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Jose Burgos, Jr.

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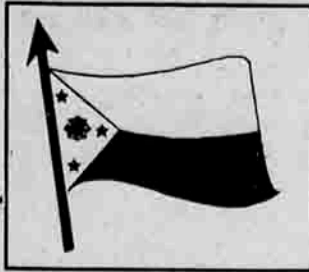
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# We Forum

To seek and live the truth and share a vision



Rally  
for peace

VOL. 19 ♦ NO. 17

AUGUST 21-27, 1995

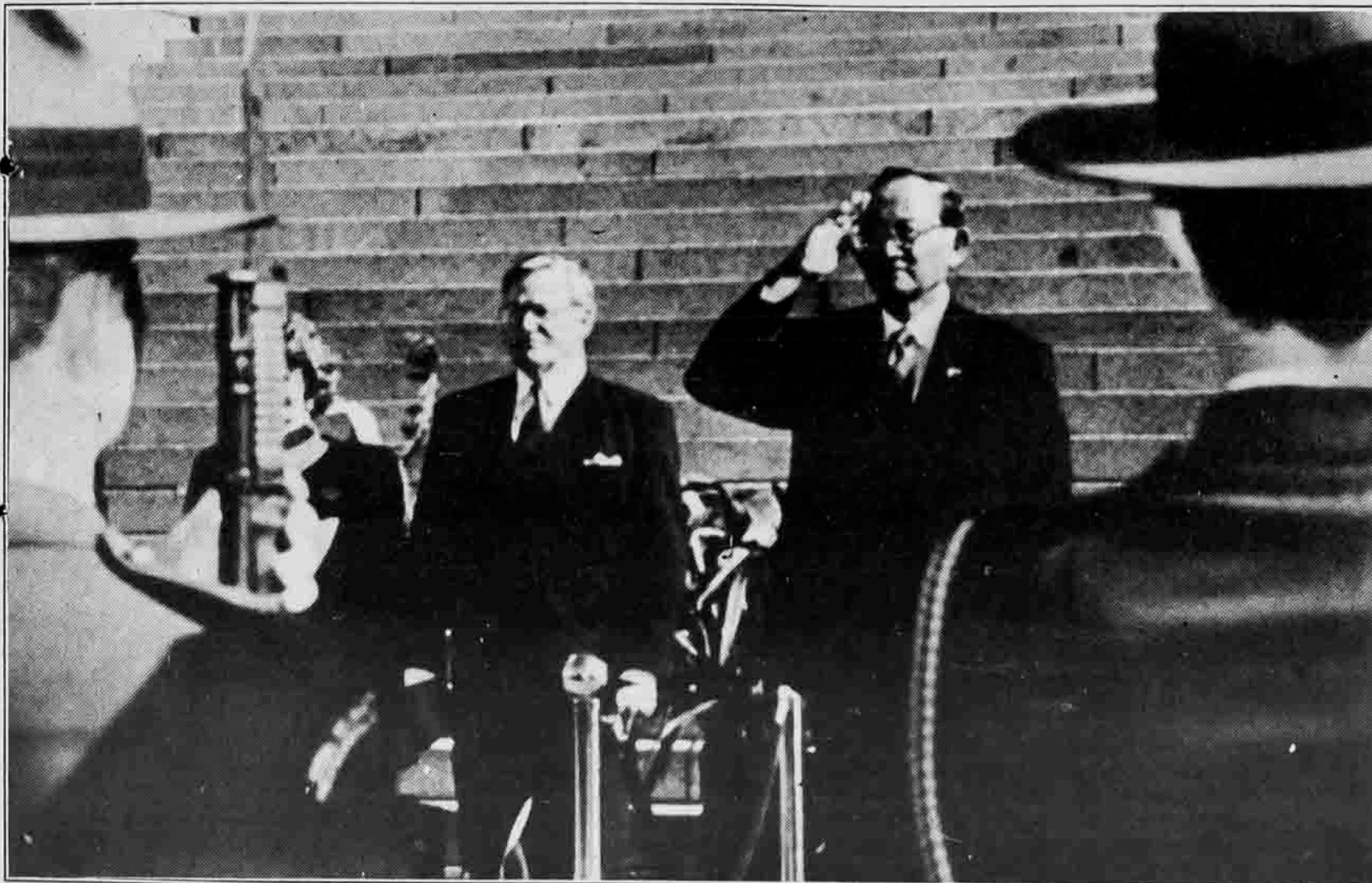
₱3.00

IN METRO MANILA

## EMERGENCY POWERS

# CONGRESS SAYS NO TO RAMOS?

Page 3



President Ramos returns the salute he received during the official welcome ceremony at the Parliament House in Wellington on his arrival in New Zealand last August 16. He was officially welcomed by Prime Minister James Bolger. (Malacañang Photo)

Local  
breeds  
vanishing  
fast



Page 10

Asian  
rice  
picture  
not so  
rosy

-- FAO

Page 12

*'Empowerment' enhances people's lives*

● Page 12

# RAISE FISH, NOT FISH 'EM

By ALAN C. ROBLES

MANILA — Shakespeare might write poetically about the "infinite bounty" of the seas. Scientists are not so optimistic.

Fishery experts say that the world's seas and lakes have been fished to their limits, but demand is still rising.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the world consumed 70 million tons of fish in 1990. That figure could reach 90 million tons by the year 2000 and 100 million tons by 2010.

By comparison, fish production has fallen from its peak of 104 million tons in 1989. In 1993, overall marine production was 84.25

***Experts say  
that the  
world's  
oceans  
and lakes  
have been  
fished to  
the limit***

million tons.

Fishermen are already straining the waters, Veravat Hongskul, FAO's fishery officer for Asia and the Pacific, says that marine

catches have declined since 1989 "as a result of significant overexploitation."

Mr. Hongskul notes how most of the world's fish supplies are "fully to heavily exploited, overexploited, depleted or slowly recovering."

Current fishing techniques are wasteful, says Hongskul. Fishermen drag up fish they do not need. They also throw away catches that do not meet their requirements. The FAO estimates that these bycatches and discards could total as much as 39.5 million tons a year.

Because of the strain, catches on the high seas fell by almost half in four years (Page 11, please)



MONOSEX TILAPIA (right): Bigger than ordinary breed (left).

## FROM RIPPLES TO WAVES NEW TILAPIA CULTURE

By JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.

MUÑOZ, Nueva Ecija — Erstwhile ripples in tilapia research are turning out into waves that could buoy up the Philippines' capacity to attain food security.

As a result, research has taken the backseat to rigid implementation of tilapia propagation that could boost the supply of freshwater fish on Filipino families' dining tables.

At the National Freshwater Fisheries Technology Research Center (NFFTRC) and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), at least seven private tilapia hatchery operators have already been accredited to produce and sell fingerlings of the Genetically Improved Farmed Tilapia or GIFT. The new breed of tilapia was a result of painstaking researches by experts of the NFFTRC-BFAR, Freshwater Aquaculture Center of the Central Luzon State University, Marine Science Institute of the University of the Philippines, Institute of Aquaculture

Research of Norway, and the International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM).

Ruben A. Reyes, officer-in-charge of the NFFTRC, told the *Inquirer* that the seven licensed private hatcheries authorized to disperse the GIFT, are located in Pampanga (2), Nueva Ecija (2), Pangasinan (1), Tarlac (1), and Laguna (1). The seven have been supplied by the Center with broodstocks to ensure the purity of the new tilapia breed.

It was gathered that the Center could no longer supply the fast growing demand for GIFT fingerlings and the accreditation of private hatchery operators could fill in the requests of fishpond operators for more supply.

The Center can only produce 28 million, a measly portion of the yearly fingerlings needed by fishpond operators throughout the 12 regions totaling 461,650,800.

Despite the establishment of the seven private hatcheries as outlets of GIFT, the

growing acceptance of tilapia as staple food and its reasonable price in the market, more fishpond operators will be tapped to help in the production of fingerlings, according to Reyes.

Even as the full implementation of the production of GIFT fingerlings goes underway, another breakthrough in tilapia breeding was revealed by Dr. Fortunato Battad, president of the Central Luzon State University.

Battad disclosed that the university's Freshwater Aquaculture Center, headed by Dr. Tereso Abella is now ready to market another tilapia breed, produced under the so-called YY-Male Technology or the Genetically Male Tilapia.

