko. Hindi ko masyadong masisi ang pari kung umayaw man itong bumalik doon, dahil por Diyos, por santo, talaga namang para kang dumaraan sa sandosenang purgatorio bago marating ang pagmimisahan mo. Hindi lang lubak-lubak ang kalsada, moon-

THIS COLUMN joins all Filipinos who will be commemorating tomorrow, February 8, the centennial of Don Claro M. Recto, statesman, libertarian, poet, and nationalist. Wish he were still alive and strong today, when this nation needs him most. The vacuum he left in the Senate has not been filled since his death in Rome some two decades ago. It may never be. What's worse, not one of his children and grandchildren is tracing his footsteps, so it seems.

I have a copy of his book *My Crusade*, a collection of essays and speeches, among which is "Asia for the Asians" otherwise known as the Asiatic Monroe Doctrine. I

Take our perennial rice problem. The standard reply by our government is to import. If there is drought, if there are floods, if the rats and pests come, if the rice cartel becomes extra greedy, we import rice. None of those long-range but effective drive to plant more, help the farmer produce more and market his rice, like we did with the "Masagana" and the miracle rice. Yes, we just import and import to make the rice cartel fat and obese. And who are the rice cartel -- those very close to Malacanang, the Chinese traders. Senate Majority Floor Leader Senator Guingona is barking loud. He will get bitten. Like Senators Maceda and Herrera denouncing the evils of gambling and drugs. Result, libel raps plus rapid endorsement by Cory on the glory of casinos. Do you understand now why we have coups and NPAs?

We are glad the Asian Development Bank had loaned us \$175 million to reforest our hills. There are constant pictures of VIPs planting trees in some school campus. But you go today to Palawan. Every night there

(Page 10, please)

Coup-ra-coup-tan

BEYOND
HYPOCRISY

by PLACIDO P. DIAZ

crater talaga! At dalawang pinagpipitagang mga representante ang nangako na ipasesemento nila ito nuong nakaraan kampanya: Sina Paul Aquino at Nikki Coseteng.

O, wala akong sinabi na sangkot ang dalawang kinatawan ng Kongreso sa coup-ra-coup-tan, at baka ma-raid ulit ang kawawa naming publisher-editor na Junior Burgos at makulong naman ako sa salang libelo, dahil sa totoo lang, wala talaga akong perang pambayad ng piyansa. Mayaman lang kasi tayo sa utak, hindi sa pera. Mainam na rin ito, dahil hindi tayo maholdap o manaka-

wan kaya, di ba? Subalit, please naman, Paul at Nikki, pakitingin naman ninyo kung baka sakali lamang may masimot pa kayo sa kaban pagkaraan na ipinadala na ang lahat ng pera para sa public works sa Tarlac. Mahihirapan talaga ang mga Mercedes Benz ninyo o kahit Toyota Landcruiser pa kapag mangangampanya kayo ulit doon sa Luzon Avenue. Marami ring boto ang mawawala sa inyo, siges kayo.

Mga minamahal na mga kababayan, maawa na tayo sa ating sarili. Naka-upo ang lahat ngayon sa kanilang mga puwesto dahil sa "people power," di ba? Wala na ba tayong power ngayon? Bakit hahayaan na lang nating limasin ng mga mapagsamantala ang kaban natin at ibulsa ang perang nakalaan para sa kapakanan natin? Nangagkakandumahog na sila sa pangungurakot, dahil alam nilang kahit anong oras maaaring magbitiw o mapaalis na sa trono ang ama nilang kunsintidora. Walang iniwan sa atin si Marcos kundi utang. Si Cory naman kaya, dagdag pang utang? Sabi nang mag-coup na rin tayo, hindi pwede ritong a-coup na lang.

Wish Don Claro were alive

ONE'S WORTH



by MAX NOBLE

never tire rereading the book.

In his grave, Don Claro will be turning over the hyperboles by which today's politicians will be extolling him. He would have exposed them for what they are: pseudo-nationalists, hypocrites, grafters.

Paging Public Works Secretary Fiorello Estuar. The temporary bridge linking Cainta and Taytay at the Manggahan Floodway area has been so vandalized it has become impassable. This, despite the presence of DPWH personnel nearby. Sleeping on their job, maybe?

Something's wrong with the IBP accounting system. Last month I sent our office messenger to Pasig to pay for my membership dues for FY 1990-91. The handwritten note on the receipt got my goat. I immediately called up the IBP office at the Pasig Hall of Justice to ask if it's now the IBP policy to penalize members like me who, modesty aside, pay their dues even in advance.

What an IBP! For the last four or five years I haven't received a single copy of the *IBP Journal* or any of its publications. But while it's negligent on these things, the IBP is fast on collection of dues.

Hope the new IBP president does some-

thing about it.

Perhaps thinking I could be of help, some residents of Mandaluyong have voiced to me their complaints against the administration of Mayor Abalos.

Over a year ago, a friend (who was a municipal employee) told me that lowly personnel like him hadn't been receiving their salaries regularly, whereas the powers that be got their allowances (repeat: allowances) in advance.

Another said that minor functionaries close to certain top officials were provided with chauffeur-driven cars.

Recently, a proprietor of a small auto-repair shop griped against what he called harassment tactics by men close to the Municipal Hall. His offense, he said, is that he was a follower of former Mayor Domingo.

I have't had time to verify all these complaints, but if true, this I must say to all concerned: I'm sorry I can't be of help. Since I was unceremoniously eased out of His Honor's law office a month or two after he was appointed OIC-Mayor, I have't set foot at the town hall. And don't intend to. For reasons better left unsaid.

President Aquino's human rights record as bad as Marcos', says *Globe* (February 3). It's the same paper which recently editorialized that the single, greatest threat to Philippine democracy today is the military.

Need we say more?

What a difference the omission of a single preposition makes. "There are only three ways which megalopolises like Metro Manila can cope with population explosion." ("A city within a city," February 5). By should be inserted between ways and which.

TEA W/ JULIE



by JULIE AMARGO

Gold and Mayor Lacson's dreams

WHO IS Madam Maria Gosilatar and what is her connection with the Marcos Gold? What is the nature of the activities of the STWC Research Center which has MTI Reg. No. 20669 - P-85 and Telex - 64338 ETPIQC PN? What is her connection with Limcaoco & Associates, et al? Documents allegedly found by the rebels in Channel 4 during the coup tell a lot of story. Document marked M 131 has on its face the following information typewritten with some handwritten notes on the STWC - Research Center stationery:

July 10, 1988

FROM: MDM. MARIA GOSILATAR

FAX NO 632-817-9742 MIA. 5-8656109

HK

Tel. Nos. 632-731-35-50 & 632-810-05-56

SUBJECT: FOLLOW UP ON SALE OF

AU

TO: MS. LU S. WANG

FAX NO. 718-642-2958

DR. T. H. KHOE

FAX NO. 818-355-2710

MR. GRADY L. POUNDERS

FAX NO. 205-383-4839

Dear Partners,

I understand lately that there is confusion on the first 800 MT sale in Switzerland. The last feedback I got from the people/party there was the sellers bank and the mandated seller has not come to the open. I would like to inform you that UBS Clearing number 253 was assigned for the transaction and Mr. Max Thaimann of UBS Hinwil Branch is the buyer bank officer who will handle the transaction. By the way did Mr. Rudolf Kid signed your pay order for and as your basis in claiming your commission in case the transaction goes successfully and completely. Is the need of your passport numbers, place and date of issue submitted to complete the information needed in the pay orders. Please be informed also that we do not have the complete bank details of Ms. Lee so with her passport number, place and date of issue which is badly needed in the transaction. Can you provide me those informations that we will be needing sooner.

