

Ateneo de Manila University

Arch̄ium Ateneo

We Forum

Special Collections

9-25-1986

We Forum, vol viii No. 21 - Sep. 19-25, 1986

Jose Burgos, Jr.

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



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

Recommended Citation

Burgos, Jr., Jose, (1986). We Forum, vol viii No. 21 - Sep. 19-25, 1986. *Arch̄ium.ATENEO*.
<https://archium.ateneo.edu/we-forum/1328>

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

WEFORUM

TO SEEK AND LIVE THE TRUTH AND SHAPE A VISION

US visit

**Cory's
strong
hand**



PRESIDENT AQUINO and President Reagan in the Oval Office, the White House, on Sept. 17: Behind the smiles, tough talks? (AP Photo)

Cory in the US: strong bargaining hands

As she goes through her hectic round of meetings through her "official working visit", President Corazon Aquino shall be dealing with a confident hand, enjoying good leverage in negotiations with officials of both the US Government and the International Monetary Fund. Few national leaders of Third World countries enjoy as much leverage as she does at this point vis-a-vis the US and the international banks.

American conservatives close to the political line of the Reagan White House had earlier tried to undermine her negotiating position.

Disagreements in the Aquino Cabinet were projected as a sign of her government's weakness and potential political instability. Unidentified White House sources cast doubt on the viability of her conciliatory approach to the insurgencies. A right-wing US-based group managed to lure the cooperation of the military establishment and mercenary Filipino academics in a conference manipulated so that a declaration supporting the retention of military bases was issued.

Cory's negotiating hand was also momentarily weakened by fervent declarations of support for the bases coming from Foreign Minister Salvador Laurel and Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile. The two ambitious politicians, it seems, were baiting for American support for their political careers.

By ALEX R. MAGNO

A sequence of events favorable to Cory, however, turned the bargaining leverage in their favor.

Strong support from the Latin American countries for Peru's stubborn "ability to pay" approach to her foreign debt indirectly strengthened the Philippines' bargaining position. With Peru blazing a path, other debt-ridden countries such as the Philippines may choose to service their debts only to a level dictated by their export earnings. The NEDA has pushed for a selective repudiation of the country's debt.

Even as Cory implied, in her pre-departure statement, that the Philippines would exert effort to pay back all her debts, the possibility of taking the Peruvian way, of paying on a schedule dictated by our economy's ability to service the debt, remains.

The trajectory of confrontation in this issue is quite clear to the international bankers: unless the IMF grants the Philippines more favorable terms, we shall join up with the Latin American countries in a de facto debtors' cartel. The international banks cannot punish all the debtor countries simultaneously without risking a worldwide financial crisis.

On the bases question, Filipino nationalists recently received support from unex-

(Page 6, please)



Electronic imperialism

By NIKOLAI GOLIADKIN
Novosti Press Agency

Electronic imperialism, or the lack of balance in international telecommunications, is a product of the bombardment of US culture into other countries following the influx of American investments, technology and military aid. The inexpensive US television export is a propagation of the American way of life. Third World audiences are exposed to Western culture and values rather than their own. As a result, their creativity along with the local TV

industries are hampered.

For the last 10 years, the US was one of the leaders in TV export. Third World nations, on the other hand, were prime importers of foreign productions which comprise up to 70 percent of their aired programs. Within the span of 14 years, profits from American movies and TV serials has climbed from \$100 to \$500 million. Profits are expected to reach the 1 billion mark by the end of the century.

To the Western exporter, the Middle Eastern market is very lucrative. Furthermore, TV programs are an excellent vehicle for Western propaganda. American programs constitute a third of the total Middle Eastern TV importation. The high-level TV consumption is due to the numerous TV sets and video recorders in contrast to expensive public recreation facilities. Foreign advertising is allowed in the

Middle East. Some countries even use the English or French language in their secondary channels.

Two ensuing flows of Arabian TV programs emerge, reflecting two different ways of life and thought. For example, in Saudi Arabia, foreign intervention was disallowed in the past. Without outside influence, she developed her own cultural medium and currently possesses a technically superior TV network. Saudi Arabian TV programs begin and end with the Koran recital. Pilgrimages to Mecca and Medina during the month of fasting are broadcast to other Muslim countries.

Although programs contradicting Islamic laws, moral dogmas, local tradi-



watch the latest US thrillers and porno films using smuggled video cassettes.

The standard of viewing has also gone down in Egypt. Egypt retains her positions as the main Arabian regional film and TV producer by exporting serials on the Prophet Muhammad's life. Worse, these are patterned after notorious US soap operas of unbelievable plots.

(Page 7, please)

WE FORUM

WE FORUM is published weekly with editorial and business offices at 91 Sgt. Tobias St., Roxas, Quezon City. Telephone Nos. 96-95-59, 96-95-08 and 96-96-75 (Circulation).

JOSE G. BURGOS JR.
Editor Emeritus

Board of Editors: ALBERTO K. CORVERA, BOBBY BURGOS, CIELO BUENAVENTURA (on Leave)

Production Coordinator: RUFFY MANALIGOD

Art Director: BENJO LAYGO

Artists: VIDAL L. BUSTILLO, CRIS PULIDO JR., BENJIE G.

TOLENTINO, DANNY MARANAN, CARLOS QUILANTANG

To seek and live the truth and share a vision

In its strongest statement against the Aquino government so far, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) had criticized the U.S. state visit of President Corazon Aquino as continuing a ritual of "mendicancy and puppetry" to the US government. The Party, through its official mouthpiece *Ang Bayan*, censured Cory Aquino of following what her predecessors had done and that is to "pay obeisance to the leaders of the country". The Party then issued a warning to the people not to expect much from the visit as it has only enhanced the question of the "semi-colonial" relations the Philippines has with its former colonizer.