The new monosex male tilapia is a product of genetic manipulation of sex and has high potentials in fishpond culture with its characteristics of non-reproduction, bigger and uniform in size, and shorter period of harvestability.

Republic of the Philippines  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
National Capital Judicial Region  
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF  
Malabon, Metro Manila

### NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as Amended by Act 4118, filed by MERALCO EMPLOYEES SAVINGS AND LOANS ASSOCIATION, INC., Mortgagee against JEREMIAS CORTEZ, JR., Mortgagor, with residence and postal address at #16 E. Jacinto St., Malabon, Metro Manila to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of May 22, 1995 amounts to ONE HUNDRED SIXTY ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN & 03/100 (P161,927.03) PESOS plus additional interest, penalties, attorney's fees, sheriff's fees, expenses of foreclosure and sale, the undersigned or her duly authorized Sheriff will sell at public auction on September 5, 1995 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Malabon Hall of Justice Building, located at Catmon, Malabon, Metro Manila to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine currency, the following property with all its improvement, to wit:

### TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 159681

A parcel of land (Lot 28-B-2 of the subdivision plan Psd-13-003576, being a portion of Lot 28-B, Psd-44760, LRC Rec. No. 1230), situated in Brgy. Concepcion, Bo. Maasim, Mun. of Malabon, Metro Manila. Bounded on the SE., along line 1-2 by Street Lot 34, Psd-11759; on the SW., along line 2-3 by Lot 28-B-3, on the NW., & SW., along lines 3-4-5 by Lot 28-B-1, both of the subd. plan; and on the NW., & NE., along lines 5-6-1 by Lot 28-C, Psd-44760. xxx xxx xxx containing an area of ONE HUNDRED SIXTY SEVEN (167) SQUARE METERS. xxx xxx xxx.

Prospective buyers may investigate for themselves the title hereinabove described and encumbrances thereon if any there be.  
Malabon, Metro Manila, August 8, 1995.

(Sgd.) MA. CELESTINA C. MANGROBANG  
Clerk of Court and  
Ex-Officio Sheriff

(Sgd.) GALLARDO C. TOLENTINO  
Sheriff-In-Charge

### WARNING

It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this NOTICE OF SALE on or before the date of sale under penalty of law.

WE FORUM  
August 14, 21 & 28, 1995

# WHY CONGRESS WON'T GIVE RAMOS EMERGENCY POWERS

By ERIC S. GIRON

**I**T IS now apparent why Congress balked at giving President Fidel Ramos the emergency powers he was seeking to foment what Senate President Edgardo Angara foresaw as a "bloody" bureaucratic overhaul but others dismissed as *zarzuela*. The powers could be abused in the roughshod manner Malacañan pressures bureaucrats not to its liking to quit, ignoring the law protecting their security of tenure.

Chairman Rosario Lopez of the Securities and Exchange Commission was out to prove a point: that the commission charter protected her seven-year term of office which would expire on March 11, 1997. She was adamant to consign 34 years with the SEC to the dustbin. She felt resignation would be an admission of guilt that would destroy her honor, integrity and credibility.

"That is one thing very valuable for me and I don't think I can take this sitting down," said the iron-willed 59-year-old woman appointed by President Corazon Aquino chairman from the ranks on the basis of merit in 1989—a sharp contrast to the "lemons" President Ramos handpicks for his official family.

Lopez is uncompromising in her principles. She could not adapt to the "unwritten code of political expediency, opportunism and political chicanery in a bureaucracy heavily infested with political vultures, sycophants and deadwood," said *Bayan* President Danilo P. Vizmanos who knew her from childhood. "Another vulnerable point is her conviction that commission rules must be applied uniformly and not selectively based on the clout of corporations and their access to the corridors of power."

## PALACE SCHEME

Malacañan defiled the independence of the quasi-judicial corporate watchdog SEC by subverting it to direct supervision by Finance Sec. Roberto de Ocampo. This

reduced the SEC en banc panel to a rubber stamp. Lopez was told all decisions had to be "collegial" with her four associate commissioners—Perfecto Yasay Jr., Rodolfo Samarista, Fe Eloisa Gloria and Merle Manuel.

The commissioners, encouraged to oppose the chairman, claimed Lopez had stripped them of administrative powers which she transferred to the department heads. The commissioners were confined to quasi-judicial functions. This bred an atmosphere of "infighting" at the commission.

Lopez had to her credit the unification of the Makati and Manila bourses, a one-price stock market, and rules for the industry's development. But in unifying the stock exchanges under the Philippine Stock Exchange, her favoring Tektite Powers with Roberto Coyiuto in the feud over the main trading center site displeased some Makati stockbrokers.

She identified a "small but moneyed group" that had not forgiven her for unifying the Makati and Manila bourses, who orchestrated the campaign against her and the SEC. Capital Markets Development Chairman Roman Azanza said his group would disobey her and "if she obstructs us, we will fight."

Lopez also had to contend with the US Agency for International Development's threat to withdraw its \$13 billion investment to improve the capital market if she did not enforce their proposed workcell reforms.

"The agency's sole rea-



RAMOS: In "firing mood."

son for existence is to promote US economic and security interests in the Third World and nurture its political and economic 'assets' and surrogates in client states," Vizmanos said. "If upliftment of the masses were high on its agenda, then it must explain why after decades of 'aiding' underdeveloped countries, mass poverty has become the rule, rather than the exception, in the Third World today!"

Ramos, who does not deny he is an Amboy, quickly took steps to remove Lopez. Cognizant that she could not be ousted without just cause and only on "recommendation of the Ombudsman or by a proper court," Ramos sicked his newly-appointed Ombudsman Aniano Disierto to rake up and defreeze past criminal and administrative cases against her.

Aniano's appointment is under siege by Rep. Joker Arroyo for his role as representative of the Judge Advocate General's Office in persecuting martial law victims on the basis of confessions obtained by torture.

Certain sectors view Lopez's ouster as Ramos surrendering control to Makati's business community who might make him

hostage to them.

## RESIGN, SAYS RAMOS

Ramos' call on all SEC commissioners to resign was a ploy to get Lopez out. But knowing the law, she did not bite. The four associate commissioners complied but De Ocampo said as long as their resignation had not been acted upon, they are still considered in office.

Chairman Lopez had a closed-door meeting with President Ramos at Malacañan on the morning fire swept the upper floors of the four-storey Administration building August 10. She filed a petition for a month's vacation which Ramos approved "to make preparations for her optional retirement in October." She was preparing for a Senate workshop on August 14 on capital market development.

But she was firm in her press statement that her fixed seven-year term does not expire until March 11, 1997 under Presidential Decree 902. She said De Ocampo's jumping the gun on Malacañan clearly shows he is part of a "cabal" that had been campaigning for her ouster.

As expected, associate commissioner Yasay was named to replace Lopez as



LOPEZ: Uncompromising in her principles.

acting SEC chairman, and the three others would be restored. Yasay immediately pledged to carry out capital market reforms in a "collegial" manner, the USAID proposal to merge the functions of the Brokers and Exchange Department with the Money Market on initial public offerings and registration of company shares and debt notes on his masters' bidding.

It's a pity that after leaving Malacañan, Lopez did not return to her office at the 12-storey SEC building on Ortigas Avenue where office personnel and her supporters had posted banners saying "We support you, Chairman Lopez," "Chairman Lopez, God bless you," knowing her devout nature. More than 300 SEC employees and officers were saddened that the quiet woman was humiliated by the private sector and President Ramos.

But what could be more precious for a retiring official than the resolution by over 300 urging her retention "for being instrumental in the unification of the bourses and in all her years of public service had been uncorrupted and worthy of emulation by civil servants."

The issues revolving

around Lopez are "much more than just in individual or even organizational responsibilities and accountabilities. They actually mirror the festering symptoms of a grossly imbalance, unjust, and ailing society, where economic and political power has been concentrated in the hands of an ultra-rich minority," Vizmanos recapped. "A social order where the arrogance of power is flaunted with impunity by an avaricious economic elite working hand-in-glove with a military-oriented state hierarchy that seems to be afflicted with the 'what are we in power for' syndrome."

## FIRING, REHIRING

Ramos pursued his random purge like a punchdrunk boxer without any systematic program of revamp which senators demanded if he would be granted extra powers. The next head to roll was that of Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System Administrator Ruben Hernandez.

