



The Police Tribune

VOL. I. NO. 1

FEBRUARY 1996

*Index for
copy*



HON. ISMAEL MATHAY, JR.
Mayor, Quezon City

MAIDEN ISSUE



**Antonio S. Malabanan
&
Family**

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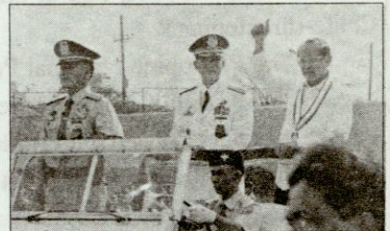
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Editorial

AUXILIARY POLICE UNITS

When one considers that the present police force in the Metropolis is terribly shorthanded to cope with the upsurge of criminality President Ramos decision to create unarmed Auxiliary Police Units in the area makes sense.

Presidential Order 240, which authorizes the organization and financing of these auxiliary police units, make it clear these will only assist the existing regular National Police in traffic management and control, in administrative duties, and in other functions that are not "life-threatening."

The Philippine National Police, under the executive order, shall in all cases exercise overall supervision over these Auxiliary Police Units, while the Chiefs of Police shall have direct supervision over them in various cities and towns in Metro Manila.

But in no way shall the creation of these local police auxiliaries veer away from the constitutional mandate that these shall be only one police organization that is "national and civilian in character."

The Mayors of various towns and cities of metro Manila shall be responsible for recruiting and making recommendations for the appointment of auxiliary police personnel.

They shall select auxiliary police personnel from a list of eligibles screened by the local peace and order councils.

Recruits will have to undergo crash training on traffic management and control and other duties.

The auxiliary policeman's duty is simply to assist the regular police in seeing that the laws are kept and they must be free from fear or favor.

The stipulation that members of these auxiliary police units shall not be allowed to carry firearms is a sound move partly because of their civilian and secondary status and partly to safeguard against possible abuses of power.

It is almost impossible to exaggerate the good which



can be gained from insistence of this principle.

The fact that they are discouraged to use force means that they must do their work by tact and persuasion.

Blustering or shouting would only make a crowd laugh and jeer. The auxiliary policemen will learn in no time that good humor and pleasant courtesy are essential if he is to do this work well.

The experience in Britain and other countries in the use of non-violent methods of controlling crowds has shown that public behavior is justly admired by citizens as well as foreign visitors. Who knows that in time, these auxiliary police units may gain a reputation for amiability like the Irish cops.

Such reputation springs from an awareness of what is reasonable behavior on public occasions, and that is chiefly due to the use of persuasion rather than force.

The action of the President on this matter holds great expectations for peace and order in Metro Manila.

It should not be allowed to fail.

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TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS

WHEREAS, Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws duly signed and acknowledged for the organization of the

POLICE TRIBUNE INC.

Under and in accordance with the provisions of the Corporation Code of the Philippines, Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws, attached hereto, were presented for filing in this Commission on November 10, 1995, and a copy of said Articles and By-Laws are hereto attached;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the powers and duties vested in me by law, I do hereby certify that the said Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws were, after due examination, determined to be in accordance with law, duly registered in this Commission on the 10th day of November, Anno Domini, 1995 or 10 Hundred and Ninety-five.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of this Commission to be affixed at Mandaluyong, Metro-Manila, Philippines, this 10th day of November, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five

Elnora E. Adviento
ELNORA E. ADVIENTO

Director
Corporate and Legal Department

Mathay: Making Quezon City the Country's Premier City

■ By RODOLFO ANDRES

Fifty years after it was created, Quezon City is on its way becoming the country's premier city, in fulfillment of the dream of the city's founder, the late President Manuel L. Quezon.

"The past three years have been fruitful as we have put up structures to transform Quezon City to what it should be," Quezon City Mayor Ismael A. Mathay Jr. has always stressed. "For the next three years in our second term, we will work together to see to it that we will complete what we started in 1992."

In line with this, the city has also pledged its full support to the centennial celebration of the country's independence and has begun the task of coordinating with the National Centennial Commission on this.

Mayor Mathay has vowed to realize the vision of the city's founding father for the city since he assumed office as Quezon City Mayor in 1992.

To start that mission, Mayor Mathay adopted in his



Quezon City Mayor Ismael Mathay Jr. congratulates Col. Hercules Cataluna, who has been installed as the new district director of the Central Police District Command during flag-raising ceremonies. Col. Cataluna replaces Gen. Ricardo de Leon, who has been promoted as regional director of Region V, covering the Bicol region.

masterplan for development the "human infrastructure" to enhance the quality of the public education system in the city.

Mayor Mathay said the schoolbuilding program of the city government is one of the highlights of its masterplan for development as he stressed that education will be the city's investment on the youth who are the country's future leaders.

"It is only through education that we can achieve a

level playing field and give everyone an equal opportunity to make themselves productive members of society," Mayor Mathay said.

The Quezon City government has embarked on a massive schoolbuilding program and for 1995, it has built 213 elementary schoolbuildings and 190 secondary schoolbuildings.

The schoolbuildings, with an average of 12 to 16 classrooms each, were

constructed to ease the classroom shortage in the city which has the biggest student population in the metropolis.

Mayor Mathay stressed that the achievements in the areas of public education, infrastructure, improvement of the delivery of basic services, lighting of the city, improving the environment, improving public assistance services and business development were made through the collaboration and cooperation between the city administration, the city council, barangay officials and the private sector.

Mayor Mathay has vowed to do more in the next three years, focusing on four major concerns: addressing the

massive poverty in the city, the setting up of an environment-friendly waste disposal system in Payatas; completion of vital road networks like C-5 and Mindanao Avenue; and the resolution of the water crisis, a problem that will have to be worked out with the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System.

He said the city shall also continue with the construction of roads as part of the infrastructure development program with housing construction, water systems distribution, new hospitals constructions and district office facilities construction, to allow for the decentralization of public assistance services.

The Mayor said the city

government will continue to expand programs like housing and livelihood that will help uplift the quality of life of the underprivileged sector.