In your fax as of 5 May 88 when I was in Switzerland, there was your offer of 4,000 MT of 12.5 kg. bars, FOB KLOTEN which is to start at 800 metric tons. Meanwhile there is some confusion on the 800 MT. I would like to suggest that the balance of 3,200 MT be sold to our set of buyers mentioned in my Fax sent to Mr. G. L. POUNDERS on 17

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AS I write this, the reports from the North indicate a massive rejection of the Cordillera Autonomy Act. Na sayang na naman ang sorties ni Heherson and Letty Sha-sha-sha doon. This is another blow - like a strong uppercut delivered by Doy Laurel to the Cory government because Doy campaigned for "no" votes. Just like in Muslim Mindanao, the people again voted against Cory. To me these are definitely ill omens, the writings on the wall are all there to see. That is why at the risk of being repetitious, I say that the only way President Aquino can turn things around is to install a broad-based coalition with all political parties to share power and responsibility. We do not need a snap election; all we need is a government that is bereft of sloganisms, of graft and corruption, bereft of incompetents, bereft of vindictive people but a government that is responsive, clean and honest, a government that is sincere to the needs of the impoverished masses and we shall tide over this crisis. What worse scenario was there than the one faced by England after the collapse of France in 1940 when Hitler was preceded by the massive bombardment from the air by the Luftwaffe? But England, all alone fought on and survived because Churchill was able to forge a coalition government.

The current joke making the rounds in the Fiscal's Office in Manila is: "Have a backlog and become a judge". This was brought about when several fiscals with so many unacted on cases inside their filing cabinets were suddenly promoted as judges. In fact two were, during the days of Marcos, dismissed for being "notoriously

10 salot ng modernong panahon

MAKASALANAN ANG mga taga-Ehipto kaya pinarusahan sila ng Panginoon at binigyan ng 10 salot.

1. Ang tubig sa ilog ay naging dugo, mga isda'y nangamatay at ang ilog ay bumaho.
2. Nagkaroon ng napakaraming palaka at halos natakpan ang buong Ehipto.
3. Lahat ng alabok ng lupa ay naging mga kuto.
4. Nagkaroon ng malalaking bangaw na dumagsa sa lahat ng bahay ng mga Ehipsiyo.
5. Nangapeste ang mga baka, tupa at kambing.
6. Nagkaroon ng nagnanaknak na mga bukol at sugat ang mga tao at mga hayup.
7. Umulan ng graniso sa buong Ehipto.
8. Dumagsa ang makakapal na balang.
9. Tatlong araw na nagkaroon ng pusikit na karimlan.
10. Nilipol ang lahat ng mga panganay na anak ng tao at maging mga hayup.

Ito ang 10 salot ng lumang panahon. Parusa ng Diyos sa mga masasamang tao ng panahong iyon.

Dahil sa kasamaan ng tao, ipinagkaloob ng Panginoon kay Moises sa Bundok Sinai ang 10 Utos upang sundin.

IN MY CORNER...



by PAUL M. GONZALEZ

undesirable" but eventually won reinstatement through padrinos. One of these fiscals who is now a judge was even very active campaigning and working for Marcos during the snap polls in 1986. Anyway, that is another story but the point is: it was then Secretary of Justice Sedfrey Ordonez who ordered the withholding of the salaries of the fiscals who have backlogs and yet it was the same Ordonez who had them elevated as judges. Yes, I know these fiscals, now judges and I was told by my mole that some of their cases date back to 1984 and have to be farmed out to the hold-outs at City Hall to the disposed.

I was told that Secretary Franklin Drilon made a surprise visit at the Fiscal's Office in Manila recently. He arrived shortly after 8:00 in the morning and found, to his dismay that many of the cubicles of the city prosecutors were still empty. Of course, many of the Fiscals were already attending to their court trials so that could be explained. On the other hand, the investigating fiscals who had no court duties that morning should have some explaining to do. And what is this I hear that there is some demoralization in Manila because Acting Fiscal Candido Rivera en-

gages in favoritism? Or is he too busy outside his office, working for his permanent status or being City Fiscal of Pasay?

The World Ecologists Foundation, a non-profit organization of concerned people dedicated to the conservation of our natural resources sent us one (1) seed of guyabano for planting. It is a symbolism of the Foundation's campaign to recover our dwindling forests, dilapidated and destroyed by money-hungry loggers who, in their insatiable lust for more profits sacrifice the future of the nation through indiscriminate cutting of our forests and is also a sad commentary to the inefficiency and corruption among people in government who should protect the mountainsides, but instead close their eyes to the destruction everywhere for ulterior reasons. We should support the Foundation and hope that it will catch fire among the people and support the replanting of trees so we may yet save our forests for the future of our children. In their slogan, the World Ecologists Foundation says "All it takes is one seed to give a tree". Yes, as Joyce Kilmer says: "Only God can make a tree"; but we can also plant them. So let's plant. Me? I already planted the guyabano seed which I received.

By the way, General Abenina was recently captured. A feather in the military's cap. Question: Who will receive the P1 million bounty?

By the way, what happened to the son of the late Chief Justice Teehankee who was arrested on drugs is a tragic example of a family who has reached the skies in fame and

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PUNNY LINES



by FUNDADOR SORIANO

nang naging hayup.

Ika-5 salot. Tagtuyot. Dahil sa mga im-paktong loggers, ang lupa'y natutuyo. Sa ilalim ng rehimen ni Tita, ang krisis sa tubig ay hindi biro.

Mga chicks na minamahal, bawasan ang palilligo, once a day na lang kung gamitin ang inyong tabo.

Ika-6 salot. Taggutom. May krisis sa bigas, mais at asukal. Hawak ng walang pusong cartel ang maraming kabuhayan.

Milyun-milyo'y nagugutom puwera ang mga pulitiko, mga negosyante at 'yong biyudang nasa palasyo.

Ika-7 salot. Magulo, madugo, walang katahimikan. Patuloy na nananalanta ele-

(Page 14, please)

Nguni't simula noon hanggang ngayon, kaligayahan na ng makasalanang na ito'y baliin.

Mayroon ding 10 salot sa modernong panahon.

Parusa ba ng langit sa Pinoy, na sa kasamaan ay gumon?

Unang salot. Red tide sa karagatan ng Pilipinas.

Tayo'y talagang minamalas, isda lang ang nalalason at hindi ang mga pulitikong ungas.

Ika-2 salot. Patuloy sa pagtaas ang presyo ng mga bilihin.

Ang pagkagahaman sa salapi, sa mga buwayang negosyante ay pangunahin.

Ika-3 salot. Walang katapusang kudeta. Parang kutong sumalakay sa ulo ng Pre-sidentita.

Ika-4 salot. Ang tao ay naging hayup. Dahil sa hirap ng buhay, ang tao'y nanghuhold-ap, nandurukot, nangungurakot, nagnanakaw, pumpapatay - tuluyan

Laughter at the Bar (and the Bench)

A HOTEL served two private luncheons one noontime, one to a group of clergymen and the other to a meeting of lawyers. The lawyers ordered a special dessert, watermelon soaked with brandy, rum and Benedictine. The manager of the hotel discovered to his horror that there had been a mixup and the spiked melon had been served by mistake to the ministers.

"What did they say?" he asked the head-waiter. "Were there many complaints?"

"They didn't say a word," the waiter reported. "They were too busy putting the seeds from the melon into their pockets."

A famous defense attorney came to court one morning sporting a black eye.

"Did you walk into a door?" asked one of his friends, laughing.

"I got this black eye because the new maid is ticklish."

"Did she sock you?"

"No, my wife did when she heard the maid giggle."

The case concerned a will and Kalog was the witness.

"Was the deceased," asked the attorney, "in the habit of talking to himself when he was alone?"

"I don't know," said the witness.

"Come now man, you don't know and yet you pretend you were intimately acquainted with the deceased?"

"Well, Mr. Lawyer," said Kalog, "I never happened to be with him when he was alone."

"The quality of the cooking is an important part of marriage," pronounced a French judge, clearing a Parisian husband of the charge of murder but imposing an eight-year sentence for manslaughter. The man had made no attempt to disguise his guilt, partly as this was the second occasion on which he had been charged with killing his wife. His first marriage ended when he did away with his good lady after she consis-

Raul GONZALEZ

(From page 9)

circumstance but who must suffer the humiliation of a son who has gone astray. Perhaps too much success; too much fame of the parents are also drawbacks to the children, some of whom cannot cope up with the glory.

