CRIMEBUSTER MAGAZINE

VOL. 2 NO. 6 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1994



CHIEF SUPT. RICARDO F. DE LEON, (r) new CPDC's dynamic district director, receives the CPDC banner from Chief Supt. Jewel Canson, (l) NCRC regional director, during a recent turn-over rites as witnessed by QC Mayor Mel Mathay, Jr. (c)

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MAGAZINE

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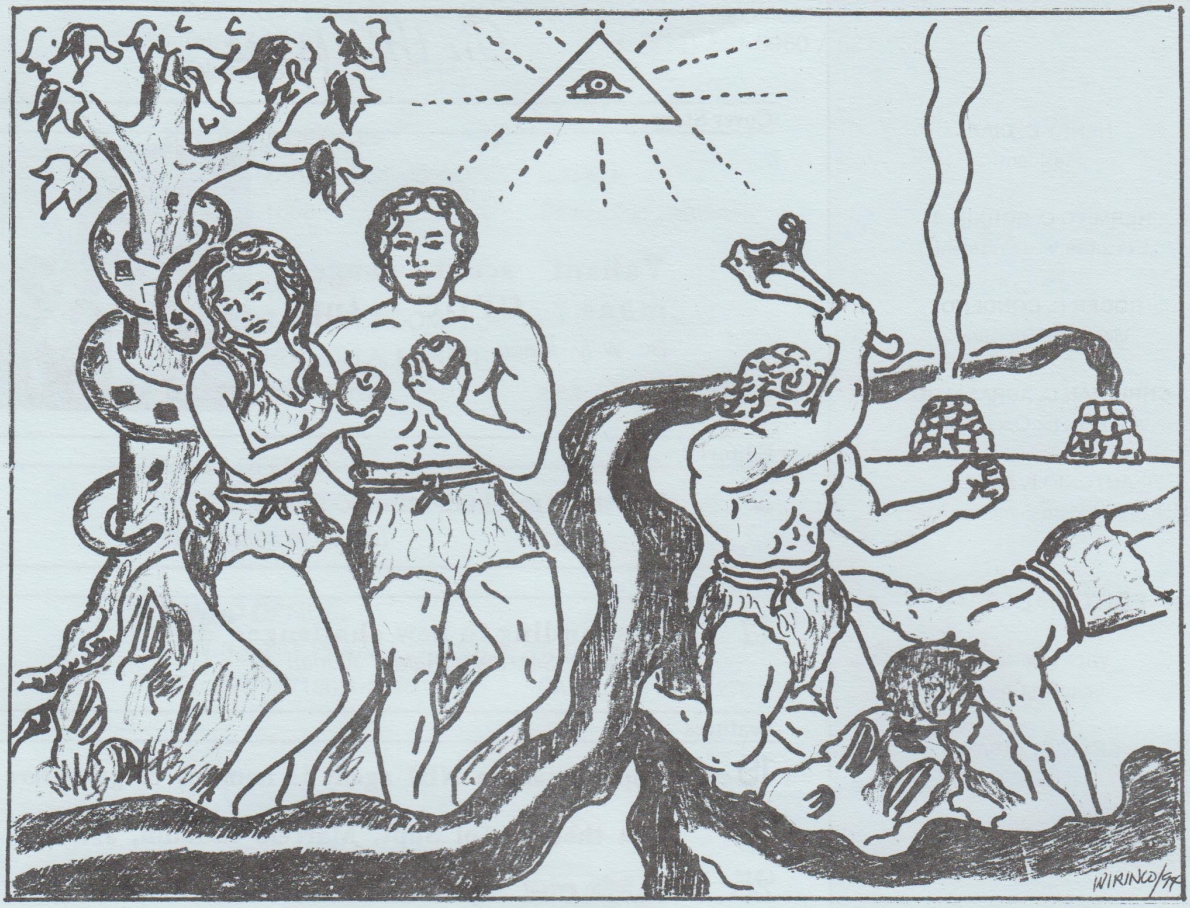
The Crimebuster Magazine is published every two months by Crimebuster Foundation of the Philippines, Inc. as a forum for information and opinions to enhance law enforcement in the country. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the nation's duly authorized enforcement agencies. Our Central Desk is located at 742 N. Padilla St., San Miguel, Manila with Tel. No. 742-40-34.

The public is advised that only the abovementioned officers are duly recognized by the SEC under Registry No. 00091 in a resolution filed last August 30, 1993.

Editorial



The first two crimes ever recorded in the history of man, according to the Holy Bible, were disobedience and murder.

Disobedience was perpetrated by Adam and Eve. While murder (probably parricide) was committed by Cain against his younger brother Abel.

Failure to obey by Eve and Adam not to eat the forbidden fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, led to the present woes being suffered by man, the Bible says. Wars, pestilence, population explosion, famines, and a myriad of headaches were the bitter fruits of that non-following up of the order of the Divine Providence.

The current killings of man against man were the result of that grim incident when evil-hearted Cain clubbed to death his innocent brother.

Cain's criminal mind surfaced, when he saw that his offering consisting of plants and vegetables was not accepted by God.

While Abel's offering, a lamb was welcomed by God.

Later on as the Bible says, Abel's lamb will symbolize Our Lord Jesus Christ, whose birth the Christendom celebrates every December 25.

Christ is even referred to as the Lamb of God in most of our Christian prayers.

One may say that disobedience and murder can be the original crimes. Combatting these two menaces seem to be a gargantuan problem of our present-day peace officers.



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COVER STORY

CHIEF SUPT. RICARDO F. DE LEON
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
CENTRAL POLICE DISTRICT COMMAND
CAMP KARINGAL, QUEZON CITY

Valiant scout ranger mans CPDC turf

By WILLY E. IRINCO
Editor-in-Chief

Chief Superintendent Ricardo Fernandez de Leon, the incumbent district director of the Central Police District Command (CPD) is a dynamic police officer, citing his scout ranger training as an asset in his job of keeping peace in Quezon City and nearby environs.

De Leon reported to CRIMEBUSTER that in 1971, he was a member of a ranger company that encountered some 700 New People's Army in Digoyo Point, Isabela, Northern Luzon during the so-called "MV Karagatan" case wherein the rebels tried to smuggle 1,000 M-14 rifles to the country.

The late Senator Benigno Aquino helicoptered to Digoyo to see the ranger operations. And then Lt. De Leon, a fresh graduate of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) was there in action.

De Leon related that he belonged to Class 14 of the then newly revived scout rangers.

Today, De Leon is much in the thick of the campaign to maintain peace and order in QC, as envisioned by Mayor Mel Mathay Jr.

Quite a busy body, De Leon said he was wounded in action while leading his troops as provincial director of Negros Oriental against the NPAs in 1989.

De Leon told CRIMEBUSTER that he employed natives, called pulahanes in beating the NPAs. As soon as the natives tied their head and wrists with red cloth, expect a battle to the death, De Leon said.

De Leon prized that stint in Negros because he proved his bravery in battles. "Share the risks with your men," said De Leon on how to be respected and followed as a real police and military leader.

De Leon invited this writer to visit Batasan Hills Station in QC to personally see five suspected carnappers, and three passenger jeepneys recovered by Batasan Hills Block 6 policemen, led by SPO4 Juan Aguilar and SPO2 Gacute.

A quite hardworkig guy, De Leon today is loved and feared by his policemen. This is so, because he is always on the go. Chief Insp. Raymund Equibal chief of the Batasan Hills Police Station told CRIMEBUSTER that he had to stay in the headquarters so as to be always ready and alert.

During the interview, De Leon abhorred the "seating down" style of interview. He urges interviews wherein he moves, and a reporter follows him throwing queries in the process. A real scout ranger, indeed!

Today, De Leon said the CPDC's peace and order drive was divided into phases. These



BAGGED. *Chief Supt. Ricardo de Leon (right), CPDC chief, questions one of the five suspects in a bigtime carnap case busted by crack CPDC men, from Batasan Hills Police Station and its Block 6, led by Chief Insp. Raymund Equibal and SPO4 Juan Aguilar, respectively. Recovered from the hoods are jeepneys, and car plates. (Photo by Art Torres)*

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ONE-STAR, *Chief Supt. De Leon in complete uniform.*

were first, the immersion phase, that is conducting frequent dialogues with the citizenry to inform them of the program;

The second phase is caring, protection and development of the community (CPDC), and the third phase is the integrated phase meaning committed, professional, disciplined and competent (CPDC) policemen in line with Police 2000.

"Action," De Leon described in one word the main thrust of the CPDC. Claiming that today, the CPDC problem is the public perception of the policemen.

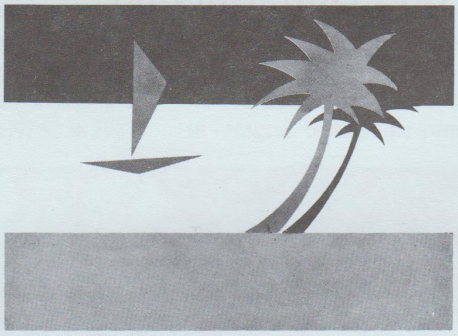
To counter this headache, De Leon has adopted a type of survey method, wherein the citizens are asked questions on the performance of the CPDC officers and men.

Calling it a mere check list, De Leon bared this to CRIMEBUSTER. The aim of this survey is to know the defects of CPDC personnel and to correct these, naturally!

De Leon's efforts to make CPDC a model district is paying off. On Nov. 29, 1994, Chief Insp. Equibal reported to De Leon that: at about 7:45 a.m., he personally supervised the follow-up operations conducted by SPO4 Aguilar, Block 6 commander together with his members SPO4 Orencio Sosa, SPO2 Orlando Gacute, SPO2 Luisito Dimagiba, SPO1 Cadido Balmores, SPO1 Roberto Lopez, SPO2 Wilson Dagohoy, PO3 Manuel Atabang, PO3 Fidencio Basibas, PO3 Jose Legaspi, PO3 Joselito Velasquez, PO3 Alejandro Coloma Jr. BSDO Romeo Puebla, BSDO Alexander Dumangas, CVO Ronnie Estanislao, CVO Joselito Tadena, and CVO Joel Tubongbanua of this station, at #3 Kasiyahan Street, Barangay Batasan Hills, this city.

The search and seizure of all carnapped motor vehicles and its accessories was facilitated thru Mr. Arthur Ison, the barangay chairman of the area and one Mrs. Nora Salazar, the owner of the house. The one who consented the searches and seizures of all subjects in question was Miss Connie Mamaoag the live-in partner of Reynold Laurente who was the primary suspect of the case and was not around during the raid.

The said operations resulted in the arrest of: a) Reynaldo Laurente y Rosales, 35, married, driver of Cagayan and at Block 24, Lot 42, Schilling St., Flores Country Home, Antipolo, Rizal; b) Michael Dela Paz, 20, single, jobless of Cagayan and at same address; c) Telesforo Braga Jr y Oyales, 20, single, helper, of 436 Ilang Ilang St., Batasan Hills, Quezon City, and e) Pedro Mateo y Martinez, 27,



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single of 6245 Ilang Ilang St., Batasan Hills, Quezon City.

During the conduct of the search, the operatives dug-up the following motor vehicle plates with—NYH 752; — CKC 575; — TGS 135; — DDT 376; — TFG 866; Two plates — FKR 175; — DBT 990; — TJN 303; and— 7777 Manila Fujian Friendship Games.

Motor vehicles recovered were the following: One Passenger Jeepney bearing plate TNG 254 with engine number-431037 and chassis number SM1043928C; One Passenger Jeepney bearing Plate TAV 843 with engine number-479937 and chassis number SMI9135990C; One Passenger Jeepney bearing Plate BBU 263 with engine number-unreadable and chassis number SPMM71735-94C; One Passsenger Jeepney bearing Plate PMW 936 with defaced engine and chassis numbers; One automobile Chevrolet Celica type without engine but with body number 1567W42 bearing Plate BBT 376; One Ownertype Jeep (Semi-Stainless) bearing Plate Number TNN 959 with engine number 3A5063535 and chassis number EXL91020623C; and One Fiat Uno car without Plate number but with engine number 146B1077*3471234* and chassis number ZFA146000* 01747961.

And while on the ongoing recovery proceedings, members of the Task Force CABAKID led by Sr. Insp. Elmer Jamias together with CIU, CPDC elements arrived at the scene wherein the said syndicate was also their target of operations. They just joined in securing the ara until we vacated the place.

Further be informed that the said hideout was used in tampering the engine, etc.

While Benedicto Gonzales alias Bernie and his cohorts were suspects in the actual carnapping activities and one Rolando Castillo together with two women acted as the facilitator in fixing registration papers with the LTO at Northern Luzon including the corresponding insurances and other documentation before it will be passed-on to prospected buyers in the provinces. All were at large.

De Leon reported that 1994 witnessed some very significant celebrations in Quezon City which called for the attention of the National Government and the Command in particular. The first major affair was the celebration of EDSA Revolution Anniversary on 25 July 1994 which was attended by local and foreign dignitaries. On 25 July 1994, His Excellency President FIDEL V RAMOS delivered his State of the Nation Address (SONA) before the distinguished members of the House of Congress. Though the SONA was met by rallyists, the contingency plan prepared by the Command contained and dispersed the caused-oriented groups peacefully. Thirdly, the 90th Anniversary of the Iglesia Ni Cristo on 27 July 1994 which was participated by all the INCs in Metro Manila. The command to effectively conducted traffic direction and control. And the last major activity which the Command undertook was the conduct of massive security operations during the Miss Universe Beauty Pageant held on 16 April - 24 May 1994.

The year in review had also added distinction in the history of the Command because the traditional changing of the guard, so to speak, happened. One 23 July 1994, P/Chief Supt Diony A Ventura relinguished the Command to P/Chief Supt Ricardo F De Leon.

The return to the foot patrol system through the implementation of the community-based "New Cops On the Block" program, and the fielding-in of more mobile patrol units had helped reduced significantly the crime rate in Quezon City specially during the latter part of the year. Likewise, the effectiveness of the Command's anti-criminal-

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ity efforts has been very visible with the abrupt descent in crime trend and the improvement of crime solution efficiency, which registered a 90.1%, 91.1% and 93.04% during the months of September, October and November respectively. The figures showed marked improvements sover last year's statistics.

This noteworthy performance had earned the Command a remarkable measure of respect, as proven by the result of the recent survey conducted by the Social Weather Station which catapulted the CPDC to a high positive 15 from as low as negative 6 in September 1993.

Nonetheless, the Command maintains its intensified efforts to achieve the KRAs, in line with the objectives of POLICE 2000, to preserve the gains of CPDC and continuously reap success despite the limitations on its personnel and material resources.



MEDICAL MISSION. *De Leon attends a medical mission to help poor residents of a Quezon City barangay.*

CRIME SITUATION

Quezon City's crime volume for the period 01 January - 25 November 1994 registered a total of 4,553 incidents. This reflects an increase of 619 incidents of 13.09% as compared with last year. However, Index crime was controlled and reduced starting September the year.

Index Crimes netted a total of 3,518 cases, representing 65.78% of the total crime volume (TCV) where 1,322 or 24.72% are crimes against persons; 2,087 or 39.02% are crimes against property and 109 or 2.04% are crimes against chasstity/rape. A breakdown on said classification of offense and their corresponding percentage share to index crimes are as follows:

Murder	- 57 (1.62%)
Homecide	- 281 (7.99%)
Physical Injury	- 984 (27.98%)
Crimes Against Persons	-1,322 (24.72%)

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NGOs. *QC Mayor Ismael Mathay, Jr. (3rd from right) Vice Mayor Charito Planas (2nd from right), and Chief Supt. De Leon (2nd from left) listen to the complaints of NGOs in one meeting.*

Robbery	-978 (27.80%)
Theft	-1,109 (31.52%)
Crimes Against Property	-2,087 (39.02%)
Crime vs Chastity (Rape	- 109 (3.09%)
Total Index Crimes	-3,518 (65.78%)
Total Non-Index Crime	-1,830 (34.22%)
Total Crime Volume	- 5,348

The period in review posted an average monthly crime rate (AMCR) of 27.79 crime incidents per 100,000 population which is higher by 619 or 11.5% from that of last year'ss AMCR of 24.57 per 100,000 population.

Average monthly index crime rate, on the other hand, is figured at 16.12 crimes per 100,000 inhabitants. Signifcantly, AMCR is greatly reduced beginning September at 11.06; 13.66 in October and 12.94 in November due to the introduction of the New Cops on the Block.

This year's Crime Solution Efficiency (CSE) is placed at 85.13%. However, this is an improvement in CSE registering 90.15% in September, 91.18% in October and 93.04% in November 1994.

REBEL THREATS

The Local Community Movement (LCCM) continues to suffer setbacks attributed to the rift among its party leaders which gave way to the existence of the Pro-SISON and Pro-LAGMAN/ MRRC Revisionist groups. As expected, in a move to strengthen their respective factions, MRRC Revisionist Chief Felimon LAGMAN circulated a memorandum among the various territorial committees enjoining them to take steps for the efforts of the Mapagpalayang Kilusan ng mga Anak ng Bayan (MAKABAYAN) in the alleged transition towards a ''Proletariat-led'' government and likewise directed all underground personalities to surface in the legal and semi-legal united front work to ensure gains/victories sof the MRRC-Revisionist fielded can-

FELIPE F. CUIZON



PASSED. *De Leon congratulates a CPCD officer who completed an investigation training.*

didates in the 1995 national Election. Further, LAGMAN announced the impending plan of the movement to reorganize the District Party Committees in the MRRC and another plan to initiate a Congress of all multisectoral organizations led by the MRRC-Revisionist.

From their end, the Pro-SISON groups are currently undertaking massive recruitment activities in the Manila-Rizal area and adjoining provinces, targetting the workers proletariat and urban poor groups in the NCR, including displaced fishermen and victims of calamities in the provinces. Relatedly, a big training will be held somewhere in Central Luzon to be participated in by propaganda officers before their deployment to various places.

