

Ateneo de Manila University

**Arch̄ium Ateneo**

---

We Forum

Special Collections

---

6-1-1982

## We Forum, vol vi No. 9 - May 29-June 1, 1982

Jose Burgos, Jr.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://archium.ateneo.edu/we-forum>



Part of the [Social and Behavioral Sciences Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Burgos, Jr., Jose, (1982). We Forum, vol vi No. 9 - May 29-June 1, 1982. *Arch̄ium.ATENEO*.  
<https://archium.ateneo.edu/we-forum/1077>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at Arch̄ium Ateneo. It has been accepted for inclusion in We Forum by an authorized administrator of Arch̄ium Ateneo. For more information, please contact [oadrcw.ls@ateneo.edu](mailto:oadrcw.ls@ateneo.edu).

PASSPORT RENEWED OR NOT

# Aquino eyes M.E., Berlin posts



Aquino being interviewed by WE Forum publisher-editor.

By JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.

**BOSTON, Massachusetts** — Top Opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., who winds up his fellowship at Harvard University this June 30, may be forced to seek political asylum elsewhere even if his passport is renewed by Philippine consular authorities.

"I may accept one of two offers — in West Germany and the Middle East," the former Tarlac Senator told WE Forum in an exclusive interview in his home in the Harvard University campus here.

Looking trim and hearty, Aquino gave this newspaper an insight into his present status in the U.S. as well as his immediate plans in his protracted campaign to restore democratic processes in his native country he left two years ago to undergo a heart bypass operation in Dallas, Texas.

Commenting on his application for a renewal of his passport, Aquino said he is preparing to officially communicate with the consular office in New York, answering the questions posed by then consular officer, Wenceslao Quirolico. The extension of Aquino's passport depends on his answers to questions raised by Quirolico, among which is: Who authorized the Opposition

bigwig to continue his stay in the U.S. after his successful heart operation in May, 1980?

"I was ready to return to the Philippines right after my operation but President Marcos told me I can stay

in the U.S. indefinitely," Aquino declared.

He admitted that he has been travelling to Europe, the Middle East and some parts of Asia, including Sabah (Borneo) as part of his  
Page 2, please

## Contempt hearing set for June 4

The Sandigan bayan has set for June 4 the hearing of the contempt charges filed before it by the Tanodbayan against WE Forum Publisher-Editor Jose G. Burgos, Jr. and Executive Editor Marcelo B. Soriano.

The charges arose from the publication in WE Forum's May 22-25 issue of a Tanodbayan resolution on anti-graft charges against Agriculture Deputy Minister Orlando J. Sacay, who is also a member of the University of the Philippines Board of Regents.

Sacay was charged before the Tanodbayan by the general manager of the Benguet Area Marketing Cooperative, Inc., Conrado Baltazar, who claimed that Sacay, in his

### ANOTHER SUIT

Another suit, this time a P5 million civil case, was filed by Manila Mayor Ramon D. Bagatsing against WE Forum and Asiaweek for "misquotations and biased distortions" in an article about his administration, accord-  
Page 2, please

capacity as chairman of the Cooperative Development Loan Fund (CDLF), a government lending agency, granted loans to four cooperatives with which he is identified.

CDLF is an agency of then Ministry of Local Govern-  
Page 2, please

**PLDT monopoly scheme explained**

**P. 8**

**WE FORUM**  
TO SEEK AND LIVE THE TRUTH AND SHARE A VISION  
\*\* SECOND EDITION OF THE WEEK

VOL. VI NO. 9 \* MAY 29-JUNE 1, 1982 \* P1.50 in METRO MANILA

## Muslim group wants polls postponed by FM

The Muslim Assembly of the Philippines (MAP) has asked President Marcos to postpone the elections in Regions IX and XII scheduled for June 7 and to reorganize the political structure in the South to conform with the provisions of the Tripoli Agreement and establish only an autonomous body (See text of Agreement on Page 7).

In a resolution, passed by its Supreme Council in

Manila on May 18, MAP also urged the President to adopt electoral reforms "which shall ensure a fairly clean and free elections."

Among these reforms, according to the resolution signed by Datu Firdausi I.Y. Abbas, council chairman, and Datu Samad Hassan-Ali, secretary-general, are:

1. Discarding of block-voting.
2. Campaign period of 45 days.

3. Equal radio-TV time and press coverage.

4. Neutral military.

Page 2, please

## Girl scout anomalies unearthed

The Executive of the Bataan Girl Scout Council, who was fired Jan. 11, 1978, for exposing anomalies in the collection of girl scouts' membership fees, has been exonerated by the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC).

Mrs. Luisa H. Estoista,  
Page 2, please

## FM freezes war decor for Yulo?

By VIC BARRANCO



President Marcos stands as sponsor when Speaker Yulo is installed as Knights of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, a religious order devoted to charity, at the Manila Cathedral, Dec. 10, 1966. Yulo was then Secretary of Justice a third time around. Photo courtesy of "Jose Yulo: The Selfless Statesman," 1981 copyright by the U.P. — Jorge B. Vargas Filipiniana Research Center.

President Marcos has frozen the petition of an American counter-intelligence officer and Filipino guerrilla leaders for a posthumous decoration to Speaker Jose Yulo for his guerrilla service during World War II.

The petition is contained in a resolution which cites the activities of Yulo as a top guerrilla agent of the Allied Intelligence Bureau (AIB) while he was serving as Chief Justice of the Philippines under duress and intimidation.  
Page 2, please

Copyright, 1982 by Ernesto R. Rodriguez, Jr.

## The Bad Guerrillas of Northern Luzon

By ERNESTO R. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

Chapter IV:

The Ordeal at San Antonio

It took a few minutes for these statements to sink in on a crowd that was friendly and docile and polite. This unexpected fustian from a man in uniform, a supposed fighter for freedom and democracy, stunned the gathering.

No one had heard this kind of speech before, not even from the hated Japanese. But here was a man who boasted openly of his unmitigated savagery. What the good and poor people of San Antonio did not know was that Sagad was already a legend in his lifetime. And he was probably telling the truth too. It would be an understatement therefore to say that the people were dumbfounded.

The man was plainly serious and he continued talking: "You are all friendly to the enemy Japs here." No one was, but that fact did not matter. He asked the inhabitants of San Antonio to stay on one side of gathering, and the evacuees on the other. Then, without much ado, he asked his men as well as the spectators, including the women, to jump on the eva-

Page 6, please

# Cebu landowners contest expropriation

## FM freezes

tion of the Japanese military administration.

The resolution is signed by five guerrilla commanders, three of whom are holding office in the Marcos government today. They are Mayor Ramon D. Bagatsing of Manila; Ambassador Roberto Benedicto, chairman of the Philsucom, and big administration financier and banker; Gen. Jose M. Crisol, deputy minister of defense; and Leon O. Ty, publisher and one-time member of the board of governors of the Development Bank of the Philippines. The fifth signatory is Col. Buenaventura Villanueva, former USAF-FE officer, now an official of Canlubang Sugar Estate and allied companies, whose AIB unit in Manila worked closely with Yulo and through whose headquarters Yulo kept in contact with other guerrilla units throughout Luzon. Villanueva's headquarters also served as distribution center of cash assistance, foodstuff and medicines from the Yulo family to several guerrilla organizations.

The resolution for a

military decoration to Yulo was presented to Marcos in 1977, the year following the death of Mr. Yulo on Oct. 27, 1976.

A letter in 1977 from Col. Lee R. Stanford, U.S. army CIC agent assigned to investigate the war activities of many prominent Filipino political leaders in connection with their "collaboration" during the Japanese occupation, and the publication of that letter in the **BULLETIN TODAY** that same year, prompted guerrilla leaders to make the petition to Marcos.

The letter of Col. Stanford was sent to Francisco H. Ortega, a friend of the American, a guerrilla and pre-war aide to Gen. Alejo Valdes, reads in part:

"Jose Yulo was a patriot and should have been recognized and honored by his Government and ours (America) for his outstanding work in furnishing positive intelligence information to the U.S. Army in the war effort.

From page 1

"I have attempted in the past to see that this was done but I just don't have enough clout to be able to do it."

Lee Stanford is now in private law practice in Concordia, Kansas. His junior partner is John C. Laman. Their offices are in Standord building, 812 Washington Street in that city.

The underground activities of Speaker Yulo, mostly with the AIB unit in Manila of this Negros-based American-Filipino intelligence organization, are narrated in the biography "JOSE YULO: The Selfless Statesman," a well documented work by writer-journalist Baldomero (Toto) Olivera, published last year by the UP Foundation. Those activities are cited in the resolution to Marcos, which he has been frozen in Malacanang for unknown reasons.

The five Filipino guerrilla commanders, all friends of Marcos, don't seem to have "enough clout" in this government either, like Lee Stanford.

More than 53 landowners — through lawyers George M. Baladajay, Olegario R. Sarmiento Jr., Mario G. de la Victoria and Democrito Barcenas — have petitioned the Supreme Court to stop the expropriation of their landholdings in the mountain barangays of Sirao, Sibugay, Malubog and Babag of Cebu City said to be needed by the government for tourism and sports.

The petitioners, headed by the heirs of Juancho Ardon in GR No. 60549, asked the High Court to restrain Judge Juan Y. Reyes of the Cebu Court of First Instance, the Philippine Tourism Authority (PTA), their agents, representatives and employes from enforcing the writs of possession and demolition issued by the Court of First Instance and to annul as unconstitutional Presidential Proclamation No. 2052 declaring their land area as part of a tourism zone and Presidential Decrees Nos. 189 and 564 vesting the PTA the power to expropriate private lands.