As to the traffic management system, Mayor Mathay said the city government will complement the completion of the vital road projects of the national government, specifically a portion of C-5, Visayas Avenue, Congressional Avenue, Mindanao Avenue, by opening up inter-neighborhood roads.

Mayor Mathay has ordered the fastracking of the completion of alternate routes that motorists can use to avoid rush hour traffic at main thoroughfares, especially



MAYOR MATHAY INSPECTS PAYATAS DUMPSITE

Quezon City Mayor Ismael A. Mathay Jr. and Task Force Bayanihan chairman "Chu ch" Mathay III go over the plans for the Payatas dumpsite during a surprise inspection with Antonio de Dios and barangay and police officials.



QC GOVERNMENT HONORS HONEST CAB DRIVER
 Quezon City Mayor Ismael A. Mathay Jr. awards a plaque of appreciation to taxi driver Emilio Advincula, a Payatas resident, who returned some P2 million in cash which a passenger had left in his taxi. Mayor Mathay also turned over to Advincula a total of P30,000 which came from Mayor Mathay, the Monte de Pieded Savings Bank and the Philippines School of Business Administration.



GRADUATES OF QC'S "BASIC SWIMMING LESSONS" PROGRAM
 Quezon City Mayor Mathay Jr., Councilor Ramon "Bu" Mathay and Quezon City Sports Development Office deputy director Louie Morales greet the new batch of graduates of the "Basic Swimming" lessons under the office of Councilor Mathay. The program is being offered in all the barangays of the city's fourth district, which include Kamuning, Tatalon and Diliman.

during peak traffic hours.

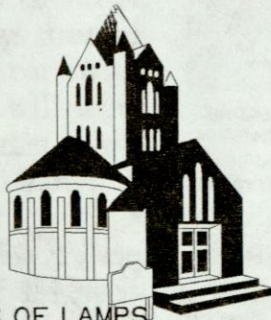
Among these roads are Road 20 in Project 8 which motorists can use if they are on their way to Project 8 from Mindanao Avenue which connects to North Avenue near SM City; Kaingin Road which

can be used by motorists traveling to Araneta Avenue from E. de los Santos Avenue (EDSA); Sauyo Road which can be used by motorists traveling to Quirino Avenue from Commonwealth Avenue; General Avenue which

motorists can use in going to Quirino Avenue from Congressional Avenue; and Don Antonio Street which motorists can use in traveling from Commonwealth Avenue to Fairview.

Mayor Mathay said the

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HONDA DONATES MOTORCYCLE, TOOLS FOR QC POLYTECHNIC
Quezon City Mayor Mathay greets Tadao Endo, president and general manager of Honda Motors Phils. Inc. after the motorcycle manufacturer turned over a brand new Honda TMS 125 motorcycle and a set of tools for use in the Quezon City Polytechnic which will offer a motorcycle service and repair course. Looking on are City Administrator Dr. Manuel Alba, City Councilors Jorge Banal, Godofredo Liban II and Marciano Medalla, QC Polytechnic executive director Jose Vergara and other Honda officials led by vice president for marketing Matthew Ocena and assistant vice president for marketing Ager Kiocho.



Q.C. GOVERNMENT GETS 20 BRAND NEW MOTORBIKES
Quezon City Mayor Mathay inspects the 20 Kawasaki and Suzuki motorcycles donated to the city government by the Monte de Piedad and Savings Bank represented by President Leonidas dela Llana. Looking on are Vice Mayor Herbert Bautista, CPDC director Senior Supt. Hercules Cataluna, city Department of Public and Safety chief Arnulfo Banez and Councilors Marciano Medalla and Godofredo Liban II.

city government also launched the Water Source Development and Distribution program which will provide either deep wells or artesian wells for communities not yet reached by the MWSS.

At present the city government has installed some 441 deepwells in various parts of the city since 1992.

Mayor Mathay said another major concern of the city government is the encouragement of investments to the city by the private sector

through a supportive land use program and zoning regulation, improvement of basic services and fiscal incentives.

Mayor Mathay said the city will continue with the upgrading of police capabilities which had greatly improved through the different programs and projects for the Central Police District Command jointly sponsored by the city government, the CPDC command and the private sector.

The city chief executive said that "on top of all this, is the need to continuously improve the efficiency of our city administration the better for us to effectively deliver basic services to the population, provide public assistance services when needed, promote investments and business development, improve collaboration with the national government, the city organizations and the non-governmental organizations and make viable linkages between the city government and the barangays and local communities.

The Mayor said that with the participation of everyone in the endeavor, "there's no reason for us to fail and fail we must not in transforming Quezon City as the premier city of the metropolis. ■

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**SPEECH OF PRESIDENT FIDEL V. RAMOS
5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
CAMP CRAME, QUEZON CITY
JANUARY 30, 1996**



PRESIDENT RAMOS raises the famous thumbs up sign during the PNP day ceremony at Camp Crame, Quezon City, at his right is Police Director General Recaredo Sarmiento, II.

Maraming salamat, Director General **R e c a r e d o S a r m i e n t o**; akin ding binabati si Kalihim Rafael Alunan III, Secretary of the Department of Interior And Local Government; the honorable members of the House of Representatives and of the Senate present; our co-workers in the Cabinet; your Excellencies of the diPlomatic Corps and other special guests; the men, women, families and dependents of the members of

the Philippine National Police; the distinguished awardees on this 5th Anniversary of the Philippine National Police; Mayor Alfredo Lim of the City of Manila and other local government executives; the leaders of the non-government organizations and people's organizations; Chairman Bernardo Pardo of the Commission on Elections; the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, General Arturo Enrile; former Chief of Constabulary, Chairman Ileta of the Oversight

Advisory Com- mittee; ladies and gentlemen, mga mahal na kababayan at mga kapatid.

Just trooping the line earlier this morning, it was evident to me that in this neighborhood of Camp Crame a lot of progress was emerging. I judge this from the many multi-storey high rise buildings around here and in front of us, where, not too long ago, the highest building in this vicinity was the general headquarters of the Philippine National

Police.

