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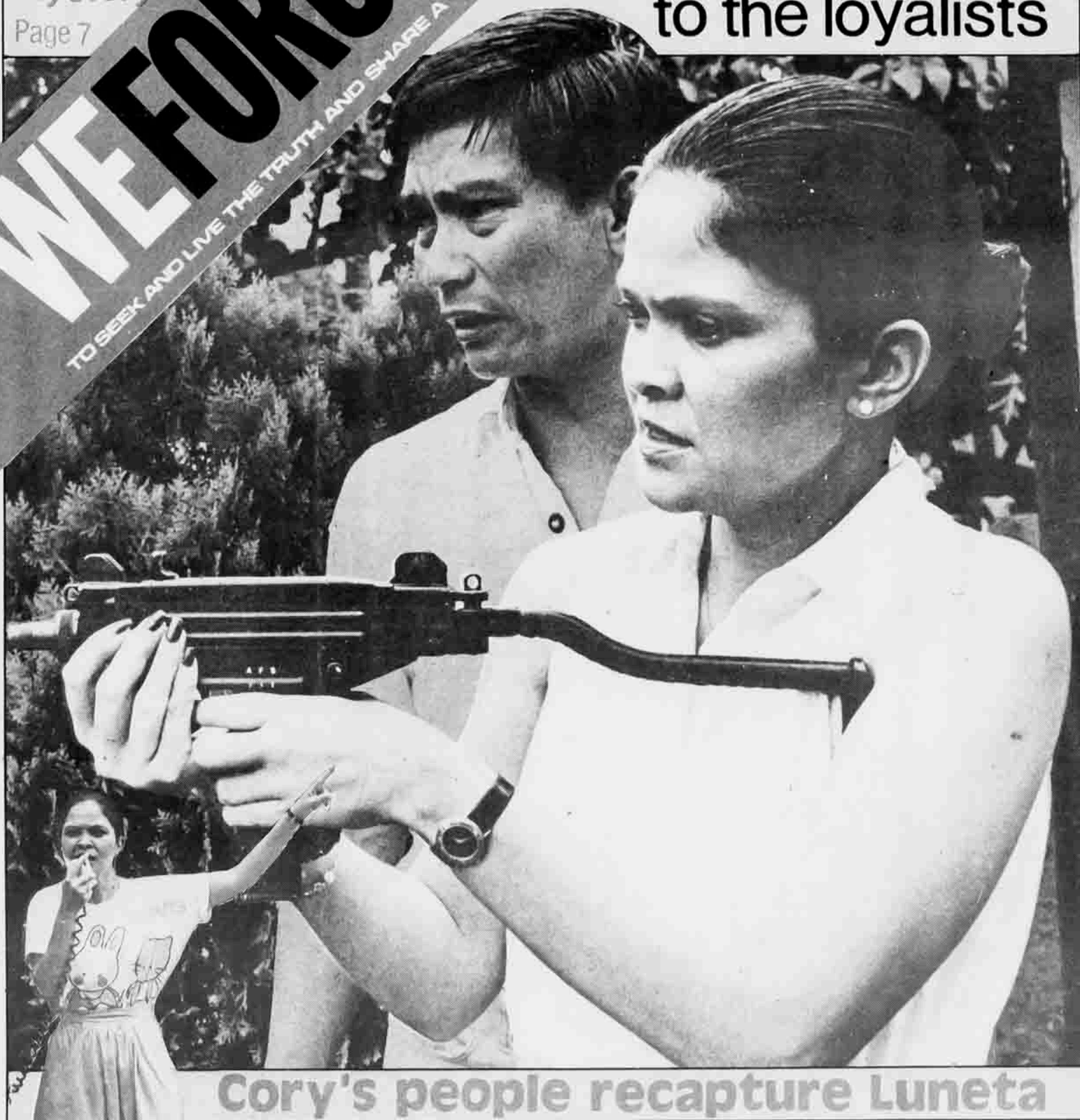
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*Daniel Dingel's
magic and
mystery*

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Lorna Verano Yap: A fiery message to the loyalists



Cory's people recapture Luneta

Readers' Forum

MORE ENRILE MANEUVERS?

KBL loyalists led by warlords Antonio Carag and Faustino Dy, together with Rene Cayetano, convened a "revitalized NP National Convention" at Hotel Del-fino, in Tuguegarao, Caga-yan on June 28, 1986.

Enrile himself paved the way for the occasion with his whirlwind tour of the North in the guise of super-visor counterinsurgency ef-forts. He addressed the Ca-gayan Valley Peace and Order Council meeting last June 20 in the same place where the NP convention was held.

Rene Cayetano, a known Enrile associate and law partner, is spearheading the reorganization of the NP-Roy wing and has lured many KBL loyalists with come-on of guns and logis-tics for the coming local and presidential elections.

With the Cagayan Valley NAFP Command at his beck — together with RAM figures like Aguinaldo, Honasan, Kapunan, Figue-roa and Cunanan — Enrile has a ready force for any coup attempt in the future, as well as a deterrent against the revolutionary movement. The "revitalized" NP is ano-ther ace he is keeping for his power play maneuvers.

The National Democra-tic Front-Cagayan con-demns this brazen political charade being stage-man-aged by the Enrile clique. It is naked proof that Enrile is not sincere in his

claim of being "apolitical," with no presidential ambi-tions, and of having no in-tention to launch a coup d'etat in the future.

**NATIONAL
DEMOCRATIC FRONT**
Cagayan.
30 June 1986

OFF WITH THEIR MASKS

The people, have scored victory in the Con-Com's committee-level decision to remove US military facilities in the country by 1991. But this early, pro-impe-rialist quarters within and outside the Con-Com are already moving to rob the people of such a victory.

Recently, Defense Minis-ter Juan Ponce Enrile de-clared that the US bases should be retained even "be-yond the present century" because "they counter-ba-lance Soviet power" in the Asia-Pacific region. Vice President and Foreign Affairs Minister Salvador Laurel seconded Enrile by saying that the Con-Com should not have decided on the matter as this would "limit the government's op-tions" in dealing with the US government, especially at this time "when global situations are constantly changing."

Enrile and Laurel's pro-nouncements are not sur-prising as both are con-firmed pro-imperialists, with the latter differing only in-sofar as he goes through the motion of hiding his ultimate pro-bases position behind a populist veneer.

Both Enrile and Laurel are stalwarts of an elite-dominated political system from which they continue to profit. Both harbor the traditional politician's con-viction that, profitable poli-

tical careers can only be sus-tained for so long as these serve to protect and up-hold US interests in the country.

BALTARZAR PINGUEL
BAYAN Popular Struggles
& People's Welfare
Commission

LEARN FROM THE PEOPLE

The Christians for Na-tional Liberation support the call of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) for the total disarmament and dis-bandment of the Integrated Civilian Home Defense Forces. The strong stand of the Roman Catholic Bishops against the CHDF might well be the needed push for the new government to fulfill its commitment to dismantle all the struc-tures of the US-Marcos dictatorship.

The Bishops' move in tackling social problems like land reform, displace-ment of civil servants and insurgency is an indication that the prophetic concern for justice and human rights is still very much alive in many of them.

However, CNL believes that the sincere invitation and pastoral call for the revolutionaries to surrender is a bit simplistic and one-sided. An honest study of the root causes of the armed conflict should first be had. Instead of offering a priori solutions to the insurgency problem, it might be good and productive for the Bishops to engage in an honest dialogue with them and discuss the problems of the people and the ways and means to resolve them.

**CHRISTIANS FOR
NATIONAL LIBERATION**
National, Philippines

A prodigal Doc Ople

Top
of the
week

By ROMY MARINAS

The Constitutional Commission, at the behest of commissioner and ex-labor minister Blas Ople, approved July 30 a draft provision making mandatory the publication of the state of health of the president when he/she becomes seriously ill. The provision also requires that Cabinet members in charge of national security and foreign relations and the chief of staff of the armed forces be given access to the ailing chief executive.

Ople said, however, that even if his proposal were incorporated in the new Consti-tution, concealing the president's true state of health would not be a ground for im-peachment, the offense, he noted, is not a culpable violation of the charter. Under the rule of succession the Con-Com approved, the vice president becomes president when the president dies or is permanently dis-abled. If no president and vice president shall have qualified, or both shall have died or become disabled, the Senate president or, in the case of his inability, the speaker of the House of Representatives shall act as president until a president or a vice president shall have been chosen or qual-ified.

The Con-Com left it to the Congress of the Philippines to enact the law on perma-nent disability or inability of the four possible successors and to devise the selection process.



Con-Com commissioner Blas Ople

Scared stiff

The Aquino Cabinet July 30 decided to defer for at least 90 days import liberaliza-tion on the remaining 389 products under the scheme proposed by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund even as the President's men remain divided on the WB-IMF's prescription for national economic recovery.

Economic Planning Minister Solita Monsod so far has been the only vocal defender of import liberalization, part of the triad of reforms imposed by the world's leading lending agencies in exchange for the release of standby credit and for the restructuring of the country's foreign debt, now conservatively estimated at US\$26 billion acquired during the 20-year Marcos rule. The Cabinet voiced concern that the WB-IMF combine were "stiffening" on the new government.

Executive secretary Joker Arroyo

quoted President Corazon Aquino as saying "We also cannot accept the same treatment from IMF and the World Bank as they did with the Marcos government." The Cabinet decision did not affect the already liberalized importation of 849 products which represented some 70 per cent of the 1,232 items the IMF ticked off. Cabinet sources intimated that the President's suspension of the scheme was influenced by cause-oriented protests that surprisingly got a little push from the private sector. Trade and Industry Minister Jose Concepcion said that the private sector was convinced that "overall, national interest, more than any business interest, stood to suffer tremendously by acceding to the IMF demands." He, however, battled for the environmental enhancement for import liberalization through an intensified campaign against smuggling.

Officers and gentlemen

Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, chief of staff Gen. Fidel Ramos, and 20 senior generals — including Jose Maria Zumel, Jaime Echeverria, and Antonio Palafox who took part in a failed, Arturo Tolentino-led putsch early July — last week saluted the Philippine flag, read an oath of loyalty to the Freedom Consti-tution, and sang the nationalist song-cum-Corazon Aquino battle hymn **Bayan Ko**. They were joined by some 800 officers and soldiers during ceremonies at Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City, an event staged similarly in military camps throughout the country.

Enrile declared that the oath-taking meant "to show our people and the world our commitment to maintain the unity of the nation, to see to it that our nation shall be united and not fragmented, we... pledge our commitment to the Freedom Constitution that is now governing the lives of our people, framed by our President and her Cabinet." Palafox and Echeverria said they took the pledge because they were professional soldiers while Zumel said that "the people have spoken" when asked if he still doubted the Aquino government's legitimacy.

Lashing at what he called the persistent campaign of certain detractors to erode the image of the New Armed Forces of the Philippines, the defense chief at the same time asked for a greater measure of fairness and objectivity, apparently emphasizing that the oath-taking in the first place was meant to squelch rumors of factionalism in the armed forces. □

OUR COVER

Firebrand Lorna Verano Yap, about the most vocal street parliamentarian hereabouts, has not retired from the politics of protest simply because her husband, Col. Adelberto Yap is President Aquino's aide-de-camp. Now she is taking issue with the Marcos loyalists "who are becoming too wild." A markswoman of no mean talent, Lorna, shown with husband Bert Yap on the shooting range, proves that she can handle an Uzi as deftly as she can a bullhorn. (Cover photo by Melvyn Calderon)

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Editorial

Second wind

Runners call it the second wind, the renewed energy to finish a few more miles after the initial agony of sprinting through the starting line.

