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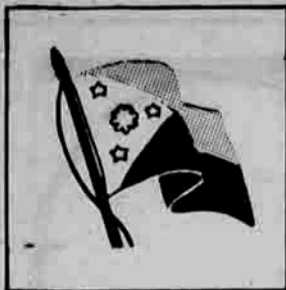


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We Forum

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Rally
for Peace

VOL 14 * NO. 9

JUNE 27-JULY 3, 1990

P3.00

IN METRO MANILA

REELECTION BID

CRONIES PUSHING AQUINO

Page
3



Guingona
chides
Cory on
Kabisig

Page 6

3 most wanted
rebels in Negros
are priests

Page 16

Maluwag ang
gobyerno sa
mga drug lord

Page 13



NAVY DAY: President Aquino troops the line with Rear Admiral Mariano Dumanacas Jr., Flag Officer in Command of the Philippine Navy during arrival honors for the Navy's 92nd Foundation Day celebration held last week at the Bonifacio Naval Station in Fort Bonifacio.

Crab mentality obstructs progress

Page 6

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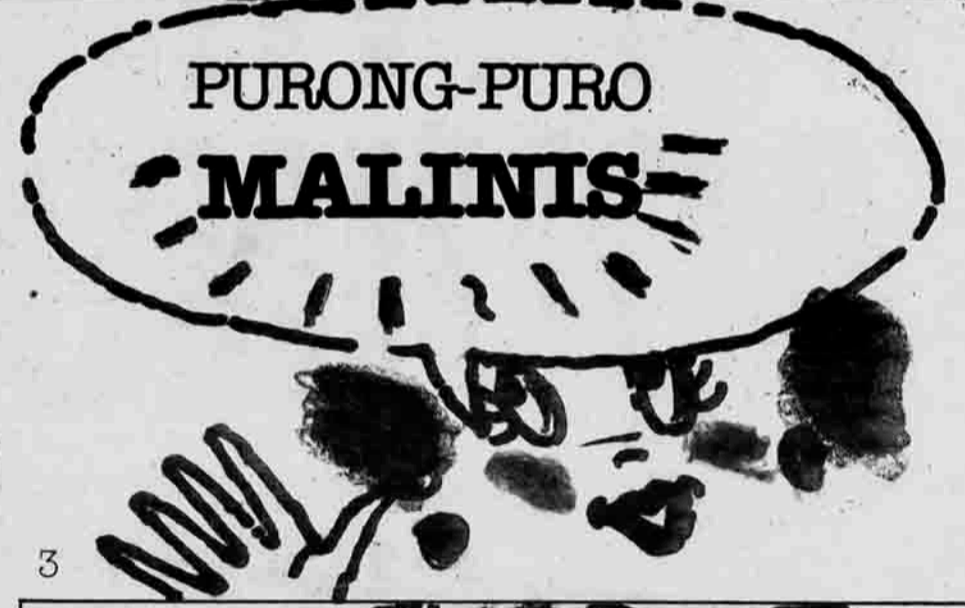


1



DAHIL ANG AY

2



PURONG-PURO
MALINIS

3



AT HUSTONG-HUSTO
SA TIMBANG

4



BILHIN SA
ORIGINAL PAKETE

5

Cronies pushing Cory bid for second term?

By ERIC S. GIRON

IN THE face of a series of legal knockdowns and contretemps of President Corazon Aquino's administration, she demonstrated her resiliency by coming up with a gimmick. She put on the bait but none of the *trapos* (pun on "rag" for traditional politicians) nor the young ones like Senator Rene Saguisag were biting. They saw through her muddled scheme.

The general reaction was skeptical if not downright repudiation. The movement was assessed as a fresh effort to stop further slump of President Aquino's popularity and a smokescreen on official bungling during two-thirds of her term, escalating graft and corruption, vindictiveness, harassment, grave threats to national security, the crime wave, and economic hardships.

Like Eduardo (Danding) M. Cojuangco Jr. said when he was arrested on a "ridiculous" charge, the gimmick was a "desperate act of desperate people in a desperate government." The general tenor of Mrs. Aquino's message is (to paraphrase John F. Kennedy) "ask not what your government can do for you but what you can do for Cory's government."

How could Mrs. Aquino berate the *trapos* for non-cooperation, at the same time, invite them to join her political movement? To her condition that lawmakers who wish to join the *Kabisig* must extend all-out support to her measures, Senator Rene Saguisag, her quondam spokesman, said: "We can only be of use to her if we will not agree with her and her advisers all the time." He advised her to consult men with constructive criticism rather than yes-men or a rubber-stamp Congress "in the best interest of the people."

If Mrs. Aquino is striving to resurrect her 1986 image and to recapture the ambience of the EDSA days when political and cause-oriented groups united with all strata



PRES. AQUINO: "Last two minutes."

of society in one ecumenical People Power force to topple Ferdinand E. Marcos's authoritarian regime, times have changed. She has changed.

The same activist groups who backed her up are now vocal against her administration's violations of human rights, abuses and corruption. Bitter opponents of Marcos who have become today's opposition are being persecuted.

The movement is interpreted in various ways. Some see it as the nucleus of a political machine for 1992, others as an extension of cronyism. Although Mrs. Aquino has repeatedly vowed she is not seeking a second term, her barn-storming sorties to the provinces and her new political move-

ment belie her.

She could have second thoughts that if she is no longer in power after 1992, the victims of her vindictiveness and persecution might take action against her and she will not have the machinery to defend herself or members of her family with *atrasos*.

Already, Aquino sycophants who have everything to gain by her remaining in power are giving new interpretations to Article VII of the Constitution which puts an impediment to Mrs. Aquino's seeking another term in Section 4: "The President shall not be eligible for any re-election. No person who has succeeded as President and has served as such for more than four years shall be qualified for election

President Aquino launched the *Kabisig* movement stereotyped from an earlier Marcos plan four years too late when her popularity has plunged down to 48 percent from 76 percent in February 1988 and the major political parties are well entrenched with their presidential prospects for 1992. Senator Teofisto Guingona likened it to the "last two minutes in basketball."

to the same office at any time."

Mrs. Aquino's word is no longer credible after she failed to honor her covenant with the Convenors in December 1985 that she would work for the ouster of the US bases. Her equivocal stand has invited the Communist Party of the Philippines to denounce "the increasing proof of the Aquino regime's treasonous connivance with US imperialists to extend the stay of the military bases."

The CPP held that US support and protection of the Aquino regime rests on her commitments as early as 1986 "to extend the military bases beyond 1991, and her ability to make that commitment stick. All the succeeding shakedown, threats and

theatrics are meant to remind Aquino of her commitment and to keep the various local reactionary factions in line."

The **Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan)**, **Kilusang Mayo Uno**, and **Young Officers' Union** collectively declared unless the bases are dismantled and "imperialist domination of the country is ended," Philippine independence is "fake."

LDP REJECTED

Ever since she took over the government reins, Mrs. Aquino has been advised by her Congress stalwarts to form her own political party whose members could implement her programs. The LDP (**Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino**) was organized with the help of her

brother, Rep. Jose (Peping) Cojuangco, to buttress her administration but she spurned the offer to head the LDP.

It is only natural for the *trapos* to take her new movement as a slap on the faces of those who supported her climb to power. LDP President, Senator Neptali Gonzales, who blueprinted the plans for Mrs. Aquino's dictatorial rule prior to the institution of the 1987 Constitution, said the new movement could lead to the LDP disintegration.

Mrs. Aquino, always stubborn to unsolicited advice, would rather be guided by her whims and caprices as when she instituted a top-to-bottom bureaucratic overhaul, freed CP leader Jose Ma. Sison from detention, stooped down to meet secessionist Nur Misuari in his Jolo lair to gain publicity footage and nothing more, and persecuted the opposition with non-existent charges simply because she wanted to see them behind bars.

The "experiment" of Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, Solicitor General Frank Chaves and Prosecutor Aurelio Trampe in filing trumped-up charges of rebellion complexed with murder and other crimes, nullified by the 34-year-old Amado Hernandez case, against oppositionists has been backfiring on the Aquino legal machine. Her government has gained notoriety as a *palpak* administration.

When Senator Juan
(Next page, please)

Ponce Enrile and the couple Rebecca and Erlinda Panlilio challenged the validity of rebellion complexed with other crimes before the Supreme Court, the Aquino legal battery could not wait to file the same charge against vocal Homobono Adaza and former news reporter Cecilio Arillo.

The Supreme Court's sobriety in rejecting the complex rebellion charge flushed out of hiding Adaza, Arillo and long-time fugitive former Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo. With a stroke of the justices' pens, the fugitive trio surrendered themselves voluntarily and posted bail. If justice was properly interpreted and administered from the beginning, it would not have cost the life of Brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo, who was sent to fetch Aguinaldo. And Aguinaldo, like Adaza and Arillo, would not have melted away from the grasp of an embarrassed horde of government hunters.

"PAKULO"

The string of government

faux pas compelled Madame Aquino to conjure a *pakulo* on June 12 when focus should have been on nationalism rather than petty politics. But Mrs. Aquino has displayed a penchant for doing the wrong thing desecrating two religious prayer rallies at EDSA by converting them into her own political *bomba* sessions against her enemies.

Her political movement would have been called *Katipunan* if there were no vehement press and public outcry against blemishing Andres Bonifacio's revolutionary society. *Tulongan* was another tentative choice. At the last minute Mrs. Aquino chose the name *Kabisig*, a short-cut for *kapit-bisig* (arm-in-arm), reminiscent of the EDSA marchers.

It was wrong choice because Senator Wigberto Tanada exposed the late Marcos's Letter of Instruction 1498 signed Dec. 18, 1945 directing the creation of the *Kabisig ng Diwang Pilipino* action officers who would "coordinate from ministry down to the regional and local levels Filipino ideology-related proj-

ects in support of the objectives of the Philippine Development Plan and Economic Recovery Program."

Mrs. Aquino herself clarified on the Luneta that *Kabisig* is not a political party but a political movement aimed at rallying politicians and all citizens to support her government. The Marcos *Kabisig* plan to mobilize the bureaucracy to carry out the New Society program of his *Kilusang Bagong Lipunan* has reduced the Aquino *Kabisig* formulators to copycats.

Some see the Aquino movement as an expansion of cronyism for which she has vilified Marcos. How can it be otherwise when the architects of her "movement" include the "Council of Trent" members Secretaries Jose Concepcion, Alfredo Alran Bengzon and Vicente Jayme; Fr. Joaquin Bernas and Mario Taguiwalo; Secretaries Oscar Orbos, Jesus Estanislao, Fiorello Estuar and Jose de Jesus; Governors Roberto Pagdanganan (Bulacan), Bren Z. Guiiao (Pampanga) and Daniel Lacson (Negros Occidental); Mayor

Renato Reyes of Bongabon, Oriental Mindoro (mayors' league president) and Quezon City Mayor Brigido Simon Jr.?

This indicates Mrs. Aquino feels more comfortable with her own managerie than the grizzled politicians in Congress. Hers is an elitist movement which aligns her Cabinet, governors and mayors seeking more autonomous powers and resources to govern themselves on one hand and pits them against House members. The governors and mayors in their October 1989 local governments congress denounced the congressmen and national leaders for promoting "colonialism."

Instead of alienating Congress members, Mrs. Aquino could muster her Cabinet and local executives to execute the laws they legislate. Legislation is their main function, not subservience to Mrs. Aquino.

But Madame Aquino has cast the die. She has succeeded only in dividing those who are for or against her and alienating her own allies in Congress. But if there is any saving grace to this administration, it is the level-headed senators and congressmen who provide the checks and balances to an erratic executive arm, and a reliable Supreme Court even if the justices are Aquino appointees.

Senator Ernesto Maceda gave the movement 60 to 90 days to catch fire and gel. He pointed to the National Coalition of Transparency and another Aquino movement which "met a natural death without achieving anything." Her *ningas cogon* (volatile) moves apply also to investigations of killings like the Mendiola massacre of farmers and other crimes, the results of which have still to be known.

OTHER REACTIONS

Senate President Jovito Salonga said the Liberal Party which he heads will cooperate "on principle, not on personalities" based on "specific issues rather than on patronage." Any measures in accord with the LP vision and program of government will find no difficulty in Congress, he assured. At 70, Salonga, who many agree is a principled man, is considered too feeble to withstand the rigors of an electoral campaign.

Senator Aquilino S. Pimentel Jr., once Mrs. Aquino's local governments secretary, was the first to launch his presidential candidacy as head of the PDP-Laban (*Partido Demokratikong Pilipino-Lakas ng Bayan*) in Marcos's Ilocos country where he has roots rather than his Mindanao bailiwick. He stated his PDP-Laban will survive despite the Aquino movement, which implies he is not joining the movement.