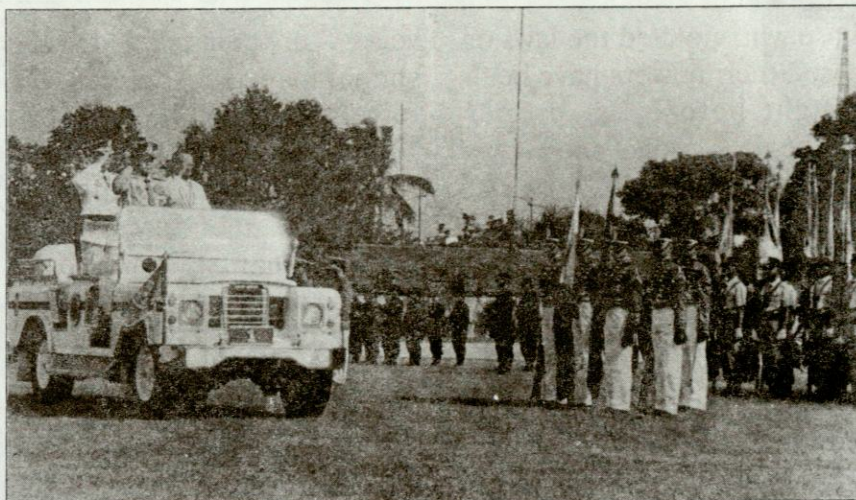
That comparison perhaps tells a story about how much the civilian community has progressed. But that the Philippine National Police and its neighbors here across the road, the Armed Forces of the Philippines, had stood fast and remained steady, surely a tribute to their maintaining general peace and order in the country where now a great deal of confidence and optimism on the part of domestic and foreign investors are being reflected in faster economic growth.

Pasensiya na kayo rito sa PNP kung hindi nagbabago ang inyong mga gusali at mga opisina. Anyway, that is part of the service you must render — be contented with what public funds are afforded you, but let us make sure that our social reform and our economic progress continue steadily into the 21st century.

Kaya ba natin ito? (kaya). Napakahina ng sagot ninyo rito sa PNP. Ilakas-lakas natin. Kaya ba? (Kaya). Kayang-kaya.

Ladies and gentlemen, half a decade has now passed since a new national and civilian police organization was formed — out of the old constabulary and the local police forces. This was done in keeping with a constitutional mandate and in an integrated effort to stamp out crime and disorder from our national society.

Yet, because lawlessness has not been banished from our society, there are some who



The President and Dir. Gen. Recaredo Sarmiento renders a salute as they troop the line early in the ceremony.

persist in saying that there is a tidal wave of crime in the Philippines. There are even those who, for their own reasons, suggest that the PNP should be disbanded and replaced by a completely new organization.

Over the past five years, critics and detractors of the PNP have feasted on every crime perpetrated in our midst — focusing entirely on the fact that crimes are still being committed and ignoring the real gains that we have made in the struggle against crime and violence in our country.

And just as troubling, critics have seized upon every instance of police officers or ex-uniformed men or fake uniformed men being involved in crime as an occasion to brand the PNP as an undisciplined and lawless bunch.

Critics conveniently forget that any aggrieved party can complain against police personnel today under our new system, under Republic Act 6975 — in an ascending hierarchy, first, before the

concerned policeman's superiors, and then a whole array of bodies and agencies which are the following: the Local Government Executives, the PNP Inspector General, the National Police Commission, the Commission On Human Rights and Congress itself. Each of these bodies can proceed to act independently and with equal compelling force.

And to top all these, accusers of police wrongdoing can also use the media to make their case.

As you all know, I, as your commander-in-chief, have never hesitated to bear down hard on you in the PNP, whenever and wherever I have seen failings within the service.

But to the collective credit of the PNP, the majority among you have borne well the brunt of public scrutiny and continued to discharge your daily duties effectively.

Neither has this organization as a whole been passive in the face of erring members within its ranks.

Those who violated the laws or abused their powers have been brought before the proper investigative bodies and courts of law.

On the same occasion last year, I said all these aggravations come with the territory. They come with your mission. And you must therefore, I said then, always take the initiative to clean your own ranks or citizens will judge you on the basis of what you are — not what you say you are.

The ultimate yardstick for peace officers, I have also often reminded you, is for the common tao, Mr. and Mrs. Juan De la Cruz, to feel secure and safe at home, at work and in the streets.

When we gather, therefore, to mark this red-letter day for the PNP, our thoughts and actions must be focused on how we can continuously, steadily and consistently improve on the work already being done; and how we can dispel the climate of public suspicion that only makes our fight against crime more difficult.

This climate of suspicion, ladies and gentlemen of the board, is generating an unwanted phenomenon in our communities. It is a situation where law enforcers are sometimes more feared than are known criminals and suspected terrorists.

It is a situation wherein individual careers and the service reputation of this law enforcement agency — painstakingly built through the

years — are being ruined by the shenanigans of some in the force.

It is a situation where individual career as well as the integrity of the force I must repeat - painstakingly built through the years — are being ruined by the shenanigans of some in the force. And it is up to you inside, especially those in the chain of command to do intensive self-polishing in the ranks of the police. Kaya ba ninyo ito? Kaya ba mga commanders?

We have a situation where



far more attention is being devoted to worrying over the rights of criminal elements than to strengthening the state's capability to fight crime and lawless violence.

In the last analysis, of course, the most effective response to this feeling of distrust lies in our reinforcing the sense of order, the jailing of criminals, and upholding the rule of law on a day-to-day

basis.

