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Publisher's notes

By JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.

The struggle continues

We are certainly glad to be back. For how long, it is not for us to answer. Only God and President Marcos can say.

Between Dec. 7, 1982 and today, the 21st of January, 1985 - exactly 774 days of waiting, hoping and praying, is indeed a long, long time.

But here we are once again, alive and kicking, ready to continue with the struggle for truth, justice

and freedom, to contribute our modest share to the efforts of all freedom-loving people to dismantle all the devilish instruments of oppression and suppression under which the nation has long suffered.

Dec. 7, 1982 will always remain in our memory as the most traumatic experience in our life until now. It was a most agonizing and painful day - when the

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GENERAL AMBUSHED

Cagayan de Oro City, Jan 21 (PNA) - A regional PC-INP commander and four of his men were seriously wounded when ambushed at 11 p.m. Sunday here by unidentified armed men believed to be



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GEN. DE GUZMAN

WE FORUM
TO SEEK AND LIVE THE TRUTH AND SHARE A VISION

VOL. VI NO. 75 * MONDAY * JANUARY 21, 1985 P1.75 IN M. MANILA

IS HE OR ISN'T HE?



He continues to be camera-shy, and as we go to press, there was this persistent rumor that President Marcos is (again) leaving shortly to seek medical treatment in the United States. Sources said Marcos could go under knife in a Houston, Texas hospital on Feb. 5. An advance group, composed of military personnel believed to be Marcos' own security, has reportedly left for the US. There had been a clamor for periodic bulletins on Marcos' health, but the President seems to love to keep the people guessing. A health watch on FM can at times beat watching PBA games.

ACTO: 'Reduced fares a gimmick'

By JOEY SALGADO

The Alliance of Concerned Transport Organizations (ACTO) branded as "a publicity stunt and a diversionary tactic" recent government moves encouraging fare reduction talks.

"The government is merely trying to improve its image at the expense of the jeepney sector," ACTO chairman Bonifacio de Luna said. He said that while the 22-centavo rollback in oil prices did not bring down the prices of basic goods, the jeepney sector is being made to bear the brunt of the "economic adjustment."

"By encouraging discussions on reducing transport fares, the government aims to sow discord among the drivers and operators as well as the riding public," de Luna added.

However, the ACTO chairman did not rule out transport fare reductions as part of the organization's plan of action. "ACTO believes that there should

definitely be a fare reduction. But it should be proportional to the reduction of oil prices. But if fuel prices were reduced by 22 centavos only, what fare reduction are we to talk about? Even Transportation Minister Jose P. Dans Jr., called the rollback negligible," he added.

Other ACTO leaders shared de Luna's assessment. According to them, "the much-heralded 22-centavo rollback only amounts to one-centavo decrease in power rates and less than half a centavo reduction in the minimum fare."

They further noted that the one-centavo decrease in power rates was not even felt by consumers. Regarding transport fares, the rollback could only bring a .004 reduction in the minimum fare, they added.

"To talk of fare reduction at this point is futile," de Luna stresses. "All it

Page 2, please

Ref bares game-fixing scandal

By CLARITO SAMSON

One of the country's international amateur referees is seeking immediate inquiry into an alleged game-fixing case in the Philippine Amateur Basketball League involving him and a colleague.

The veteran arbiter said rumors have circulated that he and his colleague, who officiated the rubber match of a PABL championship series last year, received P5,000 to favor one of the finalists.

"I've been having sleepless nights ever since the rumors began circulating at Rizal (coliseum) because I and my partner in that game do not know anything about it," the official said.

He said he is willing to come out in the open to prove his innocence as well as clear the team being dragged into the issue, the moment an inquiry is initiated by authorities concerned.

"With candor, I can say that the team which won the championship was deserving of the title and need not resort to paying us to win," asserted the official.

He said he has talked to

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A question of medals
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Tension grips MIA

Soldiers harass Salonga welcomers

Followers of former Sen. Jovito Salonga started massing near the Manila International Airport early this morning amid reports that hundreds more from several provinces were being prevented by soldiers from proceeding to Manila to welcome him.

Salonga is scheduled to arrive at noon today aboard a Cathay Pacific plane from Hong Kong where he made an overnight stopover from the United States to discuss arrival plans with other opposition leaders who met him there.

LP official Jerry Adevos, a member of the welcome committee, said the LP headquarters was informed yesterday that some delegations from Bulacan, Rizal, Bataan, Cavite, Zambales, Pampanga, Batangas and Isabela have been



SALONGA

told not to proceed to Manila.

This report was confirmed by LP spokesman Rey

Fajardo in a midnight interview with WE Forum. He expressed fears that welcomers, particularly those coming from the provinces, may not be able to make it to Manila in time for Salonga's arrival.

The harassment, he said, "is part of the government's and the military's plan to minimize the impact of Salonga's return. Salonga is regarded as a potential presidential standard bearer of the opposition."

"Marami na ang naha-

Page 2, please

'We shall continue to sow the seeds of freedom'

(Following is the text of the arrival speech to be delivered today by former Senator Jovito Salonga at the Manila International Airport - ED)

Mga kapatid at mga kaibigan:

Kami ay nagpapasalamat ng taos puso sa inyong malugod na pagsalubong at pagdamdam sa amin.

We are deeply grateful. We are also humbled, knowing that we have done so little to deserve this kind of reception.

With the consent of the government, we left in March, 1981 so I could undergo medical examination abroad including a possible eye operation due to the

extensive injuries I sustained in the bombing of the LP proclamation rally in Plaza Miranda on August 21, 1971, and attend a series of international meetings under the auspices of the World Council of Churches of which I had been commissioner in the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, which have recently expired.

As the last in a series of medical

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Reagan begins second term

WASHINGTON (AP) - Ronald Wilson Reagan, standing at the foot of a White House staircase, swore the presidential oath of office for a second term Sunday before 96 guests and a national television audience. Outside, icy winds foretold the rigors of Monday's outdoor ceremony when Reagan reenacts



REAGAN

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COLUMNS

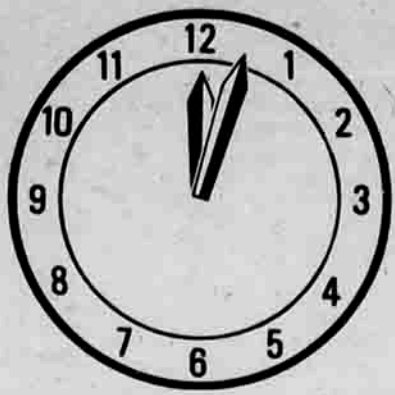
- *Alejandro Roces
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- *Soc Rodrigo
- *Ernie Rodriguez, Jr.
- *Esty Juco
- *Salvador Gonzalez
- *Sol Juvida
- *Tito Tagle
- *Mario Hernando

SMUT IS HOT!

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CRIME CLOCK

Starting tomorrow, We Forum will field a special team to keep a regular tally of criminality in Metro Manila. This is not expected to lessen the alarming upsurge in crimes, but it's our little way of informing our readers on which hour of the day it's most dangerous to venture into city streets and alleys.



Mla seeks export revenues

Some 5,000 exporters using the port of Manila will soon be required to pay their municipal licenses and mayor's permits in Manila.

City Hall license chief Victor Endriga bared this last week despite plans of the treasurer's office to implement the provisions of PDs 1931 and 1955 lifting the duty and tax exemption privileges of government-owned or controlled corporations; and cancelling the tax and duty exemptions of private business corporations and persons earlier granted tax exemption privileges by the government respectively.

In taxing the exporters who use the port of Manila, treasurer Anthony Y. Acevedo said the Finance Ministry ruled that "the gross receipts on the business of exportations is taxable by local government where the products are actually loaded for 'shipment abroad.'"

Acevedo said the collection of municipal license taxes and mayor's permit fees from the exporters would mean additional income for the financially distressed city.

Endriga, who has been coordinating with the port and customs authorities for

ACTO:

From page 1

would lead to is disunity among drivers, operators and the general public. What we should do is unite and fight for a significant reduction in oil prices."

The ACTO is demanding an 85-centavo rollback in oil prices. "Such amount is not unreasonable," the ACTO chairman averred. "Since 22 centavos have already been deducted, all we have to do is deduct another 73 centavos. Such cut can be taken from the government-imposed tax on oil products, which already amounts to 56 centavos per liter."

We shall

examination was completed less than a month ago, my doctors have just given me a clean bill of health.

We had long wanted to return so we can be with our people in these difficult times, share in their trials and sufferings, and in whatever little way help hasten the return of freedom, justice and democracy in this unhappy divided land.

Along with other figures in the opposition, we shall pitch in and do whatever we can to achieve that cherished goal which the whole nation has been yearning to see — a united, independent, vigorous opposition.

Butz mobbed in Hong Kong

HONG KONG, Jan. 20 — Reuter — Agapito "Butz" Aquino, brother of murdered Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino, was mobbed by excited Filipina maids today when he said they would no longer have to send home half of their salaries each month.

Scores of maids kissed the setting up of a pilot office inside the customs zone, said the city stands to collect an additional P5 million in municipal taxes and other regulatory fees.

It was gathered that this tax privilege is not confined to Manila alone. It can also be implemented in other localities where there is a port.

A We Forum survey showed that about 90 percent of the private exporters use the port of Manila. Those exporting less than P1 million worth of goods will be taxed P1,500 by the city. The amount increases in proportion to the worth of goods to be exported.