The petitioners alleged that they are defendants in four expropriation cases pending with the Cebu CFI and whose lands are sought to be expropriated by the government firm for conversion into a 1,000-hectare

sports complex complete with golf courses, basketball, volleyball courts, swimming pools, etc.

Upon the filing of the complaints, the CFI issued an order for the immediate possession by the government corporation and for the demolition of the landowners' improvements. The petitioners alleged that the action of the PTA was premature since the tourist zone has not yet been officially geographically delineated as required by the proclamation.

The right of the government to take private property for non-public use was questioned by the landowners who alleged that "public use" is not synonymous with "public interests," "public welfare" or "public convenience" and the taking of their property "in line with the policy of the government to promote tourism and development of tourism projects" as alleged by the PTA was not in keeping with any constitutional direction.

The constitutionality of P.D. No. 564, which gives the PTA the power to expropriate property, is also being questioned because, they said, under the decree the firm is also empowered to alienate properties which it acquired by expropriation in favor of private persons

leaving public use as a mere incidental or occasional feature.

Some of the petitioners, who claimed to be beneficiaries of emancipation patents and/or tenant farmers, alleged that a conflict of the social justice provisions of the Constitution and the questionable motivation behind the expropriation for tourism purposes should be resolved in favor of the former.

It was alleged that when the CFI issued the writ of possession in two of the cases, Presidential Proclamation No. 2052 was not yet promulgated, hence it was a clear violation of the law protecting the rights of tenant farmers. Presidential Decree No. 583 protects tenants from any act or scheme designed to obstruct the implementation of the land reform program of the government in derogation of their rights.

Earlier PTA General Manager Bernardo Vergara charged the Opposition for obstructing the efforts of the government to promote tourism in Cebu having spent P1 billion already for the purpose. Cebuanos were surprised by the revelation doubting the truth of the same and are now asking details of such expenditure.

## Girl scout

From page 1

the executive, was reinstated to her position in an NLRC decision promulgated April 7 this year. NLRC Presiding Commissioner Guillermo C. Medina and Commissioners

Gabriel M. Gatchalian and Miguel B. Varela, who penned the decision, ordered that Mrs. Estoista be given full backwages.

The anomalies, which were rampant in Bataan, had victimized one girl scout in 1977. The girl, Jacqueline Salenga of Hermosa, had died in an accident and the parents could not claim insurance coverage benefits because she, like so many

the cooperatives while he is a member of the board of directors of the fourth.

Total amount involved, according to the charges, was P48 million.

The Tanodbayan resolution was signed by the special prosecutor, and the director of the Tanodbayan Prosecution Office. Then Tanodbayan Vicente G. Erieta, now resigned Supreme Court Associate Justice, has no signature in the photocopy of the resolution in the possession of WE Forum.

Burgos' and Soriano's lawyer, Antonio P. Coronel, was preparing their answer to the contempt charge to be filed before the June 4 hearing.

## Contempt

From page 1

ments and Community Development where Sacay was also a deputy minister.

Sacay is head of three of

## Another

From page 1

ing to a press release from the mayor's spokesman, Lito Atienza.

WE Forum is included in the libel charge for rewriting an *Asiaweek* article and making it as its headline in its May 26-28 issue. The headline runs: "Bagatsing blames FM, FL."

According to the press release, "The mayor said that the article was written apparently to sow intrigue and create a divisive atmosphere between his office and that of national leadership."

## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given of the Extrajudicial Settlement of the Estate of Prescila L. Marquez consisting of 55.2 square meters residential lot located at Uli-Uli subdivision, Uli-Uli St., San Miguel, Manila between her heirs Fernando A. Marquez, Sr. and Fernando L. Marquez Jr. before Notary Public Reynan B. Perez, per Doc. No. 338 Page No. 67 Book No. III Series of 1982.

WE FORUM  
May 29, June 5, 12, 1982

others in the province, was not registered despite her membership payments

She cited the following instances in a sworn statement:

1. In 1977, the Cababen Elementary School submitted to the Council three registration forms for 1976 for girl scouts consisting of 72 girl members and 18 adult members who were supposed to pay P1.50 and P3 each, respectively. The collection should be P162.

However, the only amount remitted by the Cababen Elementary School to the Council was P8.

Mrs. Estoista said the withholding of remittances was

## Muslim

From page 1

5. Deputization of CMT cadets and civic groups by the Comelec to guard the polling places.

6. Accreditation by the Comelec of Opposition representatives as watchers.

"The Supreme Council believes that these measures are necessary to have the political structure in the South acceptable to the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) as substantial compliance with the Tripoli Agreement and pave the way for renewed talks with the MNLF," the resolution, numbered 86, said.

It added that "unless the governmental setup in the South is acceptable to the expended will only be a waste for the so-called autonomous governments will not succeed in solving the conflict, nor gain a favorable position before the OIC."

## Aquino

From page 1

fellowship program. The whereabouts of Aquino was one of the questions wanted clarified by the consular office in connection with his application for a renewal of his passport.

But even if his passport's renewal is thumbed down by the Marcos administration, Aquino said that he is willing to stay a little while away from the Philippines as he is mulling over an offer by former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt to head a professional group based in Berlin. He said that another offer — a teaching job in one of the Middle East cities — is also being considered by him and his family.

Aquino said he would go either to a city in the Middle East or to Berlin whether his passport is renewed or not.

But he said he has no intention to stay as an exile for long. Someday soon, he said, he would return to his country.

"If I've stayed away this long," Aquino said, "it is only because I feel that there are progress made towards normalization."

He said "I've always had the intention to return. In fact, I was ready to return right after my operation but Marcos said I can stay indefinitely in America and so I stayed indefinitely in America."

But, he added, his intention to go home remains. "However, let me put this added explanation," he said. "Some of our countrymen have asked: why did you not return when you gave your word?"

He answered his own question by an example. He said, "you are kidnapped by a group of bandits and then you promised them that 'If you will release me, send me home, I'll get the money.' And then they release you. Are you morally obliged to return to them with your money? Or, should you go to the authorities and complain?"

Now, Aquino said he holds that "I was illegally held by Marcos for seven years and several months. He charged me illegally, brought me to the courts I refuse to recognize. Now that I'm out, am I really morally obliged to return? People might say I'm stupid! Aba'y gago pala

East or to Berlin whether his passport is renewed or not.

But he said he has no intention to stay as an exile for long. Someday soon, he said, he would return to his country.

Now, Aquino said he holds that "I was illegally held by Marcos for seven years and several months. He charged me illegally, brought me to the courts I refuse to recognize. Now that I'm out, am I really morally obliged to return? People might say I'm stupid! Aba'y gago pala

ika, 'yang si Ninoy na yan. Nakawala na, babalik pa. Or, there might be an implicit admission on my part that I recognize jurisdiction."

Aquino said that if the Supreme Court can be restored to its original independence "and democracy restored to our country, I'd go back immediately."

But he said he is reluctant "because I do not want to go back to a military commission. And right now, they are still holding the military commission over my head."

## Pregnancy meet set

COLOMBO (AFP) — A five-day International Buddhist Conference opening next month will discuss an extremely sensitive religious issue — the artificial termination of pregnancies, the local newspaper *Sunday Times* reported here. International conference, the first of its kind, would discuss the role of Buddhist women in national family planning programs.

The *Sunday Times* said that since Buddhism is totally opposed to the destruction of any form of life, it was expected that abortion for any reasons would be roundly condemned. Artificial forms of birth control are expected to be condemned.

The conference is also expected to take serious note of the wanton destruction of Buddhist art, architecture, sculpture and paintings in East Europe, West Asia and other Asian regions.

## WORLD NEWS FOLIO

### A thriving industry

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Population, which is increasing by over 50 million a year, is the most thriving industry in India. This observation was made by Pres. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy while inaugurating an Indian-sponsored International Food Conference, "Ahara-82," in South India's Bangalore, Press Trust of India said.

### Western prisoners freed

BANGKOK (AFP) — A total of 15 Western prisoners were released here under a royal amnesty that will mean freedom for about 10,000 prisoners throughout the country. Freed were four Britons, three West Germans, one Swiss, one Canadian, two Americans, one Austrian, one Spaniard and two Israelis.

### Fallout levels down

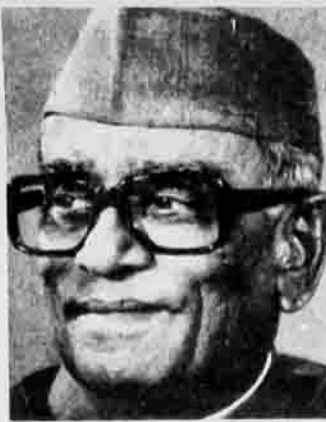
WELLINGTON (AFP) — Radiation fallout levels from atmospheric nuclear tests are at their lowest since monitoring began in 1960, the New Zealand National Radiation Laboratory says in a report issued here. Lab Director Hugh Atkinson said French atmospheric tests had earlier led to high Strontium-90 deposits but since 1975, when the testing went underground, fallout levels had decreased significantly.

### Japs held by N. Korea

TOKYO (AFP) — North Korea has officially informed the Japan Red Cross Society that it captured 25 Japanese fishermen aboard two trawlers in the Yellow Sea on May 11 for allegedly violating North Korea's military waters. According to a report received by the Japan Red Cross Society from its North Korean counterpart, all the fishermen are in good physical condition.