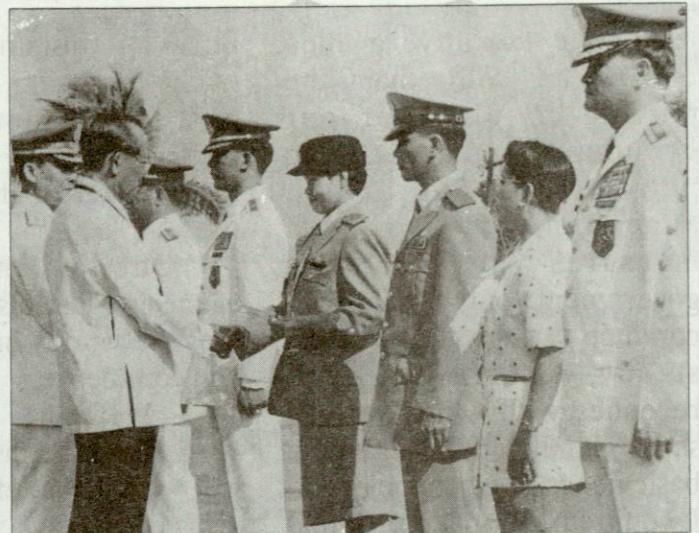
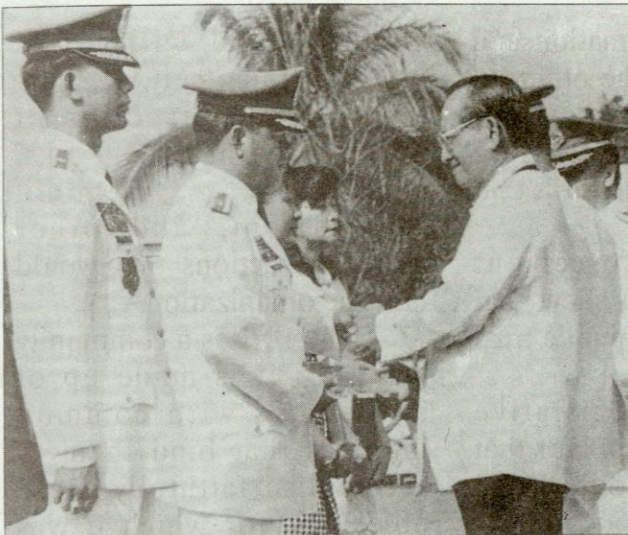
The desired climate of civil order — instead of distrust — we will not have — for as long as people continue to believe that fighting crime is solely the task of our police forces — and not of citizens, prosecutors, judges, penologists, and police forces together. The people's faith in the five pillars of the justice system and their willingness to support it must first be established in every barangay, town, city, province and region before we collectively can make a big difference.

And the rule of law among us will not reign for as long as we do not apply all the weapons that we can command — more effective laws, better internal discipline, a stronger chain-of-command, modern communications and mobility, greater citizens' vigilance, and responsive political will.

Those who are dedicated to social reform, no less than those who champion economic progress and sustainable development, must recognize that the very stability of our society is in jeopardy if anger and recrimination are to dominate our national life.

In the building of a progressive society, there is no alternative to public safety. For public safety is the foundation of all progress — economic, political and social.

Today, there is a very interesting column written by one of our most prestigious columnists who states the banner headline that politics is



President Ramos personally hands the awards to our officers, men and women in uniform during the PNP day.

now overshadowing public safety, and he goes on to analyze why. But let me just say that public safety is in our highest national interest.

Only when all of us finally understand that we are in this fight together, all of us — that we are all under threat from criminal, terroristic and violent lawless mindless action — then only will we be able to build a safer and better society. But not before.

Once we all understand this, we can more easily attack all the threats that assault our system of justice and public order, namely, the criminal who flouts the law; the terrorist who sows fear in us; the commander who fails to exercise command; the policeman who dishonors the uniform; the judge who abuses public trust; and the prison warden who cannot keep convicts behind bars.

The weak public consensus in this hearts-and-minds struggle is evident in the alarm being sown over government's attempt to deal more effectively

with the very real threat of international terrorism today.

As many mature democracies have already discovered, terrorism cannot be fought successfully with ordinary police weapons and instruments. The irony of it all is that terrorism cynically exploits the openness of our free society, especially here in our beloved Philippines.

The hardened criminal or terrorist is not bothered by the prospect of killing innocent people; nor does wanton violence by powerful explosives affect his mind-set. Pity does not deter him from his personal, ideological or political purpose.

The free society must have the will to act just as forcefully against him. This does not mean we must use the weapons of terrorism to fight the terrorists. It does mean that we must violate our bill of right. But it does mean that we must take every precaution to defend ourselves.

To be sure, we need the deliberative process of congress

— to hammer out a law that will suffice to meet this modern threat — and yet safeguard our civil liberties at the same time.

Certainly our lawmakers must examine every proposed provision in detail before passing the law. But an anti-terrorism law within our constitutional framework, ladies and gentlemen, we must have — or else we will find ourselves with one hand tied behind our back, in dealing with this powerful challenge within our midst.

In citing this issue here, I do not mean to convert your anniversary observance into a new venue for political debate. I wish only to underscore the importance of winning public and congressional support in the fight against organized crime and terrorism — as essential ingredients for the proper performance of the PNP's mandated mission.

Lest be mistaken again by some of the detractors and critics of government, our first priority in our common

legislative executive agenda remains, and will remain, the putting in place of our economic restructuring policies as well as the enactment of tax reform measures so that this government, our people, will continue to enjoy a continued, steady, recurring flow of revenues with which we can support and fund the minimum basic needs of our people. and I would like to make sure that that is not misunderstood.

But going back to the mission of the Philippine National Police, you yourselves of the police force, must be part of the total effort to mobilize our people's resolve to face up to the diminish of crime and terrorism. Without public support, the PNP will be fighting on two fronts against the criminals and terrorists on one hand, and against the

forces of disinformation and public apathy on the other. to gain this support, it is not sufficient merely to describe the problems and hazards that the PNP faces.

Our law enforcement agencies must also show that they are worthy of public trust and confidence.

Without legislative support — in terms of laws that will work — our efforts will fall short of success.

