The New Capitol STANDARD

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OFF THE PRESS!!!

THE BUREAUCRACY:
The Untold Inside Story

By Alfredo O. Flores

The author is an Editorial Consultant of this paper and is a younger brother of its Publisher-Editor.

He is a contemporary of Mel Mathay, Jr. at U.P. where he was Associate Editor of the Philippine Collegian and, at one time, Acting Editor. Fred and Mel are fraternity brothers.

Fred has been with the bureaucracy for 40 years, Staring

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City Attorney's Office Under OIC

"In the exigencies of the service", Mayor Mathay has placed the Office of the City Attorney under an Officer-In-Charge, forcing City Attorney Nescito Hilario out.

Designated OIC is Assistant City Attorney Christian Valencia who has been in the city government service for the last

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Galarpe Accuses Planas Of "Authoritarian Rule"

Councilor Alberto Galarpe has accused Vice Mayor and Presiding Officer Charito Planas of an action that "smacks of an authoritarian rule".

The accusation is made in a letter dated August 11, 1994 in which Galarpe assails the action of Planas in returning without action the resolution "allocating from any available funds in the 1994 Annual Budget the amount of FIVE MILLION PESOS



(P5,000,000.00) for the construction, beautification and installation of a monument at the Rotonda located at the

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Planas To Refer Polytechnic Renovation Plan To UAAP

Vice Mayor and Presiding Officer Charito Planas wants to refer to the United Architects Association of the Philippines the Renovation Plan for the QC Polytechnic which will cost P32,279,828.24, an amount she considers excessive.

"Since I am familiar with the Quezon City Polytechnic and I am aware that it is only constructed of light materials," she wrote in a letter to the Council asking a 30-day extension within which to sign the resolution authorizing the City Mayor to enter into a contract with the Andrade Construction and Development, Inc. for the Polytechnic renovation, "I am of the belief that it will be more economical to build a concrete structure which will be more in

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Latest Graduate From University of Bypass Doing Well

By Ben O. Flores

More than three and a half months after his heart bypass surgery last May, Arch. Gerry Magat, City Planning and Development Officer, is hale and hearty.

When he reported back for work last month, Mayor Mel Mathay, Jr. welcomed Gerry at the flag raising ceremony as a "fellow alumnus from the University of Bypass."

The Mayor had his own heart bypass eight years ago at a "University of By pass" in the United States while Gerry had his at the Philippine Heart Center Bypass University. There are now four University of Bypass alumni in City Hall: Mayor Mathay, Atty. Hilario, Arch. Magat and a certain official in the

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Mayor Mathay greets City Planning, and Development Officer Gerry Magat as a "fellow alumnus of the University of Bypass" during the flag raising ceremony when Gerry reported back to work, after a successful heart bypass operation at the Philippine Heart Center.

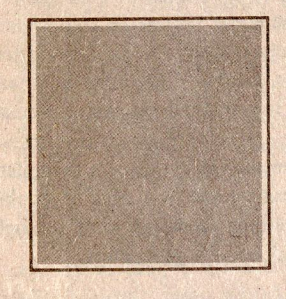
FLASH!

In the September 12 session of the Council, Councilor Alberto Galarpe, majority floor leader, did something unprecedented. He stood up on a point of personal and collective privilege to recall from the Office of the Vice Mayor Resolution PR 94-252 authorizing the City Mayor to enter into a contract with Andrade Construction and Development, Inc. for the renovation of the QC Polytechnic at a cost of P32,279,828.24. The reason for this never before done move was the non-signing of said Resolution by Vice Mayor and Presiding Officer Charito Planas, who had requested the deferment of her signature for 30 days so she could refer the renovation plan to the United Architects Association of the Philippines (UAAP).

Under what rule or authority did Galarpe recall the Resolution in question we wonder? Certainly, not in the Rules of the Council nor in the Local Government Code. The recall was an affront to the office of the vice Mayor who did not say that she refused to sign the resolution but only to defer the signing. It would have been more proper for Galarpe to initiate a move to reject the Vice Mayor's request for a 30-day deferment of her signature instead of resorting to an arbitrary recall of the resolution, which, to repeat, has never been done in the long history of the Council—*BEN O. FLORES.*

Ghost Bldg. Haunts Bgy. Bungad?

Is a ghost building haunting Bgy. Bungad? This seems to be the case because a multi-purpose hall for which the amount of P375,524.10 was withdrawn for the purchase of materials needed for its construction is non-existent.



Above is a picture of the multi-purpose hall. You cant see it? Dont worry, it's not your eyesight. It is only a ghost.

The amount involved was withdrawn in December 1993 by former Bungad Barangay Captain Carmelita Bilgera (she lost in the last elections to Moises Villegas) and her treasurer, Antonio C. Mamayson. (Please see picture of the disbursement voucher.)

The Bgy. Bungad Council in Resolution No. 18-93 had authorized the cash withdrawal of the amount in question from

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STATE OF CITY ADDRESS

We Have Done Well By Our People The Past Two Years—Mathay

"We have done well by our people the past two years"

Thus declared Mayor Ismael Mathay, Jr. summing up the accomplishments of his administration the past two years which he reviewed in the state of the city address he delivered on September 1 during the 152nd session of the Council before a jam-packed audience which included QC Congressmen Dante Liban, Feliciano Belmonte and Renato Yap, former Councilors George Banal, Wilma Sarino and George Canseco, NGO officials, Department Heads and Chiefs of Offices, and Barangay Officials.

He cited the results of the Social Weather Station (SWS) survey, as of July 31, 1994, to support his favorable summation of the performance of his administration the past two years. He referred to the SWS as "an independent institution with established reputation for objectivity and integrity."

"Let us mention the more

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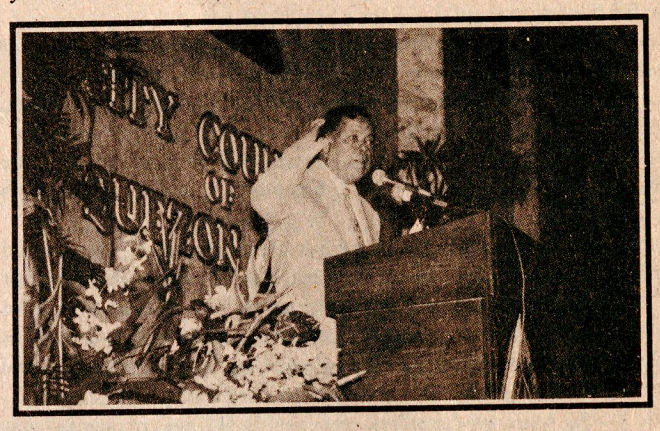

Administrative Complaint Vs. Icasiano Filed With DECS; Criminal Complaint With Ombudsman Under Preparation.

By Ben O. Flores

We have filed with the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) an administrative complaint against City Schools Superintendent Bienvenido Icasiano pertaining to anomalies/irregularities committed in connection with the City Schools Division's emergency purchases made in 1992 for which it spent P16,464,301.00 out of the Special Education Fund (SEF).

Under preparation is a corresponding criminal



ICASIANO

complaint for violation of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Law to be filed with the Ombudsman.

We have filed the administrative complaint and will do the same with the criminal complaint pursuant to this paper's desire to contribute its bit in the fight against graft and corruption and in support of

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Samson Bases 'Cry of Balintawak' Speech On CAPITOL STANDARD Article, Cites Another Publication

By: Ben O. Flores

The "Cry of Balintawak" privilege speech delivered in the August 18 session of the Council is taken from an article in THE CAPITOL STANDARD, but the Councilor cites another publication as his source, a book titled "Kangkong 1986" by a certain Ceres C. Alabado.

The very title Samson uses for his speech is the same as that of said article, "Apolonio Samson and The Cry of Balintawak," written by Anacleto S. Madrilejo, Secretary to then Mayor Amoranto. It was published in the November 2, 1973 issue of THE CAPITOL STANDARD, and reprinted on page 1 of this issue.

In his speech, Samson averred that the famous "Cry of Balintawak" was sounded by Bonifacio, not in Pugad Lawin nor at the Cloverleaf Rotonda where the Great Plebeian's statue holding aloft a bolo stands, but in Kangkong, Balintawak, in the house of Apolonio Samson, Kangkong's Cabeza de

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Impressive Credentials Plus Strong Endorsements Add Up To Unanimous Confirmation Of COA Chairman



GANGAN

The Commission on Appointments meeting en banc presided over by Senate President Edgardo Angara has unanimously confirmed the appointment of Celso D. Gangan as Chairman of the Commission on Audit (COA).

The uanimous confirmation was no doubt due to his

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Apolonio Samson And The Cry Of Balintawak

By Anacleto S. Madrilejo
Secretary to the Mayor

(From THE CAPITOL STANDARD, Nov. 2 1973)

*(Editor's Note: Exactly when and where did the "Cry of Balintawak" or "Unang Sigaw" occur? Who was Apolonio Samson, after whom a street and barrio is named in Quezon City? What was the role in the famous cry? **(Our history books say the Cry happened on August 26, 1896 in Balintawak. This date and place are generally accepted as the correct historical fact but some later day historians have caused some confusion with the claim that the Cry occurred in San Juan)** where the Katipuneros fought their first battle against the Spanish soldiers. Others aver that the Cry*

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WRONG SITE?

Mayor Mel Mathay, Vice Mayor Plans and former Vice President Salvador Laurel may be laying a wreath at the wrong site of the "Cry of Balintawak" the author, Anacleto Madrilejo, Secretary to then Mayor Amoranto, avers that the Cry was sounded not at the Cloverleaf Rotonda nor at Pugad Lawin, where the wreath is being laid in the picture, but in Barrio Kangkong, Balintawak in the house of Apolonio Samson, a Katipunero who fought with Bonifacio.



Standard Fare

By Ben. O Flores

"Mr. Perfect Attendance" Title Disputed

In our May 16-31, 1994 issue, under the heading "Attendance Record, July 1992 to July 31, 1994, "we pictured, side by side, Councilors Rey Calalay and Moises Samson and captioned the pictures "Messrs. Perfect Attendance," Previouosly, it was only Rey whom we had featured as "Mr. Perfect Attendance," a titlte he maintained exclusively during the previous Council.

In the present Council, however, the title is shared by Councilor Samson based on said "Attendance Record, July 1992 to July 31, 1994" which shows that both Councilors scored a perfect zero under the four categories—Absent On Official Time (AOT), Absent Not On Official Time (ANOT), Late Arrival (LA), Sick Leave (SL) and official Leave (OL)—used in the tabulation.

Shortly after the "attendance record" came out, however, we received a letter from Rey to which was attached a copy of the Minutes for the October 19, 1993 session of the Council which indicated, as pointed out by Rey in his letter, that Samson arrived late for said session. We must admit our mistake in not having noted the tell-tale asterisk at the end of Samson's name; the asterisk stands for Late Arrival (LA)

We showed the Minutes in question to Councilor Samson who said that City Secretary Gene Jurilla had issued him a certification that the "Arrived Later" asterisk appended to his name in the Minutes in question was a mistake.

He formally reiterated the mistake in a letter he subsequently sent us. Oddly enough, he did not attach a copy of Jurilla's certification.

We went to the City Secretary who, however, said that he could not remember if he had issued the certification mentioned by Councilor Samson, Jurilla called for the stenographic notes upon which the Minutes in question is based. The lady stenographer who brought in the notes said according to their notes, Councilor Samson did arrive late for that October 19, 1993 session.

So, based on the official records—the Minutes in question was approved by the Council in the next session without any correction made by Samson— it would appear that Councilor Rey Calalay is still solely "Mr. Perfect Attendance."

Since stenographers are not infallible however, the possibility of their having made a mistake can not be totally discounted. Neither can the possibility be discounted that Samson is right in claiming that he was not late for that particular session on October 19, 1993.

Anyway, it is not of great importance that we determine who is right: the stenographers or Councilor Samson. After all, punctuality is not a conclusive basis for judging the performance of an official or employee. We are sure that the only purpose of Councilor Calalay in pointing out the mistake in our "Attendance Record..." is to set the records straight and not to imply that he is a better Councilor than Councilor Samson. Both are equally competent, as attested by their inclusion among the Six Most Outstanding Councilors of QC as chosen by the QC Press Association.

So, Rey and Moises, both my good friends, why don't we lay the matter to rest and attend to more important things. Let us not make mountains out of mole hides.

Punctuality

We stated above that Punctuality is not a conclusive basis for judging the competence of an official or employee. In general, however, punctuality is an indication of how conscientious and disciplined an official or employee may be. In our "Attendance Record...", most Councilors are late arrivees, the number of times of their late arrivals range from 16 to 5 8 for the period, July 1992 to May 31, 1994. The most punctual Councilors— they have the least number of late arrivals—are Godofredo Liban (1), Alberto Galarpe (2), Connie Angeles (5), Roberto Miguel (6), Joseph Peter S. Sison (7) and Melencio Castelo (8).

Our Councilors and other government officials and employees and all Filipinos, for that matter, should be interested in a new movement which emphasizes the utmost importance of punctuality. The movement aims to give a new meaning to "Filipino Time," from its present menning if "Late Time" to "On time." Called "The Filipino, On Time" movement, it was launched last June 10, 1994 by nine Rotary International Districts in the Philippines and is now supported by 70 organizations.

The following are excerpts from the speech of Menardo R. Jimenez, Acting President of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, at the launching of the movement:

(This launching) is a historic event to change the Filipino image, from one who has no concept of time and does not appear to value time, to one that will signify a new meaning for "Filipino Time: — punctual, reliable, dependable, and above all progressive,"

We have more natural resources than Japan. We are much bigger than Singapore and Hong Kong. As to the quality of our labor, we definitely have more university graduates and masters degree holders than Indonesia or even Germany. So, why are they up there and we are way below the status of progress? I dare say, t hat the single biggest factor, is our regard to time.

I have visited every superpower in the World from the US to England to Japan and Germany as well as the newly8 industrialized nations of Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong. What sets every one of them apart from us is that they know to value time, we don't.

The Philippines is known for a lot of things—its friendly smile, its delicious fruits, its exotic bagoong, its crystal beaches—and, unfortunately, "Filipino Time." And what is Filipino time? Filipino time is simply never being on time.

What makes it worse is "Filipino Time: has become acceptable to us. It has become part of our culture and our lifestyle. And once a whole nation has accepted a wrong habit as the norm, then that country has just taken the road towards decline.

Japan is today the world's economic superpower because the Japanese value time more than gold. They make every second count.

Beating the idea of Filipino time is not a small battle. It is a war of major proportions. It means destroying old traditions and killing acceptable habits. And if it took us decades to develop Filipino time, it will probably take us longer to eradicate Filipino time. But we must begin sometime and the best time to start doing what is right is now.

Let us start with ourselves, our families, our companies, and our sphere of influence. Let us consider Filipino time as no longer acceptable but as a terrible insult to our nation. Let us strive to always be on time, or better yet, let's be ahead of time.

Allow me to leave you with one final thought. Alexander the Great was asked how he was able to conquer the world. His answer was "By Not delaying." In other words, by being on time.

Would it not be a good idea if the Council join "The Filipino, On Time" movement? If it does, every Councilor would probably be "Mr. Perfect Attendance." And Councilors Calalay's and Samson's dispute would become most and academic.

Only in the Philippines

Louis Beltran's TV program, Brigada Siete, has this feature which shows Filipino practices, activities, and scenes which can be found or seen only in the Philippines. In Quezon City, we have something that can be shown in Beltran's program. I refer to the plates which business establishments from the biggest corporation to the smallest sari-sari store, are required by an ordinance enacted by the previous Council to post in their place of business. The plates look almost exactly like motor plates as to size, color and style of numbering. This ordinance, which treats business establishments like they were motor vehicles, was the brainchild of Councilor Bert Galarpe, who was formerly Chief of the Business Permits and Licensing Office. The making of the plates was given to a certain metallurgy shop without benefit of public bidding. The business plates, aside from their absurdity, are unnecessary because business establishments are already required to post their respective framed business permit and license. The business plate ordinance can perhaps be justified as a revenue making measure but it means a redundant requirement for business establishments and is a case of double taxation. It is also possible that the revenue generated went, not only to the city government coffers, but also to the percenters.

Mayor's Suggestion Ignored

To curb the profligacy of the Council in filing and taking up apprpropriation measures, the Mayor in a letter, dated March 29, 1994, addressed to the Presiding Officer and Councilors, suggested that "as a matter of good and sound parliamentary practice and to avoid shortfalls in the City Budget and to insure the stability of our finances at all times, proposed measures involving the appropriation and disbursement of certain sums should be supported with the corresponding certification of the City Treasurer that the necessary amount is available or will be available at the proper time."

The Council "duly noted": the Mayor's letter in its April 14 session. It is odd that the Council did not go beyond noting the Mayor's letter. It is obvious the honorable Councilors had no intention of heeding his honor's suggestion. In fact, right after the token gesture of noting the Mayor's letter, the Council proceeded to take up uncertified appropriation measures and continued doing so in succeed-sessions up to the present.

In its August 4 session, Councilor Galarpe in sponsoring an ordinance creating the position of Medical Technologist II under the Health Department contended that, contrary to the Mayor's suggestion, the City Treasurer's certification of the availability of the funds needed for the purpose was no longer necessary saying that he had already a certification of the City Health Officer that the amount needed. P100,9845.12, was available from savings of the health Department.

Councilor Sisons contested Galarpe's contention, saying that it is only the certification of the City Treasurer that is valid in determining the availability of funds needed for an appropriation measure.



In picture, from left, Dr. Noel Lansang who initiated the tournament, Councilors "Butrch" Bautista and "Jopet" Sison who were the donors of the trophies awarded to the winning teams.

Tricycle Operators Hold Basketball Tournament

The Banahaw Pinatubo Tricycle Operators (BAPTODA) held recently an Inter Color Basketball Tournament through the initiative of its organizer, Dr. Noel L. Lansang. The games were held at the Banahaw Covered Basketball Court in Cubao.

The Yellow Team won the championship. The 6 ft. high championship trophy was donated by Councilor Ramon "Bu" Mathay of District IV and was awarded by his Executive Officer, Manny Arnan. The 5 ft. runner-up trophy, which went to the Green Team, was donated and awarded by Councilor Joseph Peter "Jopet" Sison also of District IV. The 3 ft. high third place trophy was donated and awarded by Councilor Herminio "Butch" Bautista also of District IV to the Blue Team.

The BAPTODA owes the success of the tournament to Chuck Mathay who sponsored the league, and to the Bgy. Captains and Kagawads of Bgys. Kaunlaran and San Martin de Porres as well as to THE TODA Presidents of Bayani TODA and Galas TODA and their Treasurers.

The New Capitol STANDARD
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Editorial

The Irony And Mockery Of It All!