Tension

rang na supporters from the north and south," Fajardo said. "Ayaw nilang maraming sumalubong."

Despite the reported harassment of provincial LP members and supporters, Fajardo expressed optimism that thousands would be on hand to welcome Salonga.

From the airport, Salonga will proceed to the National Press Club building in Intramuros where he will hold a press conference for both local and foreign reporters starting at 3 p.m.

Fajardo said that among Salonga's welcomers are members of the Protestant church of which the former senator is a high-ranking official.

Fajardo said there is also the possibility that many welcomers will be turned away from the airport terminal where a 20-minute ceremony has been scheduled.

Airport manager Luis

and hugged Aquino as he walked through Hong Kong's business district announcing the reprieve which he said he learned about from Philippine officials last Friday.

Since 1982 all Filipino workers overseas have had to remit half their incomes through government banks. But Aquino said Hong Kong's Filipina maids now only had to send home 25 percent of their salaries each month.

"He is our hero," said one young woman as Aquino posed for photographs and signed autographs. The business district is where most of Hong Kong's 26,000 Filipina maids relax on Sundays, their day off.

Aquino was in Hong Kong with other politicians to meet Philippine opposition leader Jovito Salonga, who is on his way home from almost four years of voluntary exile in the United States.

They will escort Salonga back to Manila tomorrow.

From page 1

Tabuena has advised LP officials in a letter that he would only accommodate 150 welcomers inside the VIP lounge where Salonga would proceed shortly after arrival.

Tabuena assured opposition leaders that adequate security measures had been prepared to ensure Salonga's safety.

Salonga is arriving with his wife Lydia, son Eddie, around 15 opposition leaders and foreign news correspondents.

Among the opposition leaders arriving with him are former Senators Lorenzo Tanada and Jose W. Diokno, Butz Aquino and LP general secretary Abraham Sarmiento.

In his arrival statement, Salonga, 64, who has been in the US since March 1981, expressed hope for the total unification of the political groups and forces opposed to Marcos.

"Along with other

From page 1

We understand it is the wish of our people to see a concrete program for the future, with which they can identify themselves in the struggle for national redemption.

We have taken the initial steps and hope we can do more. They may not amount to much, but we shall persevere and continue to sow the seeds of freedom even though we may not partake of its fruits or rest in the shades.

For indeed nothing that is worth doing could be fully achieved in our life.

We cannot deserve freedom unless we are prepared to work for it.

Two Thais in dope case get life term

Two Thais who were arrested in 1983 for selling heroin worth P1.4 million to a government agent have been sentenced to life imprisonment by the Manila Regional Trial Court.

Meted the life sentence were Putihi Natipravat and his partner Se-ma Suebrakul. They were also fined P20,000 each.

The two were arrested March 1, 1983 by Narcotics Command (Narcocom) agents in a "buy-bust" operation in front of the Savory Restaurant on T. Kalaw St., in Ermita.

The Narcocom agents headed by Maj. Percie Aldaba seized from the dope peddlers 16 heroin bricks weighing 373.6 grams and two balloons of heroin powder weighing 270 grams. The drugs

have an estimated street value of P1.6 million.

The arrest of the two came after a woman tipped off the agents that the two were bringing to Manila high-grade heroin on Feb. 27 for distribution in the local market.

After checking the information, Col. Ramon Montano, Narcocom chief, organized the team headed by Aldaba to implement the operation.

Narcocom agent CIC Glen Logan, posing as a buyer, was introduced by the woman-informer to Natipravat and Suebrakul at the Savory Restaurant.

The Thais told Logan they would sell their "stuff" for P2,500 per gram and were willing to sell 595 grams of high-grade heroin. The parties

agreed to meet the following evening (March 1) in front of the restaurant to carry out the deal.

Logan had an attache case stashed with "poodle" money genuine P100 bills on top and newspaper strips cut like money at the bottom. Aldaba and the rest of the team positioned themselves in strategic places to wait for their pre-arranged signal from Logan.

As soon as the signal was given by Logan, the agents simultaneously moved and arrested the dope peddlers.

After the arrest, the agents accompanied the Thais to the Euro-Haus Inn on Roxas Blvd., where they were billeted and recovered two more bricks of heroin weighing about 48 grams.

Dialog guidelines sought

Opposition leaders today expressed doubts about the sincerity of President Marcos' call for a dialog with members of the opposition.

They noted that his ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan did little or nothing to pursue such a dialog which he proposed last year after he was roundly castigated by Jaime Cardinal Sin for ignoring earlier repeated calls for him

to meet with representatives of the various sectors of society.

The opposition leaders said that if the President is sincere about his latest call, he should immediately set up the mechanism for such a dialog.

They also said that while Mr. Marcos has been telling the opposition to rise above partisan politics and join in

the common effort to uphold democratic institutions in the country, the members of his own party, and even the President himself, have never stopped playing politics.

General

From page 1

communist terrorists.

Rushed to the Cagayan de Oro Medical Center was Brig. Gen. Pedrito de Guzman, Northern Mindanao regional PC-INP commander based here.

The four others — de Guzman's driver, his aide de camp, and two security escorts — were taken to the provincial hospital. Their identities were not available.

Witnesses said Gen. de Guzman was wounded in several parts of his body and is fighting for his life in the medical center.

De Guzman, a highly decorated officer, has waged successful punitive military operations against communist dissidents.

Witnesses said the ambush took place along the national highway in Barangay Lapasan, some 70 meters away from Camp Alagar, headquarters of the PC-INP Regional Command.

Gen. de Guzman and his companions were on board their vehicle and reportedly on their way to Villa Ernesto Subdivision in Barangay Gusa when ambushed. They just came from the VIP Hotel in downtown area here.

Witnesses said the armed men immediately fled under cover of darkness.

Meanwhile, all military units here were immediately placed on red alert following the ambush.

Cagayan de Oro is also the headquarters of the army's Fourth Infantry Division and the Regional Unified Command headed by Brig. Gen. Madrina Munoz. Security forces immediately swang into action, sealing all possible exits and escape routes of the ambushers.

Reagan

From page 1

his swearing-in with public pomp.

It was the nation's 50th presidential oath-taking, and only the fifth time that inauguration day fell on a Sunday.

Vice President George Bush was sworn in minutes before Reagan.

Chief Justice Warren Burger administered the presidential oath, his fifth such undertaking.

The President kissed the First Lady, Nancy Reagan, and hugged her. Wearing a dress her trademark color, red, Mrs. Reagan clutch a bible throughout the brief ceremony.

The guests, seated, sang the hymn, "America," before adjourning to a reception for Reagan and Bush.

Retired Justice Potter Stewart returned from New Hampshire to administer the oath to Vice President Bush. Bush shook Stewart's hand, kissed Mrs. Bush and stepped aside for Reagan.

Without an overcoat, the President stepped outside the White House for a moment and heard congratulations and questions from several reporters.

"What do you have to say to the American people," asked one reporter.

"I'll be saying that in just a little while," Reagan shouted back — referring to his inaugural address which will be delivered at the Capitol west front Monday, shortly after the noon reenactment.

Life in the City of man

By LARRY PUSING

Surviving the shameful way

She grinds and sways her voluptuous body clad in a string bikini and bathed by flickering strobe lights. The male customers dissect the curves, the smooth skin, the seductive face.

For three months now, 18-year-old Malou Delgado (not her real name), has been working as a go-go dancer in one of the beer houses along Padre Faura. To beer house regulars, she is just one of the countless sexy dancers who serve as the main attraction in night club row.

But Malou is not your average go-go dancer.

On weekdays, she's the inno-

cent and studious journalism sophomore at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. Weekends, she performs at the Grand Inihaw Garden in Malate.

Now, why does a sweet, diligent coed like her do her thing in a beer joint?

Girls of her trade are wont to give a stock reply: survival.

Her father, a komiks illustrator, died of lung cancer in 1983, leaving behind a wife to support seven children (they're actually eleven but four are already married). How could Malou's mother eke out a living as a manicurist. She certainly could not afford to send Malou and her three other children to school, much less feed all seven of them the youngest of whom is only two

years old.

As the eldest single member in the family, the task of helping her mother fell on Malou's shoulders.

"Kailangan tulungan ko ang nanay ko. Kung hindi, magugutom kami," she reasons. "Mahirap ang buhay sa Pilipinas. Kung hindi ka college graduate o at least third year college man lang, mahihirapan kang humanap ng disentang trabaho."

Besides, she wanted a job which doesn't require a high educational attainment but would give her not just big, but instant bucks. She landed as an a-go-go dancer through the persuasion of her best friend who works in the same club. Hesitation was ruled out by

practical considerations and sheer guts. "Mababa ang tingin ko sa mga nagtatrabaho sa club. Pero tibayan lang ng sikmura. Kahi't sino basta malaki ang ibabayad sa akin sumasama ako sa labas. Minsan mayroong talagang mga bastos at garapal na customers pero sanayan na lang. Today, she gets P70 a night salary with a commission of P9 per drink. With an average of 30 ladies' drinks plus salary, Malou earns P340 a night.

She has kept her job a secret from neighbors and friends. Only close members of the family know her "angel of the night" stints.

So far, she has not run into friends or acquaintances in the club. "Baka pag meron," she said, "matunaw ako sa hiya. Pero baka bale-walain ko. Bakit, pag-aaralin o palalamunin ba nila ako?"