House Speaker Ramon Mitra advised sojourning congressmen in the United States to hold their punches against *Kabisig* although he finds it "hollow." Presidential aspirant Mitra has developed the image of a yes-man whose candidacy hinges on Mrs. Aquino's endorsement in supporting her controversial bills. Deposed as LDP head, he is rated ineffective as a House leader.

Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos was hesitant in joining the *Kabisig* unless it is truly a crusade, not a political party, and preferred to wait for the issuance of guidelines. He observed that the movement intends to carry out long-range plans beyond Mrs. Aquino's term in 1992.

The trio of Vice President Salvador Laurel, Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, and Danding Cojuangco, singled out by Mrs. Aquino as her enemies, have signified their intention to compete for the Nacionalista Party presidential nomination.

Laurel has twice withdrawn from presidential contests against Marcos when only he as Unido head and Jose J. Roy of Tarlac were the potential candidates, and against Corazon Aquino, with whom he ran as vice president. He is regarded as an opportunist who quit as foreign secretary after the 1987 coup and has since then refused to cooperate with President Aquino.

As former defense minister, Enrile was a close associate of Marcos until he and Lt. Gen. Fidel Ramos broke off with the dictator and paved the way for the People Power revolt in February 1986. The Aquino government has accused Enrile of rebellion on the testimony of three waiters who claimed seeing fugitive Gringo Honasan in a party at his house.

EMERGENT DANDING

Danding Cojuangco, mobbed by some 30,000 well-wishers at his 55th birthday celebration at Sison, Pangasinan on June 10, has been tagged as the current frontrunner in the presidential race.

Cojuangco does not disguise his friendship with the late Marcos for which he said "my family and I have suffered and continue to suffer from the injustices inflicted upon us by the current dispensation." The government was offering Cojuangco's wife Gretchen and children in Los Angeles one-way travel documents. However, the Manila Regional Trial Court nullified Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus's cancellation of their travel papers.

Cojuangco posted P100,000 bail with the Sandiganbayan anti-graft court after his arrest June 14 on the charge of acting as

dummy for Marcos in acquiring share in the *Manila Bulletin* and Liwayway Publishing Co. The case had been dismissed by the Sandiganbayan last Jan. 19 and the dismissal sustained by the Supreme Court on March 29. It was refiled by the Presidential Commission on Good Government which claimed new evidence. Cojuangco's lawyer Estelito Mendoza branded the charge "ridiculous" and was confident it would be found "baseless."

Cojuangco cited among the administration ills the spectacle of Philippine National Bank Chairman and Representative to the Asian Development Bank Joker Arroyo who was sacked from both posts for accusing Secretary Jose Concepcion and Vicente Jayme of complicity in the petrochemical project. Mrs. Aquino gave the PNB chairmanship to Secretary Dilon, whose knuckles had been rapped by the Supreme Court rejection of complex rebellion, and the ADB position to Jayme. Concepcion remained as trade industry secretary despite revelations in Congress that his business holdings conflict with his government position.

This is a clear case of perverted justice which retains the accused in office and boots out the accuser, and compensates the subservient who fail in their tasks with juicy positions. It also proves how President Aquino coddles the Trentists no matter what their involvements.

"All this chaos has led to even more confusion," Cojuangco pointed out. "The issues have been muddled. It is hard to tell who is telling the truth. In the meantime, the ordinary people, the citizens of this country, are sure of only one thing: Nobody is minding the store--nobody is in charge."

Mrs. Aquino hopes perhaps she can take charge with the backup of a movement that was shot dead even before it could take off. The half-baked idea was hastily launched like another failure, the CARP. If speculations are rife on *Kabisig*, it is because Mrs. Aquino herself is not clear on its objectives or insincere about them. Is it a medium to lobby for the passage of her measures, a body to coordinate government projects, or indeed a political party disguised as a movement?

Whatever it is, why did Mrs. Aquino have to insult the politicians whom she invited to join the *Kabisig*? If she persists with her crony-backed movement to support her presidential bid in 1992 despite her repeated denials, that will make the biggest liar out of her. And it may not be too far fetched that she might find her biggest challenger is her own estranged cousin Danding Cojuangco.

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City Treasurer
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Crab mentality and RP's progress

By ROMMEL R. CORRO

NOWHERE in this world is political squabbling even over petty matters more pronounced than in this country. And the generally swashbuckling Philippine media are partly to blame for giving too much time and space to the Filipinos' preoccupation with politics.

Not a few Filipino travelers returning from trips abroad have, for instance, noticed that people and the press in many parts of the world are more concerned with business and progress, but their countrymen lag very much behind precisely because they talk more of politics, power and pelf day-in and day-out on or off elections.

And rumors of coup attempts in newspapers, the electronic media as well as in coffee shops occupy so much prominence here that one begins to wonder how the nation's economy can ever move forward with its leaders forever throwing mud at each other.

Take the case of the *Kabisig*, a political movement announced on Independence Day by President Aquino, which she said was aimed at accelerating grassroots projects to combat

widespread poverty.

The prompt reaction from both the administration as well as administration politicians was one of dismay. And pessimism.

Oppositionists and critics quickly called it a master plan for Mrs. Aquino's re-election bid in the 1992 elections, saying that her statement condemning the politicians identified with her for obstructing administration bills in the Congress was a ploy to shift public criticisms from her Cabinet to the legislature.

Even administration officials, particularly from the Senate and the House of Representatives controlled by those who claim to have installed Mrs. Aquino in power, attacked *Kabisig*, saying that former President Marcos had originated it and must therefore be rejected outright.

Perhaps this latest political movement dubbed as

Kabisig, which Mrs. Aquino said was inspired by the February 1986 "people-power revolution" when a mammoth crowd linked arms to face tanks and guns in efforts to topple the Marcos regime, was a Marcos creation, since a number of the President's advisers had also served under the previous administration.

Marcos' Letter of Instructions No. 1498 signed on December 18, 1985 also was designed to fight poverty. It said, "...the promotion, development and propagation of the Filipino ideology is a priority nationwide program to achieve the longterm goals of political liberation, economic emancipation and social concord through a government-led Democratic Revolution from the Center that is spiritual, humanist and nationalist..."

The only difference be-



TRADITIONAL POLITICIANS: Cory's pet peeve.

tween the Marcos *Kabisig* and the Aquino *Kabisig* is that the latter stresses on the help of non-government units or the private sectors, threatening the politicians, especially those nursing presidential ambitions, who believe they ought to be consulted first as dispensers of patronage.

Thus administration Sen. Wigberto Tanada, chairman of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee, immediately called *Kabisig* an original Marcos idea which could be used as "an instrument to carry out dubious economic policies" if self-criticism is not allowed.

He and the others who frowned upon the Aquino *Kabisig*, however, failed to explain whether anything associated with the Marcos rule should be discarded

even if the idea and the principles behind it are good if the officials implementing them are well-meaning.

Tanada's objection implied that since *Kabisig* wasn't an original Aquino idea, it wasn't good; and it was, therefore, worse because it had been created by what he described as a tarnished Marcos regime. And no sooner had Mrs. Aquino announced its creation than he scoffed at it.

Give the President a chance, her spokesman pleaded.

She hasn't yet even given the salient features of the movement, but its oppositors already have condemned it as a failure.

Even Mrs. Aquino's relatives and allies who occupy powerful positions in the Congress and in the ruling

coalition have snubbed the elaborate program on Independence Day during which she announced the creation of the *Kabisig*.

"We shall provide cooperation, but not subservience," said Senate President Jovito Salonga, who is also head of the Liberal Party eyeing the presidency in 1992.

All these objections and rhetorics are typical of the crab mentality in this Republic -- a seemingly endless squabble of grandstanding and posturing politicians, most of whom are prone to disagree with anything -- even if it's agreeably good -- for the sake of disagreeing, so that they'll be talked about in the media the next day.

And, in Philippine politics, that's that. (ANF)

Guingona chides Cory on Kabisig

By MANUEL CAYON

DAVAO CITY -- Senate Majority Floor Leader Teofisto Guingona last week chided President Aquino for forming *Kabisig*, a political movement she launched over her perception that legislators are extending cold

responses to her administration proposals.

Guingona, here for Independence rites marked with speeches severely criticizing the government for corruption, military in fighting and poverty, said *Kabisig* "is



SEN. GUINGONA

divisive" and an unpremeditated attempt to become apolitical "in a political setting."

"If she asks support (for her program of government) from non-governmental institutions, implying she doesn't seek support from political parties, *magkakaroon 'yan ng* divisive effects," he said and added that the President is only shifting support "from political parties to this *Kabisig* group."

But while political observers also perceived *Kabisig*'s formation as the President's last ditch attempt to buoy her administration up to the final stretch of her term, Guingona said here that "the trouble is that Cory wants to become a non-political president in a political setting."

Even if *Kabisig* is not a political party, he said, "it is still a political move."

"Cory, in getting and organizing *Kabisig*, must not fall into the delusion that she can not be political," he said.

Guingona also stressed that the Senate, specifically, has been "cooperating" with the President.

"Anytime that she asks for legislation that is responsive and for the national welfare, we (at the Senate) always did," he said and cited that at one period where there were ten certified (administration) bills, eight were passed while the other two were not "for lack of time."

"And we are like the children now, we are cooperating, but the father has taken in a new child," he said.

"*Para namang napakasama naming mga anak na hindi tumupad sa aming mga tungkulin*," he added.

Independence Day rites here departed from the traditional funfare and pompous displays and parades.

Only about half of usual Independence Day participants were visible in the 92nd commemoration of the Malolos independence declaration.

Eight speakers were picked up from different sectors to tackle the three issues of coup d'etat, corruption and poverty. (MMNS)

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PAL always late

THE NATIONAL flag-carrier, so-called, is seldom in the news for anything salutary. If its planes are not being disabled through stupidity and putting the lives of innocent passengers in jeopardy, if not killing them, Philippine Air Lines has managed only to earn the singular distinction of never being on time. The flying public has become so disgusted over its performance throughout the years that it has made PAL an acronym for Plane Always Late. They should not be blamed for this.

Now comes the solicitor-general, Francisco Chavez, one of the few shining lights of this bungling administration. According to him, PAL has lost the amount of almost P2 billion due to graft and corruption in the higher echelons of its officialdom since 1981. Through under-the-table transactions as overpricing of contracts and materials, over-stocking, over-payments to travel agents and concessionaires and suspicious writing-off of receivables and other assets, a group of 22 officials, including vice-presidents, has been able to skim off PAL's earnings in the hundreds of millions the last nine years or so. Why this dispensation took four years to discover this anomaly is something else again. But of course, the airline has to live up to its name. If it is ever on time, it is not PAL.

Fact is, if it were up to its chairman, no investigation might be conducted at all. According to Catalino Macaraig, a presidential coordinator, Mrs. Corazon Aquino has ordered as early as August last year a "verification" report on the irregularities obtaining in the airline's operations, but it is only now that something may be in the works, after Chavez exposed the graft in the media. The public is asking why it took the PAL management ten months to verify the corruption in its own office. Does it take nearly a year to verify something as smelly as this scam?

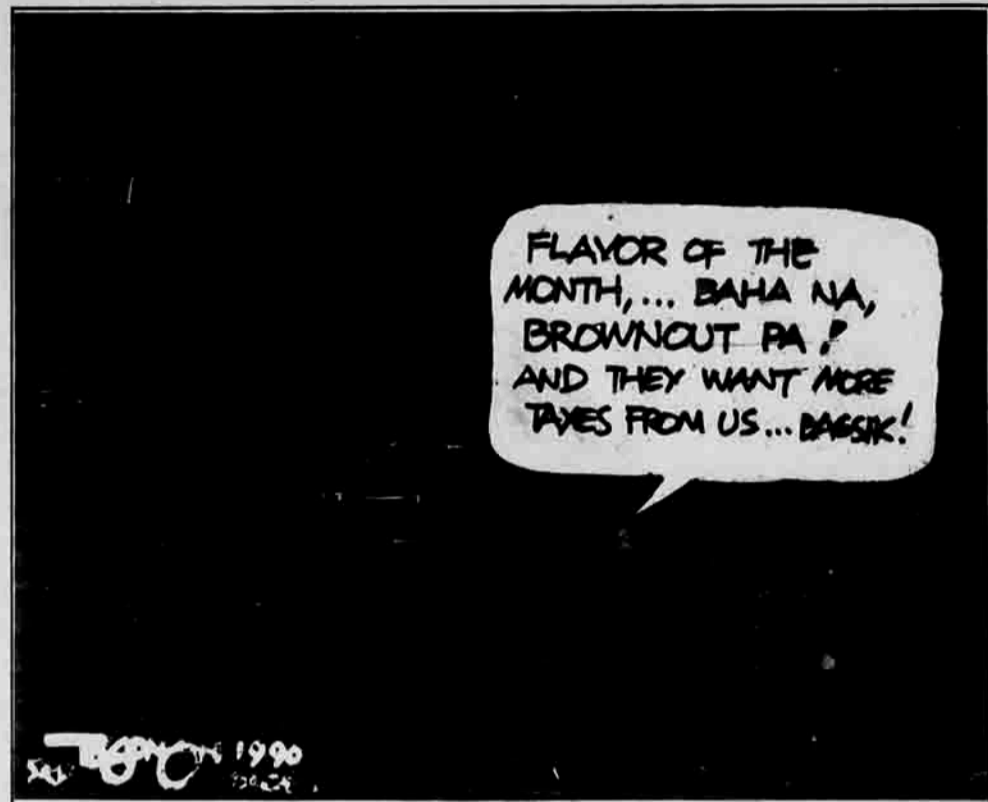
Sen. John Osmena has accused the PAL chairman and its president of inaction for failing to act on the anomalies earlier although they have had knowledge of the matter. The good senator is too late in pre-empting Mrs. Aquino. True to form, she has already cleared them.