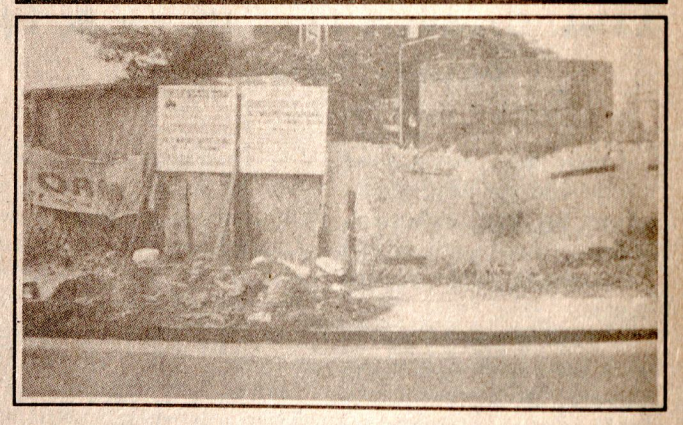
At the flag raising ceremony recently, Mayor Mathay announced that in the area of Education, Quezon City obtained a very high performance rating (QC Gets Highest Performance Rating, Page 1). It is an irony that the City Schools Division is headed by one whose integrity is under fire (Administrative Complaint Filed Vs. Icasiano; Criminal Complaint Under Preparation, Page 1)

The schools are supposed to mold and endow the hearts and minds of the youth with the moral virtues that will make them men and women of integrity. It is a mockery of the efforts of the city government to improve the quality of education in our public schools that these schools are headed by one who does not exemplify the virtues that they are trying to inculcate into their students.

It is true that an accused is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty and under this principle we should perhaps not be rendering judgement on the City Schools Superintendent. But in this case the documentary evidences that we have are so incontrovertible that we are staking the prestige and credibility of our paper—presuming it has—in asserting that we can get a conviction in this particular case.

Unfortunately, justice moves at a snail's pace in this country. Icasiano has a pending case at the Ombudsman for the last two years. In the meantime, in fairness to the taxpayers of QC whose money is being misused, Icasiano should be suspended pending the investigation of the charges against him or, better still, transferred, so Quezon City can say good riddance.

In the meantime also, the Mayor should be careful that Icasiano does not put him in a compromising situation as he almost did with purchase requests for unneeded textbooks. As Chairman of the School Board, he will be liable under the principle of command responsibility, for any anomalous expenditure of the Special Education Fund.



The proposed monument to the Scout and Scouter Delegates who perished at sea on their way to the 11th World Jamboree in Marathon, Greece. Vice Mayor and Presiding Officer Planas had returned without action the resolution authored by Councilor Hipol allocating P5 million for the construction of the monument but finally signed it in deference to the ministerial nature of her function to sign legislative measures duly passed by the Council but she signed on condition that her adverse comments/observations on the resolution be attached to it as part of the record. Reports reaching us are to the effect that work on t he construction had started even before the resolution allocating the needed funds was enacted and that in fact, certificate of completion has already been issued.

GALARPE...

intersection of Timog Avenue and Morato Avenue to perpetuate the memory of the Filipino Scout and Scouter delegates to the 11th World Jamboree in Marathon, Greece and to strengthen the Scouting Movement in the Philippines."

The Vice Mayor's reason in returning the resolution without action is stated in her return letter, as follows:

"I personally believe that the Filipino scouts and scouter delegates to the World Jamboree... are already duly remembered through the naming of certain streets in Quezon City after them. It is to my belief that there are still other worth remembering like the late SAJID BULIG who, up to now remains to be an infamous name despite his courageous act of saving six victims of the disastrous event in Wawa, Bocaue, Bulacan during its Pagoda festivities which led to his untimely demise.

Galarpe stated in his letter that the signing of measures duly passed by the Council by the Presiding Officer is "purely ministerial, if not ceremonial, unless, of course, the document (measure) presented is tainted with irregularity or is not a faithful reproduction of what has been actually approved..."

Planas has said that there was nothing authoritarian in her act of returning the resolution in question without action in exercise of what she considered her right or prerogative to express her opinion or make observations on said measure, which she agreed to sign but with the condition that her adverse opinion or observations be attached to the resolution as part of the record.

Profile In Leadership: The Marcos Way

by Alfredo O. Flores

The late President Marcos evidently had a convulsive contempt for abusive politicians and he would not hesitate to manifest this with emphatic ruthlessness if the occasion presented itself. This was the impression I got after having witnessed first-hand an incident that happened in Malacañang on the day the President was scheduled to preside over a meeting of the Commission on Reorganization.

While waiting for the President to come out of his study, the members and some staffers of the Commission (me included) were whiling their time away in the Malacañang reception hall, freely mingling with the crowd which included a good number of prominent political personalities.

I was standing beside the big hulk of a macho man (a powerful politician I was later on made to understand) when the President finally emerged from his study. Smiling broadly, the President shock the hands and chatted with those he came upon while wending his way to the state dining room. While doing this, the eyes of the President, by chance, veered in the direction of the big man beside me. The President's face suddenly turned into an angry scowl and , brushing aside his well wishers, forthwith walked straight towards the big man beside me.

Confronting the macho man, the President brusquely said: "I told you to stop what you were doing. You did not heed me. I am telling you once more and for the last time: Stop it." Poking a forefinger at he big man, the President continued in a much firmer tone: "Don't make me angry. You know what I can do if I'm angry." Having said that, he turned about, leaving behind him a ashen-faced big hulk of a man.

The President's uncompromising concern for the dignity of the Presidency is manifested in two incidents. A small group of trusted senior palace staffers was organized to render twenty-four hour staff assistance to the President, as some sort of facilitative pages. After they were introduced to the President and a briefing was given on their role, the President looked intently, through squinting eyes, at the select group who were then comfortably dressed in casual polo barong or short sleeved shirt with tie. In a resonant voice, he sternly told them: "When you are scheduled to come face to face with the President, see to it that you are properly dressed up." The following day, at the start of their daily stint with the President, the members of the group reported for duty looking spic and span in their long-sleeved barong tagalog or coat-and-tie attire.

At another time, the junior military side on duty had propped himself up on one arm of the presidential chair while chatting with some presidential pages as they awaited the President's arrival. A short while later, the President entered the study and started walking towards his table. All the while, he was unnoticed by the military aide whose back was turned on the approaching commander-in-chief. When finally he realized that the President had reached the presidential chair, the startled junior officer stiffened into rigid attention, executing at the same time a smart salute. The President glared at his junior military aide, and in his deep baritone emphatically admonished him: "Remember this, officer! Nobody ever leans on the presidential chair." Having said that, the President sat down with extra aplomb, as if to emphasize to all and sundry the symbolic splendor of his precious chair.

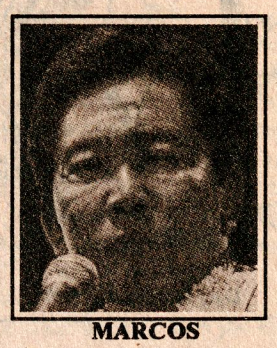
In another incident, the President showed his zealous concern for the exclusivity in the exercise of presidential prerogatives. One of the presidential advisers had commissioned the Presidential Commission on Reorganization (PCR) to prepare an updated version of the Revised Administrative Code for enactment into law. After some painstaking work, the PCR came up with a draft code which was eagerly received by the apparently impressed patron of the art. The proud godfather of the "obra maestra" brought the draft Code to the Palace and personally handed it to the President. Upon receiving it, the President started to leaf through the pages of the voluminous draft Code, carefully going through the extual conotent of the various chapters with pensive concentration. Every now and then, the President would nod his head, an indication of his concurrence with what he had gone through so far. More than midway through the draft, the President would still continue nodding his head periodically, causing the expectant walk-in salesman to begin anticipating the sweet scent of success and accordingly was already bracing himself up to bask in the forthcoming presidential praise and accolade.

Then, disaster struck. The President suddenly stopped nodding his head. His cone serene face became a ruffled mass of anguish, as if he were startled by utter disbelief by something he had come across in the draft and turning them toward his adviser, the President pointedly called the attention of the astonished proponent to apportion of the draft pertaining to the Ministry of National Defense which depicted the Armed Forces of the Philippines as being under the Minister of National Defense evidently because of his being an alter ego of the President.

The preliminaries over, the President accosted his by-now apprehensive adviser who, incidentally, was a lawyer by profession. Calling him loudly by his surname, the President bluntly told him: "You do not know your law. You do not know your Constitution." After a dramatic pause, he continued: "As President, I am the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. That is not delegable." He then closed the draft Code he was going over and that was that for the products distraught sponsor.

President Marcos also had his own way of showing his enduring gratitude in acknowledgment of a substantial political or personal debt. This was manifested in three instances when he rewarded erstwhile qualified benefactors with appointments as heads of politically critical agencies and allowing them to stay as such for the duration of his incumbency in the face of strong political pressure for their removal.

One of the three was an influential politician from Central Luzon who had rabidly supported the political aspirations of the Presidential the way. he was made Secretary of a department the stewardship of which, up to then, had been the exclusive preserve of one coming from Mindanao. The powerful politicians from the region naturally clamored for this tradition to continue being honored, repeatedly calling upon the President to accordingly replace the appointee with someone from the region. These simply fell into deaf ears.



MARCOS

Another was a province-mate who risked his life in helping the then Captain Marcos make a dramatic escape from the Philippine General hospital, and therefore from sure captivity by the Japanese, to the safety of the sanctuary provided by a prominent family in Pangasinan. When Marcos became President, he appointed his daring benefactor head of the tobacco agency which was in charge of native tobacco, an agricultural crop which is endemic to and vital to the economy of Cagayan Valley. The agency was of primordial interest to the politicians of the region and quite understandably, they were strongly against the appointment of the cloak-and-dagger escape artist from Ilocos Norte. Throughout the Marcos years, they continually worked for his replacement by one coming from the region. But President Marcos stood his ground, reportedly telling them at one point: "Stop working for his removal because I have made up my mind to keep him (as agency head) until he retires. You know very well that were it not for him, I would not be here today."

The third was a well known legal luminary who, shortly after Marcos assumed the Presidency, was promoted to become concurrently the officer-in-charge, and later on also as acting chairman of another tobacco agency which was concerned with flue cured tobacco which is extensively grown in the Ilocos provinces. The appointment of the handsome mestizo from Quezon City who could speak much more fluently in Spanish than in Ilocano (in fact, he did not know a single word of the dialect) and who probably could not distinguish a tobacco leaf from a papaya leaf, came as a complete surprise to the Ilocano politicians. They simply could not understand why the President did not appoint any of their recommendees if only to acknowledge their herculean effort in giving him a resounding victory in the Ilocos. It was surmised that the President's action was a pragmatic one: he wanted the head of the agency which was overseeing a multi-billion peso industry to be beholden only to him and not to anyone else, much less to politicians.

At any rate, the anointed agency head, in addition to his proving himself to be an efficient administrator, eventually endeared himself with the President for showing an unswerving loyalty to the bossman even if it meant antagonizing the Ilocano politicians whose demands he would not accommodate unless previously cleared with the President as reportedly instructed. The story is also told about the time when the fair haired boy of the President ventured out alone in his car in the middle of the night, amid a raging storm and rising floodwaters, to carry out an urgent personal mission for the President which was said to be of utmost political concern to him. Thus, despite incessant political pressures exerted to oust the non-smoking, non-Ilocano squatter from his position, the President kept his trusted lieutenant in his post.

The three agency heads had gained the enviable reputation of having had the longest continuous service as heads of politically sensitive agencies, the strong opposition of politicians notwithstanding. It took the EDSA Revolution to finally dethrone them from their lofty perches alongside their stubborn benefactor, who kept the politicians at bay just so he could adequately pay for a compelling political or personal debt.

Even as a lover, the perception is that President Marcos excelled. His whirlwind courtship and the subsequent tender and abiding affection he showered lavishly on the First Lady are by now legendary. Manifestations of such adoration would at times go beyond the confines of the martial abode and emerge even during official functions, as shown in two incidents which occurred during separate Cabinet meetings held in which I happened to be present.

The President's aversion to being disturbed, much less interrupted, when presiding over a Cabinet meeting is well known. For this reason, the door would be closed whenever the meeting started, with Palace guards posted to see to it that it remained closed. In one particular Cabinet meeting the door suddenly swung open. The ensuring mild commotion caused by some persons entering the room irritated the President no end. Casting an angry glance to wards the door, he appeared ready to pounce upon and castigate the impudent gatecrasher. When he saw that it was the First Lady who came in, his menacing look melted into a broad smile of endearment. He hastily stood up to meet his approaching "darling". After briefly talking in soft whispers to the President the First Lady bade him adieu with a buss on the cheek. She then left as pompously as she came in, leaving behind her an exhilarated President who sat down once more to continue tackling state affairs with fresh animo.

In another Cabinet meeting, the First Lady was in attendance, an occurrence which according to knowledgeable insiders was a rarity. She was complaining to the President that she could not get a release of funds for a pet project of hers, in the meanwhile casting a pained look at the budget secretary who was seated right across her. The sullen budget chief simply listened and kept quiet. His only reaction was to sweep back the hair which had cascaded over his forehead with a brisk stroke of his hand, an indication, according to those who know him well, that he was agitated.

The President tried to mollify the Metro Manila Governor, attempting to defend his budget secretary by explaining that there was a critical shortage in state funds. Seeing however the anguished look in the First Lady's eyes, he was constrained to turn to his budget chief and casually asked him to see if he could not possibly manage to look for a funding source to accommodate the First Lady. The budget chief remained stoically quiet, once more sweeping back with his hand the hair which had again fallen down over his forehead. Obviously, the proper signal from the boss had not as yet been given.

Seeing that the budget secretary remained somberly passive, the First Lady made a final pitch to the President. Beholding the imploring eyes and hearing the plaintive pleadings of the beauteous matriarch of Metro Manila was just too much for the President to take. he finally succumbed and forthwith instructed his budget secretary, now in a very authoritative tone, to release the amount needed for the First Lady's pet project. The budget chief responded with a curt nod causing his hair to flow down once more over his forehead. This time, he did not bother to sweep it back, even as he watched the First Lady give the President an adoring look which he acknowledged with an equally adoring smile.

Because of his effusively affectionate concern for the First Lady, the President may have acquired, rightly or wrongly, a reputation for being an impeccable "lady killer." It is recalled that the grapevine, running through many a barbershop as well as through many more a beauty parlor, had repeatedly echoed with fairy tales about the President's purported romantic escapades. The late Congressman Carmelo Z. Barbero, a close political confidante of the President, would brightly shrug this off, once confiding to me: "When the President no longer turns his head when a pretty woman passes by, then that's the time I'll really get worried."

Whether the stories on the alleged affairs the President had with pretty women are true or not will forever remain in the realm of conjecture. What is surely indicated, however, is that up to the very end, whenever the First Lady would pass by, the President would invariably turn his head.

The President's concern for economy and austerity8 is highlighted in a dainty tale related by no less than the First Lady of which I had the good fortune as a legitimate bystander to be an eager eaves-dropper. One Sunday, the President had summoned his reorganization committee to a meeting at Malacañang. While the committee members were waiting for the President, the First Lady came into the reception hall and engaged them in animated conversation.

There was an electoral process then going on (elections for the Batasan) and the First Lady was narrating about the political sorties through several provinces that she and the President had just gone through. The First Lady recounted that she and the President were each carrying two portfolios, one in each hand, full of crisp CB legal tender, said to be party funds, for distribution to political leaders along the way. They, had barely gone through half of their intended campaign trail when the First Lady had already ran out of money, needing replenishment. She was amazed with the way the President was husbanding his share of the campaign funds, not needing to replenish even once as they went with their campaign.

By the time they were through, the First Lady had to replenish her funds no less than three times over. On their way back to Malacañang, she could see that the President was still carrying the two money bags with him. It seemed to her that they were as heavy, if not heavier, than when they started out to hit the campaign trail. With a naughty-smile, she then said in the vernacular: "Tumubo pa nga yata eh," which liberally translated means: "I think that instead of losing money, the President even gained some." Having thus entertained the group, she ushered the delighted Palace guests into an inner sanctum where she bade them look over a painting she had just brought home from abroad.

The dogged determination of President Marcos to get what he wanted and to pursue it with incisive decisiveness is reflected in another delightful anecdote. The late president had the reputation of always having his way when drafting good minds in the private sector into the government service. It is said that he would never accept a "no" answer from whomsoever he wanted to get. At one point in time, he had eyed a young and energetic management expert to be at the helm of a critical government agency. In fact, he caused the merger of two powerful ministries as additional incentive to entrap the target prize recruit who had expressed genuine apprehension about joining the government. His colleagues who had earlier been drafted to serve the government were kidding him about his imminent "capture" by the President. The prospective recruit smiled them off, saying with confidence that he had three aces up his sleeve which he would use to avoid being appointed to a government post. he boasted that after bringing even only one of them out, the President would drop him like a hot potato.

When finally he was face to face with the President, he brought out this first ace which, I was made to understand, had something to do with some small personal fault but which, according to his own appreciation, would be enough to make him unacceptable, considering the reputed rigid standards of the President. To his surprise, the President readily brushed this aside and reportedly said: "That's all right." He then brought out his second ace which was said to pertain to still another small personal indiscretion, although a little more serious than the first. Again, the President quickly answered: "That's all right." Whereupon, the now apprehensive interviewee brought out his last ace. he is said to have frankly

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Out Of Rhythm With Birth Control

by Alfredo O. Flores

(From his book, "The Bureaucracy: The Untold Inside Story")

When Adam and Eve succumbed to the temptation of taking a tiny bite of the forbidden apple, they committed the original sin which, ever since, would be the inheritable stigma of every newborn child. This simple act of gluttony would also prove to be the root cause of the rapid proliferation of the human race which later on was to become a possibly greater scourge than the original sin.

As punishment for their disobedience, Adam and Eve were thrown out of paradise by an angry god. Something strange happiness to them then. Suddenly, they felt their nakedness. That probably was the first indication of "sex". Crafted as a delicate piece of art, sex was clearly made manifest in the delightful difference in the physical constitution of the male and the female. To this divine legacy, the ever romantic Frenchman had coined a fitting tribute of a toast: "Viva la difference!" Such difference, sad to say, would ultimately become the immediate cause of population explosion.

In the beginning, quite naturally, there was no cause to worry about overpopulation. There was more than enough land and food to go about. In fact, the problem was the reverse: how to populate the world more adequately. Whereupon, to the delight of habitual nocturnal revelers, came the divine instruction: "Go ye and multiply." To give meaning to this, God gave the early male inhabitants the privilege of living for a hundred years or so and of having many wives. Many siblings resulted from this authorized polygamy. the forerunner of a massive human deluge that was to follow.

In addition, the Almighty, in his infinite wisdom, made the supreme act of love as the "sweetest thing" there is on earth, obviously to help ensure compliance with his eleventh commandment. Evidently, the birds and the bees had nothing to do with our getting to know the amorous tricks of the trade. The knack for indulging in the favorite marital preoccupation was a natural endowment from no less than our Creator. Moreover, God Revamped the procedure for procreation in order to make it a more desirable activity. It was no longer to be done through the unimaginative way of carving a human being out of a man's rib but through the more innovative process of inducing the delectable interplay of the distinctive physical difference between the man and the woman.

For many centuries, making babies went on unrestrained. No one paid any attention to the resulting steady growth of the population. The time came, however, when some perceptive eggheads began to notice that the loaf of bread was dwindling in size, an indication, that per capita consumption of the life-giving nutrient was decreasing. Discerning the dangerous implications of this development the learned ones started to sound the alarm.

Foremost among the alarmists was Thomas R. Malthus, an economist by profession but apparently a social forecaster by avocation. As far back in the latter part of the 18to century, he was expounding his theory on population growth in relation to food supply. In effect, he was saying that the baby-maker is much more efficient than the agricultural producer such that there would surely come a time when a population would outstrip food supply.