To be a writer is one of her fondest dreams. She said she loves to write short stories and



proudly confides that she always gets the highest grade in her writing class. Her burning ambition, however, is to become a lawyer.

"Bata pa ako gusto ko ng maging abogado. Pagka-graduate ko ng Masscom, titigil na siyempre ako sa pagsasayaw dahil makakapasok na ako ng matatnong trabaho. Tapos, kukuha ako ng Law."

Nothing, it seems, can stop this gritty lady from attaining her dream someday. She's one a-go-go dancer who has set her mind to something higher than being a woman or ending up a poor "has been".

You might chance upon her on weekends grinding and swaying on the dance floor or you might take her out on a "short time". It may be a harsh bargain but unlike the rest, she's baring and trading her body not only to survive in the City of Man but also to fulfill an ardent dream.

PEOPLE'S VIEWS: Salonga arrival

Former Senator Jovito Salonga, erstwhile Liberal Party top man and opposition stalwart, flies in from Hong Kong at high noon today amidst a spate of renewed nationwide interest which hopes to inject enthusiasm into otherwise flagging hopes for a unified opposition.

As We Forum walked the streets and visited homes and offices, debates between government and opposition camps over Salonga's return escalated into a media war.

"It's just the needed shot in the arm of a nation sadly lacking in contemporary heroes but riddled with bad guys," observes Irma Maniquis, an employee of a Makati bank. "But I don't think, at this point,



Gabriel

anyone can eclipse Ninoy Aquino's celebrated coming home."

Movie actor Robert Arevalo agrees. "Ninoy's return was untoppable, but I don't think that should detract from Salonga's own abilities as a leader. I'm optimistic that he will be a positive force in

uniting our splintered opposition, although I'm aware that no total unification can be achieved by just one man, not even by a Salonga."

"Unification will not come about merely because of one man alone," concedes former Batasan assemblyman Kit Tatad, "rather, it is a result of the combined efforts of those



Vargas



Real

who really and truly care for this country, and Salonga is in a good position - he has the national stature; he is a patriot and can boast of a good track record while he was in the

Senate - he's a genuine Filipino intellectual."

"Why make a big thing out of it?" asks Fr. Manny Gabriel of the UP parish church. "Nothing has changed since 1972 when we lost our democratic processes, and the return of a lone Filipino expatriate will certainly not change things, no matter what bright ideas he brings in from abroad. Fr. Manny laments that we'll probably be "missing the trees for the forest" all over again. "For the past years, we have built our nationalism on personalities, and it seems we never learn from history; this sort of Messianism has brought about our downfall. We should not allow ourselves to be distracted from the basic issues



Santos

that confront us, like our loss of sovereignty and the violation of our human rights."

Fears over Salonga's safety, whether real or imagined, has set the backdrop for the long

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The Storekeeper

By SOL JUVIDA

'Skyflakes'

Alex Marcelino, the tall, serious-looking and bespectacled "XD" (ex-detainee) had been released from the Bicutan Detention Center a few days after Christmas, last year.

Alex has been detained for almost three years and was the first of nine political detainees ordered released after posting a bail of P16,000. Alex and the eight others had been ordered freed because the court, after several years, found no strong evidence of guilt, and saw that the PCO issued against them had not been renewed since February of 1982.

Alex was doing his round of the local dailies, distributing press statements about the case, when I chanced upon him. He said he was now working full-time following up the case of his companions who had posted bail of P16,000 each 21 days ago.

"Mukhang ang bilis mong nakapag-adjust dito sa buhay sa labas," I told him.

He said, "puwersahang nag-adjust ako. Kaya lang nahihirapan akong mag-adjust sa presyo ng bilihan."

He said that one time, he and his wife stopped by the bakery to buy "pan amerikano." Alex got P2 from his pocket to buy a loaf of bread. As far as he can remember, he said, "pan amerikano" cost only 80¢ or 90¢.

He had the shock of his life when he found out that a loaf of "pan amerikano," the small loaf, cost P6 and the big loaf, from P8 to P10.

And that wasn't the last shock in Alex's life.

Another time, while on routine follow-up of his case, he stopped by a sari-sari store and ordered a bottle of ice cold softdrink. That cost him "only" P1.10, a price he has "accepted" by

now.

But then he also felt a little hungry. It was almost lunchtime, and he thought the little packet of crackers in cellophane would be enough to silence his stomach without costing him much.

"Skyflakes nga," he said.

His eyeglasses almost fell when the tindera asked for P1.40 for the three thin skyflakes. Alex remembers the crackers cost only a little less than 50¢. But now, a bite of it would cost 15¢.

Poor guy, I said to myself, "sa biskuit pa lang natataranta na."

Yet, I know, I also envy the ex-detainee, because at least for three years he was kept immune by prison walls from the series of yearly "aftershocks" everytime the peso was devalued and prices of gasoline were upped.

But of course, Alex and the other detainees have not been exempted either from the hardships of life the so called "free man" in the outside world has been experiencing.

Inside the detention center, each detainee has to apportion P6 for three meals a day, a copy of a newspaper, and transportation expenses for a guy who does the marketing for them.

Menus for the day, with that budget, would vary from "maraming sabaw at kanin," "puro gulay at kanin," or "kapi-rasong isda at maraming kanin."

Meanwhile, life outside the detention center for a breadwinner earning P50 a day wouldn't mean a different menu if he has children to feed.

Sooner or later, Alex will find that out.

That under this administration, under this system, life in the outside world is not a guarantee that you can enjoy basic freedoms like freedom from hunger and want.

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EDITORIAL

We shall go on

With this issue, *We Forum* is back, to resume where it suddenly left off that harrowing day of Dec. 7, 1982, when it was rudely closed by the military, its equipment seized and its publisher-editor, staff members and columnists unceremoniously brought to the maximum security prison in Ft. Bonifacio.

With the landmark Dec. 26, 1984 decision of the Supreme Court that the military action was a gross violation of the Constitution and the crackdown on the newspaper was a naked suppression of the people's right to freedom of the press, the time has come to reopen.

We Forum should have come out earlier but for the inexplicable refusal until now, of the Armed Forces to respect the unanimous court decision.

Because our other newspaper, *Malaya*, has established itself as a morning daily, its readership spreading throughout the land, we have decided to make *We Forum* an afternoon newspaper, from Monday to Friday.

This newspaper has played a modest role in the continuing struggle for freedom, justice and democracy. We like to think that because of our two newspapers, the Marcos dictatorship has been forced to let up, to be less oppressive, less restrictive.

The Filipino people have at last wakened up to the terrible dangers forced on them by a ruthless and power-crazed dictatorship, roused from their apathy by the heinous assassination of the late Sen. Benigno Aquino, Jr.

On its resumption this day, *We Forum* pledges to continue with the fight it started in its initial issue on May 1, 1977 — the fight for a return of all those sacred liberties taken away from the people at gun point, the absence of which is life not worth living.

We shall keep this pledge.



We Forum is published from Monday to Friday with editorial and business offices at 98 West Avenue, Quezon City, Telephone Nos. 99-68-95 and 99-97-95.

JOSE J. BURGOS, SR. **JOSE G. BURGOS, JR.**
Chairman of the Board *Publisher-Editor*

Board of Editors: Recah A. Trinidad, Antonio Ma. Nieva, Cielo Buenaventura, Bobby Burgos, E. A. Perez de Tagle.

EDWARD G. BURGOS **ANGEL C. TRONQUED**
Production Manager *Circulation Manager*

To seek and live the truth and share a vision.

Publisher's notes

(From page 1)

Filipino Kempe-tai pounced upon us and our hapless comrades, seized our life-time savings in printing and office equipment, and arbitrarily dragged us to the military's dreaded maximum security prison in Ft. Bonifacio, not knowing what was in store for us.

It was only on the 8th day of our captivity that we were free — but not totally so because we were placed under house arrest and made to report once every week. Immediately after, we started our plan to continue with the fight by resuming our second paper, *Malaya*, which is *We Forum*'s sister publication in Tagalog.

And so, on this eventful and happy day, paraphrasing what a fellow Ilocano lodging by the Pasig river assured his critics not too long ago: *We Forum* does not intend to die . . . again."

But the continued life of *We Forum* lies primarily in your hands, dear readers. With your continued patronage, *We Forum* will pursue further its original

mission: To seek and live the truth and share a vision. Without your support, *We Forum* goes back to the grave.

The copy you are now holding is a collector's item, so to say. Just like *We Forum*'s last copy dated Dec. 6-7, 1982. Today's issue bridges the long gap of more than two years of our struggle for press freedom — no thanks to the Marcos regime whose record of deception and oppression constitutes the darkest chapter in our nation's history since our liberation from Spain.

To maintain *We Forum*'s continuity, this issue is published as "Vol. 6, No. 75", using the same green logo and the same make-up. Except for a few changes (we now have a board of editors) this issue is a faithful replica of the old *We Forum*.

Of course, there will be changes as we go along but we will hang on to the original editorial thrusts and policies which are aimed at enlightening the people and fighting for their cause and welfare.

So, dear readers, make your day complete — *Malaya* in the morning, *We Forum* in the afternoon. One last appeal: Please pray for us. *Salamat po.*

Thorns and roses

By ALEJANDRO ROCES

Asserting our long fight for freedom



Eighty-six years ago today, General Emilio Aguinaldo established the Philippine Republic by proclaiming the effectivity of the Malolos Constitution. This must be the reason why *We Forum* resumed publication today and why former Senator Jovito Salonga chose this day for his return to the country.