### Mixup at the hospital

CHAUMONT, East France (AFP) — A mother changed her new baby's nappies (diapers) for the first time here a few days after the birth only to discover it was a girl. The father had rushed out after being told he had a son to register the name as Sebastian Matthieu. He is now suing the hospital.



Indian Pres. Sanjiva Reddy

### Deterrent to nuclear production?

CANBERRA (AFP) — The restrictive sale of Australian uranium on the world market will not help the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, the government leader in the Senate, Sir John Carrick, said here.

He was speaking after a Labor opposition call in the Senate for the export of all Australian uranium to stop. According to the opposition, Australian uranium could be used for the manufacture of nuclear weapons, despite the many nuclear safeguard treaties that now exist.

"The policing of the sale and use of uranium by the international atomic energy agency, and by the Australian safeguards office, is the strongest deterrent to any nuclear arms manufacture," Carrick said.

## The World

### Third World calls for a new economic order

ALGIERS (AFP) — An international seminar on the North-South dialogue and cooperation among developing countries opened here with Algerian Pres. Chadli Bendjedid and former Mexican Head of State Luis Echeverria firmly condemning the existing world economic order.

"The present economic order threatens the independence of Third World countries and is incapable of responding to their legitimate claims," Chadli told politicians and economists from Western Europe, South America, Africa, Asia and the Socialist World.

"We are not accusing a single country or group of countries, neither the West nor East, but only the present economic order put in place when Third World countries were colonies," Pres. Chadli said.

"Only constructive dialogue between industrialized countries and developing countries is capable of overcoming the present difficulties" and creating a new international economic order, he said.

Meanwhile, Echeverria, who initiates the seminar

as director of the Mexican-based center for Third World economic and social studies, said that "humanity has paid too high a price for a model of progress which divides the planet into little regions of wealth and enormous spaces of poverty."

Echeverria dismissed as an enormous ideological falsehood the idea that all present conflicts stem from the political contradiction between East and West, saying that a new economic order could do away with the North-North, South-South and East-West stereotypes.

According to the former Mexican president, the new economic order stands for restoring world unity and by consequence the suppression of inequality.

Attempts by the Third World to launch the so-called North-South dialogue for redressing the present balance between rich and poor nations have been blocked for years, largely because of opposition from the United States.

"In order to survive, the North-North must change its spirit of domination to a spirit of solidarity," Echeverria said.

### W. Germany marks 33rd anniversary

The Federal Republic of Germany, on May 23, celebrated the 33rd anniversary of the promulgation of its Constitution, the so-called Basic Law.

As Germany is still divided into two states and yet to be reunited, that particular special day for the FRG is not considered as a National Day, in the same way other countries celebrate their foundation day. Nevertheless, it is an occasion to commemorate, stressed a message from FRG Ambassador Dr. Gundi Feilner.

Ambassador Feilner, also in the same message, recalled the Republic's efforts in the past 33 years to develop into a modern democracy with a stable political, social and economic order, as well as the state's stance in so far as the rest of the world is concerned. He said:

"The Federal Republic of Germany particularly favors regional cooperation such as ASEAN as a means of achieving stability and development, and believes that economic cooperation and the granting of trading opportunities is an important factor in the process of development."

### 'Holocaust' exhibit by Hiroshima survivors

HIROSHIMA, Japan, (AFP) — Some 100 drawings by survivors in Hiroshima after the Japanese city was devastated at the end of second World War by an atomic bomb are to be exhibited at the National Art Museum in Ottawa from June 8 to August 8 this year.

The special exhibition of "Hiroshima Drawings by Survivors" in Ottawa is timed with the United Nations Special Disarmament Conference opening in New York early June.

This is the first time that drawings on the theme are to be exhibited outside Japan.

The idea of the Ottawa exhibition was conceived by Brydon Smith, 44, of the National Art Museum in Ottawa who was impressed by a collection of pictures depicting the holocaust of the A-bombed city which he bought at an Ottawa bookstore in February last year.

A spokesman for the Hiroshima Peace Culture Center said that the center was always willing to lend out its 2,225 Hiroshima drawings overseas so that many people abroad will be able to comprehend the tragedy of the A-bombing.

Hire the morally handicapped. It's more fun. — from "The Drifters."

## Humanities

### Aid to orphans, unwed mothers

The Rev. Fr. Iballo Foundation, conceived in 1974 by eight civic-spirited individuals "to save the youth today for tomorrow and to create for them a brighter future," has recently been incorporated under the laws of the Philippines as a non-sectarian and non-profit organization.

Established specifically to provide free hospitalization and medical care to unwed mothers and their children, orphanage to orphaned or abandoned children, and scholarship funds, the Foundation has been initially underwritten by its President, the Rt. Rev. Isabelo de los Reyes, 111, a bishop of the Philippine Independent Church (a religious body in full communion with the American Episcopal Church), to the amount of P5,000.

If the application for exempt status is approved, according to the Phil. Independent Church's organ *D'Informer*, the Foundation is assured of funding by influential and affluent Filipinos in the United States. The paper also deals on the possibility of a grant from the Ford Foundation.

Findings have it that in the Subic Bay/Clark AFB complex, there are 40 percent births to unwed mothers and that of these, 20 percent of the mothers are without sufficient fund for proper pre and post natal care, resulting in an infant mortality rate for these unwed mothers, of 10 percent. Accordingly, there is currently no medical care and attention to these indigent persons. If the necessary funds can be raised, the Foundation can provide the necessary facility, the paper says.

Furthermore, the Foundation found out that there are 30 percent abandoned children in Olongapo area every year and approximately 15 percent are orphaned without family financial support.

There are facilities available, mostly sponsored and well-conducted by the Roman Catholic Church in the Olongapo area. As there is a need for an additional facility, the Foundation intends to foot the bill for an orphanage, again, if the necessary fundings can be made.

## CITY OF EASY WOMEN?

### French film sketches Manila

CANNES, South France (AFP) — A film about a Frenchman's sexual adventures in Manila, a city he compares to a woman's body, met with an indifferent reception at its Cannes Festival World Premiere May 24.

The festival's busy rumor mill had predicted that Pierre Riessent's *Cing et la Peau* ("Five and the Skin"), would be a film of extraordinary quality. The screening, in the official but non-competitive "Un Certain Regard" (A Certain Way of Looking) section, drew a full house. Although the predomi-

nantly high-brow audience undoubtedly appreciated the film's multitude of cultural references, including film directors Raoul Walsh and Lino Brocka, the poet Guillevic, the song *Blue Moon*, and jazzman Coleman Hawkins, many were probably turned off by seeing the hero squatting on a bidet in one scene and a Manila nightclub stripper in a compromising situation in another.

Another minus factor was the hero's perpetual philosophizing.

At a press conference afterward, Director Riessent

left it to French critic and filmmaker Robert Benayoun to discuss the film.

Benayoun said he had heard women in the audience complain of the film's misogyny. As a man he found this hard to judge, but in his view, the film was "very brave and very personal."

"There were too many easy women in the film," a male journalist in the film remarked. "I don't know Manila, so I can't tell if the women there are easy."

"Evidently for Pierre Riessent," Benayoun replied, "Manila is a city of women."

### RP entry shown

Meanwhile, Asian films, specifically from the Philippines and India, were shown the night of May 18, together with one from New Zealand.

Philippine Director Mike de Leon showed *Batch*, which centers around a group of young people who have to endure initiation rites to become members of a student fraternity — rites which are far removed from those usually known in the West.

The tests are terrifyingly grim and easily end in blood being spilled. One of the students is killed during these rites, and the crime binds his fellow students even closer together.

De Leon explained: "Initially I planned to make a commercial film about student life, but the theme of university fraternities and cliques rapidly dominated the whole project."

"What delighted me about the whole plot was that it gave me



DE LEON

the opportunity of revealing the machinations of an authoritarian organization hiding behind an egalitarian facade."

Physical and psychological violence are the instruments seen being used to inculcate conformity and submission. Nonetheless, *Batch*, as one correspondent thinks, is far more than just a film about university student fraternities in the Philippines.

The film has several brutal scenes which were not appreciated by a number of those in the audience.

A second film, also by De Leon, was slated later in the fortnight, an extremely rare event at Cannes.

Pierre-Henri Deleau, the chief selector who several years ago introduced another Filipino director, Lino Brocka, to the West, said he thought it preferable to show two De Leon films in order to understand his work better.

# Pulse

## Editorial

### Ninoy's passport

The question of whether the Philippine government renews the passport of former Sen. Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. or not appears to be a childish affair. For what has the government to gain if it does not renew the passport? And, what has Aquino to lose?

One thing sure is that Aquino is not coming to the country too soon. He himself has said he won't timidly go back to prison where he had almost wasted seven years of his life before he was allowed to go to the United States for a heart operation. With or without his passport, he has said, he would go either to West Germany or a city in the Middle East. And he could go to either place without his passport being renewed. All he has to do is to seek an asylum.

By denying the passport renewal, the Philippine government only looks like a harassing bully in the face of the Filipinos, and, worse, in the face of the Germans, the Middle East people, the Americans and all other peoples in the world who may be following up developments.

It is best that the Philippine government gives in readily to Aquino's request for renewal. This way, President Marcos — whose name is certainly being linked — could even appear as a sport guy, or so the saying goes.

### With a grain of salt



### Black spot on my record

By ARMANDO J. MALAY

As a result of the Erica scandal in the Supreme Court, some flunkers in previous Bar exams are reportedly planning to ask for a review of their test papers.