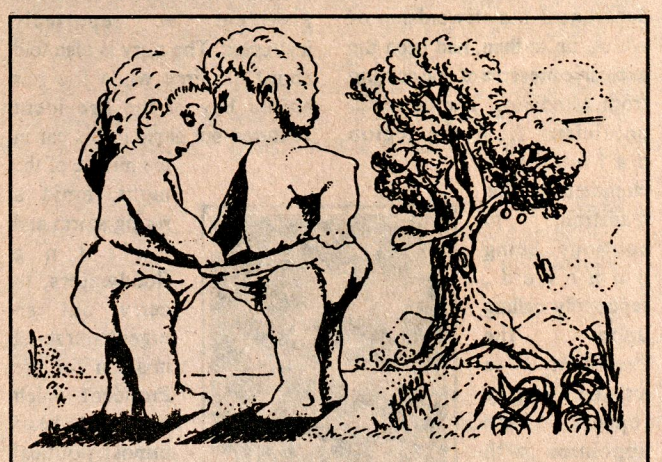
Malthus was understandably the first to advocate that mechanisms be adopted for population to adjust to food supply. The exceedingly harsh methods he proposed, however, would make the present-day staunchest proponents of population control look like saints in comparison. Malthus batted for positive checks to population growth: disease (preferably a pestilence), war and famine. He proposed resorting of these cruel measures because, like many of the present advocates of birth control, he was skeptical of the effectiveness of voluntary restraint or abstinence.

Not many seemed to have heeded the warnings of Malthus. It took about two hundred years later, towards the middle part of the current 20to century, that people began to be seriously concerned about population control, a concern which progressively developed into a frenzied effort as the output of lovable moppets continued to rise. Since population control had, by this time, come to be essentially equated with birth control, the measures proposed to be taken logically zeroed in on the use of more drastic methods to curtail birth beyond the traditional rhythm method by the more conservative elements. An adversarial situation had thus arisen, and that was when the fun began, an intense ideological fight broke out the world over, involving many debatable aspects ranging from legal, medical and physiological concerns to philosophical, moral and theological considerations.

In the Philippines, the ensuing pitch battle between the "hawks" and the "doves" has been emotional. The radicals want the adoption of the more severe ways of birth control, from the use of pills, condoms and other contraceptives to vasectomy, ligation, castration and even abortion (but only as a last resort), which methods have proved to be effective in other countries. Their uncompromising adversaries, however, condemn these methods theologically wrong and therefore sinful. They insist on the rhythm method as the only birth control mechanism acceptable to them. Besides, they would tell you that the rhythm method is cheap, healthful, safe and easy to do. If you have a calendar and you can count at least up to nine, you are eminently qualified to be a practitioner.

The radicals, however, would scoff at this method as ineffective, being incompatible with biological reality. The naughty ones among them would even point out that the rhythm method may in fact be the one that is sinful because it actually defies the willful determination of God to make the veritable "mother of all human urges" to be the centerpiece of the sociological make-up of his masterful creation.

The hawkish proponents of birth control love to continually harp on this singular weakness of the rhythm method. They even have a story to tell, albeit with flippancy, to emphasize why this is so, particularly with respect to the less fortunate members of society who constitute the great mass of the populace. Being economically wanting, they cannot afford to buy the more conventional forms of entertainment. They have to fend for themselves to have this and



Long live the difference!

come Friday, after a tedious week of toil and sweat, the tired husband and the equally tired housewife eagerly look forward to an evening of relaxation, reason enough for them to rejoice and exclaim, "Thank God it's Friday!"

When dusk turns into night, the time has come for them to enjoy the regular romantic interlude. At this point, there develops, as my genetics professor used to call it, a dainty "twinkle in the husband's eye," the unerring precursor of intended procreation which, as surely as God made little green apples, develops into a lovely child nine months after. Without question, when couples lie side by side on a Friday night, the inevitable advent of the umpteenth baby is just a hushed breath away.

Based on this oft-repeated story, the naughty radicals would then conclude that not all the calendars in the world, with the safe period appropriately charted with flawless accuracy, can prevent couples from indulging, again and again, in the "sweetest thing" there is. To make matters worse, many can't even wait for a Friday to do it since the recurring urge is likely to strike any time, any place and any else. Finally, for good measure, they would point out that it's just about the cheapest form of entertainment available to the common folk. In fact, it's not only cheap, it's downright free. (not always—Editor)

Aside from the biological problems, there are other factors which contrive to make population control difficult to attain. One of these is the widely accepted belief that the Filipinos are naturally prolific, that the Filipino wife is very prone to pregnancy. A number of good-natured jokes have arisen regarding this. For instance, it is commonly bruited about that the mere act of the husband crossing, with legs astride, over the prostate body if his wife is enough to make her pregnant. There is also the story, told in obvious levity, of the husband who inadvertently throws his shorts in the wrong directions, landing smack on top of his wife who is lying prone on the bed. The result of this indiscretion: a pregnant wife.

Another bane of population control is the increasing availability of erotic reading materials that are sold even in reputedly legitimate outlets. Worse still, outright pornographic literature is easily obtainable in some dark alleys and other clandestine sources. This type of "bedtime" readers would make Lawrence's Lady Chatterley's Lover, Zola's Nana and Caldwell's God's Little Acre sound like nursery rhymes in comparison. Add to this the bold films that are surreptitiously being shown in many theaters or by betamax in the cozy comfort of many a darkened bedroom and you have a sure-fire formula for stimulating the foremost human urge. Compounding the already sad situation is the emergence and apparent tolerance of such modern social amenities as the live-in partnership, temporary swapping of spouses, trial marriage, and free sex. With these developments, it is becoming exceedingly more difficult to put on the brakes to baby-making.

The radicals hope that the litany of seemingly insurmountable arguments ranged against the rhythm method would eventually soften the opposition of the immaculate puritans and make them realize that acceptance of the more unorthodox method espoused by the "hawks" is the only hope for effective birth control. At the moment, however the "doves" continue to be adamant in insisting on the rhythm method in spite of its uncertainty. Whatever may be the outcome of this controversy, it is clear that for the present, the unrelenting opposition of the moralists is causing a snag in the country's effort to achieve population control.

In the face of this dilemma, I am reminded of our professor in Asian history, back in the 1940's, who had his own unique way of expressing his disgust over the lack of concern given to the problem of overpopulation. He would ask his students to hold their breast since, according to him, everytime we breathe, a thousand Chinese are born.

The radicals will perhaps tell you that the present sad taste of the art may warrant just this kind of attitude - fold your arms, hold your breathe, and hope for a miraculous thawing of the rigidity in the negative outlook of the powerful opponents of a more realistic population control program.

It would seem, though, that this may not come to pass since the objections of the opposing group are deeply rooted in dogmatic rationalization. They will repeatedly tell you that the prevention of birth through other means than the rhythm method, especially abortion, is plain murder. The disconcerted radicals, however, would counter the their opponents fail to realize that allowing population growth to go on unbridled is in effect slowly killing a whole nation.

To them, this is worse than murder. It's genocide.

ADMINISTRATIVE...

efforts to improve the quality of education being dispensed in the City's Public Schools which, as pointed out by Mayor Mathay himself, is unsatisfactory, considering, he said that in last year's National Elementary Assessment Test (NEAT), students from the City's public elementary schools performed miserably while the topnotchers all came from private schools.

How can the filing of the complaints be considered "in support of efforts to improve the quality of education in the city's public schools?, it might be asked. Our answer is another question: How can schools headed by a controversial superintendent whose integrity is being questioned expect to improve.?

We filed the administrative complaint with DECS because Dr. Icasiano is a national official and is not under the jurisdiction of the Mayor. Nevertheless, before filing the case, we tried to get the comment/advice of Mayor Mathay but failed to do so. We are certain, however, the Mayor has no objection to the filing of the complaints. The anomalies/irregularities involved were committed during the previous administration of then Mayor Simon although there are still unverified reports of questionable purchases under the present city administration, particularly with respect to the purchase of defective armchairs. In fact, Mayor Mathay almost got himself in dutch by signing purchase requests for textbooks "inherited" from the previous city administration. After having signed three purchase requests and was on the verge of signing a fourth, Mathay was warned in a letter of Assistant GSO Chief Jonathan Africa that the books being requested for purchase were no longer needed.

In our transmittal letter to Education Secretary Ricardo Gloria, we requested the creation of a body to investigate the anomalies/irregularities involved in our complaint, which are as follows:

1. The emergency purchases were made in violation of Sec. 368 of Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code) which allows emergency purchases only "when the need for the supplies is exceptionally urgent or absolutely indispensable and only to prevent imminent loss of life or property." (Underscoring supplied) None of the items purchased qualify to be acquired through an emergency purchase.

2. The supplies and equipment purchased were not included in an "Annual Procurement Program" as required by Sec. 373 of Republic Act No. 7160, which provides that "(b) Except in emergency cases or where urgent indispensable needs could not have been reasonably anticipated, no purchase of supplies shall be made unless included in, or covered by, the approved procurement program."

"It could not be said," the "Concerned Citizen" wrote, "that items like tablet armchairs, teachers chairs, garden and carpentry tools, bookshelves, printing jobs, medals, computers and many others, could not have been reasonably anticipated for inclusion in the Annual Procurement Program."

3. Overpricing. The "Concerned Citizen" gave the following instances:

a) Cooking Range, Model 720W, KW-2925, La Germania, Gas & Electric, 4 gas burner and 1-electric plate.

City Schools Buying Price—P28,500 per unit

Actual Prices quoted by three stores surveyed—P11,200, P11, 178; and P12,250.

Overprice: P17,300; P17,322; and P16,250.

b) Refrigerator: 10 cu. ft., no frost, Kelvinator, Model 79WER1202

City Schools Buying Price—P25,000 per unit (4 units were purchased)

Actual prices quoted by 4 stores surveyed—P13,695; P13,755; P13,788; and P14,425.

Overprice: P11,305; P11,245; and P10,575.

c) Microwave Oven, Sharp, Carousel

Model R-4190

City Schools Buying Price—P18,500 per unit (6 units purchased)

Actual Price quoted by one store—P13,225.

Overprice: P5,275

There are more than a hundred different items involved in the questioned emergency purchases, and it will take an eternity to complete the price survey for all of them. This paper's staff will continue the survey until fatigue and exhaustion overtake them.

4. Technical malversation was committed in the purchase of 5 cars (One unit NISSAN SENTRA and four units KIA PRIDE) for which special Educational Funds were used.

5. The purchases were made within the period of the ban preceding the May 11, 1992 elections.

We asked Secretary Gloria for the immediate suspension of Icasiano or his transfer to another division, which is equally satisfactory to us. After explaining to him why Icasiano's continued occupancy of his position as head of the City Schools Division is a mockery of efforts to improve the quality of education in the city's public schools, we challenged him to show his sincerity in making the vow "to help improve the quality of education in the country," as reported in the news story, "Gloria vows RP quality education", MANILA BULLETIN, Aug. 7, 1994. We said, he can show his sincerity by immediately creating an investigating body and ordering speedy action.

Beleaguered by the stubborn opposition of the "doves", the "hawks can only decry our inability to go all the way with our population control program. They feel that our birth control effort, in particular, is unreasonably out of rhythm with current trends. As they would allegorically put it: while those in other countries are dancing the lambada, we are sill doing the waltz, a fad that dates way back to the dark ages. The conservatives would counter that the waltz is much more decent, and therefore acceptable, than the sensuous lambada.

In the end, when the music stops and the dance contest is over, the bewildered spectator, the citizenry no less, by now beset by a problem of irreversible population growth, is left in the middle of the empty hall to drown in the deluge of debris caused by the swirling struggle between the terpsichorean combatants. As usual, it is the innocent non-combatants who are the victims of this utterly useless fight. What is more tragic is that it is a fight where even the neutral referee gets knocked out.

Council Strangely Mum On Icasiano Case

The Council has been strangely silent on the anomalies and irregularities charged against Dr. Bienvenido Icasiano - - not even a peep from even such loquacious and vociferous privilege speakers like Councilors Mike Defensor and Moises Samson. We are referring not only to the anomalies and irregularities, which are the subject of the administrative complaint we have filed against Icasiano, but also to the many other anomalies and irregularities exposed by Ed O. Bartilad years ahead of our one expose in our previous issue in a series of articles in his TEMPO column, "Spitfire," as follows:

1) Emergency purchase of P2,998,800 worth of musical instruments which was railroaded to beat the expiration of the term of then Mayor Simon in June 1992.

2) Emergency Purchase of 3,333 teacher's chairs at P450 each for a total of P1,499, 850. The prevailing price during the period was only P200 or even as low as P135.

3) Emergency purchase of P1,112,830 worth of 400 cadet officer's sabers at P350 each and Physical Education equipment consisting of 51 leatherette gymnastic mats at P6,500, 73 P.E. brass drums with beaters at P1,500, 12 wooden balance beams at 18,500, two gymnastics horse vault stands for P34,948, and 470 rhythmic balls at P5 each. Wrote Mr. Bartilad: "The gymnastics horse vaults and some gymnastic mats are just left to accumulate dust at the corridor of the San Francisco High School as the division of city schools has no competent gymnastics instructor while the balance beams are also left to rot in the stock rooms of various city schools."

4) Emergency purchase of P999,950 worth of dental supplies from the Philippine Medical Specialties in Quiapo, Manila made on May 4, 1992 as per sales invoice of PMDS, seven days before the May 11 elections, making the purchase within the 45-day election ban. Wrote Mr. Bartilad: "Aside from being a violation of the Election Code, the purchase of dental supplies charged to the School Board Fund was contrary to a provision of the Local Government Code which specifics three priorities in the expenditure of SBF: 1) construction and repair of classrooms; 2) extension classes; and 3) sports development.

5) Printing of test questions at the cost of P568,960.

Aside from being overpriced, the test questions were never used. They were acquired on March 26, 1992 the Division Achievement Test for which they were to be used was held on March 10 and 11.

It is impossible that none of the Councilors read or heard about the fraudulent emergency purchases exposed by the TEMPO columnist. Why did they completely ignore them? There must be some truth to a report reaching us that a lady member of the School Board is a relative of a certain Councilor. It is the School Board that approves purchased using the Special Education Fund.

APOLONIO...

occurred on August 23, 1896 and, in fact, an organization in Balintawak celebrates it on this date. Another organization in Pugad Lawin celebrates the Cry on August 23 alright but claims that the Cry occurred in Pugad Lawin which is not a part of Balintawak.

In this article, which was intended for our 34th QC Foundation Day Supplement but didn't quite make the deadline, the author clarifies the confusion by relating in detail the events that led to the Cry and to the heroic role played by Apolonio Samson who is not well-known by the present generation even in Quezon City. His article rings with authenticity because he got it directly from the lips of people who participated in this dramatic episode in our history, like his own father, Domingo Madrilejo, who was a member of the Katipunan and other Katipuneros like Tiburcio Gahudo, Goriong Henieres and Francisco Baetiong (Tandang Isco), a cousin and constant companion of Apolonio Samson.)

ONLY ONE person, Tandang Sora, (Melchora Aquino), is recorded in our history books as having fed the Katipuneros for which she has been elevated to the status of a heroine. But before these Katipuneros reached Tandang Sora's place in Bo. Banlat during that fateful month of August 1896, one man had already given them food and shelter in his place at Kangkong, Balintawak. This equally heroic supporter of the first revolutionists whom history has failed to record was Apolonio Samson or Tinienteng Polonio as he was known in Balintawak, where he was the Cabeza de Barangay. Today, while Tandang Sora has been adopted the official heroine of Quezon City and her birth date, January 6 is an official holiday in QC, Tinienteng Polonio is hardly known. *[There is a little street named after him which starts from the site on which his house used to stand and ends at the Cloverleaf Market. There is also a rather unusual monument erected to his memory at the same site consisting of a huge concrete pot on a high concrete column (see picture) symbolizing the assistance given by Apolonio Samson to the Katipuneros.]* But very few Quezon City residents know of this little street and this unusual monument—such is the obscurity of Tinienteng Polonio. Yet he is equally deserving of remembrance and homage as Tandang Sora as the story of his life will show—a story pieced together by this writer from the accounts of his own father, Domingo Madrilejo, who was a member of the Katipunan, and other oldsters of Balintawak like Tiburcio Gahudo, Goring Henieros, and above all, Tandang Isco (Francisco Baetiong) who was a constant and faithful companion of Apolonio Samson up to the time of his death.

When the Spanish authorities learned of the existence of the Katipunan through the confession of a sister of Bonifacio to Father Gil, the Great Plebian and his followers had to escape from Manila. [By a stroke of good luck, they were told of a wooded place in Kangkong which was an ideal hiding place because it was encircled by big trees. It belonged to Tinienteng Polonio.]

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Quite a Man

Then at the prime of his life, Apolonio Samson was quite a man. A fine horseman, he cut an impressive figure as he rode about his domain wearing a salakot inlaid with silver and holding the emblem of his authority, a "baras", also inlaid with silver at both ends.

Tinienteng Polonic gladly welcomed the fleeing Bonifacio and his men. Infected by the patriotic ferver of the Katipuneros, he was ready to give his all for the cause of freedom. His heart and mind revolted against the cruelties and abuses of the despotic Spanish officials and corrupt friars. An industrious, competent farmer, he had a granary bursting with palay, a big herd of carabaos, and a vast vegetable garden. From these resources, Samson fed the beleagured Katipuneros.

Test

Filipinos from all parts of what is now the Greater Manila area flocked to join Bonifacio in his hideout at Tinienteng Polonio's estate. But before they were allowed to enter, they were carefully screened and put to a test. Men of Bonifacio were posted at the corner of A. Bonifacio and A. Samson streets. Anyone who wanted to join the katipunan was first asked to tear his cedula as a sign that he was disavowing his allegiance to the Spanish rulers. Then he would be blindfolded with a black handkerchief, taken to a certain place and made to feel the body of a person.

"What is this?" he woiuld be asked.

"A person," would be the answer.

"He is a traitor to the coiuntry. Can you kill him?"

"Yes, sir."

"Can you prove it?"

The would-be Katipunero woiuld be given a dagger which he would thrust at the person before him who was, however, quickly replaced with a banana trunk into which the blade is plunged.

Blood Ritual

Having passed the test, the recruit is brought inside to an arena surrounded by big stones to come face to face with the Supremo. His arm was pricked with a knife and with the blood that oozed, he wrote his signature of affiliation with the Katipunan. This blood ritual signified his resolution to give his all to the cause of freedom.

The ranks of Bonifacio's Katipunan swelled but Tinientent Polonio continued to feed them without a murmur. *After some days, however, they received news that they were being surrounded by a company of Spanish civil guards. It was then that Bonifacio mounted the batalan of Samson's hence and scunded the famous "Cry of Balintawak."*

"MGA KABABAYAN, NGAYON AY ORAS NA UPANG TAYO AY BUONG PUSONG MANINDIGAN LABAN SA MGA SUWAIL NA FRAILE. MABUHAY O MAMATAY."

The Katipuneros answered:

"MABUHAY ANG SUPREMO."

Discovered

Bonifacio then informed his men that it was necessary for them to leave because they had been discovered, that they were not yet ready to meet the Spanish forces in battle because they lacked arms and ammunications, that they had only their bolos and talibongs (pointed wooden truncheons) as weapons.