Hernandez and his deputy, Macra Cruz, built a two-storey restaurant atop La Mesa-Bicti aqueduct in Novaliches, endangering Manila's water supply. He is held responsible for the

(Next page, please)

loss of half the water generated to pilferage or leaks in the pipes. Sen. Ernesto Maceda accused him of overpricing fire hydrants.

Maceda said he wanted to take advantage of Mr. Ramos' "firing mood" by listing ten government owned and controlled corporations as "white elephants." He said officials of the National Food Authority, National Telecom Communications Commission, Philippine National Bank, National Irrigation Administration, Mt. Pinatubo Commission, Local Water Utilities Adm., Retirement and Separation Benefit System, Philippine Postal Corp. and Philippine Ports Authority are selling reclaimed lands, earning large "kick-backs and commissions."

He cited a PEA official who bought a P6 million condominium unit near the Tektite Towers on Ortigas Avenue. But what's the point in this futile firing and rehiring rigmarole of the MWSS board members and the SEC associate commissioners? It won't reduce the work force and would only perpetuate the inefficient and corrupt while the meritorious are sacrificed to presidential whim.

There's a million other things the President can attend to other than firing and rehiring like sweeping the stables of the police and military, reducing the billion-peso laharscams, refrain from pampering undeserving party-mates and cronies, curbing the incidence of bank robberies and killings, and cutting down on his own junketing.

There is strong suspicion that all this *palabas* is merely in preparation for the Pres-

ident's next swing to Down Under.

### RICE CLAMOR

Farmers banged empty pots and pans to dramatize the acute rice crisis in front of the agriculture department. The import of 225,000 metric tons of the staple of which only 35,000 tons have trickled in has dismally failed to arrest the surging cost of fancy varieties foisted on beleaguered consumers while the lower-priced grains have completely disappeared from market stalls.

And what does President Ramos do? He takes a trip to Australia and New Zealand. Lesser mortals than the head of state who abandon their posts in times of crisis are prosecuted for dereliction of duty. He is actually shirking from alleviating the food crisis. His order of priorities has always been awry.

The futile price ceiling of P14.10 for ordinary rice and P16.10 for fancy rice removed August 15 was useless because the cheaper rice had disappeared totally from the market stalls. From the start, Jaime Tadeo of the *Demokratikong Kilusan ng Pilipinas* warned the price ceiling would be ineffective "unless the Mafia in rice trading is not dismantled." He estimated the Binondo-based Big Seven and regional cartels could make a killing of P27.45 billion in windfall profits if left unchecked.

Prices skyrocketed to P18 up to P25 a kilo or 56 percent in two weeks from North Luzon down to Iloilo where drought had parched the harvest, to Tacloban City where long queues formed at the *Bigasan Bayan* as their

daily rice consumption of 18,000 rice bags was down to 27,500 bags; to Davao, a city of 1.1 million people where insufficient rice stocks won't last up to the September harvest. Commercial traders procuring rice from the two Cotabato provinces and Lanao del Sur were stymied by prohibitive prices.

In a Senate committee hearing, grain dealers and farmers blamed Agriculture Sec. Roberto Sebastian's miscalculations and "untimely importations" during the rainy season which has delayed the unloading. They chided him for failure to anticipate the impending rice shortage when production was low in the first April harvest. Sebastian estimated this year's palay production would reach 11 million metric tons or four million tons more than the seven million estimated consumption. His assistant corrected the shortage based on actual rice planted was 510,000 metric tons.

Gregoria del Rosario, grains federation head, blamed the National Food Authority for not buying enough palay stock from the farmers to beef up the stocks to avert profiteering and "ineffective distribution" of the initial 35,000 MT Thai Shipment which failed to curb the skyrocketing prices.

The trickle of imported rice may spill over to the October harvest because only a fraction of the 225,000 metric tons ordered have been landed. Aside from lack of bottoms, the biggest transport vessel so far had the capacity to deliver only 15,000 MT at a time. India has yet to make a delivery for want of a ship.

Sebastian assured Davao City of 200,000 rice bags, 40,000 of which would be shipped in "ten to 12 days." The NFA allotted Eastern Visayas' 3.2 million population 288,000 bags, Western Visayas with 5.4 million population was allotted 210,000 bags, the bulk of 136,000 bags to Bacolod City's two million people.

The rice will be sold at P10.25 a kilo. Each buyer is entitled to 25 kilos. The problem is how to get the rice to the southern provin-

ces soon.

### RICE MEASURES

At least 81 NFA rolling stores, mostly ten-wheeler trucks, will be fielded to pump in 40,000 rice bags at P10.25 a kilo into Manila which consumes 66,000 bags of rice a day. Priority will go to Dapitan, Galas and Bustillos markets where no NFA rice is sold and 78 *talipapas* which have resisted *Bigasan Bayan* outlets where rice can be bought at NFA price. NFA rice sells at P535 per 50-kilo bag against P900 current selling price.

At Sen. Neptali Gonzales' finance committee hearing, senators endorsed the plan to use a special National Intelligence Coordinating Agency unit to raid and bust open warehouses hoarding rice stocks. Sen. Blas Ople said the "quickest way to guarantee rice supply is to deal seriously with big hoarders and profiteers."

This happened ironically after the NEDA's Cielito Habito presented a rosy picture of the country's first semester macro-economic situation amid serious shortages and surging prices of basic rice and sugar products.

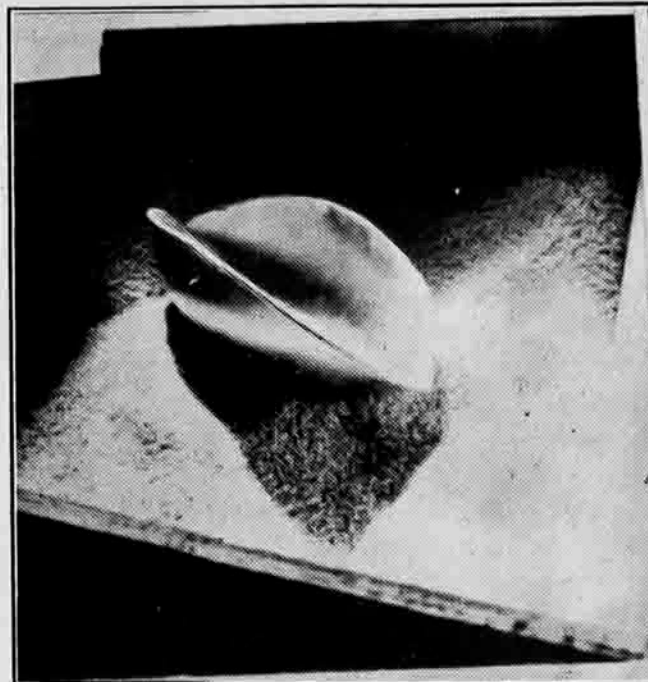
Sebastian's reply to demands for his resignation over the rice, corn, and sugar shortages was the standard Cabinet secretary's answer that he works at the pleasure of the President and will quit when he becomes a liability to him. Does he not realize he is already a liability?

The shortages in food products has also affected the national fish, bangus.

### SPARSE BANGUS

It sounds preposterous that the indigenous bangus (milkfish) fry will now have to be imported from Taiwan where unscrupulous Filipinos have smuggled the delicious fish. The fish that was once the Philippines' preserve is now being produced in quantity in Taiwan, Thailand, Brunei, Sabah and Indonesia.

While the government-sponsored Southeast Asia Fishery Development Council hatchery has failed to produce enough fingerlings and the natural spawning grounds cannot sufficiently



RICE: To be sold in rolling stores.

restock the fishponds, Taiwan is now profiteering in bangus fry. Fingerlings from Kaoshiung hatcheries that used to cost 25 to 35 centavos now cost 95 centavos to P1.20 each. The Taiwan price has jumped nearly 1,000 percent and Philippine fishponds need millions of fingerlings to restock.

Bangus cultivated in Laguna de Bay bamboo corals have recently been floating dead to the water surface because of asphyxia from toxic effluvia and detritus from factories lining banks of rivers emptying into the lake. Bangus ponds of Dampalit (Malabon) have dried up and are now real estate subdivisions. The breeding ponds in Pangasinan, Bulacan, Southern Tagalog, Mindoro, the Visayas and Mindanao are languishing for want of fingerlings and government apathy.