Taking a cue from the Bar flunkers' plan, I'm thinking of asking the old Gagalangin (now Lakandula) elementary school, Torres high school, and the University of the Philippines to reconsider my grades in all my arithmetic or mathematics subjects, from Grade 1 to Senior Year in college.

From age 7, I've had nothing but excruciating times wrestling with arithmetic, geometry, algebra

— all those so-called exact sciences involving figures or numbers. The tears I shed in all 15 years of formal schooling could float the whole Philippine Navy. In English or history, I would get 96 percent or thereabouts, but in math I'd get 10 or 15 percent! Once I asked a UP math professor why I got a 5 (I should have known, but I've always been a protestor), and she (an American) replied, "You got a 5 because I couldn't give you a 6 or a 7." I kept repeating math in UP until my last professor gave me a 3, otherwise I'd never have been a UP alumnus. Years

NEW YORK — As far as Filipino expatriates in this glittering American city are concerned, the much ballyhooed Philippines exhibit at Bloomingdale's — one of the biggest department store chains in the U.S. — is more of a "vanity fair" than what it has been touted to be.

And their reason is obvious: the exhibit showcases not only the stunning "ternos" of the First Lady Mrs. Imelda Romualdez Marcos but also some of ancient gold jewelry collections and the blow-up photographs of her husband, Ferdinand, his war medals and decorations his books and other personal paraphernalia that would put to shame the exhibits of deceased U.S. presidents.

The "ternos" of Mrs. Marcos are worn by immaculately-white plastic mannequins resembling the face of the First Lady at the third floor of the huge department store while the jewelry are shown in resplendent array at the main floor.

President Marcos' war exploits, on the other hand, are put in glorious display at the fifth floor, together with the memorabilia of the great American friend, the late Gen. Douglas MacArthur, and that of the little "Brown American," Foreign Affairs Minister Car-

later, this professor used to drop in at the newspaper office and ask me for a free copy of my paper.

In Grade 1, I was asked, "Three plus three?" My quick answer: "Thirty-three." Asked why, I said, "Well, put one 3 with another 3, don't you get 33?" One time I was asked, "One plus one?" My answer: "Maybe 2, maybe 3, maybe 4." How come? The teacher wanted to know. "Well, one man plus one woman may result in a child, two children, or four." Brilliant answer.

In Torres high school, a teacher put this problem. "Train No. 1 and Train 2 are traveling on the same track but in opposite directions. Train 1 was traveling at 10 miles per hour; Train 2, at 25. At what point in a 50-mile track would they crash into each other?"

For half an hour I wrestled with the problem. When time came to collect the test papers, I hurriedly wrote: "God in His infinite mercy will not allow such a collision." Singko!

### Kokoy Jokes of the Week:

His wife complained to Kokoy that milk easily turns sour. She asked what could be done about it. "Madali 'yan," replied Kokoy, "keep the milk inside the cow."

At a rally of barangays in Leyte, Kokoy was introduced in such lavish language that he told somebody next to him, "I can hardly wait to hear what I am going to say."

## Publisher's Notes

### Exhibit in U.S., a 'vanity fair'?

By JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.



los P. Romulo. But among the three "heroes," the items about Mr. Marcos take the cake for vainglory.

Most of the Filipino immigrants I've had a chance to talk to while in New York were one in commenting that l'affaire Bloomingdale is a polished public relations gimmickry that is trying to sell not Philippine products but Philippine personalities.

I don't really know the actual score of purchases of Philippine products in the store but because of the exorbitant prices of the goods peddled, I would say that there is not much business going on. To set the record straight, I attempted to talk to a certain Mrs. Ruboff of Bloomingdale's publicity section but, unfortunately, she was always out the three times I tried to contact her in her office. However, I asked some

My otherwise happy youth was marred by such tragedies. Ten divided by 2 might be easy, but 789452 divided by 15 made me sick, literally. One time my teacher found me taking off my shoes in order to count beyond my ten fingers. She asked why I had my shoes off. "M'am, it's itching down here," I said and I scratched and scratched until my soles bled.

My nightmares were not about death or ghosts but such problems as: 109 raised to the 10th power (whatever that means) or why is Angle 1 equal to Angle 2?

Today old classmates remember me as the student who could finish in 15 minutes a long essay on the meaning of "the glory that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome," but who, asked to multiply 50 by 6 would run to the door and say, "M'am, very necessary."

In this Compassionate Society, do you think I could erase the stigma of my dismal performance in math?

friends who had been shopping at the store, as well as some American salesgirls there, and they were almost unanimous in saying that prices of the products are beyond the reach of the ordinary shoppers. And they're right, too. An abaca bag costs \$40; a native wallet made of buri is priced at \$5, while a bamboo lampshade fetches a \$170 tag.

The promotion of the exhibit, of course, was high-pitched. Apart from the posters, and shopping bags bearing the exhibit's logo ("The Philippines: Land of Friends"), I also noticed advertisements in New York's daily newspapers.

The exhibit likewise deserved column inches in some American periodicals and not all of them were any compliments to Mrs. Marcos.

Here's an example from an item in the New York Magazine (May 10, 1982, issue) headlined: "Imelda Marcos's Nightlife."

"For the chosen few Bloomingdale's executives,

the highlight of last month's gala opening of the store's Philippines promotion was a rare glimpse into the private world of Imelda Marcos.

"Following the public part of the celebration, said a Bloomingdale's executive, the wife of the Philippine strongman threw a bash on her very own dance floor. Guests included Bloomingdale's president Marvin Traub and some of his top staffers.

"A friend of Mrs. Marcos's told New York, 'Imelda has a part of the large townhouse that used to be the Philippine Consulate as a disco, where she entertains her private friends. She goes there after parties, because she only sleeps two hours a night.'

"Wenceslao Quirolico, the Philippine deputy consul general, said that the East Sixties building — occupied by the consulate before it moved into its present Fifth Avenue quarters — is now used for 'archives and office records.'

"Quirolico insisted that 'no part is strictly for dancing.'

### This is my own

### Applause and applesauce



By JOAQUIN R. ROCES

Better to have as mayor one who changed parties  
But was honestly and truthfully elected  
Than one religiously loyal to one party  
Whom the people, by their honest vote, rejected.

Mayors are not elected to serve the party  
Mayors are elected to serve the people

While it is true that there is such a thing  
As the so-called majesty of the law  
Where the law does not at all make any sense  
It becomes repulsive to the conscience

Laws mandating party loyalty may be the explanation  
Why there is hardly any official denunciation  
Of all the known evils plaguing this nation  
Like violence, official abuse, and corruption.

Men who are extremely loyal to the party  
As against those extremely loyal to the country  
Many times develop blindness, deafness, and become muted  
So that they do not hear grenades exploding  
They do not see the economy eroding  
They cannot speak against the grain

And their leaders, blinded by the party's cause  
Find it difficult to tell the difference now  
(While thriving on both somehow)  
Between Applause and applesauce.

WE Forum is published every Wednesday and Saturday by the J. BURGOS MEDIA SERVICES, with editorial and business offices at 784 Units C & D Ground floor, RMS Bldg. Quezon Ave., Q.C. and a branch office at the National Press Club building annex, Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES, Outside Metro Manila: P180. For one year (by mail). For shorter periods, divide the amount, as necessary.

JOSE G. BURGOS, Jr.  
Publisher Editor

MARCELO B. SORIANO  
Executive Editor

EDWARD G. BURGOS  
Production Manager

ANGEL C. TRONQUED  
Circulation Manager

TO SEEK AND LIVE THE TRUTH AND SHARE A VISION

Telephone Nos. 99-86-04; 40-08-25

## Viewpoints



## Need for Office of Gov't. Ethics

By RAUL M. GONZALEZ

My friend Masanao Oue of the Japanese Embassy mentioned that in Japan a new train, faster and an even more improved version of the bullet trains, is now in the development stage and was already tested in Kyusho. According to Mr. Oue, this train will run on magnet whose wheels will not touch the tracks. Indeed when I was in Kochi City last May 20-26, some well placed people there were talking about this new train which they say will be operational within two years. Again, it seems that Japan leads the way in this kind of technology.

\*\*\*  
In the light of the recent Supreme Court Bar scandal, and with so many anomalies being unearthed each day, perhaps it is now time for the country to have its own version of the Government Ethics Office as they have in the U.S., which became imperative after the Water-

gate scandal. In the U.S., President Ronald Reagan had to release the kinds and values of gifts he has received since assuming the Presidency and Senators and members of Congress have to make public the money received as honoraria from speaking engagements. In the U.S., gifts valued above \$50 must be reported to the Ethics Office in what they term "Annual Disclosure Statements." If an office of this kind is organized, manned by men of impeccable integrity who will not be beholden to Malacanang, I wonder how many people now occupying high positions would be found guilty of perjury for false statements.

\*\*\*  
While in the plane flying me from Tokyo to Kochi last May 21, I chanced upon a Reader's Digest issue of Aug.

Page 6, please

## A matter of opinion



## Tony Raquiza and the Ramawil case

By ERNESTO R. RODRIGUEZ, Jr.

The WE Forum is suddenly beleaguered by elements that have taken umbrage over its news-reporting.

It's an occupational hazard that every newspaper worthy of its name has to face in trying to fulfill its duty. Only a managed press, under a dictatorship, is free from any risk. But then, that's not journalism.

Our last two issues have stirred a hornet's nest. I am not biased but after going over the two stories in question, I cannot see any reason why anyone would take offense over their publication. Of course, the legality of the act of publishing them is another story.

They involve two public officials and it is their official acts that are the subject matter of the news reports. If their consciences are clear, there's no better balm.