So early one morning Bonifacio and his band left Samson's place and proceeded to Pugad Lawin some two kilometers away. Tinienteng Polonio went with them, resolved to fight for his country. Pugad Lawin is now the site of the Quezon City General Hospital and other buildings and institutions in the surrounding area like the St. Catherine's Military Academy. Pugad Lawin was surrounded by a huge stone and there were natural trenches inside, two meters wide with a depth up to a man's waist and up to the neck at some points.

Bonifacio ordered a stop in Pugad Lawin obviously to wait for something. At three in the afternoon, he was observed to be restless and in deep thought. So Tinienteng Polonio asked him: "Supremo, the Katipuneros are hungry. What are we waiting for?" Bonifacio answered: "We are waiting for a company of 76 Filipino soldiers who will desert their Spanish command and come to join us. They are well armed whereas we have only these two pistols that I hold and you have only bolos and talibongs."

Tandang Sora

When evening came and the expected deserting Filipino soldiers failed to show up, Bonifacio ordered his men to resume their march to Banlat. At Banlat they were warmly welcomed by Tandang Sora in her big house. An affluent lady, she had vast sugar lands, and plenty of Carabaos. Like Tinienteng Polonio, Tandang Sora fed the Katipuneros.

A lookout was posted on the high limb of a tall tamarind tree where he had a commanding view of the surrounding area. After several days in Banlat, the lookout espied a company of Spanish soldiers coming towards the fields. He yelled a warning. Bonifacio barked an order: "Let us meet them." His men responded as one and with their Supremo in the lead, they rushed to meet the approaching Spanish soldiers. They engaged them in battle at a bridge which was known as Tulay-na-Putol. Thinking that they were greatly outnumbered, the faint-hearted Spaniards retreated. But this initial victory of the katipuneros exacted the first casualty, Juan Rocabo of Kaunlaran, Banlat.

A concrete marker in the shape of a coffin was erected in 1947 near the bridge by the Rolling Stones Club of Banlat headed by the late Felipe Pilares. The marker, which can still be seen today, bears this inscription:

"Sa mga kapatid sa K.K.K. na unang nasangawi sa kapookang ito ng salakayin ng mga Guardia Civil sina A. Bonifacio pagkatapos ng Unang Sigaw ng Kalayaan sa Balintawak noong ika 26 ng Agosto 1896."

Simultaneous Uprisings

The day following the Tulay-na-Putol encounter, several uprisings occurred simultaneously in Cavite, San Juan and other towns in the Greater Manila area. Bonifacio and his men raided the Spanish arsenal in San Juan and succeeded in capturing it. But in the confusion of the fierce righting, Bonifacio was separated from his men. He was later killed in Marogondong, Cavite under dubious circumstances.

LATEST...

City Treasurer's Office whose name escapes us at the moment. A former City Hall official, Francisco "Pate" Alvarez, also had a heart bypass when he was Chief of the Cultural and Tourism Affairs Office 10 years ago. Then, the operation cost him P80,000.00. We understand, Gerry's bypass set him back about P300,000. Fellow alumnus Mathay chipped in.

According to Dr. Romeo D. Zamora, who was interviewed a member of our staff, Jimmy Oliver, the first bypass operation at the Philippine Heart Center was performed in 1985, 15 years after the bypass surgery was first started in the late 1960s as one method of treating coronary artery disease. The purpose of the surgery, Dr. Zamora said, is "to increase circulation and nourishment to the heart muscle which is needed when there is a deficiency coursed by a blockage in the coronary artery. A large vein, called the saphenous vein, is removed from the leg after an incision is made. One end of the vein is attached to the aorta (The heart is exposed by sawing apart the breastbone) and the other end is connected to the coronary artery below the blockage, bypassing the obstructed area. The coronary artery8 bypass supplies blood to an area of the heart deficient in blood."

Dr. Zamora said that the Center is now performing three to four bypass operations a week. This would make it appear that said operation is now just a minor kind of operation, like an appendectomy. The fact is, a bypass operation is an extremely difficult, delicate job requiring the utmost surgical skill. The Center's heart surgeons have all studied and specialized in the United States, England and Australia, the Philippine Heart Center Director said. For Gerry's bypass operation, the chief surgeon was Dr. Chua Chiaco, Jr. who was assisted by Drs. Tomaxruz, Presbitero, Alota, Manzo, Mancao and , Cordan. Anathesologist was Dr. Oppus while the attending nurses were Ms. Nombres, Ms. Agustine and Mr. Reyes.

4-6 Weeks Recovery Period

The operation took all of 6 hours and 25 minutes. After his discharge from the hospital, Gerry had to go through a 4-6 weeks recovery period during which time he had to do walking exercise, starting slowly then, gradually increasing his daily mileage until he could walk a mile in 20 minutes after about two weeks and finally, three miles after the 6th week.

There are many things a bypass graduate can not do. No smoking, above all, but normal social drinking is allowed. Lifting any object greater than 10 lbs. should be avoided. When climbing stairs. he must do it slowly, stopping frequently to rest. He should take 8-10 hours sleep. Fortunately, sexual activity is allowed — after two weeks but, and this is a very important but, "The partner that has had the surgery should be in the more passive position... "which means that if it is the man who had the bypass, it must be the woman partner who... well, use your imagination in completing this sentence.

The doctors say that if a heart bypass "graduate" survives five years after surgery, his heart is as good as new, This reminds us of Mayor Mathay's detractors who say that his bypassed heart is his Achilles heels. The Mayor's bypass occurred more than 8 years ago, which means that his heart is as strong and steady as can be expected and this is proven by the fact that in spite of his daily hectic schedule, it has not given him any trouble. As to Gerry, he has five years to go but if he stick religiously to the post-operative regimen as prescribed by the heart doctors, we are sure he can make it

Before ending this piece, may we say a little more about Dr. Zamora, He is a theracic and cardio-vascular surgeon, not a heart surgeon, which is why his appointment as the Center's Director was at first questioned. But since his appointment last March 8 he has been running the Center in a very competent and exemplary manner as attested by the 3 to 4 bypass operations a week. He has the full support and backing of Department of Health Secretary, Dr. Juan Flavier.

(Editor's Note: Portions lifted verbatim by Councilor Samson are in Italics except those in Editor's Note.)

As recorded in our history books, the revolution started by Bonifacio with his "Cry of Balintawak" did not succeed in attaining freedom for the country because of the unexpected involvement of the United States. With the establishment of the American regime, those who participated in the revolution who refusewd to swear allegiance to the new masters, like Tandang Sora and Mabini, were exiled to Guam.

But Apolonio Samson and his cousing Tandang Isco fled to the mountains of Buso-Buso in Norzagaray, Bulacan where they lived in a little hut. Now and then, Tandang Isco went down to the poblacion to buy provisioins and to catch news of goings-on under the Americans.

One day Tandang Isco arrived from one of his periodic visits to town. Samson was not in the hut. He searched the premises but failed to find him. Tandang Isco walked to the nearby creek and there at the edge of the creek he found the body of his cousin. His skull was broken. Beside his corpsew lay the wooden handle of a plow. Tandang Isco surmised that somebody sneaked from behind Tinienteng Polonio and hacked him on the head with this club. After burying Samson;s body, Tandang Isco went to town.

P1,000 Reward Dead or Alive

He made inquiries and learned that a P1,000 reward had been offered for the capture of Tinienteng Polonio, dead or alive. The man who accepted the offer went to Norzagaray and gave P500 to a resident of the town to undertake the killing. This resident of the town in turn gave P200 to the owner of the hut where the two fugitives from American rule had been hiding. It was this traitorous hut owner who finally bludgenoned Tinienteng Polonio to death.

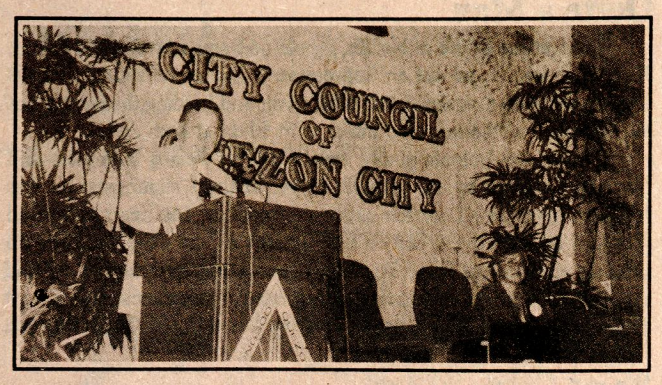
Thus tragically ended the life of a freedom lover and fighter whom history has failed to mention. Something shsould be done to rectify this historical oversight, for Apolonio Samson had such a rich claim to historical notation and placement in the roster of Filipino heroes, firstly, as the owner of the house where the "Cry of Balintawak" was sounded by Bonifacio, secondly, for having fed and sheltered the katipuneros, thirdly for joining and fighting with them, and lastly, for refusing to surrender to the new American rulers, show a love for freedom for which he ultimately paid for with his life.

PICTORIAL

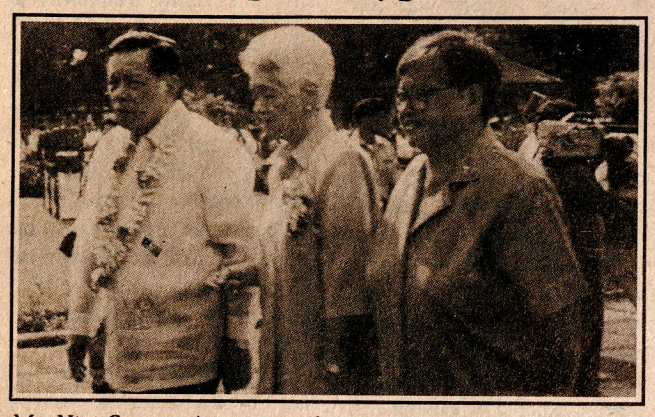
All Photos By Vic Oliver



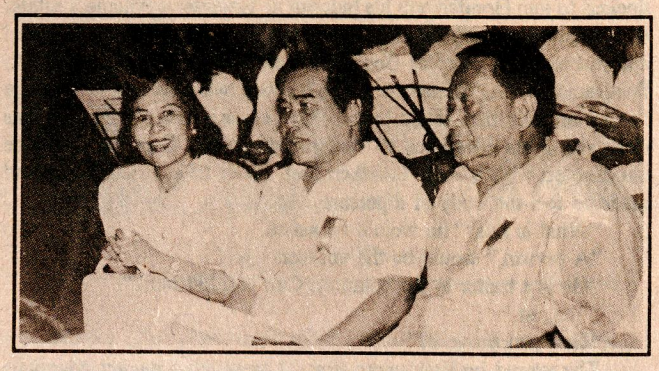
Mayor Mathay leads Executive Secretary Teofisto Guingona, Ms. Nini Quezon Avanceña and Vice Mayor Charito Planas to the Quezon monument at the QC Circle for the wreath laying ceremony and the commemorative mass and program in the basement of the monument which is the QC museum of Quezon memorabilla.



Mayor Mathay delivering his state of the city address during the 152nd session of the Council presided over by Vice Mayor Planas.



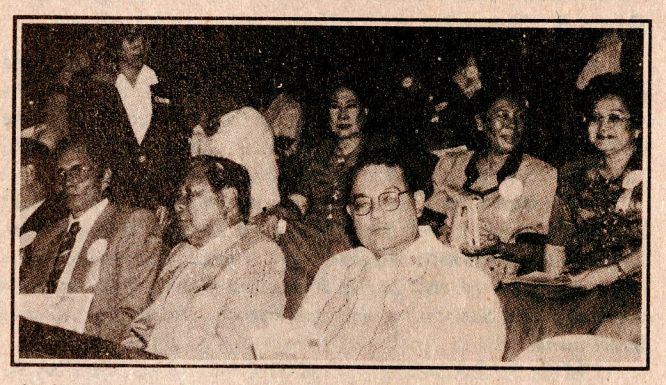
Ms. Nini Quezon Avanceña with escorts Mayor Mathay and Vice Mayor Planas.



Barangay Operations Center Chief and Secretary to the Mayor Lourdes Santos is shown at left in the section for Barangay Officials.



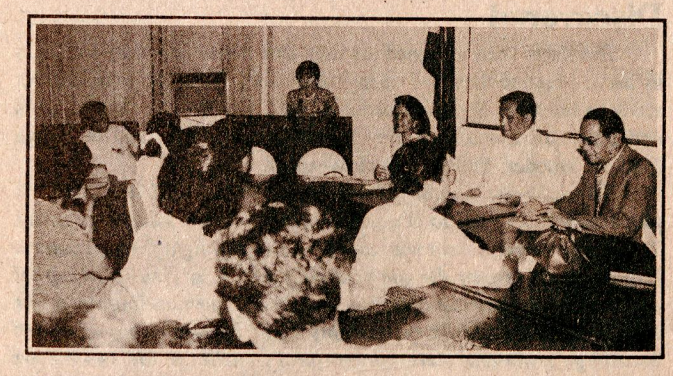
Ms. Nini Quezon Avanceña, cuts the ceremonial ribbon opening Quezon moemorabilla exhibits, assisted by Mayor Mathay, Executive Secretary Guingona and Vice Mayor Planas.



At the section for Department Heads and Chiefs of Offices may be seen, second row, from right, Dr. magdalena Ybañes of the Health Department, Teresita Mariano of the Social Welfare Services Administration and Budget Officer Estrella Gerardo.



At the opening ceremonies in the celebration of NGO Week recently. Speaking is former Fiscal Lea T. Castelo, Chairman of the NGO Week Celebration Committee. At left, are Councilor Melencio Castelo and Vice May or Charito Planas. At the back row may be seen Councilors Bautista, Medina, Altuna and Judge Luciano.



City Superintendent of Libraries Blanquita L. Del Barrio is shown speaking at the seminar on "Principles of Success" conducted by the Success Foundation Philippines, headed by Dr. and Mrs. Cesar M. Quinsay.

PARKING...

and persons acting in thier behalf of motor vehicles (cars, jeepneys and tricycles) are required to secure an Overnight Parking License (OPL) from the Office of the Mayor through the Business Permits and License Office. This requirement applies to said owners, operators and their representatives who habitually park their vehicles the entire night along city streets/roads, sidewalks or any portion thereof. The overnight parking privilege granted by theOPL is restricted to that portion of the street/road directly in front of the licensee's house or place of business. There are other restrictions which apply to night parking whether overnight or not, as follows:

a. Any ten-wheeler truck, trailer or cargo, and similar motor vehicles can not avail itselves of the privileges granted in this ordinance.

b. Said parking privileges apply only along city streets/roads which are not main thoroughfares and/or not designated as official routes of public utility vehicles. Streets within private subdivisioins are not covered by the ordinance.

c. Parking time is restricted to from 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. the following day.

d. Parking is strictly prohibited in the following places:

1) Within six (6) meters of the intersection on curve lanes;

2) On croowalks;

3) Within four (4) meters of the driveway/entrance to any fire station/hospital/clinic and health center and police station and detachment;

4) Within four (4) meters of fire hydrants;

5) On the roadside of any vehicle stopped or parked;

6) At the foot or near the bridge;

7) At any place where the official signs have been erected prohibiting parking and or to be declared "No Parking" zone by the Metro Manila Anti- Traffic Operations Center.

The annual fee for an Overnight Parking License shall be P200 for private cars/jeeps, P150 for jeepneys and P100 for tricycles. A sticker is issued after payment of the required fee.

2. Night Parking Fee. For part-time night parking except when loading or unloading, the following fees are charged:

a. For cars/jeepneys: P5.00 for the first 3 hours or fraction thereof and P1,00 for each subsequent hour or fraction thereof

b. For tricycles: P___ for the first 3 hours or fraction thereof and P____ for each subsequent hour or fraction thereof.

3. Collection and Distribution. The Barangay Councils shall do the collection of Night Parking Fees through their duly deputized Parking Aides. Fifty percent (50%) of the total parking fees collected (both OPL and NPF) goes to the City Treasurer while the other fifty percent (50%) goes to the barangay concerned.

4. Penalties. For violation of provisions of this ordinance, penalties are provided. as follows:

Under OPL: For private cars/jeeps, Fine of P500 for first Offense, P750 for second offense and for third offense, P1,000 plus towing fee. For jeepneys: P400, P600 and P800 plus towing fee. For tricycles P300, P450 and P600 plus towing fee.

Under NPF: For private cars/jeeps: P300, P550 and P800 plus towing fee. For jeepneys: P200, P400 and P600 plus towing fee and for tricycles: P100, P250 and P400 plus towing fee.

(Editor's Note: Unlike many other proposed ordinances sloppily prepared, this ordinance is meticulously prepared.)

Symposium On Values Enrichment And Leadership

The Office of the Scholarship and Growth Development Program under the Office of the Mayor headed by Mrs. Lourdes S. Rances and Ms. Melissa Macapanpan conducted recently a symposium on Values Enrichment and Leadership for QC Government scholars at the QC Bulwagan Hall.

Around 800 scholars of the City Government attended and

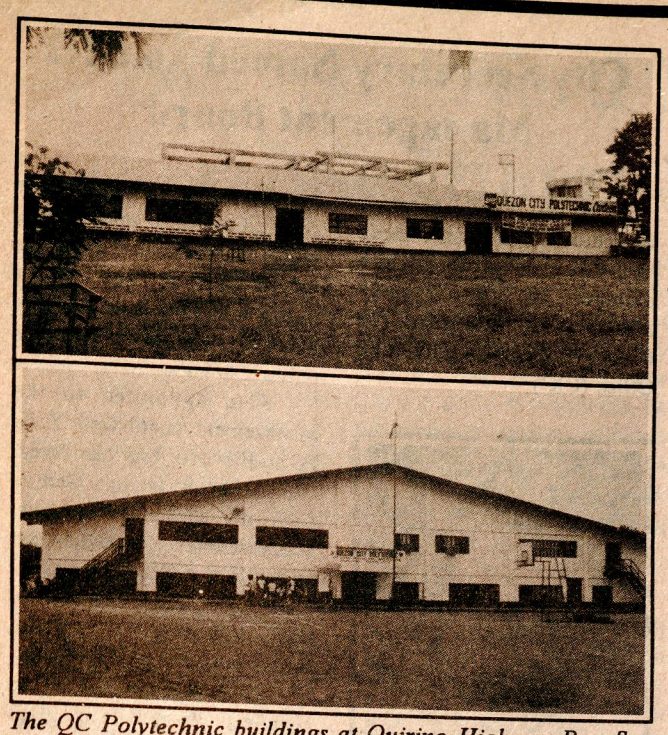
(Turn To Page 8)

Program Of Work And Detailed Estimate For The Proposed Renovation Of The Quezon City Polytechnic

(Editor's Note: We have been furnished a copy of the Scope of Work which was attached to the contract for the renovation of the QC Polytechnic awarded to Andrade Construction and Development, Inc. Do the 44 different kinds of repair to be done justify the cost of more than P32 million? That is what the Vice Mayor and Presiding Officer wanted to find out from the UAAP to which she had intended to refer the matter.)