To date, the estimated CPP/NPA strength in Quezon city of 86 with more or less 63 assorted FAs can not be ascertained as to how many belong to either factions. However, considering that between SISON and LAGMAN the latter has more followers in the Metro Manila and Rizal areas, it is logically conceded that the Pro-LAGMAN group overshadows SISON's.

Evidently, the past 9 months or so witnessed a lull in communist-instigated violent activities in Quezon City. United Front building efforts are pronounced though with reported presence of CPP/NPA attrocities, more specifically the MRRB/ABB, as it launched Oplan "KATARUNGAN" in August '94 coupled later on with Oplans "PAHIYA" and "GAPOS."

The threat posed by the URGs had now become less potent in the light of the favorable response of the RAM/SFP/YOU to the government's current peace initiatives.

In an isolated case, a raid conducted at the Muslim Commuity in Manggahan yielded the arrest of several suspected members of the ABU SAYAFF and the discovery of an arms cache reportedly being prepared for shipment to

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Mindanao. Lately, the influx of Muslim entrepreneurs in the Capitol District, notably, a "Muslim Vendors Association Inc." Without necessarily alluding to some of them as either members and/or sysmphatizers/supporters sof the ABU SAYAFF group. They are vividly visible at the Manggahan Flea Market, Muslim Mosque at Payatas-A and at Garcia Heights. Reportedly, the Payatas Muslim group is trying to acquire parcels of land to accommodate other Muslim families and ultimately convert the place into another Muslim community.

The coaliton against RA 7716 (EVAT Law), the KILLVAT and COVAT started to solicit 3.2 million signatures of registered voters which is equivalent to 10% of the total registered voters nationwide as requiredby the constitution for the purpose of holding a referendum over EVAT issue.

The ongoing labor dispute at Balanced Food Corp., Atlas



SPORTS. *De Leon (with mic) urges the community of Veterans Village in QC to help the police in fighting crimes. Chief Insp. Bobby Ganias (3rd from right, background), Baler Police station chief, listens.*

Road, San Bartolome, Novaliches, Quezon City betweent he labor dispute between the management and the workers' union affiliated with the Malayang Samahan ng mga Manggagawa. The dispute resulted to the injuries of the two (2) PNP members of this Command when strikers pelted object to the direction of non-strikers who denied engreess and igreess on the premises of the company. Howver, the trouble was quelled by the responding policemen from Station 4.

The League of Filipino Students (LFS) participated in the recent vigil/protest rally along with other sectoral groups during the visit of US President Bill Clinton on 12 November 1994.

BLOCK COPS

The program is a fitting response of the NCRC towards the attainment of POLICE 2000 as conceived by the CPNP onwards to PHILIPPINES 2000.

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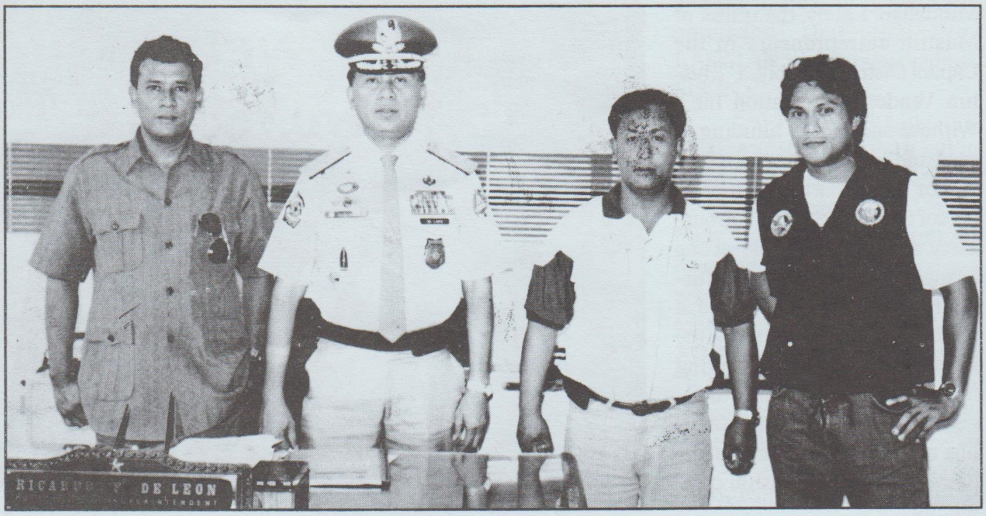
This is a system of unique police innovation which for the improvement of the police services to the people by drawing on the community resources through the participatory and self-help approach.

The NCOB recorded a total of 37,443 house visitations in the area. The figure is wanting considering the number of the Blocks established. But it must be noted that most of the visitations made by the personnel are not recorded since this has been a routinary operation of the NCOB. This reason is very indicative of the favorable response of the populace.

There are 4,274 dialogues/ barangay ugnayan recorded by the Command for the period in review. The dialogues were geared towards public consultation and information campaign in order to improve police image and credibility. These efforts allow an expansison of the Command network.



FRIENDS. *De Leon poses with friends from CRIMEBUSTER Magazine, led by Henry Diaz (extreme left), president of CRIMEBUSTER Foundation, Inc., publisher of the said magazine.*

The conduct of foot and mobile patrol is the paramount concern of the Command to preempt commission of crimes. For the period, a total of 5,809 mobile patrol operations conducted notwithstandig the mobile/foot patrols made by the elements of the NCOB.

The command had initiated 20 workshops specifically in areas covered by Police Stations 3, 7 and 9. These workshop were attended by the Barangay Security and Development Officers, CVOs and other groups/individuals.

One of the factors affecting the non-conviction of suspects of domestic violence particularly on rape is the failure of the victim to divulge the these details of the matter considering that most of the investigators handling the cases are men who to some degree lack an appreciation on the sentinments of the victim. However, with the creation of the Womens Desks, victims have shown better cooperation in the conduct of the

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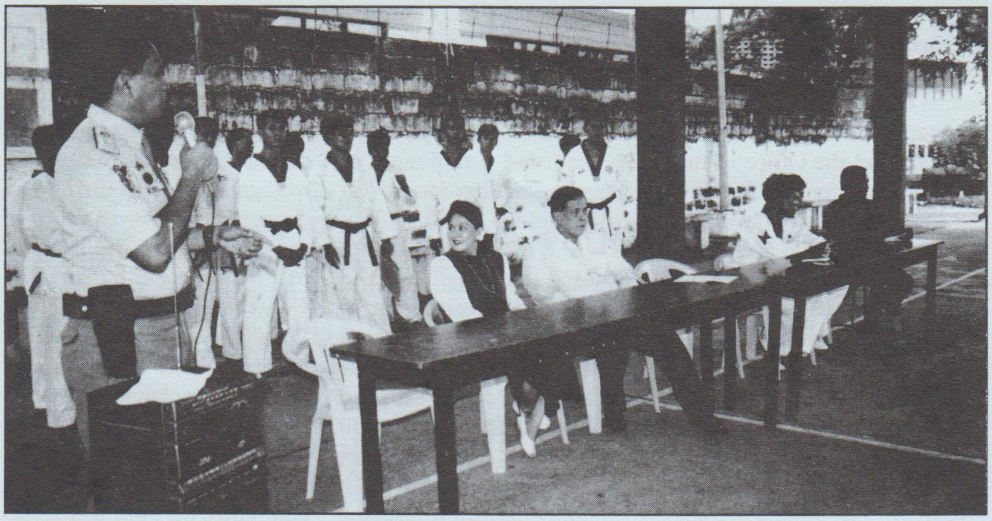

EXHORTS. *De Leon (left) exhorts QC Mayor Ismael Mathay, Jr. for his full support to the police including sports development in QC.*

investigation. Thus, for the period in review, a total of 87 cases of domestic violence were handled by the unit with 100 CSE.

During the Foundation Day of the Central Police District Command on 4 October 1994, one (1) unit of Toyota Tamaraw FX was commissioned by the Hon Mayor Ismael A Mathay Jr to complement the old model Hunter AUV as part of the Station Mobile Investigation and Law Enforement (SMILE) Teams. The team is designed to conduct on the scene investigation ready to reenforce the invetigative capability of the NCOB. Some 11 more units are expective to come as part of the upgrading program of the City government.

The Command had organized and mobilized 1000 strong senior high students to comprise the Junior Police of Quezon City. This was achieved through the auspices of the Division of City Schools superintendent. These Junior policemen are being fielded at road intersections just immediate on their respective school vicinity to help ease up traffic congestion.

ANTI-CRIME MOVE

For the period in review, **Oplan Paglalansag I and II** netted a total of 109 assorted firearms, recovered from 107 persons and filling of 89 cases in court for violation of PD 1866.

Evidently, the NCOBs plays a vital role in the improvement of peace and order situation in Quezon City. The relentless campaign of the Command on all forms of criminality brought to for modest accomplishments, such as:

The CPDC Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) had recently undergone a general revamp in order to strengthen the unit capability and to redefine the anti-drug campaign of the Command. The present thrust is geared more towards youth education. Nonetheless, the Command apprehended 102 persons which led to the confiscation of as-



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sorted prohibited drugs and the subsequent filing of 84 cases in court for violations of RA 6425.

The Command has activated Implan Kalas Droga in line with NCRC DETF Walis Droga to employ community based geographical cleansing/declassification of drug affected barangays/areas within AOR. This plan adopt 2 pronged strategy: reduction in the illegal drug market through the conduct of massive preventive information/education through the organiztion of community intensified narcotics operation.

PHILDARE in coordination with the Command and Quezon City Drug Abuse Council (QCDAC) introduced a new strategy in the campaign against drugs which emphasizes on the identification and the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol. It warns the children not to use drugs and teach them how to resist the pressures to used these harmful substances. To date the program has graduated 12,105 pupils of grades IV and V from 23 participating schools. With the recent graduation of 6 personnel of this Command on the seminar conducted by the DARE America and the Office of the Vice President (for PHILDARE), the teaching force of the Command was increased and additional schools have signified intentions for inclusion of drug education on their school curricula.

As part of the center-based program of the NCOB, the Comand had established Anti-Drug Council in Schools (ADACS). The council is composed of faculty members, parents, students and NCOB/PNP elements task to deter and monitor drug activities in schools. The Council shall be responsible in shielding and protecting the vulnerabilities of thechildren from explortations of drug syndicates. The Claret School of Quezon City was the pilot school of this project. In coordination with the Division of City School, other schools will adopt the same worthy endeavor.

Carnapping activity has reached a very alarming state such that the City has the highest recorded incidence of carnapping nationwide as disclosed from the statistics from the PNP Traffic Management Command. Hence, the Command has organized a specialized anti-carnapping drive resulted to the recovery of 37 motor vehicles and the arrest of 20 suspected car-nappers in the conduct of 50 raids and filed 20 cases iin court for violation of PD 6539.

Since the activation of the much publicized Jai Alai, gambling lords took the opportunity in putting up illegal bookies and other forms of illegal gambling to complement their nefarious activities. Thus, illegal gambling proliferated in the area. As a result of anti-illegal gambling campaign, the Command apprehended 549 persons and confiscated P111,416.75 cash bets and assorted gambling paraphernalias in 242 operations. A total of 64 cases were subsequently field in court.

Misconceptions about Quezon City had emerged such that the City is now dubbed as a red-light district after Ermita. The detractors were proven wrong as the CPDC intensifies its campaign supported by the City Government. The Task Force Winelight was activited to monitor and initiate proper actions against the violators. Hence, TF Winelight had caused the clossure of 31 beer houses which served as a fronts for prostitution. There were 621 persons arrested in 99 operations initiated for violations of PD 969 (Anti-bold show) and Vagrancy. 110 cases were filed in court against the violators.

The Command in coordination with other Line Government Agencies specifically Quezon City Peoples Bureau had extended 131 security assistance to demolitions on representations of proper Court Orders.



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The Command is being guided by the Rules of Engagements as provided by the NHQ-PNP and RA 7279.

Moreover, the Command received a donation on one unit of Kia Pride courtesy of Columbia Motors Inc. and another five units expected to arrive before the year ends. Similarly, the Command received the following supplies from the Regional Command: 69 units -assorted Commo Equipments; 220 pcs - assorted CDC Equipments; 974 pcs- handcuffs; assorted office supplies/ materials; traffic gadgets and materials; POL products; 20 pcs - Metal Detectors; 30 pcs - Armalite M-16 Rifles; 180 pcs - M-16 magazines; 5,400 pcs - 5.56 ammo; 12 pcs Armscorp Shotgun; 200 pcs - Shotgun ammo; 23 pcs - Magazine pouchh; 269 pcs - Rifle sling; 269 pcs -canteen cup; 392 pcs - water canteen.

There were 46 officers and men who successfully finished training courses conducted by NHQ-PNP and Philippine Public Safety College. Courses undertaken were OSEC, PIOC, AIC, OBC, AOC, PIC, Sr. and Jr. Leadership Course, Intervention Course and Crime Lab Training. In view of enhancing the exposure of the personnel on the capabilities of shotgun, personnel from ARMSCORP conducted a day training on 20 October 1994 re shotgun handling and shooting, where 60 police personnel participated.

There were two criminal Investigation and refresher Courses conducted by the Command designed for the enhancement of the investigative skills of our invetiigators. However, the first training seminar was shorter in period than the second one which lasted for one month. The latter training commenced on 1 September 1994 and was termenated on 6 October 1994 with Asst. City Prosecutor Conrado Refuerzo as the Guest of honor and speaker. Theree were 44 personnel who finished the course. These graduates will be assigned to the Blocks to strengthen the investigative capability of the NCOB.

BRILLIANT OFFICER

Chief Supt. De Leon is not only a topnotched former PC-INP officer, prior to his absorption to the PNP, but also is a brilliant student in his academic pursuit.

A graduate of the Philippine Military Academy Class 1971, De Leon garnered the much coveted Cavalier Award bestowed by the PMA Alumni Association in 1990 as an outstanding militiary profession on PC operations awarded by then Brig. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, later Armed Force chief of staff, then the PMMA president.

His other national honors were Award of Merit as outstanding PC-INP provincial command of the year 1989, 88th PC Coy. during the 14th INP anniversary, Negros Oriental PC-INP, under Major Gen. Ramon E. Montano, PC chief and INP director general;

Chief of Staff Streamer Award as outstanding command in operation (COIN), Negros Or. PC-INP Command, Recom 7; Plaque of Special Award as outstanding PC junior officer of the year 1973 awarded then by then Brig. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, PC chief;

Plaque of Recognition for topping the supt. promotional exam 1991; Plaque of Commendation as PC-INP provincial commander of Davao del Norte, outstanding province in drug campaign program nationwide in 1991;

Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) streamer award as outstanding support unit 1993 during the 3rd PNP anniversary on Jan. 28, 1994.

He also is a regional and provincial level awardee. These were award of Merit as PC officer of the year 1989

awarded by Brig. Gen. Benjamin Dizon, Recom 7 regional director;

Award of Merit, as PC-INP Command of the Year 1989, Negros Or. PC-INP Command, Recom 7; Certificate of Merit, Davao del Norte provincial director of the year 1991, awarded by Chief Supt, Manuel Salimbangon, Recom 11 regional director;

He also got a Certificate of Merit as Davao del Norte PNP Command, 1991 provincial command of the year;

He copped the Viscom Award of Merit as outstanding Visayan Command, Negros Or. PNP Command, during the Viscom anniversary in 1990; and

Award of Merit, Presidential Security Unit Officer of the Year, 1982;

For the uninitiate, De Leon conceptualized the Kauban Law Enforcement System (KOBAN) winning a plaque from Napolcom XI office.

Davao del Norte Gov. Prospero Amatong, Peace and Order Council chairman awarded De Leon with a plaque for his successful implementation of the Kauban in Davao del Norte, in 1992.

His academic awards were Award of Certificate of Academic Excellence for obtaining an overall average higher than 92 percent in command General Staff Course Regular Class 27 being declared an honor graduate;

Certificate of Merit for graduating with an overall average of 95 percent PC Advance Course Class 82-D in 1982;



INTERVIEW. *Willy Irinco (left), CRIMEBUSTER editor, listens to De Leon's story on CPDC's stride versus hoods.*

Plaque of Academic Excellence for graduating No. 1 in Special Warfare School, Taiwan in 1973; and Letter of Commendation for topping the Scout Ranger Class 14 in 1972.

Aside from his stint in Taiwan, De Leon took up a protective services operations course in the Untied States Air Force special Ivestigation Course in Washington,DC, USA.

He attended, too, a seminar on criminal investigation for Philippine senior police officer in Japan last year.■

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Responding to new challenges

A speech delivered by Secretary Rafael Alunan III of the Department of Interior and Local Government during the 28th Recognition Day of the National Police Commission recently this year at the Napolcom Office in Makati, Metro Manila

Today, we celebrate the 28th anniversary of the National Police Commission. The theme is: "Responding to New Challenges to Police service under Philippines 2000."

But, before we respond to these "New Challenges, " my question is: have we tackled the old challenges?

The state shall establish and maintain one police force, which shall be national in scope and civilian in character, ***to be administered and controlled by a National Police Commission.***

That is what the Philippine Constitution states.

For a Constitution known for its vague policy pronouncements, the section on the Napolcom - straight forward and categorical – stands out like a sore thumb. This constitutional provision, unlike many others, is not an aspiration or an intention to be realized in some future date. It is a mandate – a command.

Has the Napolcom risen to this challenge? Is the Napolcom trying its best to meet its constitutional duty?

We are family here; thus, we can be frank with each other. There can be no better occasion than now to ask ourselves this question. For how can we face new challenges when we have not examined carefully how we fared with the old ones? We must settle first some fundamental questions.



There was a time in our history when the Napolcom was held in the highest esteem by our citizens. Then, it embodied the essence of the civilian nature of the police. Citizens felt that the Napolcom was an ally against the policeman on the street who, because of his badge and his gun, would abuse his authority. This was quite sometime ago, before the Integrated National Police and eventually, the Philippine National Police, was created.