Junior finally got it

JUSTICE, WHICH detours blindly anywhere in this country, finally found its rightful place. In a decision rendered by Judge Fermin Martin last week, Nicanor de Guzman, Jr., a congressman from Nueva Ecija, was sentenced to a jail term of 17 to 20 years for illegal possession of 316 high-powered firearms. Together with an associate who was also meted a stiff jail term, the judge ruled that there was actually an attempt beyond reasonable doubt that the guns being smuggled at the airport last year belonged to them. The people hail Judge Martin for doing his duty.

Except that Junior and his accomplice will appeal their cases at the higher courts, this case should happily end here. But the fact that the culprit happens to be a congressman seems to have complicated matters for him and his colleagues. To prove once more that politicians and government officials in this country developed the hide of a rhinoceros once they have assumed office, de Guzman has signified his firm intentions not to resign his position despite a snow-balling public clamor to that effect. And a so-called group of independents in the Lower House has assured him of moral and physical support that might conceivably thwart the prevailing sentiment among his peers and the people that Junior has overstayed his usefulness in that chamber.

Fortunately, there are still a lot of good materials in Congress. If reports



Daily Globe, June 24, 1990

Mga Kabisig ni Cory

ANG KABISIG ay ang bagong samahan na itinatag ng WE BULONG brigada - ang grupo ng pinakamalakas na mga advisers ni Madame Cory - na ang layunin daw ay upang mapabilis ang pagdating ng serbisyo sa mga mamamayan sa loob ng nalalabing dalawang taon na lang na pag-uupo ng Presidentita sa Malakanyang. Ang ibig lang naman nila palabasin ay na kasalanan ng mga "trapos" (mga traditional politician) kung bakit naging palpak ang serbisyo ng pamahalaan nitong nakaraan. Walang kasalanan si Cory at ang kanyang mga magagaling na Council of Trent dahil ang ginawa lang naman nila ay sundin ang dikta ng mga Kano sa IMF-WB.

Ang tutuo niyan, nababahala lang itong mga nakakapit sa laylayan ng damit ng Presidential dahil kapag nawala siya sa puwesto, siyempre talsik na rin sila. Tapos na ang maliligayang araw nila. Kaya, kailangang mag-KABISIG sila. Mga

Gising!



PLACIDO P. DIAZ

BISIG ni Cory na mamumudmod ng pera mula sa kaban ng bayan upang maging mabango sila sa tangang mga botante sa 1992. Mga BISIG ni Cory na hindi pa nabusog sa pagdukot ng pera ng bayan patungo sa sarili nilang mga bulsa, kaya gusto nilang ipagpatuloy ang pagpapasarap sa buhay sa panahon ng susunod na administrasyon. Hanggat maaari, Cory pa rin.

Hindi ako tangang notante. At hari-

(Page 13, please)

over the weekend are true, the ethics committee is preparing to unveil some "hard facts" in a caucus to be called soon. According to Rep. Freddie Webb the committee, of which he is a member, has evidence to prove that de Guzman is also guilty of the crime of gun smuggling and not merely of illegal possession of firearms. The Paranaque congressman was one of those who voted for De Guzman's expulsion from his seat last year.

And while the committee is at it, why not also investigate the congressmen who are plundering the national patrimony at Palawan and protecting (for how much) the monopolies? They will be amazed at their catch.

<p>We Forum</p> <p>MEMBER</p> <p>PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE</p>	<p>Published weekly by the J. BURGOS MEDIA SERVICES, Inc. with editorial and business offices at 92 Road 1, corner Road 33, Project 6, Quezon City. Tels. Nos. 99-53-67; 99-51-17 (Administrative, Circulation and Production), 99-40-97 (Editorial).</p>	<p>JOSE J. BURGOS, SR.</p> <p>Chairman of the Board</p>	<p>JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.</p> <p>Publisher-Editor</p>	<p>EDITA T. BURGOS</p> <p>General Manager</p>
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Back to the Dark Age with Cory

OF THE series of cultural backslides and debacles that Cory Aquino committed during the four years of her still controversial election to the presidency, her blunder in abolishing Spanish language college course and her fight on the exclusive use of Tagalog language in school textbooks and in official government communication, documents, and records, including court decisions, stand out as the most monumental and abominable.

That historic blunder was her ill-considered, reckless issuance of Executive Order No. 335 in 1988. While she thought she was pleasing a segment of Tagalog nationalists by just junking Spanish, she was too shortsighted to expect that she was also abolishing the English language in the country, and ultimately phasing out at least 30 other major Philippine dialects.

The martial law regime of Marcos (martial law actually means absence of law) also made attempts to abolish Spanish and other foreign languages, through subtler measures than those of Cory Aquino's crude Executive Order No. 335 and rules. But a smart and wise Hiligaynon, Jorge B. Vargas, former executive secretary of President Quezon and known as the "Little President", quickly dashed cold water on Marcos's cultural movement by crying out that abolishing Spanish and a beautiful cultural heritage of the Filipinos is taking the road back to the dark age.

Cory Aquino's single-national language program is a straightway dive to the subculture. It is a product of collective stupidity and warped thinking of simpletons among advisers and the nationalist elements. Now where has that monumental blunder of an EO 335 brought the nation? To the bottom of a cultural standstill.

She is caught in a quagmire, devoid of inertia and practically hopeless. Official communication of this supposedly sovereign democracy in Asia, should be written in Tagalog. Official records such as the gazette of the Bureau of Printing, the Philippine Reports of the Supreme Court, decisions of the trial court and all archival materials, signs and shingles in government offices, and memos and pledges to the World Bank/IMF, shall be inscribed in Tagalog, by her order.

Henceforth, also Philippine school textbooks on grammar, history, sciences, medical studies, world economics, geography, the humanities and technologies should be in Tagalog -- eventually. But when? We cannot even call Cory Aquino "Dona Cory" or "Senora de Aquino". That will be using Spanish, which is interdict. That is subversion.

What future do we face in the Philippines for this one-language shortsightedness? "The era of sub-culture; the return to the Dark Age." We hear the warning voice of the Hiligaynon sage, Vargas, clearly juxtaposed into our time and circumstance. It is farewell to the age of light and reason.

Shall we just squat forlorn and bereft on the roadside while the world around us marches on to a more desirable and happier future? The language mess that Cory Aquino has sown is beginning to bear fruit of divisiveness among the people.

A strong counter-revolutionary move against Cory Aquino's objective, namely for the renaissance and development of Spanish language, was launched on grander scale than Cory Aquino's. It is grander because this is Asia-wide. This opposite, counteraction was felt in the Philippines last year during the second biennial conference on Spanish heritage of the Association Asiatica de Hispanistas founded by Dr. I. Bae Kim of Hankook University, South Korea. The international assembly of Hispanistas in Manila had 200 registered delegates from Southeast Asia and the Far East. It was attended also by at least 50 observers from all over the world, mostly diplomats. Elected president of that conference was Dr. Rosario Valdes-Lamug, president of the *Coñape* (Confederation Nacional de Profesores de Espanol). Dra. Lamug's position in the national movement for Spanish renaissance was strengthened recently by her promotion as dean of arts and letters of the University of the East. She will head a strong delegation of Spanish language and culture advocates to Japan next year, which the Spanish Promotion Society of Tokyo will host.

The local forces flex their muscles to urge

TOWN CRIER



by VIC BARRANCO

Cory Aquino to return the Spanish language subject in the school curriculum. One of the top priority resolutions to be introduced at the next biennial conference in the Asean and Far East Association of Hispanistas in Tokyo early next year, by the powerhouse Philippine delegation headed by Dra. Valdes-Lamug, holder of the "Isabel la Catolica" decoration from the Spanish government will petition for the re-inclusion this year of the multiple foreign languages studies course of which Spanish is a basic one, in Philippine schools and colleges.

Spanish language certainly is not a dead language. The course was suppressed during the time of President William MacKinley. Realizing soon this a wrong cultural prescription for the Filipinos, MacKinley was set to revoke his act, but death caught up with him in 1901.

Spanish language and culture endured despite everything under any circumstance. Like science, law technology, philosophy; like race, and custom, Spanish language and culture are in the mainstream of the inevitable international intermarriages of modern human society.

Gold & Mayor Lacson's dreams (55)

TOO OFTEN, we are mesmerized by statistics being fed by members of the Cabinet like Joe Concepcion on the employment aspect of what we now call the PETROSCAM. Yet, we are not at all bothered by the fact that we have plenty of gold and yet nobody is attending to this very serious aspect. As I have said, time and again, this is our economic salvation.

Why is it that up to now Salonga is silent on the matter when all the data on the gold when he was the Chairman of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) was exclusively his? *Yong ibang mga Commissioners walang nalalaman tungkol sa ginto. Bakit walang kibo ngayon si Salonga ay naghihirap na ang bayan? And why was Operation Big Bird aborted?*

Public interest requires that Salonga should talk and let us know what was his findings? *Yong mga gold certificates, ano ang nangyari? At bakit hindi iniinvestiga ang Central Bank tungkol sa mga ginto?*

United Nations-Bangkok - June 19 - I am writing this from Bangkok and it is very exciting to be here among friends in the consumer world on my 64th birthday. *Matanda na po ako* and in September this year, it will be my 31st year in activism work which started in 1959 when then Mayor

Lacson chose me personally as President of the Reelect Lacson Women's Movement. From then on, *wala na akong pahinga. Ito pong Gold & Mayor Lacson's Dreams ay gagawin kong libro kaya yoon pong hindi nakabasa o namiss nila ang ilang serials ay may pagasa na mabasa ang kabuohan.* To honor the memory of the late Mayor Lacson who was an exemplary public official (he died poor) the proceeds of the book will be given to a foundation that will be established in his honor. *Yoon pong mga kaibigan ni Lacson ay matutuwa at lalo na ang kanyang pamilya, at ang bayan naman ay ganoon din.*

The United Nations Seminar on Consumer Protection will start today and all of us are full of hopes that governments from many parts of the world will do their role very seriously in seeing to it that the basic rights of consumers are guaranteed and of course protected. I am sure that the papers that will be presented by various representatives of governments will state in detail what they have accomplished for their consumers. It is too early to judge the event since this seminar is just starting and will end on the 22nd.

I was also here in 1981 at the 1st Regional Consultation on Consumer

Protection where I presented a paper entitled, "Consumer Interpol, An Antitode to Multinational Behaviour". The same paper was presented in the Congress of the International Organization of Consumers Unions (IOCU) in The Hague, Netherlands then donated to the IOCU the amount of FORTY THOUSAND US DOLLARS (\$40,000.00) to begin the Consumer Interpol Program run by IOCU's Martin Abraham who has been doing very well.

Here at the seminar, I see Anwar Fazal who was given the Alternative Nobel Prize Award in 1982, Foo Gaik Sim who has rendered so much for the consumer movement, Pamela Chan, Executive Director of the Consumers Council of Hongkong and many others too numerous to be mentioned.

Today, the IOCU can be proud of its accomplishments. Founded in 1960 by five consumer organizations from the United States, Western Europe and Australia, it links the activities of some 170 consumer groups in more than 60 countries across the globe. IOCU supports its membership through information networks, publications, international seminars, workshops and a triennial World Congress. Demo-

TEA W/ JULIE



by JULIE AMARGO

cratically controlled, it is a non-profit, non-governmental foundation dedicated to protecting and promoting eight basic consumer rights: the right to satisfaction of basic needs, to safety, information, choice, representation, redress, education and to a healthy environment.