Take the case of Mayor Bagatsing. He is an old and valued friend and he is my comprovinciano. I think he is doing his best

under the circumstances, and if there are shortcomings here and there in his administration, the public knows who and what are to blame for them.

There can be no quarrel with the claim of the mayor that "only through harmonious ties with the national government can things be done quickly." And the clarifications made by the mayor's spokesman are to the point too.

It is therefore clear that whatever imperfections there are under the Bagatsing Administration, the national leadership is also partly to blame for them. For, as Mr. Bagatsing himself admits, "Metro Manila is now being run by a team of local leaders accomplishing projects and getting things done through team effort." And, of course, the team of local leaders, one may add, is under the supervision of the Metro Manila Commission, which

Page 7, please

## Philippine scene



## Kuro-kuro

## Pasyon at kamatayan ng ating kalayaan



Ni FRANCISCO 'SOC' RODRIGO

(Ang tulang sumusunod ay natapos sulatin noong Setyembre 30, 1975).

## Nabahala ang Pangulo

51. Ang ganyang isipa't damdamin ng tao  
Ay pihong nalaman ng ating pangulo;  
Nalama't natiyak na sa plebisito  
Ay hindi lulusot ang "parlamentaryo."
52. Naglaho ang planong magprimer-ministro.  
At di na rin siya pueheng magpangulo;  
Kayat ano ngayon ang tanging remedyo  
Upang huwag siyang matinag sa puesto?

## Martial Law

53. Ang tanging para'y gamitin ang hukbo...  
Gamitin ang lakas at sandata nito  
Upang sapilitang ipataw sa tao  
Ang lupit ng isang dekreto ng "martial law"
54. Sa ganyang para'y pilit maliliban  
Ang nakatadhanang pambansang halalan  
Na sana'y magiging tiyak na hanggahan  
Ng panunungkulan ng pangasiwaan.
55. Minsang maialis ang mga halalan,  
Tayong mamamaya'y parang inagawan  
Ng tanging sandigan ng kapangyarihang  
Humawak sa renda ng pamahalaan.

## Balota Vs. Sandata

56. Ang makapanayari'y di na ang balota  
Bagkus pangagahis, lakas at sandata;  
Pagluluksaan na yaong demokrasya  
Pagkat hahalili'y isang dikta dura.
57. At sadyang ito nga ang nais mangyari  
Ng isang pinunong ayaw pahalili,  
At habang panaho'y nais manatili  
Sa puestong sa kanya ay kawiliwili.

## Pinaghandaan ang Martial Law

58. Ang planong naturan ay pinaghandaan  
Sa mula't mula pang siya'y nanungkulan.  
Tiniyak na yaong hukbong sandataha'y  
Susunod sa kanya nang lubuslubusan.
59. Sa panunungkulan halos pitong taon,  
Siya'y nagkaroon ng pagkakataon  
At, bukod pa rito'y, sapat na panahon  
Upang mabalangkas ang naturang layon.

## Ang Hukbo

60. Sa bawat heneral na nagreretiro,  
Ang ninonombraha'y kapuwa Ilokano...  
Dili kaya nama'y yaong mga tao  
Na sunudsunuran sa kanyang imando.
61. Saka dinagdagan nang ilang ibayo  
Ang lakas at bilang ng hukbong armado;  
Pinagdoble-doble yaong presupuesto  
Upang yaong hukbo'y mahanda nang husto.
62. Bihirang-bihira yaong naghinala  
Na ang hahantungan ng ganyang pakana  
Ay di pagtatanggal nitong ating bansa  
Bagkus ang pagkitil sa sariling laya.

## Nabigla ang bayan

63. Kayat sambayana'y lubusang namangha -  
Karamihan pa nga'y ayaw maniwala

Page 6, please

## Opinion

## Views &amp; Interviews

## Presentation of cadets at PMA



By PROF. SALVADOR ROXAS GONZALEZ

(NOTE. PART V of the Backwardness of Science will be continued on Wednesday).

Saturday, 21 May, is a grand day at the Philippine Military Academy in Baguio, the West Point of the Philippines. It is a day of celebration and parade, the day for the presentation of the new cadets. A day of palabas. But there are at least five plebes (freshmen) not included in the celebration. One of them is my nephew, the son of my only sister, a victim of brutal hazing. He left before he suffered the same fate as a General's son last year. He wouldn't talk except to his mother about his ordeal, but he told me a few things. What happened?

Some weeks ago my nephew was informed that he was finally admitted to PMA. He is almost six feet tall but refined and quiet — one of those tall, dark and silent types that girls fall for. For two years he had prepared to go to PMA, he took the examinations and passed. We told him that one day he might yet become a general like his granduncle, General Basilio Valdez, my father's first cousin. On the eve of his departure for Baguio we gave him a send-off party, and we wished him all the best. About two weeks later, my nephew suddenly appeared at their home in Cubao, on AWOL (absence without official leave). He had some bruises and complained of painful stomach and of cruel treatment by upperclassmen, he was a victim of hazing, even if the newspapers had said that there was no longer hazing at PMA. In principle, hazing is not altogether wrong, for "to haze" means to harass with some overwork, according to the Oxford dictionary. It should not include to sock a person on the stomach or let the gun butt fall on his toes, or burn his skin with a hot flat-iron, or starve him for days, or even to kill him as in the case of that unlucky son of a General a year ago.

His father was able to persuade him at first to go back to PMA, there he was made to stay in the hospital for weeks and to serve his punishment, for his AWOL. He served and finished the punishment given to him by the authorities, according to Colonel Zumel, and after that resigned and went back home. Why did this boy who had dreamed of the PMA and prepared for it change his mind? Was he a coward and couldn't take it? My nephew is not a coward. No one in our family is; we come from Batangas where men are men. When my nephew was but ten years old, he fought a snake with a broom until his father came to the rescue. In school where the fight is fair and square and bullies are not protected by other bullies, he would not allow anyone to push him around, he had the build.

He resigned not because he couldn't adjust to military life, but because his dreams were broken. He had a lofty image of the PMA as the builder of honorable men who will be the protectors of the liberty and rights of the people. Instead, there are in the Academy the bullies and torturers who oppress those who will not fight them back. He had thought of the PMA cadets as educated and disciplined men of the highest virtues. He found vicious men instead. He had thought that there were mental and psychological tests before a cadet was admitted, if so why are there bullies and sadists? For bullies and sadists are mentally deficient and psychologically unbalanced people, so sane man enjoys the sight of others suffering or deliberately inflicts pain on them. He took his punishment like a man, but what about those who made him suffer?

Yes, there is the presentation of cadets and the parade, but among those in that yearly ritual are the bullies and the torturers who go through the four years and graduate, and practise their sadistic tendencies on detainees and civilians and the unarmed. They are a disgrace to this country and to PMA. If the authorities cannot eliminate cruel hazing at PMA which drives decent boys away, boys who would not want to join the company of barbarians, then it should be the decent cadets themselves who must police their ranks and refuse to be hazed or to haze if cruelty is involved.

Page 6, please

# Supreme Court fails as guardian?

By CECILIA MUÑOZ PALMA  
Former Associate Justice

In the brief separate Opinion which I wrote after concurring fully in the lengthy dissenting Opinion of Justice Teehanke, I said that I vote for granting the Petition for prohibition brushing aside the personalities involved, that is, that petitioner Benigno Aquino, Jr. was a member of the Senate and a known leader of the Opposition at the time martial law was proclaimed and that President Marcos is a President who believes in the Rule of Law even during martial rule, for I am called upon to lay down a principle of law which will decide the fate not only of the present generation but also that of Filipinos still to be born. For what about tomorrow and the day after tomorrow when we shall all be gone and the political atmosphere different? Legal precepts which are to protect basic fundamental rights and liberties of an individual must be laid down not only for the present but for all time and all conditions. The Bill of Rights must remain firm, indestructible, unyield-

ing to all forms of pressure, for like Mt. Sinai of Moses it can be the only refuge of a people in any crucible they may suffer in the course of their destiny.

5. The Supreme Court ruled that with the proclamation of martial law, the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus was automatically suspended.

In the so-called Martial Law Cases, in the Matter of the Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus filed by Benigno Aquino, Jr., Ramon Mitra, Jr., Francisco Rodrigo, Jose W. Diokno and others, the petitioners were arrested and detained by the military by virtue of President Marcos' Proclamation 1081 dated Sept. 21, 1972. Several issues were before the Court and I shall not mention all of them. One was the validity of Proclamation 1081 and there was unanimity that the Proclamation was validly issued under the provisions of the Constitution. (Justice Teehanke did not make any

## 4th INSTALLMENT

opinion on this point). The other issue was whether the proclamation of martial law carried with it the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus. The Supreme Court ruled in the affirmative; Justice Teehanke did not give his Opinion on this issue because he voted to deny the petition on other grounds. Unhappily I was the only one who held the view that there was no automatic suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus with the proclamation of martial law. My reasons were: First, from the very nature of the writ of habeas corpus which is a "writ of liberty" and the "most important and most immediately available safeguard of that liberty," the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus cannot be suspended by mere implication. The Bill of Rights specifically states that the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended except for causes therein enumerated and the proclamation of martial law is not one of those causes. Second, the so-called Commander-in-Chief clause pro-

vides for only three different modes of executive action in times of emergency, and one mode does not necessarily encompass the other, viz, (1) calling out the Armed Forces to prevent or suppress lawlessness, etc., (b) suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus, and (c) placing the country or a part thereof under martial law. (Art. VII, Sec. 10 (2) 135 Constitution; Art. IX, Sec. 12, 1973 Constitution). Third, there can be an automatic suspension of the privilege of the writ when, with the declaration of martial law, there is a total collapse of the civil authorities, the civil courts are closed, and a military government takes over, in which event the privilege of the writ is necessarily suspended for the simple reason that there is no court to issue the writ. This was not the case with us because even under the martial law proclaimed by the President the supremacy of the civil over the military was upheld and the courts were open to issue the writ (L-35546, Sept. 17, 1974).