### LESS WORLD RICE

Japan and the United States rice production may rise but the 56 million metric tons of global rice at the 1995 marketing season's close will be 2.3 million metric tons lower than the previous year, the Food and Agriculture Organization reported after revising the estimate of India's rice stocks.

Global rice trade in 1995 will plateau at 16 million tons, which is less than the record volume imported last year. Vietnam's rice export rose to 1.2 million tons. Myanmar's rice trading was

reduced as availabilities contracted.

The total 1995 paddy output forecast at 495 million metric tons will be bigger than the 1996 harvest, because of a decline mostly in developing countries like the Philippines, North Korea and Bangladesh.

### DOOMED TOWN

Is Pampanga's capital town of San Fernando doomed to lahar onslaught? The only prudent solution seen by Phivolcs Director Raymundo Punongbayan is resettlement of its residents elsewhere away from the rampaging flood waters bearing tons of Mount Pinatubo's lava and pyroclastic emissions.

The greater part of the P10 billion Pinatubo rehabilitation fund was poured into futile dikes and levees crumbled by onrushing lahar coursing through the Pasig-Potrero river. Chances of saving the P100 million commercial and industrial investments and P30 billion government infrastructure in San Fernando look bleak, with the breaching of the Gugu dike between the river and the town.

The administrators of the graft-ridden Pinatubo project are again asking for P1 billion to desilt and rehabilitate the Pasig-Potrero river and P800 million for the concrete "armoring" of the 21-kilometer Gugu dike. Punongbayan said the capital town may still be saved by "engineering interven-

(Page 8, please)



Sparse bangus.

*Pollution is draining the lifeblood of the nation's rivers and lakes*

# RP FRESHWATER SYSTEM IN PERIL

By HENRYLITO D. TACIO

**S**ILANG, Cavite — Swamps con-  
note mosquitoes, leeches and  
crocodiles for they are home to  
these treacherous creatures. People  
don't seem to notice them as they are  
viewed as wasteland.

Such is the case of the Candaba swamp  
in Central Luzon. But there's more to it than  
by being a wasteland. During the rainy sea-  
son, it stores excess water and helps prevent  
floods. It recharges groundwater and supplies  
irrigation water for agriculture.

Swamps also support a multitude of life:  
birds, fish, shells, plants and algae. Those  
near the sea help stabilize the shoreline.

"But our swamps are in danger," deplors  
the International Institute of Rural Recon-  
struction (IIRR). "They are losing their life-  
blood, the water that maintains them. They  
are being drained for farming and for fish-  
ponds."

IIRR is a non-government organization  
(NGO) based here. It received the Ramon  
Magsaysay Award for International  
Understanding in 1986.

While draining a swamp may get rid of  
mosquitoes and reduce diseases, it also de-  
creases the amount of wildlife and biodiversity  
prevent. Agricultural pesticides and fertiliz-  
ers, and pollution from industries and mines,  
also seep into the swamps.

"The slow-moving water (of swamps) gives  
time for natural processes to break down these  
pollutants," says IIRR, adding that draining  
swamps would mean the pollutants can go  
directly into the rivers or the sea without  
being broken down.

But swamps are not the only inland wa-  
ters being threatened. Natural lakes, which  
cover about 200,000 hectares, are also in dis-  
tress.

Pollution is making the lakes inhospita-  
ble. Take the case of Laguna de Bay, the  
largest lake in the country. According to IIRR,



RP SWAMPS: In danger.

some 1,000 industries operate around the lake.  
"Nearly one-half produce waste water, but  
only half of these actually treat their waste  
water," IIRR points out. "And not all treated  
water is free from pollutants when dumped  
into the lake."

IIRR studies have shown that 40 percent  
of the industries discharge toxic and hazard-  
ous substances into the lake. And the amount  
is increasing. In fact, the concentration is  
way above the levels at which it already harms  
the marine creatures.

Farmers also contribute to the pollution  
through fertilizers and pesticides they apply  
to their crops. Fertilizers feed algae while  
pesticides kill aquatic life.

fishing, which uses nets and hooks, and  
aquaculture or the raising of fish in pens.

The Laguna Lake Development Authority  
(LLDA) says the aquaculture industry thriv-  
ing in the lake poses a big problem as fishpens  
cannot be regulated.

Based on the 1994 LLDA data, there are  
some 353 registered fishpen owners, 79 percent  
of whom belong to corporations while 21  
percent belong to cooperatives and individ-  
uals. The fishpens occupy around 13,000 out  
of the total 90,000-hectare lake.

"The fishpens threaten the productivity of  
the lake," IIRR argues. "Pens reduce the  
numbers of plankton, the very small plants  
that fish eat."

In other lakes, the raising of exotic fishes  
has threatened the endemic species. In Lake  
Lanao, the introduction of *biyang puti* has  
eliminated five of the original 19 carp spe-  
cies thriving in the lake.

Even rivers are not spared from destruc-  
tion. The Philippines has 421 major rivers,  
mostly in Luzon and Mindanao. As many as  
40 percent of these rivers are biologically  
dead, which means no life can survive in  
them.

Example of this is the Pasig River. Today,  
it is the dumping ground for the stinking refuse  
of homes and factories.

IIRR says more than 150 industrial plants  
discharge 3,600 tons of waste into the river  
daily. Every year, 11 million gallons of  
industrial waste water are poured into the  
river.

"Freshwater ecosystems are facing seri-  
ous problems," IIRR says. "But these envi-  
ronmental threats are just symptoms of a much  
bigger problem."

IIRR says lakes, rivers and streams and  
swamplands are ecologically degraded "in favor  
of short-sighted economic benefits for a few."

The poor fishermen, who rely on the fresh-  
water ecosystems, have been marginalized even  
more. "Once again, they have been denied  
social justice." (DEPTHnews)

Republic of the Philippines  
Regional Trial Court  
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION  
Parañaque, Metro Manila

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT  
AND EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF

CITIBANK N.A.,

Mortgagee/s,

- versus -

SPS. RODESITO & EDITHA OTERO

Mortgagor/s,

X - - - - - X

File No. FRE-95-060

EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF  
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT 3135,  
As amended by Act 4118

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon verified petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by Mortgagee/s CITIBANK N.A., with office address at CITIBANK CENTER, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City, against the Mortgagor/s Sps. Rodesito & Editha Otero with residence and postal address at #17 Vienna Street, Betterliving, P'que, M.M. to secure payment of the mortgage debt which, as of May 7, 1995, amounts to P2,111,701.96 including/excluding interest, penalty charges and all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the Executive Judge of the Regional Trial Court of Parañaque through the undersigned Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Parañaque, Metro Manila or her duly authorized Sheriff, will sell at public auction on SEPTEMBER 26, 1995 at 10: a.m. in front of Municipal Hall of P'que to the highest

bidder and for CASH, in Philippine Currency, the following described real property/ies, with all the buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE  
No.(-55830-) 38703

A PARCEL OF LAND (Lot 4, Blk. 3 of the cons-subd. plan (LRC) Pcs-19380 being a portion of the cons. of Lots 1-2, and 1-A, Psd-174940, LRC GERU, Rec. No. N-28464), situated in the Bo. of La Huerta, Mun. of Parañaque, Prov. of Rizal, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NE., points to 1 to 3 by Psu-157968, property of Alfredo Bautista, on the SE., 3 to 4 by Lot 5, Blk. 3, on the SW., points 4 to 6 by Road Lot 1, NE., points 6 to 1 by Lot 3, all of the cons subd. plan. Beginning xxxxxxxxxxxx and containing an area of THREE HUNDRED THIRTY SIX (336) SQUARE METERS more or less.

Prospective buyers/ and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title/s of said property/ies and the encumbrances thereon if any there be.  
Parañaque, Metro Manila, AUGUST 16, 1995.

(Sgd.) LEONARDA-LEILANI R. AMURAO  
CLERK OF COURT &  
EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF

(Sgd.) BENEDICTO G. HEBRON  
SHERIFF-IN-CHARGE

WARNING

It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE on or before the date of sale under penalty of law.

WE FORUM  
Aug. 21, 28 & Sept. 4, 1995

More than just casinos  
**PAGCOR helps  
create income  
opportunities  
in depressed areas.**



There is more to the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation than just casinos, than just affording gaming and leisure activities. Among the many roles it plays and the many tasks it performs, PAGCOR helps fund livelihood projects to make life a little better for people in depressed communities.