In the IOCU Congress in Madrid in 1987, I was unanimously elected an IOCU Patron for services rendered to the consumer movement worldwide, the only one in the Third World, so on my 64th birthday today, I am happy that I am doing a public service in my own small way. I hope to do more in the future for God's Greater Glory.

Make
We Forum
a habit

Indicators show Cory running again

"I WILL not resign" - Joe Concepcion. Well, the same dictum from one who has tasted power and glory - death before resignation.

Cory is now firing salvos against "traditional politicians". Personally I don't feel disturbed by the label. My wife and I are not traditional politicians. Pero in Zambales there is one such politician who will fit Cory's description - *yong sabi nilang "trapo"*. This person eats, breathes, sweats, and shits politics. And he is always boasting how good a speaker he is - *kahit daw bilasa na isda puede n'yang ipagbili*.

All indicator, of late tend to support the conclusion that President Aquino will seek reelection, contrary to her 60 times denials in the past. Her frequent trips to the provinces, her continued "Magtanong sa Pangulo" program, her attacks against her perceived political enemies and now, the launching of the "Kabisig" movement are clear indicators of the intention. They disclaim politics in launching Kabisig - *kasi "movement" lang daw*, not the setting up of a political party but I don't buy this disclaimer. Even the KBL started as a movement under President Marcos but ended up as the political party of the Marcos years. When Ramon Magsaysay ran for the presidency in 1953, even before he joined the Nacionalista Party, he first had his own movement - the MPM. Movement or political party *pareho lahat yan*.

That recall vote in Angeles City which was won by Mayor Antonio Abad Santos should be encouraged in other areas where local officials have shown incompetence, and callous attitudes towards the needs of the people. There are many good for nothing politicians who have made politics a way of life for personal ends and not really for the general weal.

President Cory says that "Kabisig" will "preserve people power". Maybe yes, maybe no. One thing I am sure of is that people

IN MY CORNER...



by RAUL M. GONZALEZ

power which we brilliantly displayed during those glorious three days at EDSA can only be preserved by a competent, enlightened, firm and sincere leadership.

It is funny how Congressmen Jose De Venecia and Mike Romero would suddenly want us to embrace North Korea just because they were received by Kim Il Sung and posed for pictures with them. You do not just rush to open diplomatic relations with a country which has remained one of the most repressive in the world. Even the USSR seems to be distancing itself from North Korea with the recent summit between Presidents Gorbachev and Ro Tae Woo. *Dahan dahan mga pare ko*.

Congress and the Office of the Ombudsman should expedite the probes on the divestment charges against Secretary Jose Concepcion in order to clear the air on this serious matter once and for all. Personally I see no great difference between the Jobo Fernandez case and this one of Joe Concepcion. The Ombudsman filed the case against Jobo based on my resolution since 1987 but only after Jobo was out of office. *Ganito rin ba ang mangyari sa kaso ni Concepcion? Kung hindi powerful cabinetman ito, I'm sure tanggal na*.

I agree with Secretary Carino that the DECS should probably construct the schools for now, instead of the DPWH. But what is important is whoever constructs, the plans must be complete and the funds are there. I have seen some schools in Zambales

which do not have ceilings, no windows, no toilets and when I confronted the District Engineer, *sagot - kasi kulang ang funds, kasi hindi kasama sa program of work ang toilets, ang windows. Anong klaseng program of work yon?*

A member of the Provincial Board of Zambales came to me last Saturday and complained that the Provincial Development Council of Zambales has not been organized in accordance with the President's Executive Order. He told me that persons who should not be in the council are there and persons who should be there are not, depending on the whim of Mr. Deloso. *Ganyan ba? And according to this Boardmember, wala daw tama na trabaho ang Zambales PDC and according to him, even the Regional Development Council complains about the lack of priorities from Zambales. Okeylang pare ko?*

Mayor Panchito Huwang daw denies that he ordered the closure of the canteen of his political rival Alex De Leon. So why is the canteen closed until now? *Alam mo Mayor, I saw and read your arbitrary closure orders so you cannot deny that*.

Some military personnel from the JAGO are involved in victimizing a Zambales woman, married to a Taiwanese of her importations from Taiwan worth several millions. These military people have used the son-in-law of the woman to dupe his mother-in-law and they are also milking the son-in-law. I saw one letter from a JAGO colonel asking P25,000 from the person.

I congratulate the Palauig Police-INP under Station Commander Domiciano Cabigao for busting a robbery syndicate victimizing distributors of cooking gas cylinders. I understand several men are now detained and many cooking gas cylinders were recovered in Iba. The Palauig police is working with more efficiency now and Mayor Monato should give his police more encouragement.

YOUTH VOICE



by DAVE TABANIAG

Young Achievers

BEFORE I start, I want to congratulate my uncle, Rene Saguisag, for his perfect attendance in the Senate and for remaining to be the Senate's conscience. If there are Alvarezes and Osmenas and Zigas there are also the likes of Rene Saguisag, *ang masigasig na manunulat ng isports sa Manila Times*. Bow! Free advertisement *yan, ha?*

Greetings also to all the beauuutiful lecturers at St. Joseph in Proj. 3. *Sinumpong na naman yata ako ng pagka-playboy, sorry, dear Abby*.

Young achievers refer to people from 12 to 35 who were able to achieve so much already, at their age.

To paraphrase Arsenio Lacson: "So young and already so outstanding..."

Ayen Munji recently graced the cover of Mod (not MAD, you jerk!) and once I saw her face, I immediately fell in love with her (he-he-he!).

Seriously, she is in 3rd year of Music at the UST. She has recorded a few songs meant for international release, at her young age, of 19.

IBAANG PINOY, HA? *Bakit naman hindi, di ba? Rizal was said to be more versatile as a genius than even Da Vinci - he was a writer, a doctor, a traveller, a teacher, a linguist, a historian, etc., etc.*

I'd also like to include Ruben Carranza, Jr. as a young achiever for all that he has done as a Collegian editor-in-chief. I have also read some of his articles in other publications like the Currents.

The Currents is being published and edited by Professor Merlin Magallona of the UP College of Law.

If you know of any more young achiever, do write about them to "Youth Voice" O.K.?

I agree with Fr. Peaceful Days. We shall oppose any attempt by those CIA dirty tactics people to assassinate our President. We want to be free and independent.

To our friends in the Quezonian and the Featinian, please send me free copies of your every issue.

As it is, puro Trinity, UP, UST, and a few other schools are being mentioned here in this column. I don't want this status quo (present state of affairs) in "Youth Voice" to continue...

P.S. I support my cousin-in-law, Kuya Rudy Fernandez. *Hindi nararapat na magpatalo na lang tayo sa mga dayuhang iyan. This is our land!*

A masterpiece of deception, indeed

IT WAS highly elating to read in last week's dailies that the U.P. Law Center has confirmed *We Forum's* editorial report on May 29-30 last year, under the headline "Cojuangco's land reform: Masterpiece of deception".

UPLC, according to Associated Editors, considers the stock-dispersal plan for the 5,035-hectare Hacienda Luisita owned by President Aquino's family "patently unconstitutional." The plan, says the Center, is "violative not only of the social justice provisions but, even more, of the specific provisions of the Constitution on agrarian reform." The scheme furthermore violates Cory's own Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law (CARL), allowing as it does the

ONE'S WORTH



by MAX NOBLE

Cojuangcos "to retain the controlling interest at the expense of the supposed farmer-beneficiaries."

Comparing the AE dispatch with this paper's editorial report (of which I was one of the writers), I would say that UPLC based

its strongly worded opinion on, among other things but primarily, our editorial report. (This, I'm proud to say, was also the basis of Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile's privilege speech denouncing the Cojuangcos' stock-dispersal plan.)

I wish our editor would reprint our editorial report, this time side by side with the UPLC opinion and another paper's editorial praising the "Luisita formula (as) a model... worth watching and, we're sure, emulating." *WF* readers will then be able to judge for themselves, finally, whether or not said stock-dispersal scheme is a sham.

To us here -- and to many other Filipinos, we're sure -- it is indeed a masterpiece of deception.

(Page 10, please)

Polusyon: Mayroon pa bang solusyon?

MATINDI NA ang pinsalang dulot ng polusyon sa ating bansa lalo na sa mga lunsod nito. Sa Kamaynilaan lamang ay talamak ang sakit na pulmonya, bronkitis at kalala'y tuberkulosis. Ito ay dahil sa nalalanghap na hanging galing sa mga usok ng sasakyan at mga pabrika.

Panahon pa lamang ni Marcos ay pinilit nang kalabanin ang polusyon. May mga gadgets na sapilitang ipinalalagay sa mga pabrikang nagbubuga ng nakalalasang kemikal.

Nagkaroon din ng kampanya laban sa mga sasakyang nagbubuga ng maiitim na usok. Sa katunayan ay isinasagawa pa rin ito hanggang ngayon.

Subalit waring walang nangyayari sa mga

pagsisikap na ito. Araw-araw ay makikita natin ang EDSA na ang kapal sa sasakyan at sa usok. Mapapansin natin ang mga pasahero't naglalakad na nakatakip ang mga ilong ng kamay o panya. Subalit mailigtas kaya ang kanilang kalusugan sa nakamamatay na usok?

Ang ingay ay isang uri rin ng polusyon. Ang epekto nito ay sa katinuan ng isip ng isang nilalang. Ang mga sasakyang mayroon naglalakasang stereo at busina, humaharurot na mamahaling kotse na "pinaiyak" ang makina para mapansin ay bahagi ng polusyon na sumisira sa ikabalalanse ng isipan.

Anupa't ang ganitong kalagayan ay

waring hindi pansin ng kinauukulan kundi ang kinakailangang ipagpatuloy ang mga programang kanilang nasimulan na. Ngunit sa huling pagsusuri, ang mga tao ang siyang puwersang siyang nagsasagawa ng anumang programa na siya ring ikauunlad o ikasisira ng isang bansa. Kung sira na ang kalusugan at utak ng mga tao, paano pa ito magiging produktibong puwersa?

Maraming mga emergency line ang pulisya at militar. Subalit batay sa karanasan ng kaibigan ko, nang tinawagan niya ang mga mismong numerong nasa PLDT directory, sinagot lamang siya ng police on duty na may "papunta na ho diyang mobile, maghintay kayo." Sumapit na ang kinabukasan ngunit

KILATISIN NATIN



JOSE CRUZ PAPA

wala ni anino ng mobile ang dumating. Ano'ng problema, walang gasolina ang mga mobile natin?

Nawasak raw ang porno, pero pumalit naman ang ST (sex trip). Tambak din ang mga sinehan ng mga karahasan. Ano'ng ahensiya ng gobyerno ang dapat gumabay sa prodyuser at film distributors na puro tubo, tubo, lang ang habol? Mayroon ba?

Bakit kailangan ang microelements ng lupa?

NAGPAPASALAMAT ako sa *We Forum* sa paglalagay muli ng pahina para sa Agribusiness ng MASA. Sa ilang buwan na nawala ang MASA marami akong natanggap na sulat na nagtatanong kung bakit nawala ang MASA at ang aking kolumn sa Agribusiness.

Dahil sa marubdob na pagmamahal ni Joe sa pagsasaka, muli lalabas ang kolumn natin tungkol sa agrikultura.

Ang Rice Action Program nng Pangasiwaan ng Pagsasaka ay nakakitaan ng mga malilinis na maniobra ng mga nasa DA. Una, ang government assistance sa pataba, bakit sa urea lamang. Bakit di pa sa kabuuan ng patabang kailangan?

Napag-alaman namin na karamihan sa napasama sa masterlist na magsasaka na di kasama sa kooperatiba ay hindi makakautang. Ang mga magsasaka lamang na kasapi sa kooperatiba ang maaring mangutang sa Land Bank.

Sa pangangailangan ng pataba na siyang stratehiya sa pagpaparami ng ani, papaano makabibili ang magsasakang di kasapi sa kooperatiba? Nakasal sila sa pagpaparami ng ani ngunit di naman sila kasali sa pautang upang may ipanustus sa kailangan pataba.

Halimbawa, ayon sa soil analysis, kailangan ang apat na kompleto at apat na urea at 8 kg. Biozome sa isang ektarya upang umani ng marami. Papaano makakasunod ang magsasaka sa tamang pataba kung sa guidelines ng RAP ay buy two complete or any grade at may libreng isang bag na urea.

Ang reklamo ng mga magsasaka, bakit may buy, pa sa pataba, hindi na lamang

lubosang ipautang at babayaran ng magsasaka pagkapag-ani. Lalong hindi makakaani ng marami ang magsasaka kung nakakahon na siya sa limitadong pataba na gagamiting batay sa guidelines.

Ang lupa'y tulad ng tao, nagkakaedad o tumatanda rin. Ang mabilis na pagtanda ng lupa'y tulad ng tao batay sa bigat ng trabaho at sustansiya ng pagkain niya.