The statement comes at a time when both the government and the rebels are trying to extricate themselves out of a series of "temporary disagreements" (abetted by pressures coming from government hawks like Defense Minister Enrile and Vice President Salvador Laurel) as regards the cease-fire talks. Observers contend that the Party statement will merely add more tension between the NDF and the government, especially at a time when the commanding presence of Cory Aquino is not there to restrain her militarists from pursuing a hard-line stance against the insurgents. Yet others are of the opinion that the Party — as the self-professed revolutionary vanguard — was expected to come out with such a statement. After all, it regards the Aquino government as bourgeois and thus its exact antithesis. Thus while its united front body, the NDF, can enter into cease-fire negotiations, it is the CPP's obligation to assert the "longer view" or the basic line towards the government. The fear of this position is that what the revolutionary underground may establish officially may just become the same themes other members of the NDF would take, even in the legal level. Thus, the lines that distinguish the Party from its united front body may dissolve giving pretext again to the Enrile accusation that the NDF and the CPP are one and the same. In the long run, the cease-fire talks may come to naught.

The main dilemma, however, is whether the revolutionary movement is now in a position to break the *modus vivendi* its united front body had established (albeit unofficially) with the Aquino government.

There is no denying that the CPP-NPA is the strongest armed political force outside of government today. The years of careful and painstaking organizational work during the Marcos era have yielded for the Party an organization of about 10,000 cadres, 15,000-17,000 armed guerrillas and a mass base of around 2 million. Party formations are particularly strong in the countryside where military abuses had driven peasants to the arms of the NPA. In the cities, Party-led organizations are also in a position to assert their presence although they are forced to share the "parliament of the streets" with other political tendencies like the social democrats and even the elite parties. At the end of the last decade, Party spokesmen were boasting of a capability to seize the "strategic offensive" by the end of the '80s, towards a victory by the "national democratic revolution". Up until the boycott fiasco of February 1986.

Even as some leaders are denying it, the boycott fiasco had a telling effect on the revolutionary movement. While its organizational base may be intact, the Party suffered much in terms of political credibility and propaganda mileage against the popular Aquino. This is particularly true with regard to the Party-led and Party-participated legal organizations and movements which espoused the boycott line during February. Without doubt, forms of resistance like the "parliament of the streets", whose origins were clearly CPP receded in their significance after February as a result of the boycott fiasco. Worse, these forms have been appropriated by government and transformed into rituals of support and commemoration.

The changed political climate and the relative political marginalization of the leading Left force from the scene have had strong impact on the revolutionary organization itself. Most manifest and widely re-

ported in media was the leadership revamp which led to the demotion of known pro-boycott leaders like Rafael Baylosis and Rodolfo Salas and their replacement by "OICs" led by unknown Benito Tiamzon.

The boycott policy also elicited strong reactions from the mass membership, particularly middle level cadres who were the ones enforcing the highly unpopular line. These reactions led to a cacophony of criticisms that ranged from mere organizational complaints to the solidly ideological. It was as if a boil-

ing pot blew up the lid imposed by a recalcitrant leadership.

Faced with a massive uproar for explanations (and even the heads of those responsible for the fiasco), the leadership had no recourse but to declare the existence of a "democratic space" inside the CPP. The result was a flowering of theoretical and ideological writings lambasting the CPP leadership for its shortsightedness and inflexibility in the light of the changing circumstances of February. A few of these writings, notably those authored by a certain Marty

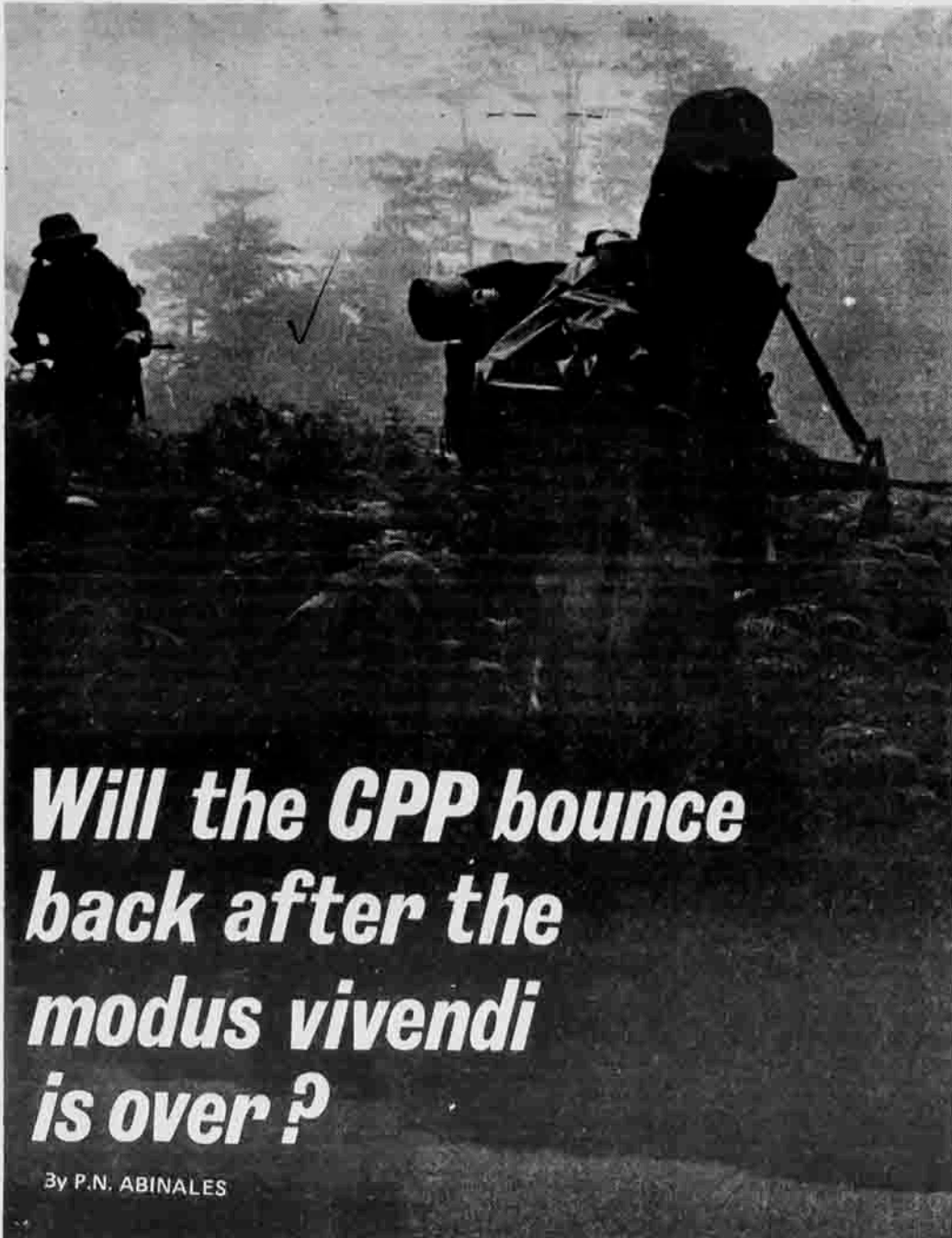
Villalobos, questioned the very essence of the CPP strategy and criticized the Party's dogmatic adherence to Maoist principles of revolutionary warfare.