Is it true that Philippine Airlines booking offices no longer list their phones and have their numbers kept confidential? How can the customers ask information and call in for reservations and bookings if the phones are secret? *Mayroon bang business office na secreto ang phone?* Maybe PAL does not agree to "let your fingers do the walking". But if you ask me, this is a crazy situation. Is this a new gimmick of Dante Santos? *Sa Philacor ba secreto din ang telepono?*

That white AUV, said to belong to the

(continued) "Inagid" na gaa masanang ginep - alomang ginep - ginep

LAW AND (DIS)ORDER

by ANTONIO P. CORONEL



tently undercooked his steak. Twelve years later wife number two followed her predecessor for overcooking her husband's steak.

LEGAL APHORISMS

Guidelines for Bureaucrats:

- (1) When in doubt, mumble.
- (2) When in trouble, delegate.
- (3) When in charge, ponder.

He who hesitates is not only lost, but several miles from the next freeway exit.

Never underestimate the power of human stupidity.

Beware of altruism. It is based on self-deception, the root of all evil.

Never refuse a chance to sit down or an opportunity to relieve yourself.

As scarce as the truth is, the supply is much greater than the demand.

Whose bread I eat, his song I sing.

If it's worth doing, it is worth hiring someone who knows how to do it.

There is always free cheese in a mouse-trap.

The expedient thing and the right thing are seldom the same thing.

Market research can be conducted and interpreted to prove any desired conclusion.

Nothing ever gets built on schedule or within budget.

The solution to a problem changes the nature of the problem.

Whoever has the gold makes the rules.

The light at the end of the tunnel could turn out to be the headlight of an oncoming train.

Provincial Engineer's office in Zambales, is still very much in the private use of whoever is the favorite engineer to whom the vehicle is assigned. I wrote about this before when *We Forum* correspondent Solomon Anito reported the vehicle, with Plate No. SA 1477, was roaming the roads at Salaza, filled with children. Last Sunday, January 28 as I was going to Bgy. Balaganon in Masinloc, I overtook the same vehicle in the highway, also going to Masinloc, probably to attend the fiesta in Balaganon. The vehicle was again filled with women and children. I wonder what the Provincial Auditor of Zambales is doing about this illegal use of government vehicle?

Last January 30, Mayor Tito Doble took the witness stand at the Sandiganbayan as witness for Deloso in the anti-graft case. That's good so that if Deloso, by some luck gets acquitted, he owes his neck to Mayor Doble.

There are few ways in which a man can be more innocently employed than in making money.

Second-rate people hire third-rate people.

Any order that can be misunderstood has been misunderstood.

What really matters is the name you succeed in imposing on the facts - not the facts themselves.

Never underestimate the lack of taste of the buying public.

A bird in the hand is too small for dinner (or the bush may taste better anyway).

Kickbacks must always exceed bribes.

Industry always moves in to fill an economic vacuum.

At no time in the history of mankind have there been enough important executive positions available for all the important people alive at the time.

IS THERE REALLY SUCH A LAW?

A kiss lasting more than a second is an illegal act in Hialeah, Maryland.

A newspaper can be fined if it misspells your name in Quemado, New Mexico.

It's against the law in Decatur, Illinois, to drive without a steering wheel.

In Ekalaka, Montana, you may burn garbage only in the morning.

It is illegal for a dentist to be cruel to a patient in Georgia.

Manville, New Jersey prohibits feeding animals whiskey or cigarettes in a public park.

Counsel was cross-examining a long-haired seedy individual.

"What are you?"

"A poet."

"A poet! Do you make a living by it?"

"Yes, I keep the wolf from the door."

"What, by reading your poems to him?"

Juan FRIVALDO

(From page 8)

is a ship loaded with logs going to Japan. Do you now see who are fooling who? And Palawan is the home province of Speaker Mitra. It was only recently that a log freighter ran aground among the shoals of San Bernardino lighthouse. Round logs five to six feet diameter by 100 feet long floated out to the sea and beached at several coastal towns of Sorsogon and Northern Samar. Those logs came from Palawan on the way to Japan. And repeat, it came from the home province of Speaker Mitra. Last Year, James Clad of New Zealand wrote a cover story in the *Far Eastern Economic Review* about the wanton destruction of Palawan forest. Very factual and thoroughly researched, naming the people destroying the forests. Result, Clad was kicked out of the country, the Hongkong-based magazine given a good dressing down for telling the truth.

YOUTH VOICE



by DAVE TABANIAG

Sports

YOUTH VOICE supports the establishment of the Philippine Sports Commission by President Aquino.

Sports is a very important means to avoid drugs and other vices. It teaches the youth the values of self-discipline, hard work, sacrifice and teamwork.

The Philippines has been doing poorly in international competitions, partly because of lack of support by the government for our local athletes. We are not lacking in local talents, we have lots of them like Akiko Thomson, the Castillejos, Bea Lucero, Vergel Meneses and they need only the proper guidance and training to fully best the foreign competitors.

I agree with Rep. Freddie Webb (LDP-Paranaque) that sports should be beyond the reach of politics, and all politicians regardless of affiliations, must declare their full support behind the Filipino athlete.

I was very much angered by the report that Fr. Shay Cullen had been ordered arrested by the CID for his anti-bases stand. Cullen is among the more courageous members of the Catholic clergy who have realized the need to fight the bases. The leadership of both the Phil. Independent Church and Episcopal Church have both attacked these bases in no uncertain terms.

Going back to our topic for this week, I am glad that professional basketball players are now being allowed to join the RP Team. The RP Team could certainly make use of the talents of Fernandez, Paras, Patrimonio, Alvarez, Caidic, Magsanoc, Brown and one or both of the Loyzagas.

Last year, I was appointed sports editor-columnist for the *Trinity Observer*, but because of my greater responsibilities in *We Forum* and the *MassCom Gazette*, I was never able to assume said position.

I want to take this opportunity to greet all my friends there - Bai, Ate Yolly, Gina, Elaine, Philip, Rexie, Norman and Joebert...oops, I forgot Rod...

Up to now, I still want to be a jack of all trades as I still dream to write about sports every now and then, and yes, I also do write short stories and poems regularly.

I am also a frustrated stage actor. He-he-he!

Youth Voice reiterates its full support to the Sports Commission. *Sana nga*, sports will totally be rid of politics and politicians.

MASA

Katotohanan • Katarungan • Kalayaan

WEDNESDAY * FEBRUARY 7, 1990

11

Pag-usapan natin ang kabayo

NI JUANITO V. JABAT

NGAYON AY taon ng kabayo, ayon sa kalendaryong lunar ng mga Tsino. Kaya pag-usapan naman natin ang mga kabayo at ang ilang interesanteng bagay tungkol dito. Katuwaan lang.

Ang kabayo ay isa sa pinakahuling hayop na inalagaan ng mga tao, at ipinalalagay na ang mga unang nagpaamo nito ay ang ilang taong gala sa Gitnang Asya. Ang kabuuang populasyon ng kabayo sa buong mundo ay tinatayang nasa 75 hanggang 80 milyon.

Gustung-gusto ng mga katutubong Kongolo, sa Congo, Africa ang mga kabayo, pero kakaunti lang ang mayroon nito sa kanila dahil pinakamahal na hayop ito sa panig na iyon ng mundo.

Naniniwala ang mga katutubo ng Kongolo na mapalad ang pamilyang may kabayo, lalo na kung ito ay puti.

Kapag ang kabayo ay humalinghing sa gabing kabilugan ng buwan, may magandang mangyayari sa may-ari nito at sa kanyang mga kapitbahay. Iyon ang paniniwala ng mga katutubo ng Tsetserlig, Mongolia.

Baligtad naman ang paniniwala ng mga taga-Mogok, isang bayan sa Burma. Sa kanila ay malas kapag humalinghing ang kabayo sa gabing kabilugan ang buwan. At pinapatay na nila ang kabayo para

malwasan ang pagdating ng anumang kamalasan.