It is important for us to remember at this point, for they can serve as guide-

lines for future judicial action, the statements made in Nava vs. Gatmaitan, a 1951 case, where five Justices (Chief Justice Paras, Cesar Bengzon, Pedro Tuason, Alex Reyes, and Fernando Jugo, JJ.) held the view that the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in 1951 did not result in the suspension of the right to bail, after an information had been filed, while four Justices (Feris, Pablo, Padilla and Bautista, JJ) ruled otherwise. Chief Justice Paras said in part:

"The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus and the right to bail guaranteed under the Bill of Rights are separate and co-equal. . . As stated in the case of Ex Parte Milligan. . . the Constitution limited the suspension to only one great right leaving the rest to remain forever. . ." (90 Phil. 70)

While Justice Cesar Bengzon who later became Chief Justice said:

"... one of the surest means to ease the uprising is a sincere demonstration of this Government's adherence to the principles of the Constitution together with an impartial application thereof to all citizens, dissidents or not. Let the rebels have no reason to apprehend that their comrades now under custody are being railroaded into Muntinlupa, without benefit of those fundamental privileges which the experience of the ages has deemed essential for the protection

of all persons accused of crime before the tribunals of justice. Give them the assurance that the judiciary, ever mindful of its sacred mission will not, thru faulty cogitation or misplaced devotion, uphold any doubtful claims of Governmental power in diminution of individual rights, but will always cling to the principle uttered long ago by Chief Justice Marshall that when in doubt as to the construction of the Constitution, 'the courts will favor personal liberty' " (Ibid, pp. 194-195)

Justice Pedro Tuason in turn expounded:

"To the plea that the security of the State would be jeopardized by the release of the defendants on bail, the answer is that the existence of danger is never a justification for courts to tamper with the fundamental rights expressly granted by the Constitution. These rights are immutable, inflexible, unyielding to no pressure of convenience, expedience, or the so-called 'judicial statesmanship.' The legislature itself cannot infringe them, and no court conscious of its responsibilities and limitation, would do so. If the Bill of Rights are incompatible with stable government and a menace to the nation, let the Constitution be amended, or abolished. It is trite to say that, while the Constitution stands, the courts of justice as the repository of civil liberty are bound to protect and maintain undiluted individual rights." (Ibid, p. 206; Italics Ours)

To be continued

## The bad From page 1

cues and hit them with everything they could lay their hands on.

The evacuees from Bangued and other neighboring places were tied up like hogs and mauled from every direction by the crowd, which had little choice on the matter. They were beaten up and tortured without let-up. The gathering easily degenerated into an ugly and unforgettable scene. It was chaos.

My good friend and constant companion Pio Verzola, a brilliant member of our underground outfit (he was the famous "Jim Hill" who had penned those well-written sheets that kept the flame of freedom alive for us during our stay in Bangued, and had relayed to us progress reports of the Allied victories in the Pacific), had a sudden relapse from malaria but was now recuperating in San Antonio. He was caught in Escobar's web and was among those brutally manhandled. He miraculously survived the ordeal and lived to tell the story. (He later became the assistant manager of the Program Audit Department of the General Auditing Office.)

Julio P. Valera, a self-effacing but very competent medical graduate of the University of the Philippines, was also among those rounded up and then terribly maltreated. He was hit repeatedly with a wooden pestle, the kind that is used for pounding rice, and this pestle broke in two on his back. They kept battering him with the broken pestle until he collapsed. He was only released when he agreed to sign an affidavit containing a "black list" of alleged pro-Jap collaborators in Bangued. It is also said that a stethoscope that dropped from his pocket helped save his life. (Dr. Valera later became chief of the division of epidemiology, of the Disease Intelligence Center, Department of Health.)

After a time, and this was almost noontime now, the people of San Antonio were driven into an unwonted frenzy of emotions. They were bewildered and shocked by the turn of events. Blood was flowing freely on the ground and the victims of the atrocities were piled up in a gory heap.

There was murder in the eyes of Sagad, and he and his men had once more taken on their familiar role of butchers and mass killers. They had gone mad and the sight and smell of blood had excited them.

Emilio Escobar was living up to his reputation as the supreme executioner, the embodiment of evil, a mass murderer, the very devil incarnate. He was thirsting for blood and the mere roughing-up of his latest victims did not satisfy him. He was beginning to enjoy the show.

In the recent past, he had killed an old man and his wife for failing to supply him with basi when he asked for it; he had shot to death a young man for not smiling at him; he had bayoneted an eight-year-old girl for refusing to go to bed with him; he had snatched a two-month-old infant that was sucking at its mother's breast, raped the mother and killed the child; he had cut off with a bolo an adolescent girl's teats and thrown them away; he had shot an old man between the eyes simply because the glass of water he had handed to him was only half full.

These incidents were all a part of the growing legend of Sagad whose career of crime was unparalleled in the annals of the underground, a career that covered barely two years but ended up in 4,000 unmarked graves all over the Ilocos pro-

vinces. Maybe, he was exaggerating a little in his claims, but there was no limit indeed to the man's evil deeds.

At this very hour when Sagad was going into the most gruesome episode of the orgy at San Antonio, I was with Lieut. Vicente G. Diana's outfit at Quilliat, which is just across the river from Bangued. I was doing some legal work for our unit and helping out in the preparation of intelligence reports on Bangued, which were intended for the eyes only of Lieut. Colonel George M. Barnett, commanding officer of the 121st Infantry. I was constantly by the side of Lieutenant Diana; he was my co-boarder at Xavier Hall for two years.

We had as our guests for lunch that day Mayor Bargas of San Antonio, Mayor Zacarias A. Crispin of Langiden (who was later to become military governor of Abra, president of the national league of municipal judges, and judge of the court of first instance), former Provincial Fiscal Eteboldo Valera, and the Plurad brothers, Felix and Felipe.



Dr. Julio P. Valera, now a high-ranking official of the Ministry of Health, was severely battered with a wooden pestle by the men of Sagad but lived to tell the story of a "nightmare."

The 15th Infantry, of which Sagad was an officer, had taken overall control of the military operations in Abra, and it was going in pursuit of the remnants of the 121st, which had transferred its area of activities to La Union and half of Ilocos Sur.

Mayor Bargas had gone to Quilliat to conduct an inquiry into our doings in Abra. It seemed that Lieut. Domingo Guzman, commander of the 15th Infantry detachment in Abra, had directed Bargas to arrest us, if necessary, in order to settle the question of military primacy in Abra.

Quilliat is less than an hour's travel on horseback from San Antonio. My mother and my son Tito were at Banacao, which is less than two kilometers from San Antonio and midway between San Antonio and Quilliat. We were to learn much later that during that fateful noon at San Antonio, Escobar had asked for the whereabouts of Lieutenant Diana and his men. Indeed, we were hunted men. And it was a miracle that we are saved from the clutches of Sagad. There is no doubt about what would have been our fate had we been within a short distance from San Antonio on that morning of January 28, 1945.

To be continued

## Kuro-kuro From page 5

Nang isang umaga, pagbangon sa higa,  
Demokrasya pala'y pumanaw nang bigla.

64. Biglang nawala ang mga pahayagan  
Sampung mga brodkast ng mga himpilan  
Ng TV at radyong pinanggagalingan  
Ng mga balita at kurong pambayan.

### Mga Ikinulong

65. Buong sambayanan ay lalong nabaghan  
Nang nabalitaan sa bulungbulungan  
Na napakaraming mga mamamayan  
Ang pinagkukulong sa mga piitan.

66. Halos lahat sila'y walang kasalanan  
O anomang krimen na maibibintang  
Liban sa kanilang paninindigan  
Laban sa abuso ng pangasiwaan.

### Mga marangal at magiting

67. At anong pagkalaking kabalintunaan -  
Kung sino pa yaong mga mararangal,  
Magiting, malinis, matapat sa bayan  
Ang siyang dinakip at pinarusahan.

68. Ang mga dinakip na mamamahayag  
Ay yaong di takot puspusang magbunyag  
Ng katiwalian; at di nangabulag  
Sa kislap ng gintong sa iba'y bumihag.

69. Nakabilang diyana sina Roces, Locsin,  
Rama, Doronila, Recio Cruz, Soliven -  
Mga peryodistang pawang magiging...  
At si Soc Rodrigo ay ipiniit din.

### Mga marurupok ang naligtas

70. Ang mga natirang mga manunulat -  
Huwag magagalit, di ko nilalahat -  
Ay yaong marupok at laang kumagat  
Sa pain na lubhang kahikahikayat. May karugtong

## Views and From page 5

That is, if they still want to be proud of whatever is left of PMA. The uniform of a soldier of our country is sacred, and it should not be blemished by the uncivilized acts of a few who do not deserve to be at PMA. And the allegiance of a soldier is to his country and not to any dictator.