This "ideological springtime" was met with enthusiasm by CPP cadres as indicated by the reception given to an internal journal of theory and practice called *Praktika* that one Party unit put out. Never in the CPP's 16-year history has such an ideological revival been pronounced, save perhaps in 1968 when Jose Ma. Sison, with only a bunch of students, broke away from the

now-defunct Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas to form the CPP.

The "democratic space" forced upon the CPP by the February events was also taken advantage of by maverick cadres and organizations to set up their own projects autonomous and independent of the leadership's control. These cadres in effect broke strict Party norms as regards organizational building and presented the leadership with a fait accompli. Still reeling from the impact of February, the CPP had no

(Page 6, please)



Will the CPP bounce back after the *modus vivendi* is over?

By P.N. ABINALES

Sobering thoughts to a would-be plotter in September

By P.N. ABINALES

It is a pity that Edward Luttwak's classic book *Coup D'Etat* has a limited circulation in the Philippines. Its film version, the Peter O'Toole-starred *Powerplay* received hardly a response from an otherwise politicized Filipino audience drunk with the victory of February. Luttwak's book would have made popular bedside reading in these times when the political atmosphere is brewing with talk of an impending coup d'etat by forces hostile to Cory Aquino while the latter is in the US.

A September plotter, reading Luttwak with the intentions of gaining insights for his planned seizure of power, would do well to heed the author's advice. For in the beginning of the book's pages, the author categorically warns a would be plotter that without the basic factor of mass support or acquiescence (even apathy), a planned coup will most likely fail.

The failure would likely lead to a greater tragedy should a would-be plotter launch a coup against a popular government. The plotter will merely open up a Pandora's box which will, in the short term, spell his end. No matter how elaborate his plans are, and no matter how successful he keeps it a secret from his enemies (and particularly the government he is about to depose), without a semblance of popular support or the moral blessings of an authority beyond government, his plot will never see the light of day.

More concretely, a would-be plotter in the month of September must take stock of the forces and individuals arrayed against him. In the aftermath of February, these forces, even if mostly unarmed, can cause great harm to a plotter's plans. Even if some of them are quite disenchanted with the present government, there is no denying the fact that Cory Aquino is still endeared to their hearts. To go against her is to violate the essence of her candidacy and, perhaps more importantly, the Revolution she helped bring last February.

These forces do not constitute a single class. Rather the Cory forces are multi-class in character which makes it extremely difficult for a plotter to determine whom shall he go to first for support upon his seizure of power. Furthermore, once the plotter declares his opposition to the government, he will hasten a tactical unification of these forces and the classes they represent against his regime. And the outcome may not just be to the plotter's liking.

Imagine the economic dislocation the new regime will face if a united opposition—by the predominantly "yellow" and the "red"-dominated trade unions—would declare a nationwide general strike intending to cripple it. The plotter only has to read a news article or two about the impact of such general strikes on the Latin



American dictatorships. Generals and caudillos were obliged to recognize the opposition and hand back power to popular civilian leaders.

Imagine further the type of unity between the CPP-NPA, which has the arms, and the other opposition groups (including UNIDO and PDP-Laban) that will be engendered by successful coup d'etat. A successful plot will merely return Philippine politics back to the eve of Marcos' downfall. Political polarization, that political phrase dreaded by both pro-American oppositionists and the US State Department, would rear its head once more; and probably develop faster compared to its evolution during the Marcos era. This political polarization will definitely be Left-led and Left-dominated. The plotter then becomes just the right factor to transform the February Revolution into a Philippine "October".

Neither can the plotter rely on the powerful institutions of contemporary Philippine society. He cannot expect a pro-Cory Catholic hierarchy to shower him with divine blessings the same way as his Thai counterparts were blessed with regal support by the King of Thailand. The bishops, with the effective communications via the pulpit, would probably endorse the general opposition to the plotter's new government and help in the process of delegitimation.

The huge state bureaucracy may adopt a neutral stand against the plotter and per-

haps serve his new government. But given the structural crisis of the economy and the need to streamline a bureaucracy bloated out of proportions during the Marcos years, the plotter's new government may be forced to cut down on this huge apparatus and thereby alienate the personnel that mans it. In the long run, the opposition will stand to benefit from the expected retrenchment by the plotter's regime.

The plotter cannot totally depend either on the entire military organization. Coups are planned in secret by small groups of men without the knowledge of the general membership of the armed forces. In a country spread out into islands, the plotter will have to spread his conspiratorial base to include units outside the main urban centers. This opens him to the bane of most planned coups: the revelation of the plot by over-eager officers or those who oppose the coup. Should the plot succeed, consolidating it would be more difficult, again, with the geographic nature of Philippine society acting as an obstacle. Military units outside the political center may just wage their own mini-revolts forcing the plotter to spread his forces thinly.

More importantly, the fact that rival factions have opted to support the new government will make the plotter's plans extremely difficult to succeed. Military opposition may just emerge and a divided military in the face of a united opposition and a well-armed Left,

may just be the last thing a plotter would want to happen. Perhaps the plotter can rely on the Marcos loyalists for support. But a few thousands do not make for real support. Once confronted by the millions of Aquino supporters, the loyalists may just retreat back leaving the plotters with nothing but their bare arms.

The plotter must also be able to convince external forces like the US government to at least give him time to consolidate his position. But faced with the prospects of a Left-dominated united opposition and faced with more instability, the US State Department may just advise against the coup and not recognize the new regime. Non-recognition may not necessarily lead to economic and military sanctions. But in the long run, the Reagan administration will have to give way to the pressures that an expected American anti-coup opposition will bear on his government. The more reasonable and perhaps more intelligent elements inside the US government would then replace hardline and mendicant policymakers paving the way for more hostile actions by the plotter's potential ally. US withdrawal of support to any government today is tantamount to approving its downfall.