When some 83 cause-oriented groups under the banner of the Campaign to Defend, Preserve and Advance Democracy (CDPAD) announced that they would occupy every square inch of Luneta to dramatize support for President Aquino, many saw it as people power's second wind, a burst of political energy which would carry the earlier brilliance to ripening maturity.

The rainbow coalition claimed they would marshal some 100,000 warm bodies to "liberate Luneta" from the loyalists who have made the park the venue for their frequently violent demonstrations.

Political observers did not discount the possibility of violence between the supporters of President Aquino and the loyalists. Leaders of the loyalists boasted that they would be holding their own rally "somewhere in Cavite" though they warned that some Marcos die-hards might insist on converging at the park.

As it turned out, the protest rally winded up like a regular episode from Concert at the Park. The crowd numbered only about 12,000, woefully short of the projected 100,000. To their credit, they displayed civilized behavior unless one discounts the roughing-up of two men mistaken as loyalist hounds.

The loyalists themselves were nowhere in sight. The first

time they have failed to gather at the Grandstand since Marcos left.

In symbolically reclaiming the Luneta, the marchers scored a Pyrrhic victory over the loyalists.

There seems to be little political gain in the much-publicized event. None of the heavyweights who fired up the anti-dictatorship rallies of the previous years showed up at the Sunday gathering. In "symbolically liberating" Luneta they may have stooped to the level of loyalist politics.

Viewed from the spectacular record established by "People Power", last Sunday's rainbow coalition appeared like a sorry version. It lacked the spontaneity and energy of previous political rallies. It may also have signalled the waning of the Cory fever and the necessity of a real second wind. (CB)

The women take up the cudgels

Lorna Verano Yap

It must have terrified Lorna Verano Yap to witness the ascendance of Cory Aquino, for now, she would run out of excuses to go to the streets and march. Right?

Wrong. "Tyranny, by whatever disguise, will always be tyranny," she says. "And whoever is there in power who will not stop this tyranny, I will fight against — even if she is our very own Tita Cory. You must admit that these Loyalist Marcos orphans have been too wild. They've not merely disturbed the peace, destroyed property — aba'y pumapatay na sila! Abuso na ang mga ito. Pinagbigyan na ng natin sa circus nila sa Manila Hotel, humi-

'This new deal is ours'

hint pa."

Her pert nose wrinkles in sheer disgust. "And so, I had no choice but to join my people in AKKAP. They joined the Metro

Annie Ferrer

'I have nothing to fear'

Police dispersal units literally took the law in their hands last Sunday, July 27, according to loyalist sex symbol, Annie Ferrer.

The 38-year-old Marcos loyalist, her voice breathing fire, accused the Capital Command (CAPCOM) troopers of "sexually molesting" her for "some 75 minutes" at a loyalist rally at the park.

"Two men, then four squeezed me in various parts of my body as they brought me to a Ford Fiera at about 5:15 p.m. Inside the vehicle, 15-20 soldiers mashed me, put their hands inside my blouse, sa breasts ko, at hinipuan ako sa ibaba. They only stopped when they noticed that the press managed to board the Fiera."

Annie remembers only the names San-



Annie Ferrer: But will she hoist the white flag and go back to mama?

tiago and Santos as two of her alleged molesters, charging that several others took turns in kicking her in the buttocks. Her ordeal, she said, began early in the morning of that Sunday.

"At 10:00 a.m., (Col. Edgardo) Dula Torres told us to disperse. So, I decided to make pasyal. At 2:00 p.m., dispersal na, so, sa tabi-tabi muna ako. At 4:00 p.m., they shoed us away to Taft Avenue. I went jogging with three other girls, we were shortly followed by 2,000 loyalists."

CAPCOM and WPD soldiers, she said, moved in on her 75 minutes later. She was brought to Precinct 5 where a "Major Monsod expressed surprise" at seeing her, saying "Sino ang nag-utos?" Annie said she

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Lorna Verano-Yap: Enough is enough.

Manila People's Council, which aligned with the Campaign to Defend, Preserve and Advance Democracy, (CDPAD) she says.

The first she did out in the streets, the first time she held the bullhorn after fighting for Cory, was the 300-man picket-march from Bustillos to Malacanang. It was a prelude to the big rally to re-take Luneta from the Loyalists. While she was speaking, President Cory reportedly said, "Bert, tingnan mo nga kung sino na naman ang bago nating kaaway?" But her husband by sheer instinct knew that it was his wife's raspy, throaty voice that was blaring invectives against the military for being too lax, and against the Loyalists for being "too abusado".

It was Teddy Boy Locsin who went out to see what Lorna was taking issue against, this time. And in one of the afternoon dallies, they were caught in classic "We Bulong" pose. The picketers dispersed at 12:30.

"We were asking Enrile to resign because he was kind of responsible for the whole affair. Nando'n siya, di ba? At among klaseng parusa daw ang 30 push-ups? Samantalang noong tayo kay Marcos, salvage ang hatol sa atin, wala pang trial-trial," she contends.

What does she think of Annie Ferrer? "Please do not mention that name. She does not have an ounce of respectability or credibility about her. Do not give her

even a measure of respect. And please, don't even mention her in relation to me or any decent activity. How can you even think of talking to these guys who want a 20-year-old robber and tyrant back?" she says aghast.

"I am in this campaign to preserve our gains. Face it. This new deal is ours and ours alone. Let's put Min. Ponce Enrile in his proper context. When he was pushed against the wall, he swung to the other side. All of a sudden, he was not Marcos' fair haired boy anymore. So he called on people power to serve as his life vest. But if it were not for Butz Aquino and Cardinal Sin, you think anyone would come to protect Enrile except Gringo?" she explains.

"That is why we own this democracy we have now. And our beloved Tita Cory, in her pagka-peaceful at freedom loving, hala, she lets the Loyalists run amuck. Sure they are entitled to their beliefs, but when they end up tyrannically over-acting, aba, ibang kuwento na 'yan. Abuso na," says Lorna.

At least three government posts have been offered her, and she has rejected them all. "Mahirap 'yung naapoint lang, akala mo. Bukod sa hindi ka na nga makabanat kung may mali, beholden ka pa. I'd rather continue with my work in Pasay's squatter areas. I'm happiest when I'm with these simple people, just helping them make something decent out of their lives," she concludes. (Richie Benavides) □

The loyalist spiel:

They were really asking for it and finally, so reluctantly, the Aquino government obliged them. But someone had to die before Justice Minister Neptali Gonzales announced the filing of rebellion charges against 41 Marcos loyalists Monday last week.

The number of accused was later reduced to 31 as ten of the 15 military men accused, including four generals, pledged allegiance to the Freedom Constitution in ceremonies held, at Camp Aguinaldo. Prominent among those military men who did not show up at the oath-taking was former MISG (Military Intelligence Service Group) head, Col. Rolando Abadilla.

The remaining accused included Arturo Tolentino, former Batasan Speaker Nicanor Yniguez, former MP Salvador Britanico, moviestars, Alona Alegre, Rio Diaz and Weng Weng among others.

In addition, murder charges were filed against at least three loyalists, Josephine Papa, Gerry B. Neri, and Raul Billoso who



The camera rolls, the loyalist mob cries blood, and the lynching to death of Solomon Stephen Salcedo ends another manic Sunday at the Rizal Park.

AGENCE FRANCE PRESS

Yes, we have no subpoenas

were positively identified by witnesses to have among those actively involved in the mauling to death of a bystander, Solomon Stephen Salcedo that Sunday.

The loyalists had vented their rage over the dispersal operations of the police on the hapless Salcedo.

Murder-by-inducement charges were reportedly also being readied against three loyalist leaders, lawyer Oliver Lozano, Annie Ferrer, and radio commentator Ben Nuego for allegedly inciting the loyalist mob to violence.

Lozano and his co-accused, however, allege that it was the police who inflicted the death blows on Salcedo. Lozano produced an alleged eyewitness Elorde Estrella who said that the police delivered two vicious truncheon blows to the back of Salcedo's head.

Autopsy reports however refute the loyalist claims. NBI medico-legal officer, Dr. Roleto V. Garcia said that though Salcedo died due to severe bleeding and massive internal damage in the head, there were no lacerations or at least any open wound that would indicate a truncheon blow.

Justice Minister Gonzales denied that the death of Salcedo had anything to do with the filing of rebellion charges against the loyalists.

At the oath-taking ceremonies at Camp Aguinaldo, interviews with the four generals who had led the Manila Hotel coup proved even more disturbing. General Jose Ma. Zumel said, "My official loyalty is to President Aquino. My personal loyalty is still to President Marcos" while Gen. Antonio Palafox expressed the desire

to remain in active service after he was retired by President Aquino. Gen. Jaime Echeverria, proved the most bellicose repeatedly uttering to mediemen, "I don't want to talk about it" when questioned about the incident at the Manila Hotel.

Majority of the 26 civilians accused met in a closed-door session last Thursday, July 30, at the residence of former Rizal governor Isidro Rodriguez along Shaw Boulevard. They hoped to thresh out a common plan of action against the new government measures.

The two-hour meeting produced no clear results. Differences between the radical and conservative factions in the loyalists prevented any common stand. In the end, it was decided that each of the accused was to make his own personal decision as what would be his or her plan

of action.

The radical faction was totally against any gesture or sign that might be construed as a surrender by the loyalists. Co-accused and Marcos Lawyer Rafael Recto said that some of the radicals were quite prepared to "immolate themselves, to commit mass suicide" rather than back down to the Aquino government.

Cesar Sagala, leader of the radical KDM, said late Saturday however, that his organization had successfully convinced the diehards against any such action. "I told them that such an action as mass suicide is also a form of surrender."

Talks are reportedly still going on between Tolentino and Gonzales on a personal level about possible alternative pledges the loyalists might take. Majority of the loyalists were amenable to three of the four demands of the government. They are willing to recognize the existence of a de facto government, to pledge non-violence and to render allegiance to the Republic, but they draw the line in the acceptance of the Freedom Constitution.

Recto, the loyalist spiritual leader, says that the loyalists still have no intention of going underground. They will, however, seek to expand the loyalist organization outside Manila through more mass actions and teach-ins. They have since scheduled their first provincial rally in Cavite.

Recto added that the loyalists were now in the fourth stage of development, that of expansion throughout the country. "The first stage was mere survival. Sunday rallies started from 9 to 11 eventually to hundreds of thousands... the third stage was Mr. Tolentino's taking of the pres-

idential oath."

Lozano says that there was no move to meet head-on the Pro-Aquino rally last Sunday. "Discretion is the better part of valor," he quoted.

"We are so infiltrated by the military. You just see people flash V-signs and throw rocks at the police. The authorities are deliberately provoking violence," declared Recto.

"We abhor violence, it is the Aquino government which does not respect human life. We have suffered about 60 killed already. Some bodies we find in funeral parlors and some floating in the river partly decomposed. It's a tragedy," said Recto.

"You know its funny. They call us a comedy, they call us a farce, they call us nobody. They send Health Minister Bengzon to see us possibly to check our mental condition. Now Minister Gonzales calls us a 'clear and present danger' and charge us with rebellion."

"Rebellion is rising publicly and taking up arms against the government. We did not invite the military. They were never with us. We simply went to the hotel to witness the oath-taking of President Tolentino. Now they say that the military is off the hook. If the military are not to be charged then where are the arms which would substantiate the charge of rebellion," declared Recto.

It is a crossroad of sorts for the loyalist movement. The government is not playing silly games anymore. It remains to be seen whether their love of their cause will be enough to stand up to a government which means business. (J. Raul Alibutud) □



Radio commentator Ben Nuego



Loyalist "eyewitness" Elorde Estrella



The spiritual leader Rafael Recto

Photo/J. R. ALIBUTUD



Coristas strike a loyalist-like pose while reclaiming Luneta.