A lot of things have changed since then. Recent legislation has altered in some substantial ways the role and nature of the Napolcom. It seems that for the past three years the organization has been groping for its place in the criminal justice system. Because of this, some people argue that the organization has been clipped of its powers and authority, a paper tiger, a toothless organization. Once and for all, dismiss such thoughts from your minds. Nothing is farther from the truth.

The Napolcom's authority and power emanate from the fundamental law of the land. How it exercises this mandate in the context of existing laws is the challenge that the Napolcom must face squarely.

It is futile to reminisce about bygone days when there were no People's Law Enforcement Boards, when the Napolcom machinery reached the remotest municipality. And the nature, orientation and recruitment of the police were very different.

Although the mandate is clear, the situation is different. And thus, requires innovation and dynamism.

The peace and order situation and the performance of the Philippine National Police are still among the top priorities of the country. The development of the country and the vision of year 2000 depends on how effective we are in this endeavor. And here, the Napolcom plays a strategic and critical role.

Strengthening the Peace and Order Councils, the People's Law Enforcement Boards, professionalizing the police, and providing the strategic direction for the drive against crime are the major areas where the Napolcom can contribute its expertise.

One aspect of police professionalization includes expertise in the use of sophisticated weapons, elite com-

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bat units, high-tech gadgets, and the like. While important for police work, it is clear that another aspect of police work is equally, if not more, important – the social or community aspect. "Neighborhood-oriented policing," "Community-oriented policing," are the terms often used to describe this strategy.

Osborne and Gaebler, in ***Reinventing Government***, cite the case of Police Chief Lee Brown in Houston, Texas. On his innovations in police work, Brown said "we're redefining the role of the patrol officer – we want him to be a community organizer, community activist, a problem solver..." They must be committed to neighborhoods and communities much like community-based church groups or NGOs.

The basic idea, according to Reinventing, "is to make public safety a community responsibility, rather than simply the responsibility of the professionals – the police. It transforms the police officer from an investigator and enforcer into a ***catalyst*** in a process of community self-help." Sometimes this means police officers help in community activities or work with community leaders to keep children in school. Problems such as drug-abuse must be attacked at its roots – in the community itself.

The real key, according to Hubert Williams, president of a research institute called the Police Foundation, "is the ability of the police to act as a catalyst to draw together community resources, to provide resources, backup and training."

Going through these concepts of police work, we should realize that these are not exactly new. Techniques and methods may have been refined and may be more scientific, but the basic idea is not new. And if there is any organization or institution in the country that knows what this is all about, it is the Napolcom.

The Napolcom is the repository of knowledge and experience on community-police work. This organization has seen before more simpler and innocent times when the patrolman was a friend of the community. When the neighborhood policeman was also the social worker, the family counselor, and the defender against neighborhood bullies.

There is therefore no reason why this organization cannot lead the way to the professionalization of the PNP.

However, before the Napolcom can stress genuine professionalism on the part of the police, it should ask itself first if it demands the same standards from its personnel. No call for reform will produce the better life as long ass we avoid the inevitable, that which entails retolling or reinventing ourselves, as a precondition to modifying systems, structures, and the environemnt around us.

The challenge, therefore, for the Napolcom is not new. It is as constant as the rising and setting of the sun: to continuously strive for excellence while adapting creatively to a rapidly changing world. ■

LAWYER ARTEMIO SACAGUING Y MENDOZA
CHIEF - TF-AKHAR (Anti-Kidnapping, Hijacking and Armed Robberies)
National Bureau of Investigation
Manila Head Office

Top Samareno NBI agent is nemesis of gangsters

By WILLY IRINCO



Lawyer Artemio M. Sacaguing was in a car with his driver cruising along Victorio Avenue, near St. Lukes Hospital in Quezon City, when another car, loaded with three unidentified men, cut their path.

It was about 3:00 P.M., after Sacaguing, chief then of the NBI's Anti-Organized Crime Division (AOCD), just came from the Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 85 attending the hearing of the Atayde kidnapping case.

Sacaguing reported to CRIMEBUSTER that the three armed men, fired at him and his driver. His driver was forced to ditch their car into a canal, as Sacaguing rolled out of the vehicle, armed with his old reliable .9 mm Glock semi-automatic pistol.

Sacaguing fired back at the three assassins, as he emptied his Glock with some 17 rounds of bullets. "I think I hit the driver, because their car zigzagged" he said "As they fled towards Cubao."

The incident took place in just two heart-pounding minutes, as Sacaguing, trained in the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) in close combat encounters, single-handedly engaged the suspects in a shootout.

Only 53, Sacaguing is a veteran law enforcer. He worked as Chief of Police of Laoang, Northern Samar from 1967 to 1974, combatting successfully cattle-rustlers, illegal dynamite fishermen, murderers and smugglers in the island-town, eradicating them.

This was when he was not yet an NBI agent. During that time, Sacaguing was a tough police chief. He sent even his relatives, who broke the law, into the Calaboose.

Sacaguing even arrested an uncle, who was a notorious dynamite fisher in Batag Island, sister-island of Laoang. To nab his uncle, Sacaguing disguised as a fisherman, wearing a large hat.

His uncle never knew that the "fisherman" near him was Sacaguing just waiting for him to throw a dynamite to the sea to catch fish.

When the uncle did it, Sacaguing swiftly paddled his banca towards the uncle and handcuffed him en flagrante. The uncle asked forgiveness, but Sacaguing hauled him to the town's police headquarters in Laoang.

But the late Mayor Eleuterio J. Dulay, the one who appointed Sacaguing police chief, took pity to the uncle, and directed his release from detention.

A top official of the town also never escaped Sacaguing's dogged law enforcement campaign. This man had a motorbanca being utilized in the smuggling of dynamites to Laoang.

Again, through sleuthing, Sacaguing arrested the smugglers dragging the motorbanca to the town plaza, near the town hall.

How Sacaguing became a Laoang police chief is a colorful story. He went home so as to attend a mass in his honor, because he had graduated his law degree from Far Eastern University in Manila.

But M/V Neptuno, rode by Sacaguing, his family and other passengers sank

in Onay Bay because of big waves. He lost his clothes and other valuables. He and the other passengers were rescued by their townmates, who tied a long rope from the sinking ship to the island. Two uncles, who tried to help Sacaguing save his children, drowned.

Sacaguing was then the youngest chief of police (COP) in Northern Samar. At first, policemen under his command were hesitant to give due respect as their COP.

But when he put an end to the criminal activities of Claudio Sorio, alias Kalaw, whom he killed in a hand-to-hand combat, the Laoang lawmen began respecting him.

Sacaguing cornered Kalaw after three days posing as a dried fish vendor.

The death of Kalaw brought peace and tranquility to Laoang and the hinterland localities of Catubig, Pambujan and Palapag, all in Northern Samar, whom the ex-convict terrorized during his lifetime.

Sorio was serving jail term for killing his own pregnant wife, whom he hacked in the stomach, slaying her instantly and beheading the seven-month old fetus in her womb.

Before being transferred to Muntinlupa, Kalaw escape and hid in the hinterlands. In a span of three years, Kalaw killed seven persons, until his end in the hands of martial arts expert Sacaguing.

Sacaguing's popularity soared to great heights, because of this successful operation. He became the most respected and feared COP in the entire province.

The following year, he was elected the President of the COP League of Northern Samar, a position which he held until he resigned as Chief of Police in 1974 to practice law and finally join the NBI.

Later, Sacaguing met late lawyer Adeodato Infante, chief of the NBI Regional Office, Region 8, based in Tacloban City. Infante was also a Laoanganon.

Sacaguing in 1972 passed the bar examination without taking any formal review classes as he was busy with his duties as thhe town's COP. Thus, he qualified to be an NBI agent. Prior to that, he first practiced law for two years.

In 1974, he resigned as Laoang COP. In 1976, he was admitted as an NBI agent, during the time of NBI Director Jolly Bugarin. He was assigned to NBI Bicol Regional office under late lawyer Aquilino Cariño.

He was assigned as the intelligence officer of the NBI in Bicol by Cariño. The last five years of the 10 years of duty as a Bicol NBI agent, Sacaguing worked under NBI Director Epimaco Velasco, then the Bicol NBI chief.

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It was during this time, Sacaguing befriended the wife of a commander of the New People's Army (NPA), who asked his help to settle a land dispute.

He became a godfather of a child of Kumander Jing, husband of his woman friend. Everytime Sacaguing and Jing met, both of them admitted they worked in two feuding forces. Sacaguing was an NBI Agent, while Jing was an NPA chieftain.

Soon, Jing became a very close friend of Sacaguing, even confiding secret NPA matters. Sacaguing gathered intelligence information through his friendshisp with Jing.

Later, during a military raid, the secret espionage work of Sacaguing was discovered. It turned out that the NBI head office in Manila was also infiltrated by the NPAs. The reports of Sacaguing were being secretly xeroxed by these DPAs and smuggled to the NPA intelligence headquarters based in Quezon,

The undercover operations of Sacaguing was so effective that he was even able to get a copy of the code book of the NPAs.

Jing warned Sacaguing to swiftly leave Bicol, because the NPAs were after his head. Sacaguing also told Jing that the latter should go with him to Manila so to escape the wrath of his NPA comrades.

But Jing refused. In the meantime, Sacaguing reported to NBI Director Bugarin, and was reassigned somewhere.

Later, Sacaguing received reports that Jing was found dead in Bicol. He added that Jing became a top Bicol NPA commander, after Kumander Tangkad and Kumander Benjie were all killed during armed encounters with the military.

Jing and his wiife lived in Partido area, Camarines Sur.

Sacaguing recalled that in 1989, he attended the FBI Academy for a four-month management course in Quantico, Virginia, USA.

"This is the best training I ever got in law enforcement," he said, "Thorough at talagang pakikinabangan."

Previously, going to FBI was exclusively for NBI agents, he related, but today, PNP men also attended.

Sacaguing told CRIMEBUSTER that he also attended a course in Japan on anti-organized crime and in Hongkong on narcotics.

In Japan, Sacaguing noted that the Japanese National Police Agency is well organized. "Tokyo is the most peaceful city in the world. This is so for crime prevention is emphasized," he oberved.

Sacaguing jestingly said "in United States, police arrive at the crime scene in five minutes, in Japan, police arrive at three minutes, in the Philippines, police are imme-

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diately at the crime scene, because they are the culprits."

Rugged, handsome and Spanish mestizo, Sacaguing was born in Laoang, Northern on June 26, 1941. His parents were both teachers. His late father, Cayetano Sacaguing was a native of Catbalogan, Western Samar. His mother, Encarnacion Mendoza hails from Batag island, Laoang, Northern Samar. His father became a district supervisor and president of the Laoang Coconut Planters Association.

Chief Inspector Ruben Sacaguing, assigned with the Security Group of Defense Secretary Renato de Villa, is his youngest brother. Another brother, Nilo Sacaguing is a known politician and civic leader in the province of Northern Samar.

Only recently, Sacaguing was appointed Chief of TF-AKHAR, after His Excellency, President Fidel V. Ramos issued a presidential order creating it to cambat kidnapping, hijacking and armed robberies.

He has 14 organic members in his task force holding office at the NBI headquarters in Taft Ave., Manila.

The group was formed after President Ramos noted that kidnappings and other heinous crimes continue to rise despite the Presidential Anti Crime commission (PACC), the PNP and other law enforcement agencies.

Although a newly created task force, Sacaguing and his group have been credited with the solution of robbery cases leading to the apprehension and busting of at least cases leading to the apprehension and busting of at least four robbery gangs.

They have also been successful in saving a kidnap victim, and lately, they also played an important role in the solution of the controversial kidnap-murder case of Eugene Tan and his driver.

As a tough NBI agent, he was responsible for the discovery of a seven-hectare marijuana plantation in the Bicol Region in 1978. For this feat, NBI Manila office rewarded him by sending him to train in Hong Kong in narcotics.

He played an important role in the solution of the Olalia murder case wherein their team was given a Presidential Citation by then President Corazon Aquino.

He also played an important role in the solution of the second Nemesio Prudente ambush case, where six Manila policemen were indicted.

He was responsible for the solution of the Elsa Castillo "chop-chop" case, which was later filmed.

He was also responsible for the solution of the kidnapping with frustrated murder case of Agnes Carindula in Quezon City and Batangas. ■

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The thoughts of Supt. Marcelo Joaquin. Jr.
(Due to retire by January 1995)

By WILLY IRINCO

The appointment of former PC officers as the new commanders of the police stations in Metro Manila will not augur well to the whole Philippine National Police (PNP).

Supt. Marcelo Joaquin, chief of police of the Quirino Police Station in Anonas St., Quezon City, bared this out when CRIMEBUSTER met him recently.

Joaquin, an awardee as the Outstanding Police Chief in the Central Police District Command (CPDC) during the CPDC's anniversary, knows well his policing, because he has been a former PC who later on shifted to police work.

A native of Novaliches. Quezon City, he pointed out that the rank and file in the National Capital Regional Command (NCRC) are mostly original policemen who would sulk, because of this new perceived policy of the top PNP command in Camp Crame.

Every so-called revamp become a ploy to change the police officers with former PC men.

Today, only Chief Supt. Romeo Pena, Southern Police District Command (SPDC) director, remains as an original policeman who still commands a district in NCRC.

The other district directors are Chief Supt. Hermogenes Ebdane, of the Western Police District Command (WPDC), Chief Supt. Ricaredo de Leon, of the CPDC; Sr. Supt. Hercules Cataluna of the Eastern Police District Command (EPDC), and Sr. Supt. Rex Piad of the Northern Police District Command (NPDC).

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They are all former PC officers. Thus Pena is the only police officer now holding fort in SPDC. But his time as SPDC director may also be numbered.

On his technique in running his Quirino Police Station, Joaquin reported to CRIMEBUSTER that he didn't bowl out his men.

He uses kindly but ironical words so his policemen will tow the line. In some respects, Joaquin said, his techniques are clicking.

Instead of directly ordering his men not to smoke, he tells them that cigarette smoking is a mal-odorous habit.

If one policeman doesn't wear his uniform, Joaquin said, he would tell him that "you are more handsome if you are in your uniform."

Thus no tension occurs between him and his men, Joaquin seems to say. His men also follow his orders with smiles in their lips and the esprit de corps of the personnel is strong.

Retiring by January 1995, Joaquin enjoys his job as Quirino Police Station chief of police. One thing that proves this situation is that the station's detention centers are clean with no prisoners.

Joaquin told CRIMEBUSTER that he managed to clear his cells of detainees by immediately bringing them to the bigger and wider Quezon City Jail in EDSA.

And when there is a need to detain arrested persons in his cells, he has classified the detainees as mere visitors and not arrested persons.

Thus, when the lawyers arrived to work for the release of their clients, they are surprised that the detainees are treated just like visitors.

With this kind of humane treatment, Joaquin thus follows the basic rule of treating humanly those charged with crimes.

In fact, the objective of the Bureau of Jail Management today is to rehabilitate the detainees so they can return to the main stream of sober civil society.

Despite his experience as former tough Special Forces officer, in the past, Joaquin smiles just like any civilian devoid of that though training.

For the uninitiate, Joaquin was once a member of the SF Company based in Camp Crame, which then could be directed to board a military plane and be dropped anywhere in the Philippines to quell any disturbance brought about by communist insurgents and private armies.

He was, likewise, a former chief of police of Kalookan City, a few years back.

Indeed a veteran peace officer, Joaquin is looking forward to enjoy his retirement in his beloved Novaliches.

So far, he has not yet decided on what work he would take up as soon as he gets his retirement papers by January.

As a former police officer, may be, some security

☞ See p. 57

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PASAY CITY POLICE STATION
SOUTHERN POLICE DISTRICT COMMAND

Pasay City cop is an awardee 'com-rel' officer

By WILLY IRINCO



Some 10,000 young students and pupils from secondary, elementary and primary schools in the towns and city in the Southern Police District Command (SPDC) jurisdiction held a mammoth rally at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) to mark the Drug Abuse Prevention Week on Nov. 18, 1994.

Supt. Eduardo dela Cerna, Pasay City Police Station police community relations (PCR) chief, reported to CRIMEBUSTER that the rally was launched by Chief Supt. Romeo Pena, SPDC district director, and Sr. Supt. Vicente Raval, Jr. Pasay police chief, supported by all the SPDC stations chiefs of police.

Dela Cerna said that COPs from Pasay City, Makati, Paranaque, Muntinlupa, Las Pinas, Taguig and Pateros joined Pena in the rally.

The PCRs of the said stations also were the project operations men in holding the demonstration.

Dela Cerna is an old hand in police work. His love for the job is like comparing it to his love for his wife and children.

Recently, Dela Cerna's industry was rewarded, when he was chosen by the Capital command Capcom of the Philippine National Police (PNP) as the PNP Capcom's Community Relations Officer awardee during the 3rd Capcom Day at Camp Bagong Diwa, Bgy. Bicutan, Taguig, Metro Manila.

Dela Cerna, chief of the Police Community Relations, is a firm believer in crime prevention to maintain peace and order in his city of birth.

In his quest to check crimes from their sources, Dela Cerna, 46, retrained some 2,127 members of the Civilian Volunteers Organization (CVO) to assist the police station in law enforcement activities resulting in a low crime rate and high crime solution efficiency rating.

"Nakatutuwa talaga itong CVO, kasi nagkaroon na ang pulis ng magmamanman sa galaw ng mga kriminal" (It's a joy to have CVOs, because the police have crime watches)," said Dela Cerna.

The red cap and chaleco uniformed CVOs helped greatly the city police when members of the cultist group created trouble, recently.

The CVOs kept peace and order along with streets, while the regular policemen were sent by Southern Police District Command (SPDC) to areas where the cultists were making trouble.

The CVOs, Dela Cerna said, came from different sectors of the city, including students, barangay residents and other civilian groups.