Assuming that the seizure of power is successful, the expected general strike fizzles out and powerful social institutions like the Church and the bureaucracy wash their hands of the event, the new regime will still have to confront the more basic problems which the Aquino government is now hard pressed in resolving. There is the stagnant economy, income disparities and worsening poverty. A coup's source of legitimacy may be its promise to the people to solve the crisis and open the road to progress.

But it is almost next to impossible to picture such a promise becoming a reality, especially in the short term.

Should the new regime gain US assistance, it probably would have to implement *en toto* economic recovery policies designed by American-controlled institutions like the IMF and the World Bank. Such monetarist solutions to structural problems have yet to attain success in any Third World country. In the long run, the economy's bankruptcy will only exacerbate social tensions and thus revive an otherwise docile or stymied opposition to the regime.

To launch a coup at this particular moment will be like banging one's head on a concrete wall. A coup plotter will be going against a lot of odds should he push through with his September plans. A coup's outcome will clearly be more to the plotter's disadvantage and will bring him fast to political oblivion. Very likely, he will find himself in another American helicopter being transported to another country as Marcos was in February. Perhaps not in four days. But definitely before the year ends. □

Skills-building prevents smoking among adolescents

When tempted or urged to smoke, adolescents should practice a four step behavioral chain of action that will save them from acquiring the habit early in life. They should stop, think, decide, and act. This set of behavioral steps allows them to counteract the impulse to smoke. The best way to counteract impulses is to plan ahead.

These are among the findings of American researchers Steven Paul Schinke, et al in a study published recently in the *Journal of Adolescent Health Care* (New York).

The authors said that the skills-building method or the stop, think, decide and act chain can be learned with constant practice.

To demonstrate, here's how an adolescent should react to an impulse or an offer to smoke:

STOP. This step involves self-instructional cues when

faced with tobacco use situations. Example: "Oh no, Rick has pulled out his pack of cigarettes and is going to pass them around."

THINK. Thinking aloud and then silently are practiced as a step toward prevention. Example: "All right, I've handled this kind of thing before. Let's see, I could split (leave), or I could pretend I got a cold and can't smoke because it will make me sick."

DECIDE. This step gives the subject a method of weighing the merits of his options and of choosing the most feasible one. Example: "Well, if I split, the guys will think I'm a squealer and won't want me around; saying I got a cold looks dumb and fake. OK, here's what I'll do. I'll say NO I don't like to smoke. If anyone hassles me, I'll tell them to leave me alone. I DON'T HAVE TO SMOKE IF I DON'T WANT

By **ROBERTO C. NAVARRO**

PCF Media Service

TO. ACT. The last step of the behavioral chain allows the subject to prepare words, voice inflections, and non-verbal gestures that would reinforce his decision.

According to the researchers, cigaret smoking appears to be the product of "effective, interpersonal, physiological, and environmental stimuli and a skills-building method can best address these stimuli."

The method, however, fails to address the role and relative strength of other potentially important predictors of adolescent tobacco use, such as: Socio-economic status, youths' academic success, athletic interests, and concerns over weight control.

The authors said that more smoking-prevention research is needed to



evaluate prevention methods among high-risk adolescents. These include children whose peers, siblings (brothers and sisters) or parents smoked; youths likely to drop out of school;

children from the working class, blue-collar homes; and young persons from demographic backgrounds where cigaret smoking is predominant.

The researchers con-

cluded: "Family members have been neglected in smoking-prevention programs. Mothers, fathers, and siblings are underused for nurturing and sustaining youths' prevention efforts. □

Love and betrayal: Turning in parents

WASHINGTON — For weeks, the 11-year-old Los Angeles girl had watched as the plant in her backyard grew into a leafy, three-foot shrub. She had been home she said, when her parents would smoke the pungent-smelling cigaret. But it wasn't until a drug education program was presented at her school, not until she heard news of another California girl like herself, did she know what she had to do.

On Tuesday, she turned in her folks to the police, accusing them of marijuana possession.

It was the fourth such incident nationwide in as many weeks.

"The child's motivation was to turn to someone for help out of concern and love for her parents," Cmdr. Bill Booth of the Los Angeles Police Department said of the girl, who has been taken into protective custody pending an investigation.

"What she is really after is a loving drug-free family environment," said Booth, adding optimistically, "and I think that's what will happen to them."

But this peculiar turn in the nation's continuing struggle against drug abuse has given few experts high hopes for such happy endings. Reactions to the cases vary from the unabashed applause of one Washington psychiatrist who said, "This is the best news I've heard on the drug front" to comments such as "It's very

sad" even that it is "analogous to youths turning in their parents in Nazi Germany."

This week in Los Angeles, California attorney general John van de Kamp announced that it is acceptable for children to turn in their parents if they believe the parents' drug abuse is destroying their families.

"We're not asking kids to rat on their parents, but kids who feel endangered should feel comfortable stepping forward," said Van de Kamp. Echoing the sentiment was the state's superintendent of public instruction, Bill Honig, who said, "If the parents are using drugs and it's causing problems, I think (the children) should do something about it." Both men said they weren't necessarily talking about going directly to the police.

The incidents reflect a convergence of societal influences. Recent cocaine catastrophes have mobilized Americans who for years only mildly damned drug abuse. Publicity and education programs are increasing awareness in schoolchildren of drugs' negative effects. And people who grew up in the '60s and '70s with permissive attitudes toward drugs are now parents, some of whom continue to use drugs. Together these factors are producing a national atmosphere that appears to encourage blood betrayal with too little consideration for the psychological consequences for families and the children.

When 13-year-old Deanna Young walked into the Tustin, Calif. police station on Aug. 13 toting a plastic bag said to be filled with drug paraphernalia and a reported \$2,800 in cocaine that she alleged belonged to her parents, her adolescent mind could not have foreseen, psychologists contend, the extreme highs and lows about to come.