Ang lupang tinataniman ng iisang halaman (monocrop) ay madaling maubusan ng mga sangkap ng pagkain (nutrients) dahil sa kakulangan ng panahon ng mapalitan ang mga nutrients na nagamit ng halaman.

Ang halaman ay nangangailangan ng 16 na nutrients upang malusog ang paglaki at makapagbunga ng sapat. Ayon sa mga "soil nutritionists", ang 16 na nutrients ay nababahagi sa: macro, sekundaryo at micro.

Ang macro ay binubuo ng nitrogeno, fosforo at potasyo. Ang sekundaryo ay binubuo ng Sulfur, Calcium at Magnesium. At ang micro naman ay binubuo ng Zinc, Boron, Iron, Copper, Chlorine, Molybdenum, Aluminium at mga bahid elemento (trace elements).

Ang lupa na limang taon ng natataniman ng iisang halaman ay kulang (deficient) na ang sekundaryo at micro na sangkap dahil ang Macro o Nitrogeno, fosforo at potasyo lamang ang ibinabalik sa pamamagitan ng kemikal na pataba.

Dahil sa pagkabawas ng mga elementong sekundaryo at micro, nagkaroon ng di balanseng taba ng lupa. Kung magkagayon, hihina ang ani kahit maglagay pa ng maraming macro o kemikal na pataba. Ang situas-

yong ito ang malimit na nangyayari sa mga lupa kaya nagtaka ang mga magsasaka na kung kailan dumadami ang inilalagay na patabang NPK ay hindi naman tumataas ang ani. Ang katuwiran naman ng iba, mayroon daw soil rejection o non-response ng lupa sa pataba. Ngunit ang katutohanan ay kulang o wala na ang ibang mga micro nutrients sa lupa.

Papaano mapanunumbalik ang dating balanseng taba ng lupa? Maibabalik lamang ang buhay ng lupa sa pamamagitan ng Biozome-S200, micronutrient soil conditioner na may taglay na 13 elementong sekundaryo at micro.

Taglay ng Biozome-S200 ang mga sangkap na kailangan sa paglaki ng mga puno ng halaman. Kagyat na pinararami ng Biozome-S200 ang mga "microbes" sa lupa upang makatugon sa "pagluluto" ng pagkain ng halaman. Pinatatamis ng Biozome-S200 ang maasim na lupa at pinakakawalan (releases) ang mga elementong nagkabuhol (fixed) upang magamit ng halaman.

Maraming magsasaka sa Bahay Pare, Candaba, Pampanga ang gumamit ng Biozome-S200 sa nakaraan na tagtuyot. Umani sila ng average 135 kaban bawat ektarya. Samantalang ang mga ibang magsasaka na gumamit ng 10-12 sako na patabang kemikal na NPK ay umani lamang ng 65 kaban bawat ektarya. Inilulat ito ng Municipal Agricultural Officer Pacita Villarino ng Bahay Pare.

Ayon din kay Myrna Manabat ng San Fernando, Pampanga, ang mga magsasaka na umani ng 165-180 bawat ektarya sa

TINIG NG BUKID



by MAX. E. SOLIVEN

kaniyang nasasakupan ay pawang gumamit ng Biozome, micronutrient.

Si Rudy Garcia ng Mitla, Porac, Pampanga na umani ng walong toneladang mais sa kaniyang isang ektarya ay gumamit ng Biozome. Gayundin si Agricultural Technician Carlos Lacanlale ng Mexico, Pampanga, umani rin ng pitong toneladang mais sa kaniyang isang ektaryang nalagyan ng Biozome. Si Bernie Sarmiento ng DA sa Arenas, Arayat, Pampanga ay nagtatamasa rin ng tagumpay sa pagani ng malaki sa kaniyang tanim na palay, mais, gulay, melon at namumungang kahoy dahil sa paggamit niya ng Biozome sa kaniyang mga halaman.

Marami pang mga magsasaka tulad ni Antonio Luce ng Pagbilao, Quezon ang gumamit ng Biozome at siya lamang ang umani at hindi sinalanta ng tungro ang kaniyang palay.

Ayon sa maraming magsasakang gumamit ng Biozome sa basal application ng pataba, namamatay ang "golden kuhol".

Kailangan ng taong tumatanda ang bitamina mineral at iba pa, upang manumbalik ang lakas ng katawan. Gayundin ang lupang tumanda, dadami uli ang ani kung maibabalik ang likas na mga sangkap na kulang o nawala. At sa pamamagitan ng Biozome-S200 manunumbalik ang sigla ng buhay ng lupa!!

Max NOBLE (From page 9)

"Value of RP Fund down 25% in NYSE" -- News item, June 16

The RP Fund refers to the First Philippine Fund which President Aquino launched at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in her latest, but probably not the last, visit to U.S.A. last year.

The news isn't really surprising -- with the coup-verment we've had in the last four years and will likely have in the last two of Ms. Aquino's

presidency. By then, the headline will be something like this: "Value of RP Fund in NYSE down to zero".

Jun Mesina, managing partner of Kings Court Consultants, is almost at his wits' end trying to divine the reason why some members of the city council of Manila are opposing his firm's offer to lease from the city government a lot at Divisoria, construct a four-story building thereon, and allow the city government free use of a portion thereof. The lot in question used to be the site of a market

building which was destroyed by fire last December.

Maybe, Jun, Their Honors don't just have one reason but a hundred, or a thousand, or a million reasons. Perhaps, you can ask them?

Escolta is normally empty on Sundays, but not last June 17. The reason: a day-long shooting of a movie starring one Robin Padilla, near the foot of Jones Bridge.

Traffic in the area was a bottleneck, and what made it even more deplorable was the presence of

so many uniformed and armed cops playing extras, and the use of many brand-new WPD Lancer mobile cars and patrol jeeps.

There ought to be some prohibition on the use of police cars for commercial movie purposes. For instead of being utilized for public service, they're used to make profits for the producers of movies glorifying criminals.

Who says the City of Manila lacks police vehicles?

MASA

Katotohanan • Katarungan • Kalayaan

JUNE 27-JULY 3, 1990

11

Ang Bayan ko



KURYENTE

Problema, malulutas?



SEN. HERRERA

NI NATHAN CASTRO

AAGARING LUTASIN ng pamahalaang Aquino ang kasalukuyang sulirannin sa kakapusan ng kuryente. Nangunguna sa mga tatalakayin nito ang isang mungkahing magtatag ng Kagawaran ng Enerhiya at

Ang mungkahing ito ay pinangunahan ni Senador Ernesto Herrera, na kinatigan naman ng kanyang mga kasamahan sa batasan. Kasunod nito, agad pinulong ni Presidente Aquino ang kanyang mga gabinete at tagapayo para pag-aralan at ipatupad ang panukala ng kongreso.

Isang magkasanib na executive-legislative team ang bubuuin upang gumawa ng mga detalye nito na siyang isasabmit sa kongreso bilang urgent bill ng Malakanyang para sa aksiyong panlehislatibo.

Iminumungkahi rin ng Kongreso na gamitin na ang kontrobersiyal na Bataan Nuclear Plant para makapagsuplay ito ng kuryente sa Luzon.

Tinanggihan ng pamahalaang Aquino ang lahat ng mga mungkahing buksan ang Bataan Nuclear Plant dahil iyon ay itinatag ng mga kroni ng yumaong si Presidente Marcos. Bukod dito, sinasabing may mga kahiinaan ang pagkakatagawa nito at maaari umano itong panggalingan ng singaw ng atomic waste na makapipinsala sa mga residente.

ang paghahati sa National Power Corporation para maging tatlong pribadong korporasyon, tig-iisa sa Luzon, Bisaya at Mindanao.

Labis na nababahala ang pamahalaang Aquino dahil sa mga ulat na ang paulit-ulit na brownouts noong 1989 ay nakapinsala sa tinatayang P1.8 bilyong halaga ng kabuhayan. Sinasabing lalaki pa ang pinsala ngayong taong ito dahil mas madalas ang mga brownout ngayon.

Lalong nabahala ang mga opisyal ng pamahalaan sa ulat ni Dr. Francisco Viray ng National Engineering Center ng Unibersidad ng Pilipinas. Sinabi niyang ang 40 planta ng NPC ay nangasisira dahil sa kalumaan at kakulangan ng angkop na

pangangalaga, at ang mga ito ay dapat nang malaon nang pinalitan. Lampas na umano sa silbi nitong 15-20 taon ang mga planta, ayon kay Viray.

Dahil nga rito, kaya iminungkahi ni Herrera ang pagbuwag sa tatlo ng NPC. Samantala, inokeyan din ang pagtatatag ng isang departamento, na mangangailangan ng isang magaling na sekretaryong makapagpapatupad ng mga hakbang sa paglutas ng krisis sa enerhiya. Sinangayunan din ang pagpapalakas ng mga rural na kooperatibang pangkuryente. (ANF)

Pinoy sa US, watak-watak

NI ANTONIO ALANO

ISA NANG malakilaking grupong minorya sa Estados Unidos ang mga Pilipinong naninirahan sa naturang bansa. Marami sa kanila ang naturalisadong mamamayang Amerikano, ang iba ay green card holders o mga permanenteng residente, at ang iba ay mga TNT o tago nang tago. Kung titingnan sa pamantayan ng mga minorya, ang mga Pilipino sa Amerika ay nakaluluwag sa buhay.

Ngunit nakapagtataka, ayon sa mga Pilipino at Amerikanong diplomat, na ang mga Pilipino roon ay walang gaanong impluwensiyang pampolitika kumpara sa iba pang grupong minorya, gaya ng mga itim o Aprikan-

ong-Amerikano at ng mga Hispaniko.

Isang malinaw na halimbawa ang kaso ng mga Pilipino sa Hawaii. Bilang mga manggagawa at entrepreneur sa industriya ng asukal, malaking papel ang ginampanan nila sa paglago at kaunlaran ng nasabing industriya. Ngunit naungusan pa sila ng mga Hapon at Tsinong ngayon ay nangakapuwesto sa mga posisyong pampolitika ng estado na bihirang maabot ng mga Pilipino.

Kitang-kita rin ang ganitong kawalan ng impluwensiyang pampolitika sa Pacific Coast, na kinaroroonan ng maraming Pilipino. Gayundin ang mga nasa Imperial Valley ng

California, bagamat matagal nang may pamayanang Pilipino roon.

Ayon sa isang opisyal ng State Department, ang mga Pilipino sa US ay "hindi nagkakaisa di gaya ng mga Aprikanong-Amerikano at ng mga Hispaniko. Aktibo sila sa sosyalan, pero hindi sa pulitika.

Sinabi rin nito na malakas pa sa mga Pinoy ang rehiyonalismo at pagpapangkat-pangkat. Halos hindi na mabilang ang mga samahan ng mga Pilipino na kumikilos sa batayang panrehiyon. May mga grupo ng mga Ilokano, Tagalog, Pampango, Bisaya at iba pang pangkating panrehiyon. At ngayon ay nadagdag pa

ang mga loyalista kay Marcos at mga kampi kay Aquino.

Sinabi naman ng isang Pilipinong diplomat na ang mga Pilipinong naging mamamayang Amerikano na ay higit na interesado pa rin sa pulitika ng Pilipinas kaysa ng sa bago nilang bayan. Ang kanilang utak ay Pilipinong-Pilipino pa rin. Hanggang ngayon ay hindi nila maiangkop ang mga sarili sa sistema ng pulitika sa US.

Bukod dito, nagkakaroon pa sila ng damdamin ng dual citizenship o dalawahang pagkamamamayan. Ang isang tipikal na balikbayan, ayon sa diplomat, ay nag-iisip na siya ay isang Amerikano at isang Pilipino. (ANF)



Pilipino: Hindi nagkakaisa.

Obrerong Pinoy, api sa abroad

NI GASPAR BALTHAZAR

WALANG BINA-BANGGIT ang mga awtoridad ng pamahalaan tungkol dito, ngunit ang Pilipinas ay nahaharap sa lumulubhang suliranin sa pagbibigay ng proteksiyon sa mga manggagawang Pilipino sa mga bansang Asyano, sa Middle East at Africa. Ang mga sumusunod ay nagbibigay-diin sa kalakhan at kagusutan ng problema:

1. Ang mga katulong na Pinay sa Hongkong ay nagdaranas ng diskriminasyon at malupit na pagtrato sa kamay ng mga awtoridad sa imigrasyon.