Sa ilang bahagi ng Kampuchea, ang mga kabayong ginagamit na panghakot ay ginagamit na panghahangad ng masasarap na pagkain at ipinapasyal sa paligid ng bayan kapag tag-araw.

"Magandang tanawin iyon," sabi ni James Khoo, isang zoologong taga-Malaysia na limang



taong natira sa Kampuchea. "Pinaliliguan nila ang mga kabayo at dinedekorasyonan iyon ng mga bulaklak, kuwintas at mga sedang damit."

Kumustahin naman natin ang presyo ng mga kabayo. Ang mga kabayong "tartanilla" sa Cebu ay mabibili lamang nang P1,500, pero ang isang purong lahing kabayong pangarera sa Amerika ay inaibot nang \$8 milyon.

Nakatala sa Guinness Book of World Records na ang kabayong pangarera si "What a Pleasure" ay ipinagbili noong 1976 sa halagang \$8 milyon. Ito ang pinakamahal na hayop sa buong mundo. (ANFI)

SA LUNGSOD

Mababangis na hayop

NI OMER OSCAR ALMENARIO

(Unang bahagi)

ANG KAILABAN ng Avenida Rizal ang itinuturing na pinakatampok na kalye at sentro ng kalakal sa Sta. Cruz, Maynila. Dito gumagalaw at nakikipagsapalaran ang buhay ng mga nilikhang biktima ng kahirapan o iniligaw ng maling panahon sa paghahangad ng magandang hinaharap. Dito sila namumuhay at bumubuo ng pangarap sa gitna ng mahihigpit na pagsubok sa isang labanang "matira ang matibay."

Tinutumbok ng Carriedo, Ronquillo at Katubusan, ang Avenida Rizal ay tinatawid ng Raon, Soler, Doroteo Jose at napapagitnaan ng Natividad, Florentino Torres at Felix Huertas. Sa mga kalyeng ito naglisaw ang mababangis na hayop at laging nakahandang sumakmal sa mga nilikhang may mahihinang loob o ipinadpad ng kapalaran.

At si Beth (hindi tunay na pangalan) ay ilan lamang sa mababangis na hayop bagama't masasalamatin mo sa kanyang buong pagkatao ang larawan ng isang nilalang na may takot sa Diyos at sa paggawa ng kasalanan sa kapwa.

Isang taal na Cebuana, taglay ni Beth ang kagan-dahang pinatitingkad ng kanyang maninipis na labi, katamtamang tangos ng ilong at taas na limang talampakan at apat na pulgada. Bagama't morena, makatawag-pansin ang angkin niyang karikitan dahil sa moderno niyang pananamit.

Kung naging kapalagay ang loob mo si Beth, wala siyang lihim na hindi maipagtatapat sa iyo bagama't ito'y ikukubli niya sa iyo sa mga unang araw ng inyong pagkikila. Siya ang masasabing salamin ng katotohanan ng mga pangyayaring nagaganap sa paligid ng Avenida Rizal.

"Nag-aalok ako ngaliw!" Ito ang bombang unang pasasabuging ni Beth sa sandaling magtiwala siya sa iyo, kung ang pagtiwala mo naman sa kanya ay walang halong makalupang pag-nanasa.

Kung nakilala mo si Beth sa gitna ng kabundukan ng Sierra Madre, maituturing

mong siya'y isang mabangis na amasona. Handang ipaglaban ang sariling karapatan kung tinatapkan at ipagtanggol ang kapalaran ng mga naaapi sukdulang itaya ang buhay.

"Sapagkat dito ako nadapa sa Avenida, dito rin ako babangon!"

"Dito ko bubuuin ang aking pangarap na buong kahayupang winasak nila. Dito ko ipakikilalang ako ang nagwagi sa labanang sila ang lumikha!" pahayag ni Beth sa manunulat na ito nang makadaupang palad niya sa loob ng isang bahay-aliwan sa Avenida.

Katulad ng nakakaraming hayop na gumagala sa Avenida Rizal, si Beth ay may itinatagong mapait na karanasang naging dahilan upang taluntunin niya ang lihis na landas ng buhay.

labing-anim na taong gulang pa lamang si Beth nang marating niya ang Maynila sa pangakong pagkakalooban siya ng magandang trabaho ng isang taga-lungsod na napadalaw sa kanilang bayan sa Cebu. Pinangakuan ding makakapag-aral.

Nang dumating sa lungsod, agad siyang dinala sa isang lumang bahay sa Florentino Torres ngunit iki-inulong sa madilim na silid sa loob ng isang linggo. At huli na nang mabatid niyang isang kasa pala ang kanyang napasukan! At binasag na kristal si Beth sa murang gulang!

"Gusto kong makalimutang lubos ang karanasang iyon. Nakaririmirin at nakasusuka! Ngunit ang bagay na ito ay muli't muling nagbabalik sa aking alaala tuwing may mga bagong saltang pinaaala-



BUHAY SA LUNGSOD: Malagim.

gaan sa akin sa klab na ito," salaysay ni Beth.

Ayon kay Beth, nagkahulihan sila ng loob ng kanyang among babae nang sundin niya ang bawat ipag-utos nito. Sinabi niyang naging mabait ito sa kanya dahil maganda siyang magdala ng mga problema ng mga baguhan.

Subalit and hindi alam, ayon kay Beth, ay tinuturuan lamang niya ang mga probinsiya na lumaban at harapin ang katotohanang hindi na nila matatakas.

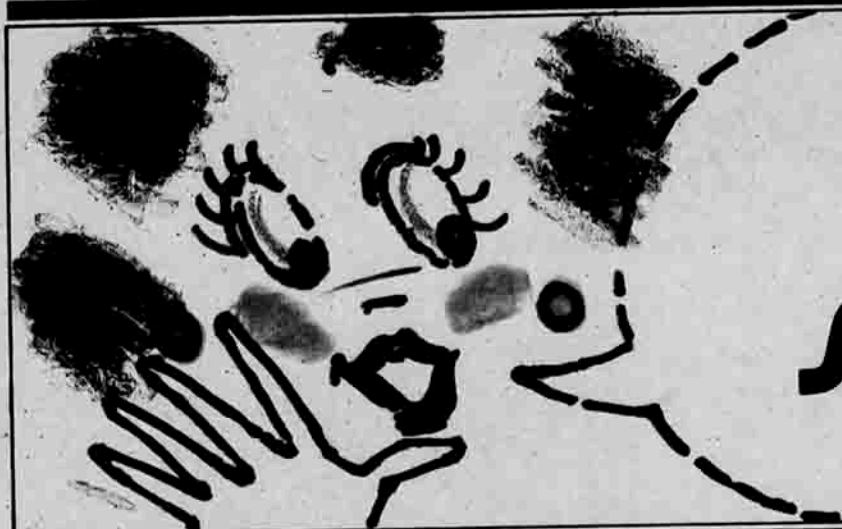
"Naririto na sila at naganap na sa kanilang buhay ang hindi maganda. Bakit pa nila hahangaring umalis kung wala lang din silang mapupuntahan at mapapasukang magandang trabaho? Dito ay makukuha nila ang lahat kung gagamitin lamang nila ang kanilang utak. Iyon ay kung hindi sila manlalamang sa mga parukyano," pahayag ni Beth.

Ngunit ayon kay Beth, dinanas niya ang katakut-takot na pahirap bago niya tuluyang naunawaan ang uri

ng buhay na kanyang ginagalawan. Ayon sa kanya, maraming beses siyang nabugbog ng mga tauhan ni Aling Metring dahil sa kanyang pagtatangkang makatakas.

"Alaga ako ni Aling Metring, ang bugaw na hawak ng matataas na opisyal at militar. Sa kanyang mga kamay una kong naranasan ang pait ng buhay. Ang pinakamasaklap ay noong dalhin ako sa isang klinika upang ipalaglag ang tatlong buwang sanggol na dinadala ko sa sinapupunan. Nagtagumpay sila ngunit ito ay kamuntik kong ikamatay sapagkat dinugo ako sa loob ng isang linggo," pagtatapat ni Beth.