Scope Of Work:

1. Construction of six (6) seaters comfort room as per plan.
2. Construction fo mezzanine at the rear portion of the building as per plan.
3. Repartitioning of the ground floor.
4. Installation of plywood folding partition at the designated area.
5. Removal of all existing electrical rough-ins and wooden horizontal support.
6. Re-installation of electrical rough-in and fixtures at the Polytechnic and welding shop building.
7. Installation of concrete electric post with cross arm in between the Polytechnic and welding shop building.
8. Rehabilitation of the existing comfort room and water line at the grund floor and mezzanine floor.
9. Rehabilit ation and additional installation of roofing Rotary Ventilation.
10. Plastering of the existing CHB wall at the rear portion of the building cement finish.
11. Installation of steel casement window at the rear elevation of the Polytechnic and welding shop building.
12. Replacement of all existing awning window to steel casement around the Polytechnic building.
13. Installation of trusses, purlins, GI Corr. sheets roofing, GI Ridgeroll, GI Flushing, Fascia Boards, GI Gutters, PVC Downspout, Ceiling Joist, plywood ceiling, studs, CHB wall and plywood sidings at the welding shop and canteen building.
14. Replacement of all broken window glass
15. Installation of CHB wall at both ends and sidewall of the welding shop and canteen building.
16. Plastering of existing CHB wall and installation of door and flush door at the welding shop building and provision of double wall partition between office and storage.
17. Construction of one seater comfort room at the canteen.
18. Demolition of existing CHB wall at the welding shop building.
19. Concreting 148.80 sq.m. floor slab at the canteen.
20. Construction of service counter with sink and hanging and low cabinet at the canteen.
21. Construction of concrete counter with glazed tiles and food aluminum glass display and partition between kitchen and canteen.
22. Construction of 6" dia. drainage system and catch basin aroound the welding shop and canteen building.
23. Provision of water supply line and source.
24. Repair and replacement of all worn out G.I. gutters, PVC downspouts, G.I. corr. sheet and Transparent Fiber Glass roofing of the Polytechnic Building.
25. Patching of all roof leaks at the welding shop and Polytechnic Building.
26. Construction of slope way or ramp for the disabled.
27. Installation of ceiling joist and ceiling board of the whole interior of Polytechnic and welding shop building complete with wooden and steel round bar hanger welded on purlins including plywood walling on top of the mezzanine ceiling on both end of the building.
28. Installation of window Aluminum screen wire, Aluminum Screen door, Exhaust fan, Kitchen hood and Ceiling fan at the canteen.
29. Demolition of existing double wall partition and construction of plywood service count er with open shelves at the mezzanine near the Director's Office.
30. Replacement of all damage flush door and installation of additional door lamb and flush doors.
31. Demolition of all existing broken glazed and unglazed tiles.
32. Repair and replacement of all warping plywood ceiling at the existing mezzanine and ground floor.
33. Installation of plywood ceiling to all existing cube light at the ground floor.
34. Construction of covered walk from the rear service door to the new comfort room.
35. Construction of concrete stairway at the right corner of the Polytechnic Building, an access way to the welding shop.
36. Construction of drinking fountain with two wash hand sink at the rear elevation of the building.
37. Installation of Vinyl tiles at the new mezzanine floor.
38. Construction of flagpole infront of the Polytechnic Building.
39. Installation of 0.60m x 5.40m window glass jalousie at the laboratory room.
40. Declogging of all clogged waste line.
41. Painting the whole interior and exterior of the Polytechnic, welding shop and canteen building with two coats including roofing and up side back roofing of the expose roof leaves.
42. Construction of CHB perimeter fence as per plan.
43. Construction of deepwell, elevated tank, submersible pump with motor pump and housing.
44. Rip saw cutting of existing 8"x8"x10 Lumber to 2"x8"x10.



The QC Polytechnic buildings at Quirino Highway, Bgy. San Bartolome, Novaliches, Q.C. Their renovation at a cost of P32 million, is questioned by the Vice Mayor who considers said cost excessive.

PLANAS...

consonance with its being a Polytechnic."

Planas said that she could not make the reference yet because Galarpe has failed to provide her a copy of the renovation plan.

Galarpe, who likes to stress, at every opportunity, the ministerial nature of the Presiding Officer's function to sign duly passed legilslative measures, does not look with favor on the Planas request for a 30-day extension within which to sign the resolution, notwithstanding the good purpose of the requested extension and Planas' assurance that "this is not in any way an attempt to shrink away from my function as Presiding Officer to sign legislative measures passed by our Sanggunian."

(Editor's Note: Our own information is that one third of the amount, 32,279,828.24 to the exact, is sufficient to foot the bill for the renovation. On the other hand, in fairness to the Committee on Awards, we must mention here that under scope of work in the renovation plan, there are 44 different kinds of repairs to be done, (see list on page 6) some of them somewhat of major proportions, so that it is possible the P32 million renovation cost may be tolerable just tolerable. The intent of the Vice Mayor to refer the plan to the United Architects Association is in order. It will settle the matter of whether the amount invovled is excessive or tolerable. Incidentally, we also got the information that Andrade Construction and Development, Inc. is owned by a certain former DPWH Official.)

CITY...

20 years, starting in 1974 as Legal Assistant in the then newly created City Attorney's Office. In 1976, he was promoted as Legal Officer, then as Senior Legal Officer in 1978. Two years later in 1980, he became Chief of the Legal Services Division. With the outbreak of the EDSA revolution, he worked with the Department of Trasportation and Communication, assigned to the LTO. He returned to the City Attorney's Office in 1987 as Senior Legal Officer IV. In 1988 he was promoted as Assistant City Attorney, a position he occupies at present. Atty. Valencia is the son of former CFI Judge Augusto L. Valencia. He is married to Concepcion M. Valencia with whom he has five children.

When Mathay assumed office in July 1992, he sent an advisory letter to Hilario, dated July 24, 1992, informing him that "pursuant to Section 481, Article II of the Local Government Code of 1991 providing that the position of the City Legal Officer is coterminous with the appointing authority (then Mayor Simon appointed Hilario City Attorney on August 18, 1986), you are considered resigned as of June 30, 1992."]

Appeal

But Atty. Hilario appealed to the "Civil Service Commission, which is headed by the honorable Patricia A. Sto. Tomas. In CSC Resolution No. 93-4067, dated September 21, 1994, the Civil Service Commission sustained Mayor Mathay.

Hilario filed a motion for reconsideration which the Commission denied in Resolution No. 94-3336, June 23,1994. In resolving the case, the CSC stated: "The issue is simple: Is the position of City Legal Officer (City Attorney) a primarily confidential position? The answer is in the affirmative."

The CSC supported its affirmative answer by citing a Supreme Court ruling in the Cadiente vs. Santos case, as follows;

"... the position of City Legal Officer is one requiring that utmost confidence on the part of the Mayor be extended to said officer. The relationship between a lawyer and his client, whether a private individual or a public officer is one that depends on the highest degree of trust that the latter entertains for the counsel selected..."

Wherefore, the Commission concluded its Resolution: "Clearly, the issuance by Mayor Mathay of the letter of July 24, 1992 informing Movant (Hilario) that he is considered resigned as of June 30, 1992, is a positive act of the former to declare that he has lost trust and confidence in the latter. Thus, when Mayor Mathay did not reappoint Atty. Hilario, it is deemed that the latter's term of office expired."

Flash

As we go to press Atty. Mario Laqui takes over the office.

Councilor Angeles' Stand Against Movie Ban Upheld

The stand of Councilor Connie Angeles against the ban on movies featuring actors and actresses involved in the Manila Film Festival seam has been upheld. The Metro Manila theater owners and operators have lifted the ban on movies featuring Nanette Meded and Gabby Concepcion.

The Lady Councilor had voiced her stand against the movie ban in a privilege speech she delivered in the Council, saying that it was unfair to other movie people not involved in the scam, particularly the movie producers who, she said, had spent a fortune in producing the banned movies. It was precisely and mainly on this ground pertaining to the producers' plight that the theater owners and operators' lifted the ban.

(Editor's Note: At the time Connie made her stand against the movie ban, public indignation over the scam was at its height. It took some nerve to make a stand in defiance of that outcry. Based on her privilege speech, we sent a press release to MANILA BULLETIN, which put it out in its July 13, 1994 issue. We are reprinting it hereunder.)



QC lady dad urges lifting of movie ban

'Unfair to other movie people'

By BEN O. FLORES

Quezon City Councilor Connie Angeles urged Metro Manila mayors and theater owners and operators yesterday to lift the ban on movies featuring the actors and actresses involved in the Manila Film Festival scam.

Angeles, who is herself an actress, a producer and host of the TV program "Kapwa Ko, Mahal Ko," said that the ban is unfair to those in the movie industry who had nothing to do with the anomaly.

Angeles

She was referring to the producers, directors, script writers, cameramen and all others involved in movie production.

"The producers have already spent a fortune in making these movies," the lady councilor said. "The ban will put them in great financial distress, if not outright bankruptcy."

Angeles also deplored the plight of the "many lowly movie workers" who will be put out of work as a result of the ban.

While not questioning the "good motives" behind the ban, Angeles said that "it is prior restraint which does not meet the requirements of due process and is an abridgement of freedom of expression guaranteed in the constitution."

Street Lighting Gets Highest Rating

This report hereunder of the Parks Development and Administration Department headed by Cesar L. Siangho shows why street lighting obtained the highest rating among the four high-rated areas of the city government performance:

STREETLIGHTING FACILITIES ALONG MAJOR THOROUGHFARES IN QUEZON CITY

A. NEWLY INSTALLED NO. & TYPE OF POST

Legend SA-Single Arm Da-Double Arm PL-Park Lamp

1. Giraffe St. (Temple Drive - Greenmeadows)	14-SA
2. Visayas Ave. (Elliptical Rd. - Fisheries)	36-DA
3. Matalino Street (East Ave. - Kalayaan Ave.)	22-SA
4. EDSA (Infront of Camp Crame)	8-SA
5. E. Rodriguez, Sr. Ave. (Welcome Rotonda - Aurora Blvd.)	204-SA
6. Temple Drive (White Plains Ave. - Greenmeadows Ave.)	73-SA
7. Kalayaan Avenue (Elliptical Rd. - Kamias)	4-SA 50-DA
8. Elliptical Road (Outer)	63-SA
9. Commonwealth Ave. (Commonwealth Subd. Gate Fairview Gate)	22_DA
10. Aurora Blvd. (Katipunan Ave. - J.P. Rizal)	17-DA
11. Visayas Avenue (Congressional - Tandand Sora)	14-DA
12. Roces Ave. (Morato Ave. - Quezon Ave.)	6-SA 47-DA
13. B.I.R. Road (East Ave. - Quezon Ave.)	21-DA
14. NIA Road (East Ave. - B.I.R. Road)	25-DA
15. T. Morato (E. Rodriguez, Sr. Ave. - Timog Ave.)	20-SA 110-PL
16. Timog Avenue (EDSA - Quezon Avenue)	81-SA 3-DA
17. Quirino Hi-way (North Diversion Rd. - Lagro Gate)	338-SA
18. EDSA (Camp Crame - Annapolis)	10-SA
19. EDSA/Santolan (Four corners)	12-SA
20. EDSA (P. Tuazon - Santolan)	20-SA
21. EDSA (Kamias - New York)	26-SA
22. N.S. Amoranto Avenue (Araneta Ave. - Blumentritt Extn)	91-SA
23. Aurora Blvd. (15th Ave. - J.P. Rizal Street)	41-DA
24. C.P. Garcia (Katipunan Ave. - University Avenue)	71-SA

Outrageous Violation Of A Constitutional Right

Privilege Speech Delivered By Vice Mayor And Presiding Officer Charito L. Planas

I stand on the floor of this August Chamber to speak on a matter of national importance to which the attention of this Council is urgently called, affecting as it does the very foundation of our democratic institutions of which this representative body forms an integral part.

Yesterday, as you must have heard as you listened to the events that transpired that heralded the opening of the Ninth Congress to receive the report of the President on the State of the Nation, an assembly of conscientious citizens composed of respected members of this Council in the person of Councilor Mike Defensor and this humble representation, Congressmen Edsel Lagman and Romeo Candazo, the respected Bishop Teodoro Bacani, Mr. Joe Concepcion, representing the business sector, members of the academe, workers groups, of NGOs and large coalition of cause-oriented groups united under the banner of the Anti-Expanded Value Added Tax, were met with the staunch arm of law, four human barricades deep of supposed law-enforcers which ironically constituted the members of our own Police Force from the Central Police District, and without provocation, as if acting on a silent signal, began to aim at the assembly with water and truncheons. Honorable Michael Defensor and myself, among those actually present during that outrageous violation of our constitutionally guaranteed right to peaceful assembly for redress of grievances, were directly hit, in utter disrespect and without due regard to our person and the authority we represent. That act committed by the very agencies under the operational control and jurisdiction of this City, and who are committed to defend and enforce our laws and our constitution must speak either of utter ignorance of due process by our men in uniform, or of excessive abuse of power and authority, for which the chain-of-command must be called to task, and proper investigations be made as to the source of authority and the nature of instructions.

For the nature of the assembly was of a peaceful one; it posed no immediate or imminent danger to the safety and security of our Republic or of our public. We carried no arms; we were not in arms; we were there simply to voice out a considered opinion on the adverse and unjust provisions of the proposed Expanded Value Added Tax which this Honorable Council has also deemed substantial to express serious opposition and objections. It was an assembly to voice out a publicly-shared sentiment on a compelling public issue for which the right of speech and assembly can never be abridged, affecting as it does vital tax measures which directly affect our earning capacities and on which the voice of the people is the supreme law - *"Vox populi, vox dai."*

As the matter clearly falls within the authority and jurisdiction of our territorial limits, it is incumbent upon this body in the exercise of its investigative and legislative tasks, to call the attention of proper authorities for the immediate investigation, and imposition of corresponding sanctions, as necessary, on those who have not been properly tutored on the fundamental tenets on which our democratic structures are based, on the explanations and causes for this blatant violation of our basic Constitutional rights, and on enactment of appropriate measures rthat woiuld prevent the commission and repetition of want on acts of police abuses and unlawful infringement of our basic rights.

(Turn To Page 12)

B. PROPOSED INSTALLATION (WITH APPROVED PROGRAM)

1. Granada Street (Santolan Rd. - N. Domingo Street)	18-SA
2. Kamuning Road	47-SA
3. Broadway Street (N. Domingo St. - E. Rodriguez, Sr.) Avenue)	47-SA
4. Mayon Street	31-SA
5. Katipunan Avenue (White Plains Ave. - Boni Serrano Ave.)	47-DA
6. Balete Street	31-SA
7. Kamias Road (EDSA - Langka Street)	58-SA
8. Gilmore Street (N. Domingo St. - E. Rodriguez, Sr. Ave.)	94-PL
9. Dona Hemady Street (N. Domingo St. - E. Rodriguez, Sr. Avenue)	48-SA

REPAIRS/REHABILITATION

The lighting facilities in 2 bridges and 17 streets were repaired or rehabilitated:

T. Gener Bridge, Del Monte Bridge, N.D.C., K-6th St. in Kamuning, Pinatubo St., Banawe Avenue, N. Ramirez St., E. Rodriguez, Jr. St., Elliptical Road, Katipunan Avenue, Agham Road, West Avenue, City Hall grounds, Regalado Avenue, A. Bonifacio St., North Diversion Road, and Quezon Avenue.

The repair undertaken consisted of any one, two or three of the following, for each street:

1. Repainting of Post 2. Provision for dead post 3. replacement of defective automatic control panel or safety switch 4. replacement of busted bulbs 5. re-wiring of ground line or of lost wire 6.

In all major streets, the safety switch was replaced by automatic lighting control panel.

Proposed rehabilitating projects are: 1. EDSA (Annapolis - Ortigas fly-over) P771,305.00 and 2. E.B.P. Road (Commonwealth - Litex) P649,004.00.



Wise and Otherwise

By Eddie C. Flores

Legislative Superimposition

An ordinance granting additional retirement benefits to retired members of the Central Police District Command (CPDC) is the victim of what the author of the ordinance, our good friend Rey Calalay, calls "legislative superimposition."

Rey8 had filed the ordinance in response to the pleas of retired surviving members of the CPDC to be included as beneficiaries in a previously approved retirement benefits ordinance for the QC Police. Unfortunately, the ordinance was waylaid in the Committee on Ways and Means to which it had been referred.

Taking advantage of this waylay, Councilors Bert Galarpe and Tony Sioson pre-empted Ray's lost ordinance by filing a virtual Xerox copy of the Calalay ordinance and proudly announced it during the induction of the officers of the CPDC Police Retirees Association.

Stung by the "legislative superimposition, "Calalay delivered a scathing privilege speech against Galarpe and Sioson. He vented his ire on the Committed on Ways and Means derisively calling it Committee on Waste and Guess.

Well. it does look like an ethical faux pas has been committed. The Council owes is due and to impose disciplinary measures to give credit where credit is due and to impose disciplinary action on Galarpe and Sioson in order to discourage and avert a repetition of the "legislative superimposition" which has victimized Calalay.

"Butch" Bautista: Effective Motivator

Successful leaders are first and foremost effective motivators. Progressive and powerful nations have one thing in common: they have leaders who are excellent motivators. One such leader was Franklin Delano Roosevelt of the US. It was during his term that the Great Depression struck the land of milk and honey. Roosevelt, though paralyzed and confined to a wheelchair, motivated, inspired and rallied a suffering people not to yield to despair but to struggle with all their might to rise above the extreme economic difficulties of the times. They responded magnificently, heroically to Roosevelt's motivating and inspiring spirit and ultimately survived and prevailed over the Great Depression.

In the Council, we have an effective motivator in the person of Councilor Herminio "Butch" Bautista, who holds the distinction of being the youngest director to me a Pilipino movie when movie making was still in its infancy in the country.

We personally witnessed a demonstration of Butch's motivating proclivity. It was in his well-appointed office one evening when he invited us to take a shot of a Black Label bottle. It seems that his sons Hero, younger brother of Herb, the Councilor, was telling his dad of some difficulty he was encountering in the course, Architecture, he was taking. Butch hugged his son affectionately and said to him: "Kayang kaya mo yan anak, magaling ka naman, eh"—words that no doubt boosted the morale of the would-be architect. They are words of a father's faith in the inmate talent of his son and if, as they say, faith can move mountains, Butch's strong faith in his son will motivate him to strive to the utmost to scale the heights of success in the realm of architecture.

The young Hero Bautista, who is the number one kagawad in their barangay, struck me as the reserve, deep thinking type of person in contrast to his elder brother Herb who is outgoing and exuberant. We wish all the luck to hero and we share his father's faith in his ability to achieve an eminent and honorable place under the sun. Yes, we are sure he will live up to his name, Hero, and do his father proud.

A Fairy Godmother

Have you seen a fairy waving her magic wand? Maybe you have, but only a reel fairy in the movies. The working mothers in City Hall have seen not only a reel fairy but a real flesh and blood fairy in the person of Councilor Connie Angeles.

To these working mothers, the lady Councilor from the 3rd district is a fairy godmother. Knowing their difficulty in providing proper nursing care for their siblings while they are at work, Connie waved her legislative magic wand and voila a Takap Day Care Center sprang up within the City Hall compound as provided for in the pro-working mother ordinance she had authored.

Assured of professional nursing care for their children at the Center, the working mothers are worry free and so can concentrate more on their work, enhancing their efficiency and productivity thereby raising the standard of public service—thanks to a heaven sent fairy godmother: Connie Angeles. Incidentally, she is expecting a visit from the stork any time now at this writing.

GHOST...