The twenty-first has consistently been a bad day for the opposition. It was on an August 21st that two grenades practically wiped out the Liberal opposition in Plaza Miranda; on a September 21st that martial law was declared; and on another August 21st that Senator Aquino was assassinated on the tarmac. The resumption of *We Forum* and Salonga's return are assertions of the Filipino's long fight for freedom. Plaza Granada, martial law and the Aquino assassination will be the events that will historically highlight the Marcos regime.

An oppositionist's homecoming makes the headlines. Cabinet members and cronies who took French leaves (classic examples are Manda Elizalde and Disini) are not even mentioned in the press. The trend is for oppositionists to come home and for those identified with the administration to abscond the country. No one was surprised when

Jolly Benitez left the country. The surprise was that he came back. Undoubtedly, Salonga will receive a warm welcome from the nation. Undoubtedly, too, no one misses the Elizaldes, the Disinis and the Dewey Dees.

Salonga will be arriving at the Manila International Airport. People already call it the Aquino International Airport. A plan is already afoot for the installation of a marker in the exact spot where Aquino fell from a felon's bullet. The marker will read:

"On this spot, Ninoy Aquino was assassinated on August 21, 1983. It is eternally enshrined; for

wherever a martyr has given his blood for truth, justice and freedom, there is sacred ground. The sun cannot bleach, the wind cannot blow, the rain cannot wash that sanctity away. From grounds like this springs that which forever makes the Filipino great."

Someday we hope to do the same for the many who fell in the night; the Ma. Lorena Barro's, Ed Jopson's and Alex Boncayao's. Those were among the many who died for the spirit. While they were dying, many were critically asking, "What is the oppositionist doing?" Just as now, many who

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Today and yesterday

By ARMANDO J. MALAY



The past is prologue

Like the fabled phoenix, *We Forum* rises from its ashes today and once more spreads its wings to soar in the empyrean. I do not know why Joe Burgos, Jr. chose the 21st day of January to revive the paper whose closure was literally heard around the world. Was Joe thinking perhaps of August 21 when the spirit of Ninoy Aquino left its mortal coil to prove that the Filipino was worth living and dying for?

Whatever Joe's reason for choosing the 21st, I have decided to write again a column for *We Forum*, without leaving *Malaya*. That means I will have to produce 12 columns a week for both papers — Monday to Sunday for *Malaya* and Monday to Friday for *We Forum*. Twelve columns a week! Some people will say: "Sobra na!" I can only answer: "Talagang sobra!" The reason: the situation of the country is also *sobra na*. My bones may ache and my step may falter, but I shall try.

In this new column, I shall evoke historical or interesting events in the past

and try to connect them to the present — a sort of a bridge between yesterday and today. There are many wise sayings about not forgetting the past. "The past is prologue," is one of them, meaning, many things that happened in the past are repeated in the present. The past is useful because its mistakes can be identified and/or corrected today or tomorrow. The Tagalogs also have a saying, "Ang hindi lumilingon sa pinanggalingan ay hindi makakaringat sa paroroonan." (Those who don't look back at where they came from, would not reach their destination.) The French phrase *deja vu* or *deja vue* ("already seen") expresses the same idea. (What made my career as a journalism teacher so interesting was the avidity with which my students listened to my true stories of the past which had parallels or similarities with current events.) Today many people smirk and say, "So what else is new?" when something that looks startlingly new is found to

Once more, with feeling

By ESTY JUCO



On '21' and coming of age

"21" is a magic number. It is associated with the attainment of freedom, a coming of age. It is supposed to be that point in time when a person is able to think independently for himself. His mind opens to the vastness of wisdom. He is able to perceive significances, realities.

Yes, "21" is a magic number. But then, of course, there is such a thing as "black magic" as well as the bright and sunny spell woven by good fairies.

August 21, 1971 — The Plaza Miranda meeting of the Liberal Party (which was then flexing its muscles to topple down the Marcos regime) was mysteriously bombed, seriously maiming virtually all frontrunning candidates of the Opposition.

Then-Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr. who was concededly a "shoo-in" for the presidency, was miraculously spared when his tight sked for that evening resulted in an upset timetable, thereby delaying his appearance at the fatal site.

Moral of the story: Don't

hew too closely to your schedule, especially when malevolent people can anticipate your well-ordered plans and build their own timetable on these. (Remember the tarmac at the MIA?)

September 21, 1972 (but because of delayed release to the public, listed as Sept. 23) — Martial Law was declared. Of course it was not given as bluntly as that. The change was given the "powder, gloss and blush-on treatment. It was perfumed and "cosmeticized."

It was called "smiling martial law" or "constitutional authoritarianism." The Filipino people were repeatedly reminded how military takeover had been accomplished in other lands. We were subtly intimidated into admitting that "MARTIAL LAW - Philippine style" was different ("thank God!")

With the forcible military seizure of media outlets, with the arrest and imprisonment of political opposition leaders, militant jour-

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(Page 7, please)

WE Forum's return a symbolic event

"MALAYA na ang WE FORUM!" These words summarize my greetings to you as we welcome and embrace WE Forum on its return to print today. This newspaper comes back to us symbolic of, and intimately linked to, the people's own conditions and struggles under the present dictatorial dispensation. The situation is far from ideal, but WE Forum's return is a good reason to applaud cheerfully.

When I say "MALAYA na ang WE FORUM," I can only mean malaya or free in the relative sense. Freedom — hard fought as it has to be — can only be enjoyed in relative terms under the US-Marcos dictatorship. WE Forum is much like political detainees who are stepping out of the regime's stockades and are actually being let loose in the bigger prison that our beloved country has become. And this "privilege" comes after much perseverance against exasperation. What prevails in this country is not freedom of expression but a limited toleration of expression, the limits pushed back only by sheer determination at the risk of losing one's life and limb. We only have to mention the journalists murdered or jailed and entire newspapers closed

down to make this point clear.

"MALAYA na ang WE FORUM!" has another meaning. After its forcible closure, the torch it left was taken up and carried forward by its sister publication Malaya. With popular support enjoyed by the undaunted We Forum people, Malaya was transformed into the widely-circulated English-language morning daily that We Forum was to become eventually were it not rudely interrupted by the state. I cannot help but compare this phenomenon with political detainees returning to the political mainstream to find that their brothers had taken over in carrying the torch miles and miles forward.

"MALAYA na ang WE FORUM!" These newspapers are enjoying broad support because they are serving a broad section of the populace, giving space to their legitimate interests, or in other words, responding to a clear necessity in the context of an evidently and thoroughly antidemocratic ruling system. With these newspapers, the people will definitely struggle on. More power to you! More power to all of us!

Emil A. Gamat
Metro Manila

A matter of opinion

By ERNIE RODRIGUEZ, JR.



Hi there! We have returned!

Yes, we are back. And, as we, the so-called oldies say, pwede pa.

It has been all of 774 days since this little paper was driven from the streets. And we were banished to the maximum security cells at Fort Bonifacio.

Thank God for the Supreme Court and for an awakened people, we have now taken the bull by the horns, so to speak, and we are back in harness. For the WE Forum, anyway. You have to give it to the Burgoses, pere et fils. As my old friend S.P. Lopez now says it was really a question of guts, "nothing but guts, guts, and yet more guts", that pulled us through. Our legs are still wobbly, we have been at sea for a much longer time than it took Sebastian del Cano to circumnavigate the globe. Thus, the sea legs.

In any case, I have a framed memento on the wall in my library which attests to my experience as a detainee of the Marcos Administration. It reads:

HEADQUARTERS
SECURITY & ESCORT
PLATOON, HHSC, MSC,
PA

Fort Bonifacio, Metro Manila

SEP 15 December 1982
TO WHOM IT MAY
CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY

that I have received (sic) the living person (s) of

Ernesto R. Rodriguez, Jr.
from Military Security Command, PA, Fort Bonifacio, Metro Manila in good mental and physical condition.

(Sgd.) Carolina Z. Rodriguez

The incidents of our memorable arrest and detention at Fort Bonifacio, which lasted for nine days and eight nights, have already been properly chronicled in Malaya by our revered and much-loved historian, Dean Armando de Jesus ("Lolo Mando") Malay. To repeat those little stories here, and under the present circumstances, would seem like trying to "gild the lily and perfume the rose."

The former WE Forum, in its last issue before our incarceration (Dec. 6-7, 1982) had a boxed announcement on its front page, entitled "UNIDENTIFIED PLANES BOMBED PEARL HARBOR!" It was a "teaser" for my article on the outbreak of the Pacific War, a story of how I was the first Filipino to learn about the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7 (Dec. 8 in Manila), 1941. Of course, it did not appear at all in the WE

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Philippine Scene



Kuro-Kuro

Ni FRANCISCO 'SOC' RODRIGO



SULIT ANG MAPIIT

Disyembre 7, 1982. Halos tanghaling tapat. Ako'y kumakain ng tanghalian sa aking tahanan.

Kumuliling ang telepono. Si Edith Burgos, maybahay ni Joe Burgos, Jr., ang nasa linea.

Niri-"raid," ani Edith, ang opisina ng WE FORUM. Hiniling niya ang aking tulong, bilang abogado.

Itinigil ko ang pagkain. Tinawagan ko sa telepono ang ibang mga abogado ng makakatulong — kabilang sina Lorenzo Tanada, Doy Laurel, Ambrosio Padilla, Joker Arroyo, at iba pa.