Ayon kay Beth, pagkaraan ng insidenteng iyon, unti-unti siyang nagising sa katotohanang ang buhay sa magubat na lungsod ay isang pakikibaka para sa isang nilikhang may magandang layunin sa hinaharap. Dahil dito, natuto siyang lumaban. At ngayon ay naunawaan na niya: Ang tagumpay ay nasa likod ng kabiguan!" (Itutuloy)



TAK-TAK-TAK
AJI-NO-MOTO®

HOW
IS



MADE?

1

SA PAMAMAGITAN NG

FERMENTATION



2

SA GANTONG PARAAN DIN
ANG BARLEY AY
GINAGAWANG
BEER

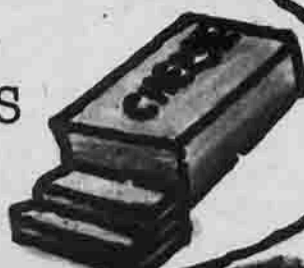


3

ANG  UBAS, WINE

4

AT ANG GATAS



5

BILHIN SA
ORIGINAL PAKETE



6



COTTAGE INDUSTRY: Planong palaganapin.

TLRC Malalapitan para sa puhunan

NI PATRICIO L. TABO, JR.

MALAKING TULONG sa maliliit na negosyante sa Metro Manila ang isang programa sa pagpapautang ng Technology and Livelihood Resource Center (TLRC). Hindi lamang nito nilulutas ang suliranin sa paghahanap ng puhunan, kundi nakatulong pa rin ito sa paglutas ng kawalan ng hanapbuhay para sa ilang grupo ng mga residente.

Ang TLRC, sa ilalim ng kanilang Urban Livelihood Financing Program (ULFP), ay may iba't ibang programa ng pagpapautang gaya ng Enterprise Development Financing Scheme (EDFS), Socialized Credit Scheme (SCS), Industrial Sewing Machine Financing Program (ISMFP) at iba pa. Ang mga ito ay kagayut na malalapitan ng mga nagsisikap o matatagumpay na maliliit na negosyante, o maging ng mga nagbabalak pa lamang na maging entrepreneur sa metropolis.

Inilunsad ng TLRC ang ULFP upang sumuporta sa lahat ng uri ng mga proyektong pangkabuhayan at pagkakakitaan sa Metro Manila. Ang mga proyektong ito ay matatagpuan sa mga mahihirap na lugar sa metropolis, ang rehiyong may pinakamataas na bilang ng mga walang hanapbuhay, na tinatayang nasa 18.6 porsiyento o 2.9 milyong tao.

Sinabi ni Manuel Lopez, assistant managing director ng ULFP, na ang ahensiyang ito ay tumutulong sa pagpapautang ng maliliit na negosyo sa pagpapautang ng mga puhunan at pagpapalaganap ng pangkalahatang pagbabago sa pananaw ng mga mangungutang sa pamamagitan ng pagmumulat sa kanilang mga responsibilidad.

Samantala, sa mga programang pampinansiya ng ULFP, ang EDFs ang itinuturing na pinakahaligi. Ayon nga kay Rubena Angeles ng Central Bank Review: "Ang EDFs ang isa sa mga institusyong sumasagot sa pangangailangan sa pondo para sumuporta sa maliliit na negosyo, na walang pagkakataong makautang sa mga tradisyunal na institusyong pampinansiya."

Tinutulungan nito ang mga negosyong nagmamamukpura, nagtitinda gaya ng tindahang sarisari o maliliit na groseriya, at nagbebenta ng mga sariwa at yari nang produkto na may mga pirmihang puwesto, at maging ang mga karinderiyang may kabuuang puhunang hindi hihigit sa P50,000.

Nagpapautang sila nang mula sa P5,000 hanggang P2.5 milyon na may taunang tubong 17 porsiyento at babayaran sa loob ng isang hanggang limang taon. (ANFI)

Ikaw pa rin

NI ANDY B. TANEZA
ATCO Engineering Div.
Riyadh, K.S.A.

*Pinilit kitang maiwaksi sa litong isipan
Upang di na maalala ang ating nakaraan
Bakas ng iyong alaala hindi malimutan
Lalo kang napapamahala sa pusong nasugatan.*

*Wasak na nga yaring puso na iyong dinuhagi
Sa dulot mong siphayo sa damdaming atubili
Kalungkutan ang nananaig sa bawat sandali
Dahil ikaw pa rin ang iniibig nitong budhi.*

*Kaylan kaya darating ang ikaw ay maging akin
Upang maging maligaya yaring aking damdamin
Sana'y di na mapawi ang kislap nitong bituin
Upang magsilbing tanglaw sa madilim na landasin.*

*Ayaw ko nang masadlak sa anino ng siphayo
Bunga ng pag-ibig mong tila bulang naglalaho
Ngunit lalo lamang akong sa yo'y nararahuyo*

Dahil ikaw pa rin hirang ang sigaw nitong puso!

*Aaminin ko sa ngayon na mahal pa rin kita
Laman ka nitong isipan at sa puso ko sinta
Utos ng damdamin ko mahalin ka sa tuwina
Kahit yaring abang buhay tinigib mo sa dusa.*

*Kapag puso'y siyang nag-utos di kayang tutulan
Maging ano man ang dahilan di mo maiwasan
Dahil ang pag-ibig ay sadyang makapangyarihan
Na umaalipin sa ngalan ng pagmamahalan.*

*Saan ka man naroroon ngayon mutya kong giliw
Pag-ibig ko sa iyo hindi pa rin nagmamaliw
Sa gitna ng pag-iisa paglumbay ang kasaliw
Larawan mo'y hahagkan, yaon ang tangi kong aliw.*

*Maghihintay pa rin yaring puso na sana'y dinggin
Buntong hininga't pagsamo na muli mong ibigin
Kapag puso ang nag-utos kayhirap na pigilin
Na ikaw ang mahalin ko, ikaw at "IKAW pa rin"...*

*Sana! sana, sa paglatag nitong dilim
Ang bagong umaga wala nang kulimlim
Nang yaring buhay ay hindi na manimdim
At makalaya sa tinamong sagimsim...*

Pilipinas na kayganda

NI JERRY BOY BAUTISTA JR.
Dammam, Saudi Arabia

*Pilipinas kong minamahal, mahiwaga kang talaga!
Kami rito sa malayo, ikaw ay lagi nang naaalaala
Mas maliirap pala kung ikaw ay mangingibang bansa
Iba talaga ang dulot kapag nasa sariling lupa!*

*Anong pang-akit mayroon ka na wala sa malayo?
Bakit ang pakiramdam ay kulang at nasisiphayo?
Iba talaga ang masusumpungan sa dagat-ibayo
Isip ay lagi nang sa Pilipinas ito napapadako!*

*Sariling kultura, ibang lahi tayo'y pinagtatawanan
Subali't marami rin ang humahanga sa pinagpaguran
Tinay naman, dahil maka-bansa tayo kung turan
Mapagmahal ang baw't isa at tinay namang mamamayan!*

Handa ang sinuman na ipagtanggol ang sariling bayan!

*Hindi palulupig sa pang-aapi ninuman magpakailanman
Buhay, dugo at pawis, lahat ay handang ipuhunan
Ang baw't adhikain, tiyak na ating mapapanalunan!*

*Kapit-bisig, ang baw't mamamayan ay handang lumaban!
Walang puwang ang sinuman na nagbantang makipag-
agawan
Takot ay wala sa Pinoy, tabak ay sandata sa paglaban
Diyan nadaig ng ating mga magiging na bayani ang kala-
ban!