Last Sunday's march-rally at the Luneta was a significant milestone. For the first time since the dictatorship was overthrown, the major groups of the democratic movement marched together in coordination with the Campaign to Defend, Preserve and Advance Democracy (CDPAD).

The idea of marching together again has been floating among the various cause-oriented groups for many weeks.

The hustle of setting up a new government has taken the wind out of many veteran street parliamentarians. Those who were not busy getting the bureaucracy running seemed to be busy doing other things, from sequestering Marcos assets to setting up newspapers.

With the cause-oriented groups momentarily off the streets, it began to seem to casual observers that the new government was relying more and more on the inscrutable and controversy-prone military hierarchy.

The pro-Marcos left-overs, few but riotous, appeared to have acquired exclusive franchise for street politics. Although representing only a fraction of public sentiment, the inactivity and/or

The 'yellow column' moves to reclaim Luneta

By ALEX MAGNO

low visibility of the anti-dictatorship popular organizations allowed the loyalists to enjoy grossly disproportional media attention. The more riotous they became, it seemed, the more attention they got. And all these created the appearance that the pro-Marcos diehards were a serious political force.

The various cause-oriented groups were criticized for failing to exert sufficient pressure from the streets to cause the enactment of more decidedly pro-people policies. They were also hit for abandoning the government people's power installed at times when mass mobilization could have been helpful.

There was alarm among the progressive popular organizations that the conservatives in the Aquino government were quickly consolidating their influence and entrenching themselves in key positions. The conservatives, it seemed, were enjoying the upper-hand in the policy-making process.

Inactivity on the left flank of the Aquino-led coalition allowed the right flank to take the initiative and avail of

(Page 8, please)

For 10 years now, Laureano Eustaquio, president of Rizal-Enrile-Solana Farmers Association (RESFA) in Cagayan, 350 kilometers north of Manila, has been patiently following up a land case that, if lost, would mean the eviction of some 225 peasant families, including Eustaquio's, from a land they have tilled for 36 years.

Eustaquio has been to Manila more than a hundred times, spending borrowed money, enduring fatigue and hunger, delivering letters to government officials, and gathering and presenting evidences and documents to lawyers so that an ejectment case against them would be dismissed.

The case was docketed in 1976 at the Regional Trial Court (formerly Court of First Instance) branch 5 in this town. But the court, after 10 long years, has yet to set a preliminary hearing of the case.

To settle the matter once and for all, Eustaquio asked the Bureau of Lands for a permit to conduct a survey of the disputed areas. That was held in abeyance for as long as the case was pending.

The disputed land is the 3,000-hectare Madrigal estate owned by former senator and philanthropist Vicente Madrigal. The estate covers areas in the three barrios of Palao, Parog-Parog and Nabbotuan in Solana and barrio San Antonio in Enrile.

The case of the phantom landlord

According to Eustaquio, he was still a young boy when his family settled in San Antonio in 1950. The few people whom they found already living there—like Felix Garo who died of natural causes, Juan Castaneda who left the place when armed men came, and Daniel Espinosa who used to herd the cows and carabaos of his neighbors to a common pastureland—told them nobody owned the land.

Eustaquio's father and other farmer-settlers cut down tropical rain trees, hunted deer and wild pigs, and transformed the wilderness into fertile ricefields.

In 1952, men with carbines, pistols and Thompson submachine guns arrived. Claiming the land for Don Vicente Madrigal, the armed men allegedly bulldozed the fields. They were led by one Leuterio Dinulos.

As caretaker of the place from 1953 to 1962, Dinulos imposed strict rules and regulations. The farmers became Don Vicente's tenants and had to turnover 70 percent of their harvest to the new "landowner." No harvesting could be done without

Philanthropist and ex-senator Vicente Madrigal, phantom owner of the disputed 3,000-hectare Madrigal estate in Solana and Enrile towns in Cagayan. Neither arms nor power has stopped peasant-claimants from fighting for the land.

a permit, and gate passes had to be obtained from the hacienda management before rice could be milled or sold. Madrigal estate was administered by Susana Realty, Inc., which maintained a police force that, according to Eustaquio, confiscated rice from farmers deemed as having committed offenses.

In 1963, Dinulos died of old age and was replaced by Jose Durian, described by farmers as stricter and more arrogant. "We suffered worse than before because for every little mistake, he [Durian] would use abusive language . . . and would send the hacienda police to open our granaries as though we were thieves."

The issuance in 1972 of Presidential Decree 27, which proclaimed the emancipation of peasants, made the Madrigal estate farmers happy. At last there was hope for them to own the land. They acquired Certificates of Land Title (CLTs) from the Ministry of Agrarian Reform.

Problems surfaced when the farmers applied for their titles. Their CLTs did not

have Reference Existing Title numbers and Old Survey numbers. The Reference Existing Title number was supposed to indicate exactly which land portion a farmer was supposed to own, while the Old Survey number authenticated the existence and location and area of a particular piece of land. Without these, the farmers would have no basis for their claim.

Puzzled and suspicious, the farmers organized a Samahang Nayon, a government-sponsored type of farmer organization, in 1976 and investigated Don Vicente Madrigal's claims to the estate. To their surprise, they found out that Don Vicente was supposed to own land not in their barrios but in the sitios of Fadul, Furagui and Sisim in barrio Gadu, Solana.

"With that discovery we [resolved] not to give any more share of [our] harvest to Mr. Durian," the farmers said in their signed statement. Durian filed an ejectment case against them. The farmers responded by gathering more evidence to prove the land did not belong to Don Vicente Ma-

drigal.

The farmers found out that the Bureau of Lands central office in Manila does not have any record of the disputed parcels of land of the Madrigal estate. Nor are there any survey records or file copy of records of these lands.

One record the Manila Bureau of Lands has on file referred to a site plan RS-407 (or Susana Realty, Inc.), but this pertained to a parcel located in Bacoor, Cavite (some 20 kilometers south of Manila) and not in Cagayan.

The Bureau of Lands regional office in Tuguegarao also has no record of site plan RS-407 as well as other maps of the Madrigal estate.

Notwithstanding the evidence, the farmers' fate still hangs on the balance. Jose Durian who filed the ejectment case against them died six years ago of high blood pressure. But the case against the farmers survived. □



Daniel Dingel

Grousing over the Marcos administration's inattention to what he touted to be a panacea for the country's oil bill, Daniel Dingel — and his water-fueled engine — finally saw the light at the end of the tunnel. Two months ago, President Corason Aquino invited him to Malacanang, promising substantial government support for the "miraculous" engine. But for reasons only known to him, Daniel Dingel is not biting. He repeatedly refused to have his pet invention undergo scientific testing. Trust eventually turned to skepticism and nothing short of a miracle is needed by the much-publicized inventor to dispel talks that his engine runs on hot air.

The Dingel Delusion is what Dr. Roque, executive director of the University of the Philippines Science Research Foundation in Diliman, Quezon City, labels the water-fueled engine and a "veritable cornucopia of marvelous gadgets" like the perpetual motion machine, electromagnetic fluid lubricant, battery-powered car, water-charcoal stove, and fish charmer.

Daniel Dingel, Filipino inventor, claims that he can make the engine of your Lancer or Volkswagen run more efficiently and economically with the electro-magnetic fluid (EMF), which he said is a mixture of mashed water lily, some chemicals, and craypas chips. (Craypas chips are peelings from crayons that Dingel adds to the EMF when he feels like doing it.)

The EMF, according to Dingel, sticks to the metal lining and the moving parts of the transmission and differential assembly, creating a kind of frictionless buffer lining. As a result, the motor performs as if it has a new, additional engine.

"Popular Mechanics has been saying that since the 1950s," Dr. Roque said, adding that he did not feel the need to refute Dingel's invention itself. He said that the Center for Non-Conventional Energy, also in Diliman, had noted the presence of carbon when they tested the engine, an allegation Dingel denied. Dr. Roque laments Dingel's refusal to allow the Foundation to test the engine further, although another skeptic, Manila Times editor Anding Roces, was permitted to take a peek but only on Dingel's terms. The inventor reportedly banged shut the hood when Roces became too inquisitive.

Dr. Roque also laughed off Dingel's perpetual motion machine. He said that since the 18th century, scientists and charlatans have tinkered with it but to no avail.

"The perpetual motion machine of the first kind," he said, "violates the law of conservation of energy while that of the second kind violates the second law of thermodynamics." Dingel, in a telephone interview, admitted that indeed his invention violates the laws mentioned by Roque



Daniel Dingel on the driver's seat of his battery-powered car has invited skepticism towards his "miraculous" water-fueled car.

Baby, you can't test my car



By ROMY MARIÑAS

but chided his critics: "Panay sila libro, wala silang research."

The mistrust is mutual. And even Dingel's early believers in the Philippines Foundation Inc. whose financial support had allowed him to plod along during the last 16 years — have their own misgivings.

Dingel would not touch the Philippine Patent Office with a ten-foot pole. So, he had the water-fueled engine patented in the United States "five years ago."

A Philippines Foundation spokesman who asked not to be identified told WE Forum that Dingel had refused "many times" their request to test the engine.

"Dapat hubaran niya 'yung water-fueled engine," the source said, "but Mr. Dingel refused." He disclosed also that because of the brouhaha over the engine, the Foundation had stopped subsidizing all the other projects of Dingel. He said that the Ayala-managed institution learned that their protegee has been "diverting" funds to his pet engine.

"We gave him money with the assurance that it will go only to the rotary engine and the hybrid car," the source said.

Even Dingel's academic credentials are being seriously doubted. Four months ago, the Paranaque-based inventor said he taught engineering in a Japanese university for 10 years. Dr. Roque, when told that it could have been modesty that prevented Dingel from naming the university, still expressed mock surprise.

"He does not speak a word of Japanese," he said, adding that while it is true that English is used in a few colleges

in Tokyo, Japanese is still the preferred medium. Dr. Roque himself taught there but he said that when he had to use English, he had to do it in Abakada fashion.

Nobutaka Suzuki, a Waseda University graduate now enrolled at the UP, corroborated Dr. Roque's statements, saying, however, that Dingel could have taken a crash course in Japanese. Dingel had not.

To Dr. Roque, Dingel "will not win the Nobel Prize or any world-recognized acclamation for scientists and inventors." Dingel, though, is unfazed by the fact that the President has not invited him to Malacanang since June when he also offered to solve the garbage problem of Metro Manila and the delay in postal service.

"No comment," he shot back when asked when the next presidential audience would be. In the meantime, he opts to let his fingers do the talking, brushing aside all probes with a nonchalant "Mahabang istorya 'yan."

The man-who-thinks-he-would-be-great assured us that he certainly will make the story short in the future.

"Makikita mo na lang 'yan sa market," he said, standing pat on his position not to have his water-fueled engine patented locally. "Pwede naman kahit walang patent."

Nobody, of course, could be booked for delusions but could there be a greater travesty of justice than "sequestering" something that "will reduce (through the water-fueled engine) oil importation by 50 per cent?" □

Time

(From page 5)

maneuvering room.

The seizure of the Manila Hotel in the course of a desperate power grab by the Marcos orphans convinced many in the cause-oriented groups that the time has come for the democratic forces to close ranks, unfurl their banners and once more take to the streets.

With the bureaucracy setting in, the Aquino government beleaguered by American and IMF pressure, the more voluble in the military hierarchy taking potshots at the progressive minds in the new leadership and the Marcos loyalists developing greater confidence because of government vacillation, the grizzled veterans of street protest felt that a major show of force was in order.

Plans were laid down for a major rally on the 3rd of August. There was easy consensus that it should be on a Sunday and at the Luneta. The historic park must be, at least symbolically, liberated from the loyalists. The rally was also envisioned to be a warm-up for August 21.