## Tripoli Agreement

IN THE NAME OF GOD, THE OMNIPOTENT, THE  
MERCIFUL  
AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES  
AND  
MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT  
WITH  
THE PARTICIPATION OF THE QUADRIPARTITE  
MINISTERIAL COMMISSION, MEMBERS OF THE  
ISLAMIC  
CONFERENCE AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE  
ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

In accordance with the Resolution No. IV para. V adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Islamic Conference in its Fourth Session held in Benghazi, Libya Arab Republic, during the months of Safar 1393 H. corresponding to March, 1973; calling for the formation of Quadripartite Ministerial Commission representing the Libyan Arab Republic, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Senegal and the Republic of Somalia concerning the situation of the Muslims in the South of the Philippines.

And in accordance with Resolution No. (18) adopted by the Islamic Conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in Jumada Al-Akir 1394 H. corresponding to June, 1974 A.D. which recommends the searching for a just and peaceful political solution to the problem of the Muslim in the South of the Philippines through negotiations.

And in accordance with Resolution No. 12/7/s adopted by the Islamic Conference held in Istanbul in Jumada E1-Ula 1396 H. corresponding to May, 1976 A.D. empowering the Quadripartite Ministerial Commission and the Secretary General of the Islamic Conference to take the necessary steps for the resumption of negotiations.

And following the tasks undertaken by the Quadripartite Ministerial Commission and the Secretary General of the Islamic Conference and the discussions held with H. E. Ferdinand E. Marcos, President of the Republic of the Philippines.

And in the realization of the contents of Para (VI) of the Joint Communique issued in Tripoli on the 25th Zulqada 1396 H. Corresponding to 17th November 1976 A.D. following the official visit paid by the delegation of the Government of the Philippines headed by the First Lady of the Philippines Mrs. Imelda Romualdez-Marcos to the Libyan Arab Republic, and which calls for the resumption of negotiation between the two parties concerned in Tripoli of the 15th of December 1976 A.D.

Negotiations were held in the City of Tripoli during the periods between 24th Zulhijja 1396 H. to second Moharram 1397 H. corresponding to the periods from 15th to 23rd of December 1976 A.D. at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presided over by Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Libyan Arab Republic, and comprising the Delegation of:

1. Government of the Republic of the Philippines led by Hon. Carmelo Barbero, Undersecretary of National Defense for Civilian Relations.
2. MNLF led by Mr. Nur Misuari, Chief of the Front and with the participation of the representatives of the Quadripartite Ministerial Commission.
3. The Libyan Arab Republic - represented by Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.
4. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia - H.E. Salah Abdulla El-Fadi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Libyan Arab Republic.
5. Republic of Senegal - Mr. Abubakar Othma Si, representative of the Republic of Senegal and Charge D'Affaires of Senegal in Cairo.
6. Republic of Somalia - H.E. Basi Mohamad Sifi, Ambassador of the Republic of Somalia, Libyan Arab Republic.

With the aid of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Karim Gal, Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference and delegation from the Secretariat General of the Conference composed of Mr. Qasin Zuheri, Assistant Secretary General, and Mr. Aref ben Musa, Director of Political Department.

During these negotiations which were marked by a spirit of conciliation and understanding, it has been agreed on the following:

FIRST: The Establishment of Autonomy in the Southern part of the Philippines within the realm of the Sovereignty and the Territorial integrity of the Republic of the Philippines.

SECOND: The areas of the autonomy for the Muslim in the Southern Philippines shall comprise the following:

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Basilan             | 10 Lanao del Sur       |
| 2. Sulu                | 11. Davao del Sur      |
| 3. Tawi-Tawi           | 12. South Cotabato     |
| 4. Zamboanga del Sur   | 13. Palawan            |
| 5. Zamboanga del Norte | 14. All the cities and |
| 6. North Cotabato      | villages situated in   |
| 7. Maguindanao         | the above-mentioned    |
| 8. Sultan Kudarat      | areas.                 |
| 9. Lanao del Norte     |                        |

### THIRD:

1. Foreign policy shall be of the competence of the Central government of the Philippines.
2. The National Defense Affairs shall be the concern of the Central Authorities provided that the arrangement for the joining of the forces of the MNLF with the Philippines Armed Forces to be discussed.
3. In the areas of the autonomy the Muslim shall have the right to set up their own Courts which implement the Islamic Shari's Laws. The Muslim shall be represented in all Courts including the Supreme Court. The representation of the Muslims in the Supreme Court shall be upon the recommendation from the authorities of the autonomy and the Supreme Court. Decrees shall be issued by the President of the Republic of the Philippines for their appointment taking into consideration their necessary qualifications.
4. Authorities of the autonomy in the South of the Philippines shall have the right to set up schools, colleges and universities provided that matters pertaining to the relationship between these educational and scientific organs and the general education system in the state shall be subject to discussion later on.
5. The Muslims shall have their own administrative system in compliance with the objective of the autonomy and its institutions. The relationship between this administrative system and the central administrative to be discussed later.

To be continued

## Viewpoints From page 5

1981 which had an article entitled "The Little Paper That Dared." The article discussed about the small town paper called "Point Reyes Light" published by a courageous couple in a small California town called Point Reyes, with a circulation of 1,700 copies. This small paper crusaded against a criminal cult in California called Synanon Foundation which was eventually found guilty of exploitation of its followers and criminal acts perpetrated with impunity by the sect's leader who was a supposed rehabilitated drug addict. It appears that not one of the giant dailies in America dared touch the illegal activities of the sect because of its well financed legal support plus proper connections in high places, coupled with the private army it maintains to silence its critics.

\*\*\*

But "Point Reyes Light," where the giant dailies feared to tread, with its persistent exposes against the sect eventually caught the attention of the authorities thus the criminal activities of the organization were busted, its leader indicted and found guilty. For its daring and crusading spirit, "Point Reyes Light" was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Journalism.

\*\*\*

Reading this inspiring story made me think

about our very own WE Forum which has started almost unnoticed years back - during the dark days of martial rule, to reach the recognition it now enjoys because the people have realized that its crusading spirit, like the "Point Reyes Light," has exposed many anomalies in and out of government which has caused even the mighty to sit back and take notice. The Ramawil scandal, the Supreme Court expose may be mentioned just to cite a few. Indeed WE Forum has dared where the giants have been timid to touch or are too controlled and too afraid to even mention. Now, of course, WE Forum is fighting for its life with the contempt citation it is facing in the Tanodbayan and the multi-million peso libel suit from Mayor Bagatsing. Are these cases now being proffered against the paper an omen of more serious attempts from the high and the mighty to eventually silence us and stop our crusading efforts? Let us wait and see.

\*\*\*

By the way, in South Korea, dictator President Chun Doo Huan revamped his entire Cabinet in the light of the scandal which rocked his government recently and involved his father-in-law and his brother. According to news reports, the Korean strongman also removed all his relatives from high

## A matter From page 5

derives its powers from and conduct its business under a national leader.

There are a great many who do sympathize with the plight of the mayors of Metro Manila. Because in a sense, they get it both coming and going. The set-up under which they function has kind of emasculated them. And it would therefore be most unfair to judge them on the basis of their performance alone.

It was different under the old system.

Indeed, neither the President nor the First Lady are to blame for the state of affairs in Manila. And, least of all, Mayor Bagatsing.

Our people are to blame. That's a fact.

\*\*\*

Not a few of my friends were scandalized by what I wrote in my last column ("Kokoy: our very own Metternich"). They think that I woke up from the wrong side of the bed when I wrote that piece.

The legions that swear by Ambassador Romualdez insist that I have done their man wrong. They say that I have libelled a truly great man. Why? Because "praise undeserved is libel in dis-

guise."

Of course, as Somerset Maugham says in "Of Human Bondage": "People ask you for criticism, but they only want praise."

Those who are conversant with the career of Prince Metternich however also tell me that I have libelled the Austrian statesman and diplomat by mentioning him in the same breath with Benjamin Romualdez.

Lord, what fools these mortals be!

\*\*\*

I have known Assemblyman Antonio V. Riquiza (KBL, Ilocos region) for more than three decades and a half, and there is none smarter in politics and in business. He was the reigning political boss of Ilocos Norte in the pre-Marcos era.

Tony is the kind of a friend one would like to have on a rainy day. He will give you his own umbrella while he himself will walk under the downpour. He is now past his prime but he has not lost his oldtime zip for gore and glory.

Last weekend, he was again in the news. The papers said he had offered to resign as member of the Batasang Pambansa as a

## Void in Manila's leadership cited

"The City of Manila suffers from leadership vacuum."

This was the observation of Mel Lopez, former Manila municipal board president protomorphe and newly-elected treasurer of the opposition Group-UNDO.

Lopez cited the city government's economic initiatives "which teed-off only after the KKK paved the way."

"This certainly paints a bleak picture," Lopez said, referring to the leadership displayed by Manila Mayor

Ramon D. Bagatsing. He emphasized that a "true leader" does not need "prodding" to perform his sworn tasks.

Lopez said that Ordinance No. 6864, otherwise known as the Manila Home Industries Development Office, enacted by the Municipal Board during the Villegas era, could have provided the necessary impetus and impetus for livelihood activities as envisioned by the KKK. "The city could have come up with a definite program long ago without waiting for a 'push from above,'" he said.

### Objectives

Indecision and vindictiveness marked the "Johnny-come-lately" attitude of Bagatsing, he accused. "This puts Bagatsing's physical, mental and moral fitness to render public service before the bar of public opinion," he stressed.

He further said that the task of redirecting the effort of the Bagatsing administration toward rational, relevant and humane objectives has become an exercise in futility.

"There seems to be little eagerness on the part of the mayor to lay down his 'PALAKASAN' attitude and abandon the old habits of the old society," Lopez said.