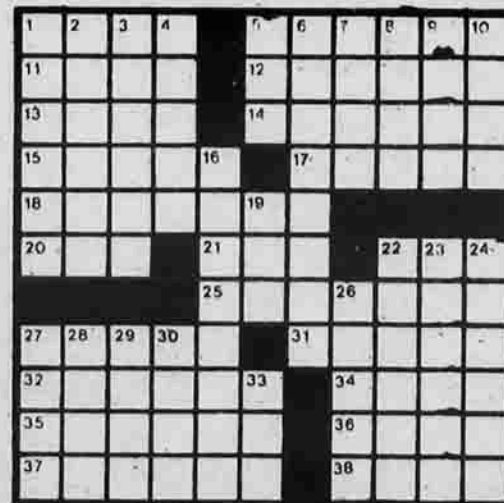
*Pilipinas saan man, ikaw ay pinupuri at kinikilala
Ganda mong nakaaakit, ang baw't isa ay iyong hinahalina
Perlas ka ng silangan, nais marating ng taga-ibang bansa
Tiyak na babalik-balikan ka, dahil sa gandang tinatamasa!*

PALAISIPAN

NI SALVADOR B. VALEZA

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Pahalang | 35 Etiketa |
| 1 Terror ng mga daga | 36 Batubalani |
| 5 Listahan ng halaga | 37 Imbentor ng ponograpo |
| 11 Ehersisyo pagkagising | 38 Palayaw ni Pugak |
| 12 Medisinal na halaman | Pababa |
| 13 Maestro ng mga hudyo | 1 Tulisan sa karagatan |
| 14 Gitata | 2 Panaginip |
| 15 Sabi nila | 3 Gamot sa nakakalbo |
| 17 Uway | 4 Pinuno ng mga Hun |
| 18 Sugapa | 5 Kampeon na Ruso |
| 20 Ramdam sa naapi | 6 Walang batas ng pamahalaan |
| 21 Bigkis sa kimono | 7 Plasa sa Intramuros |
| 22 Pang--: grupo | 8 Dulot ng apoy |
| 25 Tutol | 9 Sambit ng pasahero |
| 27 Alagad ng batas | 10 Nasaan |
| 31 Mayamag lupa sa disyerto | 16 Dakilang pintor |
| 32 Dala-dalahan | 19 Kasama sa kapampangan |
| 34 Pawl | 22 Kompanyero |

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 23 Hanging-bundok | 28 Sentro ng punong niyog |
| 24 Industriya sa Pampanga | 29 Ba----: Kutamaya |
| 26 Palkon | 30 Suman |
| 27 Tawagan ng barkada | 32 Mabigat na timbang |



SAGOT SA PAHINA 14

Napipika na si Monsour del Rosario

OKS NA oks itong naisip ng ating editor na maglagay ng seksiyong Tagalog minsan sa isang linggo dito sa We Forum. Ngayon eh, mapagbibigyan na natin ang marami nating tagasubaybay na mambabasa ng Tagalog. Kaya ngayon, tuloy ang ligaya natin dito sa "Paistaran!"

Kung minsan ay napipika na pala si Monsour del Rosario dahil sa kung anu-anong isyu na kinasasangkutan ng kanyang pangalan. Isipin mo nga naman, wala



NOW SHOWING

MANILA

AVENUE -- Blood Brothers
CAPITOL -- Blood Brothers
GLOBE -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
GOTESCO -- Fighting Justice
GOTESCO-A -- Sagot Ng Puso
GOTESCO-B -- Dyesebel
LUNETA -- Blood Brothers
MAJOR -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
MANILA CINEMA-1 -- Sa Diyos Lang Ako
Susuko
MANILA CINEMA-2 -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
MAXIM -- Blood Brothers
MIRAMAR -- Kiss The Night Goodbye
NEW DILSON -- Small, Medium, Large
NEW HARRISON SUPER -- Blood Brothers
NEW HARRISON-A -- Fighting Justice
NEW HARRISON-B -- Small, Medium, Large
NEW HARRISON-C -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
NEW HARRISON-D -- The Accused
NEW JENNET -- Small, Medium, Large
NEW LORDS -- Blood Brothers
NEW LOVE-1 -- Twist
NEW LOVE-2 -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
NEW LOVE-3 -- Sagot Ng Puso
NEW LOVE-4 -- Small, Medium, Large
NEW PACO CINEMA -- Small, Medium, Large
NEW PODMON -- Twist
NEW UNIVERSAL -- Ang Bukas Ay Akin
ODEON-1 -- Blood Brothers
ODEON-2 -- Kiss The Night Goodbye
REGAL -- Small, Medium, Large
ROBEN -- Black Rain
ROBINSON-1 -- Small, Medium, Large
ROBINSON-2 -- Fighting Justice
ROBINSON-3 -- Pangarap Na Ginto
ROXAN -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
STATE -- Black Rain
TANDEM-1 -- The Accused
TANDEM-2 -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
U-BELT -- Small, Medium, Large
VISTA-1 -- Small, Medium, Large

naman siyang pelikula pero siya ang ginagamit para sa publicity ng mga artista. Isang halimbawa na ay ang sinasabing pag-aaway daw nina Dawn Zulueta at Timmy Cruz dahil sa kanya. Sa loob ng kung ilang linggo ay pinakinabangan ang anggulon lyon para mapag-usapan sina Dawn at Timmy para sa publicity ng pelikulang pinagsamahan nila.

Gayunman ay natanggap na ni Monsour ang katotohanang wala siyang magagawa dahil public personality siya. Basta huwag lamang daw below the belt at hindi siya kikibo.

Pero ano bang talaga ang namamagitan sa kanila ni Dawn? "Mahirap magsalita," sabi ni Monsour sa akin nang makausap ko siya nang maimbitahan niya ako para sa isang pananghalian sa Kawil Restaurant. "Ang masasabi ko lang, masaya kami sa arrangement namin ngayon. Kung saan man ito pupunta, panahon lamang ang makapagsasabi."

Nagtataka si Monsour sa isang balitang lumabas na nag-break daw sila ni Dawn. Ngayon man, marami ang nagtatanong

VISTA-2 -- Sagot Ng Puso

QUEZON CITY

ACT 1 -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
ACT 2 -- Small, Medium, Large
ACT 3 -- Blood Brothers
ACT 4 -- Driving Force
ACT 5 -- Sagot Ng Puso
DIAMOND -- Small, Medium, Large
NEW FRONTIER -- Small, Medium, Large
OCEAN -- Sagot Ng Puso
OCEAN A -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
OCEAN B -- Small, Medium, Large
QUEZON 1 -- Kiss The Night Goodbye
QUEZON 2 -- Blood Brothers
REMAR -- Blood Brothers
SM 1 -- The Accused
SM 2 -- Small, Medium, Large
SM 3 -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
SM 4 -- Blood Brothers
SM 5 -- Kiss The Night Goodbye
SM 6 -- Fighting Justice
SM 7 -- Blood Brothers
SM 8 -- Sagot Ng Puso
SM 9 -- The Naked Gun
SM 10 -- Small, Medium, Large
SM 11 -- Black Rain
SM 12 -- Sagot Ng Puso

MAKATI

ABC-A -- Pangarap Na Ginto
ABC-B -- Huwad Na Paraiso
ABC-C -- Sagot Ng Puso
ABC-D -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
ABC-E -- Small, Medium, Large
GREENBELT 1 -- Kiss The Night Goodbye
GREENBELT 2 -- Small, Medium, Large
GREENBELT 3 -- Fighting Justice
GREENBELT 4 -- The Accused
MAKATI SQUARE 1 -- The Accused
MAKATI SQUARE 2 -- Blood Brothers
MAKATI SQUARE 3 -- Small, Medium, Large
MAKATI SQUARE 4 -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
QUAD-Q -- Kiss The Night Goodbye
QUAD-U -- Kapag Wala Nang Batas
QUAD-A -- Small, Medium, Large
QUAD-D -- Blood Brothers



DAWN

kung ano ang masasabi niya sa balitang malimit daw makita si Dawn at ang basketball player na si Paul Alvarez sa isang disco sa Makati. "May ganu'n bang balita? Ngayon ko lang nalaman 'yan, ah. Totoo, nakikita raw sila?" tanong ni Monsour sa akin bago bigla siya kumalma. "Hindi ko naman mapigil kung magkagusto man ang kahit na sino kay Dawn. Hindi naman natin kayang pigilin ang nararamdaman ng isang tao."