The fatal mauling of an Aquino supporter by pro-Marcos thugs created an even greater urgency for a massive show of force. The riotous remnants of the dictatorship must now be visibly overwhelmed by the greater number of those who want the Filipino democratic experiment to succeed.

For the first time this year, the entire spectrum of cause-oriented groups marched together. It was just like old times.

The businessmen and liberal democrats of LAKAS, the social democrats of BANGKAY, the various militant trade unions, the democratic socialists of BISIG, the popular democrats of VPD and KAKABAY, and the national democrats of BAYAN, along with feminists, anti-nuke and ecological organizations marched together as they did during those hectic days when the awesome apparatus of the dictatorship demanded that democrats of every stripe unite and struggle together.

It was agreed that the mood of the march would recreate the grimness of the days of anti-dictatorship protests.

The provocations of right-wing elements, the brutal dispersal of the anti-imperialist rally last July 4, the prospect of pro-Marcos thugs assaulting the "yellow" columns were all seriously considered.

The marchers, it was agreed, should take every precaution. Organized groups would march closely together. Buddy systems would be established to secure dispersal. Cordons would be set up alongside the marching columns. Mobile perimeter defense teams would be on the alert for possible attacks by pro-Marcos goons and set up a line of defense in case rapid dispersal becomes necessary.

In sum, the participating groups agreed that all the precautionary measures that characterized pre-February mass actions would be taken.

The march of August 3 was an important breakthrough. It signalled that the various cause-oriented groups are now prepared to politically intervene from the streets again under new conditions. □



Arnold Adao



Boboy Yanzon

Let's have a party, boys!

Rolando de Asis



Coffee-shop wags have tagged demonstrators either cause-oriented or cash-oriented; the latter sound and fury echoes a down-to-earth cry: "cash, more cash, more cash pa rin!"

Historians will recall how a two-day holdover of a C way Republic at the Manila Hotel turned corpse-parade pighead totem-toting and shibboleth-belching folks blood-hungry creatures of the underworld. A man in a yellow t-shirt was lynched because he dared flash the sign at them. Terrible sense of humor. As terrible as headed guys contemplating flashing the "L" sign-fingers curled tightly around machine pistols.

Cartoonists have no sense of history because most of them feel the loyalist syndrome isn't historical. Historical perhaps.

We are not blaming these cartoonists for the humor they poke at the continuing revile, oops... oops. What was the case they got booked for a

Revelation?

(Dong A. de los R)

There's got to be a mourning after



Archie Almeda

Pio Canillo

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eyes!

Boy Luna

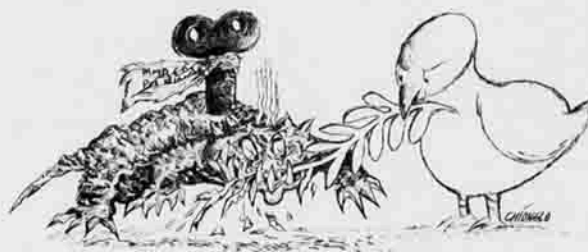


Benjie Lontoc, Jr.

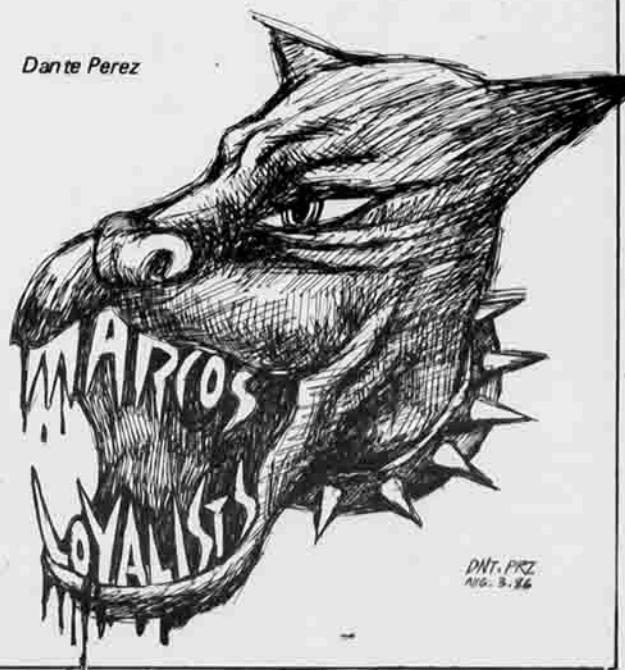
Hugo Yonzon



Elizabeth Chionglo



Dante Perez



Willy Aguino (Tampac, July 30, 1986)



Major Jaime Victorino

Police Major Jaime Victorino loved to sing. He also liked to keep his hair long. He loved singing so much that he kept sing-along equipment in his office at the Western Police District. From time to time he would belt out "Matudnila" and "You Will Be My Music" which were his favorites.

He liked to keep his hair long so much that he got involved in a shootout with Police Captain Valentin Lopez last July 30, 1985. Lopez, chief of the inspectorate office reportedly scolded Victorino in front of demonstrators at the Liwasang Bonifacio for having long hair. Ruffled feathers led to a shootout at the WPD. Lopez pumped two shots from his revolver into Victorino severely wounding him. Victorino's aide, Sgt. Jose Olvido returned fire killing Lopez. Victorino had to be hospitalized for two months.

Last July 29, 1986, a year after that shootout, Major Victorino was pumped full of Armalite bullets as he was stopping his Toyota liftback for a red light on Otis St. A car had pulled up alongside him and the men inside had opened fire. Victorino's car smashed into a concrete wall.

He had already known of a death threat against him a week before. A cop-informer, a certain Pat. Bumanlag of WPD Station 4, had already told Victorino that he had been contacted to be one of the gunmen. It had been known that Victorino always buys sampaguita flowers for his Sto. Nino at the street corner of Otis and Quirino.

Victorino had a further altercation with another WPD officer, Lt. Wenceslao Laldama, which the police are investigating. Ealdama was appointed to Victorino's post after he was meted out with several month's suspension by then WPD superintendent P/Gen. Narciso

Life in the fast lane

By BOBBY BURGOS

Cabrera for his involvement in the Lopez shootout.

Ealdama reportedly resented the return of Victorino to his post.

Police authorities said that the killing was the work of professionals who had evidently tracked down Victorino's movements for some time before making their move. It was added that there may be further angles to the killing but homicide probes said they were concentrating on the theory that it was a personal vendetta.

Victorino joined the Manila police in 1970 and he was assigned eventually to the security group of Defense Minister Enrile in 1977.

He was a crack operative, helping bust an international drug syndicate and other cases prompting his promotion as the youngest captain and then the youngest

major of any police force in the country. He had just turned 36 when he was killed.

Victorino is the seventh of ten brothers and sisters. He has three other brothers in the police service. One brother, Dante, is a captain while two others, Cesar and Jesus, are patrolmen. Another brother, Romy, also served in the police force but he is now a Caloocan City Fiscal.

Married to the former matinee idol Esperanza Fabon, he has three children, all girls: Margarita, 11; Magnolia, 7; and Eugenia, 5.

Victorino returned to the Western Police District in 1984 to head the theft and robbery section. Under his leadership, the section busted several groups of carnapers, holduppers and a big-time drug syndicate confiscating more than P5 million worth of prohibited drugs.

His friends say that he was like a

brother to his men, never turning down a request for assistance, financial or otherwise. In one instance he shouldered the hospital expenses of one of his men operated on his head. He shelled out over P70,000 of his own money.

Victorino was, however, well-known for his short temper.

During the February uprising, Victorino was the first Manila cop to offer his services to Enrile. He brought with him a handful of trusted men and a bunch of M-16s to Camp Aguinaldo. Later his group secured the Enrile residence. He also assisted in putting up barricades around Aguinaldo and Crame.

Victorino had flown so high and fast so early in his life. His friends saw in him the makings of a future police superintendent. Too bad he had to sing his farewell song in so short a time. □



Maj. Jaime Victorino: A generous brother to his men

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
Makati, Metro Manila
—oOo—

Foreclosure No. 86-266

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
& EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF

NOTICE OF EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE SALE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118 (AS IMPLEMENTED BY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 3 DATED OCTOBER 19, 1984 OF THE SUPREME COURT)

PURSUANT to the terms of the Deed of Real Estate Mortgage dated August 27, 1985, executed by Mortgagee/s Mr. Benjamin T. Apay in favor of mortgagee/s DIAMOND FINANCE CORPORATION, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness amounting to P160,531.50, PESOS, in Philippine Currency, as of April 16, 1986, with interest, penalty, attorney's fees and other charges together with all lawful fees and expenses of foreclosure sale, the EXECUTIVE JUDGE of the Regional Trial Court of Makati, Metro Manila, through the undersigned Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Sheriff of Makati, Metro Manila, hereby announces that on Aug. 18, 1986 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, in front of the Main Entrance of the Municipal Building of Paranaque, Metro Manila, he and/or the Deputy Sheriff incharge, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder and for cash, in Philippine currency, the following

described real property/ies, together with all its improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 158086
REGISTRY OF DEEDS FOR THE PROV. OF RIZAL

"A parcel of land (Lot 5, Block 3 of the cons. subd. plan (LRC) Pcs-2571, being a portion of the consolidation of Lots 4374-A and 4374-B both of described on plan (LRC) Pcd-25532, LRC Rec. No. N-18889) Case No. 2260, situated in the Barrio of San Dionisio, Mun. of Paranaque, Prov. of Rizal, Bounded on the NE... Containing an area of EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY (880) SQUARE METERS, more or less.

Interested parties are enjoined to investigate for themselves the title/s to the said real property/ies and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Makati, Metro Manila, June 23, 1986.

FOR THE EXECUTIVE JUDGE:

(SGD.) MAXIMO C. CONTRERAS
Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Sheriff

(SGD.) ALEJANDRO J. BERNARDO
Deputy Sheriff Incharge

Copy furnished:
Diamond Finance Corporation Diamond Bldg., 603 EDSA, Cubao, Quezon City, M.M.; Benjamin Apay 6888 Villa Lourdes, Sucat, Paranaque, Metro Manila

PUBLICATION: WE FORUM
DATES: July 22, 29 & Aug. 5, 1986

Critique

Journalism, especially in the Philippines, has always had a bias against the different and the difficult in favor of the same and the easy.

The usual argument is that people who read newspapers and magazines do not have time to think. In the long run, this must mean that they cannot think. For to have no time to think for a long time is not to think for a long time, and if the long time is long enough one ends up becoming incapable of thought. According to this bias then, a newspaper or magazine must be such as not to require thought. It must not make people think. Otherwise, they penalize the unorthodox publisher for inflicting on them the pains of thought — by not buying his newspaper or magazine.

This seemingly neutral demand to be easy and readily comprehensible is not as harmless as it may seem. Apart from the fact that it needs no demonstration that to cultivate idiocy among the people is by itself pernicious, the demand to be easy, couched under the stylistic demand to be clear, has distinct ideological presuppositions and implications favorable to the established system of neocolonial class exploitation. That this demand is being pushed like dope in the academe only further demonstrates the role of the school system in the propagation and defense of neocolonial class ideology. And how it ties up with the media in the fulfillment of that role.

The logic behind this ideological stratagem is clear. For after all what is easy and readily comprehensible to the reading public but things and ideas they already know and know so well as to be almost instinctive? And what else do they know that readily if not the common opinions they have imbibed in school, in the same media with its cult of the easy? What else is it that to them is clearest if not the things they have always taken for granted, things that occur to them as in blissful unthought they sip their morning coffee? And of course, the readily comprehensible is also that which readily agrees either with their desires or their apathy.