A batch of 30 members of CVOs were trained every weak at the police station, until the 2,127 members had undergone seminars.

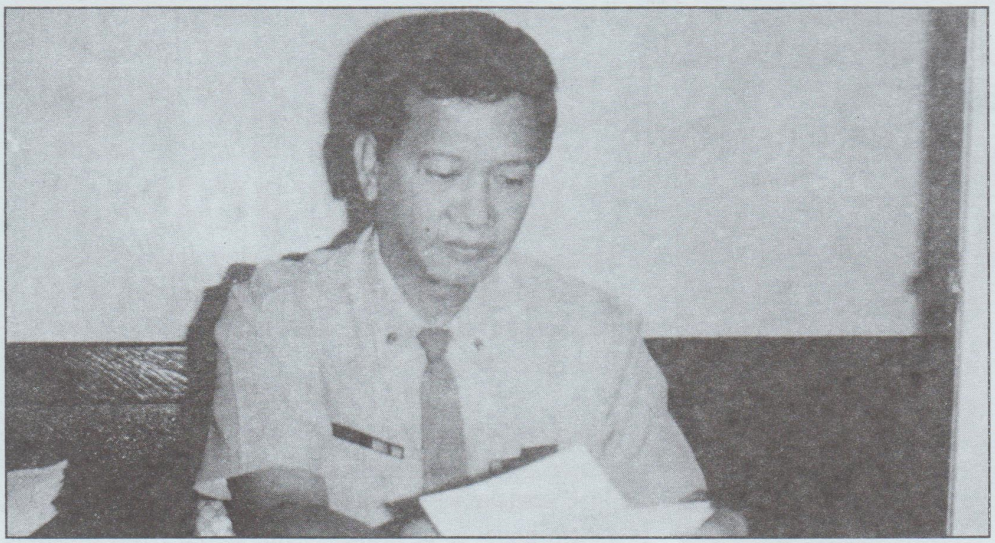
The CVOs are given light taskings, Dela Cerna said, such as arresting garbage violators, street drinkers, and mendicants.

To prevent crime, he said, all citizens are encouraged to participate in keeping peace and order. This is done through constant "ugnayan" (dialogue) with the police.

Today, Dela Cerna holds two "ugnayans" weekly resulting in at least eight dialogues a month.

In the meantime, Dela Cerna reported that the police showed that they have changed. "Otherwise, nothing will happen to us because no police in the world will accomplish its mission without the backing of the citizens," he added.

"It is inculcated in the



AT WORK. Supt. Dela Cerna reads communications to his office.

policemen that they are public servants." They are salesmen in the streets selling police service as their product" he explained.

"The police are show windows of the government; if they are rotten, something is working with the government." Dela Cerna said.

"Little by little, we are changing. This is a long process, under the leadership of President Fidel V. Ramos," he said. "We have to take prompt action with the complaints whether poor or rich. It must be quality police service."

The police now are guided by the red book called "Code of the Conduct," he said.

Dela Cerna's sterling performance has prodded then SCapcom Director Oscar T. Aquino to award him as SCapcom's Senior Staff Officer of the Year.

Aquino, likewise, recommended Dela Cerna to then Deputy Gen. Paul Imperial, PNP Chief, and the chairman of the PNP Anniversary Sub-Committee on Awards to select him as PNP Sr. Staff Officer of the Year.

The outstanding achievements of Dela Cerna, Aquino said, were: (1) Donated 10 pieces of portable squat toilets to Muslim families residing at Reclamation Area, Pasay City; (2) Initiated a Food for Life Project at depressed areas of Reclamation Area,

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Merville Access Road, Canoy Tripa de Gallina, Apelo Cruz, Riverside Sun Valley and Maricaban, where 10,000 children were given food. (3) Initiated sports activities on May 31, 1992 at Reclamation Area during their town fiesta at Muslim Area, wherein winners were awarded with one sack of rice while the runners-up were handed P100 each as consolation prizes; (4) Conducted an operation on mendicants and street children on June 15, 1992 in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare Development.



FREE FOOD. *Supt. Dela Cerna (standing, 2nd from right) supervisess a "food for life" project as 500 kids from depressed area of Maricaban are given free macaroni soup. The project is in line with Pasay police chief, Sr. Supt. Vicente T. Raval's program to bring the police closer to the people. Sponsosr Danny Devorani stands beside Dela Cerna at right.*

(5) Conducted "Operation Linis" in different city barangays; (6) Established a police emergency fund worth P54,000 for personnel welfare and benefit; (7) Set a Green and Clean Project, wherein 200 fruit tree seedlings were distributed to Reclamation Area residents for backyard gardening to augment their income;

(8) Distribution of about 1,500 gift foodstuff bags to indigent families of the city on the 46th Founding Anniversary of Pasay city Police Station on Oct. 24, 1992; (9) Initiated the Operation Purple Heart, a blood-letting activity on Oct. 24, 1992 near the city's Hall

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of Justice, where CVO members donated blood to the Red Cross;

(10) Conducted Lahar Flood Victims relief medical operations at Florida Blanca, Porac, Pampanga and Bamban, Tarlac, where in three operations, relief goods were distributed to some 10,000 families; (11) Initiated an ECHO Seminar on Career Development where some 80 city policemen attended two classes. They studied arrest, search ad seizure; preservation and presentation of evidence; buy-bust operation and oral values formation;

(12) Conducted a minimum of two "ugnayan" (dialogues) monthly involving the city's different sectors. Most noted "ugnayan" was on Aug. 13, 1992, where members of the Five Pillars of the Criminal Justice System attended. Represented were law enforcement (police); prosecution (fiscal); judiciary (courts), community and jail.

(13) Distributed some 5,000 pieces of Rosaries for the spiritual needs of evacuees at Florida Blanca, Porac, Pampanga and Bamban, Tarlac.

Bon on July 6, 1946, in Pasay City, Dela Cerna graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology degree.

He entered the police service as a patrolman in 1968 and through hardwork and determination rose from the ranks. He was assigned to various police jobs such as patrol, investigation, anti-narcotics, traffic, special action, security, miscellaneous, anti-organized crime, intelligence and special operations, juvenile control, administration and personnel.

Later, he was assigned as community relations officer in 1987 until today.

Well-rounded and experienced, Dela Cerna is a multi-awardee peace officer. Among his awards were five Medalya ng Papuri, two Medalyang Kasanayan, two Efficiency Medals (with one silver star); one Medalya ng Nasalanta, and one Medalya ng Panliligalig.

Dela Cerna was chosen by the Pasay Jaycees as Outstanding Policeman of Pasay City in 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1983. He was one of the Pasay Jaycees, Ten Outstanding Policemen of Pasay City in 1984, and one of the Makati Ayala Lions Club's Ten Outstanding Policemen of Southern Police District that year.

He was recipient of two Leadership Awards from Brig. Gen. Guillermo Enriquez of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) in 1987, and from the late Brig. Gen. Ruben Escarcha, SPD superintendent in 1983.

In shooting, Dela Cerna won a Gold Medal from then Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile during the 1st Invitational Philippines Practical Shooting Competition in 1983. He got a Bronze Medal from Maj. Gen. Josephus Ramas during



FLOOD VICTIMS & CVOS. In upper photo, the Pasay City police led by Dela Cerna jointly with the Makati Golden Lions Club hold a medical, dental and relief operations to help flood victims of Hagonoy, Bulacan recently. In lower photo, the Pasay police hold a dialogue with some 3,000 Civilian Volunteers Organization (CVO) members at the Reclamation Area in Pasay.

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 See p. 57

MAYOR RECTO MENEZ CANTIMBUHAN
DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE

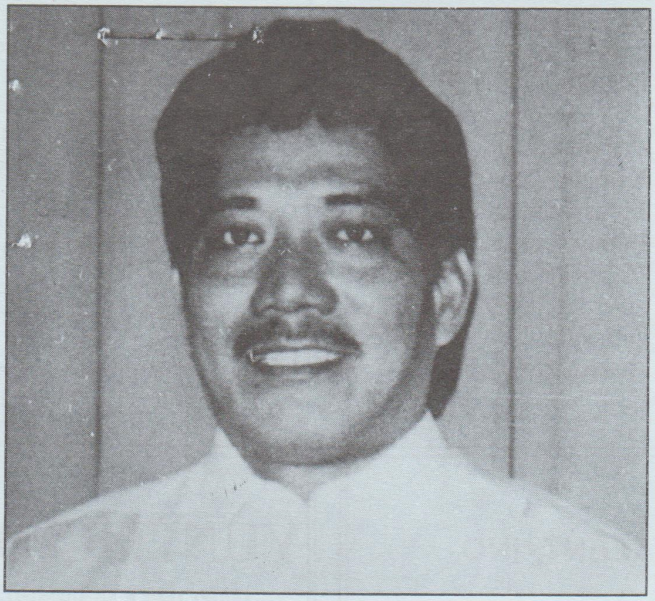
Youthful Cavite town mayor

By CHING AND SONNY YASAY

The versatile, highly energetic and youthful Dasmariñas Mayor Recto Menez Cantimbuhan today has launched a peace and order program in his bustling locality to attract investors and develop economically his place.

Cantimbuhan also has prioritized the town's development through infrastructure and livelihood projects for the welfare of his townsfolk.

No doubt, the Dasmariñas inhabitants today are progressive, because of their beloved and energetic mayor.



Cantimbuhan rose from the ranks politically, starting when he was elected vice mayor in 1980. Later, he was appointed Dasmariñas municipal mayor in 1982 lasting up to 1986.

After the fall of the Marcos dictatorship, during the first democratic elections in 1988, he confirmed his right to be a mayor, when he was overwhelmingly voted by his townsfolk.

From then on, he placed the progressive town in the map, so to speak.

Mayor Cantimbuhan, well-known for his accessibility and support to the people from all walks of life, was reelected in 1992 as town executive. Until today he still heads the municipality, charting its present development in line with Cavite Governor Juanito Remulla's dream to transform the entire province into a modern industrialized estate.

In recognition of his dynamic leadership, Cantimbuhan was elected executive vice president of the Cavite Mayors' League in 1990.

He is an alumnus of very distinguished educational institutions. He studied primary at Dasmariñas Elementary School, high school at the Immaculate Conception Academy and college in De La Salle University, Manila where he took up liberal arts in 1970.

He was a popular student leader, being a member of the De la Salle Student Council.

Later in 1972, he got his B.S. in Commerce major in management at the Adamson University. In 1976 he also took up his law schooling in Adamson University being elected as director of the Adamson Student Council.

He passed the civil service examination-professional on that same year.

Cantimbuhan is one of the graduates of Adamson University, who have carved nitches for themselves in all sectors of Philippine Society.

Mayor Cantimbuhan has distinguished in public service.

He is happily married to the former Veronica Jarata and has proven to be most virile and a prolific father to five healthy children namely robin Chester, Veron Joy, Rex Cyrus, Royce Carl and Recto II.

Born on December 8, 1950, in Dasmariñas, he was voted in 1974 as the first charter president of the Dasmariñas "TABAK" JAYCEES.

The charismatic mayor was at that time just a step away from government service as the Jaycees is a most sound training ground for future government leaders.

Also he was a Jaycees International Senator.

His townsfolk and his colleagues, admired Cantimbuhan, resulting in his gardening of awards.

He was president of the University Physicians Service

(UPSI) Manila, Employees cooperative union and associate professor at Marian College of Manila from 1976 to 1979.

He was, elected the national vice-President of the Philippine Jaycees Southern Tagalog region in 1984, at the same time the president of the Cavite Scouting Council and director of the Emilio Aguinaldo College Faculty Club of Manila.

Then in 1985 up to present, he became a member of the Knights of Columbus Dasmariñas Chapter, member of the Satellite Communications Group (SATCOM) and charter member-director of the Kiwanis Club of the town.

He was a Rizal Chronicle awardee as the most outstanding municipal vice mayor of Cavite in 1982. In 1983, when he was a new mayor, he was an awardee of the Federation of Community Development Council for being the most outstanding Mayor of the year.

He was accorded by Philippine Media Practitioners Association, the most outstanding municipal mayor and civic leader in 1989.

On August of that same year, he was Southern Tagalog Jaycees Senate awardee in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

His other honors include presidential awardee, Kiwanis Club of Dasmariñas Lions Club and Lions Club International; Boy Scout of the Philippines Cavite Council awardee; and the only mayor in the province to receive an Award of Merit in 1991. ■

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ONE FOR THE ROAD



By HENRY DIAZ

Meet SPO4 Cosme of WPDC traffic car impounding unit



For SPO4 Benjamin Cosme, chief of the Vehicle Impounding Unit of the Western Police District Command (WPDC) Traffic Management Bureau (TMB), clearing the streets of Manila is a quite big headache.

Cosme reported to One for the Road that his office is equipped with a towing vehicle so as to clear any Manila street where a vehicle has stalled.

Another problem, Cosme pointed out, is when the big trucks, including containerized van, met an accident and blocked a major thoroughfare, like Taft Ave.

"When this occur, we have to ask the help of a big trucking firm in Port Area to lend us their giant forklift," Cosme said.

• • •

Today, the compound of the WPDC TMB where Cosme's office is found, is literally filled up with all kinds of vehicles impounded by his office.

Traffic occurs within the compound to accommodate incoming and outgoing vehicles.

And owners of these vehicles come and go as they follow up the status of their impounded vehicles.

Fines ranging from P200 to P1,000 are charged to the car owners for stalling, illegal parking and what-have-you.

• • •

In a way, one of the income earning units of the WPDC TMB is the Vehicle Impounding Unit.

On their quite heavy job, Cosme told One for the Road that as said earlier, headaches occur when a big truck or van blocked a street, because of an accident.

Swiftly, traffic policeman would call his office reporting it.

Cosme then would direct his policeman assigned in towing the said vehicles to swiftly proceed the area to tow it.

But when the vehicle is big, Cosme's man has to report that his towing vehicle is too small for the job.

• • •

This is the time, when Cosme has to ask highers up including Supt. Michael Aquio, WPDC TMB chief, to assist his unit.

Aquio, a hardworking traffic police officer, would immediately proceed to the area and direct the operations to remove the stalled vehicles.

When this occurs, even Manila Mayor Alfredo S. Lim, a former Manila police chief, would come and also help in clearing the area by calling his friends in Port Area, who are owners of giant forklifts to assist. ■

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TOUGH GUY



By ROGER D. CONDENO

Are organic cops mere second class members of PNP?

As long as the chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP) will always come from the ranks of former Philippine Constabulary (PC) officers, the so-called organic policeman will remain as a mere second class member of the vaunted civilian-in-character PNP.

This observation stems from the fact that in Metro Manila today alone, Chief Supt. Romeo L. Pena, Southern Police District Command (SPDC) district director, is the only organic police officer holding a vital post in the so-called National Capital Region Command (NCRC).

• • •

The rest of the four police district are all under the command of former PCs, mostly graduates of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA).

The selection of new PMAyers as district directors of the Western Police District Command, Eastern Police District Command, Central Police District Command and Northern Police District Command could have began with the appointment of Director General Recaredo Sarmiento II, PNP chief, as the new boss of the entire police organization. Sarmiento is a PMAyer.

• • •

If Chief Supt. Rogelio Pureza, former NPDC chief, was not relieved and thrown to PNP Regional Command (Recom 8), he and Pena – organic police officers, could have stayed as district directors in NCRC.

It appears that whenever a massive revamp occurs in NCRC, the main purpose is to surreptitiously allow PMAyers to be posted in vital NCRC posts.

• • •

If the trend will continue, time will come when all the NCRC district directors are all PMAyers!

Even WPDC, which once was a bulwark of top civilian police officers, such as former P/Maj. Gen. Alfredo S. Lim, then WPDC superintendent and later National Bureau of Investigation director, is now under the command of a former PC officer.

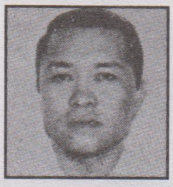
• • •

Previously, the WPDC top cop always comes from the rank-and-file.

But when the new PNP was created, courtesy of the Department of Interior and Local Government Law, organic WPDC police officers became just mere second class members of the Manila's Finest. With the present trend there is no way an original WPDC officer can aspire to become a WPDC director.

• • •

BLACK KNIGHT



By HERMIE C. BORNILLA

Lipa massacre suspect's surrender saves PNP

The arrest of the prime suspect in the Lipa Massacre eased the tension gripping our local police agencies.

For many thought that our local police have no more energy and clout to arrest criminal perpetrators of heinous crimes.

Prior to the arrest of Elmer Palicpic in Bgy. Pampang, Labo, Camarines Norte by Bicol policemen, led by Sr. Insp. Gil Gangan, top police agents in Metro Manila were in a quandary where to trap the elusive suspect.

Palicpic was transferred by Bicol police to Batangas PNP, who detained the suspect in Lipa City Police Station.

But the suspected killer of Mrs. Helen Arandia, and her daughters Chealsea Liz 6 and Anne Geleen 4, appears to have hired a topnotched lawyer.

The lawyer is now asking the court to place Palicpic under intensive medical examinations to know whether he is mentally fit to stand trial.

The move is a basic defense of lawyers, when their client is involved in a heinous crime, in this case, multiple murder.

If Palicpic is certified to be mentally deranged, this can save him from the electric chair and probably long jail sentence. ■

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By WILLY IRINCO

SHERLOCK HOLMES FRIEND

Change is Change

This is my maiden column in this handsome and colorful CRIMEBUSTER Magazine. And I would like to greet my dear readers telling them that "change is change."

For one to achieve success, being static is not all right. Being dynamic and aggressive are the qualities that one must possess so as to succeed in this changing world.

• • •

When I was still a student in philosophy in my beloved alma mater University of Eastern Philippines, University Town, Catarman, Northern Samar, my favorite professor Andres Sevilla lectured us that "only change is permanent" in this world.

By saying this quite perplexing sentence, Sevilla showed his touch as a philosopher and as a teacher.