Pagkatapos, nagtungo ako sa tanggapan ng WE FORUM, sa RMS Building, Quezon Boulevard, Quezon City. Nagpakilala ako sa mga guwardiyang kawal. Sinabi kong ako'y naroon bilang abogado ni Joe Burgos, Jr.

Nang ako'y nakapasok ay saka ko biglang nalamang ako pala'y kabilang sa mga aarestuhin. Ako pala'y No. 2 sa listang nasa Presidential Commitment Order (PCO). Si Joe ang No. 1.

Hindi alam ni Joe na ako'y nasa listahan; sapagkat, noong ipinakita sa kanya ang PCO, ang kanyang pangalan lamang — na nasa gawing itaas — ang inilantad. Sadyang tinakpan ang mga kasunod na pangalan. Kaya't hindi rin alam ito ni Edith, noong tinawagan niya ako sa telepono.

Ang PCO, na pirmado ni Pres. Marcos, ay walang nakasulat na petsa. Sinadyang hindi lagyan ng petsa, upang magamit ito ng mga militar, kailan man nila masumpungan.

Ang nakalistang mga dadakipin ay: 1. JOSE BURGOS, JR.; 2. FRANCISCO 'SOC' RODRIGO; 3. BONIFACIO GILLEGO; 4. STEVE PSINAKIS; 5. RAUL GONZALES; 6. SALVADOR ROXAS GONZALES; 7. ARMANDO MALAY; 8. TOMAS BOQUIREN; 9. CRISPIN MARTINEZ; 10. TEDDY CECILIO; 11. EDWARD BURGOS; 12. ANGEL TRONQUED; 13. TEODORO BURGOS; 14. JOAQUIN ROCES; 15. ERNESTO RODRIGUEZ, JR.

Habang ako'y nasa WE FORUM office, nakita kong dumating sina Armando Malay, Ernesto Rodriguez, at Prof. Salvador Gonzales.

Noong dapit-hapon, dinala kami sa JAGO Camp Aguinaldo; at, pagkaraan, sa Opisina ng City Fiscal, Quezon City...kung saan nagsagawa ng "inquest" na mistulang "blitzkrieg."

Mula roon, dinala kami sa MSU Fort Bonifacio. Pagdating namin sa "outer gate" ng kampo, pinirangan ang aming mga mata, at inilipat kami sa ibang sasakyan. Nasa loob na ako ng selda, saka lang inalis ang piring. Solo ako sa maliit na selda. Nasa katubing selda si Propesor Gonzales.

Yaon ang ikatlong beses kong pagkapiit.

Una'y noong 1972, sa MSU Fort Bonifacio (2 1/2 buwan), kasama nina Ninoy Aquino, Pepe Diokno, Mon Mitra, Chino Roces, Max Soliven, Teddy Locsin, Nap Rama, at Mari Velez.

Ikalawa'y noong 1978, sa Bicutan Rehabilitation Center (2 buwan), kasama sina Lorenzo Tanada, Nene Pimentel, Joker Arroyo, Ernie Rondon, Tito Guingona, Fr. Archie Intengan, S. J., at King Rodrigo, Jr.

Nito'ng ikatlo, pinakawalan kami pagkaraan ng 7

OPINION

Views & Interviews

By SALVADOR ROXAS GONZALEZ

A question of medals



AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH
PROF. GONZALEZ

Q. Ah, there you are again, Professor, in your comfort room. I would like to continue my interview with you that was rudely interrupted on December 7, 1982, when the WE FORUM was closed down. Why was it closed down anyway?

A. I think it had some problems with medals.

Q. Now that you are back in your comfort room, what do you think of Mr. Marcos, will he run to be president again in 1987?

A. He may not be able to walk in 1987.

Q. Do you think Mr. Salonga will be assassinated?

A. No. A colonel told me he has no salvage value.

Q. Who do you think should be the leading presidential bet of the "fast track" convenors?

A. Lydia de Vega.

Q. Should Imelda run for the presidency in case Marcos is incapacitated?

A. She should resign from politics and take care of her husband in his old age, like a good wife.

Q. Should Cory Aquino run for the presidency?

A. Not unless Imelda runs. Cory will win, she's more coherent when she speaks.

Q. How about Butz Aquino?

A. If Cory wins, he can cross Mendiola Bridge.

Q. But who among the prospective candidates do people think will make Marcos give up?

A. Teddy Benigno's new find — Lucio de Gala. According to a Malacanang source, if Lucio runs Marcos will resign.

Q. By the way, where is Doy Laurel?

A. In the US, to convince the Americans that Marcos had a kidney transplant, so I heard.

Q. If Marcos had a kidney operation, why didn't he have any scar on his tummy?

A. Perhaps he was operated through the anus.

Q. I heard that "Doctor" Cendana is one of the top doctors of President Marcos, is he an "anus specialist"?

A. Well, kiss my ass!

Q. What do you foresee for this year, 1985?

A. Bad year for Marcos. 1985 is the year of the OX, the only animal according to Chinese astrology that can vanquish the SNAKE. Ask Jaime Ongpin.

Q. I was told at the Hotel Intercon coffee shop that Doroy Valencia and you are now friends, why?

A. Yes. I saved him from the Maharishis. He's grateful.

Q. By the way, where have the Maharishis gone to?

A. I heard they are in Muntinglupa penitentiary teaching the prisoners astral travel.

Q. What do you think of the new location of Doroy's Club 365 at the Atrium?

A. Beautiful, but a perfect spot for assassins. Even Joe Guevarra can hit Doroy with a sling shot from any of the open floors above. Or drop a bomb.

Q. Some Americans say that Marcos has done some good to the country, what do you say to that?

A. So did Nixon to the US. But the Americans kicked him out.

Q. Didn't Marcos roll back the gasoline price by 20 centavos?

A. Big deal!

Q. Why do you prefer to be interviewed in your comfort room?

A. This is my palace. It smells better than Malacanang.

Q. Some oppositionists believe that all KBL's are rata, but the Minister of Health is not. Do you agree?

A. Isn't he Azurin?

Q. Do you have anything more to say, Professor?

A. Those damned medals!

araw... ngunit, ipinailalim kami sa "house arrest." Hanggang ngayon, patuloy kaming nasa "house".

Mapait ang mapiit! Masaklap ang mapagkaitan ng kalayaan at mga katutubong karapatan...lalo't kung biktima ng inhustisya.

Bagama't ako'y medyo sanay na, masakit pa rin.

Ngunit, ang pagtitiiis ay hindi sayang, kung alang-alang sa bayan at sa pagtatanggol sa katotohanan, kalayaan, dangal, at katarungan.

Sulit ang mabilanggo, kung ganyan. Higit pa sa sulit. Isang karangalan!

Sensors

By MARIO A. HERNANDO

Anything goes in 'Indiana Jones'

This village is so poor the people have only a plate of food to eat in one week. Children are being kidnapped and exploited as slaves. Eventually, however, the children will break the chains of bondage and flee their captors. The dictatorship will fall and freedom will reign!

A militant movie? Another Gillo Pontecorvo or Costa-Gavras thriller? No. It's the Hollywood blockbuster that has been dazzling local audiences for the past three weeks - "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom." It's a two-hour spectacle that combines the best of Disney, James Bond, Broadway ("Flower Drum Song"), and other pop movie classics like "Around the World in 80 Days" and "Chitty-Chitty Bang Bang."

The plot is paper-thin, but the theme is still Good Vs. Evil. Good guys topple the dictatorial Maharajah and his army of ruthless, mindless meenies. The hero is Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford), first seen in the equally exciting "Raiders of the Lost Ark," still cynical and tough, but also slightly meaner and more ungalant (good guys in modern movies have their faults).

Militant groups may howl in protest over the portrayal of the Chinese in the beginning of the movie as sinister creatures but the character of Jones' sidekick, Short Round, a 12-year-old Oriental boy, makes up for it (the child actor, Ke Huy Quan, is actually Vietnamese; but to Western audiences, he may as well be Chinese).

Jones' romantic interest in this picture, Willie (Kate Capshaw), may be anathema to women's libbers everywhere, being the materialistic, helpless and perennially hysterical clown that she is, but remember that Jones'

girl in "Raiders" (Karen Allen) embodies the qualities of the feminist ideal - tough, quick, alert, self-reliant, etc. You can't win 'em all. Capshaw's Willie is the funniest leading lady I've seen in a Hollywood movie in a long time.

This odd trio, before finally rescuing the underfed, overworked children from the Maharajah's evil empire, must first of all brave all odds (including themselves) and overcome all obstacles in various magnificent ways. One after another, cliffhangers and rollercoaster rides bombard the screen. It's full speed ahead. Fasten your seat belts, folks. The respites will be few.

This is the perfect grand entertainment - full of fun, suspense and Oriental exotica. How about a pregnant boa constrictor for a banquet's main dish, its belly to be slashed on the table, from where the wet tiny baby reptiles will emerge? How about chilled monkey's brains for dessert?

People will be talking and raving about "Indiana Jones," where anything goes. It combines the various movie genres - horror, western, war, suspense, romance, high adventure, high comedy, shock thriller. Like the title of the unlikely musical number in the intro, it's "Anything Goes" in "Indiana Jones."