Why it is necessary to be difficult

By DOMINGO CASTRO DE GUZMAN

Now the common ideas and opinions they have imbibed in schools, from the media, from the church, in their daily unquestioning lives, are precisely the long-term result of the ideological brainwashing they get as unquestioning members of a neocolonial class society. The sum-total of those ideas and attitudes, opinions and values constitutes, precisely, the ideology of exploitation and oppression. It is the very mould of their minds as well as the content thereof. So when they encounter

the same mould and content in what they read or see they do not need to think to comprehend and nod assent. In short, the demand for the easy and the clear is equivalent to the institutional cultivation — with its standardized rewards and penalties — of a culture of conformism. Conformism to what? To the system of neocolonial class exploitation and oppression whose ideological apparatuses are precisely the school system, the media, the church, literature and the arts.

As for those who have awakened and have asked questions they are penalized by way of the job market. The culture of idiocy and conformism, needless to say, is also a system of censorship. Let me relate some personal experiences to you by way of example.

A journalistically oriented head of the Third World Studies Program saw a monograph of mine on the structuralism of the

French anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss. It was then making the rounds among my friends at the U.P. He wrote me for permission to publish the booklength essay in the Philippine Social Sciences and Humanities Review, a U.P. publication of which he was then editor. He made me do the bibliography and asked for some revisions.

Three months later, when I came to see him about it, he told me that upon consultation with his co-editor, they had decided that if they are publishing anything in the journal it might as well be readable. He might have had personal reasons for reversing his previous estimate of my work, but the thing is the excuse he gave was exactly the slogan of this same journalistic culture of idiocy and conformism. And then there was that editor of a midweek magazine who rejected all my future contributions to it while they

(Page 13, please)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH XCIV
QUEZON CITY

IN THE MATTER OF JUDICIAL DECLARATION OF LORNA ORIEGA COLORADO AS ABSENTEE.

SP. PROC. NO. Q-48024
ARIEL G. COLORADO, Petitioner

ORDER

Ariel G. Colorado filed this verified petition praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, an Order be issued declaring Lorna Orieiga Colorado as an absentee.

It is alleged that on January 18, 1975, petitioner was married to Lorna C. Orieiga at Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Parish Church; that his wife left their conjugal abode at no. 179 A, Luna Street, Project 4, Quezon City on October 14, 1976; that since then, her whereabouts are unknown despite diligent efforts exerted

thereon; and that this petition was filed to declare his wife as an absentee and he be likewise appointed the judicial administrator of the same.

WHEREFORE, let this case be set for hearing on August 15, 1986 at 8:30 o'clock in the morning before this Court at the 3rd Floor, East Wing, New City Hall, Quezon City. Notice is hereby given that anyone who has objection thereto, should file his/her opposition on or before the above-mentioned hearing.

Let this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks at the "WE FORUM", a newspaper of general circulation in Metro Manila pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 1079.

SO ORDERED.
Done in Quezon City, Metro Manila, this 30th day of June, 1986.

(SGD.) FILEMON H. MENDOZA
Judge

July 29, Aug. 5 & 12, 1986

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
National Capital Judicial Region
QUEZON CITY

OFFICE OF THE EX OFFICIO SHERIFF

ROBERTO MARTINEZ, Mortgagee/s versus AIDA DE VERA, ANTONIO DE VERA, & ELVIRA DE VERA, rep. by her Attorney-in-fact, ANTONIO DE VERA, Mortgagee/s

FILE NO. 837

EXTRAJUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Roberto Martinez, mortgagee/s, against Aida De Vera, Antonio De Vera & Elvira De Vera rep. by Antonio De Vera with residence and postal address at All of 94 Malakas, East Ave., Quezon City to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness, which as of July 15, 1986, amounts to ONE HUNDRED TWENTY THOUSAND (P120,000.00), excluding penalties, charges, attorney's fees and all the legal fees and expenses for the foreclosure and sale, the Ex-Officio Sheriff of Quezon City or her duly authorized Deputy, will sell at PUBLIC AUCTION to the highest bidder, FOR CASH and in Philippine Currency, on the 27th day of August, 1986, at 10:00 o'clock in the morning, or soon thereafter, in front of the Main Entrance of the New Quezon City Hall Building, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City, the following described real estate property/ies, together with all the improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 258822

Registry of Deeds — Quezon City
A parcel of land (Lot 10, block 119, of the subdivision plan Ped-68907, being a portion of Lot 12, Pca-4564: LRC (GLRO) Rec. No. 7681) situated in the District of Diliman, Quezon City, Bounded on the SW., along line 1-2 by Lot 11, Block 119; on the NW., along line 2-3 by Road Lot 101; on the NE., along line 3-4 by Lot 9, Block 119 and on the SE., along line 4-5-1 by Lots 2 and 3, Block 119, all of the subdivision plan, xxxxx containing an area of SIX HUNDRED SQUARE METERS (600), more or less.

Prospective bidders or buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said real estate property and the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.
Quezon City, Philippines, July 24, 1986.

(SGD.) MANUELA F. LORENZO
Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Sheriff

By:
MARINO V. CACHERO
Senior Deputy Sheriff

WARNING:

It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Sheriff's Sale, on or before the date of the auction sale, under penalty of the law.

Copy Furnished:

Sagalongos, Auncion, Sablaya and Associates 1662 Oroquieta, Sta. Cruz Manila; Aida de Vera, Antonio de Vera, Elvira de Vera, 94 Malakas, East Avenue, Quezon City

Publication at: WE FORUM
Dates of Publication: July 29, Aug. 5, 12, 1986

Vernie Varga: Nosing out the competition

By MARIO V. DUMAUAL

I spent the night with Vernie Varga late last week.

But before your think of anything silly, it was for an interview, Vernie's first after months of shying away from the limelight.

Much to our pleasure, the encounter with the sultry singer at the EZZZ disco-club in Malate came with "fringe benefits". Vernie still exudes that "animal appeal" even though she was all clad in a red and khaki ensemble. She was in a buoyant mood that evening. She danced, joked and traded jokes with me and my "Makinilya" colleagues. Later we danced like crazy for 45 straight minutes. We were all sweating after that "marathon". Before we knew it, the arranged two hours session which began at 7:30 pm had stretched on until about 1 am.

"Para akong nakawala sa hawla!" Vernie exclaimed. "Matagal na rin akong di nakainom nito," she said stroking her glass of draft beer. "I used to win beer guzzling contests as a student, you know."

The comebacking 26-year-old Cebuana sports a new sculptured look which she is proud of. Her nose recently underwent a "lift". The nose job has been whispered about in showbiz circles but the singer never confirmed it until now. "Did you or didn't you have a noselift?" we asked.

"Doesn't it look nice?!" she shot back saucily. The quick remark totally floored us, reducing us to laughter. It must have been her way of saying, "C'mon guys, noselifts are nothing to be ashamed of in this day and age."

Vernie Varga does not hide anything, well almost. She attributes the deep freezing of her career for the past year or so to many things, including affairs of the heart. For sometime now, the femme fatale has been involved with one of those old rich and socially prominent "cono" guys. (Please, wag na nating sabihin ang pangalan, she pleads.) "It happens normally to artists dahil human being din daw kami, ha-ha-ha," she says of her romantic affairs. The affair with the Mr. Cono sidelined her. "Garahe effect!" as one of our colleagues, a lady columnist, put it.

"Di naman garahe!" Vernie protests. "Para namang garage sale. Na-mansion naman ako, no?!"

"A lot of people have the impression that I am subsidized. Binahay, garahe effect daw," says Vernie, stroking her hair. "That's not true, I earn from my own sweat. In spite of the fact na urong sulong ang career ko, I command my own price in shows. And it's always a handsome price."

Vernie was once built up by Vicor re-



Snubbed by Kuh Ledesma, Vernie Varga vows vengeance at the Playboy hutch and in *Evita*.

cording as a clone of Imelda Papin and all those other "abandonada" torch singers but that, too did not help her career any. "Sabi ko, 'Aba teka muna mas may ano naman ako kay Imelda!'" Her recording career failed to thrive due to what she claims as Vicor's failure to promote her interests. "Vicor doesn't like you to compete with their big stars. Papatayin ka na lang nila. They would promise you a lot, tapos ila-lie low ka lang pala," rued the singer who was first discovered in one of those popular sing-a-long bars in the Malate strip in 1980.

She could have benefited from the entertainment boom after the February revolution but postponements of her much ballyhooed version of *Evita* (the SRP Philippines production which will finally be mounted in October) during the time also waylaid her career. "I wasn't able to do shows because Roxanne Barcelona (SRO head) told me not to accept shows, not to pre-empt *Evita* (which was then scheduled for June). Hayun nasira tuloy ang planning ng career ko. Nadiskaril."

Before the February Revolt, there were offers to do shows on either side of the political fence, she said but she chose to go to Australia and other Asian countries instead. "Apolitical naman ako. I opted to go abroad than to do those shows na may political content. Ayoko talaga." Even when showbiz personalities were coming out of the woodworks to appear in EDSA or on Channel 4, Vernie chose to stay in her shell.

She admits though that if there is anything or anyone to blame for the waning of her career, it is herself. "Com se, com sa ang attitude ko," she says in between puffs of her Marlboro Lites.

"Basta may show, ok na. Wala akong pakialam sa career ko. I've neglected it for so long. I was uncaring, I must admit."

Before her career bogged down, Vernie was considered a serious threat to live entertainment queen Kuh Ledesma. Kuh, it was said, was no match to her rousing showmanship and voice range. She was almost there at the top but her "come what may" attitude ruined her moves. Friends advised her to face up to the challenge but Vernie failed to heed their counsel.

Lately the singer has decided to produce her own shows, something which she never considered before. She has already pre-sold a September show. She has also moved from Vicor to G Records where her new LP will be released shortly. "Vicor offered me another contract after my three years term expired pero ayoko na!"

There are other facets to the "new Vernie". "I can easily reach the high notes now," she says. "I have more confidence as a performer now." The vamp glowers at talks that her nose repair ruined her voice. "Of course not! People will see if my voice has indeed changed when they see me on the eighth at the Playboy Club." As if to belie the talks, Vernie crooned some tunes during the interview. It seemed like the same voice behind her hit songs, *You'll Always Be My Number One* and *La Filipina*.

Vernie is also picking up where she left off on her way to becoming "Kuh's successor". She is again reviving her challenge to Kuh to perform back to back with her. The last time Vernie challenged her some years back, Kuh reportedly turned her down. "Nagkita kami noon sa ladies room sa Tavern (in Makati), sabi n'ya (now aping Kuh's voice) ganito exactly. 'Vernie, wag na nating ituloy, busy pa ako, e,'" she recalls.

"Bakit n'ya kaya ti-nern down?" wondered one of my fellow-scribes aloud. "Yon ang tanong, bakit nga kaya?" retorts Vernie, impishly grinning. "Baka takot!!" someone exclaimed laughing.

"Iniintay ko na lang siya talaga na tanggapin ang offer ko," says Vernie, itching at the opportunity once denied her. Perhaps this time she will prove herself. Vernie bade us goodbye after I am to leave for her Roxas Boulevard condominium. She said it was way past her 10 pm curfew. □

What, no ransom?

Priests have been kidnapped.

Nuns have been kidnapped.

A bishop has been kidnapped.

Yet they've not paid a centavo for ransom.

I thought the Church is rich.

A joke is making the rounds that if certain bishops are kidnapped, some parishioners would gladly pay — to keep them.

Tolentino used the fire escape in Manila Hotel to flee the Loyalists. What kind of a revolt is that?

Marcos called Tolentino by phone before and after the Manila Hotel fiasco. Yet Marcos denied it. What's another lie anyway!

Who's going to lead the Loyalists after Tolentino? Maybe Recto. But he refuses responsibility for their action!

He said he's just a lawyer of Marcos.