The famous Greek philosopher Socrates was a teacher. And Socrates produced in his "Know Thyself" method of teaching the equally great philosophers Aristotle and Plato.

• • •

The Socratic method is being used today in the question-and-answer technique of extracting the truth from a witness in criminal or civil case in our courts.

Even in news reporting, the Socratic method is widely employed in getting a story.

A reporter throws many questions at his source so as to arrive at a beautiful yet clear news item.

• • •

On writing style, there is no equal to a simple and clear way of writing. The nincompoops feel that using high falutin words is dignified. But for a real writer, high-sounding words have no space in news or feature writing. This kind of writing is better off in the waste basket.

The good reason for a simple and lucid style of writing, is that writing is the beginning of good communication. Even in a simple letter, the objective is to be understood. If your letter can't be understood, it means you are not a good letter writer.

Why write when the supposed reader can't get what you mean?

• • •

To my good police friends, welcome to CRIMEBUSTER Magazine. Your exploits as peace officers will enliven the pages of this magazine, dedicated to the men in uniform who sometimes die in line of duty without any epitaph from the brutal and bloody tabloid newspapers.

This magazine is intended to bring a clean, cool and invigorating air to the polluted style of tabloid news reporting.

Would you believe that many Filipino editors believe that if a man bits a dog that's news?

• • •

No wonder our newspapers are clogging with terrific, sometimes unbelievable stories intended to scoop millions of money to the pockets of the gritty and wily publishers.

One time, I read in a tabloid newspaper that "a source saw actually a flying asuwang in Tondo. And to make it believable, a press photographer covered the hocus-pocus, including an empty dark roof with a boy pointing he saw the flying vampire there."

Incredible, but the truth is there was no asuwang in Tondo. Nary a trace of that flying bruha has been recovered by the "reporters and photographers" of that pragmatic, may be commercial-oriented newspaper. And the sad thing about this "imaginary" news item, it was published in the front page without ado! ■

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CHIEF INSPECTOR NEMESIO P. NERON
CHIEF, OPERATIONS DIVISION
VALENZUELA POLICE STATION, NPDC

Valenzuela Police Station's husky operation's chief

By CHING AND SONNY P. YASAY

Soft spoken Chief Nemesio P. Neron, chief, Valenzuela Police Station's Operations Division, earned the respect of the townsfolk, because of his no-nonsense campaign to rid Valenzuela of all forms of crimes.

As a result, Neron won the recognition of the Valenzuela municipal government, as well as its citizenry.

Neron's efforts to improve the peace and order conditions in Valenzuela, the north gateway to Metro Manila, sparked the mushrooming of factories and industries in the place.

This is so, for the people, specially the entrepreneurs and workers, go on with their business and livelihood without being threatened by criminals.

Very unassuming and humble, Neron, 46, undeniably possessed leadership qualities, making him be followed and respected by his men.

He also obeys first before he complains as every law enforcer must do in line with his job as a sentinel of the people.

"I find no choice in the aspect of place of assignment for that is the prerogative of the hierarchy of the Philippine National Police (PNP)," Neron told CRIMEBUSTER in an exclusive interview in his modest office.

"My guiding principle in law enforcement is enforce the law without fear or favor," he added with twinkle in his eyes.

Neron fondly recalled he was still young when he entered the government service as a policeman.

And when he was the chief of the Valenzuela police Intelligence and Investigation Division, he did all his best to excel in the investigation work solving many big cases in the process.

As operations chief, later, Neron's move was to inculcate in the minds of his men the sense of values of law enforcement through a series of lectures and off-hand dialogues.

Then he went on to streamline his office's rank and file assigning some of his men to appropriate po-



OPERATIONS CHIEF. *Chief Insp. Nemesio P. Neron (standing) exchanges happy moments with Ching Yasay (left, seated) CRIMEBUSTER features writer, during an interview. Supt. Roca, Valenzuela police chief is at center, seated.*

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sitions, where they can be most active.

For the man-on-the-street, Neron is not a native of Valenzuela. In fact, he was born in Kalibo, Aklan, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree.

Fiercely interested in pursuing a police career, he later took up the police basic course in Cagayan de Oro City.

There he earned a narcotics and dangerous drugs course certificate. Later, he took up a crime detection course in the National Police Academy in Forth Bonifacio, Makati, Metro Manila.

Neron told CRIMEBUSTER that Valenzuela is divided into two political districts, but represented only by one congressman in the House of Representatives.

District I covers 23 barangays and District II nine barangays. But District II is heavily populated than District I.

The lone congressman representing the two districts is Congressman Antonio M. Serapio. The Hon. Santiago A. de Guzman is the Valenzuela town mayor.

Serapio and De Guzman are both lawyers.

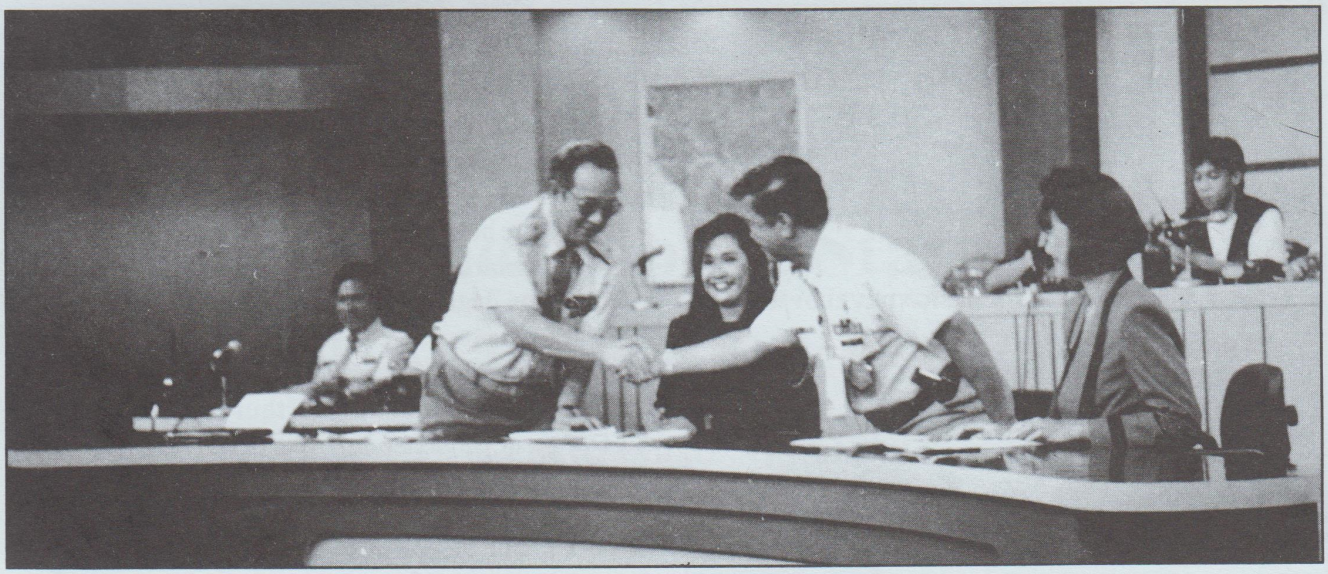
Valenzuela is the gateway from the north to Metropolitan Manila.

Formerly, a town of the province of Bulacan, it shares common boundaries with the town of Malabon and the cities of Kalookan and Quezon in the southwest and the towns of Meycauayan and Obando of Bulacan in the northeastern part.

It is separated from the rest of Metro Manila by Tullahan River. Five very important and busy thoroughfares namely: MacArthur Highway Manila North Diversion Road; Old National Highway, now MH del Pilar Road; the Malinta-Novaliches Road and the General T. de Leon-Sta. Quiteria road traverse Valenzuela.

Valenzuela, with 32 barangays, has a land area of 44,594 kms. It's current population is estimated at 423,782, of which around 35 percent only are natives of Valenzuela. While the majority 65 to 75 percent comprised several transient groups working in factories and industrial firms. The rest engaged in their own business.

Operationally, the Valenzuela police are divided into six police blocks. These are: Block I covers Barangay Marulas,' Block II covers three barangays, its headquarters based in Gen. T de Leon; Block III covers four barangays, its headquarters is based at left side of the Valenzuela Police Headquarters; Block IV covers thirteen barangays, and is based in Barangay Poblacion; Block V covers four barangays, is based in



POLICE HOUR. *Chief Supt. Arturo Anas (standing, left) PNP Police Community Relations Service chief, congratulates Supt. Napoleon M. Velasco (standing right), Muntinlupa police chief, during the Channel 9 TV show "Police Hour" for his exemplary performance in disciplining some 1,000 arrogant drivers, hoods and erring policemen by shaving their hair. Also in photo is host Lulu Pascual (center) and Lawyer Joji Antonio.*

barangay Dalandanan and Block VI covers seven barangays and is based in Barangay Paso de Blas.

Thanks to the crime-fighting prowess of P/Chief Insp. Neron and his men, not to mention the whole-hearted support and cooperation being extended by the local government authorities, the barangay officials and the general public, of course, law and order reign today in Valenzuela.

Neron is happily married to Alma P. Neron. They have three children Nemma 18, Nena 17, and the one and only son Neal is 11 years old. ■

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- Lisa Guerrero Nakpil

SENIOR INSPECTOR JUAN S. RUIZ
COMMANDER, BLOCK 6 (AYALA CENTER)
MAKATI POLICE STATION
SOUTHERN POLICE DISTRICT COMMAND

Fighting Makati police's Block 6 commander

By WILLY E. IRINCO

Prior to his assignment to the Ayala Center, the richest part of Makati, it was beset with spates of carnappings, bank robberies, kidnappings and other crimes.

When the higher Makati Police Station authorities directed Senior Inspector Juan S. Ruiz, a veteran peace officer, to assume as the new chief of New Cops On The Block (NCOB) 6 in Greenbelt Park, Ayala Center, their objective was to put a tough law enforcer in the area to counter criminal activities.

And Supt. Remy Macaspac, then the Makati police chief, didn't err. Sr. Insp. Ruiz ably took over the Block 6 command on Jan. 5, 1994 and indeed launched a non-nonsense drive against hoodlums in the said area.

In fact, Ruiz holds sway over the richest barangays in Makati, namely, San Lorenzo, Forbes Park, Dasmariñas Village and Salcedo village.

Interviewed by CRIMEBUSTER, Ruiz reported that since his assignment to Greenbelt, his Block 6 has scored many solutions of big cases.

Ruiz said his block jointly with the Makati police EOD Bomb Disposal Unit, led by Sr. Insp. Jovito Gutierrez, arrested three persons who attempted to extort money from the New World Hotel, Greenbelt Park, Makati by placing an alleged bomb at the basement of said hotel.



Arrested were Earl Phinny, 45, mastermind, businessman, US citizen; Elma Paraba y Combatal, 31, supposed payment receiver, single, receptionist, of Pacita I, Blk 4, Lot 15, San Pedro, Laguna and Rodolfo Herrera y Salandanan, 41, get-away driver, married, draftsman of 586 J. Basa St., Biñan, Laguna.

Ruiz reported to CRIMEBUSTER that the trio were arrested, after Antonio Mendoza, chief security officer of the New World Hotel, complained to Block 6 that his office has received a telephone call from somebody that they just planted bombs in the hotel's basement.

Alarmed with the report, Chief Supt. Romeo Peña, SPDC district director, and Supt. Macaspac went to the hotel instructing the bomb disposal unit to search and dispose the said bombs.

But after a diligent search, the unit personnel found only fake bombs. These were planted by unscrupulous persons to threaten the hotel management to give in to their demand of $300,000.

While negotiations for the demand was under way, Peña and Macaspac put up a dragnet composed jointly by Block 6 and Bomb Disposal Unit men, led by Ruiz and Gutierrez. Peña was the ground commander, while Macaspac was vice commander of the operation.

At about 5 p.m., Sept. 28, Gutierrez posing as the bagman of the hotel, went to the payment site near Greenbelt Theater along Paseo de Roxas St. to meet and give the money to the woman on instructions of the mysterious caller.

At the same time, a PLDT operator informed Ruiz that the caller transferred to the ground floor of the Greenbelt Theater. Ruiz and his team saw a foreigner at the pay telephone booth of Nature's Way Flower Shop at the same theater.

Ruiz went near the man cavesdropping. He heard the man instructing somebody on the payment. Ruiz signaled his team arresting the foreigner.

Gutierrez and his team also nabbed the woman receiver of the extort money near Greenbelt Theater.

The arrested suspects told Ruiz that the get-away driver was at Happi Hut Kiosk in Greenbelt Park. Ruiz and his team also nabbed him.

The personnel involved in the successful solution of the bomb threat and extortion case were: Block 6 – Sr. Insp. Ruiz, SPO4 Rodolfo B. Deocariza, SPO4 Restituto Laureano, SPO3 Rustico Ponce, SPO2 Felipe del Rosario, SPO1 Remigio Concepcion, PO3 Edmiro Brondo and SPO4 Rodrigo Macaventa;

EOD-Bomb Disposal Unit – Sr. Insp. Gutierrez, SPO4 Apolinario Lamatao, SPO4 Elpidio Lajom, SPO4 Ricardo Reyes, and SPO2 Mario Ignacio.



CARNAPPER. *Sr. Insp. Ruiz (right) views a stolen motorcycle as a suspected carnapper (with handcuffs) holds the vehicle. Holding an M-16 Armalite rifle is SPO2 Brondo (left). Looking on are SPO3 Remigio Concepcion (2nd from left) and a Kalookan City barangay captain (2nd from right).*

Ruiz and his Block 6 men also solved a case, wherein four security guards fought them in a shootout at the PCI Bank head office, Makati Ave., Salcedo Village, Makati on 5:15 p.m. Sept. 15, 1994.

This case was quite unique because the complainants were Ruiz and his men. Dodlly Mabagos y Calderon, 34, married, sales lady of Alexis Jewelry Store at Quad Center, Ayala Center, Makati, also filed grave threats against the said security guards.

At about 4:45 p.m. on Sept. 15, 1994, while SPO3 Gododlo Telam and PO3

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Edmund Telan, both of Block 6, were escorting Wilma dela Rossa y Guzman and Mabagos, both sales ladies and complainants of a swindling case, in a police mobile car 215, along Puyat Ave., Salcedo Village, when they stopped because of the red traffic signal.

Two armored vehicles recklessly passed by the mobile van prompting SPO3 Telam to shout "Hey" to call the attention of the said drivers of their flagrant disregard of traffic rules.

The two policemen, however, never knew that the armored cars were backed up by four L-300 vans, with blue uniformed men, armed with M-16 Armalite rifles.

When Telam warned the armored car driver of his reckless driving, the occupants of the L-300 vans alighted, surrounded the lawmen and pointed their M-16 rifles at the two policemen and two sales ladies.



***DIALOGUE**. Supt. Remy Macaspac (2nd from right), then Makati police chief, explains the New Cops On the Block scheme to Forbes Park barangay officials during a dialogue recently. Listening (left to right) are Sr. Insp. Jaime Battung. Sr. Insp. Ruiz, and Chief Insp. Felix Arevalo, all of Makati police.*

Sensing danger, Telan and Tumlad opted not to resist the assault. One SG Toledo told his comrades to return to their vehicles.

Later, the duo returned to the Block 6 headquarters reporting the matter to Sr. Insp. Ruiz.

Swiftly, Ruiz and his team checked the origin of the armored cars and vans. They learned that these came from PCI Bank.

Upon arrival at the PCI Bank head office, Ruiz and his men questioned three security guards on the presence

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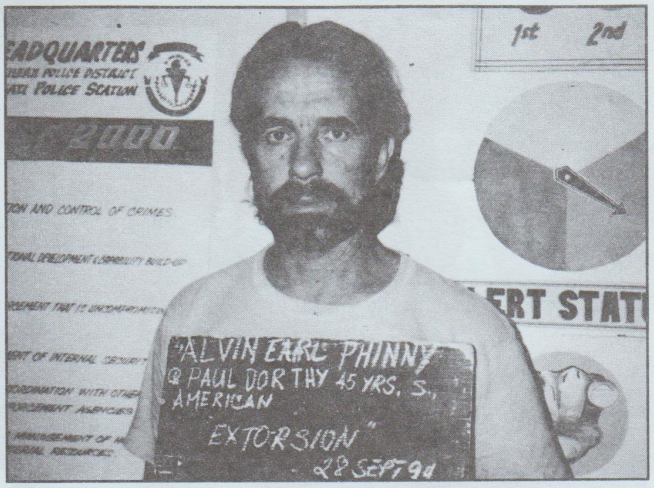
of the L-300 van with plate TFB 613 parked along side Dela Costa St.

When Ruiz and his team confronted the three security guards, other security guards sought cover, firing their rifles at the lawmen, hitting SPO4 Romulo Lactan and PO3 Wilfredo Merez. This prompted Ruiz and his men to fire back hitting a security guard positioned at the driveway.

Shot was Aurelio Lagumbay y Tagalog, armed with a Colt AR-15 cal. 5.56 mm. with serial 4927952.

Another SG, Carlos Lagumbay of Able Security Agency assigned to the armored car, was shot in the left side of the body.

Recovered from SG A. Lagumbay was a Baby Armalite rifle cal. 5.56 Colt AR-15 model 613 with serial 492752 with banana type magazine containing 20 live ammunition, one deformed bullet and one empty shell.



SUSPECT. *Alvin Earl Phinny, a foreigner, allegedlly masterminded an aborted extortion using fake bombs against New World Hotel in Greenbelt Park, Makati.*

Also seized from SG Rex Buenvenida was an M-16 Baby Armalite rifle Elisco RP with serial 092561 and from SG Carlito Evarle was an M-16 A1 Armalite rifle with serial 32313 Elisco with banana type magazine.

Also recovered from the L-300 van with plate TFB 613 was a cal. 38 Armscor revolver with serial 40073 of SG Reynaldo Loyola with six live bullets in its cylinder.