Barangay funds. But incumbent Bgy Captain Moises Villegas, who was previously a Kagawad (Councilman), claims that his signature and that of another Kagawad, Pacifico Velarde, were faked in order to get a majority of Kagawad signatures to make the Resolution valid. This was necessary because two Kagawads refused to sign, Villegas said, so only three Kagawads out of seven, including the SK Chairman, willingly signed.

The construction materials were supposed to have been purchased from Kenstar Enterprises owned by a certain Jorge Omila, with address at 20 A-K Square, Condominium Sanville Subdivison, Project 8, Quezon City. The name of the company has been changed to Spandrel Construction.

The amount withdrawn by Bilgera and Mamayson was supposedly only for the payment of construction materials. There is no record of payment for the actual construction of the multi-purpose hall. That seems to further show that a ghost building haunts Bgy. Bungad.

Councilor Lagumbay Denounces Irresponsible News Reports

By Eddie C. Flores

Councilor Eufemio Lagumbay, in a privilege speech, denounced certain news reports as irresponsible and abuse of press freedom.

He was referring to a news report in the METRO MAIL, July 16, 1994 issue, assailing the ordinance appropriating P11 million for the observance of Philippine Councilors Week, September 1 to 7, as "a waste of the people's money" and to another news report in the MANILA CHRONICLE, July 21, 1994 issue, assailing the ordinance appropriating P6 million for a "week-long, city-wide fumigation and cleaning of Quezon City."

"Quezon City must be the dirtiest city in the world and the most infected with pests," the news report stated, "but what are seen around are two-legged pests called councilors."

Lagumbay said that the P11 million was not meant "to fete the QC Councilors," as claimed in the Metro Mail news report, but was for the undertaking of activities in the barangays for the benefit of the people, the poor especially.

Councilor Guillermo Altuna, principal author of the P11 million appropriation measure, also stood up to defend it. He said he can face the whole world to justify the measure.

(Lagumbay said that the news reports were insulting not only to the authors of the questioned ordinances but to all members of the Council. Why don't they feel insulted by the way the Acting GSO Chief, Antonio Laudico, continues to ignore the anti-graft measure authored by Councilor Mighty Mike Defensor requiring the posting of documents pertaining to the procurement of supplies and equipment for the city government? Does the Council have a double standard in assessing what is insulting and what is not?

Lagumbay advised newsmen to verify the facts and figures they gather for their stories. The trouble is some city officials are arrogant and uncooperative—they refuse to talk, probably because they are hiding some unsavory facts about their actuations. They can not afford to abide by the policy of transparency.—EDDIE C. FLORES)

P96,000

Financial Aid For QC Tennis Ace Okayed

By Eddie C. Flores

The City Council has passed an ordinance appropriating P96,000 as financial aid to Maricris Fernandez, a 14-year-old junior tennis player of Quezon City.

Councilor Reynaldo Calalay, author of the ordinance, said that Maricris will be receiving P8,000 monthly within one years to be charged to the QC Youth and Sports Development Council.

According to Calalay, it was Maricris' father-trainor who had appealed for financial support for his daughter who is currently training rigidly in preparation for her participation in international junior tournaments here and abroad.

The Councilor has expressed great optimism and confidence that with the monetary incentive that will be given to her, Maricris will be encouraged to strive hard in homing her tennis skills and become a weekly world class player.

Calalay said that Maricris has demolished practically all local tennis players in her age bracket and, in a recent 3-month tournament in Europe, she created waves in the international tennis scene by capturing championship honors and awards. Dubbed "Miss Future Philippine Tennis," Maricris is winning recognition as Asia's best .14-year-old female player.

IMPRESSIVE...

impressive credentials—CPA-Lawyer, Law Professor, Corporate Legal Counsel of various corporations, Tax, Financial and Management Expert, Delegate to the 1971 Constitutional Convention—and to the strong endorsements of prestigious organizations like the 88,000-strong Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accoountants (PICTA), Government Association of CPAs and (CACPA) and Philippine Association of CORPORATE SECTOR AUDITORS (PACA) and to equally prestigious persons like former President Diosdado Macapagal, Industrialist of the Year 1975 Domingo H. Guevara, Sr., Central Bank Governor Gabriel C. Singson, RP Government Negotiating Panel for the Ultra-Rightist Groups Chairman Alfredo F. Tadiar and previous COA Commissioner Pascasio S. Banaria.

Leaders of t he international audit community have pledged their support to the newly-confirmed COA Chairman—leaders like US Comptroller General Charles A. Bowsher, Portugal's "Tribunal de Contas" President Antonio de Souza Franco and India's Comptroller and Auditor General C. G. Somaiah.

There is some poetic justice in the confirmation of Gangan as COA Chairman, for he had played a leading role in its creation. As Chairman of the Constitutional Convention's Committee on auditing matters, he steered the Committee into converting the one-man ineffective General Auditing Office (GAO) into a Constitutional Commission on Audit, invested with independence and power.

Gangan has signified his intention to create a new image of COA not as watchdog but as guardian angels of the public purse.

"A watchdog is not an appropriate symbol for government auditors," he said, "We have to emulate and uphold the spirit of competition, justice, concern and prudence. We can find all of these only in man."

"I will strive to maintain the legacy of competence and integrity bequeathed by the first COA Chairman, the late Ismael Mathay, Sr." Gangan is reported to have said.

City Secretary Named To CIO Management Board

Quezon City Secretary Eugenio V. Jurilla has been named by President Ramos as a member of the 10-man Management Board of the Countryside Industrialization Office (CIO).



JURILLA

Jurilla, a lawyer and deputy secretary general of the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), represents the government sector in the (CIO) pursuant to Republic Act 7368.

QC Councilor Moises S. Samson lauded the President in appointing Jurilla to his new post and described the latter an "able and hard worker."

The body has been tasked to launch and promote industrialization through the establishment of manufacturing, processing and related industrialization through the establishment of manufacturing, processing and related industries nationwide to spur development in the countryside. It provides financial assistance to enterprises in every town and city.

Also appointed to the management board were Zoila Pedro-Elevado, Maripas Perez, Nenita Veran, Dennis George Lopez and Ma. Lourdes Tiquia, also representing the government sector, and Alberto Fenix, Jr., Francisco R. Floro, Juan C. Tan and Marietta P. Goco, representing the private sector.

Jurilla said that the CIO has also been charged to program and facilitate the distribution of financial assistance to approved countrywide industrialization projects and to implement the provisions of RA 7368.

The City Secretary said that the operations governing the board also encompassses the decision-making body of the office.

RA 7368 created the Countrywide Industrialization Fund with an appropriation from the national budget to be supplemented by funds from bilateral and multilateral sources which will be deposited with the PNB, DBP and LBP as a source of financial assistance to qualified industrialization projects.

SAMSON...

Barangay whom he claims to be his grand father. To support this averment, Samson quoted verbatim the following part of THE CAPITOL STANDARD ARTICLE:

"Days after, however, they received news that they were being surrounded by a company of Spanish civil guards. It was then that Bonifacio mounted the "batalan" of Samson's house and sounded the famous "Cry of Balintawak".

"Mga kababayan, Ngayon ay Oras na Upang Tayo ay Buong pusong Manindigan Laban sa Mga Suwail na Fraile, Mabuhay o Mamatay,

"The katipuneros answered;

"Mabuhay ang Supremo."

In his speech, Samson related how Apolonio Samson fed and sheltered Bonifacio and his men, how he joined them to fight with then, how the revolution started by Bonifacio failed because of the intervention of the United States, how Samson refused to surrender to the American rulers and fled to the mountains of Norzagaray, Bulacan where he was killed by an assassin hired by the Americans.

In relating these historical facts and events, Samson quoted almost verbatim pertinent portions of THE CAPITOL STANDARD article never intimating that they were not his own words.

It was in his own words, however, that Samson appealed to his colleagues in the Council to initiate a move to rectify historical errors and establish the fact that the "Cry of Balintawak" was sounded in Kangkong in the house of Apolonio Samson and that Samson (not the Councilor) be recognized for his heroism.

After Samson's speech, the Presiding Officer, Vice Mayor Charito Planas, told Samson that she will take up the matter with the National Historical Institute. It is be hoped that Mr. Madrilejo's article in THE CAPITOL STANDARD will be cited, being the source of Samson's speech.

How did the Councilor get a copy of the Madrilejo article? Well, we furnished it to him ourself—first, just a xerox copy but when he complained it was not clear enough, we gave him the original, tearing out the page containing the article from the Nov. 2, 1973 issue of THE CAPITOL STANDARD. All we requested, Samson to do was: "Banggitin mo naman si Madrilejo (author) at ang CAPITOL STANDARD.

Until we showed the article, Samson knew nothing of the "Cry of Balintawak" being sounded in the house of Apolonio Samson. Thus, in that early session of the Council when he first claimed that he was a grandson of Apolonio Samson and was challenged by Councilor Altuna to prove it, he did not claim that the "Cry of Balintawak" was sounded in his grandfather's house.

SYMPOSIUM...

their parents were invited too, on the belief, Rances said, that value formation within the environment of home and family is the foundation on which the character of an individual is developed.

The symposium was designed, Rances said, to orient the scholars on Filipino values and to teach them to relate themselves to the different aspects of life such as spiritual well-being, emotional growth, social responsibility and leaership capability. The sym posium, she added, will result not only in enlightening their minds but also in providing the impetus needed for them to actively perform their roles as student leaders in school and in the community.

Resource speakers were: Fr. Jerome Cruz, priest coordiantor of Archdiocese Youth Council; Ms. Maria Llanes, Human Resource Development Office, University of the Philippines; and Mr. Johnny dela Cruz, a human resource consultant.

I Can Not Afford To Be Smelling Nice While Others Stink—Mathay

This is how Mayor Ismael Mathay, Jr. justifies the permission he has given to other towns and cities in Metro Manila—San Juan, Marikina, Caloocan, Pasay and Manila—to dump their garbage at the 8-hectare Payatas dumpsite threatening to make it another Smokey Mountain. He also cites the historical fact that Quezon City was carved out of these contiguous towns and cities. It is only fair, he says, that Quezon City comes to their rescue on their garbage problems while solving the same problems of our own. According to him, in a recent DZRH interview, more than 3,000 tons of garbage from outside Quezon City are dumped daily at Payatas by 500 dump trucks making two trips in one day.

Alternative Dumpsites

Mathay realizes that, sooner or later, the Payatas dumpsite has to be closed if Payatas is to become the *Lupang Pangako* (Promised Land) that is meant for the resettlement of squatters. But before closure, alternative dumpsites have to be found. Perhaps, the Mayor should ask the help of Congressman Dante Liban who, in a press release in October last year, bragged that he was working for the "immediate closure" of the Payatas dumpsite and that "before Christmas (that year) it would be a thing of the past."

Mathay says that there are three main garbage disposal systems: Solid Waste Recovery and Recycling, Waste to Energy thru Incineration, and Landfill.

Best System

The best system, he says, is the first, Solid Waste Recovery and Recycling, but it requires a highly disciplined citizenry who will take the trouble to do garbage separation. The system is being promoted by the Mayor through an education drive in the schools.

The Waste to Energy System has this drawback: the incinerating plant needed for the purpose will take at least three years to build and operate and entails an enormous amount of expense. But as Mathay says, "action agad" is needed to avert a garbage crisis. Quezon City once had an incinerator under the late Mayor Amoranto but it didn't function well and eventually became a white elephant. It was finally sold as junk for about P3 million (original cost was P14 M, which at the time the incinerator was bought in 1965 was not chicken feed) under then Mayor Simon. Simon had an ambitious plan to build mini-incinerators in every barangay to solve the garbage problem. One such incinerator was actually built at a site within shouting distance from City Hall, but after operating satisfactorily under our good friend Johnny Ortiz for some time, it has been abandoned.

The landfill system has been tried at San Mateo, Rizal and Carmona, Cavite, but with indifferent success. Latest report has it that the Cavite governor has ordered the closure of the Carmona landfill as a health hazard to the residents in the area.

Tokyo Report

In Tokyo and Hong Kong, the landfill and waste to energy systems are successfully used in taking care of their garbage. Mayor Mathay visited Tokyo last year to observe how that city handles its garbage. In his report to the President, Mathay said that Tokyo with a population of 12 million generates 20,000 tons of garbage daily. This is taken care of by its 312-hectare landfill system and its waste to energy plant which generates electricity for industrial and residential use. The garbage is first pulverized before being dumped into the landfill. The report stated that 3,480 vehicles, 30% government-owned and 70% privately-owned, make five trips daily to haul Tokyo's garbage to the landfills and to the incinerators.

In Hong Kong which has an area of 1,067 sq. km and a population of more than 6 million. "Some 20,000 tons of solid waste are disposed of each day in 1 incinerator and 3 landfills." We are quoting this from a letter to us of Mr. M.J. Stokoe, Hong Kong's Assistant Director for Waste Facilities. We have always been interested in garbage problem having once been Executive Officer, under then City Architect Lucing Aquino, who was concurrently Chief of the North Sector, Refuse and Environmental Sanitation Center (RESC). Last year when the San Mateo and Carmona landfills were being developed in the face of the objections of the residents in the area, we wrote Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten inquiring of Hong Kong's garbage disposal system. We told him of the situation at San Mateo and Carmona where the development of the landfills was being protested by the residents in the area.

Chris Patten

Unlike many of our public officials who do not bother to answer inquiries from ordinary citizens like us, Governor Patten asked, not only one but two, of his officials involved in environmental protection to attend to our inquiry. Mr. Stokoe who was first to write his letter that "of the 3 landfills in Hong Kong, one is located adjacent to residential development..."just like the San Mateo and Carmona landfills, but with a big difference: The Hong Kong landfill is "built to very high environmental standards. This includes requiring the site to be a total containment site, that is, the site is lined with an impermeable membrane and all the polluted liquid and landfill gas produced by the decomposition of refuse is treated on site prior to any discharge."

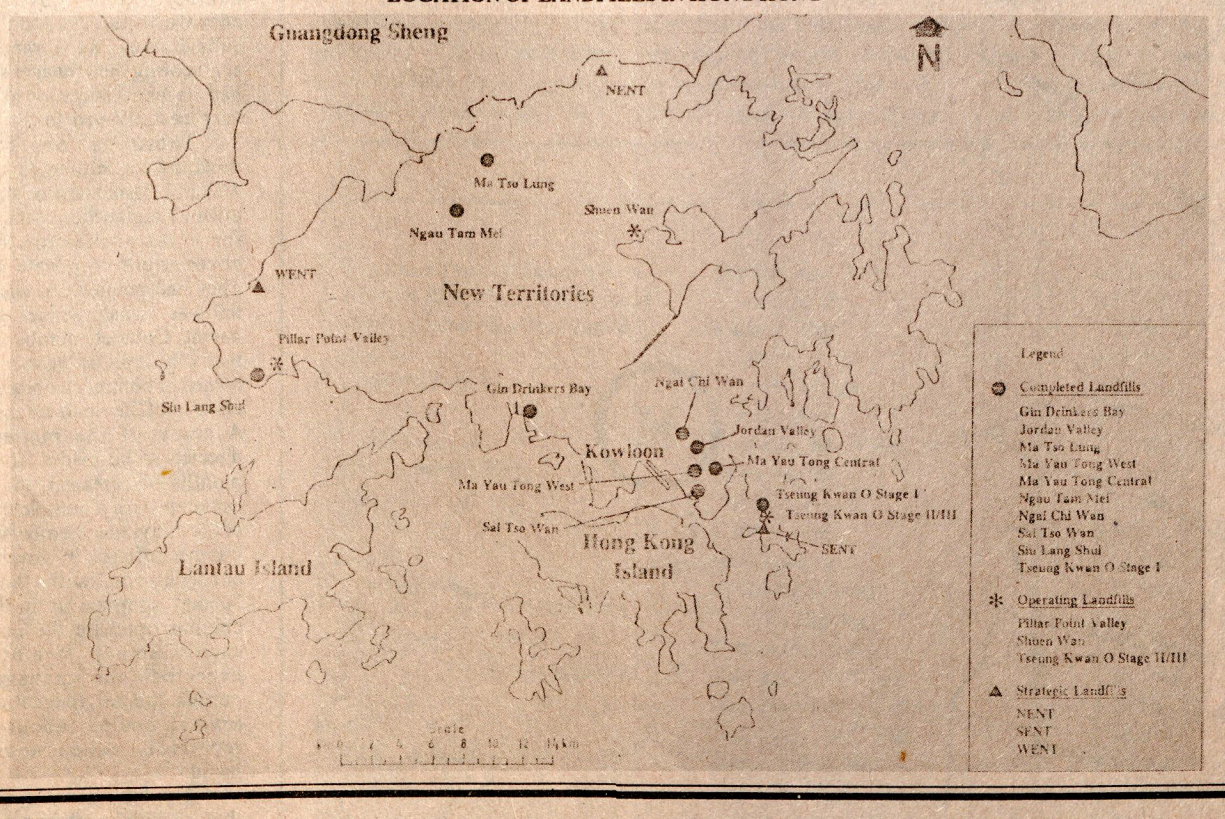
Shuen Wan Landfill

The other Hong Kong official who wrote us was Mr. Nicholas Fry of the Territory's Planning, Environment and Lands Office. He wrote:

"Of our existing three landfills, two are some considerable distance away from residential areas, while one lies between an industrial estate and a high class residential housing estate. The latter, Shuen Wan Landfill, may be of some relevance to your situation(at San Mateo and Carmona Landfills, about which we wrote in our letter of inquiry) and, for your information, I enclose a brief note on the operation of the landfill and the measures taken to mitigate the adverse effects of the landfill. I also enclose a map showing the location of closed, operating and planned landfills in the Territory, together with some details about their lifespan and their operating dates. I also enclose a photograph of Shuen Wan Landfill showing part of the Tai Po Industrial Estate in the background."

The picture and literature on Hong Kong's landfill system are reproduced below for whatever they may be worth in encouraging the further development of the San Mateo and Carmona landfills. If Hong Kong can lick the problem of its landfills' proximity to residential areas, why can't MMA do it? We have furnished Mayor Mathay copies of the letters of Hong Kong's environmental protection officials and their enclosures as shown below.

LOCATION OF LANDFILLS IN HONG KONG



Brief Notes On The Operation of Shuen Wan Landfill, Tai PO

A landfill is a site for disposal of refuse in a sanitary manner, with appropriate measures to mitigate the environmental nuisance associated with the operation. The Shuen Wan Landfill is located south of Ting Kok Road, with Hong Kong Industrial Estate on the west and Fortune Garden on the east. Each day, about 6,000 tons of various types of waste are disposed of at this landfill between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. daily mainly from Sha Tin, Tai Po, North District and Tsuen Wan. However chemical waste and hazardous waste are not allowed into this landfill.

The refuse vehicles have to go through thee weighbridge. After that they are directed to the designated tipping bay which will move from day to day as the filling proceeds. The unloaded refuse is spread and compacted in layers by special landfill compactors. Normally, inert materials such as soil is spread to cover the exposed refuse from late morning onwards when the thickness of the refuse reaches 2m and at the end of the day. The gate will be closed at 6:00 pm each day and all refuse is covered with inert material normally before 7:00 pm.

The main contractor is responsible for the direction of traffic, spreading, compaction and covering up of the refuse; watering of the internal roads to suppress the dust, and cleaning of the vehicles before regressing the site. In addition, the contractor is responsible to carry out the site preparation work, and roads and drains associated with the landfill operation.