Ilindi nasisiyahan si Monsour sa takbo ng career niya pero hindi naman ito sapat para mawalan siya ng loob. Huling pelikula pa pala niya ng "Eagle Squad" at bale ngayon lamang nasundan. Ito ang pelikula nila ni Chiquito. Sa Pebrero 15 na ang labas nito sa mga sinehan. Para nga raw David at Goliath dahil ang kasabay pala nila ng playdate ay ang pelikula nina Fernando Poe, Jr. at Sharon Cuneta sa Viva Films.

Puring-puri ni Monsour si Chiquito dahil sa kabaitan nito. Nakasama na niyang pareho ang dawalang itinuturing na

Fundador SORIANO

(From page 9)

mento ng kasamaan - NPA, MNLF, sindikato, kriminal na sibilyan, kriminal na sundalo at pulis; mga Hudus sa taumbayan.

Ilindi masawata, ang Presidentita ba'y talagang walang alam? O walang pakinlam?

Ika-8 salot. Budhing inuud. Ang pedestal ng dangal gumuho't nawasak. Lalong dumami ang mga gahaman sa salapi. Ibinalibag sa putikan ang dangal at puri.

Itinakwil ang Diyos, niyakap ang demonyo. Dapat kang sumpain, ugly Filipino.

Ika-9 salot. International Monetary Fund at World Bank. Sila'y usurerong sa baya'y pahirap.

Dapat na bigtiin kasama ang mga pinunong Pinoy na Hudus.

Ika-10 salot. Walang disiplina. Ang Pinoy ay walang disiplina sa sarili. Siya ay maramot, magaling manggulang at makasarili.

Paistaran



LHAR SANTIAGO

haligi ng pelikulang katatawanan sa local showbiz. Noon ay si Dolphy at si Chiquito naman ngayon. May obserbasyon si Monsour sa dalawang institusyon.

"Si Tito Dolphy, sasakit ang tiyan mo sa pagpapatawa niya sa harap ng kamera. Pero pagkatapos ng eksena, pupunta na 'yan sa isang tabi. Tahimik lang 'yan. Si Papang naman (ito ang magiliw na tawag ng mga artista kay Chiquito), nakakatawa sa harap ng kamera at pagkatapos ng eksena, nagpapatawa pa rin," sabi ni Monsour.

Isa si Monsour sa mga artistang maglalaro ng basketball sa Loyola Gym sa Ateneo sa Linggo. Kasamang maglalaro ni Monsour ang iba pang sikat na artistang mahilig maglaro ng basketball katulad nina Richard Gomez, Aga Muhlach, Martin Nievera, Ronnie Ricketts, Willie Revillame, Benedict Aquino at iba pa. Playing coach ng koponan si Tirso Cruz III. Makakalaban nila ang seleksiyon ng UAAP.

Napadalaw ako minsan sa pag-eensayo ng teamat nakita ko na naroroon din si Joey Marquez. Sumasama lamang pala siya sa practice para naman daw makapag-exercise siya. Nanghihinayang nga siya dahil wala siya rito sa araw ng laro. Pupunta sila ni Alma Moreno sa Amerika para magtanghai doon. Nakatakda silang umalis ngayong araw na ito ng Miyerkules.

Habang nagpa-practice si Joey, matiyaga namang naghihintay sa isang tabi si Alma Moreno kasama ang mga anak na sina Mark Anthony at Van Dolph.

Kapag di nagbago, ang ating lahi ay patungo sa pagkapeste.

Kung nais ng bayan tayo'y dumakila. Lansagin ang salot, lahat ng masama.

Ito ang 10 salot sa ating lipunan. Pumapatay at papatay pa kapag hindi inagapan.

Magbago na ang pinunong magnanakaw, mandurugas.

Kung ayaw n'yong kaluluwa'y rematahin ni satanas.

Magbago na ang pinunong sa bayan ay nagsahudas.

Kung ayaw n'yong mabarbecue sa impiyerno ni satanas.

Itong 10 salot, tayo ang may gawa, Pag hindi nagbago tayo'y mapupuksa.

Masakit, makirot ang katotohanan, Tulad ng nadama ng tsiks na nagtanan.

Magbago na tayo habang may panahon. Nang hindi malipol pag tayo'y hinukom.

Gov't urged to review military reward system

THE KILUSANG Bagong Lipunan (KBL) yesterday urged the government to review its military reward system for the capture of alleged coup plotters and rid it of features "abetting simulated arrests, commercializing loyalty and perverting the concept of good citizenship."

Former Speaker Nicanor E. Yniguez, said there have been mounting complaints that the system, involving millions of pesos, appears to be "vulnerable to scams among the pursuers themselves."

Earlier, in Congress, KBL Reps. Rodolfo B. Albano (Isabela) and Salvador Escudero III (Sorsogon) had raised doubts on the wisdom of the reward system, branding it as "act of desperation", a form of "bribery" and similar denunciations.

To this warning of his party colleagues, Yniguez said the government should

also consider that the reward system:

1. Unduly substitutes the soldiers' duty to accomplish his mission, reward or no reward, ushering in the possibility that, although they are about to capture their quarry, they would not do it until a reward is offered for their feat.

2. Pursuing soldiers and citizens alike would not act unless the amount of reward money had been raised to "fantastic levels", as had been done in the case of certain wanted reformist movement leaders.

3. Due to over-eagerness to bag the huge reward money, pursuers and citizens alike tend to arrest the wrong quarry as what they did to the Air Force officer who was arrested due to mistaken identity.

4. Foments so much rivalry among the bounty hunters to the point of shootouts among them.

5. Marks the citizen who fingers a fugitive as a target for killing or a displaced and unhonored "hero."

"Unless rectifications are made, the day is not far off when policemen and citizens alike would not even touch a pickpocket or snatcher unless rewards were dangled for their arrests," Yniguez warned.

He also deplored that while the national leadership had called for a "moratorium on coup talks to relieve the people of coup jitters, the government's own reward system and its escalating amounts only fuel more coup jitters."

The KBL head assured that the best foil against future coups are reforms which reformist soldiers themselves have been demanding as conditions for reconciliation and for which they installed Mrs. Aquino into power through February 1986 EDSA power grab.



RULE OF LAW RATHER THAN WRATH OF NATURE: Environment and Natural Resources Undersecretary for Field Operations Victor O. Ramos announced the formulation of a new mining code already submitted to Congress, and the implementing guidelines on mineral production. Ramos said that mining firms have begun to adopt measures to protect the environment, in his address in the "First Symposium on Philippine Mining Laws and Policies" held recently.

Aquino lauds Customs

(From page 16)

especially the importing public, appreciates the innovations," the President pointed

Sha (From page 16)
pected to arrive on February 15 during which time Mrs. Aquino should present the notice of termination.

out.
The President expressed confidence that the Bureau's 1990 collection target of P44.8 billion would be met.

"There are ongoing efforts to reduce the import taxes for items vital to the growth of our agriculture

and manufacturing sectors. These measures may reduce your collection potential," the President noted.

She explained, however, that this was part of the process of governance — "a process of seeking the correct balance."

Vizcaya PC commander relieved

CONSTABULARY CHIEF Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano, has relieved Nueva Vizcaya provincial commander Col. Renato Aguda for involvement in illegal logging operations.

Nueva Vizcaya Congressman Carlos M. Padilla lauded the action of Montano, who moved upon the recommendation of Defense Secretary

Fidel V. Ramos.

The order for Aguda's relief also directed a probe into charges that he was the "brains" of illegal logging in Nueva Vizcaya.

Aguda, according to Rep. Padilla, was also responsible for the removal from office of two town mayors he had charged for illegal logging.

However, the two mayors

were the ones campaigning against such operations, particularly those involving the military and police officials in cahoots with municipal executives, Padilla added.

Padilla said Aguda turned the tables on the two mayors to hide his "very own illegal acts and appear like the savior of our denuded environment."

Julie AMARGO

(From page 9)

June 88.