Witness SG Erseo Abiog y Filarca of PISA assigned at PCI Bank head office, told SPO4 Romeo Ramos that he saw SG A. Lagumbay fired the first shot at the policemen.

The suspect SGs resented Telan's calling their attention on their reckless driving. But no law books say that armored cars are exempted from traffic rules.

The suspects were charged with direct assault upon an agent of a person in authority and grave threats.

Ruiz and his men, likewise, busted a robbery holdup at air-conditioned buses, resulting in the death of three suspects and the recovery of stolen items.

The case began, when four holdupmen disarmed PO3 Arnel Arciaga of Block

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COLLECTOR. *Elma Paraba y Cambotal, alleged collector of Phinny's aborted extortion scheme.*

6 of his .45 cal. Mark IV pistol inside an RC aircon bus near Allied Bank along Ayala Ave. at about 9:45 a.m. on Nov. 6, 1994.

The four suspects, armed with knives, robbed also the other passengers of their belongings.

After the heist, the suspects fled on foot followed by Arciaga. But he lost them in the crowd in Ayala Center. Arciaga reported the incident to Sr. Insp. Ruiz.

Swiftly, Ruiz directed four teams to do patrol work in the stretch of EDSA, Ayala Ave., Buendia Ave., Paseo de Roxas and Makati Ave. to track down the suspects.

Later, the four suspects were spotted by the Ruiz team, composed of SPO4 Luis Estrella, SPO2 Felipe del Rosario, and PO3 Arciaga at the corner of Ayala Ave. and Recoletos aboard an aircon bus bound to Buendia and Pasay City at about 1:15 p.m. on Nov. 6.

But when the Ruiz team was about to accost the suspects, one of them pulled a gun and fired at the Block 6 lawmen.

A shootout ensued gunning down three of the suspects. But the one who fired at the lawmen escaped. The three wounded holdupmen were rushed to the Ospital ng Makati, but they were declared dead on arrival.

Seized from the suspects were one .45 cal. Mark IV pistol owned by PO3 Arciaga, one fan knife, one icepick, one necklace and P200.00.

Sr. Insp. Ruiz and his Block 6 men engaged in a gun battle two unidentified male suspects at about 2:10 a.m. on Nov. 8, 1994 in Salcedo Village area along Gil Puyat Ave. carrying athletic bags containing stolen items.

The operation occurred after Victor Hontiveros y Osias of 1219-C Cardona St., Makati and Herbert Sn. Juan y Pascual of 19 Montoya St., San Juan, Metro Manila complained they were victimized by thieves.

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Ruiz and his team conducted patrolling at Salcedo Village and Legaspi Village areas in line with the complaints starting at 1 a.m. Nov. 8.

The shootout took place an hour after, when Ruiz and his group saw a taxicab with lights off parked on Puyat Ave. When Ruiz's team checked the car, two unidentified men carrying bags suddenly appeared going towards the cab.

But the two fled, upon seeing Ruiz's team. The lawmen pursued them and when the duo reached a vacant lot between Puyat Ave. and Dela Costa St., one pulled a gun and fired two successive shots on the policemen.

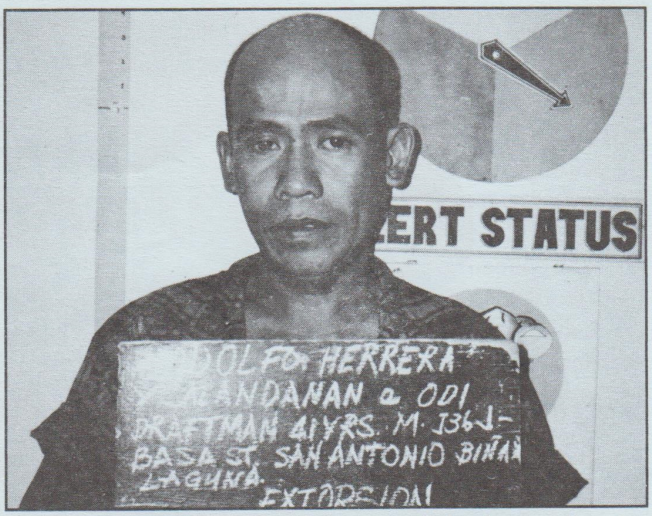
Ruiz's team defended themselves and traded shots with the suspects, who were fatally hit.

Later, recovered from the suspects were one .38 cal. revolver, two green athletic bags, one car TV set, one camera, one cellular phone, and other assorted items.

The complainants were later informed on the shootout, where the stolen items were recovered.

A bemedalled peace officer, Ruiz garnered a Medalya ng Kasanayan on Sept. 6, 1994, when leading Block 6 policemen, he engaged in an armed encounter a notorious carnapper at West Drive Extension parking space near Greenbelt Theater on July 24, 1994.

Ruiz and his team spotted the male suspect trying to open the door of a Lancer El silver car with plate TGD 509. The lawmen jumped off from their vehicle with drawn guns introducing themselves as police officers.



GET-AWAY DRIVER. *Rodolfo Herrera y Salandanan, alleged get-away driver of Phinny's extortion try.*

But the suspect didn't heed the Ruiz group, and pulled out a gun trading shots with the lawmen. The suspect was gunned down. Recovered from the suspect were a .38 cal. paltik revolver, with five live bullets and three empty shells.

On June 17, 1994, Ruiz received a Medalya ng Kasanayan with 4th Bronze Sampaguita cluster for demonstrating exemplary efficiency, loyalty and devotion to duty rendered as team leader in the conduct of a covert-overt operation arresting 12

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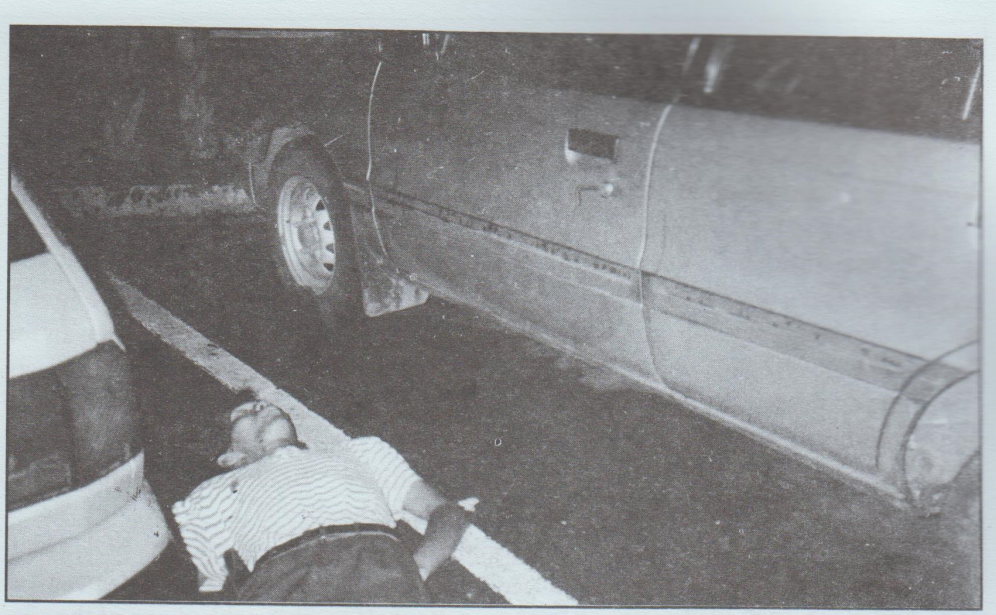
suspected Alex Boncayao Brigade (ABB) members, part of some 80 ABB and MRRC's Regional Insurrectionary Force Command, who were conducting a lightning rally along Ayala Ave., Makati commemorating the 14th ABB Founding Anniversary on May 24, 1994 at about 9 a.m.

While Ruiz was the deputy chief of the Makati police Special Operations Division (SOD), he led SOD operatives launching a campaign against carnappers from Sept. 21 up to 23 1993 at Bgy. Palanan, Makati and Bgy. Habay, Bacoor, Cavite.

The operation resulted with the arrest of Roberto Esteban y Abad, alias Emil, Erap, 37, driver, of Angel Village, Binakayan, Kawit, Cavite, armed with a .38 cal. paltik revolver with live bullets and possessing a CIAG ID;

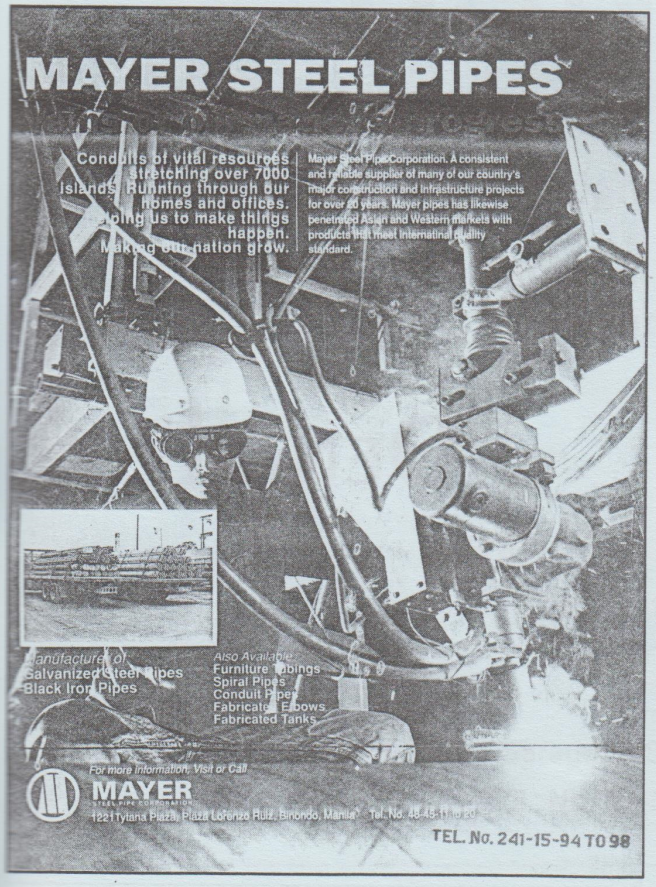


END-OF-THE ROAD. *A dead suspected carnapper lays on the parking area, after he engaged Sr. Insp. Ruiz and his men in a shootout in Greenbelt Park.*

Saturnino Liwanag y de Torres, alias Vic, 34, jobless, of Old Balara, Quezon City, armed with a .38 cal. paltik revolver with live bullets, a nine-inched-inched fan knife and having a CIAG ID; and

Orencio Escubido y Valbueza, alias Orly, 40, Army soldier, of Fort Bonifacio, Makati armed with a .357 cal. paltik revolver, with live bullets, ID and badge.

The three said suspects were arrested inside the compound of the Cash and Carry



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Supermarket, Bgy. Palanan, Makati on Sept. 18, 1983 at 8:30 a.m.

They were identified through their cartographic sketches. They admitted being responsible in 14 carnapping cases committed in Bgy. Palanan and Bgy. San Antonio Village, Makati.

They confessed to the police they brought the vehicles to a certain Juan Malvar of Bacoor, Cavite paying them P25,000 per car.

On Sept. 20, 1993, Sr. Insp. Gutierrez, then Insp. Ruiz and SPO4 Lammatao conducted a follow-up operation in Bgy. Habay, verifying the presence of carnapped cars in th house of Councilor Edwin Malvar.

Later at about 11 a.m. the same day, at the Malvar's compound at Km. 19 Dulong-bayan, Bacoor, Councilor Malvar presented the registration papers of all the cars parked in his area.

But the papers of a green Nissan California with plate PKJ 725 was found questionable.

One complainant—Victoriano Pioquinto of Kalookan City—identified the Nissan California as the same car carnapped from him by the suspects.

SPO3 Rodolfo Deocariza investigated the Nissan and found that its chassis and motor numbers came from another similar totally wrecked car. Documents showed that South Motorists owned by Malvar, bought the wrecked car from Malayan Zurich Insurance Co. on Sept. 13, 1993.

The three suspects and Malvar were all charged with violation of RA 6539 (Anti-carnap Law).

Ruiz, likewise, got a Medalya ng Kasanayan for the arrest of three suspects in a robbery holdup case of Prudential Bank, Bel-Air Branch, Makati on Aug. 5, 1993.

As deputy SOD chief, Ruiz led a team of operatives that nabbed one of the suspects hiding in Valenzuela, Metro Manila.

The arrest led to the identification of three other suspects. Also recovered were one .45 cal. pistol and one hand grenade.

Ruiz, 50 was born in Tondo, Manila. He is married to Concepcion Arpilleda. They are blessed with three sons: Juan Genaro, Jonathan and Jerico.

A grizzled peace officer, he has been assigned to Makati, Manila, Valenzuela, Quezon City, Kalookan City, SPDC. He is now back in Makati.

His other awards were five Medalya ng Kasanayan, three Medalya ng Papuri, one INP Service Medal, and one INP Efficiency Medal.

He has received a total of 28 commendations from various sectors, including INP, PNP, local government units, civic clubs, etc. ■

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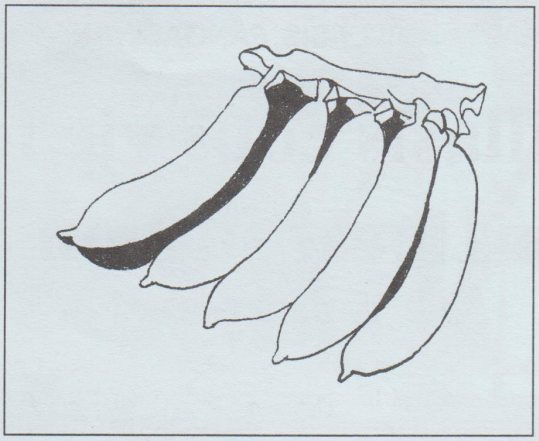

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Villasis cops vie for Recom 1 best station award

By HENRY DIAZ

Villasis, Pangasinan – For this year, the Villasis Police Station under Regional Command (Recom) 1 of the Philippine National Police (PNP) has undergone tremendous changes, administratively and operationally, enhancing the peace and order in this town while regaining the trust, confidence and respect of the community to the local law enforcers.

This was the report of Senior Inspector Rolie Mabalot Saltat, the town's police chief, to Chief Supt. Santiago Alino, Recom 1 regional director, on the status of his police station in its bid to win the Best Police Station rural category award for 1994.

Saltat said that in the previous months, his station embarked on a moral recovery program aimed in enhancing the moral values of his personnel.

"This program was undertaken to strengthen the moral fiber of the Villasis PNP rank and file and transformed the local police organization into a truly, dynamic, disciplined, highly motivated and profession-alized police service," Saltat explained.

In complement to "Oplan PAGBABAGO," this station instituted reforms tremendously. Not even a single personnel assigned has been involved in any cases, or received any disciplinary actions from the Chief of Police, the PLEB, NGOs and the community.

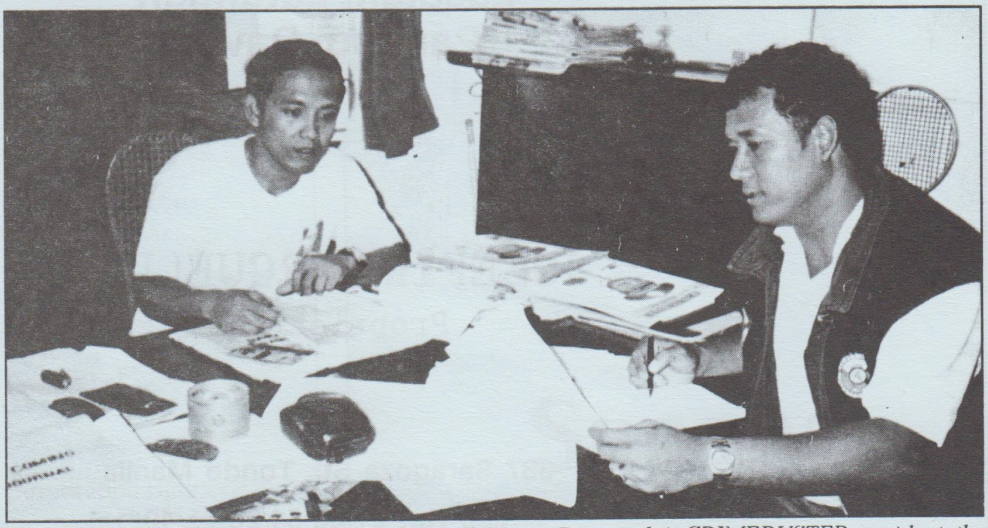
In developing morale, welfare and discipline, Saltat said he conducted on-the-spot check on every personnel, attending Monday flag raising ceremonies and Police Information and Education lecture. Instilling discipline among its personnel is a priority, morale and welfare come next by giving merit for excellent achievements in the performance of their duty.

In the operational undertakings, this station positively responded to threats posed by the criminal elements in the municipality. This station attained operational capabilities on a higher plain. The remaining threat posed by the criminals operating within the town were held at bay with constant police visibility in 21 barangays and a maximum of five minutes respond time to any call. The town continues to enjoy a peaceful and stable condition for the past months.

The Villasis PNP demonstrating a high degree of professional competence continues to draw positive cognizance from the public as evidenced by the tremendous support from government officials, the NGOs, and the local populace. Feedback has it that Villasis PNP today is different compared to the yesterday; scoring more praised rather than criticisms.

In pursuance to Oplan PAGBABAGO, this Station initiated various measures aimed at enhancing morale of its members and promote professionalism in the police service, including disciplinary measures against erring members and weed out scalawags from the police service.

Value formation (Moral Recovery Program) is conducted every Thursday for Spiritual Upliftment, benefiting a total of 32 PNP personnel



INTERVIEW. *Sr. Insp. Rolie M. Saltat (left) tells Henry Diaz (right), CRIMEBUSTER president, the performance of his police station.*

and one civilian employee.

Barangay Administration Training Program was created by the DILG; is to develop rapport and unity among its member,s the community, the DILG and to the local police.