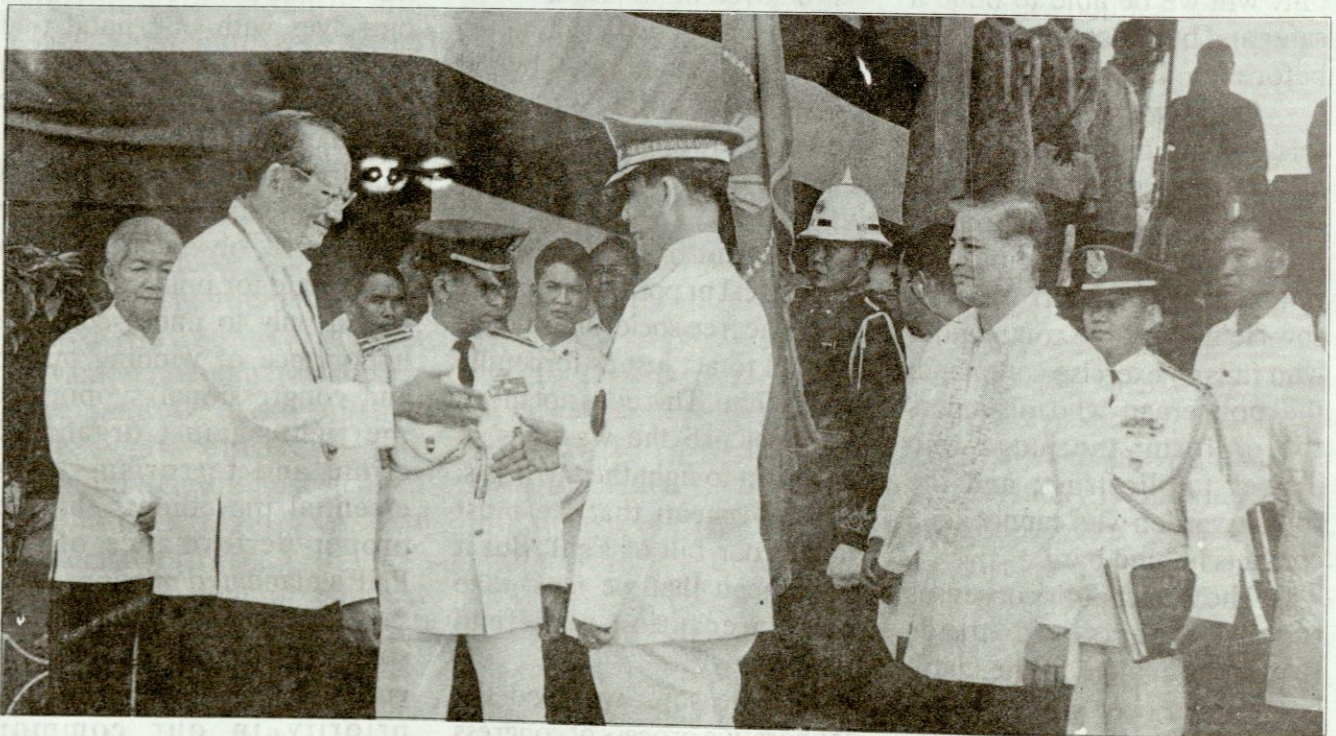
This is why I say, again, as I have said in the past, there is no substitute for good deeds in the service. This is why the police must constantly prove themselves indispensable to our society — day-in-and-day-out.

This principle of utility dictates the standards for police service. the usefulness of the PNP rests on its capability to produce benefits for society in

general and within the organization itself. It must include the prevention of mischief within the ranks, corruption, criminal involvement, and other individual actions that would hurt the organization.

The PNP is a community by itself. it is made up of individuals with common interests that bind them to accomplish faithfully those objectives for which it was organized and instituted. and the satisfaction of these shared goals is the best motivation for members of the service to do their duty with honesty, perseverance and professionalism.

I came here today confident that this principle of utility can henceforth serve as a guide for all police officers and for the rank and file. in this way, individual efficiency can be



President Ramos congratulating Police Director General Recaredo Sarmiento II and DILG Sec. Rafael Alunan III for a job well done during the wreath-laying ceremony at the PNP Battle Monument, Camp Crame.



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transformed into organizational effectiveness, and unit integrity into community safety.

Let us make sure that we do not have recurrences, again, of the sad story now featured in this week — Asia Week. Nasa front cover kayo, napakahabang istorya tungkol dito. Alam na ninyo kung ano ito. But let me say that I will hold you responsible if this same occurrence takes place again.

Kaya ba natin ito? (Kayang kaya sabi ng mga taga PNP).

And finally — this is my renewed challenge to all of you. Persevere in the path of right; endeavor at all times to be the models of service in the community. These principles are inherent in your organization. They are in your code of ethics. They can be found in the police officers'

creed. They are part of your customs and traditions.

These principles have transcendent meaning — because they promote and facilitate police integration with the community. You can only be accepted by the citizenry if the community fully recognizes the utility of the police.

When this bond with the community is attained through the effective service you will render, you can be assured it will be the citizenry itself that will defend you, whenever and where ever you are unjustly and unfairly castigated.

The citizenry will be generous in providing for many of your needs and those of your dependents.

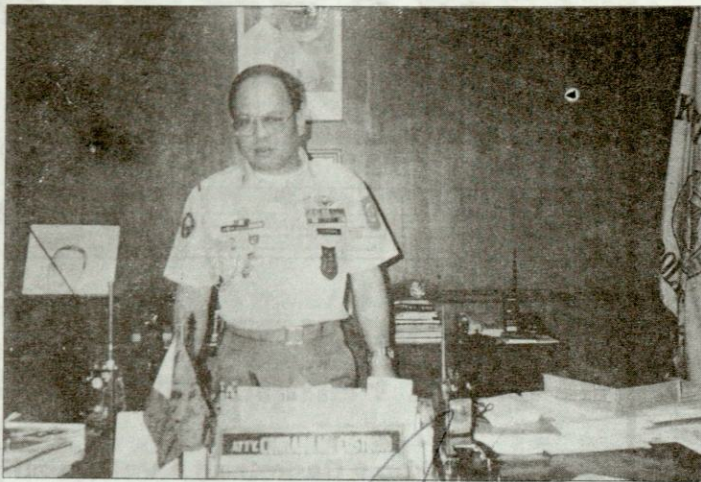
The citizenry will

welcome your presence and take action in accordance with your advice.