I was at the edge of my seat throughout the movie, while whole families were having a great time. You have a few days to enjoy this terrific movie. Don't watch it in Betamax unless you've seen it on the big screen. But just a note of caution: the intense, non-stop excitement it offers makes it unsuitable for people with weak hearts.



The liberated children in "Indiana Jones."

PVT. ISKO LAWAG



Attn Mayor Bagatsing

Hardcore porn sold openly

By MARICHU LAMBINO

Psst...! Looking for "bedtime" stories? Want something more titillating than Tiktik, Harot, Playboy, Uhaw? Want to see the sex act photographed play by play?

They are there - across the street in front of Quiapo Church where Black Nazarene devotees flock, and a block away from the Western Police District Substation 3.

In the afternoon, the magazines are peddled clandestinely. But by nightfall, the "open season" is declared for close-up pictures of nude bodies in actual sexual intercourse.

According to vendor Aling Kikay, last December was an "open season" for smut magazines. But at present, there is an agreement with the police that the magazines may be peddled secretly in the afternoon, and openly only at night. (It is also in the afternoon only when cops appear in the scene to stop erring jeepney drivers).

Aling Kikay, however, declined to mention the "price" of that agreement.

For P6, one can have a copy of Suwag, Tsup, etc., which show not just nude models, but the different techniques in the sexual act.

We won't give you vivid descriptions of their fare as this is a family newspaper but suffice it to say that the magazines show the gamut

of the sexual act.

According to Aling Kikay, the porno magazines are snapped up like hotcakes mostly by students and jeepney drivers eager for reading matter hotter than Tiktik or Playboy.

The publications are not registered and they carry no staffbox. The magazines are crudely done, the black and white photographs of foreign models apparently taken from triple x-rated video films, and there are more closeups of the sex organs in action rather than the models.

Dialogs are superimposed on the pictures in the vernacular and some text explaining the story.

In Suwag for example, the main character, Eva, grapple with a problem in her love life, when her boyfriend threatens to leave her because she refuses to do his sexual preferences. After some hesitation, Eva concedes to "prove" her love to her boyfriend.

This is then illustrated in photos. Then the characters say to themselves that their relationship will be more stable from now on because of the "improved" sex act.

At the end, the nameless editors have this to say to their readers: "Joe Mari and Eva are only two of countless creatures who are able to realize the ecstasy of love and feel the glory of



it." And that is the moral of the "story."

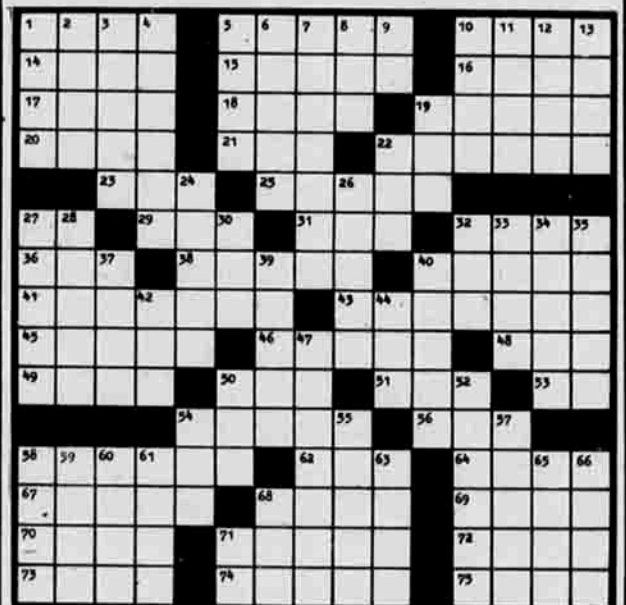
Who the purveyors of these magazines are, the most sexually graphic to hit the streets of Manila in

living memory, Aling Kikay cannot say. Needless to say, too, that it is useless to complain to the cops, who are holed up a block from her newsstand.

CROSSWORD

By RENE J. MARCIANO

(Solution tomorrow)



ACROSS

- 1 With 58 across and 52 down, a constitutional provision suspended by martial law and Proclamation 2045
- 5 With 22 across, subject of dispute between the regime and civil libertarians
- 10 Stout clubs used in baseball; some detainees swear their captors had other use for them
- 14 Prefix: ear
- 15 Nautical term for 'stop'
- 16 Combining form: topmost
- 17 Blackthorn
- 18 Fish called 'chicken of the sea'
- 19 Entered a poker game
- 20 Leave hanging
- 21 Guido's high note
- 22 See 5 across
- 23 Actor Brynner
- 25 Unit of land measure: pl.
- 27 Part of to be suppuration; by-product of wounds inflicted by a torturer?
- 31 Parcel of land
- 32 Telephone round
- 36 Enemy
- 38 Longed for
- 40 Seaport in NW Italy
- 41 What some detainees swear they underwent during interrogation
- 43 Middle ear membrane;

- something that could be permanently damaged when one's tormentors make cymbals out of one's ears
- 45 Road curves
- 46 Feel one's way
- 48 Compass pt.
- 49 Tall thin grass
- 50 Before
- 51 Detective: sl.
- 53 Nazi secret police: abbr.
- 54 Laboratory container
- 56 Tuta's parent?
- 58 See 1 across
- 62 Cushion
- 64 House division
- 67 His 'secret' presence is rallies or demos has been observed
- 68 Antitoxin: pl.
- 69 Suffix: foot
- 70 Scan
- 71 Decompose
- 72 Employer
- 73 Mabini lawyer: Sanidad
- 74 Electrical units
- 75 Soap frame bar

- allowance
- 13 Turfs
- 19 Three-toed sloths
- 22 Soak flax
- 24 It is the wolf constellation; now, it has become a household word as a disease afflicting a high government official
- 26 Cowboy competition
- 27 Not before
- 28 Largest of the deer family
- 30 Knight's title
- 32 Eva Kalaw's favorite color?
- 33 Concerning
- 34 Part of speech denoting a person: pl.
- 35 Amusements
- 37 Gaelic
- 39 A black or dark woman: Pl.
- 40 Avarice
- 42 Spread for drying
- 44 Appropriate
- 47 Show honor or esteem for: civil libertarians say the regime does not have much of this for human rights
- 50 Elevated railways
- 52 See 1 across
- 54 Obese
- 55 Diamond weight
- 57 Large web-footed bird
- 58 -kiri
- 59 Ripening agent
- 60 A legume
- 61 Prefix: within
- 63 There are seven in a week
- 65 Pindar poems
- 66 Spoils
- 68 China -; one of the seven
- 71 Dock Warrant: abbr.

By ELOY CRUZ

Thorns

From page 4

never sacrificed anything for the cause are echoing, "If the oppositionists do not unite, I will vote for Marcos."

Barros and Jopson belie the statement attributed to a very respectable American senator who visited the Philippines at the start of martial law and came out with the conclusion that the Philippines was composed of forty-five million cowards and one son-of-a-bitch. Many of my personal friends were victims of martial law; Aquino, Lingad and Cl-

People's views

From page 3)

drawn-out security arrangements awaiting the former senator, arrived at after 8 meetings between security forces and Salonga's welcomers.

"Sana'y mapayapa ang kanyang pagdating, di tulad nang kay Aquino," says Isabel Santos, a metro aide.

"Mahusay naman yata ang security para sa kanya, siguro naman di na niya aabutin pa ang sinapit ni Ninoy," Rolando Real, a security guard for the FMSG building in E. Rodriguez Avenue comments.

Certain quarters expressed suspicion over the sudden dropping of subversion charges against him and see this as an effort to "accommodate" the returning senator.

"It's obviously for foreign media consumption," observes Fr. Manny, who thinks it is designed to enhance the government's democratic posture. "It only shows that the system of

maco, to name a few. But I feel most for the thousands of less known victims because people, at least, mourn the deaths of prominent victims.

There is a price for freedom. We recall Garibaldi's speech to his soldiers; "What I have to offer you is fatigue, danger, struggle and death; the chill of the cold night in the free air, and heat under the burning sun; no lodgings, no munitions, no provisions, but forced marches, dangerous watchposts, and the continual struggle with the bayonet against batteries: those who love freedom and their country may follow me." It is a voluntary act.

Once

From page 4

nalists, educators, labor leaders and other outspoken critics of the Marcos government, how could we, the people, have known what was really the import of those fateful days of "smiling silence"? How could we have realized that, like gullible mice, we were being led deeper and deeper into the labyrinthine traps with strategically dangled pieces of cheese?

Moral of the story:

papayapain ang mga Pilipino. "I don't believe him," Arevalo smiles. "It's just another political ploy."

In what seems either as a dramatic display of nationalism, courage, anticipated heroism or twisted masochism, ever since Aquino's ill-fated return, self-exiled opposition elements overseas have expressed a desire to come home. This has prompted several government men into hurling direct criticisms towards our "returning American boys."

"There may be some validity to this criticism," says Tatab, "but who are we to stop them from coming home?"

Probably the harshest and most telling comment comes from Ising Alvarez, a market vendor from Navotas.

"Wala akong pakialam kung umuwi man sila o hindi. Kung sa pagdating nila ay matitigil ang makahayop na pamumuhay na nararanasan ng bayan sa patuloy na pagkawala ng halaga ng ating pera at sa di-makataong paglapan ng ating mga karpapatan, mabuti. Kung hindi naman, magsama-sama na tayong magisa sa imperno."

As Salonga's plane touches down today, life goes on, but just the same, the nation watches and waits. S. Dipasupil

Ready

(From Page 8).

boxers on the standup style of boxing.