Government site staff, consisting of 1 Engineer's Representative (ED), 1 Senior Inspector of Works (STOW), 1 Assistant Inspector of Works (AVOW), 1 Senior Work Supervisors, 3 Work Supervisors and 3 Artisans are deployed to supervise the landfill operation and constructions works.

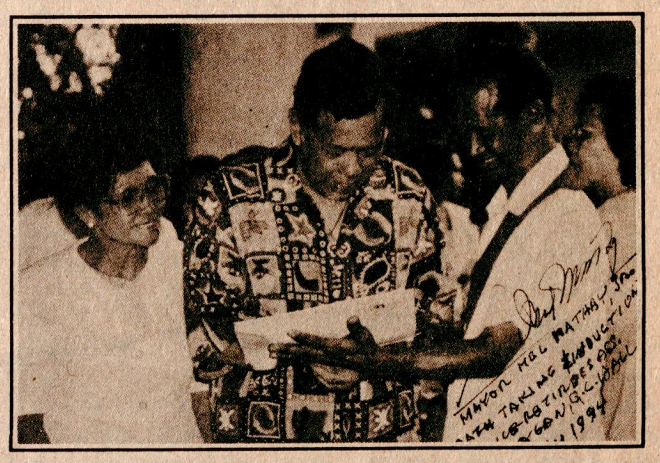
A Works Supervisor, assisted by 2 Artisans, is assigned each day to work overtime to ensure that the tipping face is completely covered with inert material at the end of each day.

A CCTV has recently been installed on site to monitor and record the landfill operation and completion of daily cover material on site.

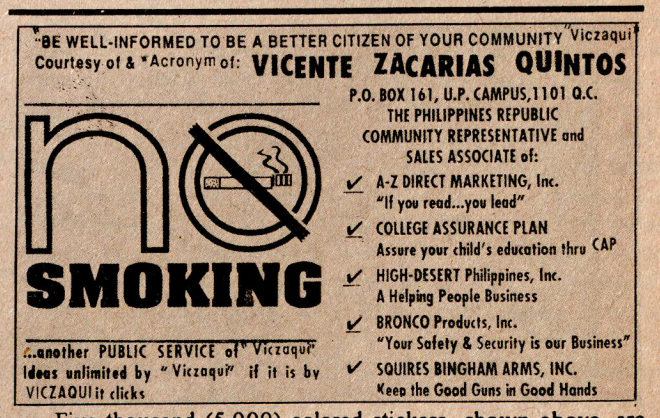
Other mitigation measures such as spraying of insecticides, watering of internal haul roads, and wheel washing bay operations are also carried out daily under regular supervision. Should the contractor not perform satisfactorily on any aspect, he will be informed take remedial measures immediately.

A progress meeting chaired by the ER is held on monthly basis to review and discuss the progress and performance. At these meetings, the contractor would be advised to note and take appropriate actions where deemed necessary.

The contractors' activities are recorded in a site diary which is signed by the ER and the contractor's site agent.



Mayor Mathay autographs a copy of the "Three Musketeers" picture of himself, Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim and Vice President Joseph Estrada published in ASIAWEEK which is being presented by retired QC Corporal Vic Za. Quintos. Occasion was the high noon mass at the QC lobby last June 25, a day before Mel's birthday sponsored by the CPDC then headed by Gen. Diony Ventura.
"Viczaqui" was the mass server and Eucharist Minister in said mass.



Five thousand (5,000) colored stickers, shown above, are flooding Metro Manila. They can be seen in jeepneys, busses and elevators, public buildings, hospitals, eateries, etc.

Responsible for the proliferation of the stickers is Vic Zu Quintos, "Viczaqui" to his close associates. He is the recipient recently of a plaque awarded by the Philippine Media Research and Progress Report, Inc. at the Manila Hotel for being a model police retiree, civic leader and a constant propagator of the Word of God. He is a lifetime member of the Philippine Bible Society and Special Minister of the Eucharist.

He has been an ardent advocate of the NO SMOKING drive in Metro Manila for the past six years. During this time, he has warned and educated no less than 8,000 cigarette smokers on the harmful effects of cigarette smoking. He has never resorted to "citizen's arrest," depending only on gentle persuasion. He is the assistant PRO of the recently organized QC Police Retirees Association, Inc. (QCPRA). Vic "Viczaqui" Quintos is from Labrador, Pangasinan.

Recent Measures Taken To Reduce Nuisances To The Public

i. Commissioning of the additional automatic vehicle washing facilities. This has significantly reduced the amount of mud spillage onto Ting Kok Road by out going vehicles.

ii. Repaving of the access road between the gate and the weighbridge with concrete paving blocks, which enables mud removal from vehicle's wheels by dry spinning.

iii. A specialist pest control company was engaged by the main contractor. Insecticides used have been agreed by RSD to be suitable. Frequency of spraying has been increased to daily application.

iv. 20 km/hr speed limit imposed within site to reduce dust and noise nuisances.

Upgrading of the old wheel washing facilities with high pressure jets, to further improve control of mud spillage onto Ting Kok Road.

Extension of the paved internal road. This will further reduce the dust nuisance on the site, improve cleanliness of vehicles leaving the site, and direct internal traffic further away from Fortune Garden.

Simultaneous Rehabilitation Of Pasig River And QC's Rivers And Creeks Suggested

Hereunder is a list of the 6 rivers that traverse Quezon City and the 29 creeks that empty into them. The 6 rivers are shown in the map below but only 6 creeks are shown not to clutter the map too much.

Actually, aside from the 29 creeks in the list, there are 50 other little unnamed creeks. It can be seen in the map that all the rivers empty into the Pasig river. As every QC resident knows, the waters of the creeks that flow into the rivers are filthy and polluted, thanks to the squatters and non-squatters who dwell either along the banks of the creeks or above them. It follows that the Pasig River is fed with filthy and polluted waters from Quezon City's waterways. In the face of this fact, no matter how diligently and thoroughly the Pasig river is cleaned up under the direction of the First Lady assisted by Mayor Mel Mathay, their efforts can not meet with complete and permanent success unless QC's creeks are simultaneously rehabilitated—a tall, almost impossible order. How about it Councilor Biglang-awa.

LIST OF RIVERS/CREEKS IN QUEZON CITY

RIVERS	From	To	Length
1. Tullahan River	C. Limit (C.C.)	Junction Ilang-Ilang Creek	7.6 km.
2. Dario River	E.D.S.A.	San Fracisco River-Culiat Junction	3.25 km.
3. San Juan River	C. Limit (GM)	Quezon Avenue	3.72 km.
4. Salapan River	San Juan River	Santolan Road	2.55 km.
5. San Francisco	E.D.S.A.	San Francisco River	3.07 km.
6. Pasong Tamo River	Culiat	Kalaw Subdivision	2.85 km.
		TOTAL	23.04 km.

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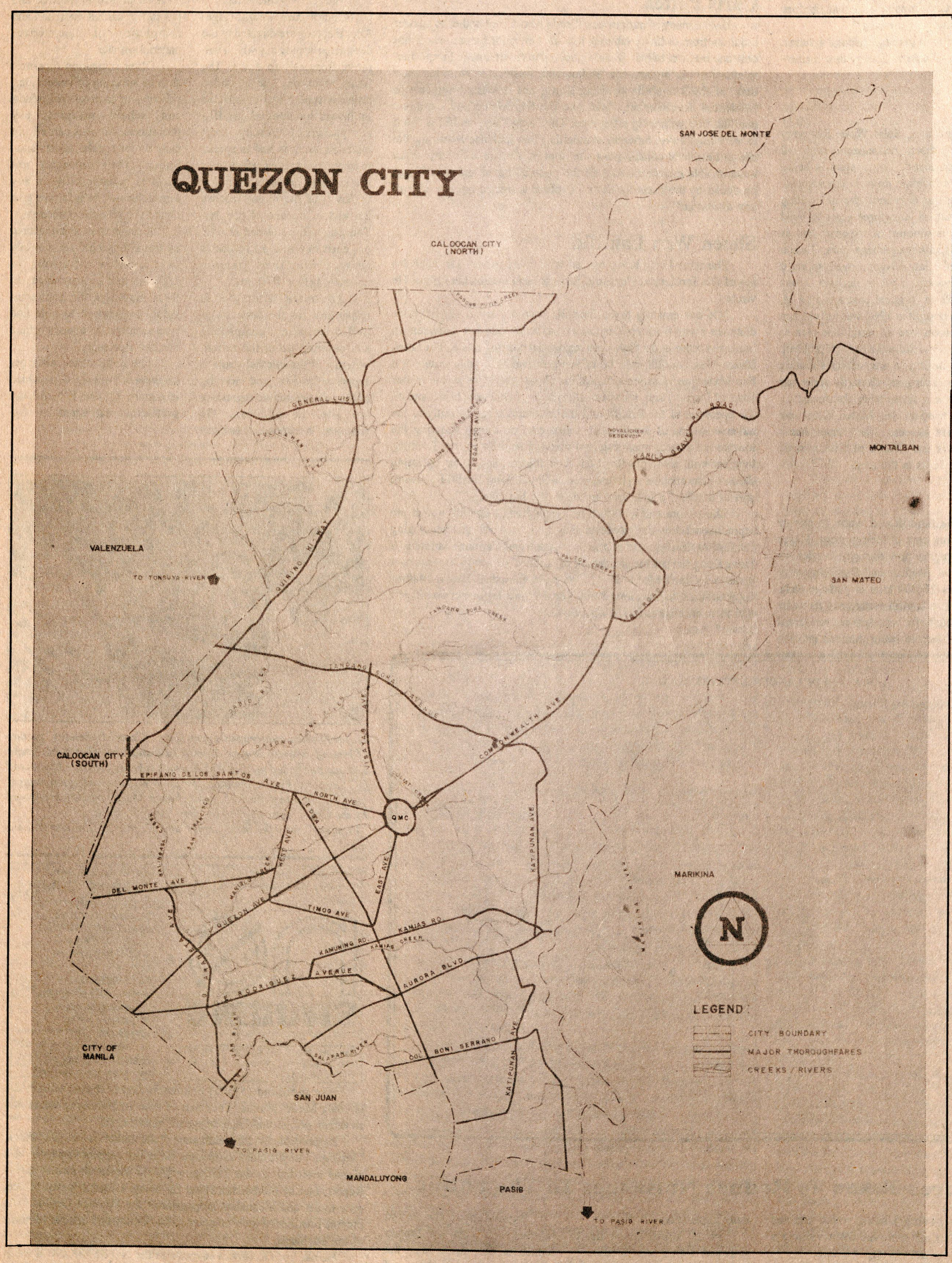

Prepared By:
FRANCISCO QUERUBIN, JR. and
FELIPE V. ROSAL of
City Planning & Development Office
Headed by Gerardo G. Magat

BUREAUCRACY...

out his government career in 1954, he steadily rose from the ranks eventually becoming a Career Executive Officer, Rank II (Bureau Director). He retired as Executive Director of the Presidential Commission on Reorganization in 1986.

Even after retirement, however, Fred continued to serve the bureaucracy, doing consultancy work for a number of government offices. Currently, he is an institutional consultant of the Career Executive Service Office of the Civil Service Commission.

Fred finished his elementary and secondary schooling as valedictorian and first honor respectively. He graduated cum laude from the University of the Philippines from whose school of economics he also received a certificate in development economics (with distinction).

Because of his constant record of academic excellence, Fred was accepted to membership in the h onor socierties of Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Gamma Mu. He is also a member of the Upsilon Sigma Phi, the oldest university fraternity at U.P., and of the exclusive Pan Zenia, an international foreign trade fraternity.

While schooling, Fred gained relevant experience in campus journalism. In high school, he was literary editor of the Torres Torch, while in college, he was associate editor, and for a time, acting editor, of the U.P. Philippine Collegian.

The author's rich government experience, particularly on organization and management, has endowed him with meaningful insights on the workings of the bureaucracy. His delectable perceptions on the bureaucracy are dandily verbalized in articles published in the Public Manager and Career Executive Journal, official publications of the Career Executive Office.

PROFILE . . .

told the President that he had developed a lifestyle which he was not prepared to give up, citing a six digit figure as his net monthly income. For a while, the frugal Ilocano was taken aback and a triumphant smile was beginning to form on the lips of the reluctant recruitee. However, the equally determined recruiter, quickly recovering from his momentary setback, eventually blurted out" "I'll take care of that."

The following day, the management wizard, who reportedly later on invented a parallel foreign exchange system which kept industries and business enterprises going, was taking his oath of office before the President4. He had finally been entrapped into joining the avowedly eminent technocracy that the President had been meticulously building around him. Incidentally, it is surmised that, with his recruitment into the government service, the rather controversial practice of allowing Cabinet members to have multiple memberships in a number of government corporations, including subsidiaries, as a means of augmenting their meager salaries had its beginnings or at the4e very least allowed to intensify.

There is an equally delightful sequel to this anecdote. A World Bank team was then in town in connection with a loan for a rationalization of the government corporate sector. They had pointed out what they felt was a malpractice—that of having Cabinet members sit in many boards of government-owned or controlled corporations either as Chairman or member. A study of the matter was directed to be made. After two months of research, the study came up with a complete listing of the individual memberships of Cabinet officials in government corporations, with the total "perks" summed up in the last column opposite the name of each Cabinet member. As expected, the management genius led all therest, with several bodies (about 70%) reportedly tallied under his name.

The list was taken up with the President with the sizeable amount accruing to the valedictorian carefully being pointed out. The President nonchalantly looked at the list and then without hesitation firmly told the presentor: "He's worth it."

The palatable array of dainty vignettes narrated above collectively underscore a seemingly signature facet of the famed leadership style of the late President Marcos. And that is: When you are No. 1, act and show you're No. 1.

Certified Public Accountants: The Harbingers Of Truth

Speech of Chairman CELSO D. GANGAN of the Commission on Audit before the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants on July 18, 1994 at the Hotel Nikko Manila Garden, on the occasion of the celebration of the Accountancy Week '94.

I am pleased to be with you as we begin today, the celebration of this year's Accountancy Week. I feel a little bit uneasy though because I might be disturbing you in your lunch. This uneasiness, however, is assuaged by the thought that I am facing a very distinct group of professionals, a unique group if I may say so for you are known to enjoy working while eating and forget eating while working.

I cannot describe what I feel as I come face to face with you again today. All that I can say is that I am very proud to be one among you for three reasons:

1. First, During, our varying moments of youth, we hurdled one of the most difficult board examinations given in our country.

2. Second As Accountants and auditors we contributed the best ideas and efforts in the modernization of management both in the public and private sectors; and.

3. Third, We, the Certified Public Accountants, are considered the world over as the harbingers of truth, the paragons of honesty, dedicated service and innovativeness, and the best and the most dependable tools for effective and productive management and, therefore, DEVELOPMENT.

This favorable perception of the Public in us carries with it grave responsibilities which you and I are committed to shoulder. This is the price we pay for being Certified Public Accountants. Which is why today we voluntarily came here together to counsel each other and to define the critical roles that we, hereinafter, will play in attaining our country's goal for massive developments.

Everywhere we go, we see the challenge of Philippines 2000 set before us not only in the public sector but in the private sector as well. The blueprints of ambitious infrastructure projects have been drawn. The flagship projects have been identified and the implementation of these projects is gaining momentum. Aside from these, we are witnessing the globalization of Philippine trade. Because development imperatively necessitates the input of foreign investment, the government has not left any stone unturned to attract, as it has infact attracted, multinational as well as foreign national companies to invest in the Philippines. Many more of these developments are forthcoming. This phenomenon has brought about pressing demands on the accounting and auditing profession. We have to rise to the call, otherwise events will overtake us.

What are some of these demands? Let me just mention a few.

1. To make our systems conform to international standards.

2. To promote and enhance the proper management of, the accounting for, our meager resources; and

3. To keep our accounting and auditing approaches and systems attuned to the pace of development and responsive to the needs of the fast changing world.

Permit me to elaborate on the first demand.

While accounting and auditing are part and parcel of effective financial management so essential to development, it cannot be denied that growth changes in these two fields of endeavor are brought about by development itself. The fundamental accounting and auditing standards must have to be expanded to adjust to the sophistication required by changes in business practices and management styles resulting from technological and economic development. With these changes and with the entry of foreign investments, into the country, it now becomes necessary for us to make our systems conform to international accounting, auditing and reporting standards. I understand that in the private sector you have the Accounting Standards Council (ASC) to take care of this. While in the public sector, the Commission on Audit is mandated to do it. This not mean, however, that we are separate entities trying to adopt to international requirement. Rather, this development requires a tie-up between the public and private sectors, between the public and private sectors, between the Commission on Audit and the Accounting Standards Council and between the Philippine standard - setting bodies and their counterpart international institutions.

Regarding the second demand.

Our country needs all the assistance that we, as accountants and auditors, can give. And this should include our role in promoting and enhancing the integrity in the management of, and proper accounting for our meager resources. Effective accounting and auditing systems which are inherent in financial management must play pivotal roles in managing our resources. Former U.S. Controller General Elmer Staats once said that "Effective financial management is essential because anything less dissipates available resources and thwarts development".

Now on the third demand.

With the fast changing world and rapid acceleration of developments brought about by changes in technology, the accounting profession is expected to stand and react with dispatch and accounting profession is expected to stand and react with dispatch and accuracy to these changes. It can do no less.

Brothers and sisters in the private sector, you are in the best position to clear the way for all of us to respond to these changes. Unhampered by the intricacies and red tapes that characterize the bureaucracy, you can move with comfort, given a wide latitude of discretion. As in the past, you are expected to lead us and to be the pioneers once more in the field of accounting and auditing.

It is gratifying to know that the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants has been leading the way for us in many years now through its continuing education program.

Let me take this opportunity to apprise you of what we, in the public government sectors have done and intend to do to address these third demand.

This requires me to discuss to you very briefly, the subject of financial, compliance, performance, and fraud audits which we conduct at the Commission on Audit.

As we all know financial audit deals with the examination of financial transactions, accounts and reports to determine whether the financial statements prepared by the government agencies fairly represent their financial condition as well as the results of their operations for a given period, usually one year. The audit reports produced from such audit lend credibility and reliability to the financial statements and, thus, aid prospective investors and creditors in deciding whether or not to invest or to extend loans. This is specially significant for government agencies in both the corporate and local government sectors since both are now engaged in borrowing funds from the public and lending institutions.

Twenty years ago, these government corporations were being audited private accounting firms until the new constitution mandated COA to do the job. The public, including the private accounting firms, had entertained serious doubts whether the auditors in COA had the capability to dot this. After a short time, however, their doubts vanished in thin air. For true to form, the Certified Public Accountants in COA produced audited financial statements of a quality at par with, if not better than, those prepared by the leading and prestigious accounting firms in the country.

There are still wide areas for improvement in this field. For instance, many of our auditors if not all of them audit the transactions on a 100 percent basis and, as a consequence, the audit reports are very much delayed to be of any use to the managers and even to the legislators who need these reports to guide them in the consideration of the national budget, in the enactment of needed laws, and in policy-making in general.