Continues night patrol is being undertaken led by the COP and a responsible non-officer rank in two teams with two separate PNP vehicles. This is done to ensure a quick reaction of the five minutes respond time for the community.

The morale of the Villasis PNP and the degree of discipline instituted are high which favor accomplishment of the current mission. Every personnel is required to be in proper and complete uniform during office hours and tours of duty.



HOMEMADE SHOTGUNS. *Three suspects carry their homemade shotguns as a police officer (left) identifies them.*

This Station, though, stands firm in implementing Oplan PAGBABAGO, aimed at the professionalization of the police service. Deserving personnel with excellent performance are duly rewarded in recognition of their achievements, while erring personnel are given due punishments.

This station maintains and preserves cleanliness within its premises and around the Municipal Building. Greening the back portion and left portion of the station draws attention from the local officials, NGOs and community — observing the project of the First Lady Ming Ramos' "Clean and Green.

PNP personnel of this

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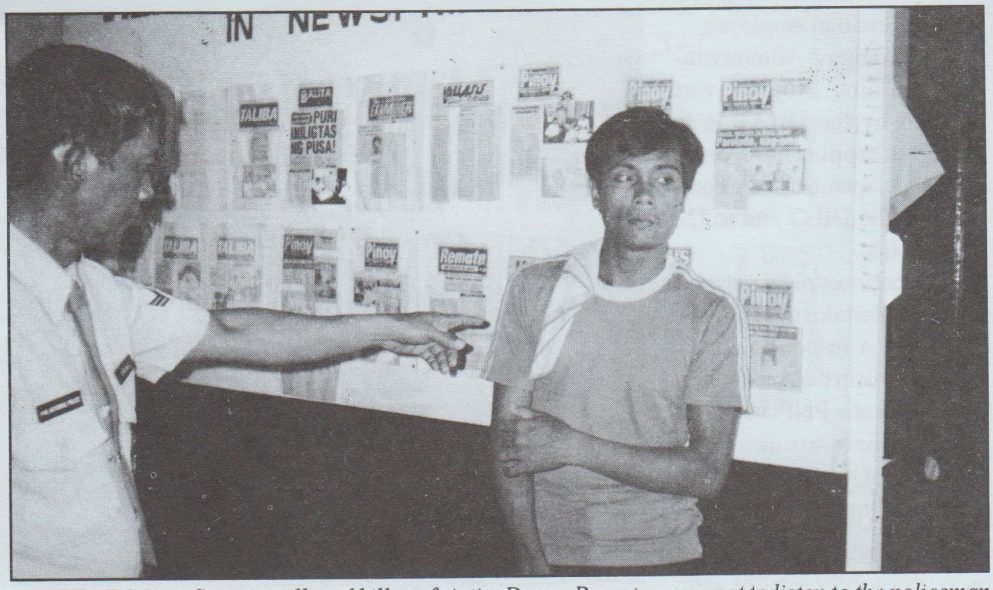
station receives PI&E from the COP every Monday right after the usual Monday flag raising ceremony attended by the municipal mayor, Officials, employees, NGOs and the community.

Elements of this station provided security to VIPs during the celebration of town fiesta and the visit of the President of the Republic of the Philippines in connection with the Palarong Pambansa.

Funeral escorts were provided by elements of this station to the late Ex-Chief of Police of Villasis Lt. Rafael Bascos.

Regular sessions of the Sangguniang Bayan were attended by the COP of this Station for the inter-agency coordinating bodies and consultation on the implementation of municipal ordinances.



SUSPECT. *Mario Soriano, alleged killer of victim Danny Ramat, seems not to listen to the policeman (left) pointing at him. Soriano murdered Ramat in Bgy. Capulan, Villasis, Pangasinan, police said.*

The active involvement of ccommunity assistance and development programs of the uniformed personnel to serve the people in times of needs, draws positive cognizance from various sectors.

While it is true that there are two main categories of police problems throughout the country – insurgency and criminality, the first category, is not a threat, but the latter remains to be. Though the first category doesn't exist at this point, efforts are being undertaken to counter any, by tapping the NGOs and concerned citizens to monitor such existence.

A vigorous campaign conducted by this station

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against all forms of criminality during the early months of 1994, has remarkably shown a good improvement in its **CRIME SOLUTION EFFICIENCY** which is presently pegged at 81% covering the period 01 January to 30 September 1994. The **TOTAL CRIME VOLUME** is recorded as 48 with 24 **INDEX CRIMES** and 24 **NON-INDEX CRIMES.** The **TOTAL CRIME RATE** is recorded as 9.3 per 100,000 population. **CRIME SOLVED** is recorded as 39.

There has been a remarkable improvement on the town's over-all crime situation particularly at the first sixth months of 1994. No sensational and major crime incidents have been reported so far, unlike these remaining months when some citizens even killed a suspected robber and carnapper, and a known street toughie because of land dispute.

However, efforts have been exerted and suspects pinpointed leading to the filing of appropriate charges in proper court. It is in this period that a large scale of estafa was committed and all of the suspects were arrested by means of warrant of arrest.

With the active support of the community, a wanted person from Occidental Mindoro was arrested in Barangay Piaz and was turned over to the Occidental Mindoro police authorities after proper communication was made.

Another case of theft (dognapping) and illegal possession of firearm were solved and suspects were apprehended and charged in court when elements of this station conducted an investigative mobile patrol at Barangay San Blas.

In compliance with directives from higher headquarters on PD 1602, violators were arrested by elements of this station and case was filed in court against them.

Another score was made by this station, when a long time escapee, committed sometime January 1990 was again rearrested by elements of this station during the 3rd quarter and same was turned over to elements of Pangasinan Provincial Jail.

In the implementation of special laws, this Station registered notable success as follows: 1) Anti-Illegal Gambling (PD1602) — persons arrested, 12; raid/opns conducted, 141; amount confiscated, P1,266.24; cases filed in court, 12. 2) Anti-Narcotics — persons arrested, 4; raids/opns conducted, 57; confiscated, one teabag of marijuana, four cigarette wrappers and one cigarette pipe. 3) Anti-Carnapping — person arrested, none; opn/raids conducted, 39; vehicle reported stolen, 1; recovered vehicles, one motorcycle sidecar.

It was again proven that the citizens are vital for the PNP, their involvement in crime prevention and their active support and participation led to the arrest of the long time wanted persons within AOR.

Wanted Mariano Rosales y Soblechero was arrested through the help of the citizen in Poblacion. Said person was charged with murder and carnapping three years ago.

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Also arrested by elements of this station was Jumie Nabor who was arrested at Barangay Capulaan, Balungao, Pangasinan, charged with the crime of murders, robbery and theft of large cattle.

Angel Solomon, an escapee from Lingayen Provincial Jail was again rearrested in Poblacion, Villasis. Solomon escaped from his detention cell sometime in 1990. The citizens informed the lawmen leading to his arrest.

Other persons, who are under the **WANTED LIST** are now being traced by elements of this station with the support of the community. PNP personnel then conducts dissemination campaign to provide them the necessary precautions, preventions and informations.

During the third quarter, Command conducted an Annual General Inspection of Villasis PNP wherein this station was rated and garnered one of the best stations according to the AGI report.

Other activities of this station include the motorist assistance during the observance of the Holy Week 1994, and dealing with the press people on the peace and order within AOR.

Villasis PNP personnel are bound with discipline following the dictum of PNP vision, PNP mission, and the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

The cornerstone of the Chief PNP which is the "POLICE 2000," was practiced by all members of this station and even to

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JOSE CANTERA

CY 1994, staffs of NAPOLCOM Region 1 inspected the Villasis PNP, records were checked, personnel were inspected and interaction was made, citing problems and recommendations resulting to a smooth relationship. directives, policies and guidelines were introduced. The result was very satisfactory.

The last quarter of CY 1994, team from Lingayen PNP the extent of memorizing by heart.

Saltat recommended to C/Supt. Alino that as a fitting recognition of the sincere efforts, dedication and devotion to duty of the Villasis PNP, that it be adjudged as **"THE MOST DISCIPLINED PERSONNEL and the BEST POLICE STATION OF THE YEAR."** ■

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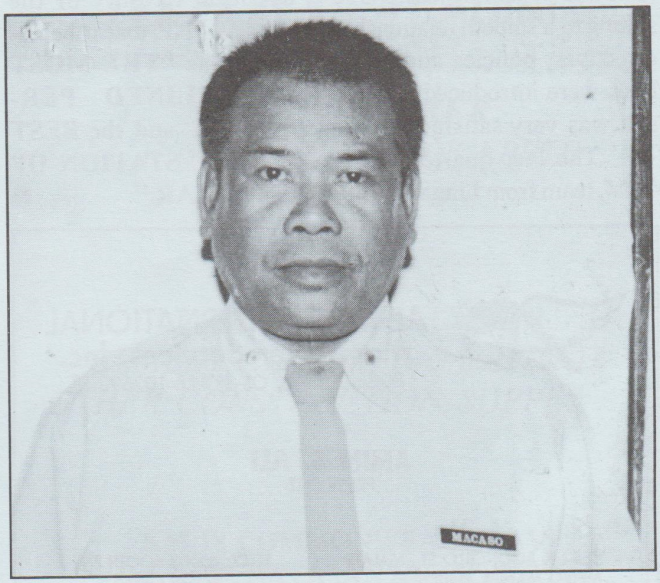
No peace and order problem in Basista

By HENRY DIAZ

INSPECTOR LEON MACARANAS MACASO
CHIEF OF POLICE
BASISTA POLICE STATION, RECOM 1
BASISTA, PANGASINAN



BASISTA, Pangasinan – Inspector Leon M. Macaso, chief of police of the Basista Police Station here, reported that the peace and order situation within the area remains normal. However, there were rare cases **committed which were uncontrolled.**

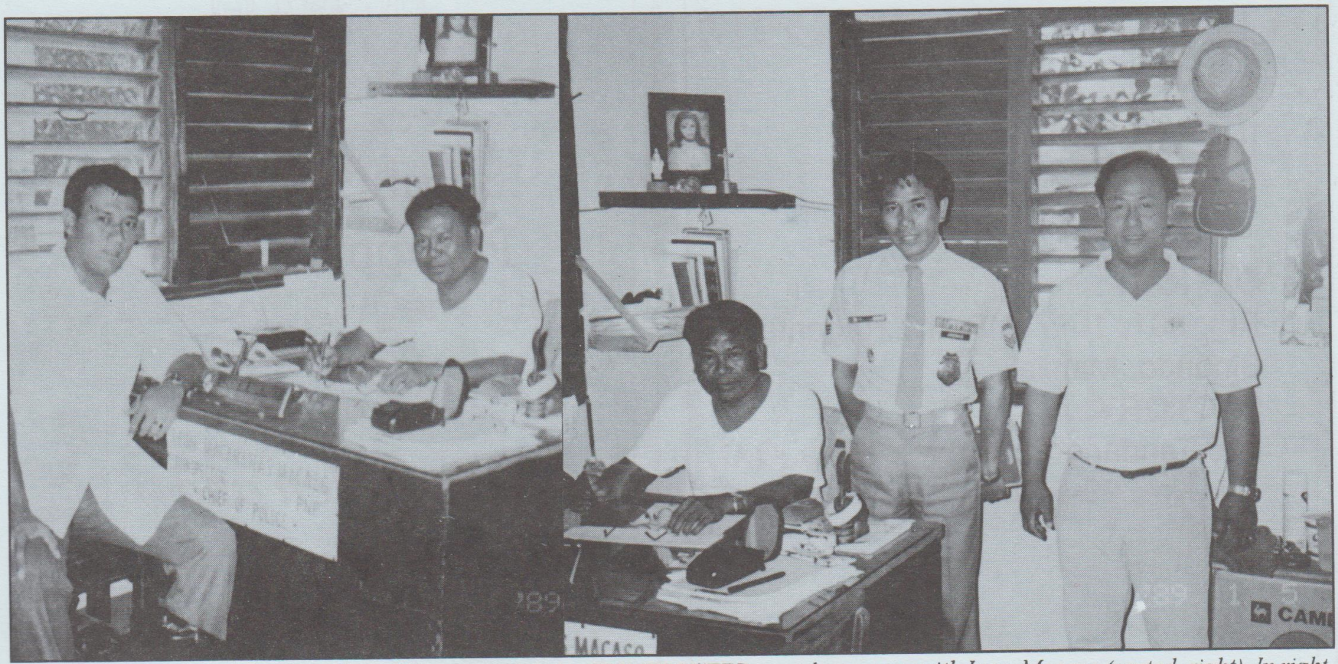
The municipality of Basista is located in central part of Pangasinan. Its boundaries are the municipality of Malasiqui in the East, Urbistondo in the West, Bayambang in the south and the North is San Carlos City.

Basista is considered a Class "C" municipality having the land total area of 4.2 square kilometers divided into 13 barangays with 23,798 total population as of 1990. The main livelihood are farming, livestock raising and cottage industry.

As far as insurgency is concerned, Macaso continued, "there is no insurgents violent activity monitored within our area of responsibility."

On criminality, a downward trend in crime incidents by 9.09% as compared to the same period last year.

From 01 January - 10 September 1994, the crime incidents within our AOR has



CRIMEBUSTER. *In left photo, Henry Diaz (seated, left), CRIMEBUSTER president, poses with Insp. Macaso (seated, right). In right photo, a CRIMEBUSTER staff (right) also poses with Macaso and another Basista police official.*



FLAG RITES. *In right photo, Basista policemen and CVOs are ready for the flag raising ceremony. In left photo. Insp. Macaso, with shovel, leds three planting with his men and CVOs.*

registered a total of 20. In these crime incidents, 8 are index crimes and 11 are non-index crimes, Out of 20 crime incidents, 18 were solved with 90% crime solution efficiency. Average monthly crime rate is registered at 10.50 per 100,000 population.

For the period covered, there is no significant CPP/NPA violent activity monitored within our AOR.

The result of crime prevention program/activity, noted a of 9.09% decreased of crime incidents comparing the period covering from 01 January - 10 September 1994 to the same period of 1993.

To prevent the increase of criminality, the station continuously conduct investigative patrol, barangay visitation and police visibility.

Although, this municipality is quite peaceful, our operation activity against criminality is centered in the neutralization and arrest of criminal elements.

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NAPOLCOM INSPECTION. *In right photo, Lawyer Paulino S. Ines, in (barong Pilipino) of Napolcom, leads his men in inspecting Basista Police Station. SPO4 Francisco Cayabyab (right) welcomes the inspectors, with other policemen. In left photo, Fr. Angel Resultay lectures Basista policemen on spiritual guidance in their works.*

On the campaign against loose firearm, a total of 3 assorted firearms were voluntarily surrendered.

On illegal gambling, 11 persons were arrested while on the act of collecting jueteng bet and filed appropriate charges in court.

On cattle rustling, 2 cattles intercepted recovered but no person arrested.

On wanted persons, 0 persons apprehended by virtue of warrant of arrest.

While 11 persons apprehended without warrant of arrest.

Complementary to our efforts in maintaining peace and stability in our area is the conduct of barangay officials dialogue (pulong-pulong) and barangay visits telling them of their role and participation in the solution and prevention of crime.

For the period covered, the station has accomplished the following: 13 seminars/trainings to CVO members; 15 dialogue/ pulong-pulong to barangay officials; 10 mobile assistant to ferry ambulatory patients to hospital; 76 participation in inter-agency coordinating bodies; 6 supported to the community fund raising project through cash donation; 3 medical and dental assistance; 3 participation in religious sector activity; 3 disaster relief assistance; 4 complaints assistance for non-criminal cases.

The station has one PNP officer with the rank of police inspector and 28 non-officer rank.

For the morale and welfare of the PNP personnel, they were given rotation of duties.

Ethnic Profile; 28 are Pangasinenses and 1 Ilocano; training profile — PNP members this station have undergone PBC/Military Basic Course.

All PNP members were given commendations by the Comelec officer of Basista and Sangguniang Bayan members after the conduct of peaceful, honest and orderly barangay elections.

On schooling -training, one NCPO is undergoing training for senior leadership Course at PNPTC, Recom 1. One NCPO undergone 15 day seminar/ training on small engine repair and maintenance held at this municipality.

On logistics, the station has changed the four wheels of the issued PNP service jeep through the help of the municipal officials.

Thirteen handheld radios were issued to all barangay captains and one base radio to the PNP substation from the local government.

Macaso assessed that on criminality, it is expected to be quite calm and peaceful during this season most of the people are busy cultivating their agricultural farms and the indigent persons were encouraged to earn living through the passengertri-bike. ■

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Dela Cerna . . . from page 28

the 3rd Invitational Phil. Practical Shootfest. He also garnered a Bronze Trophy from then Col. Fernando Angara, SPD superintendent, during the 1st SPD Intern-Station Shootfest in 1987.

Enriquez awarded Dela Cerna a Markmanship Award and Sharpshooter Award in 1987.

He got the first runner-up combat shooting from Brig. Gen. Victor Natividad in 1985 and first runner-up trophy in the top revolver shooter category during the 1988 Capcom/MPF Invitational Friendship Shootfest.

Dela Cerna copped a 7th place medal during the MND Practical Shooting Competition in 1983.

He has received 49 commendations and other awards. ■

The thoughts of Supt. Marcelo Joaquin Jr.

From p. **24**

work as chief of security agencies, or as head of a company awaits him.

With his expertise in managing people, any company will need him to run a firm with thousands of employees.

In the meantime, Joaquin will be an asset of Novaliches.

As a native of the town, he knows the problems besetting Novaliches, which was torn between two big cities – Kalookan City and Quezon City.

Joaquin related that Kalookan City formerly has jurisdiction over Novaliches. But the late President Manuel Quezon proclaimed Quezon City as the new capital city of the Philippines.

He directed that a big chunk of Kalookan, specially the land area in between Kalookan and Quezon City be annexed by the latter.