Barber: Sir, would you mind turning the other side

JOKE ONLY



FR. BEN A. CARREON, OMI

of your face towards me.

Customer: Oh, are you through shaving this side?

Barber: No, but I can't stand the sight of blood.

Theater Manager: Madam, you may not take that dog into the theater. It is not permitted.

Woman: Absurd! What harm could the movies do to a little dog like this?

Who'll accompanny Pres, Aquino to the US?

Not Enrile. He has some important function to do in Manila.

Remove the US bases. Ban the multinationals. Throw out the Americans. Of course — Joma Sison and company would love that!

Why do you think this fellow is silly?

Well, you know that poster in the post office that says, Man wanted for Robbery in a Bank.

Yes. Well, he went in and applied for the job.

Fr. Boyet Concepcion of the House of Emmaus, recently buried the 27th deceased old folk. His mission is caring for the dying destitutes. You should see the calm and peace of mind of those who literally die in his arms.

If you don't believe in God take a look at Fr. Boyet ministering to the old folks.

Explorer: I would enjoy going into that lagoon for a swim. Are you sure there are no crocodiles about?

Native: Very sure. The sharks have scared them all away!

Someone said: Love consists of a little sighing, a little crying, a little dying and a deal of lying.

Answer to crossword

R	I	P	S	L	O	W	E	M	U	S
A	D	I	T	O	L	E	C	A	S	A
P	L	E	A	F	E	A	T	U	R	E
T	E	R	R	I	T	O	R	Y	I	R
T	R	I	Y	I	R	O	N			
T	A	B	L	E	E	L	E	V	A	T
A	L	A	I	S	A	Y	E	T	O	N
P	E	N	N	A	N	T	T	R	E	N
I	G	N	I	V	I	S				
G	A	S	O	P	T	I	C	I	A	N
L	A	T	E	N	E	S	G	L	E	E
O	R	E	S	R	A	E	H	A	V	E
W	E	R	E	S	R	S	T	E	A	K

The house that rock'n'roll built

First there were the nightclubs and the proletarian kabaret. Next came the folkhouses of the late '60s, then the discos of the '70s. The recent years, however, witnessed the blooming of the bistros.

Bistro is a small European wineshop or restaurant that is "unpretentious" and marked by an atmosphere of casualness.

But this can not be said of the Filipino version. At least not by the kind of people who frequent these entertainment joints.

While the original bistros were meant for the common folk, only the "sosyal" cityfolk enjoy these clubby and pricey pubs.

It is the same group of "nightouters", that Ramon Jacinto (RJ, yes) had in mind when he opened **Bistro RJ** along Pasay Road.

His reason? "The flower children of the '60s, who grew up in rock n' roll and rock are now very much part of the establishment. While they may have outgrown their gypsy lifestyle, there must still be a place where they can gather and listen to the music of our generation."

True to his statement, **Bistro RJ's** opening night featured **The Bad Habits** among other groups, keeping the rhythm of the boogie-woogie, soul and jerk much to the delight of swinging partners in the dance-floor.

RJ himself, a forerunner of the Pinoy rock and rhythm, founder of **DZRJ** turned businessman turned Pinoy exile in Europe, looks every inch an executive more than a rock band leader.

"I have been dreaming of this for years," said RJ who had wanted "to bring back live music" and to gather artists who perform live. "I hope this becomes their venue."

Bistro RJ is housed in 826 Pasay Road in the same building that used to be **Bistro Malaya**, where Cory Aquino's candidacy was planned. The restaurant in the second floor used to cater food to the **Mondragon** building, once the hub of opposition politics.

It must be some kind of poetic justice for a man whose family businesses were

confiscated by the Marcos government. Incidentally, **DZRJ** also played a vital role in the February revolt as June Keithley's bandit station when **Radio Veritas** was silenced by the loyalists.

The arrangement is that RJ takes care of the talent and promotion while the restaurant provides the food and beverage.

The place is a little cramped, and therefore ideal for sound tripping, girl watching and, rubbing elbows.

The place has two sections. The first, some tables for four with two seaters on each side. The main gallery is composed of tiny round coffeetables suitable only for

By JOEL SARACHO



Dancing and dipping at RJ Bistro

some bottles and glasses. The bar and the stage stand opposite each other. A small dancefloor is located adjacent to the performers.

The walls are decorated with posters and trivia reminiscent of the '70s: football team composed of Fidel Castro, Mao Tse Tung, Pope Paul VI, Richard Nixon, Brezhnev, among others; and xenograms of existentialist prose and images.

Bistro RJ is a cross between **Penguin Cafe** (but **Penguin** is a little more crazy) and **Hard Rock Cafe** (which is very juvenile in its ambience).

The big difference is being at, and listening to the original probably the best bands in town: **Southern Comfort**, **Bad Habits**, **RJ** and the **Hijack** band.

And Gary Lising who does his gags

every once in a while.

The music, which ranges from rock n' roll to folk, to jazz, country and blues (No, they're not going in to hard rock) can be heard simultaneously over **DZRJ** on the **AM** band.

"The rock and roll generation has matured," RJ says. And many of them have placed themselves quite well in the social ladder they once condemned. They have reached the age they used not to trust, "over 30."

They have left behind the **Bodega**, **Father's Moustache** and **Los Indios Bravos** of yore. But RJ promises his bistro is a place where the children of the '60s — and your average "nightouter" too — can go after office and on Saturday nights. □

I have (From page 3)

was detained for three hours. Back in her condominium, she learned of the mauling-slaying of Solomon Stephen Salcedo.

Ferrer was later charged, along with two others, with the murder of Salcedo.

Ferrer admitted that the murder suspects were indeed loyalists but claimed that Salcedo was "accompanied by three policemen who brought him behind the (Quirino) grandstand." There, Annie said, Salcedo was "truncheoned."

"We have a witness to prove that. He is now under the custody of (Atty. Oliver) Lozano," boasted Annie. She said they will produce the witness, also a loyalist, as a counter-evidence to the murder-by-inducement charges against them.

Annie's poise appeared to have been shaken by the desertion of fellow loyalists. She said that while a few have lent her "moral support," many preferred to stay away. "Nung Sunday, nagtatago sila sa kani-kanilang kotse." She told **WE Forum** that she could have "prevented" the killing had she not been arrested, saying she was sure the mob would have listened to her.

Ferrer called on Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile last Thursday, July 31 but she said the minister did not want to "inter-

fere." Instead, Enrile advised her, to see her lawyers.

"Why should I hide? Akala nila matatakot ako. The more I am going to come out. Cory (referring to the President) should also look into police brutality. She's a woman, I'm a woman. I won't forget what those **CAPCOM** and **WPD** (troops) did to me last Sunday."

Enrile had put his foot down on Annie's request for help. The President had declared tougher measures against "the lost cause" of the Marcos loyalists. Who could Annie turn to then? Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos that's who. Annie said she planned to meet with him last Friday, August 1, but he was not available. Ramos seemed to have taken the cue from the defense minister.

Surrender appears the last option for the embattled, now embittered Annie. She said that she will give herself up to **WPD** superintendent Brig. Gen. Alfredo Lim. But even if she does, she assures that the loyalists' Sunday rallies will go on with or without permit, with or without her. But then she asked: "Kaya ba nila ang 100,000?" referring to the planned gathering of Cory supporters led by the Campaign to Defend, Preserve and Advance Democracy. "Kami, ang hula mga 5,000 to 7,000," Annie predicted. □

Why (From page 11)

were still planning the thing by saying that not even the likes of my essays as **WHO** columnist would be acceptable because their readers would not understand. Again, the gentleman might have had personal reasons, but the excuse was the same, and it was precisely the dominant culture of journalistic idiocy and conformism that enabled him to advance that idiots' excuse.

Now the point is, if writers like me who already had had a successful stint as columnist of a national weekly magazine could be treated that way and be subjected to the tyranny of this culture, how much more the newcomers?

Let us approach the subject from another

angle. People who preach the easy seem to think that all ideas can be expressed on a common level of comprehensibility. In other words, they make the mistake of reducing the clear into the easy. But are there not in fact ideas whose level of greatest possible clarity cannot but be impossibly difficult?

The different — that which you have not always known to be the case, that which you don't like, that which threatens your interests — is always more difficult to comprehend than the same. It follows that to explain the different is always more difficult to comprehend it. But apart from this difficultness which arises from natural psychological resistance, there is a whole class of ideas which are in addition difficult because they are the concatenated concepts of a complex reality. Whereas the culture of conformism systematically simplifies

reality and accustoms the people to the established level of simplemindedness — i.e., precisely, commonsense.

And here we connect again with the ideological factor. For there is no better example of inherently difficult ideas than those ones necessary in order to realize and explain the origins, the nature, and the workings of the neocolonial system of exploitation. The idea of "structure" for instance, or of neocolonialism itself, or better yet, the very concept and reality of ideology. In the first place, these are totalizing concepts. One needs to have conceived the multifarious details and aspects of one's own existence and that of society as a whole as a particular system for one to grasp any of these concepts. But such a totalization of one's own personal existence and of the existence of all the members of society is possible only if some-

where along the effort to think, one has disengaged oneself if only momentarily from one's daily condition.

All ideas informed by a critical totalization both historical and systemic are necessarily more difficult than ideas met with on the level of commonsense. This should be obvious since commonsense by its very nature does not constitute a deliberate intellectual effort to totalize. Commonsense which is the dense form of the dominant ideology is a totalization on the level of attitude, of emotions, of the passive. That is why writers who merely reiterate all the nostrums of commonsense make for very easy reading. Just as their writing does not require thought, so does the consumption of what they write happen as easy as seeing all the day's wisdom over a cup of coffee. □

A Yankee reply to the bases issue

By ROMY MARINAS

There are two moviehouses in the Philippine military base called Clark in Pampanga, but Filipinos cannot go watch "Rambo" or "Rocky" there. There are two PX stores, but Filipinos cannot shop there. There are two chapels in that "Filipino" base, but natives are not allowed to worship at their altars. There are six schools, but Filipinos cannot study there, they can only teach the dependents of US servicemen. There are two cemeteries, one for dead American servicemen and another for their pedigreed dogs past their prime. But who wants to be buried with the dogs?

If the anti-bases proposal finally clears the final hurdle at the Con-Com a few weeks from now, it may put an end to that miniature version of South Africa just a few hundred kilometers north of Metro Manila.

Last July 17, the Con-Com's Committee on Preamble, National Territory, and Declaration of Principles voted 6-2 to do away with the bases by 1991 without further renegotiation. In their ecstasy, BAYAN staged a "victory rally" in front of the US embassy. They called it a moral victory for the Filipino people.

The euphoria could be shortlived however, with the final decision of the Con-Com still a majority vote and a plenary



The USS New Jersey of the U.S. Seventh Fleet's Battle Group Romeo fires her 16-inch guns off Subic Bay.

session away. It would be in the plenary session where the ultimate fate of the 53,000 hectare Clark Air Base and the 14,000 hectare Subic Naval Base and the three other US military facilities in the country would be decided.

Officially, the US position is that there are no military bases in the country, only "military facilities" located within Philippine bases. The American embassy asserts that since 1979, all base lands had been formally placed under the jurisdiction of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, with portions set aside for American "facilities".

It may only be a coincidence but two days after the July 17 decision by the Con-Com committee to do away with the bases,

four American warships of the US Seventh Fleet's Battle Group Romeo — USS New Jersey, USS Long Beach, USS Merrill, and USS Thach — dropped anchor in Manila Bay in Rooseveltian show of gunboat diplomacy.

It was supposed to be a goodwill visit. But the 137 visitors were treated to the sight of the battleship New Jersey unleashing the power of its 16-inch diameter main guns.