2. Ang mga entertainers na Pinay sa Japan ay walang nagawa sa pang-aabuso at eksplotasyon ng kanilang mga amo.

3. Ang travel documents ng mga obrerong Pinoy sa Middle East ay malayang nakukumpiska ng kanilang mga amo o ng mga awtoridad ng pamahalaan; ang

kanilang mga kontrata sa pagkakaempleo ay malayang nababago ng kanilang mga amo; ang kanilang kasunduan sa suweldo ay maaaring baguhin ng kanilang employers; wala silang madudulugan sa kanilang mga karaingan; sila'y maaaring lapatan ng dikaraniwan at malupit na parusa; at sila'y maaaring mabilanggo nang walang nakaaalam kung saan sila naroon.

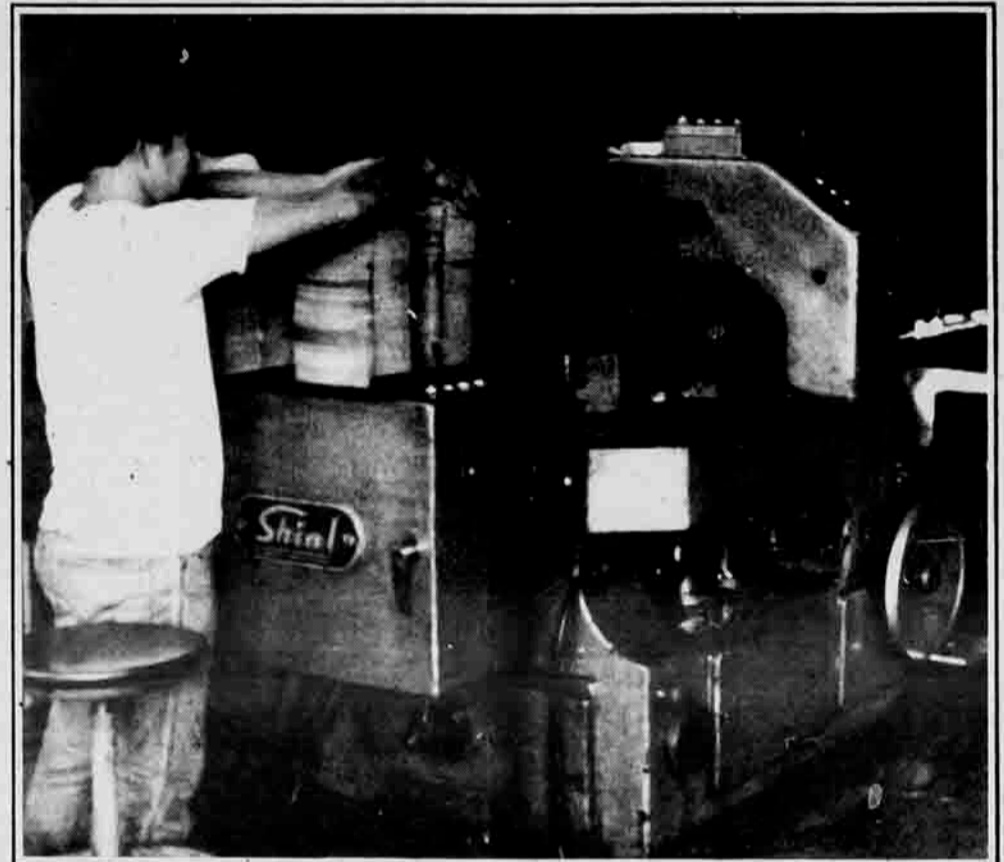
4. Ang mga manggagawang Pilipino sa Africa ay tinatrato sa maraming pagkakataon bilang kontratadong alipin, walang madudulugan sa paghingi ng katarungan; madalas na ibinibilanggo sila nang walang kasalanan.

Ang Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Labor, Department of Social Services and Development, Department of Justice, at mga komite sa Senado

at Kamara ay nakatatalos sa mga pangyayaring ito, ngunit waring hindi nila alam kung paano ito lulutasin. Sinasabi na ang ating diplomatic missions at mga konsulado sa nasabing mga bansa ay walang magawa sa suliranin ng pagbibigay ng proteksiyon sa mga manggagawang Pilipino.

Ang mga dahilang ibinibigay sa pagkabigo na maprotektahan ang mga manggagawang Pilipino ay ang kakatwa at makalumang sistema ng hustisya sa mga bansang nasabi at ang pangangamba ng pamahalaan na magsagawa ng hakbang na maaaring ikagalit ng mga bansang ito.

May mga pamamaraang bukas sa diplomasyang Pilipino para sa proteksiyon ng mga mamamayang Pilipino sa ibang bansa, ngunit kakatwa na ang mga ito ay hindi tinutuklas. Bakit? (ANF)



OBRERO: Larawan ng mga api.

PODER, UMENTO

Kahilingan ng mga mayor

NI EMMANUEL V. BERNARDO

NAGSABMIT NG mga resolusyon ang mga kasapi ng Mayor's League of the Philippines kay Presidente Aquino, at nakasaad sa mga ito ang kanilang kahilingan na panatilihin ang kanilang mga kapangyarihan at taasan ang kanilang mga suweldo.

Sa katunayan, isa sa mga resolusyon ang humihiling na ipagkait sa mga bise alkalde ang mungkahing sila ang mamuno sa pagdaraos ng mga sesyon ng sangguniang bayan.

Isa pang resolusyon ang tumatanggi naman sa isang panukalang batas ng pamahalaang lokal na ang mga miyembro ng sangguniang bayan ay bigyan ng pirmihang sahod sa halip ng kasalukuyang sistema na bibibigyan sila ng per diem o sahod kada sesyon.

Nangangamba naman ang mga lokal na pulitiko na ang mga resolusyong na-

banggit ay maging dahilan ng paglala ng nagaganap nang di pagkakasundo ng mga meyor at ng mga bise alkalde at konsehal.

Binibigyang diin ng liga sa kanilang Resolusyon blg. 25 na ang kasalukuyang sistema, na ang mga alkalde ang namumuno sa pagpupulong ng sangguniang bayan, ay napatunayan nang epektibo sa pagtalakay ng lahat ng hakbang na may kinalaman sa lehislyasyon.

Bukod dito, ayon pa sa liga, ang nakagawiang iyon ay nakapagbigay-daan sa pagkakaisa, pagtutulungan at pagkakabuklod ng mga miyembro ng SB. Huwag nang sabihing naiiwasan ang abala sa pagtalakay sa mga ordinansa at resolusyon, ayon pa sa kanila.

Samantala, mahigpit nilang tinututulan ang mungkahing bigyan ng regular na suweldo ang mga

konsehal. Nakasaad sa kanilang resolusyon blg. 27 na kapag ipinagkaloob sa mga konsehal ang nabanggit na suweldo, malamang na hindi na sila dumalo sa mga sesyon. Sa ngayon daw ay napipilitan silang pumunta sa sesyon dahil doon nakabatay ang sahod na kanilang tatanggapin.

Sa kabilang dako, hinihiling ng mga alkalde sa kanilang Resolusyon blg. 32 na taasan ang kanilang suweldo kumpara sa iba pang lokal o pangnasyunal na opisyal o tauhang nasa ilalim ng kanilang superbisyon sa kani-kanilang munisipalidad.

Ikinatwiran nilang sila ang pinakamataas na opisyal sa isang bayan, kung pag-uusapan ang kapangyarihan, at angkop lang anila na iayon ang suweldo sa dignidad ng kanilang tanggapan. (ANF)

Paglutas ng karukhaan

BIGO SA inaasahan ang mga programang laban sa kahirapan ng karanihan sa mga bansang Asyano. Hindi nito napabuti ang buhay ng mahihirap dahil sa kakulangan sa sigasig ng kanilang mga pamahalaan na ipatupad ang mga nasabing programa.

Ito ang pangkalahatang pagtaya ng mga kalahok mula sa walong bansa sa Timog-silangang Asya sa katatapos na panrehiyong dayalog tungkol sa Programa sa Paglutas ng Karukhaan at ang mga Sistemang Maaaring Gawin (Poverty Alleviation Program and Alternative Delivery Systems) na idinaos sa Maynila.

Ang panrehiyong kumperensiya, na inorganisa ng Asian Institute of Management ng Maynila at ng isang West German foundation, ay naghahangad na makabuo ng isang pangkalahatang programa

sa pagpapalano ng pagsugpo sa kahirapan sa Asya-Pasipiko.

Ang mga delegado, karamihan ay mga manedyer na pangkaunlaran, ay nagmula sa Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, People's Republic of China, Sri Lanka, Thailand at sa Pilipinas. Ang mga kinatawan ng Great Britain at Pakistan ay dumalo bilang mga tagapagmasid.

Isang dokumentong inihanda sa pagtatapos ng dayalog ang naghayag na ang mga programang pangkaunlaran ng karamihan sa mga bansang Asyano ay hindi lubusang nakatuon sa paglutas ng kahirapan. Sinabi sa naturang papel na hindi naihatid ng mga nasabing bansa ang mga proyekto at programang lunas sa kahirapan sa mga lalawigan, na kinaroroonan ng mga pinakadukhang lugar.

"Ang alinmang patakarang

pangkabuhayan ay dapat na tuwirang ituon sa kahirapan. Dapat na suportado ito ng matatag na paninindigang pampulitika sa antas na nasyunal," ayon sa isang tagapagsalita sa pagsasara ng kumperensiya.

Binigyang-diin dito ang kahalagahan ng partisipasyon ng komunidad sa proseso ng paggawa ng mga desisyon tungkol sa mga patakasan at programang nauukol sa mga taga nasyon. Kaugnay nito ay iminungkahi ang "pagsasama-sama ng mga puwersa" ng mga nasa pamahalaan, ng mga tagapagpatupad ng programa at ng mga benepisyaryo nito para sa isang mabisang implementasyon.

Idinagdag pa ng tagapagsalita na ang "pamahalaan" ay kailangang gumanap ng isang pangunahing papel sa pagsisikap na malunasan ang kahirapan. Sinabi rin niyang dalawang paraan ang maaaring gawin sa paglutas ng suliranin ito. Una, ang pangkalahatang paraan sa pagpapalano ng komunidad at pangalawa, ang pagtatatag ng patuluyang proseso ng pagpapalano. (ANF)



PAMILYA: Sagabal?

Pamilya, sagabal sa pag-asenso?

NI RUBEN ESTRELLA

SINASABI NG ilang mga sikolohiko na ang malaon nang ipinagkaka-puring mahigpit na pagsasamahan ng mga magkakapamilyang Pilipino ay may hindi magandang epekto sa kaunlarang pangkabuhayan ng bansa.

Mayroon pang nagsasabi na dahil sa sobrang pagkakalapat ng loob na ito, ang isang indibidwal ay nagiging tamad at palaasa sa iba. Ito rin daw ang dahilan kung kaya hindi makausad ang ekonomiya ng mga bansang Asyano.

Ang isang anak ng pamilyang Pilipino ay nananatiling nasa proteksiyon ng mga magulang hanggang sa makakita siya ng trabahong

makapagbibigay sa kanya ng ginhawang pamumuhay. Kahit dumating ang panahong magsisipag-asawa na ang mga anak na ito, madalas ay naroon pa rin silang nakapisan sa kanilang mga magulang, kasalo sa iisang bubong at sa pang-araw-araw na gastusin.

Sa unang pagmamasid ay sasabihin nating walang masama sa ganitong kaayusan, ngunit sa katagalan, ito ay hahantong sa pag-aasahan na hindi na makatutulong, bagkus ay nakasasama pa sa paglaki ng isang batang Pilipino.

Di tulad sa lipunang Amerikano na ang isang anak ay itinataboy nang

mamuhay nang malaya pagdating ng 18 taong gulang, ang isang anak na Pilipino ay itinuturing na hindi pa ganap na malaki "hanggang sa makaalpas na siya sa impluwensiya ng kanyang mga magulang." At bihira ang gayong pangyayari, bihirang-bihira.

May mga nangangatwiran na iba naman daw ang mga pagkakataong nakahain para sa mga kabataang Amerikano at sa mga anak na Pilipino. Gayunman, sinasabing kung hahayaan ang mga kabataang Pilipino, makakakita sila ng paraan upang mabuhay. Maaari pa nga silang makaisip ng mga

MARAMING DAHILAN kung bakit ang drug addiction ay lagapan sa maraming bansa at isa rito ay ang tiwaling burukrasya at masamang sistema ng pagpapatupad ng batas.

Ang paglaganap ng droga sa Columbia at iba pang mga bansa ay nagaganap nang may basbas at tagong

bagong pamamaraan upang maiwasan niya ang gutom.

Ngunit dapat pa ring tanggapin na ang pagmamahal ng mga magulang na Pilipino sa kanilang mga anak ang nagtutulak upang isipin ng mga ito na madali lang ang buhay. "Walang dapat ipag-alala. Kakain akong tiyak bukas dahil may pirming hanapbuhay ang aking mga magulang."