Overnights, Deanna gained celebrity status. Newspaper editorials touted her courage. ABC News awarded her honorable mention in its person of the week spotlight. At the annual congressional barbecue at the White House recently, a guest who had seen a news report commented that Deanna "must have loved her parents very much," expressing hope they would one day understand that. Standing nearby, Nancy Reagan agreed with the guest "wholeheartedly", according to Elaine Crispin, the First Lady's press secretary.

Since the arrest of Deanna's parents and their release on their own recognizance, Bobby Young, 49, a bartender, and Judith Young, 37, a court clerk, have been badgered by reporters and television crews and barraged by "hundreds" of calls from Hollywood figures wanting to buy rights to make a movie of the story.

Meanwhile, Deanna had been whisked away to a state children's shelter, separated from her parents for weeks. Suddenly it was up to a court to decide whether she

would ever again live with them, whether to grant custody to parents facing charges as first-time offenders. Although not convicted, Deanna's parents were forced to leave their jobs and home by the notoriety of the case.

"These children have no idea of the disruptive consequences that dad will be put in Jail and will lose his job, that mom will start being very angry," said psychologist Joyce Brothers this week while in Washington.

"The child doesn't plan ahead to that extent. The child believes, 'I'm going to save them from themselves.' They think it's going to be happy ever after. But instead, I'm sure this child will be filled with guilt and remorse and unhappiness, and wish to God she'd never been born."

Dr. William L. Licamele, director of child and adolescent psychiatry at Georgetown University Medical Center, said that appraisal is too harsh. "It could be traumatic for almost any kid to need to do this," said Licamele, who has counseled children who have reported their parents for child abuse.

"On the other hand, there could be some relief. They're old enough to see that they don't have to deal with that ongoing problem anymore. Kids can have some understanding that it is in the best interest of the parents."

Labeling the incidents "loyalty conflicts," Licamele said the fact that all of the children so far who've reported their parents to police for drug abuse have been in their early teens is not surprising. "Put yourself in the position of a 10 to 13-year-old who normally is struggling with his own identity... they may not understand

(Page 7, please)

Will

(From page 3)

choice but to acquiesce to the demands of these "rebellious" cadres for more local control and autonomy from the seats of power. The outcome was a series of political moves by Party-identified personalities and cadres intending to re-insert the Left into the current political scene.

And as if these "problems" were not enough, the Party was soon forced to respond to government pressures for cease-fire negotiations to end the 18-year insurgency. It took the CPP three months before it could present a unified

position vis-a-vis the government's because of two major reasons: First, it had to convince rebellious units of the NPA that the cease-fire had its advantages for the revolutionary movement; and, second, the CPP had no previous experience whatsoever with cease-fire agreements. The CPP was totally unfamiliar with the offer of negotiations and cease-fire as these did not occupy a place in its political mindset. The CPP political consciousness is largely determined by a near-universal identification of the armed resistance as the only

"correct revolutionary strategy". Putting itself in the bargaining table in front of a bourgeois government it swears to overthrow and striking a modus vivendi with that government has never figured prominently in the CPP's imagination.

In the end, even as it encountered internal opposition and even as its knowledge about cease-fire talks was inadequate, the revolutionary organization was left with little choice but to establish contacts with the Aquino regime and resume the peace talks.

But as with all contradictions, the "problems" internal to the Party have also their salient positive points. The blossoming of

theoretical writings resulting from a forced "ideological springtime" point to a far livelier life inside the revolutionary organization than what is being portrayed by its opponents. The leadership's public admission of the boycott as a "major tactical blunder" on the part of the CPP indicates a sense of growing maturity. Its refusal to impose sanctions or restrain "renegade" cadres from pursuing their own projects and activities (e.g., the separate regional cease-fire agreement inked by the Davao CPP-NPA with the government) proves that no matter how undeveloped — as some critics contend — Party democracy exists.

There are also indications that the CPP has assumed a less antagonistic stance against other groups. The shrill Party propaganda which followed after the break away of Fr. Conrado Balweg and the formation of the CPLA has decreased. The CPP has also acknowledged the existence of other revolutionary groups and veered away from its usual political demagoguery to "expose the reactionary character" of such rival movements as the social democrats. The CPP, however, continues to insist on its vanguard role in the revolution to come after Aquino.

If the recent statement on the Aquino state visit

is an indication, the CPP seems to have emerged out of its February hangover and successfully consolidated its base. But observers are quick to issue a note of caution to the main tendency of the Philippine Left.

Should it push too hard against the Aquino rainbow coalition, it might just unwittingly provide militarists inside the government the very reason to force Cory Aquino to abandon her peace initiatives in favor of an all-out military option. In both cases, it will not only be Aquino and the CPP who will suffer, but more importantly, the cause of peace in this economy-ravaged society. □

Cory

(From page 2)

pected quarters. The Center for Defense Information, a Washington-based think-tank on strategic issues composed of retired senior military officers, recently concluded that the military value of the US bases in the Philippines has been exaggerated.

In a politically adept move, the "nationalist bloc" at the Constitutional Commission moved for the postponement of deliberations on a proposed provision banning foreign military bases on Philippine soil. Had the conservative majority unceremoniously shot down the anti-bases proposal, Washington would have gained strong psychological leverage against the Philippine government.

With the proposed provision banning foreign bases still open for deliberation, Washington could not risk provoking a nationalist backlash by leaning too hard on Cory. The unresolved bases question at the Con-Com allows Cory a convenient excuse with which to parry American pressure for an early commitment on the bases: She could politely decline making commitments on the bases because that would rudely preempt deliberations at the

Con-Com.

Before taking off, Cory did make it clear that she would not give the Americans any definite commitment on the future of their bases here. The treaty allowing the Americans to maintain military facilities here expires on 1991.

Doubts expressed by the American right-wing regarding Cory's handling of the insurgencies were rolled back by a succession of breakthroughs in the negotiation process. Within a span of days, Cory personally conferred with Nur Misuari of the Moro National Liberation Front and Fr. Conrado Balweg of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army. Cease-fires were agreed upon on both fronts.

In spite of some difficulty, the negotiation process with the NDF appears to have acquired stable footing. Although the NDF did turn down a government proposal for an immediate 30-day cease-fire, it was the government's consideration that a *de facto* cease-fire was in effect.

Even while Defense Minister Enrile pronounced the prospects of a peaceful settlement with the NDF to be "dim", his views are not widely shared. Majority public opinion supports a political, rather than a military, solution to the insurgency problem.