There is a provision in the proposed constitution which states, "subject to existing international agreements, foreign military bases, troops or facilities shall be forbidden in the national territory nor shall nuclear weapons be allowed."

The USS Long Beach, reputed to be the

world's first nuclear-powered surface warship, paid no heed to the no-nukes stance, its nuclear tipped missiles lying potent in her hold. Within the bases, however, one can only speculate on the existence of nuclear weapons. The US government as a matter of policy refuses to either confirm or deny such information. They say they do this to avoid tipping off the Soviets.

But the present military bases pact with the US obligates the Americans to inform the Philippine government about the numbers, equipment, and weapons systems of the US forces in the country. But this procedure has never been followed.

The neither-nor policy works wonders at Clark. Visitors are told by highly placed Filipinos that there is an oft-repeated reply to nuke-watchers: "That is what we have to say, that is the only line we know."

Despite the insistent US lobbying at the Con-Com to overturn the preliminary verdict on the bases, the American reaction has been very accommodating.

In the July 16, 1986 edition of US Views, a United States Information Service (USIS) publication, generally known as a guide to US views and policy, it was stated, "if the government of the Philippines exercises its prerogatives to terminate the MBA after 1991 the United States would certainly not, as some allege, insist on staying on as an unwanted guest." Meanwhile though, Filipinos would have to keep on buying their Hersheys at Dau. □

Consuming concerns

So you heard that Meralco is lowering its power rate by five centavos per kilowatt-hour? Well, you take a closer look at the figures. Only two centavos per kilowatt-hour will be shaved off your bill. And that's only for the 53 per cent of the total Meralco customers.

The government proudly announced last Wednesday, July 30, that due to a further drop of 55 US cents per barrel of crude oil, bunker oil which is burned in power-generating plants would be priced less by 31.2 centavos per liter.

The announced power decrease came at the heels of another cut just a month earlier on July 1 when a deduction of 6.5 centavo per kilowatt-hour was declared. The decrease though was for the small electric users. The medium to large users (those who use above 180 kilowatt-hours per month) had to bear the increased burden.

All in all, a total of 11.5 centavos per kilowatt-hour was to be deducted from the small consumers monthly bill. But unknown to most, and without consultation, the Board of Energy (BOE) approved Meralco's petition for a 9.5 centavo per kilowatt-hour increase last July 11. The BOE cited Meralco's "urgent needs" as the reason for the approval of the increase.

"Urgent needs" mean the huge debts, 64 million dollars, Meralco incurred "not

counting the fringe and link-debts, that is, those incurred with other companies". Its foreign loans amount to \$183 million and its local debts to P2 billion. In addition it also has an outstanding account of P3.2 billion with the National Power Corporation (NAPOCOR).

These loans scream of anomalous transactions made during the past regime, as the money melted in the hands of the favored few. The graft-ridden Nuclear Plant deal alone left the country \$2.1 billion deep in the hole.

Electric nightmares

The burden of these "urgent needs" are then unfairly placed upon the shoulders of the consumers either through direct increases in electric bills or the increased prices of goods and services.

Fellow consumers, beware and be vigilant. Let us not be taken in by these shenanigans of Meralco. Already, the Citizen's Alliance for Consumer Protection (CACP) has launched its campaign against this manipulation by the BOE and Meralco. Pickets have already been made around the BOE last July 16 and 17, and there will

be another on August 8, the date of the resumption of the public hearings on the rate increase.

Resolution No. 424 at the Con-Com proposed by Commissioners Jose Suarez, Ponciano Bennagen, Minda Quesada, and five others has been approved on the committee level. The resolution seeks to enshrine provisions on consumer protection in the Constitution.

The resolution is to be discussed in plenary session this week. □

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF VALENZUELA, METRO MANILA OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

F.NO. 146-V-86

LETICIA ABEL-SANTOS AND NOVELIO SANTOS, Mortgagees/s — versus — SPS. DANILO N. CRUZ AND DELIA P. CRUZ, Mortgagor/s.

EXTRAJUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT 3135 AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extrajudicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118 filed by LETICIA ABEL-SANTOS AND NOVELIO SANTOS, with residence and postal address at 230 Maria Clara St., 11th Avenue, Caloocan City, Mortgagee/s, against SPS. DANILO N. CRUZ AND DELIA P. CRUZ, with residence and postal address at Tanong Bliss House, Leono St., Malabon, Metro Manila, Mortgagor/s, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of March 20, 1986, amounts to TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00), Philippine Currency, including/excluding interest thereon, including/excluding _____ % of the total indebtedness as and by way of Attorney's fees, plus daily interests and expenses thereafter, and all other necessary ex-

penses in this extrajudicial foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Ex-Officio Sheriff hereby gives notice to all interested parties and to the public in general that on Aug. 29, 1986 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, in front of the Regional Trial Court of Valenzuela, Metro Manila, he or his Deputy Sheriff In-Charge will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for CASH, and in Philippine Currency, the following real estate property/ies, together with all the improvements existing thereon, to wit:

T.C.T. NO. 15157

"A parcel of land (Lot 1-F-8-F of the subd plan (LRC) Psd-224559, being a portion of Lot 1-F-8 (LRC) Psd-215598 LRC Rec. No. N-9463) situated in the Bo. of Coloong, Mun. of Valenzuela, Prov. of Bulacan, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NE., points 3 to 4 by Lot property of Pio Valenzuela; on the SE., points 4 to 6 by Lot 1-F-8-G of the subd. plan; on the SW., points 6 to 1 by Lot 1-F-7 (LRC) Psd-215598; on the NW., points 1 to 3 by Lot 1-F-8-E, of the subd. plan. x x x x x

Containing an area of TWO HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT (228) SQUARE METERS, more or less, xx xx

This Notice of Sheriff's Sale will be posted for a period of twenty (20) days in three (3) conspicuous public places in the Municipality where the subject property/ies is/are located and where the auction sale shall take place, and likewise a copy of

this notice will be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Metro Manila, the first publication to take place at least twenty (20) days before the date of auction sale.

NOTE: Prospective buyers or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the property/ies and the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Valenzuela, Metro Manila, June 2, 1986.

(SGD.) REYNIERO G. ESTACIO
Clerk of Court and
Ex-Officio Sheriff

(SGD.) SERGIO C. CARRERA
Deputy Sheriff
In-Charge

WARNING:

It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Sheriff's Sale, on or before the date of the auction sale, under penalty of the law.

COPY FURNISHED:

Leticia Abel-Santos & Novelio Santos — Caloocan; Danilo & Delia Cruz — Malabon

Publication at: WE Forum
Dates of Publication: Aug. 5, 12, 19, 1986

There go the golds

By IGNACIO DEE

This early, two maybe three potential gold medals may already have been lost to the Seoul-bound Philippine team to the Asian Games. Such sure-fire medalists as Billy Wilson, Felix Barrientos, and Paeng Nepomuceno may be left behind as the controversial seeding program causes more friction between the athletes and officials.

Seeding is a term borrowed from tennis, in which the players are ranked and the most accomplished of them are given the royal privilege of skipping qualifying tournaments. When the call for tryouts in the Asian Games was sounded, Jose Sering declared, "No one is exempt from the tryouts, they all have to pass it. Why even Carl Lewis and Evelyn Ashford have to go through Olympic qualifying meets."

But Sering eventually relented when he saw that some athletes performed so well in international meets that making them enter qualifying tournaments would be ridiculous. He had then exempted fellows like

Paeng Nepomuceno, Carito Villaroman, and Felix Barrientos.

Then one by one, the heads of the various National Sports Associations (NSA) began to question the seedings. The Lawn Tennis Association said that Barrientos had to undergo tryouts. After some backroom meetings, the tennis association agreed to back down only to find out that Barrientos had already withdrawn from the Games.

Paeng, said the Philippine Bowling Congress (PBC), should be made to qualify for the team, despite being twice World Cup winner. After all, PBC officials said, we have World Cup eliminations. Thus began an uphill battle by Sering to save Paeng, but against strong opposition from Paeng's father, Angel Nepomuceno.

Francis Wilson, the father of swimmer Billy Wilson — who won one of two RP golds during the 1982 Asian Games in the 200-meter freestyle — said that his son should be seeded since he is the defending champion. Wilson demanded from the Philippine Amateur Swimming Association

(PASA) a \$500 monthly stipend just like what he used to get from former Gintong Alay executive director Mike Keon. The PASA, not knowing Billy's whereabouts or fitness, refused the father's request and Wilson now is as good as gone. Sering abided by the decision.

The boxing team, led by Leopoldo Cantancio, Leopoldo Serrantes and Brix Flores, though not verbally assigned the status of seeds by Sering, will go straight to Korea despite having won only one tournament in Florida. Constancio and Serrantes may be given the benefit of the doubt as probable gold medalists. And the untested Flores? Boxing coaches shake their heads in dismay.

Sering, the politician is unperturbed. The 60-year-old former Governor of Surigao del Norte (1963-1980) said: "We can't do anything about these things. They normally crop up in selection years for Asian Games. We have set criteria for athletes to enter the team. I have seeded those who have made good abroad. I have tried to save athletes who could be



BARRIENTOS



SERING



NEPOMUCENO

gold medalist without interfering with the NSA's policies."

Sering became a member of the defunct Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation by having been elected as head of the Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association (PATAFA) in 1969. He was witness to the stormy 1970 deliberations for the Asian Games team that resulted in then PAAF president Felipe Montserrat's walkout. He has seen Ambrosio Padilla's clashes with NSA heads over junketeers and recently, Keon's failure to block sports officials and athletes who wanted to see themselves in the team.

"That is why I selected a technical commission to sort out the qualifications of the athletes for the Asian Games. The commission evaluates the line-up of the NSA and presents this to the POC board for resolution. It goes without saying that their word carries a good deal of weight," he said.

Critics of the commission have charged that the NSAs, led by former Bureau of Schools Superintendent Tomas de Castro have no knowledge of the current trends in training, conditioning and peaking. To Sering, that's beside the point. De Castro and his men are fellows, who in Sering's mind could not be cajoled, threatened or even bribed to change their minds.

So far, the Commission has been looking over the qualifications of 91-plus athletes. A Commission member said maybe 60 will go, and adds ruefully, maybe 60 officials too.

The brightest chances for gold medals lie in the hands of swimmer Rene Concepcion, bowlers Bong Co and Bec Watanabe, and archer Joann Chan. The popular Lydia de Vega qualifies as a dark horse; her recent marks are inferior to those of the heavy favorite P.T. Usha. Former Asian record holder Isidro del Prado is ranked second with his 45.47 personal best which is still slower than top Japanese rival Susumu Takano's 45.27. Del Prado's friends say that his 1986 best time of 46.1 seconds during his training stint in the US had already been an all-out effort. □

Tropa ng mga butangero

PARANG pinagugulpi ng 'sang tropa ng mga butangero. Ganyan humigit kumulang ang mga salita ng 'sang tsokaran nating isports-rayer na nagkober at katunayan e isa sa mga naghuwes sa laban kelan lang ng isa nating boksingero sa Korea, tsó.

Ang tinutukoy e walang iba kung 'di si Rolando Aldemir, sinasabing minsan e humawak ng korona sa dibisyong lightweight ng Oriental-Pacific Boxing Federation, na sa pagtatangkang agawin ang titulo ni Junsok Hwang sa dibisyong welterweight ng OPBF e nalampaso nang husto.

Sa pangalan lang e parang talagang nakatatatag na 'ng nakasagupang Koreano ni Aldemir. Junsok, isip mo sintunog ng sangkaterbang suntok, tsó. At sa report nga ng tsokaran nating isportsrayer, umaatikabong suntok ang tumama sa katawan ng boksingero natin, lalo na sa ikasiyam na round ng gulpihan nang malupasay siya at mabilangang tulog.