Sa kabilang dako, masdan natin ang isang Pilipinong maagang naulila at walang kumalinga. Tiyak na nakakita siya ng paraan upang mabuhay. At sa mga uri ng kabataang ito makikita na kayang takasan ng mga tao ang kahirapan. (ANF)

No end

(From page 16)

tell -- of home burned, husbands and children disemboweled, of some having been beheaded, and of homes pillaged by full-time, armed religious fanatics.

Since April 1989 when the military launched its biggest operation yet in Southern Negros, dislocating 35,000 people from their homes, the number of evacuees fleeing to Bacolod and town centers has not abated.

A leader of the evacuees said they would rather be resettled elsewhere than return to their original villages to

be ruled by the military and armed religious fanatics who, they say, have not only stolen their property but also killed their relatives and friends.

Some of the refugees have resettled in areas far from their original home in the past months, but those still housed in the Sacred Heart seminary compound said they live very miserable lives.

Because of their number, accommodations are insufficient. There is hardly any ventilation. It is hot and stuffy inside

and when one gets sick, others are easily contaminated.

Serious cases of illness are brought to the government-run hospital in the city, where refugees say they are "hardly attended to especially if they learn we are evacuees. Oftentimes, the attendants say, 'leave them alone, they are NPA's'."

Fr. Ireneo Gordoncillo of the Human Rights Alliance in Negros (HIRAN), said the Alliance will bring all the children to private hospitals. He says they

are trying to withdraw the P250,000 (US \$12,000) donated by Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to the evacuees which the Bacolod bishop had, as of this writing, not released yet.

Given last October, 1989, the donation was only known lately by the members of the Bacolod clergy and the evacuees themselves. A controversy has, in fact, broken out over the non-release by the bishop of the funds. (Cobra-Ans/PNF)

Maluwag sa 'drug lords' ang gobyerno

pagkunsinti ng mga tao na siya pa namang dapat pumutol sa pagkalat nito.

Dito sa Pilipinas, ang suliranin sa droga ay maaaring hindi napakalaki na gaya ng sa Columbia ngunit ang paglaganap nito ay sapat na upang ikabahala ng lahat.

Ayon kay PC-Narcotics Command chief Brig. Gen. Virgilio David, siya'y may talaan ng may 200 malalaking drug lords ngunit nakalulungkot na isa man sa mga ito ay hindi mapatunayang nagkasala o maibilanggo.

Ang mga kilalang lider ng mga sindikato sa droga na hindi mahatulan ay bunga ng kaluwagan sa pagpapatupad ng batas at tanging ang "maliliit na isda" ang nahahatulan. "Ang mga walang pera lamang ang nabibilanggo," sabi ni Gen. David.

Sinabi pa ni David na ang bilang ng drug lords sa bansa ay nababawasan lamang kung ang ilan sa kanila ay

napapatay sa "engkuwentro" sa mga tagapagpatupad ng batas.

Ang pagbuo ng mga espesyal na korte na magpapabilis sa paglilitis sa mga nadadakip na drug traffickers at addicts ay makatutulong sa pagpapabilanggo sa mga "salot" na ito ng lipunan, wika ni David.

Ang Narcom, ayon kay David, ay nadakip ng may 2,000 drug traffickers at pushers at may 1,124 na kaso ang naisampa sa hukuman. Nakakumpiska rin sila ng may P1 bilyong halaga ng mga bawal na gamot. Nakalulungkot, ani David, na kakaunti lamang ang nahatulan sa mga kasong ito.

Ang karaniwang ginagawa na idinedeport ang mga dayuhang nadadakip sa drug trafficking ay dapat din umano na itigil, wika ni David. Dapat lamang silang ideport matapos nilang pagdusahan ang kanilang krimen, aniya pa. (ANF)

Placido DIAZ

(From page 7)

nawa na rin tatanga-tanga ang mga kababayan ko. Kailanman ay hindi akong magiging kawawa, subalit marami na ang kahabaghabag dahil sa mga maling patakaran at pamamalakat ni Madame Cory at mga katiwalian at kawalanghiyaan ng mga sipsip na nakapaligid sa kanya. Sayang at itong *We Forum* ay iilan lang ang bumabasa. Kaya iilan lang ang mapapaliwanagan ko na ang kailangan natin sa ating bayan ay ang mga

KABALIKAT sa pagpasan ng responsabilidad para sa kapakanan ng nakararami.

Mga KABALIKAT na handang magsakripisyo upang mabawasan ang bigat ng pasanin ng mga naghihirap nating mga kababayan. Mga KABALIKAT na magsasabuhay ng BAYAN MUNA, BAGO ANG SARILI. Kaya kay JOKER ARROYO ang boto ko, at hindi sa kung sino man ang kandidato o kandidata na suportado nina JOECON, TING JAYME, JOBO FERNANDEZ, JESS ESTANISLAO, CARDINAL SIN, CIA at PHILAMLIFE.

NagKABISIG na tayo sa hirap sa EDSA, sila-sila na lang ang nagpasarap sa Malakanyang. Sa kanila na lang ang KABISIG ni Cory. Tiyakin lang sana natin: hanggang 1992 na lang sila.

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is given to the public that the heirs of the late MELQUIADES J. CASTILLO and BENITA J. CASTILLO who died on February 8, 1985 and April 25, 1983 respectively, both in Quezon City have executed an extrajudicial settlement of their estate before Notary Public Elizabeth A. Andres of Quezon City as appearing in her notarial register as Doc. No. 411, Page No. 83, Book I, series of 1990.

We Forum
June 27, July 4, 11, 1990

Ifugao practice promotes reforestation

By MAURICE B. MALANES

LAGAWE, IFUGAO -- An indigenous practice in this northern Philippine upland province has persistently promoted forest pro-

tection and an agro-forestry type of reforestation which do not need millions of pesos in foreign loans and grants to promote.

The practice is called *muyong*, in which a clan or group of clans maintains and protects a communal woodlot or tree farm.

The communal woodlot or tree farm has all sorts of trees -- some for timber, while others are water-conserving species. Intercropped with the trees are medicinal herbs, wild fruits and rattan, among others.

Under the *muyong* practice, only clan members are entitled to the resources of the communal tree farm. Intruders who hunt or steal timber from the clan woodlot are penalized according to customary laws.

Those who practice the *muyong* benefit in various ways. For housing needs, the clan-protected woodlot offers timber. They are also assured of a non-stop flow of spring water for drinking and irrigation.

Because rivers and brooks covered under the *muyong* are also protected, the eels, fresh water fish and lobsters that abound there provide protein and mineral supplements to the mountain folk's diet.

Local elders recall that some decades ago Ifugao, like other four provinces that form the Cordillera mountain range, was most for-

ested. Enterprising emigrants from the lowlands, however, came to Ifugao and among the first things they did, according to elders, was to cut down the trees.

These emigrants, who got rich from logging, local elders said, eventually became the political leaders of the province.

Today, a visitor to Ifugao will immediately note only patches of forest cover left. These patches of forest cover are the clan-protected communal woodlots which have long been maintained under the *muyong* practice.

Early Philippine administrations designated national park reservations in forested areas like the Cordilleras in the north.

But despite the designation of national forest parks, forest denudation has continued unabated.

Previous governments granted timber license agreements (TLAs) to big firms which entitled them to log even in what had been declared as forest reservations. These TLAs given in the 50s and 60s expire in the 1990s. Some TLAs expire

only in the year 2000 or even beyond.

Similarly, the declarations of forest lands, which include communal forests, as national parks and public lands only alienated the indigenous folk who saw themselves transformed into "squatters in our own land."

Forest reservations and public land laws hardly helped protect and conserve the environment because, as noted now by local environment-watch groups, these laws ignored ancestral land laws and customary practices such as the *muyong*.

Nongovernment ecology-watch groups such as the Baguio City-based Cordillera Environmental Concerns Committee and the Bontoc, Mt. Province-based Cordillera Ancestral Manifestation, Inc., have proposed that indigenous practices must be looked into before formulating environmental policies in the Cordillera.

Otherwise, they warned, government laws will always be on a collision course with customary practices. (PNF)



Forest protection: Indigenous practice.

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS LUNGSOD NG KALOOKAN TANGGAPAN NG INGAT-YAMAN

SA MAGSISIPAGBAYAD NG BUWIS SA MGA ARI-ARIAN

Alinsunod sa itinatadhana ng "Section 73, Presidential Decree No. 464 o lalong kilala sa tawag ng "Real Property Tax Code", and mga nakalagda sa ibaba ay magkatuwang na nagkaisang maglunsad ng kampanya sa buwis mula sa mga ari-arian nakakalig-taang bayaran sa Pamahalaang Lungsod sa layuning matugunan ang lumalaking bilang ng mga pangangailangan sa mga pagawaing lungsod na makatutugon sa pag-unlad ng serbisyo pulbiko.

Nagkaisa ang mga lokal na opisyal na itaguyod ang mga programa sa pagpapagawa ng mga gusali, pabahay, lansangan, kalusugan, palakasan, atbp. tungo sa pagpapaunlad ng kabuhatan ng mga mamamayan sa kanilang komunidad.

Bilang isang nagmamay-ari ng lupa sa Lungsod ng Kalookan, lahat kayo ay bahagi ng programa sa mga alituntuning ipinatutupad ng pamahalaang lokal. Tungkulin ninyo na makibahagi sa ikapagtatagumpay ng umuugit ng pamahalaan tulad ng sumusunod:

1. Isumite sa tanggapan ng Tagatasa (Assessor) ang kahustuhan o katumpakan ng rehistro o titulong hawak ng deklaradong may-ari-arian animnapung (60) araw matapos sumainyo ang pagmamay-ari ng nabanggit na lupa o gusali alinman dito ang mauna.

2. Ipagbigay-alam din ang pagpapaayos o pagpapalaki ng mga ari-arian (gusali, bahay o establisimiyento) upang maitumpak ang pagtatasa sa mga ito.

3. Mangyari lamang na bayaran ang mga morosong buwis sa lalong madaling panahon upang makaiwas sa multa. Tandaang sa baw't buwan na hindi kayo kabayad ng buwis, may multang dalawang (2) porsiyento sa kabuuan ng buwis.

4. Ang buwis para sa taong 1990 ay maaaring bayaran ng apat (4) na hulog na walang multa tulad ng sumusunod:

Ika-1 hulog - takdang araw o bago sumapit ang Marso 31, 1990

Ika-2 hulog - takdang araw o bago sumapit ang Hunyo 30, 1990

Ika-3 hulog - takdang araw o bago sumapit ang Setyembre 30, 1990

Ika-4 hulog - takdang araw o bago sumapit ang Disyembre 31, 1990

NILAGDAAN NINA:

PRIMO G. MACASAET
City Assessor
Kalookan City

NORBERTO E. AZARCON
City Treasurer
Kalookan City

We Forum
June 20, 27 and July 4, 1990

Bad news for drinkers

CABANATUAN CITY -- The prices of dogmeat and catmeat have risen significantly here as a result of ordinances prohibiting the public sale and slaughter of dogs and cats for meat.

The prohibition has made dogmeat and catmeat here rare, resulting in a sharp increase in their price -- that is, if you know how to locate backstreet meat vendors selling the priced commodities.

The prevailing price of dogmeat and catmeat choice cuts even exceed those of pork and beef.

Dogs and cats can be bought for at least P40 and P30 a kilo liveweight, respectively. A fair-sized dog easily fetches P500. Occasionally though, live cats can still be had for a song.

A kilo of lean dogmeat fetches P80 while shank, ribs and other bony cuts are sold for at least P50 a kilo. On the other hand, lean catmeat is priced at P60 a kilo while a kilo of bony cuts costs P40.

Last month, the city council passed an ordinance banning the slaughter of cats and the sale of cat's meat in public eateries.

Pulutan (food served during drinking bouts) lovers who shifted to catmeat after the same council earlier stopped the sale of dogmeat in the city reacted to the ordinance with consternation.

Like dogmeat, catmeat is often served as *adobo*, *kalderyeta* or even *kappukan*, a local dish made of broiled hide, entrails and lean meat steeped in *calamansi* (Philip-

pine lemon), chili, onions, salt and ginger.

Authored by councilmen Ronaldo Ramos, Loreto Pangilinan, Aurora Golfo, and Rizalino Yazon, the ordinance said cats, next to dogs, are man's best friends too.

It likewise exhorted city residents to raise more cats to help solve the problem of a rapidly increasing rat population in the area.

Make
We Forum
a
habit

Families displaced due to coal pollution

By MA. DIOSA LABISTE

Mushrooms, anyone?

KIBUNGAN, BENGUET -- The rains of June don't only mean the regreening of grazing lands and rain-fed farms in the countryside.