In the last six years, at least 82 livelihood projects were

financed by the President's Social Fund, to which a big portion of casino income goes. These have given hundreds of families, whose lives are among the millions PAGCOR has touched, not only a source of income but also renewed hope and confidence in themselves to become useful and productive citizens. Because, in more ways than one, PAGCOR matters. And PAGCOR cares.



**Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation**  
*Responding through Responsible Gaming*

## Nero fiddles

**T**HE PLURALITY president, Fidel V. Ramos, Tuesday afternoon left for New Zealand and Australia presumably to court investments and strengthen economic ties between those countries and the Philippines. This could be the 18th or 19th time he has gone abroad, but who's counting? When the travel bug attacks him, Mr. Ramos simply has to go, whatever calamity the country reels under.

The fact is, many Filipinos are not eating three square meals a day due to soaring prices of prime commodities like rice, sugar, fish and whatever. These were not enough to stop Mr. Ramos from pursuing his bounded duty. To show how hardworking he was, he ignored the hecklers who were urging him to postpone the trip. A true-blue patriot, he upped and went to show the people, hungry as they were, that their president is not one to shirk his duty in the face of the most overwhelming odds.

As a concession to the kibitzers, however, Mr. Ramos dropped Roberto Sebastian from the junketing party. He knew there had to be a whipping boy while he is savoring the wonders of Australia and New Zealand. Romeo David, not being a cabinet member, is just not enough. It is widely believed that the two gentlemen will be out of a job soon, perhaps upon the return of Mr. Ramos from his fulfilling sojourn, although nobody is betting who will go first. But after the hatchet jobs on the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, the public knows that the Department of Agriculture and the National Food Authority could not be far behind.

So what else is new? Nothing. Even now, more travels are being planned for the coming months. The United States and Canada are on tap again and of course the playgrounds of Europe always beckons. Meanwhile, the price of rice and sugar is soaring to the skies and the people are happy that in their hunger, their president is hobnobbing with the powerful, the rich and the famous. This country is not going to the dogs.

## Not surprising

**A**CCORDING to the prestigious *Fortune* magazine, the Philippines is one of the ten most corrupt nations in Asia. On a 1-10 scale, this country rated 6.59, just a shade behind India with 7. China and Indonesia take the lead with 7.31 each. Thailand and Malaysia lag a bit behind, followed by Taiwan, South Korea, Hongkong, Japan and Singapore.

The *Fortune* article was titled "Asia-Corrupt-O-Meter" with 11 Asian nations as samples. It was published to determine how corruption is affecting foreign investments in these countries.

The wonder is that this country rated only No. 4 on the scale. One would think that after Marcos, the Philippines will forever be No. 1 among the most corrupt nations of the world. Apparently, although the stealing continued under the Aquino administration and the present one, it was not as massive as during the dictatorship. Somehow, the systems of check and balance inherent in a democracy has whittled down somewhat the volume of corruption along the corridors of power. In a democracy, the stealing is more widespread and not confined to a few cronies and families, as it was during the Marcos regime.

But perhaps the day is not far off when we can regain our former glory as *Numero Uno*. If we cannot be a topnotcher in anything else, why not corruption? It landed us in the *Guinness Book of Records*.

## Here's proof

**J**UST LAST Tuesday, the National Bureau of Investigation arrested a ranking official of the Department of Public Works and Highways for extortion. The guy, in the mold of today's bureaucrats, demanded P400,000 in exchange for "clearance" on a Nueva Ecija construction project costing P244 million. In an entrapment operation set up by the NBI, the DPWH director was caught red-handed.

The cretin was only one of the operators in the graft-ridden agency. He was caught because the female liaison officer of the construction firm did not succumb to the extortion attempt and sought NBI help instead. Now, if only a good part of the public dealing with government acted in such exemplary manner, perhaps the ranks of the thieves in that department would thin down considerably and eventually be eliminated. All it takes is to fight back.



## Desert, Mr. Disierto

SILENCE in the face of serious charges being an implied admission of guilt, what can one say of newly appointed Ombudsman Aniano Disierto's deafening silence against the charges of Joker Arroyo and certain cause-oriented groups that he, Disierto, condoned torture as a means to obtain "confession" from the likes of Ninoy Aquino during the Marcos dictatorship (Disierto was one of Ninoy's prosecutors) and that he is a wimp for obeying, apparently without question, General Ramos's order to him to immediately resolve the pending anti-graft cases against (resigned? on leave?) SEC chairwoman Rosario Lopez when he, the Ombudsman, is mandated to be independent?

The man doesn't deserve the position. He should remain with the military where they are supposed to obey first and complain later — that is, if they're not yet dead.

With his appointment of Disierto as Ombudsman to replace that venerable (and ineffective) ex-Supreme Court Justice, General Ramos convinces me more than ever that he's all out to make his slogan "Philippines 2000" a reality. Meaning, that he'll stay in Malacañang beyond 1998, when his term under the Constitution ends. Disierto,

### ONE'S WORTH



by MAX NOBLE

in case you've forgotten, is a military man, just like the new boss at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

At this writing, Ramos has yet to appoint a permanent replacement for SEC's single chairwoman (SEC's rhymes with sex, incidentally) and for the MWSS chairman.

Wanna bet that either or both have some military background?

\*\*\*\*\*

If it's true that Marcos left more than enough to pay RP's foreign debt, as the papers recently reported, what the hell is Ramos doing about it? Why doesn't he talk with his cousin-in-law Imeldific and request her to pay our foreign debt? Maybe, he as President (*de facto* or *de jure*) can grant her and her family some amnesty?

Which he should, considering that without his cousin, he (Ramos) will be nobody today?

(Page 8, please)

### We Forum



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JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.  
PUBLISHER-EDITOR



HEART  
AND HEARTH

by EDITA T. BURGOS

## Camille's Angel

Camille is my three-year-old granddaughter, daughter of our eldest "edition" Peachy and her husband Bong.

Camille showed very early signs of being articulate ... a trait, Camille's grandfather affectionately declares, as inherited from the 'Chavez sisters' (my mother and her sisters). So even when she was just one year old she could entertain us with stories and candid comments about adult affairs.

Being the eldest grandchild, and naturally, the doll of her uncles and aunts, has only further helped her to be quite expressive.

And now at three, she can talk about almost anything clearly and logically. She therefore gets to be a very good information source.

The past weeks Peachy and Bong were afflicted with what we call 'yaya' blues. We, my grandfather-partner and myself therefore willingly pitched in to baby-sit.

The other night as Camille and her younger brother Migoy, were playing in the mat with all sorts of objects... plastic bottles, perfume, lipstick holder, nail polish, etc.... which they got from my dresser (their favorite hunting ground for toys), my youngest daughter Yayi, came in and put the television on. Camille turned around and glanced at the screen and caught a scene where a child fell from her bike.

Without thinking at all, Camille stated matter-of-factly 'ako rin nahulog sa bike ko.'

My simple but apprehensive reply was 'saan?'

Camille giving more of her attention to the toys on the mat said 'sa hagdan sa bahay.'

I presumed that this was about a year and a half ago for she indeed fell down the stairs while riding on her bike.

So I didn't react, but Camille went on, still with her hands busy... 'pero hindi ako nasaktan kasi sinalo ako ng angel ko.'

The word 'angel' got me interested, I encouraged her 'pakatapos'...

This time balancing a lipstick holder on top of a lotion bottle, Camille answered 'tapos... kinuha ako nila Ate Gemma.'

My attention was totally captured ... I recalled that this Ate Gemma, a former maid, was employed only for a month and left about a month ago. 'So this was a recent thing,' I told myself.

Now, being more deliberate ... I tried to help her balance the lipstick holder and at the same time I asked, 'tapos kang saluhin, anong ginawa ng angel mo?'

'E di binaba ako pakatapos umaliiiiis (her

## Tree crops: Our last food frontier

FIFTY YEARS ago, an ordinary Filipino, picking his way through the debris and rubble of World War II, could suddenly break into open space and feast his eyes upon Mother Nature's blazing collection of trees, trees, trees.

Today, that collection is growing smaller. Indeed, tree lovers say, by the time the miracle promised by Philippines 2000 happens, some of our prized species of food trees will either go underground or disappear totally from our indifferent midst.

The attrition has started even in the common (but very valuable) coconut, rightly described as the staff of life wherever it grows in the humid tropics.