It would be better to continue the next sale and let us not put the eggs in one basket.

Please let me know your comment on my suggestion.

If you can give me an assurance that if I will fly to New York we could close the deal completely advice me accordingly. The principal buyer will see you and sit down with your associates to give life to the sale of AU. One set of buyer is willing to come with you to London and Switzerland if those places is a necessity in closing the transaction.

Could I request from your goodness to work for a better discount to make everybody involved in the sale be happy.

Any good news from Ms. Lee in connection with the 800 MT? I hope there is. I could see she is your friend who have a big heart that everyone could share a piece of the cake.

When do you want me to see you in New

York? Thank you and regards to everyone.

Faithfully yours,

Signed by:

MDM. MARIA

Waiting for your early response.

Mdm. Maria

The STWC-Research Center stationery has this information:

WE RESEARCH for your Success and Progress in STUDIES, TRAVEL WORK and COMMERCE. lay down the problems + lend me your ears = assistance and digested solution. On the left hand upper corner is a quotation which says: "Seek and you'll find." (Note - The letter has not been corrected for grammatical errors. AU stands for GOLD BULLIONS.)

Since gold is our economic salvation and some wise guys may have already collected at this time their commissions or part of this big amount why doesn't the government now tell us how much gold was recovered and sold? Where are the proceeds?

(To be continued)

Forum Crossword

By JOSEPH JACOB

ACROSS

- 1 Game fish
- 5 Prefix: distant
- 9 Mr. Alda
- 10 Crustacean
- 12 Divorce center
- 13 Sampler
- 14 Ruminant
- 15 Single
- 16 Of: Fil.
- 17 Heavy weight

- 19 Strange
- 20 Generation
- 23 Recent
- 25 Compass pt.
- 26 Prohibit
- 27 Poor school grades
- 29 Hesitant sound
- 30 Tokyo, once
- 32 Aerie
- 36 Tour
- 38 Singing group
- 39 Runner-up

- 40 Prefix: inner
- 41 Pronoun
- 42 Remainder

DOWN

- 1 Poet
- 2 To sheltered side
- 3 Rational
- 4 Nose-y sound
- 5 In comparison with
- 6 Gaelic
- 7 Ignited
- 8 Corrects
- 10 Absolutely
- 11 Lions' group
- 18 Going steady
- 19 Bone
- 20 Encourages
- 21 Watchtower
- 22 Print measure
- 24 You and I
- 28 Go in
- 30 Bacchanalian cry
- 31 Contradict
- 33 Sea eagle
- 34 Poses
- 35 Blow a horn
- 37 Alas

(Answer to previous puzzle)

T	I	E	S	S	E	T
I	N	T	O	T	E	A
P	A	T	E	R	N	A
O	R	E	T	A	B	M
D	A	R	T	P	L	E
V	A	T	E	A	R	
D	R	A	G	O	N	T
O	I	L	D	O	G	L
U	P	A	D	M	I	R
R	E	V	E	L	V	A
A	R	E	E	N	D	S

We Forum

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P 2 only

IN METRO MANILA

REFORMS

Travel ban, limitation of privilege speeches adopted in Lower House

US opposes WB loan to RP gov't

THE UNITED States virtually blocked approval of a \$390 million World Bank-International Monetary Fund loan to the Philippine government, Finance Secretary-designate Jesus Estanislao disclosed yesterday.

In an ambush interview with Malacanang newsmen, Estanislao said he had already expressed his protest over the US action in a letter to American Ambassador to the Philippines Nicholas Platt.

According to Estanislao, the World Bank had proposed the loan package in an addendum to the Memorandum of Economic Policy, giving the Philippines the "biggest amount of loan thus far."

The United States abstained from voting over the package for "reasons that are only known to them," Estanislao said. "I told Ambassador Platt this is a very bad signal at a very bad time. And they were complaining on privatization and also some things which we are already doing. And so I sent a letter of protest to Ambassador Platt," Estanislao said.

According to him, the board of directors of the

World Bank voted in favor of the loan but the US abstained from making any vote. "This is the second time they have done that. In the financial sector loan which I also participated in negotiating, they also abstained. Fortunately, all of the other countries voted for the Philippines," Estanislao said.

When asked if the abstentions were related to the forthcoming talks on the US bases, Estanislao replied: "I do not know but certainly, I mind it very much that they are playing around with our economic policies and our economic programs."

When the new Finance Secretary was reminded of the recent US Congressional cut on their pledges, Estanislao said: "I am sure they are sending certain signals. I do not like those signals and if they are trying to deliver a message, certainly that is not the appropriate way of delivering a message."

Sha to Cory: Send notice now

SEN. LETICIA Ramos Shahani and Rep. Gregorio Andolana of North Cotabato separately urged yesterday President Aquino to immediately serve the notice of termination of the RP-US military agreement and not next September, as earlier announced by the Chief Executive.

Shahani, however, pointed out that she would first prefer to get an official clarification from American President George Bush that

his administration cannot really meet its financial obligations to the Philippines as provided for in the 1988 Bases Compensation Package Agreement forged between Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and former US State Secretary George Shultz.

"Kung talagang walang pag-asa that Washington would pay, I don't think we should wait until September to send the notice," the senator from Pangasinan



AWARDEES: President Aquino poses with the recipients of this year's Parangal ng Aduana Awards during a luncheon she hosted in Malacanang yesterday to honor the Bureau of Customs on its 88th anniversary. From left are: Lauro Esteban, Most Outstanding Employee in the field of Law Enforcement; Francisco Danao, head of the Customs Intelligence Division, the Customs Division of the Year; Titus Villanueva, Most Outstanding District Collector; Antonio Aguilar, Chief of the Valuation and Classification Division, Special Award of Distinction; Virgilio Danao, Most Outstanding Supervisor in the field of Law Enforcement; and Mrs. Felisa Regis, Most Outstanding Employee in the field of General Administration.

Aquino lauds Customs Bureau

PRESIDENT AQUINO yesterday congratulated the Bureau of Customs for surpassing its 1989 collec-

tion target and expressed confidence that despite some constraints, the 1990 target would be met.

Speaking at a luncheon in Malacanang to honor the Bureau on its 88th anniversary, the President said that it was "no mean feat" to have collected P40.4 billion against a target of P34.5 billion, an overcollection of 17.2 percent.

"You, indeed, delivered," the President proudly told Customs officials led by Commissioner Salvador Misson.

Mrs. Aquino said the Bureau's cash collection of P37.8 billion against a target of P34.5 billion was "certainly something to be proud of."

The President promised Customs officials that if the Bureau attains its target for 1990, she would host another lunch for them and their spouses in Malacanang.

Mrs. Aquino noted that the Customs' new policies and procedures -- the Non-stop Processing in Release of Shipments, the Express Processing and the computer-based Tracking and Accounting of Cargo and Entry System -- had effectively reduced the number of processing days and removed a lot of red tape, thereby saving the public time and money.

"I assure you that your efforts have not gone unnoticed. The private sector,

ning of foreign travels, especially when expenses are incurred by the government; 2) The limitation of privilege speeches only every Mondays; and 3) The suspension of House investigations on private individuals and corporations.

According to Mitra, sponsorship speeches and interpellation have also been limited to only one hour.

Pimentel accuses Santos

SEN. AQUILINO Pimentel yesterday accused Local Governments Secretary Luis Santos of violating the Omnibus Election Code for reportedly promising to give a Pajero jeep to every municipal in Lanao del Sur who can deliver votes for his (Santos') candidate in the regional elections in Mindanao.

In a privilege speech, Pimentel also denounced gubernatorial candidate Zacarias Candao for allegedly utilizing public funds and equipment in his candidacy for the Muslim Mindanao autonomous region.

The senator from Misamis Oriental also accused Santos of announcing the early release of NALGU (National Assistance to Local Government Units) funds to certain municipalities which would support the candidacy of Candao.

"If these activities were frowned upon in the past regime, these evil acts should be doubly wrong now under a moral democratic government," Pimentel added. (Omer Almenario)



SEN. PIMENTEL

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