The Russian, he said, will reinforce the coaching staff headed by Ting Ariosa, Clarito Deliva and George Betacora. Yabut also added that they will be sending boxing teams to the United States, Russia to train this year.

Speaking in his capacity as president of the ASEAN Boxing Federation for 1985, Yabut said he will be inviting Asian and international coaches and boxers to hear expert boxing lectures for an international boxing conference this year.

Yabut also stressed the importance of participating in international boxing tournaments.

Going back to the multi-front program for the boxers, Yabut said it will consist of skills training, power and speed circuit trainings which will be introduced to the boxers on a graduated scale.

The skills training will deal with gym workouts like sparring and punching bags while power circuit deals with weight lifting and speed circuit with roadwork like jogging and sprints.

"King" said the amateur

Beware of "the sound of silence." As also of frustrated stars who sing you to sleep with "promises! promises! promises!"

August 21, 1983 - Ninoy Aquino, Jr., the very same charismatic opposition leader whose life had been spared during the mysterious bombing of Plaza Miranda, was assassinated as he descended the steps of the China Airlines plane while under the sole custody of the military.

How could such a heartless crime have been carried out, and in the presence of no less than 1,999 military men charged with the protection of one single life?

Who was to blame? Who were to blame? Who knows? (Don't we all?)

Moral of the Story: When the President announces that he'll take a "sabbatical" to write a book in two weeks, monitor very carefully the moves of the people around him (that is, if you believe him).

July 21, 1984 - (Personally significant for me). My house burned down. This, despite the immediate arrival of SIX firetrucks from all over Metro Manila. No other house caught fire in our immediate neighborhood, thank God!

Moral of the story: Stop sniping at the "ARMY" and the "Harm Forces." Nor at Pers Ledi, nor General Fabian (alias "Doug MacArthur") Ver: lest he make good his promise: "I SHALL RETURN!"

And now, January 21, 1985 - WE FORUM is back! Here we are once more, ready to carry on once again the good fight for freedom. There's a new name for the column because we brought "Woman in the City of Man" with our byline, openly, proudly, to MALAYA when WE FORUM encountered its long dark night.

But the faith has never faltered, nor has the light ever dimmed.

boxers receive free medical check-ups, board and lodging, transportation allowances and monthly stipends and added that they will not also be denied a college education if they want to study.

Finally for 1985, "King" said they will also organize non-competitive boxing programs for children as young as 9 to tap natural talents and also to teach them the art of boxing.

"So there will be continuity in the development of the sport so that even if our best boxers retire or turn professionals we will not be back to square one," he concluded.

Today

From page 4

have had a parallel or similarity to past events.

To go on... In my historical calendar, I note the following:

(1) Jan. 21, 1899. - President Aguinaldo proclaimed the Malolos Constitution in force, after a struggle between, on one hand, Aguinaldo and Mabini, and on the other, more liberal members of the Malolos Congress.

(2) Jan. 21, 1901 - The Philippine Commission (the first law-making body after American sovereignty was imposed on the Philippines) created a public school system.

(3) Sergio Osmena was proclaimed a candidate for president by the so-called conservative wing of the old Nacionalista Party. Two days before, Manuel A. Roxas was proclaimed candidate by the Liberal Party. In the election that followed, Roxas won and Osmena retired.

I shall amplify only the first event.

Aguinaldo's proclamation on Jan. 21, 1899 reads as follows:

"Know Ye All Filipinos: That the Assembly of the Representatives of the Nation, in the exercise of its

sovereignty, has drawn up, and I have sanctioned, the Political Constitution of the State.

"Therefore, I order all authorities, civil and military, of whatever class or designation, that they should guard it, comply with it, and execute it in all its parts, for it represents the voluntary sovereignty of the Filipino nation.

"Done in Malolos on January 21, 1899. - Emilio Aguinaldo."

The document was attested to by Mabini, whose title was "President of the Council."

Maybe Renato Constantino or Etta Rosales can write on the significance, for better or for worse, of the establishment of the public school system on Jan. 21, 1901. Was, or is, the public school system a failure? Why? I myself am a product of the public school system, from Grade 1 to college. Would I have done better or worse if the system of education implanted here by the Spanish crown (mainly with the help of the Catholic church) had been preserved by the Americans? Interesting speculation.

A matter

From page 5

Forum, because 17 hours earlier we were PCOD. It did come out, however, in the February 8, 1983 issue of Mr. & Ms. which advertised it thus: "This is an article that would have been published in We Forum the day that paper was closed down. It appears in this magazine now to commemorate the Liberation of Manila this month."

The amusing part of that era was a news story which appeared in the "Life and Leisure" section of the Philippines Daily Express, in its issue of December 9, 1982, on page 24, which was headlined: "Rodriguez guerrilla book pre-launching today." My book, "The Bad Guerrillas of Northern Luzon" was to be "unveiled" that day at a meeting of the Thursday Club of Quezon City. Needless to state, that event never took place because all

copies of this book were also sequestered by the military in the infamous raid of Dec. 7, 1982, and we have yet to see them again.

In his letter to his lawyer Joker Arroyo, Ninoy Aquino even wondered whether this book had not caused our detention and our subversion case. No such thing, of course!

My last column in the WE Forum of 1982 was entitled, "A Matter of Opinion." Starting today, it will, like my column in Malaya, also be known as "Politics & Politicos." Cheerio!

Every effort will be made to make this a regular daily fare in WE Forum and three-times-a-week in Malaya. What you will read here though will not be appearing in Malaya, that's a promise.

By the way, welcome home, Joy! Let's wish each other, you and the WE Forum, good luck. And happy landing!

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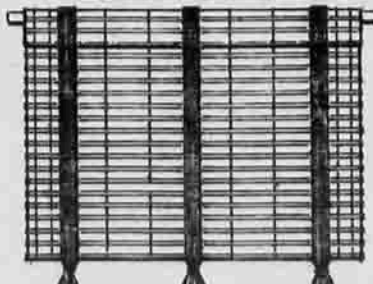
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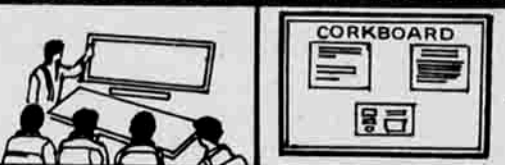
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8 * MONDAY * JANUARY 21, 1985



Fancy this

By TITO TAGLE

Color that park 'white'

If crowds are a gauge, then Philippine baseball is a goner. Even a frocked Vivian Velez would have attracted a bigger audience than Saturday's for the second game of a best-of-three PABA championship between Traders Royal Bank and Los Banos.

There were four hardy fans back of the left field fence 313 feet away, and about two dozen at the foot of the scoreboard at center field. Give or take 10, there were about 300 in the grandstand.

Even the oldtimers aren't around anymore. Armando Oncinian, of course, who once whiffed the mighty Babe Ruth, has long gone. Along with backstop Pecto Ramos and shortstop Betong Ruy-mundo, both of famed Canlubang. Mariano Saberon, the coach-player-manager of UST who still hit 'em high and long when already in his 50's, is attending Big League games the other side of the Pacific.

Just about the only veterans around are Ambo Dizer, who used to call "Streee-ikkee!" in the most strident tone, and before that used to enliven the local diamond with his clout at the plate and chatter on-field; and Filomeno (Boy) Codinera, another terror at the plate who doubled in basketball, too, during his heyday. Ambo Dizer now rasps out the battery or batter up over the public address system, while Boy is deep into boys' baseball.

There are Zac (Taby) Tabaniag, a former sports editor who earned his law degree on the mound for University of Sto. Tomas, and Nilo Verona, former Ateneo Blue Eagle and Letran Knight in the NCAA, and a Terminal Maroon in the MCAA. Taby is an interim president of the PABA, and Nilo one of the consultants of the game's project director, TRB president Dominador Pangilinan.

But Tony Paralejas, former PABA president and one of the greats of Philippine baseball, no longer comes around, though this may be traced to forced moderation in activities by a heart attack some years back.

Three hundred plus for a title affair is a pitiful sight. How these very same stands must have teemed with people that December day, a little over half a century ago, when Lou Gehrig, the famed iron man of the New York Yankees, poked out the brand-new park's first ever homerun, over the right field fence. December 2, 1934 was the date.

The Big Leaguers used to come. Now they go to Japan or Korea, where the game has progressed where here it has stagnated. It's really a wonder, come to think of it, that the Philippines could still stir up a good show in world play, as the Pony Leaguers did with their second place finish last year.

Traders had taken the first game of the title series 16-1, and looked ready to wrap up the championship with a 4-0 lead going to the bottom half of the seventh inning.

But the Tigers tore such a big hole on the TRB defense that seven runs poured in in that inning. The final score was 8-4, and so yesterday's rubber match.

The crowd, sad to say, was just as meager. At the restaurant fronting the coliseum, watering place of oldtimers and scribes, Nilo Verona speaks of another league "with more spice."

On the field, and at the turnstiles must be. So how about door prizes? Pangilinan sent friends bags of sugar last Christmas, so maybe he could sweeten the baseball pot with giveaway packs to ticket holders, stake a big prize for each playing date (fan, refrig, air conditioner, beta?) and for the season, maybe a brand-new car.

There's nothing like crowds to spur athletes into greater efforts. Otherwise, the sport remains grey and the ballpark a pachyderm colored white.