In this northern Philippine upland town of the Cordillera mountain range, the rains also signal the sprouting of edible wild mushrooms to augment the rice-or-camote-and-plant-salt diet regimen of village folk during the dry season.

While cultured mushrooms sell for as much as P80 (about US\$3.60) to P150 (US\$6.80) per kilo in Baguio City, the country's summer capital and gateway to the Cordilleras, Kibungan wild mushrooms are free for the picking.

Wild mushrooms here and in many parts of the Cordillera grown on decayed leaves of pine trees and of another tree species locally called *palayan*.

The edible mushroom species that grow under pine and palayan trees are known to locals as *kupotan* (a white kind with bluish on top), *lam-ing* (white with red-pink top), *dam-mino* (white with brown-yellow top), *gato* (white-brown) and *be-o* (a round, ball-shaped variety).

Another white mushroom that sprouts in clusters is what Kibungan folk call the *o-ong* which grows on an abandoned termite or ant hill. Some grow on decaying tree trunks called *kowat* and *ga-eng*. *Kowat* commonly grow on the rotting trunks of a certain tree species locally known as *tikem*. *Ga-eng* (which is very much like the *tenga ng daga* dried mushrooms) grow on the rotting trunks of all local tree species.

All these mushrooms can be cooked in various ways and can be mixed with other ingredients in a meat or meatless menu. The common and simple way to cook these mushrooms in Kibungan households is preparing them in broth.

To vegetarians, these wild mushrooms go well with *tofu* (soybean curd), *vege-meat* and textured vegetable protein, another meatlike soybean product.

In Kibungan, picking mushrooms is generally the task of children who help their parents look for something for breakfast before going to school.

Together with the eels, fish and lobsters in the rivers, not to mention the livestock or farm crops farmers raise, these edible mushrooms and other wild edibles are more than enough to sustain both human and animal life.

Unfortunately, forest destruction is a continuing threat in Kibungan as elsewhere in the country. In recent years, a sawmill firm encroached on this upland town and most of the second-generation pine trees were soon gone as fast as the sawmill's chainsaws could cut them. (PNF)

3 priests (From page 16)

University of San Agustin in Iloilo.

Objaan is the chairperson of the Promotion of Church People's Rights (PCPR) and the Panay Ecumenical Institute for Socio-Pastoral Service. He said that at the time of the raid, his group was having

a Bible reflection.

The military charged Objaan and his companions with subversion. They have remained in prison because of failure to post bail of P100,000 each for their temporary release. (PNF)

ILOILO CITY -- Some 130 families will be displaced from the boom village of Suha in Semirara island, Caluya town in Antique province due to pollution from the island's coal mine, which government has declared is "alarming."

Officials from the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources in Antique have found that sulfur dioxide emission as well as wind-blown coal particles from Semirara Coal Corporation threaten the health of 130 families living near the coal mine's stockpiles.

DENR officials said an obnoxious odor residents have been complaining about was caused by sporadic but incomplete combustion of coal from the stockpiles. On the other hand, wind-blown coal particles found in trees, coastal

water and elsewhere in the village came from the same stockpiles exposed to elements for months now.

The coal at the mine's stockpile is intended for the National Power Corporation's (NPC) Calaca Station I in Luzon. The station, however, was shut down for repairs and NPC did not get the coal for other coal-fired power stations.

Families at Suha said their children get sick from the odor emitted by the coal stockpile. They also said they breathe in coal dust whenever the wind blows toward their village.

DENR inspected the site in response to Suha villagers' complaints. After the inspection, DENR engineer in Antique Ernesto Eduardo recommended "legal sanctions" against the coal mine for allegedly violating envi-

ronmental laws, among them the provision of pollution-control devices.

The coal mine management said it recognizes its obligation to relocate its employees to areas rented by the corporation. The management, through its administrative division manager Jose Salta, said, however, that residents should dismantle their homes by themselves.

"If there is a shortage of construction materials in building bunkhouses, SCC will provide," Salta said.

The residents in a resolution petition however demanded that the mine should shoulder all the expenses for relocation and construction of bunkhouses for its employees. Those not employed at the mines should also receive monetary assistance from the corpora-

tion for labor and other expenses they would incur during the transfer of their houses.

The corporation and the 130 families, failing to settle the pollution and relocation issue, decided to attend the public hearing of the DENR on June 15 in San Jose, Antique.

Semirara Coal Corporation is said to be the biggest coal mine in the Far East. It employs 3,000 miners and mines enough coal to last for 50 years. It produces millions of tons of carbon.

The mine is jointly owned by the National Development Corporation and the Vost Alpine Company, an Austrian corporation. The venture was facilitated by Herminio Disini, a known Marcos associate. (PNF)

Newsmen seek (From page 16)

These reports have been confirmed by the Senate. The Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights concluded last May after year-long investigations, that some members of the media have suffered abuses under the Aquino administration.

It said media practitioners have been "placed under surveillance, denied access to information, threatened and intimidated, subjected to arbitrary arrests and detention, and manhandled."

The military's refusal to affirm the "non-combatant" status of journalists appears to be based on suspicions that many reporters -- Filipino and foreign -- have acted as propaganda conduits of the underground Left or of rightist coup plotters, and that they may have actually engaged in armed encounters with government troops.

Some military authorities, however, consider nosy reporters as dangerous to their illegal activities, such as gambling, smuggling and

drug dealing.

(Many of the 23 journalists killed had in fact antagonized the military, as well as vigilante groups and big politicians.)

A number of reporters suspect that the military intends to attack media and that conferring a "non-combatant" status of journalists would impede such a policy.

Such attacks have turned out to be deliberate, although law enforcers have invoked "mistaken identity" as an excuse. Reporters covering the May 25, 1989 funeral of a fallen Alex Boncayao Brigade partisan in Mandaluyong, and those covering the May 1, 1990 rally dispersal in Angeles were displaying press cards prominently, their cameras even visible, and yet were beaten by the police and military.

Such violent attacks seem to reflect not only a defiance of the "non-combatant" status media enjoys but also a tendency to look at the mere reportage of events as intimidating and provocative.

Ironically, while Biazon last June 21 said the military respects media's right to access to information, many reporters are worried it could be a bait. Some reporters covering military-related activities have been given access to classified information and allowed to interview anti-government guerillas only to be arrested by the military.

There is also the apparent indifference of government to rescue journalists under assault. Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III told PNF some months ago, that assaults on media persons are beyond the pale of government policy. Gomez hinted such incidents were unavoidable and "part of the risks" newsmen have to face. (PNF)

Navasero photo seminar

MANDY NAVASERO Photography will hold a seminar for industrial and corporate exhibitors on June 28, 2-4 p.m. at 1097 Pasong Tamo, Makati. Guest lecturer is international photographer and owner of ASIA LAB, Philip Capper, that supplies Mandy Navasero with Tri-Image machines capable of showing three-color print images one after the other. Capper will also discuss the advantage of using UNIQUE and EXPOSURE, collapsible exhibition stands, duraflex photographic panels, photo murals including art and preparation.

Advertisers and manufacturers are invited to this free lecture. For details, please call 810-42-54, 810-40-76, 85-51-03 and 87-54-23.

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late DOMINGO M. CERA has been the subject of extrajudicial settlement by his heirs as per the Notarial Register of Atty. AURORA S. BAUTISTA whose commission expires on December 31, 1991.

WE FORUM
June 13, 20 and 27, 1990

Media professionals seek 'non-combatant' status

By BOBBY TUAZON

PHILIPPINE MILITARY authorities continue to equivocate on whether or not to respect the "non-combatant" status of media practitioners. This had led to confusion among some practitioners and has made the profession vulnerable to military actions.

In a June 21 press-military dialogue, Armed Forces vice chief of staff Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Biazon was non-committal on a proposal to declare newsmen as "non-combatants." Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos had similarly equivocated in a similar dialogue sponsored by the National Press Club in July, 1989.

Media organizations have been asking the military to adopt the Geneva Convention protocol conferring "non-combatant" status on civilians, including journalists.

Coverage of armed conflicts in the pursuit of the journalist's profession and his/her responsibility to inform the public, these organizations say, should be protected by law.

What has led media groups, led by the Philippine Movement for Press Freedom (PMPF) and the Union of Journalists of the Philippines (UJP) to protest apparent military indifference to international law governing the right of coverage of armed conflicts have been the number of journalists killed, harassed or beaten, usually by military and police authorities.

In May 1990 the PMPF Task Force to Protect Media persons reported that from 1986 to February this year, 23 media persons -- print as well as radio journalists -- were killed in the Philippines.

The figure indicated that under the Aquino administration, there was an average of six journalists killed every year, compared to the Marcos term's two a year.

The death toll does not include victims of physical assaults including those in the May 1 mauling of ten journalists covering the dispersal of an anti-bases rally in Angeles city, 83 kms. north of Manila. The most recent case of alleged physical assault was the June 5 Air Force "abduction" of Manila reporter Vilma Manzo.

Many cases of fatal and non-fatal assaults on media persons have involved military and police officers and personnel, PMPF said. Although some cases of assaults have been filed with the Commission on Human Rights and subjects of congressional probes, almost all the cases have remained unsolved with perpetrators going unpunished.

(Page 15, please)

We Forum

16

JUNE 27-JULY 3, 1990

P3.00

IN METRO MANILA

3 priests most wanted 'rebels' in Negros, Panay

By MA. DIOSA LABISTE

ILOILO CITY -- Three Roman Catholic priests are among the most wanted rebels in Negros and Panay islands, posters and bulletins circulated by the local military indicate.

Each priest has a price of P500,000 (US \$24,000) on his head.

Fernandez, in his early forties, was the parish priest of Silay City and Isabela town in the sugar producing province of Negros Occidental before he fled to the hills.

On the other hand, Pellobello, said to be in his late forties, was the curate of E.B. Magalona town in northern Negros Occidental.

Of the two, Fernandez, is the most popular, being the highest ranking officer of the clandestine National Democratic Front in Negros island. He represented the NDF-Negros during peace negotiations with government in December 1986. Last year his photos appeared in na-

tional dailies when he distributed "land titles" with his signature.

The posters said Fernandez stands at least five feet six inches. His assumed names are allegedly Ibarra, Iba, Tim, Laloy and Frank.

Pellobello, the military says, is the head of the Regional United Front Commission of NDF-Negros. His false names are Estoy, Itik and Isoy. He wears eyeglasses, is brown complexioned and medium built.

The military in Negros is known to be monitoring the activities of a number of religious and lay leaders tagged as subversives for their involvement in pro-poor programs helping Negros 250,000 impoverished sugar

In Negros posters bearing the photos of Fathers Francisco Fernandez and Vicente Pellobello with the phrase "Wanted: Dead or Alive" were displayed in public places early this month.

workers and their families. Even then Bacolod bishop and Nobel Peace Prize nominee Antonio Fortich was tagged as a subversive and his residence bombed by right wing groups in 1987.

On the neighboring Panay island, the military has also named another priest as one of the most wanted members of the clandestine NDF. Although there were no posters to attract bounty hunters, Fr. Ernesto Torre's pictures were in bulletins inside military camps and police headquarters.

Torre is the former parish priest of Oton town in southern Iloilo. He heads the underground Christians for National Liberation in Visayas which comprises the

islands of Panay, Negros, Cebu, Bohol, Leyte and Samar.

Torre headed the NDF Panay panel during the aborted peace talks in 1986. When hostilities resumed, the military put a P300,000 price on his head.

Torre was rumored to have been killed twice in different places in 1987 and 1988.

Last May 30, the military announced the capture of Torre along with 20 others in a raid at Guimbal town. The following day however military operatives clarified that the priest they arrested was not Torre but Fr. Rogelio Objaan, 49, dean of the College of Theology of the

(Page 15, please)



NEGROS EVACUEES: Ill, neglected.

Negros refugees

No end to suffering

BACOLOD CITY -- Five small coffins glistened silver gray while a drizzle dampened spirits even more as a group of evacuees passed by the Domus Dei or the old priests' home here on their way to bury their dead.

The sight may have melted most hearts, but apparently not those of government authorities including some ranking church personages the evacuees have accused of insensitivity to their

plight.

The five dead children were among 13 others who have died since more than 300 evacuees found temporary shelter in Bacolod's Sacred Heart Seminary compound.

As of this writing 23 others were ill in hospitals.

The majority of the evacuees came from the villages of Locotan and Salong in Kabankalan town in Southern Negros. Nineteen others are

secondtime evacuees from Sipalay town who have not been resettled.

In nearby Sum-ag, which is part of Bacolod City, some 100 evacuees live in makeshift huts. Most are evacuees of long-standing, having fled their homes in the hinterlands of Hinobaan and Sipalay town for fear of government-organized armed religious fanatics.

Many of the internal refugees from those town have tales of horror to

(Page 13, please)