(Sgd.) Gemiliano C. Lopez, Jr.

result of the adverse publicity linking him to the notorious Ramawil case. He wanted a Batasan committee to investigate the case immediately. There is a name for this kind of ploy but it's no longer fashionable, and Tony does not seem to know that.

The assemblyman posed four questions which he'd like the proposed investigating group to take into account, and he said his resignation should automatically take effect when the committee "will find a positive answer, or even a shadow of it" in connection with these queries. There is however one vital question which Tony has failed to include in his "questionnaire," and that is: "Was I the board chairman of the Ramawil at the time the P30-M loan was being negotiated?"

Incidentally, I have with me a copy of the petition submitted by the government of Quezon City to the Ministry of Justice in its case against the Land Bank of the Philippines, Basilio Estanislao and Pordelis Gregorio, dated May 24, 1982. The petitioner's brief was prepared by City Attorney Jose T. Torcuator and his assistant

Eugenio Jurilla.

Among other things, the petitioner Quezon City contends that it had no hand nor had it participated, directly or indirectly, in the grant of said loan by respondent Bank to Ramawil, "nor is the petitioner a party or privy in the execution of the loan and mortgage agreement executed between them in connection therewith;" the bank has "neither apprised nor informed the petitioner regarding the propriety and soundness of loaning the P30,000,000.00 trust deposit of the petitioner to Ramawil, nor was the petitioner ever advised of the nature and character of the collaterals to secure the payment of the loan;" and the bank, "as trustee of the petitioner, has miserably failed to exercise the care, skill, caution and diligence required of a good and prudent father of a family in the administration of its trust obligation with a view to protecting the same and making it productive without improperly risking the loss of the capital."

The Ramawil case is one of the most scandalous transactions ever entered into by any government agency in recent times.

But, of course, it is only, as they say, a tip of the iceberg.



# PLDT monopoly scheme explained

The plot to strip telecom companies of their franchise has become clearer as Transportation and Communications Minister Jose P. Dans, Jr. unmasked the real intent of his policy for the so-called revamp of the telecom industry.

Dans declared in a speech, read for him by Deputy Commissioner Antonio Barreiro of the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) before telecom experts in Baguio City, that the new policy aims to phase out the backbone systems of the

country's telegraph and data communications companies. This has been understood by telecom leaders, to allow PLDT to virtually operate single backbone (transmission) system for both telephone and telegraph.

Dans said that the phase-out will be done over a period of 18 years by not allowing telecom companies to upgrade their facilities or import new equipment to beef up existing backbone networks.

The existing backbone networks will be allowed to outlive their economic life

and until they become completely obsolete, Dans explained.

Telecom industry leaders have sensed that such phase-out scheme means disenfranchisement to pave the way for PLDT to take over the complete control of the telecom industry.

Dans has confirmed that by the year 2,000 or 18 years from now, PLDT will have developed a new backbone (transmission) system to control the whole telecom industry. The new set up would be part of the massive

revamp of the industry.

As laid out by Dans, 20 percent of the backbone capacity would be allocated to the telegraph and datacom sectors under lease agreement.

This would make the telegraph and datacom firms mere outlets of telecom services whose operations will be under control of PLDT. PLDT would dictate the rates that the telecom sectors have to pay for their allocated transmission lines.

Industry leaders said that telecom service in the country would suffer if Dans' policy not to allow telecom firms to upgrade or get new equipment is pursued.

Right now, the leaders said, increasing economic activities all over the country demand better, faster and cheaper telecom services which could only be achieved through constant upgrading of facilities.

Two weeks ago, telegraph firms agreed to merge into one company.

## OUTSIDE Metro Manila

### Dog slaughter ban

SAN FERNANDO, La Union — This provincial capital, which is also the center of Region I (Ilocos), has banned as early as 1958, the slaughter of dogs for sale as food in restaurants, according to *The North Tribune*.

But restaurant people, probably unaware of an ordinance prohibiting the sale of dogmeat, have been brisk in the trade, the *Tribune* said.

Mayor Justo Orros, Jr. recently had the ordinance retrieved and proposed amendments to conform with the latest developments on dog slaughter, added the *Tribune*.

### Planted bombers

ZAMBOANGA CITY — Mayor Cesar C. Climaco wants the military to execute four alleged members of the Moro National Liberation Front to prove that the four were really responsible for the bombings in this city May 10, *The Morning Times* reported.

Five persons were killed and scores of others were wounded in the incident.

The *Times* quoted Climaco as saying: "As far as I am concerned they are fall guys. They were planted as the bombs were planted," referring to the alleged MNLFF members.

### VD cases down

MABALACAT, Pampanga — The incidence of venereal diseases has decreased in Central Luzon as a result of an intensified social hygiene campaign of the Ministry of Health, *The Voice*, published in San Fernando, this province, reported.

MOH Regional Director Napoleon S. Noveno said clinics have been put up in strategic places in the region, according to the weekly.

The social hygiene campaign program, the *Voice* said, includes strengthening of the education and information campaign against the diseases.

### Postmaster fired

OLONGAPO CITY — Postmaster General Roilo S. Golez fired the postmaster and five letter carriers here who were allegedly involved in various irregularities such as mail pilferage and non-delivery of mails, the *Tribune* published in Cabanatuan City said.

Golez's move followed his surprise inspection in the post office upon request of Mayor Richard Gordon, the *Tribune* said.

### Top 10 taxpayers

KALIBO, Aklan — The top 10 taxpayers of this province were recently honored by the Office of the Aklan Revenue District No. 51, according to the *Aklan Reporter*. They are Ang Cho Hian, of Kalibo; lawyer Napoleon S. Arrieta, of Libacao; Florencio M. Garcia, Kalibo; Crispin Amigo Chan, Kalibo; Agustin Mangona, DBP Kalibo manager; Rogelio R. Chiu, Bank of PI Kalibo manager; Jesus D. Cariscal, Great Pacific Insurance Company Kalibo Agency manager; Balmesto R. Igacenza, PNB Kalibo; Dr. Ramon B. Legaspi, San Gabriel Hospital in Kalibo; and Peter L. Tay, Kalibo.

### Teacher murdered

VIGAN, Ilocos Sur — Ministry of Education Regional Director Bernardo Reyes has requested military authorities to safeguard teachers and schoolchildren following the killing recently of the head teacher of Bacari Elementary School in Paracelis, Mt. Province, according to *The North Tribune*, published in San Fernando, La Union.

The request was immediately acted upon by Brig. Gen. Victorino T. Azada, commander of *Recom 1*, the *Tribune* said.

Schools and military authorities met in this capital because of the outbreak of violence in the region, especially in Mt. Province.

Military authorities were still investigating the killing of the school official. He was riddled with bullets and found in a riverbank.

### Spurious plates

TACLOBAN CITY — Massive underworld distribution of fake motor vehicle number plates has been uncovered here by the Bureau of Land Transportation, *The Reporter* published here said.

Evidence gathered so far include 53 spurious plates together with their corresponding registration receipts, the *Reporter* said.

WE

\*\* SECOND EDITION OF THE WEEK

# FORUM

TO SEEK AND LIVE THE TRUTH AND SHARE A VISION

8 \* VOL. VI NO. 9 \* MAY 29-JUNE 1, 1982 \* P1.50 in METRO MANILA



Guests view innovative craft products at the Technological University of the Philippines Graduate Schools' "Idea Sharing: Summer '82" held last May 26-27. Low-cost teaching aids and possible ideas for KKK projects were produced by the Crea-

tive Arts and Crafts, Craft and Product Design, Technology in Clothing and Related Arts, Advanced Food and Nutrition, Seminar in Teaching Mathematics and Educational Technology classes of the Graduate School.

## 100 workers to be rehired

There is now a reason for the 350 dismissed employees of the Tourist Duty Free Shops, Inc. (TDFSI) to be glad.

The management of the firm has agreed to reinstate 100 workers by June 1 and the remaining after 15 to 20 days.

This decision was arrived at last Thursday in an en banc hearing conducted by nine commissioners of the National Labor Relations Commission where representatives from both the management and the striking workers were present.

The dismissal of the workers stemmed from a decision

of the Labor Ministry declaring the strike as illegal. Employees of the 14 outlets of TDFSI went on strike last December demanding from management a collective bargaining agreement. The employees' union, which had long been registered with the Ministry of Labor, in June, 1980, is not recognized by the management of the company.

Last February, Labor Arbiter Lakandula Leano decided that the strike was illegal. (He is now out of the Ministry as a result of the reorganization.)

The employees union appealed the case through its counsel, Luis D. Flores.

The operations of the shops had been paralyzed for the last six months. Its management has resorted to hiring scabs to replace the dismissed workers.

Minutes before the hearing, one of the commissioners, Federico Borromeo, was heard telling the union

leaders that the case cannot be acted upon by NLRC because the union has a pending case with the Supreme Court.

He further said that unless there is an order from the High Court for NLRC to decide on the case can they go on hearing the case.

Flores said the decision

on reinstatement is a triumph of the employees' union against unfair labor practices of the Tourist Duty Free Shops, Inc., which is operated by Rustan's. He is right now working out for the workers to be granted back-wages for the entire six-month period that they were out of job.

## WANTED IMMEDIATELY

EXPERIENCED MECHANICS

Must be aggressive, hardworking and preferably unemployed

Apply in person:



Room 303 Marina Bldg.  
282-284 Vito Cruz Ext.  
Makati, Metro Manila  
Tel. 85-13-64 & 89-31-71

LET'S GIVE  
FREEDOM  
A CHANCE