The citizenry will question, and even reject outright, those who attempt to cast aspersions on your persons and on the integrity of the Philippine National Police.

But we must also see and we must also act accordingly — that there is still so much more to be done. there are still many battles to win — not least the battle for people's trust in the policeman and in the philippine national police. The ball is in your court to do a good job in the daily performance of your assigned duty and you will win the battle in the service of our people.

Thank you, mabuhay ang PNP. ■



**ATTY. CONRADO M. CUSTODIO
POLICE SUPERINTENDENT, CHIEF OF POLICE
MAKATI CITY, POLICE STATION
SOUTHERN POLICE DISTRICT COMMAND
POLICE TRIBUNE REPORTORIAL TEAM**

The Man Behind Makati Police Station's Waves of Raves

A man who has wisdom never talks or acts impulsively no matter what.

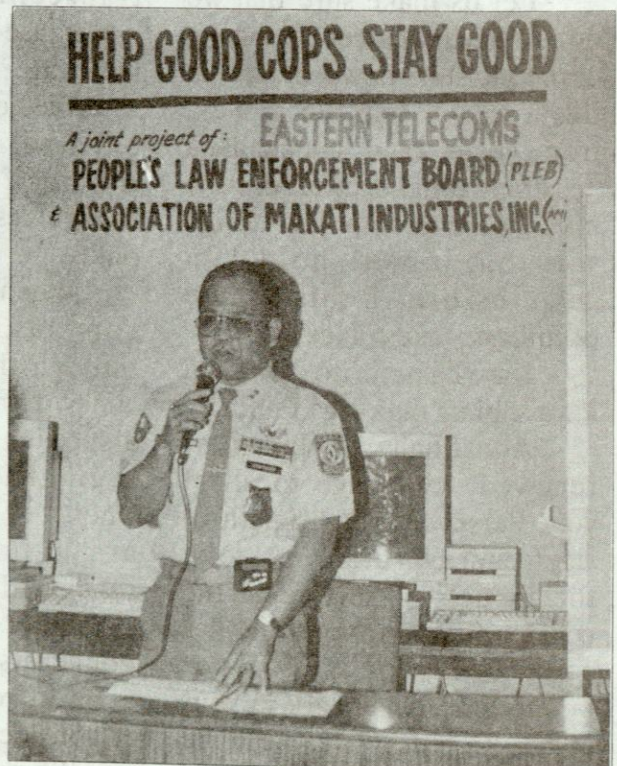
Everything he says or does is well thought out, the implication examined and the possible consequences and alternatives known.

Such a man is Police Superintendent Conrado M. Custodio y Macaraig, chief of the Makati Police Station, Southern Police District Command.

Custodio is definitely one police officer who believe in visual aids to keep his people on their toes and at the same time high moraled.

This disciplinarian police officer said that as law enforcers, he must always be battle ready at all times in the war against all forms of criminality, this belief is in line which his contention that it is the quality of the men rather than quantity that count most in police work.

According to him, a police officer should have an eagles eye, hawklike claws to erring policemen yet have a patient and soft heart to those who perform



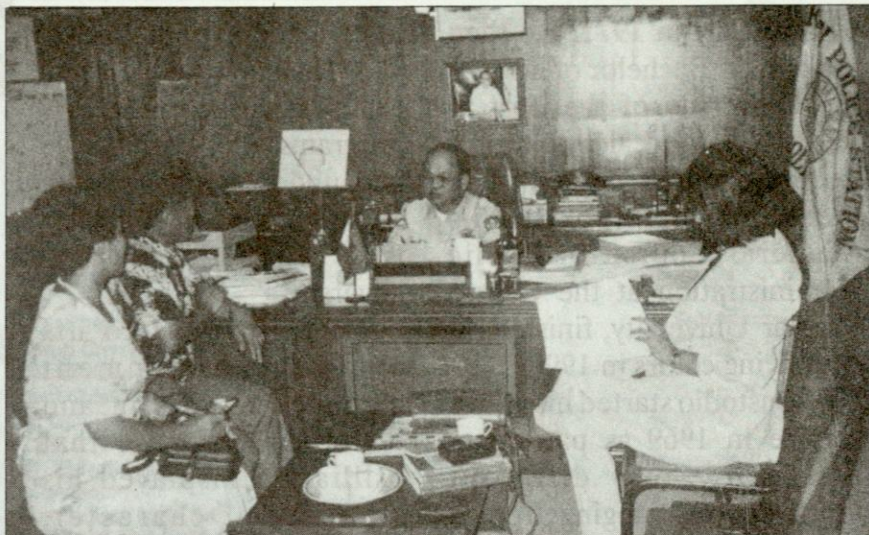
ATTY. CUSTODIO delivering his speech during a seminar at the People's Law Enforcement Board, Makati City.

above par.

One of the key factor in disciplining a policemen is self change, once a cop is either suspended or dismissed he may only contribute to the down fall of society. it can be easily likened to a teargas explosion, white as dust, yet the pain pierces, once on loose on the streets the firefighter in them turns the moon upside down and enter into a more gruesome criminal activities.

Known widely to be a decisive police leader, Custodio spearheads the total war versus bank robbers, carnappers and drug syndicate in the city. He has launched a continuous drive against gambling, especially video karera, a new craze among population in depressed areas.

Counting on the harmonious relationship with all the local executive in his AOR, the all out support being extended to him by the NGO's on one hand and the cooperation of the citizenry on the other, Custodio in all



ATTY. CONRADO M. CUSTODIO during an interview with the Police Tribune reportorial team.

candor told Police Tribune that he is optimistic GOD willing that his determined effort to help turn Makati into a crime free city would soon become a reality.

Supt. Custodio is unfazed in the face of all the factors seeking to derail his determined drive to rid his turf from the clutches of organized syndicates.

Evidently, Custodio is not talking through his hat because the crime rate in his turf had drastically dropped to a record low since he assumed post. The

crime solution efficiency of the city is at its peak and their is a mark improvement on the efficiency and discipline of his men, both in the field of operations and administrative levels.