Cory's meetings with Misuari and Bal-

weg positively project the viability of her strategy of conciliation and the strength of the moral leadership she is able to provide. In Washington, such positive projection shall weaken the militarist perspective favored by the Reaganite right-wing and enhance the social reformist perspective favored by the liberals in the American legislature.

Shortly before Cory left for the US, the Catholic hierarchy more visibly moved in to support her government. The bishops called for a hundred days of prayer that encompassed the period Cory would be away.

More significantly, Cardinal Sin explicitly supported Cory's policies, particularly her conciliatory approach to the insurgency problem. Sin went on to criticize the politicians around Cory for their constant contrariness, petty bickerings and their tendency to put political ambitions ahead of the national welfare.

Strong Church support for Cory's policies is decisive. Such unmistakable position of support should effectively discourage potential power-grabbers from actualizing their bid. It vests moral legitimacy on the Aquino government and concretizes the popular support that it enjoys.

There has been no major defection from the broad popular coalition that brought

down the Marcos dictatorship and installed a new democratic order. Cory's effective political base has, in fact, been broadened by the offer of "principled support" by the more militant popular movements and the National Democratic Front's recognition of the popularity and legitimacy of the Aquino government.

Given the above considerations, Cory shall be negotiating with the Americans and the IMF with a secure rear and a strong hand.

Carrying with her the mystique of a peaceful uprising and a people grimly determined to realize freedom and prosperity, she shall find a responsive audience in the American public.

Her own liberal disposition shall reinforce the liberal current in American politics and possibly win more concrete international support for the programme of democratic social reconstruction in the Philippines.

Not surprisingly, the ultra-right Reagan White House shall not be very comfortable with the visit. With a strong bargaining hand, Cory would likely win concessions from the US that would provide inspiration for the other poor countries.

Meanwhile, back home, the Filipino people wait earnestly for their President to bring home the bacon. □



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

Foreclosure No. 86-342

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, 1982, executed by Mortgageor's Spouses JESULITO A. MANALO and MARY JANE S. MANALO in favor of Mortgagee/s CARLOTA P. VALENZUELA, in her capacity as Liquidator of BANCO FILIPINO SAVINGS AND MORTGAGE BANK, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness amounting to P158,192.34 PESOS, in Philippine currency, as of April 11, 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 Sept. 26, 1986 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, in front of the Main Entrance of the Municipal Building of Muntinlupa, 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 des-

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

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 117474
Registry of Deeds of Makati, Metro Manila

"A parcel of land (Lot 25, Block 11, of the consolidation subdivision plan (LRC) Pcs-16423, being a portion of the cons. of Lot 1, (LRC) Pcs-11733, Lot 3, (LRC) Pcs-11733 and Lot 1508-B Pcd-47383, LRC Rec. No. 6137), situated in the Barrio of Alabang, Municipality of Muntinlupa, Province of Rizal, Island of Luzon, x x x Containing an area of THREE HUNDRED THIRTY ONE (331) 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, August 18, 1986.

FOR THE EXECUTIVE JUDGE:

PABLO L. SY
Senior Deputy Sheriff

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

Copy furnished:
Sps. Jesulito A. Manalo and Mary Jane S. Manalo, No. 2213 Narra St., United Paranaque I Subd., Paranaque, Metro Manila; Atty. Miguelito M. Lazaro, 4th Fl., BF Bldg., Paseo de Roxas cor. Dela Rosa Sts., Lagsapi Village, Makati, Metro Manila.

Publication: WE FORUM
Dates: September 2, 9, 16, 1986

Love

(From page 5)

the consequences, but at that age they are more able to make a decision. In some ways, it may be one of the hardest times in their lives to make such a decision."

Making the decision all the more difficult is the deteriorated support structure that once provided troubled children with alternatives. "If the child, for example, didn't get along with the parents, he'd go down the road and talk to grandma or grandpa," said brothers. "There'd be an aunt or uncle. There'd be someone the child could go to."

Even traditional secondary "authority resources," such as teachers and ministers, have lost their stature, according to brothers. "The children just have nowhere to turn at that moment, so what they are turning to is the thing that they're seeing on television-cop shows," she explained. "The only authority that they see coming out on top is a cop. They always catch the

criminal, they always do the right thing that eventually will save society."

When a 13-year-old Sellersburg, Ind., boy last week tipped off Clark county police about his parents' alleged drug abuse, sheriff Raymond J. Parker Jr. said he thought the child "was doing the right thing." Now the sheriff isn't sure.

"I have mixed emotions about it," said Parker, who emphasizes he had "never seen something of this nature" in the community of about 2,000, located just outside of Louisville, Ky.

Describing the boy as "pretty sharp," Parker said the child approached police for help for his father and stepmother, Mickey and Connie Bump, after seeing the negative effects of marijuana on television and hearing about it from police officers visiting his school. Connie Bump was arrested and a warrant issued for the father. The child was turned over to the county child protection services and, it was reported, later released to his mother, who lives in Indianapolis.

"I've listened to the evaluations since it happened of child psychologists and psychiatrists," said Parker, a veteran law enforcement officer of 30 years. "Now I don't know. The child psychologists seem to think this kind of thing hurts the family."

"But we do our job. We make the arrest. It's up to the psychologists, psychiatrists and the ministers then to do their thing. At least we are stopping the drugs going any further in that house."

W. Michael Nelson, professor of psychology at Xavier University, in Cincinnati, said "having the police show up at your door isn't necessarily a bad thing," emphasizing that publicity about the unusual events causes people to overlook what regularly happens in families where parents abuse drugs.

Much more common than the child who turns in parents "is the child who doesn't but develops behavioral problems or depression that mirrors the turmoil caused by the drug or alcohol abuse in the home," said Nelson, who as director

of Xavier's psychological services center has counseled depressed and angry children who have reported their parents for alcohol and child abuse. "Typically, the child gets labeled as the patient and the parents bring the child in for therapy."

"Hopefully, this might wake people up. A child who has gotten to this point that they've gone to the police has a shock value, and it should cause us to reflect on what goes on in our families."

Noted pediatrician Dr. Benjamin Spock admitted there is no chapter in his book, "Baby and Child Care," providing advice on this topic, "I certainly have never considered that angle."