And while heads are put together to dream up gimmicks to spice up play, maybe conformation with government regulations also and having distance signs in meters instead of feet (although it would sound awkward calling a 380-foot roundtripper a 115.8-meter homerun, wouldn't it?)

Complete the legends on those hallowed walls, too. Underneath Gehrig's name is recorded the 50th home run, by Merlin O'Hara on June 12, 1960. Yet there are only 32 names on those walls.

Vitas catches Mac on an off-day

CLEVELAND, Ohio (AP) — Vitas Gerulaitis used a strong serve-and-volley game to upset John McEnroe 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the Ameritrust tennis classic Friday night, part of McEnroe's "tennis over America" exhibition tour.

McEnroe has won 81 of his last 84 non-exhibition singles matches.

In the first set, McEnroe, 25, broke Gerulaitis' serve in the second game and won as the two players held serve the rest of the way.

Each of the first four games in the set went to deuce, with the left-handed McEnroe prevailing in all but the fourth game.

Gerulaitis, 30, followed a similar script to win the second set. He broke serve in the second game, and again, the players held serve the remainder of the set.

Gerulaitis took a 3-0 advantage in the final set, breaking McEnroe's service twice in the first three games. McEnroe broke back in the fourth game and pulled within 4-3 and 5-4, but Gerulaitis then held his serve to win the match.

Gerulaitis said, "It's pretty tough to win on the John McEnroe tour. It's just an honor to play against the No. 1 player in the world."

Gripe vs Gilbey's

Raw deal - Valenzona

By J. C. ABRIAM

Former Gilbey's Gin coach Arturo Valenzona broke his silence over his absence from the bench after the semi-finals of the PBA third conference and told We Forum he got a raw deal from management.

Valenzona said he was never formally informed of his relief, and only learned he was no longer coach through the newspapers. He claimed all efforts to contact management for an explanation were not entertained.

The 42-year-old cage mentor said in an interview yesterday that he wants to be given a chance to defend himself and to prove that he is innocent of the rumors that he is involved with underworld characters manipulating games in the PBA. He suspects this is the main reason why his contract was not renewed.

"I had really wanted to talk with management but it seems they do not want to talk with me anymore. The last time I had a talk with Adolf Ferrer, the team manager, was when he told me their first choice for the post is Robert Jaworski," Valenzona said.

"I'm really surprised they did not renew my contract. Before I came over, the team was really down but I managed to steer it out of the depths of obscurity. They did not take into account the showing of the team for the past few years. My only regret is that I was not given the chance to coach the team again," he added.

Valenzona's relations with management soured

late last year when he was relieved of his duties as coach, together with the suspension slapped by team officials on three cagers — Willie Generalao, Joey Marquez, and Gary Vargas — due to alleged unprofessionalism.

Valenzona claimed he only learned of these developments through news releases.



"If I was only informed about the case, I could have interceded in behalf of the players. They are human beings bound to commit mistakes. Personally, I don't believe the players deserved suspension," he said.

The suspension of Generalao and Marquez, was lifted several days after,

while Vargas, whose contract with the team expires at the end of this month, has already sat down for talks with Ferrer. There is a very strong possibility his contract will be renewed, team officials say.

"Despite the fact that Gilbey's is not a champion team because we don't have a legitimate center, I was able to steer the team to several runner-up finishes and management did not even consider that," Valenzona claimed.

Last year, the Gin Tonic finished runner-up to Crispa in the All-Filipino Conference and fourth in the third conference, behind Beer Hausen.

"It's hard to finish fourth with several players on the injured list, everybody knows that Terry Saldana was injured then while our other center, Romulo Mamaril, was still recuperating from a foot injury," he added.

Valenzona also expressed doubts on whether Jaworski can adequately perform a dual role — as player and coach — saying the Big J has no coaching record to back him up.

"I don't know if Jaworski can handle both. I've found coaching a very demanding job and I'm sure it would be very difficult to call the shots while you're playing," Valenzona said.

"But what I really want now is to prove that I'm innocent of the rumors circulating. Agrabyado ako. And if ever another PBA team gets me to coach again, I'll prove that hindi ako ganoon," he concluded.

King Yabut's aims

Ready mitts come Seoul

By EDGAR NEM SINGH

A multi-front development program for Philippine Amateur boxing, which would include the tapping of "natural talents" from as young as nine-year-olds, has been set up by one of the more progressive sports leaders in the country, ABAP executive vice president Nemesio "King" Yabut.

King told in an exclusive interview that the program would cover all facets of training and education for boxers, judges, coaches "and even the public" alike.

This program, Yabut said, is geared towards producing Filipino international boxing champions since "we have the potential" as he added that it is also a preparation for the prestigious 1988 Olympics.

"It is a must that a professional boxer should have a solid and basic background in amateur boxing," Yabut said in underscoring the importance of amateur boxing.

The biggest problems he has encountered when he took the helm of the sport he said, is the resistance of the coaches and the boxers to new techniques which resulted in little progress and stagnation.

Yabut said the Russians, Americans and the other Europeans have become so far advanced in scientific boxing which deals with how you deliver your punches with a minimum amount of movement but with maximum force.

"King" said he became exposed to this during his visit last September to the Colorado Springs training camp of American pugilists and the International Olympic Committee officials who offered to give free olympic solidarity courses to Filipino boxers.

"It is only a question of asking, implementing and

trying to come out with your own techniques," Yabut said and added that some of his boxers have already memorized 22 different punch combinations.

Yabut, however, cautioned that one cannot dictate a boxer's punches especially when he is already in the ring because he will be doing it on the spur of the moment.

"You can give him the strategy on how to catch his opponent off guard but the rest will depend on the training he received before the match," he added.

Yabut said he is presently negotiating for a Russian coach to come to the Philippines and stay for a period of two years to train the

Page 7, please

Oldtimers' game: It was dull but fun

Rudy Soriano was once known as The Magician; Johnny Revilla as jumping Johnny; Jimmy Mariano as the long-tom artist, and Freddie Webb, Mr. Fastbreak.

Yesterday, Soriano and Co, all strove to perform routine plays during their prime — in vain.

It was a case of veterans with still-keen minds but now-dull bodies.

The Ex-Crispa Redmanizers, thanks to their outside shooters, ran down the Yco Painters, 79-72, at the Araneta Coliseum in a one-game exhibition match.

After the players had slipped, fumbled and missed easy shots — all because their arms felt like dead weights, their bodies no longer respond-

ing to the game's demands — coach Baby Dalupan, who called the shots for Crispa, and coach Tito Eduque, who steered Yco, could only agree that their charges are now mere shadows of their old selves.

All agreed, however, that the match was fun.

How they scored: CRISPA 79 — Jimmy Mariano 15, Virgilio Abarrientos 11, Rudy Soriano 10, Ciso Bernardo 9, Rey Alcantara 9, Johnny Revilla 8, Jun Paba 7, Rey Franco 5, Manny Jocson 3, Jun Celis 3.

YCO 72 — Freddie Webb 20, Elias Tolentino 19, Sonny Reyes 18, Turo Valenzona 8, Benjie Cleofas 6, Bonnie Carbonell 4, Botchok de los Santos 4, Egay Gomez 3, Orly Castelo 2, Marte Samson 2. Halftime: 34-32

Game-fixing in amateur caging, too?

From page 1

team officials of the champion team to get a clearer understanding of how the rumors began.

"Even officials of that team were at a loss tracing the history of this rumor but what is more important is I finally got to understand the origin of this," the official added.

"Our reputation has been damaged by these talks and I feel that an inquiry is in order to restore the people's trust in us," the official said.

Since the rumors began, the referee in question has not officiated games in the PABL.

He said he and his fellow referee have been the butt of bitter jokes since.

"Marami ang nagtatanong sa akin kung bakit nadawit ang pangalan namin ng kasama ko. Minsan pakantayaw pa ang tanong kaya medyo masakit din dahil parang sila mismo nagdududa na totoo nga na tumanggap kami ng pera," he lamented.

Due to the issue, members of the Basketball Referees' Commission almost boycotted the PABL to show sympathy for their troubled colleagues. The plan was aborted when officials of the PABL pleaded for continued officiating in subsequent conferences.

"But for me, I will never officiate in the PABL again for as long as there is a cloud of doubt over my integrity," he said with conviction.

"Nadumihan na ang pangalan ko at gusto ko namang kahit paano mapangalagaan ko ang sarili ko."

League president Peter Cayco denied any knowledge of such a case saying that no complaints have been received from the finalists of that title series.

Jimmy says he ran for 15,000 reasons

Jimmy de la Torre, the country's premiere marathoner and Philippine record holder for the 42.195-kilometer distance, wasn't originally scheduled to run in the 4th PAL-Manila International Marathon.

But the prize dangled for a win and a new Philippine marathon record were too much to pass up.

"Kailangan ng pamilya ko ang pera sir," (My family needs the money) the father of one told the We Forum reporter.

So Jimmy ran and set a new time of 2 hours 25 minutes 14 seconds, 2/10ths of a second faster than his old mark, for which he got a check for P5,000 on top of the P10,000 prize for the top Filipino runner.

In setting his new time, De la Torre placed second to American Dennis Rinde, 26, who clocked 2:23.09.

Ledy Semana won the women's end of the marathon in 3:27.27 and got P5,000.

Their victories qualified De la Torre and Semana for the 13th SEA Games in Bangkok this December.