In the face of burgeoning information and voluminous data and the pressing demand by implementors and policy makers for prompt and timely audit reports, the Commission on Audit has recently adopted measures to address these serious problems. We have adopted the sampling method in the audit of transactions, accounts and reports in a nationwide scale Complementary to this is our recent issuance to our resident auditors requiring them to conduct interim audits the whole year round and ensure the regular timely submission thereof to our clientele. We have to do this and it must be done. To my mind, the requirement to submit interim reports will unravel mysteries that would otherwise remain undiscovered, and thus enable the government administrators "to contain the fire before the house is razed to the ground"

On the subject of compliance audit

From the time the Bureau of Audit was established in the Philippines, during the American regime, compliance audit became the "be all and end all" in the audit government transactions. The power to disallow transactions on pre-audit was then institutionalized because the Americans perhaps did not trust us. Supervening events in the governance of our country made us overly cautious. Scandals after scandals, from the suspected overpricing by a few pesos, in the purchase of Urinola and the presidential bed during the administration of President Quirino to the suspected multi-billion overpriced transactions and luxurious expenditures of government funds during the Marcos era and the spate of reported under - deliveries and ghost projects in recent years, have shocked our countrymen from the President down to the lowly person in the street. This is why in every stage in the process - from the inception to the prosecution and to the recording of a government transaction - controls have been provided either by law, executive orders or auditing regulations prescribed by the Commission on Audit. As an official of the Commission on Audit I am aware that a government administrator is faced with the intricate web of regulations and controls and that he could hardly move without infringing on some of them. This is a very serious predicament. It slackens or even blocks the wheels of progress in the public sector. Something has to be done and it must be done soon if we in the Commission on Audit are to be true partners in developments.

We have created in COA a permanent Committee on Research to address this issue. The Committee is charged with the responsibility to review and examine on a continuing basis, accounting and auditing rules to determine their relevance to present conditions and practices and to recommend the repeal of outmoded ones and the amendment of those found to be unnecessarily of those found to be unnecessarily obstructing management. It is expected of this committee to react in time to management complaints along this line.

On the subject of performance audit

COA has the mandate to evaluate the programs and projects of the government agencies to find out if their objectives are attained effectively, economically and efficiently. Audit of this type must be pursued with more vigor. It is necessary that the people be informed of how their elected leaders did their jobs and how they handled the resources of the government under their responsibility so that the people can intelligently cast their ballots come election time. Only an enlightened citizenry can be expected to choose the right persons to lead the country.

Let us give true meaning to the underlying principle of accountability on the part of government officials. And only a well programmed performance audit can do this.

On the subject of fraud audit

COA has a highly trained and specialized group attending to this type of audit. It is charged with ferreting out anomalies and fraud in government and of determining the persons responsible for such acts. It is our desire to make this group more effective by way of training them more on gathering, evaluating and preserving evidence to help government lawyers in successfully prosecuting fraud cases.

Apart from these activities there is a strong demand upon the auditors of the Commission on Audit to do some face lifting and to do an entirely new attire.

It is hard to accept but it is true that for many years now, our auditors have been perceived by some agency managers as fault finders, arrogant, and unreasonable bunch of public servants. This perception might have stemmed from the failure to understand what role one plays in relation to the others.

We in COA have now resolved to changed that image. We will not anymore be called "watchdogs" of the treasury for the word has an uncomfortable connotation. We prefer to be considered as "guardian angels" of the public purse because henceforth, we shall guide our implementors in the judicious handling of government funds.

We shall endeavor to remove unnecessary and unreasonable regulations that tie the hands of administrators and we now resolve not to stand on the way of development for as long as there are no fraud or anomalies and for as long as the interest of government and the public is not thereby prejudice.

Before I end this very long talk may I give these parting words. As CPA imbued with a sense of nationalism, let us not wait to be told to follow. Let us, instead, lead for the sake of our country and people.

LIST . . .

CREEK			
1. Diliman Creek	Diliman River/San Juan Junction	Aurora Blvd.	6.85 km.
2. Kamias Creek	Diliman River/San Juan Junction	Aurora Blvd.	2.10 km.
3. Duyan-Duyan	Diliman River/San Juan Junction	Aurora Blvd.	1.15 km.
4. Lagarian Creek	E.D.S.A.	Santolan Road	4.00 km.
5. Buaya Creek	Lagarian Creek	Loyola Heights	2.00 km.
6. Arayat Creek	New York	España Avenue	2.65 km.
7. Estero de Valencia	Santolan Road	Makiling Rd. 1t Avenue	2.26 km.
8. Mariabolo Creek	San Francisco River	West Avenue	3.60 km.
9. Makiling Creek	Makiling Road	Santolan Road	0.72 km.
10. Tangue Creek	Mariabolo	East Avenue	3.30 km.
11. Anaran Creek	E.D.S.A.	East Avenue	1.15 km.
12. Balingasa Creek	San Francisco.	Quirino Highway	3.10 km.
13. Matalahib Creek	San Francisco.	Quirino Highway	1.25 km.
14. Bagbag Creek	San Francisco.	Quirino Highway	2.10 km.
15. Culiat Creek	E.D.S.A.	San Francisco/Culiat	7.25 km.
16. Pingkian Creek	E.D.S.A.	San Francisco/Culiat	4.30 km.
17. San Bartolome Creek	E.D.S.A.	San Francisco/Culiat	1.50 km.
18. Ilang-Ilang Creek	Tullahan River	Lagro Subdivision	2.10 km.
19. Pasong Putik Creek	Tullahan River	Lagro Subdivision	2.10 km.
20. Balom-Bato Creek	Tullahan River	Lagro Subdivision	1.50 km.
21. Tandang Sora Creek	Tullahan River	Lagro Subdivision	2.00 km.
22. Cabuyao Creek	Tullahan River	Lagro Subdivision	2.30 km.
23. La Mesa Creek	Tullahan River	Luzon Avenue	5.10 km.
24. La Mesa Creek Cr. Ext.	Tullahan River	Luzon Avenue	1.60 km.
25. Libis Creek	La Mesa Creek	Republic Avenue	2.65 km.
26. Paltok Creek	Libis Creek	Commonwealth	2.06 km.
27. Ermitaño Creek	Libis Creek	Commonwealth	3.04 km.
28. Halang Creek	Roosevelt	San Francisco River/ Halang Creek Junction	9.61 km.
29. Evangelista Creek	Aurora Blvd.	P. Tuazon	
		TOTAL	82.34 km.

Biased, Flawed Resolution Of Ombudsman Graft Investigator

By Ben O. Flores

The resolution of Ombudsman Graft Investigator Evelyn A. Almogela Baliton on our complaint charging Montiel, Agsalud et al. with defrauding the city government through a ghost purchase/delivery of materials for which about P 200,000.00 in payment was collected is flagrantly biased in favor of respondents and replete with flaws in its perception and evaluation of the evidences and argument we presented.

The Resolution recommends the filing of a charge for falsification of a public document only against Elizardo Agsalud, former Chief of the Cultural and Tourism Affairs Office (CTAO), while absolving all of his correspondents.

The falsified public document involved is the spurious Abstract of Price Quotations which marked the start of the conspiracy of the respondents to defraud the city government through a ghost purchase/delivery. Rolando Montiel, Chief of the General Services Office (GSO), and Merlita Gruba of CTAO should be included in the falsification charge; they participated in the preparation of the spurious Abstract, Montiel by supplying the names of the fictitious business establishments and the list of materials with their respective prices and quantities used in the Abstract and Gruba by certifying the spurious Abstract as correct.

Showing her bias, the Graft Investigator excluded Gruba from falsification charge merely on her say so that she had certified the Abstract as correct upon the direction of her boss Agsalud, who contradicts her by stating in his affidavit that Gruba was a member of the bidding committee and helped in the preparation of the Abstract.

As to Montiel, Atty. Baliton ignored Agsalud's manifestation that it was Montiel who had furnished the names of the fictitious business establishments and the list of materials cited above.

To refute our charge of a ghost purchase/delivery, the Resolution relies solely on the Inspection Report of already resigned Artemio Mascarina, Inspector of the Fiscal Control Unit, and the joint Inspection Report of Dolores Bobila, already resigned GSO Chief Supply Officer, and Mercedes Tarrobal, GSO Supply Officer III. But we have shown these Reports to be spurious-made up to serve as supporting paper for the voucher for the payment of the supposedly purchased/ delivered materials listed in the spurious Abstract of Price Quotations and re-listed in the Purchase order and Sales Invoice which are necessarily also spurious.

Mascarina did not bother to submit a counter-affidavit to deny that his Inspection Report was fake and made-up. In fact, he made it known, through a mutual friend, that he wanted to be a state witness which was not possible because of his being once of the main respondents.

As to Bobila and Tarrobal, they contradicted their joint Inspection Report by stating in their joint counter-affidavit that the delivery of the materials was made in a series of deliveries which were checked against delivery receipts, which they could not produce yet in their joint Inspection Report, delivery was made in one day and was checked, not with a delivery receipt, but with the spurious Sales Invoice.

Showing again her bias, Atty. Baliton gratituously provide an explanation to justify the above-cited contradiction. The explanation is not satisfactory, however, because a condition she herself set to be fulfilled in order to justify the joint Inspection Report was not so fulfilled by Bobila and Tarrobal. The condition is stated thus: " Concededly, there is nothing irregular in such an instance (consolidating the alleged series of deliveries are complete and in order." (Underscaring supplied) Bobila and Tarrobal did not have the delivery receipts on which to base their joint Inspection Report. So how could they report that he materials supposedly delivered were complete and in order as per the spurious Purchase Order?

The Graft Investigator does not contest our claim, based on ocular inspection that the three business establishments in the spurious Abstract of Price Quotations are fictitious and non -existent with the exception of Aldianza General Merchandizing, supposedly owned by private respondents Alicia de Leon.

The Graft Investigator accepts as proof of existence the documents presented by de Leon which acquired even without the inspection and verification of the actual, physical, concrete and visual existence of the business establishment. In fact, non-inspection/non-verification is shown in one of the documents submitted by de Leon: "Pahintulot sa Paghanap Buhay" (Business Permit) issued by the municipality of Marikina. On this Business Permit, the following notation stamped:

SUBJECT FOR INSPECTION

Inspected By _____

Date _____

The blanks clearly indicate non-inspection/non-verification. We did our own inspection and verification. We went to the supposed address of Aldianza General Merchandizing at No. 44 Rainbow St., SSS Village, Marikina. We saw a residential building (please see picture) but no sign of a business establishment - not even a signboard, which is required for business establishments, and not a tiny weeny bit of store space for general merchandise which is supposed to include the construction materials like the hardware, lumber, equipment, etc. supposedly delivered to the city government. According to one of the documents submitted by de Leon, Aldianza is supposed to have an original capital of P 250,000.00.

A P 250,000.00 business establishments without even a bit of display room. Incredible! But to the gullible Graft Investigator Aldianza is very credible.

Aside from the fake, made-up Inspection Reports and the fictitious, non-existence Aldianza General Merchandizing, the Graft Investigator gives no importance to other indications of the ghosts purchased/delivery:

1. The enormous quantities of the materials (21 items) called for in the Purchase Order which was based on the spurious Abstract of Price Quotations could not possibly have been needed and used in the construction of 90 simple arches which were to be used in a Santa Cruzan sponsored by CTAO. For instance consider the following items:

1) 200 kilos old newspaper (this would make a pile 20 feet high)
2) 23 kilos 1 to 2-inch nails
3) 25 gallons Elmer glue
4) 720 pcs. 6-ft lumber
5) 300 pcs. 6-ft split bamboo
6) 50 kilos GP tire wire # 25 guntacker
7) 10 big scissors (for three or four arch-makers)
8) 10 pcs. paint brushes (three paint brushes for each arch-maker)
9) 5 NT cutters with blades

Granting that the 21 items in the enormous quantities called for in the spurious Purchase Order were delivered and all used up as absurdly claimed by respondent. Illuminada Fajardo who was in charge of the construction of the 90 simple arches, at least the non-perishables (scissors, paint brushes, cutters) should still be in storage. Are they? Montiel refused our request to see them. Fajardo instead irrelevantly offered to show the left-over arches.

2. The disbursement voucher for the payment of the amount collected by Alicia de Leon is also spurious because it does not contain the signature of the QC Auditor, the Chief of the Fiscal Control Unit, the City Treasurer, and the City Mayor or his authorized representative. Only the signature of Agsalud is on the voucher.

3. Alicia de Leon sought us and tried to bribe us into desisting from filing a case against them. She did not deny this in her counter-affidavit.

4. Elizardo Agsalud also sought us and pleaded that we desist from filing a case against them and concentrate instead on what he called the "big case."

Instead of giving importance to this plea of Agsalud, Atty. Baliton cited his allegation that the reason we were filing a case against him was that we had "an ax to grind" against him due to his alleged refusal to endorse the publication of a magazine in which I hoped to marked some profit. To which we replied:

"Agsalud would be the last person I would go to for an endorsement of any publication undertaking. His record in City Hall is something he cannot be proud of. He was removed as Secretary to them Mayor Simon, floated around for sometime until Simon mercifully put him as OIC of the Cultural and Tourism Affairs Office."

OUTRAGEOUS...

There have been opposite views that our assembly has been the cause of serious disruptions in the smooth flow of traffic and the orderly passage of vehicles and pedestrians. I need not remind this Council of the flimsiness and fragile grounds on which those criticisms can be laid on t he hands of peaceful demonstrators. Our Constitutional laws are clear — No authority can validly claim for itself the right to withhold or impede the peaceful demonstration and expression of public sentiments, and the gat hering of citizens to petition and present their views, no matt er how erroneously held or no matter how insignificant the import. But yesterday's assembly and event were of national importance; they were to bring to the attention of both the executive and the legislative arm a matter which directly affects our well-being on an occasion that, in fact, is the most propritious moment to give notice of public dissent and opposition to enacted legislative measures.

I therefore propose to this august body that an investigative body be formed that would investigate the proper line of authority and the officers and men directly responsible for the flagrant abuse of authority, for which measure be immediately enacted that will ensure proper compliance with our Constitution and laws and the protection of one of our most fundamental and inalienable rights. Those police officers who mindlessly and indiscriminately aimed their hoses and truncheons at us were not even properly identified; they were not wearing their name tags in direct violation of RA 880 or the Public Assembly ACt of 1985, an act insuring the Free Exercise by the People of their right peacebly to assemble and petition the Government. They acted without provocation or cause and doused without grounds the hopes of our peaceful citizens for the relief of their legitimate grievances and the restoration of democratic practices and upholding of democratic principles.

We cannot allow this wanton act to go unnoticed and unpunished, affecting as it does one of our most cherished tradition and doctrines of free speech and free assembly. We cannot countenance this direct vilation of our fundamental rights by one, least of all, our law-enforcers who hold the majesty of the law in their hands. We cannot be trampled by the very agencies over which we exercise jurisdictional control, committed in our territory that is within our confines. We must and act now.

Ordinance Proposed To Regulate Night Parking

To provide revenues for the city government and the barangays as well as to regulate night parking in the city's streets/ roads, Councilor Connie Angeles has filed an ordinance with the following provisions:

1. Overnight Parking License. All owners, operators

(Turn To Page 6)

WE HAVE...

revealing indicators from the survey" the Mayor said and proceeded to do so, as follows:

1. Net performance rating by all of the respondents of the Quezon City Government is +55 (which means approximately, a positive rating of some +78). By objective interpretation this is close to overwhelming. (By district, we rated highest in District 4 with +66 and lowest in District II with still a very high +49).

2. We rated high in performance in: (a) lighting our streets (+51), (b) promotion of the welfare of the youth (+48), (c) in implementing educational program (+47), (d) in health services (+46), (e) in the repair of city roads (+44), (f) in garbage collection (+42), (g) in taking care of our environment (+36).

3. Performance ratings of local government institutions reveal high positive indicators but suggest that perhaps we can do better. The local police gained some measure of respect, rising from -6 in September 1993 to a positive of 15, or a gain of 21 percentage points. The City Council rate +23 and +31 as between September 1993 and July 1994, respectively; The Vice Mayor and Presiding officer had a high rating of +66; the Barangay Council, +32 and 41; the barangay justice system, +27 and +34; and Quezon City Court, +21 and +32. As clearly indicated, there have been a significant increase in the performance rating of t he various institutions, which we hope translates to respect and credibility for these institutions."

The results of the SWS survey, the Mayor said, show that performance was not so good in the solution of these problems: (a) traffic problem, (b) use of illegal drugs, (c) unemployment (d) crimes, (e) squatting, (f) abusive policemen, (g) water and garbage, (h) bad roads, (i) dirty environment and (j) graft and corruption.

Nevertheless, "the confidence of the people in his administration, and its capacity to improve their lives," the Mayor continued, "is the very high number of those who say their lives will be better (37 percent of all households in 1993, while in 1994 it is 49). And those who perceive their quality of life will be worse off, proportionately, is just 14 per cent in 1993 and still 14 percent in 1994."

In improving the quality of education in our public schools, the Mayor said:

"We saw the deterioration of quality of our local educational system as attested to by the very poor performance of our public schools in the national achievement tests and the erstwhile NCEE.

"The solutions seem obvious: (1) supplement the teachers' benefits; (2) undertake in-service training for teachers as well as recruit civil-service qualified teachers; (3) construct more classrooms and school buildings; (4) improve on site development; (5) expand school feeding and nutrition programs for school children; (6) work with the NGOs, upgrade and expand scholarship programs, and enhance services to schools and school administration while enhancing school related cultural and sports programs.

"We provided financial incentives to teachers, launched in-service training in language, mathematics and science benefitting some 1,300 elementary school teachers, constructed some 32 school buildings with some 400 classrooms thus reducing classroom size from as big as 75 (over 80 in many cases) to the more manageable 55 pupils per classroom. We negotiated for and improved on school sites, and provided the necessary administrative and operating assistance to schools, utilizing the resources of the City School Board.

"Recognizing the need for technician and technical manpower as we push for accelerated development, and knowing that some 32 per cent of our high school graduates in the City do not proceed to college because of distance from and cost of colleges and universities other than the University of the Philippines and the Ateneo de Manila University nearby, we put up the Quezon City Polytechnic which has received the committed support of the private business and industrial sector which it will serve mostly and which will provide instructional assistance. It will be an institution of note in the next few years as we will seek assistance from international agencies as well as expand our own budgetary support for it.

"It will be an enduring legacy to our people, long before we are gone."

The Mayor also reviewed accomplishments in Infrastructure, basic social services, provisions made for the urban poor and squatters, improvement of the environment, meeting the requirements for investment, and improvement of public assistance services.

The Mayor made a strong stand against the separation of Novaliches to become a city. He said:

"But most of all, let us preserve the geographic integrity of our City as envisioned and planned by our Founding Father. Novaliches is integral to that vision of a City that will be progressive and a congenial place for all our citizens. Indeed our development plan accords priority for accelerated business and industrial development in Novaliches..."

The Mayor disclosed a plan to build a Light Transit Railway system to serve Novaliches which will cost $350 million.

In closing, the Mayor adverted to the vision of the City's founder:

"Perhaps, we no longer doubt that we can deliver by our mandate and by the expectations of our constituencies. But let us as well keep faith with the vision of our Founding Father, President Manuel Luis Quezon, who envisioned a City that is to be the Capital City characterized by the great centers and institutions of education, of culture, and of civic and government service. That is why, we must work to have the legislative institution of our Country, the Congress of the Republic, both the Senate and House of Representatives physically unify and locate in our City. Let this be our campaign- to preserve one institutional symbol of national government leadership here in our City."