Oh, it's true that the coconut apparently still thrives lustily on many hillsides, sea-coast areas, along Roxas Boulevard, in public and private areas.

But in key provinces like Laguna, Quezon and the Bicol Peninsula, the coconut is fighting a rear-guard battle. Coconut farmers hard-pressed for subsistence money are steadily cutting down even younger trees to convert into coconut lumber.

Replanting programs are being pushed everywhere the Philippine Coconut Authority can get seedlings and people to plant them. But the effort is at best a half-hearted one: lack of livelihood funds, the conversion of once fertile land areas into high-value commercial properties are taking their toll.

And the coconut isn't the only victim.

Take such species of food trees like the rimas, or breadfruit. Those raised on western diets will find nothing bread-like about the breadfruit tree, but on many Pacific islands, it is a food staple ranking with rice and root crops as a rich carbohydrate source.

Or take the kamansi, another food staple serving many uses as a cooked vegetable in

hands making a sweeping motion upward to show that the angel moved upward) 'na siya.' I got up, gave Camille more 'toys' from my dresser to play with... trying to keep her attention diverted because my curiosity was getting the better of me.

Then I asked again, 'Camille anong hitsura ng angel mo?'. Without looking up she said 'white.'

'I have to be specific if I wanted more detailed answers,' I thought.

'Camille, anong hitsura ng mata ng angel mo?'

Camille paused for a second and said 'ganyan, ganyan.' She covered her eyes with the back of both her hands, and with palms facing me she started opening and closing her fingers... the way she does when she recites Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.

'Ang buhok niya anong hitsura?'

This time Camille paused, looked at me and thought for a while, then responded 'mahaba hanggang dito, (pointing to her heel) kulot, kulot (her small fingers making small twirling movements on top of her head).

'Anong color?' 'Brown... ay hindi (her eyes narrowing as she was wont to do when

a dwindling number of households. The *datiles*, a prized confection of many grown Filipinos in their childhood, a prime food for birds, who are the only ones still able to propagate it.

Then there's the *mabolo*, giant species of which used to grow in front and around the Philippine Women's University on Taft Avenue. Few really fancy the taste of this round, peach-fuzz-covered fruit, but fewer still know the tree that produces *mabolo* fruit also produces the valuable wood we know as *kamagong*.

There's the ordinary countryside wild guava, a small, delicious fruit that contains more vitamins and food values ounce for ounce than the ubiquitous *kalamansi*. Farmers still bring guavas to the markets when they can get them, but so prized has the guava tree become as a source of first class charcoal that they have retreated deeper into logged over forests and the upper hillsides.

So desperate, in fact, has the guava supply situation become that Balikatan's Narda Camacho and Capt. Danny Lim of Senator Gringo Honasan's technical staff have joined hands to propagate and distribute wild guava seedlings to households all over the country.

But they are having a hard time.

The *roselle*, a tall shrub whose calyx-like fruit gives valuable juice and jelly-making material, was a standby product of the old Bureau of Plant Industry on San Andres. Today BPI technicians may recall the *roselle* still grows in Cebu schoolyards, but hardly anywhere else.

There are dozens, perhaps hundreds of other endangered or actually extinct fruit species we do not know of. National genetic scientists have given up hope of ever finding the funds as well as the *political will* to save these valuable food trees, some

trying to concentrate)... *parang pink, pero brown*.

Then turning back to her toys, she refused to answer my other questions.

After a few minutes she looked up and saw that I was crocheting nearby. Then she said 'Mamita, ang kamay ng angel ko gumaganyan.'

With her elbows bent, she placed both hands just in front of her shoulders and fluttered them.

I thought she meant wings ... again, this was an opportunity to ask some more ... 'gaano kalaki ang wings niya?'

Camille's eyes grew serious then she said 'e wala naman siyang wings e.'

I reminded her 'sabi mo umalis siya paganyan,' and I copied her motion, 'paano siya nakaalis paakyat kung wala siyang wings?'

With an exasperated tone she spoke through tightly drawn lips, her dimples showing, her eyebrows raised and her eyes growing bigger... 'may kamay nga, e.'

Then off she went in search of Migoy who was this time making a slide out of the living room sofa.

## EARTHMAN



by MARIO P. CHANCO

of whom could become priceless entries in the ever-simming collection of botanical lifesavers.

In their place, both farmer and conservationist are being urged to plant strawberries, asparagus, export-quality mangoes, *guyabano* for the booming export juice markets. Corridor development "experts" are stressing showy (and inedible) ornamental trees and plants designed to please aesthetes, not the people who directly need them.

In Corsica, farmers plant chestnuts for food crops that go into flour-making, food for humans and for animals. We have at least a dozen comparative tree crops here, but who knows about them now?

Such trees, if found or rediscovered here, could reduce national dependence on scarser grain and field crop harvests. But where is the will, where is the conscionable knowledge that can give us back our endangered tree food crop resources?

Max NOBLE . . . (From page 7)

**Bongbong has just been convicted for alleged tax evasion. Imeldific has yet to assume her position as *tong-gresswoman* — er, congresswoman — of Leyte's first district.**

**Ramos will be well advised to dissolve the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), let alone the Presidential Anti-Crime Commission (PACC). The bastards in these agencies have done nothing but to enrich themselves.**

WHY . . . (From page 4)

tions" but these will entail enormous expense and there is no guarantee these will hold against lahar assault.

Lubao Mayor Lilia Pineda and Pampanga Gov. Lito Lapid the other mayors have agreed to realign their municipal appropriations with the Pasig-Potrero river diking project against lahar.

Mayor Pineda led other lahar-affected towns executives in urging the abolition of the Mt. Pinatubo Rehabilitation Project management office whose director Florante Soriquez, reportedly spent more time in "drinking sprees with contractors than at anti-lahar projects."

Zambales Gov. Amor Deloso in a meeting at a San Fernando restaurant, accused Soriquez of awarding anti-lahar projects to contractors exposed in laharscams by Sen. Ernesto Maceda. The governor and mayors blamed Soriquez's group for delay of plans and designs for anti-lahar projects and engineering measures.

TAK-TAK-TAK



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*Sapak sa Sarap  
ang luto'nyo!*



***The high performance of foreign animals has placed local livestock on endangered list***

# Local breeds vanishing fast

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna — Livestock like the carabao, cattle and the tamaraw which are native to the Philippines are in danger of extinction, according to an animal expert based at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños (UPLB).

Dr. F.F. Penalba, an assistant UPLB professor, blamed the country's surging population as the primary reason. Another is the preference of producers of high-producing and prolific breeds, mostly from foreign sources,

to meet the ever-increasing demand for more meat and food products, he said.

The high performance of foreign breeds, according to Dr. Penalba, is gradually displacing indigenous stocks not only in the Philippines but also in many parts of the world.

However, he said, in spite of the economical advantage of non-local breeds, he advocated the conservation of native livestock for several reasons.

For one, Dr. Penalba said,

the indigenous livestock can be a good source of genetic variation in the country's breeding programs. "As a result of natural and artificial selection imposed by man, the indigenous livestock species have developed characteristics which made them well-adapted to the often harsh environmental conditions under which they have to live and reproduce," he explained.

Another reason: economic importance. Despite massive introduction of foreign



**CARABAO: On the brink of extinction.**

breeds in the country, a number of producers still prefer native breeds.

Most of them are backyard raisers and usually found in the far-flung places of the country "where raising of animals is an integral part of a subsistence economy prevailing in the area."

The third reason is the sense of national pride and identity. Explains Dr. Penalba: "There are livestock species which can only be found specifically in the Philippines. For instance, the tamaraw, which resembles the water buffalo, thrives only in Mindoro."

The tamaraw is listed by *World Watch List for Domes-*

*tic Animal Diversity* as endangered as "there are less than 1,000 animals in existence."

Recognizing the existence of the rich animal genetic resources in the Philippines, the Institute of Animal Sciences of UPLB's College of Agriculture initiated in 1988 an institutionalized effort to conserve the indigenous livestock and poultry species that are of economic importance.

Stocks from different parts of the country were collected and maintained at the institute's animal farm. These include chickens, swine, cattle, ducks, goats, sheep and horses.

Early efforts have been directed for the improvement and conservation of the Philippine carabao, the partner of the Filipino farmers in the development of the countryside.