According to Supt. Custodio his stations total manpower is composed of 499 policemen and officers, some of them has been deployed in the nine blocks that serves the 32 barangays of Makati. The station also has a total of 10 mobile cars used in patrolling and visiting banks, jewelry stores and business establishments to either pre-empt or prevent the commission of crimes and to bring the government closer to the people, thus making the maintenance of peace and order effective.

Custodio, the pride of Batangas City was born on January 30, 1946. He graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Criminology from the Philippine College of



Police Superintendent Conrado Custodio poses with the Police Tribune staff, (left to right) Sonny P. Yasay, Ching Yasay, Amor Villasin and Bert Mabini.

Criminology in 1971. He then took up his Bachelor of Laws at the University of the East in 1972-1976. A real bookworm Custodio didn't cease from there, he later took up his Masteral Course in Public Administration at the Centro Escolar University, finishing it with flying colors in 1990.

Custodio started his police service in 1969 as patrolman assigned in different units/sections ranging from a detective, investigator and others. He then went on to rise from the ranks to become a very able and competent officer.

He has undergone numerous trainings and seminars throughout his career. Among the trainings he waded through was the Police Basic Training Course held at the Rizal Police Training School, Camp Panopio Quezon City from January to April 1972, wherein he placed as the second best, to further hone his skills as police officer he attended the basic INP Intelligence Course then the Criminal Investigation Supervisory Course emerging

topnotcher on both times.

The many rigorous and exhausting training programs and seminars he had undergone made him stand firm as aged acacia tree when faced with adversity.

He brought to his present assignment managerial, human and technical expertise that brilliantly displayed his stability of character, sound judgement and tact while under pressure.

Prior to his being named chief of one of the busiest city, Makati, he was the senior executive assistant at the Deputy Chiefs Office for Operations-PNP, 1991, then in 1992 he became the Assistant Regional Director for Investigation/Chief RPLAS.

He also held an equally challenging position at the office of the Department Chief for Administration-PNP as Senior Executive Assistant, 1993. Then later on became the district Legal Officer at the Southern Police District



P/Superintendent Custodio checks if his men are in their proper dress code.

Command Fort Bonifacio, Metro Manila 1994.

It was through his rare values and ability as member of the uniformed profession that he was entrusted some very sensitive and delicate positions in the upclimb of his career, talent and experience strengthened by his harmonious relationship with his men was his effective weapon to success in gaining a colorful, glare distinction as mentor of the Makati Police Station.

Supt. Custodio's zeal for complete reforms combined with influence of maturity and his naturally straight personality made this command a unit par excellence in a matter of months.

In recognition of his unstained leadership qualities, Custodio have been receiving awards, citations, and recognition from PNP officers, private sectors and the NGO's from time to time which he said is an achievement that elevates one's self in the realization of a noble end.



P/Superintendent Custodio receiving an award during a ceremony held at the Southern Police District Command, NCRC.

AWARDS/MEDALS & COMMENDATIONS RECEIVED:

Letter of Commendation	C. SUPT. ROMEO C PEÑA District Director, SPDC	02 Jan. 95
Certificate of Appreciation	C. SUPT. ROMEO C PEÑA District Director, SPDC	28 Nov. 94
Certificate of Appreciation	REP. MINERVA G LAUDICO Pres. STOP Foundation, Inc.	25 Nov. 94
Certificate of Appreciation	C SUPT ROMEO L. PEÑA District Director, SPDC	29 Apr 94
Commendation	Asia Crime Prevention Phil., Inc.	16 Apr 94
INP Service Medal w/One Silver Star	GO Nr 184, GHQ PNP Camp Crame, Quezon City	21 Feb 94
Letter of Commendation	Dep Dir Gen OSCAR T AQUINO Dept Chief for Admin, PNP	02 Jan 94
Letter of Commendation	Dir Gen RAUL S IMPERIAL Chief, PNP	30 Apr 93
Certificate of Appreciation	STOP Trafficking of Filipinos Foundation, Inc.	25 Nov 93
Letter of Commendation	Dep Dir Gen MANUEL C ROXAS Dep Chief for Admin, PNP	11 Feb 93
Letter of Commendation	Dep Dir Gen MANUEL C ROXAS Dep Chief for Opns, PNP	22 Sept 92
Letter of Commendation	Dep Dir Gen MANUEL C ROXAS RD North CAPCOM	15 Jul 92
INP Outstanding Achievement Medal	GO Nr 126, GHQ PNP Camp Crame, Quezon City	26 Feb 92
Certificate of Recognition	Dir Gen CESAR P. NAZARENO Chief, PNP	07 Jan 92
Certificate of Appreciation	Dir MARINO L FILART RD. CAPCOM-PNP	11 Dec 91
Anti-Dissidence Campaign Medal & Ribbon & Rehabilitation	GO Nr 1202 GHQ PNP Camp Crame, QC	04 Sep 91
Operation Ribbon Phil Rep Presidential Unit Citation Badge INP Service Medal	GO Nr 1185 GHQ PNP Camp Crame, QC	30 Aug 91
	GO Nr 1022 GHQ PNP Camp Crame, QC	19 Jul 91
Award of the February 1986 Revolution Ribbon Letter/Commendation	GO Nr 904 GHQ PNP Camp Crame, QC	08 Jul 91
Certificate of Appreciation	P/Brig Gen MANUEL C ROXAS Chief Directorial Staff, INP	31 Dec 90
Letter of Commendation	Hon CICERO C CAMPOS, Chairman National Police Commission	19 Sep 90
Letter of Commendation	P/Maj Gen RENE R CRUZ Deputy Dir General, INP	07 Jul 90
Letter of Commendation	Camp Crame, QC P/Maj Gen RENE R CRUZ Deputy Dir General, INP	11 Dec 89
INP Medal of Merit	GO Nr 92-P HPC/INP Camp Crame, Quezon City	04 May 89
Letter of Commendation	P/Col REGINO CR ARO III Deputy & Ex-O, ODDG, INP	16 Mar 89
Letter of Commendation	Brig Gen RAMON E MONTANO Actg CG, CAPCOM/Actg Dir, MPF	08 Aug 85
Certificate of Academic Proficiency	DG, INP thru Philippine National Police Academy	31 May 85
Letter of Commendation	P/Col CARLOS C JAVIER Superintendent, PNPA	31 May 85
Award of Kalasag Badge Award of Tanglaw Badge	Philippine National Police Academy Hqs 4th CRS, CRSAFP, Camp Nakar, Lucena City	31 May 85 30 Apr 85
INP Efficiency Medal	GO Nr 54-P HPC/INP Camp Crame, QC	16 Jul 85
INP Commendation Medal	GO Nr 77-P HPC/INP Camp Crame, QC	14 Aug 85
Certificate of Appreciation	P/Col FERNANDO P ANGARA Commandant, NCRTC	06 Jun 84
Letter of Commendation	Lt Gen FIDEL V RAMOS CPC/DG, INP	11 Aug 84
Certificate of Appreciation	P/Brig Gen ARCADIO LOZADA Supt, INP Training Command	29 Jul 83