While Spock believes no society in the world is more "intense than ours" for children their concerns ranging from drugs to nuclear arms to child sexual abuse, he doesn't see the phenomenon of children reporting their parents to the police becoming a trend. □

Gallery hopping

By DONG A. DE LOS REYES

It used to be fun doing the rounds of local art galleries. Surprises galore, not in terms of viewing a breath-taking work of art but in chancing upon drama unreeling in those halls devoted to whatever Pinoy artists have cooked up in their ateliers.

Chess encounters between me and chess-nut (the late) Leonidas Benesa often happened at Hiraya Art Gallery in Ermita or at Genesis Art Gallery in Mandaluyong. It was one such afternoon in the Mandaluyong-based art gallery where Leo came ashore after a political barnstorming in his hometown in Abra. He was campaigning then as a Batasang Pambansa representative and he looked every inch the runaway winner in the political sortie. Three days after Leo came ashore and so tired-looking, he went, heaven-bound perhaps.

Museum of Philippine Art at Roxas Blvd. flowed with champagne in a conceptual art show where sculptor Jerusallino Araos and artist Santi Bose nearly came to blows over art

reviewer turned business journalist Marvyn Benaning. They have patched up differences months later.

Heritage Art Center in Cubao provided ample room for chamber music concerts, plays for intimate theater, and forums. It was there where we had interviewed Ninoy Aquino assassination witness Ramon Balang who was then on the run. A militant artists group, later to become the Concerned Artists of the Philippines managed to smuggle the unflinching witness for that not-so-arty gathering.

Garden Gallery at the Mondragon House in Makati earned the shadowing of the regime's intelligence folks—so curator Irene Cometa put it. The gallery dared to show Ninoy Aquino memorabilia as visual aperitif to a revved-up confetti rebellion in 1983. Shows like that turned off art patrons and buyers for things associated with murder touched raw nerves.

Liongoren Art Gallery can double as first aid center on New York St., in Cubao. It was a venue for puppet shows and at one

time, even ran a series of symposium on art appreciation and understanding. It was where we bought an underground film documentary quaintly titled as "Airport '83". Yes, the same tape that told a different story from what was then considered as "official version" of the August 21 MIA incident.

I haven't done any galleryhopping lately. Finale Art File regularly sends its invitation. Manuel Baldemor phones in whatever he's girding up for another of his shows. Gallery Genesis holds 2-5 nude sketching sessions every Saturday and they've sent word. Liongoren Art Gallery has just concluded a show on Cordillera, providing these pictures on this page.

The galleryhopping hasn't bitten me yet, but a little coaxing should pry the inertia loose. After all, it is easier to do art criticism than reviewing films. Artworks hang for scrutiny. Movies move, slither like droplets of quicksilver on screen.

Friends have been telling me that the art market is at a standstill these days. There's got to be reasons. We intend to find that out. □

Electronic

(From page 2)

One such lucrative US soap opera is Dynasty which captivates audiences by showing the gorgeous clothes and luxurious background of the super-rich. Foolish intrigues, adultery,

rape, sexual perversion, scheming and blackmailing contribute to a colorful spectacle which leaves Arab censors baffled. Moreover, the serial has spurred Dynasty products which is marketed in the 64 coun-

tries where it is aired.

Serials like Dynasty are proof of the cultural and moral decay of the capitalist powers. The values in them would have little in common with the up-bringing, outlook and needs of the rest of the world. □

Usapan ngayon

MERONG dalawang kumag na nag-uusap at ganito'ng naging takbo ng kanilang bolahan, tso.

Hulaan mo kung ano'ng numero ng punto ng mga boladas ngayon sa mga barberya, bilyaran, kapihan, palengke, etcetera?

Madali 'yan. 'Yong usapan tungkol sa cease-fire? Mali.

'Yong usapan tungkol sa problema ng mga Muslim? Dehims.

'Yong usapan tungkol sa problema ng mga tao ro'n sa Cordillera? Mali.

'Yong pagpunta ni Tita Cory sa tate? Parbol.

'Yong baka magkaro'n ng golpe de estado 'yong mga militar o 'yong mga aban-donado o 'yong pagbabalik daw ng durobo at dating diktador na si Makoy habang wala si Tita Cory? Mali.

A, alam ko na. Siguradong 'yong tungkol sa pinakahuling moda ng damit. Palpak.

Baka naman 'yong tungkol sa pinakahuling bold film ng bold istar na si Tiha-yana Bukakapa?

He, he. Masyadong sek-si'ng kukote mo.

Teka, siguradong tama na 'yong hula kong 'to. 'Yong bilyunbilyong dolyar na utang ng Pinas sa International Monetary Fund at World Bank!

Mali rin.



A, 'yong usapan tungkol sa pagbabaklas ng mga baseng militar ng mga imperyalistang Kano sa Pinas! Malabo.

E kung sabihin kong 'yong mga kakengkuyan ng mga kumag na konserbati-bo at makakanan sa Com? Palpak din.

Aha, 'yong pagrarambo ng mga taong militar, partikular 'yong mga tsokaran ng mga inaaresto at kinukulung ng mga parak ng INP!

'Yong presyo ng galung-gong, 'yong masamang serbisyong PLDT, 'yong lukubak na mga kalye, 'yong mga baha kahit wala lang ulan at bagyo, 'yong bagong nagbantang bagyo, 'yong mga bundok ng 'di kinukulektang basura, 'yong mabilis na pagkakal-bo ng ating mga bundok, 'yong grabeng polyusyon sa 'ting kapaligiran, 'yong namamatay sa gutom na mga bata sa Negros at sa Ethiopia, 'yong mga banatan ng puti at itim sa South Afr-

ca, 'yong mga banatan ng mga Sandinista at kontras sa Nicaragua, 'yong aksidenteng nuklear sa Chernobyl, 'yong nakamamatay na lindol sa Gresya, 'yong... 'yong...?

Bulilyasong lahat. How about 'yong labanan nina Kasparov at Karpov sa chess, ha?

Ahem, malapit mo nang madale.

E 'yong pagsali natin sa 10th Asian Games sa Seoul, South Korea.

Malapit mo nang madale! Sanamagan! Ba't 'di ko ka'gad naisip? Ke laki kong bobo!