"The drastic decline of carabao population in the early 70s ushered to the implementation of a special project on carabao, which led

to the establishment of a Philippine Carabao Research and Development Center," said Dr. Penalba.

As for the endangered tamaraw, efforts to conserve the animal have been initiated in 1990 through the Tamaraw Conservation Program (TCP). "Through the TCP, researches which could lead to better understanding of the animal's physiology and behavior were conducted with the ultimate goal of significantly increasing its population," the UPLB livestock reported.

Dr. Penalba said that the country is still in the stage of maintaining flocks or herds that resemble the characteristics typical of the indigenous breeds.

"With the current worldwide effort to conserve the indigenous and endangered animal species, there is a great possibility that the Philippine efforts to do our share in this crusade would get lots of support," he concluded. (DEPTHnews)

Republic of the Philippines  
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF VALENZUELA, METRO MANILA  
Branch 172

IN RE: PETITION FOR CORRECTION  
OF SPELLING OF FIRST NAME FROM  
ANILEEN V. SUVA TO ANALEEN V. SUVA.

SPS. ANATALIA V. SUVA and  
PABLITO SUVA,  
Petitioners,

- versus -

Sp. Proc. No. 697-V-95

THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF MANILA,  
Respondent.

X - - - - - X

### ORDER

A verified petition was filed on July 21, 1995 by the above-named petitioners, thru counsel, alleging, among others, that petitioners were married on March 19, 1961 in San Roque Church, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila, as evidenced by their Marriage Contract attached to the petition and marked as Annex "A"; that they begot as their third child Analeen V. Suva on March 31, 1965 at the City of Manila, but whose Certificate of Live Birth carries the erroneous entry or spelling of her first name as "ANILEEN"; that said petitioners' daughter has been using and carrying the correct spelling of her name in all her school records and has been known with such correct name since birth without having any difficulty, until recently relative to her application for Philippine Passport; and that petitioners desire to have the name of their said daughter corrected from "ANILEEN SUVA Y VILLASEÑOR" to "ANALEEN SUVA Y VILLASEÑOR."

It appearing that the verified petition is sufficient in form and substance, let the same be set for hearing on August 30, 1995 at 8:30 a.m., in the session hall of the Regional Trial Court of Valenzuela, Metro Manila, Branch 172, at which date, time and place, any and all interested persons may appear and show cause, if they have any, why the petition should not be granted.

Let this Order be published at the expense of petitioners in any newspaper of general circulation in Metro Manila, to be selected through a raffle to be conducted by the Executive Judge of this Court, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks.

Let also a copy of this Order and of the petition with its annexes be served on the Solicitor General.

SO ORDERED.

Valenzuela, Metro Manila, July 26, 1995.

(Sgd.) FLORO P. ALEJO  
Judge

WE FORUM  
August 7, 14 & 21, 1995

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Spouses ROSARIO SAMOLDE and ANTONIO SAMOLDE has been extrajudicially settled among their heirs before Notary Public Atty. Aurora Bautista

WE FORUM  
August 7, 14 & 21, 1995

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late AMANDO A ZABALA has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs before Notary Public Atty. Aurora Bautista.

WE FORUM  
August 7, 14 & 21, 1995

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of JUAN S. BAUTISTA has been extrajudicially settled by and among his heirs on July 24, 1995 as per Doc. No. 77, Page No. 16, Series of 1995 by Notary Public Ferdinand M. de Leon.

WE FORUM  
August 7, 14 & 21, 1995

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late MELCHOR C. FLORES who died intestate and without a will on May 9, 1982 at Macabebe, Pampanga, had been extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per "DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER OF SHARE" bearing Doc. No. 455, Page No. 92, Book No. 150, Series of 1995 dated August 1, 1995, executed before Notary Public JAIME A. MANAOIS of Quezon City.

WE FORUM  
August 7, 14 & 21, 1995

#### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of deceased RAMON S. CHUANG who died on October 4, 1993 in Quezon City was settled extrajudicially by his heirs as shown in the notarial register of Elizabeth A. Andres registered as Doc. No. 295, Page No. 59, Book No. 1, Series of 1995.

WE FORUM  
August 7, 14 & 21, 1995

**RAISE FISH, NOT FISH 'EM . . . (From page 2)**

from 9.1 million tons in 1989 to 4.7 million tons in 1993.

Yet, fish consumption is expected to increase. Developing countries rely heavily on fish as a food. Fish protein is an important part of a balanced diet. Fish catches are also used to make animal feed and fish oil.

On the average, each person in the world consumes 13 kg of fish a year. The figure is much higher in Southeast Asia, where what scientists call the *per caput* figure is 23.8 kg a year.

To meet the increasing demand, fishery experts recommend a package of measures: the elimination of overfishing and wasteful techniques; the rebuilding of fish stocks;

and the rehabilitation of fish habitats.

The experts also recommend paying more attention to aquaculture — raising fish instead of fishing them. At the moment, aquaculture accounts for slightly less than one-fourth of total fish production.

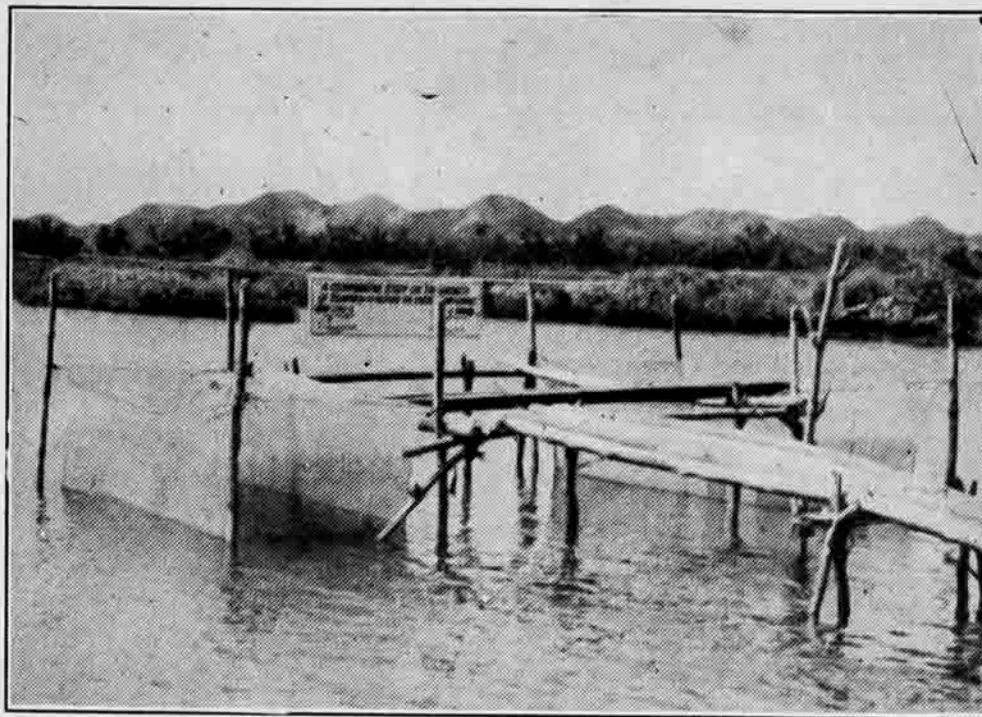
Imre Csavas, FAO's regional aquaculture officer for Asia and the Pacific, says that "the transition from hunting to breeding is inevitable in the fisheries sector during the first decades of the next century."

Mr. Csavas estimates that aquaculture could account for almost half of fish production by next century. However, there are problems.

First of all, aquaculture has not been expanding fast enough to meet the predicted demand. The second problem, ironically, is that in some negative ways, aquaculture has been expanding too fast.

Mr. Csavas explains that the rush to culture fish can lead to environment problems. In the Philippines, the vast Laguna Lake near Manila has been turned into a huge fish pond: the fish pens which criss-cross the lake have caused pollution as well as biological imbalances. In South Korea and Japan, the overuse of oyster culture grounds has also led to pollution.

• DEPTHnews



**'Empowerment' . . . (From page 12)**

network of state universities and colleges across the country houses the ATI's training centers, an ideal setup to pursue the goals of collaboration.

The ATI has access to the faculty, laboratories, libraries, buildings and other facilities of the state universities and colleges. The train-

ing centers are the Philippine Training Centers for Rural Development, National Training Centers, Regional Training Centers, Farmers' Training Centers and Regional Fishermen's Training Centers.