Ikawalong round pa lang daw e laspag na at gusto nang umayaw ni Aldemir. Kasi raw sa puntong 'yon e

lamog na 'ng buong katawan niya sa matitinding buntal at dagok saka parang gulay na sa lambot ang mga binti niya. Pero kahit gano'n na nga ang kanyang kundisyon, 'yong mga alalay niya umano e halos 'pagtulakan siya sa gitna ng ring nang kumalembang ang kampana para sa ikasiyam na round.

Rason daw sa gano'ng ginawa ng mga alalay e d'yaha kung basta susunder siya. Saka baka akalain ng mga Koreanong apisyonado ng boksing na pipit-sugin ang mga boksingero natin at mahihirapan silang makadayo ro'n at makakuha ng laban.

Naman. E pa'no kung namatay si Aldemir? Gaya no'ng nangyari sa isa nating mandirigma sa ibabaw ng lonang parisukat matagal na. Nakalimutan na natin ang kanyang pangalan pero tanda nating dedbol na siya nang ibalik dito pigtapos ng kung 'di tayo nagkakamali e pakikipaggulpihan do'n din sa Korea. Pa'no kung si Aldemir e inutil na 'binalik dito? Gaya no'ng 'di na rin natin maala'lang pangalan ng isa pang boksingero nating sa Korea rin 'ata nakulta'ng utak sa pakikipagbasagan ng muk'a at



pakikipaglamugan ng katawan sa ibabaw ng ring.

Kung talagang gulapay at wala nang ibubuga si Aldemir sa ikawalong round pa lang, dapat pinaayaw na siya. Pero dehins nga gano'n ang ginawa ng kanyang mga second. Sa halip e halos 'pinagtulakan pa' nga raw ang pobre para makatay nang husto sa sumunod na round. Bakit? Gusto nating batikusin ang ilang opisyal at promoter ng lokal na boksing sa kanilang sobrang pagmamahal sa amoy ng k'warta kung 'di man sa kanilang sobrang pagkabalih sa gloria para sa kanilang sardi at kanilang mga boksingero kahit ang ganito'y suntok sa buwan 'eka nga.

Sinasabi rin na bago pa'ng laban e wala na sa kundisyon si Aldemir. Umano, matigas ang ulo at kulang sa 'disiplina'ng boksingero 'to. Isa raw pa-

tunay nito e ang kalakasan niyang tsumibog, bagay na nagpahirap sa pagpapababa ng kelangan niyang timbang. Umano pa, kinailangan ang 'sang buwan para 'wag siyang kumain ng kanin pero bisperas na raw ng laban niya ke Junsok e mataas pa'ng timbang niya kaya kinailangan pang magd'yeta siya at magpapawis nang husto para maabot niya ang weight limit. Gustong sabihin, sa pagdi-d'yeta pa lang sa tsibog e muntik nang mapatulog si Aldemir, tsó.

Parang pinagugulpi ng 'sang tropa ng mga butangero. Kinalinguhan pigtapos ng sinapit ni Aldemir sa Korea na meron ngang gano'ng deskrips'yón, 'sang tao ang talagang pinagugulpi ng mga butangero ng abandonado sa Luneta rito sa 'tin. Patay 'yong tao, at wala tayong pasalamat sa isip mo mga asong ulol na mga alipuri ng dating tuta at pasistang diktador na bahag ang buntot na kumapang ng takbo pigtapos ng tinatawag na "Apat na Araw ng Pebrero".

Kung makapagsasalita 'yong patay, p'wedeng makipagpalitan siya ng karanasan ke Aldemir.

Intelligence report

Soldiers, not scholars

By JORGE BUNTON

Military reforms may just fail unless the AFP leadership can solve the problem of junior officers resigning or going AWOL for greener pastures in the US or in the private sector.

Word from the military is that morale had plummeted after five months of waiting for the much-needed reforms inside the graft-ridden, ill-trained military force.

Most of these young officers had taken a neutral stand during the February Revolution but since then had supported Gen. Ramos after the new Chief-of-Staff gave his solemn promise to bring the military back to its proper footing.

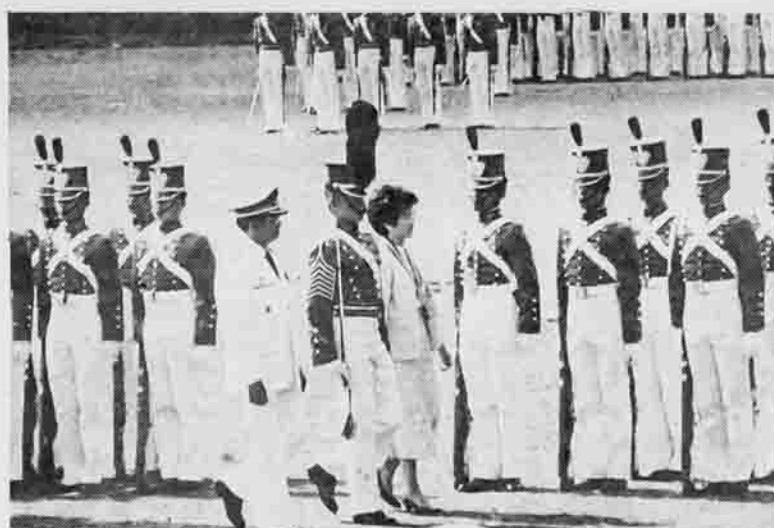
They feel that the pace of reforming had been slow and they were surprised to find the same old incompetent senior officers heading strategically-important counterinsurgency units. And since they belonged to no particular faction, they were not given the due concern that the RAM members received after February. Feeling helpless about it, they decided to leave.

The infighting between RAM and the other factions, and within RAM itself, has

also affected these officers' morale. They feel pressured to join one side or the other. The Manila Hotel incident only incensed them more as they saw the extent to which the rival factions were taking advantage of the Tolentino putsch. Factionalism has only worsened the state of the military — the reasoning goes — so why continue to stay in a sinking ship?

But not all of those who are jumping ship are motivated by disgust and helplessness. A number of officers have left the force thinking that their careers as administrators and executives will go to waste once the AFP leadership decides to place more junior officers in the field. These people have made the AFP a jump-off point to pursue management courses at AIM, UP and the Ateneo business schools. They are more interested in earning degrees rather than fighting insurgents and Muslim secessionists. And while some of them are assigned in the field, they make it a point to fly back to Manila three times a week — at the people's expense via troop carriers — to attend their classes.

"We have an over-educated junior officers corps," lamented one general. No wonder some senior generals have been



President Aquino and Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos during graduation rites of the Philippine Military Academy, Class '86

complaining that one of the reasons the AFP is losing the war against the NPA is because the bright ones are in school pursuing graduate studies leaving the incompetents to lead the troops against the guerillas.

Some steps have already been taken to remedy the situation. Col Rodolfo Biazon, counterinsurgency veteran and now superintendent of the PMA, has made it known that he intends to make "soldiers and not scholars out of the cadets." Biazon, as the saying goes, wants to "start em young." But how about the active officers?

termination pay of more than P7M.

The employees are now crying for justice against this flagrant abuse of power (not authority, as Locsin's appointment is still illegal) by the designated defenders of democracy in the country. Some are contemplating going to court to defend their rights. They should, if only to prove to petty tyrants that they will not take things sitting down. If ever the court case will be filed, the government will be placed in a tight situation and may just be forced to hide behind the mantle of the Freedom Constitution just to protect the desire of one man to remain in the center of power.

The report we gave on presidential political counselor-cum-ministerial rank (sic!) Teddy Boy Locsin had apparently shaken the new head of the Presidential Center for Special Studies (PCSS). Locsin's hatchet-woman, Odette Ong, tried to placate the restive employees of the Center by promising to draw up the proper procedures for the transfer of the office to Malacanang after the media was deluged with petitions and letters of concern.

But apparently this was just a ruse to calm down an incensed workforce and to lull the media into believing that everything would be settled.

What the public should know is that Locsin, as of presstime, still has not yet presented any presidential executive order designating him as Adrian Cristobal's successor. It was still the media who appointed him, not Cory Aquino nor Joker Arroyo. The illegal take over of the political counselor-cum-ministerial rank (sic) continues to violate Civil Service regulations on government offices and employees. Recently, all employees save eight were issued their walking papers (to be processed in Malacanang) even if a number of them have permanent status. Under Civil Service rules, those who are familiar with the government service would know that if an office is retained, the employees with permanent status must likewise be retained (or transferred to other offices). Furthermore, they are just terminated without the assurance that the Budget Ministry has funds for them. According to one staffer, the savings and existing allocation of around P6M is not enough to give the employees their

The tightly-knit circle of Filipino businessmen who supported and benefitted from the early years of the Marcos dictatorship while their workers suffered exploitative wages, have added another government official to their list of "reds" in government. For her advocacy of selective debt repudiation, NEDA Directress Solita Monsod has assumed second billing to Bobbit Sanchez as the "commies" and "pinkos" in the Aquino cabinet who are trying to destabilize the economy by scaring away investors with their policy statements. This is strange as Monsod is a known advocate of free enterprise (haven't these businessmen seen the UP School of Economics White Paper, to which Monsod was one of the authors?) and a committed liberal.

On the other hand, these businessmen have lauded the "efforts" of Finance Minister Ongpin and Central Bank governor in pushing for IMF-prescribed "economic reforms" which purports to revive the economy. The fact that Jobo was an official of the Marcos dictatorship and that Ongpin has refused to investigate the anomalies in the finance ministry which was under his brother's tutelage, are being ignored by these holier-than-thou business leaders.

One need not belabor the point that Monsod and Sanchez made a lot of sacrifices during the fight against Marcos than these businessmen who were really nothing but Johnnies-come-lately in the anti-dictatorship struggle. □

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WEFORUM

Crossword

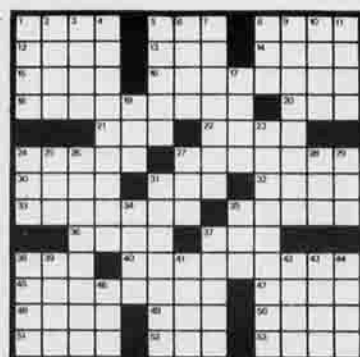
ACROSS

- 1 Tears
- 5 Inferior
- 8 Aust. birds
- 12 Mine entrance
- 13 Bullring shout
- 14 Spanish house
- 15 Request
- 16 Form of the face
- 18 Assigned area
- 20 U.S. tax agency
- 21 Attempt
- 22 Hard metal
- 24 Credence
- 27 Raise
- 30 Turk. regiment
- 31 State
- 32 Eng. school
- 33 Triangular flag
- 35 Bent
- 36 Fire; comb. form
- 37 Force, to Cato
- 38 Fuel
- 40 Eyeglass dealers
- 45 Tardiness
- 47 Mirth

DOWN

- 48 Crude metals
- 49 Norma
- 50 Possess
- 51 Existed
- 52 Seniors: abbr.
- 53 Boatmaker's wood
- 1 Engrossed
- 2 Not
- 3 Wharf
- 4 Surprising
- 5 High
- 6 Margarine
- 7 In a tedious manner
- 8 Old French coin
- 9 Soak in a sauce
- 10 Employer
- 11 Back talk
- 17 Phoenician city
- 19 Cholera
- 23 Inadvertent omission
- 24 Faucet
- 25 Malt brew
- 26 Handrail

- 27 Dine
- 28 Heavy weight
- 29 Complete
- 31 Hidden marksmen
- 34 Soon
- 35 Muscle spasm
- 37 Holding tools
- 38 Shine
- 39 Swiss river
- 41 Despot ruler
- 42 Wings
- 43 Russian river
- 44 Look for
- 46 Compass pt.



Solution on page 12