Buti alam mo. Talagang wala nang min-tis 'to.

Sige, ihirit mo na bago ka masirit.

'Yong opening ng pam-propesyonal na basketbol sa darating na Linggo, 'di ba?

Nakana mo. Siguradong putok na naman ang takilya sa opening na 'yon. Siguradong naro'n ako. Ikaw siguradong pupunta ka rin do'n, sigurado, 'di ba?

Ano'ng palagay mo sa 'kin, tange na kagaya mo? *****

Sa puntong 'yan natapos ang usapan ng dalawang kumag at naghiwalay sila. Pero 'wag mong paniwalaan ang huling nagsalita. Baka kung pupunta ka sa palaruan do'n sa lupa-lupog ng Pasig sa Linggo e matsambahan mo siyang nakikipagsiksikan din do'n, tso. □

Isabel: Bomba queen no more

My days are numbered. Anytime I can stop making movies. I have saved enough for the rainy days," she told us in between rehearsals of her stage play, *Woman*, in New Manila. Isabel is candid enough to admit that she is a "has been" as far as skinflicks go now. A year ago, many thought she did the ultimate in flesh flicks in the controversial samurai sword sequence in ECP's *Hubo* — until the advent of so-called penetration movies where stars are directed to do the real thing.

A veteran of many bomba movies since her trailblazing *Isla*, the former Binibining Pilipinas herself is appalled at how bold films have taken a turn for the worse. "Grabe na talaga ngayon. Grabe na ang kompetisyon," says the 24-year-old star of the new breed of starlets who are willing to do anything for "artistic" purposes.

"I cannot imagine myself indulging in those penetration scenes. Hindi pa ako estúpida!" says Isabel. Even if I were starting now, I would never do penetration scenes. Between being a Penetration Queen or going to the US, maga-abroad na lang ako!"

Isabel is proud to say that she made a fortune out of her body. "I have a house. I have investments. Hindi ako magiging kawawa pag dating ng panahon na wala na ako sa pelikula." Despite the rain of criticisms from her family and friends, Isabel says she has no regrets. "Wala akong pagsisisi sa pagbo-bold ko."

She bristles particularly at comments made by actress Gloria Diaz regarding her career. Gloria was quoted to have said in an interview that it was alright for Isabel to disrobe in one movie, but it was a silly mistake to do it over and over again. "I don't see it as a mistake. Kanya-kanya namang paniniwala 'yan. It's like a mistress and a wife. The wife would say na mali ang extramarital affair ng asawa n'ya. Pero sa mistress naman, tama 'yon," she says in what appears to be a jab at the former Ms. Universe.

The offers and the cheques for more bold movies, she says, have not stopped coming. "Of course, I still can't refuse money. Pero ang gusto ko sana minimal na lang ang sex scenes. Di ko na kailangan mag-bold. I have made my mark in showbiz. Hayaan mo na lang sa mga baguhan. I'm looking forward to the time when producers will not get me for bold projects."

Isabel calls her current play, directed by Joel Lamangan, as "pang-prestige, di pang bread trip." "Pambalanse ito sa mga nagawa kong pelikulang basura!" states the outspoken actress matter-of-factly.

Many would surely construe her role in the play (an ambitious bold model who goes to bed with the judges to win the Ms. Philippine title) as "like her". Isabel admits that she and the character have similarities. "Sabi ko nga sa kanila hindi na sila nahirapan mag-isip ng character para sa akin. Pero that part about bedding the judges is not true."

How did she win the Binibining Pilipinas title? Looking back, Isabel says that it was all luck. "Naka-timing lang talaga ako. Nagkataon na liberated ang judges

By MARIO V. DUMAUAL

noong taon na 'yon. Rita Gomez and Elvira Manahan, for example, helped me a lot. They were the ones who really lobbied for me. If not for them, siguro kahit semi-finalist hindi ako nakasama."



ISABEL LOPEZ

Isabel performed well in the last half of *Woman* in its premiere early this week at the Light and Sound. But it was unfortunate that many of the lounge's conservative patrons walked out halfway through the presentation. They were apparently turned off by the foul language mouthed by the players on stage.

ARROYO ON TV. The networks are fighting over an upcoming game show, *Talents Unlimited*. According to our informant, ABS-CBN, IBC-13 and other channels want to enter into a co-production deal with the show. Part of *Talents'* attraction is its producer, Jun Arroyo, who happens to be a close relative of Executive Secretary Joker Arroyo. The program already has a long line of sponsors. Well, that's the magic of a powerful name. Hosted by Ike Lozada, *Talents* will have its pilot tape show on September 25.

VILMA ON SEVEN. It's final. Vilma Santos is now with GMA-7. Vilma signed a contract last Tuesday night with GMA's top brass at the Manila Pen. Her show, *VIP*, has been retitled to *VOS* (Vilma on Seven). *VOS* will go on every Friday nights beginning October, if plans are followed. It will be directed by a new talent, Romy Veron, an associate of Johnny Manahan. For awhile prospects for an ABS-CBN transfer were all clear until the ABS management balked at the show's weekly budget.

MORATO, ROXAS IN VIDEO FEST. Censors chief Manuel Morato and Bing Roxas, head of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), will be the guest of honor at the premiere of Mike de Leon's *Bilanggo sa Dilim* with Bibsy Carballo's *Plaza Miranda Bombing* as opening film to kick off the Independent Film and Video Festival at the Sony Wave Cinema in Fiesta Carnival beginning September 23.

We saw *Bilanggo* in a press preview last week and we are certain that lead star Cherie Gil will once again get good reviews for her portrayal of a kidnap-rape victim.

SEPTEMBER 19-25, 1986 • VOL. 8 NO. 21

WE FORUM



CHERIE GIL

The video fest will feature films and videos by the country's leading independent filmmakers, among them: *Father Balweg, Rebel Priest* by Tikoy Aguiluz; the internationally acclaimed *Mababangong Bangunot* by Kidlat Tahimik; *Damortis* by Briccio Santos; and *Celso and Cora* by Australian filmmaker Gary Kildea. Raymond Red, a young filmmaker currently representing the country in the Edinburgh Filmfest will have a special retrospective. Tickets to the fest are available at National Bookstore and at the Sony Wave Cinema. □



VILMA SANTOS