Joaquin reported that today Kalookan owns a Novaliches land area, the Camarin Road and Bagong Barrio, but it has to cross through QC area to reach these places.

Thus, Kalookan is divided into Kalookan City proper and the Bagong Bukid area. A QC land area, probably the Sangandaan area serves as a Berlin wall between the two Kalookan property.

Joaquin only smiled meaningfully after reporting this bit of history in his hometown of Novaliches to CRIMEBUSTER. ■

CHIEF INSPECTOR ROLANDO P. PANES
Chief of Police, Navotas Police Station
Central Police District Command

Navotas cops bust jeepney holdup gang



The Navotas Police Station, headed by Chief Inspector Rolando P. Panes, police chief, recently busted the dreaded Estribo Gang, allegedly responsible for the series of robberies and murder committed not only in Navotas, but also in some places in Metro Manila.

The arrest of the gangsters stemmed when Panes received an information from underworld grapevine that alias Rey Tangkad, a gang leader of criminals, can be found hiding in Market III, Fish Port Complex and Tumana St., Block 3, Phase 2, Kaunlaran Village, all in Navotas, Metro Manila.

Swiftly Panes directed Chief Insp. Rodrigo Palumbarit, Navotas police investigation section (IS) chief, to form teams of operatives supported by New Cops On The Block (1) in the said area, to put into surveillance the suspect.

Finally, on Nov. 6, 1994 at about 2:30 a.m., the operatives spotted suspect Enrique Pagay y Porras at his hideout in Market 111 informing the IS and the NCOB 1 personnel on the matter.

Immediately, Palumbarit, the assistant overall team leader and Insp. Pablo S. Dagui, NCOB 1 commander, under Panes supervision, backed up by IS, Warrant and NCOB 1 operatives, raided Pagay's lair, eventually arresting him.

During the investigation, Pagay orally admitted his participation in the series of robbery holdups of passenger jeepneys in Navotas, revealing his gang's hideout in Kaunlaran Village.

Follow-up manhunt operations against the other members of the gang, as pinpointed by Pagay, resulted in the arrest of Reynaldo "Rey Tangkad" Ramirez y Manahan, the gangleader, and Abdon Tenorio y Orence.

Pagay, Ramirez and Orence admitted during the investigation their involvement in the following holdups:

1) Robbery hold-up on 111500H July 1994 of a passenger jeepney at Sitio Puting Bato, Navotas, Metro-Manila;

2) Robbery hold-up on 131400H July 1994 of a passenger jeepney at North Bay Boulevard, this town;

3) Robbery hold-up on 071730H August 1994 of a passenger jeepney at North Bay Boulevard, this town;

4) Robbery hold-up on 070400H September 1994 of a passenger jeepney;

5) Robbery hold-up on 080400H September 1994 of a passenger jeepney;

6) Robbery hold-up on 130300H September 1994 of a woman on board an owner type jeep;

7) Robbery hold-up on 022245H october 1994 of a passenger jeepney at Marala Bridge, North Bay Boulevard, Navotas, Metro-Manila;

8) Robbery hold-up on 050500H October 1994 of a passenger jeepney at C-3 Road, North Bay Boulevard, Navotas, Metro-Manila;

9) Shooting and stabbing to death of two people in the persons of Melchor Caberio y Valdez alias Buko, 34 years old, married, Bantay-Bayan and Benny Arevado y Salientes, 35 years old, married, laborer and both residing at Sitio Puting Bato, North Bay Boulevard, Navotas, Metro Manila.

10) Robbery hold-up on 241815H October 1994 of a passenger jeepney infront of Bay View Nite Club, North Bay Boulevard, Navotas, Metro-Manila.

11) Robbery hold-up on or about 23 October 1994 of a passenger jeepney along North Bay Boulevard, Navotas, Metro-Manila.

12) Robbery hold-up on the eveningof 24 October 1994 of a passenger jeepney at Sta. Cruz, Manila.

13) Robbery hold-up of a passenger jeepney while on board a motorized tricycle in the amount of P22,000.00, and 14) Kidnapping and frustrated murder on 012130H November 1994 of one Reynaldo dela Cruz at Sitio Puting Bato, North Bay Boulevard, Navotas, Metro-Manila.

Finally, cases of highway robbery (violation of PD 532), murder, illegal possession of firearms and ammunition (violation of PD 1866), illegal possession of deadly weapons and kidnapping with frustrated murder were filed in court against the suspects.

Despite our limited resources, Panes said, during the conduct of operations, with their untiring efforts leading to the arrest of the suspects which bespeak of their highest level of efficiency and devotion to duty, it is strongly recommended that the following personnel of this station, who played a key role in neutralizing the suspects be awarded for a job well done.

They are: P/Chief Insp. Rolando P. Panes, P/Chief Insp. Rodrigo M. Pulumbarit, Insp. Ernesto B. Manapat Jr, Insp. Pablo S. Dagui, SPO4 Restituto B. Apostol,SPO4 Jose C. Andrade Jr., SPO4 Tomas A. Mabini, SPO3 Delfin M. Panapanaan, SPO2 Eduardo C. Tengson, SPO2 Augusto C. Mateo, SPO2 Henry S. Bustamante, SPO2 Alexander A. Quizon, SPO1 Daniel N. Ferrer, SPO1 Milo C. Tengson, SPO1 Federico A. Ramirez, SPO1 Jaime V. Acusin, SPO1 Mario C. Santos, SPO1 Conrado T. Evangelista, PO3 Romeo C. Lorenzo, PO3 Jerry A. Prila, PO2 Reynaldo DV Mabaga.

Panes reported to CRIMEBUSTER that from Jan. 1 to Nov. 15, 1994, his station succeeded in combatting criminals, the threats of leftists and rightists, eliminated illegal gambling and other vices, arrested drug pushers and users, by maximizing the utilization of the uniformed PNP personnel.

He said he deployed 80 percent of the 109 policemen to the field.

Born on Feb. 12, 1948, in Man-it, Passi, Iloilo, Panes was previously the assistant provincial commander for operations of the Iloilo PC Provincial Command.

Later, he was reassigned to the Northern Police District Command as assistant district director for personnel.

He is well prepared academically to be a police chief. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree major in political science from University of Iloilo (U.I.), Iloilo City.

He earned 21 units in BSE Teaching Course and reached second year law also in U.I.

A PC reservist, Panes had

H L R B.

REGION IV





FREE MEDICAL MISSION. Navotas Mayor Felix del Rosario (extreme left) lauds the Navotas Police Station and the NPDC Ladies Club Association-Capcom, for holding a free medical mission for the indigent townsfolk at the police headquarters. In center photo, Chief Insp. Panes (4th from left, second row) poses with officers and some members of the NPDCLCA (front row). In right photo, a baby and her mother (left, front) wait for their turn as many townsfolk are attended by the doctors and dentists. The mission was sponsored by Inter-Island Deep-Sea Fishing Association, Frabelle Fishing Corporation, and Kiwanis International.

already seen action in Samar-Leyte, Jolo, Sulu, Davao City, Davao Oriental as a former junior officer of the 592nd PC Coy, 59th PC Battalion in 1976 up to 1977.

He later became the commanding officer of the Headquarters Service Company of the PC Metrocom North Sector in 1978 to 1979.

Also in 1979 up to 1980, he was assigned as route security officer of the First Family, Metrocom Western Sector from Jan. 1979 to Jan. 1980.

He worked in various posts in Metrocom in 1981. Later, he was posted as commanding officer of the Commandant HQ, Metropolitan Citizens Military Training Command in 1982. At the same time, he was assistant

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NPDC CHIEF AND LADIES. In left photo, Chief Insp. Panes (2nd from left) entertains Sr. Supt. Rex Piad, (seated) NPDC district director, Mrs. Carreon, Mrs. Panes, Mrs. Piad and other NPDCLCA members. In right photo, Henry Diaz, (left) Crimebuster president, and Ching Yasay (back to camera), feature writer, interview Panes.

commandant of Lyceum of the Philippines until 1983.

In 1985, he was chief of the Housing Affairs Office, GHQ from 1983 up to 1985.

From 1985 to 1990, he was assigned in various posts in Camp Crame, Quezon City.

Panes was the assistant provincial commander for operations of the Iloilo PNP Command from 1990 to 1991.

He was recalled to Metro Manila, assigning him as deputy police chief of the Navotas Police Station from 1992 to 1993.

In 1993, he was made the deputy police chief of the Kalookan City Police.

After his stint as assistant district director for personnel at the NPDC from Feb. 1994 up Oct. 3, 1994, Panes was named the new Navotas police chief on Oct. 4, 1994 until today.

He is a bemedalled peace officer. He has Medalya ng Kadakilaan, Medalya ng Papuri, Medalya ng Kasanayan and military medals he gained as a PC officer assigned in Visayas and Mindanao.

He also received 25 letters of commendation, certificates of appreciation from the mayors of San Isidro, Davao Oriental, and Governor Generoso, Davao Oriental and a plaque of appreciation from the governor of Jolo, Sulu.

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NBI Records

Lady judge killer falls

A houseboy suspected of stabbing fatally a woman judge in Camarines Sur fell into the hands of crack agents of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) five days after the grim incident in Barangay Sta. Josefina, Buhi town, Camarines Sur.

NBI Director Epimaco Velaso, identified the arrested suspect as Romeo Tampocao, a former houseboy.

Slain was lady Judge Beatriz Contreras Arroyo of the Municipal Trial Court of Manalabac, Camarines Sur

Arroyo was killed on Sept. 11, 1994 at her house in Sta. Clara, Buhi.

See p. 65

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JOLLY FELLOWS. Henry Diaz (left, front row), Crimebuster Foundation, Inc. (CFI) president, poses with the Crimebuster staffers during a Christmas party recently at the CFI office in San Miguel District., Manila. Also in picture (from left, front row) are Secretary Genie Chico, Feature Writer Ching Yasay, Roger Condeno, CFI vice-president-treasurer, and Willy Irinco, Crimebuster editor-in-chief; second row: Staffers Zaldy Bornilla, Roxas, Danny Mendez, Felix Menes, Cris Abrasaldo, CFI VP for operations, Lelet Gomez and Jimmy pamular.

Crimebuster's Christmas



SINGER. In left photo, guest Mike Lozano (with mic) dishes out an old favorite. In right photo, Irinco (left, 2nd row) enjoys his Sanmig, as Genie Chico, Ching Yasay (front row); guest Benjie Jose, Roxas and Condeno listen.



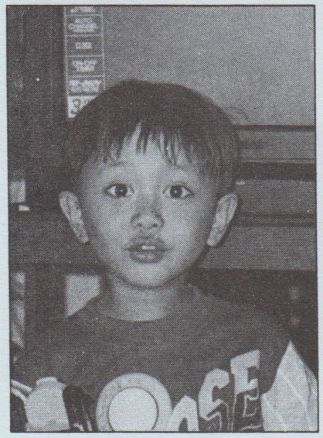
CAMARADERIE. Staffers Mendez and Menez (in left photo) talk , as Jose, Abrasaldo and Roxas (in right photo) enjoy the night.

Photos by
HENRY DIAZ

PARTY



THUMBS UP. Crimebuster staffers relax as their picture is taken. They are (from left, seated) Yasay, Chico, Irinco; standing: Bornilla, Roxas, Mendez, Menes, Abrasaldo, Pamular, Gomez and Condeno.



JR. CRIMEBUSTER. Bonjong Diaz, son of Henry, is wide-eyed as his picture is taken by his own daddy during the party.



JOY. Staffers Pamular and Menes (in left photo) show their happy spirits, as Irinco (in right photo) sings an old Frank Sinatra song.

NBI Records
from page 62

Investigation report disclosed that on September 11 at about 5:00 a.m. Tampocao barged into the residence of Judge Arroyo and carted away valuables and undetermined amount of Philippine and US dollar currencies.

Victim who was then sleeping in her room, woke up but suspect stabbed her many times causing her instanteneous death.

Earlier, Tampocao was convicted by the Camarines Sur MTC for robbery in 1989 when employed as a houseboy of the victim. He also had ransacked the room of Arroyo and stole pieces of jewelry and P10,000 in cash.

During interrogation, suspect admitted the crime which was corroborated by the recovery of the deadly weapon used in the killing and the stolen pieces of jewelry and some money.

Charges of robbery with homicide were filed against the suspect before the MTC in Buhi and was detained at the NBI jail. •

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WPDC's 'Giant' prober



No less than Senior Inspector Lucio Margallo IV, then chief of the Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) of the Western Police District Command (WPDC) recommended the nomination of Senior Police Officer (SPO) 2 Norberto S. Obrero, WPDC DEU investigator, to be included in the search for the 1994 Outstanding Philippine National Policemen.

Margallo, now deputy chief of the Balic-Balic Police Station, told the Secretariat of the Makati Ayala Lions Club's chairman on the Committee-Board of Awards that Obrero have demonstrated "exemplary efficiency, devotion to duty and dedication to police service consistently..."

Margallo, also an awardee of the Ten Outstanding Policemen of the Philippines (TOPP), said that Obrero was the former chief, Investigation Unit and concurrent assistant OIC for operations of the WPDC DEU.

Obrero, Margallo said, turned the WPDC DEU operating units into effective tools in the speedy solution and prevention of crimes.

In fact, Obrero's job was to assist Margallo in the massive enforcement, education and information drive against offenders and non-offenders of the Dangerous Drugs Law, also known as the Republic Act 6425 as amended by RA 7559.

Obrero neutralized the proliferation of drugs in Manila by dismantling many drug syndicates, arrest of suspected drug lords, traffickers, including some military and police personnel, dismissed or in active service.

Some 750 drug offenders were arrested through the efforts of Obrero, of the DEU.

He led the solution of the following celebrated cases:

1) The arrest of Jenalyn Arnaiz y Fuentes, 16, a housemaid, for the brutal stabbing to death of her employer, Clarita Chua-Sun Go, 74, 30 hours after the commission of the crime that occurred at about 6:30 p.m. on May 30, 1993 at Room 301, at 923 A Benavidez St., Binondo, Manila;

2) The arrest of suspected drug lords Ivan So y Son and Paul Balanay including their cohorts Elizabeth Guevarra y Las Marias znc Randy Tan y Tan



MURDER. *Obrero probes a murder case also in Tondo.*

during a drug buy bust operation at about 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 3, 1993 at Room 212 La Coliated Bldg., La Torre St., Tondo, Manila;

4) The arrest of PO3 Mariano Alfonso y Quintos and his cohorts-Rhoderick Cabatuando y Ablaza and Raymund Cabral y Bautista during a drug buy-bust operation on Jan. 27, 1994 at his house at 403 Francisco St., Tondo, Manila;

5) The arrest of Terry Nagao, a Japanese, for breach of the peace on Feb. 28, 1994 at Palm Cafe and Restaurant of the Manila Diamond Hotel at the corner of Roxas Blvd. and Quintos Sts. Malate, Manila;

6) The arrests of Insp. Guillermo Villacorta y Tecson, SPO4 Bonifacio Sangalang y Estrella and SPO1 Victor Garcia y Vivar, all WPDC members, for illegal importation of prohibited drugs and assorted firearms on April 6, 1994 during the implementation of Oplan Japayuki by the DEU;

7) The arrest of notorious drug pusher and cop killer Roy Buenaventura y Pantaleon during a drug busting operation on Sept. 1, 1994 in Pasay City;

8) The arrest of long wanted murder suspect Jimmy Sarmiento y Pelayo, 33, car washer, of Moises Padilla, Negros Occ. said residing at 354 Luna St., Tondo, Manila, who hid for three years after he stabbed dead Bernard Maborrang y Clemente, 19, a vendor, in Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The killing occurred near the gate of Jose Reyes Memorial Hospital along Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila.



PROBER. *SPO4 Obrero investigates a fatal hacking case in Parola Compound, Tondo.*

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Margallo also lauded Obrero for the implementation of Oplan Sagip Yagit, the rounding of street children, mendicants and beggars who were brought to headquarters feeding, clothing and cleaning them before they were turned over to the care centers of the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

Born in Bacood, Sta. Mesa, Manila on June 6, 1948, Obrero, is also known as "The Giant" among his colleagues because of his 5- foot 11-inch tall height, and 211 pound weight.

He was a former security guard and ex-member of the legislative police of the House of Representatives. He also worked as a security guard of the UP Police Force in Diliman, Quezon City.

But in 1975, the call of the police service beckoned on him urging him to enter the QC Police Department as patrolman.

In 1985, he transferred to the Manila Police Department (now WPDC) later sising in the ranks.

He graduated with a criminology degree from the Philippine College of Criminology, secondary from the Victorino Mapa High School, and primary from the Earnshaw Elementary School.

Obrero is blissfully married to Bienvenida P. dela Cruz, and they have three children, namely: Michelle 17, John Carlo 16 and Mark Angelo 13.

He was chosen one of the Ten Outstanding Policemen of Manila in 1994 and a recipeint of a Medalya ng Kasanayan and Leadership Medal.

He has received many commendations and letters of appreciations from higher police authorities and c ivic groups. ■

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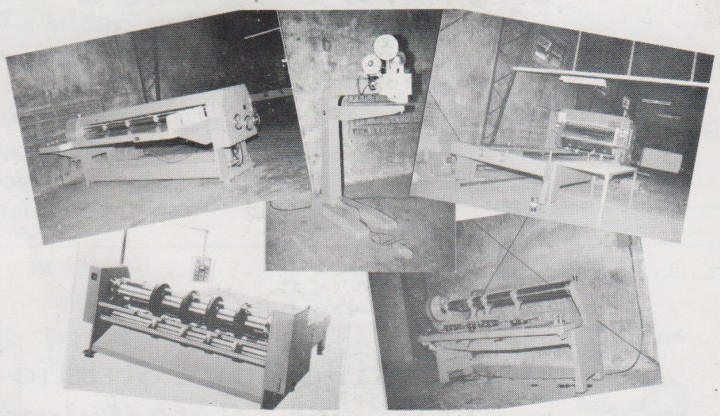

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