Researches are among the priority programs of both the DA and CHED, and the shar-

ing of the results of such undertakings is stressed in the agreement.

Collaboration in research and the sharing of achievements are done by DA's Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) and the CHED Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The exchange is focused on applied (on-station)

and adaptive (on-farm) researches.

The state universities and colleges and the ATI are pooling their resources to accelerate the on-the-job side in training, for practical know-how is useful in the farm, fishing ground and in cottage enterprises. (DEPTHnews)

**Asian rice . . . (From page 12)**

new purchases continue to be made. But financial constraints will prevent the purchase of its full rice requirements. Some substitution by other cereals such as wheat, may occur.

China: Purchases by end-April were about 1.3 million tons. Imports may slow down in the coming months. In

April, imports from Thailand were 61,700 tons compared to the 200,000 tons a month earlier.

Indonesia: Imports early in the year were very large but are slowing down because of its own main harvest coming into the market. Food Outlook adds. (DEPTHnews)

Republic of the Philippines  
Regional Trial Court  
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION  
Parañaque, Metro Manila

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT  
AND EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF

CITYTRUST BANKING CORP.,  
Mortgagee/s,

- versus -

IMELDA CEPE,  
Mortgagor/s,

X ----- X

File No. FRE-95-059

EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF  
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT 3135,  
As amended by Act 4118

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon verified petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by Mortgagee/s CITYTRUST BANKING CORP., with office address at c/o ATTY. RAMON C. GONZAGA JR., 6th Flr., Phil. Stock Exchange Centre, Pearl Drive, Pasig, against the Mortgagor/s IMELDA CEPE with residence and postal address at #2 Ilang-Ilang St., Tahanan Vill., Parañaque, M.M., to secure payment of the mortgage debt which, as of June 16, 1995, amounts to P4,420,564.94, including/excluding interest, penalty charges and all legal fees and expense, incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the Executive Judge of the Regional Trial Court of Parañaque through the undersigned Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Parañaque, Metro Manila or her duly authorized Sheriff, will sell at public auction on SEPTEMBER 20, 1995, at 10: a.m. in front of the Parañaque Municipal Hall, M.M., to the highest bidder and for CASH, in Philippine Currency, the following described real property/ies, with all the buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. -27762-

"A PARCEL OF LAND (Lot 47, Block 21, of the cons. subd. plan (LRC) Pcs-12423, being a portion of the cons. of Lots 1-E-2-H, 1-E-2-I, 1-E-2-J (LRC) Psd-13553, LRC Record No. 34915), situated in the Bo. of San Dionisio, Mun. of Parañaque, Prov. of Rizal, Is. of Luzon. Bounded x x x x. Beginning x x x x containing an area of TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY (280) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

X-----X

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. -27763-

"A PARCEL OF LAND (Lot 48, Block 21, of the cons. subd. plan (LRC) Pcs-12428, being a portion of the cons. of Lots 1-E-2-H, 1-E-2-I, 1-E-2-J, (LRC) Psd-13553, LRC Record No. 34915), situated in the Bo. of San Dionisio, Mun. of Parañaque, Prov. of Rizal, Is. of Luzon. Bounded x x x x. Beginning x x x x containing an area of TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY (280) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

X-----X

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. -27764-

"A PARCEL OF LAND (Lot 49, Block 21 of the cons. subd. plan (LRC) Pcs-12428, being a portion of the cons. of Lots 1-E-2-H, 1-E-2-I, 1-E-2-J, (LRC) Psd-13553, LRC Record No. 34915), situated in the Bo. of San Dionisio, Mun. of Parañaque, Prov. of Rizal, Is. of Luzon. Bounded x x x x. Beginning x x x x containing an area of THREE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE (335) SQUARE METERS, more or less. x x x

X-----X

Prospective buyers/ and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title/ s of said property/ies and the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.  
Parañaque, Metro Manila, August 4, 1995.

(Sgd.) LEONARDA-LEILANI R. AMURAO  
CLERK OF COURT &  
EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF

(Sgd.) PERICLES U. TELAN  
SHERIFF-IN-CHARGE

W A R N I N G :

It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE on or before the date of sale under penalty of law.

Copy Furnished: All concerned  
(1) CITYTRUST BANKING CORP.  
Given address above (REG. MAIL W/RETURN CARD)  
(2) IMELDA CEPE  
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WE FORUM  
August 14, 21 & 28, 1995

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12

AUGUST 21-27, 1995

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IN METRO MANILA

**Rice exports are shrinking  
while harvests are anticipated  
to be lower than last year**

## Asian rice picture not so rosy -- FAO

By JUAN L. MERCADO

MANILA — Extremely large rice shipments by Asian exporting countries have started to shrink due to lack of vessels, dampened buyer's interest and anticipated harvests.

The Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) first forecast for the 1995 output of paddy in the region is about 495 million tons — a moderate rise from the previous year.

By 1996, rice "carryovers" will probably see a small decline, the United Nations agency says. Much will depend on the outcome of the 1995 paddy crops in Asia. Most of these are now being planted and the monsoons, so far, seem normal.

FAO Regional Representative A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan said: "World rice stocks, at the close of the marketing

seasons in 1995, will probably stand at 56 million tons. This is due to revised estimates for rice stocks in India."

Despite increased harvests, global rice stocks would be 2.3 million tons lower than in the previous year. All the decline would be in developing countries (like the Philippines and North Korea).

Stocks in developed countries, principally the United States and Japan, are forecast to rise. But in China, stocks will be drawn down to a record low.

Inventories in Bangladesh and Indonesia are likely to close sharply lower at the end of the marketing season 1994/95, Mr. Khan predicted.

For 1995, global rice trade is foreseen to plateau at



RICE SUPPLY: Shrinking.

about 16 million tons. This is marginally less than the record volume imported in the previous year.

FAO's latest issue of *Food Outlook* lists down these developments in rice-exporting countries:

**Thailand:** A sharp slow-down in rice exports occurred in April and early May. By last May, Thailand's exports totaled 2.73 million tons, 48 percent up from the same period last year.

**Viet Nam:** Exports rose to 1.2 million tons (January-April) despite restricted export licensing. Cross-border shipment of rice to China has continued despite the ban on such trade. As a result, domestic prices for rice in Viet Nam soared. Prices for staple food in the northern region have risen by 70 percent. Some reduction in availabilities from Viet Nam would occur.

**Myanmar:** Some reduction in trade is expected as availabilities contract.

**India and the US:** Supplies remain ample. In India, an improvement in logistical constraints by diverting export handling to several different ports, apart from Port Kandhla, should ensure a smoother outflow of its exports of rice.

**Food Outlook** also foresees that imports will continue to soar in Asia for the months ahead due to earlier orders.

**Bangladesh:** About 110,000 tons arrived in Dhaka and

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## 'Empowerment' enhances people's lives

By MANUEL B. TAMAYO

***The people's empowerment program arms workers with necessary skills and technology***

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna — The people empowerment program is gaining ground as the Department of Agriculture and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) have joined hands in giving farmers, farm laborers and fisherfolk training in skills and entrepreneurship to enable them to enhance their livelihoods.

They can manage their resources better, readily employ innovative technologies and confidently go into

profitable opportunities related to their livelihoods, added the two agencies.

Forging recently an agreement calling for collaboration in implementing training programs and agricultural researches, the DA and CHED expect to enhance the National Agricultural Education System networking various institutions engaged in training.

Lauding the agreement, Agriculture Secretary Roberto S. Sebastian under-

scored the importance of the old "bayanihan" approach in the training and research system.

He stressed that the key to addressing the challenges of Philippines 2000 is "peo-

ple empowerment through the generation and dissemination of technology." This means arming our farmers and fisherfolk with greater capability to produce and earn more, and compete in glo-

bal trade.

Sebastian warned that the challenges that confront Philippine agriculture today have never been more formidable. "With the country's increasing food demand and world trade becoming more competitive, there is no other option for us but to modernize agriculture and increase its productivity."

Agriculture research, training and extension can play a crucial role in confronting these challenges,

according to Sebastian. "But with the quick pace of change around the world, the task has grown so huge and complicated that the need for strengthening the training and research system has become obvious." Hence the collaborative scheme.

Under the agreement, the DA will carry out its training programs through its Agricultural Training Institute (ATI). The CHED

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