Letter of Commendation	Lt Gen FIDEL V RAMOS	09 Aug 83
Certificate of Appreciation	CPC/DG, INP	12 Jul 82
	P/Col FERNANDO P ANGARA Comdt, NCRTC	
Letter of Commendation	Lt Gen FIDEL V RAMOS	28 Oct 81
Merit Award as HINP Jr Office of the Year	CPC/DG, INP	08 aUG 81
	LT Gen FIDEL V RAMOS	
Kagitingan Achievement Award '81	Far East Social & Civic Organization	26 Apr 81
Letter of Commendation	P/Brig Gen NICOLAS STA ANA	23 Jan 81
Letter of Commendation Public Service Award	Supt. EPD	11 Nov 80
	- do -	
Bronze Medal Award Award of Merit	Philippine Institute of Awards	08 Apr 80
	NCRTC, INP Training Command	31 Oct 80
Letter of Commendation	P/Col FERNANDO P ANGARA Commandant, NCRTC	31 Oct 80
	P/Col NICOLAS STA ANA	
Letter of Commendation	Supt., EPD-MPF	19 Jul 80
Letter of Commendation	- do -	12 May 80
Letter of Commendation	Col RAMON E MONTANO	13 Oct 77
Special Commendation	Supt. SPD-MPF	22 mAR 77
	P/Col VIRGILIO JAVIER	
Bronze Medal Award Department Commendation	Comdt, INPA	22 Mar 77
	INP Academy, INP Training Cmd	
Certificate of Merit	Commandant, INP Academy, INPTC	18 Mar 77
Certificate of Merit	Supt. INP Training Command	14 Feb 77
Letter of Commendation	Constabulary Trng Center	10 Apr 76
Silver Medal Award	Col GEORGE GAONA, CO. CTC	10 Apr 76
	Rizal Police Training School Camp Panopio, QC	12 Apr 70

MISCELLANEOUS

- Member, Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) since 1977;
- Member, Test Development Committee, National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) since 1988 to present
- Member, Hqs PC/INP General Court-Martial (Placino Court) 1986-89
- Member, PC/INP Work Committee/Annual General Inspection Tm visiting around the Philippines from 1982-1987
- Member/
Participant Asia & Pacific Regional Experts Meeting for the formulation of the
Draft of Proposed UN Standard Minimum Rules for Non-Institutional Treatment of Offenders,
UNAFEI, Tokyo, Japan 1988
- Member, Philippine Delegation to the 9th ASEAN Chiefs of National Police (ASEANAPOL)
Conference in Jakarta and Bali, Indonesia 1989
- Member, Philippine Delegation to the 10th ASEAN Chiefs of National Police Conference in Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia 1990
- Member, Board of Trustees, STOP Trafficking of Women & Children Foundation, Inc.
1990 to present
- Member, Public Administration Specialists & Consultants Association of the Philippines Inc (PASCAP) 1988
- Past Grand Knight, Knights of Columbus Council No. 10368 - Crame-EDSA, etc.
- Member, UNAFEI Alumni Association of the Philippines since 1988
- Member, Asla Crime Prevention Philippines, Inc. since 1993

A Dedicated Cop, A Resilient Leader

■ By SONNY P. YASAY



**SENIOR INSPECTOR GILBERT SANUCO DE LA FUENTE
CHIEF
STATION INVESTIGATION AND INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
BATASAN HILLS POLICE STATION (PS-6)**

We will have to do away with the dead weights in the organization to insure total work effectivity and peak efficiency. Henceforth let us join hands and work together to erase the public's perception that we are in ineffective organization says Police Senior Inspector Gilbert Sanuco dela Fuente, incumbent chief of the Station Investigation and

Intelligence Division concurrently Chief Administrative and operations branches, Batasan Hills Police Station (PS-6), Central Police District Command, National Capital Region and at the helm of this responsible and sensitive position since 1990.

Under his stewardship, the station investigation division, police station 2, CPDC became the most prominent

investigating unit of the entire central police district command from 1991 to 1992 due to its no non-sense policy of enforcing the law and maintaining peace and order within its area of responsibility. With his able leadership, he has steered his units of assignments into a potent instrument of law and order in the war against all forms of criminality and lawlessness, thereby contributing immensely to the peace and order effort of the national capital region command and the Philippine National Police as a whole.

This simple lad from Tumauni, Isabela ia a member of Makatao Class 1985 of the Philippine National Police Academy with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Public Safety. To further upgrade his knowledge in police science, he took up basic intelligence course for PC/INP officers and police intelligence advanced course both at intelligence training group at Camp Crame, Quezon City.

Like any other young officer of the Philippine National Police, dela Fuente has successfully passed through series of staff assignments of the defunct Quezon City Police Station up to present, to wit:

a) Operations Officer, Mobile Patrol Division, QCPS from 06 August 1985 to 11 July 1987;

b) Chief, Operations Center and concurrent Assistant Chief, Operations Branch, from 26 August to 08 March 1988;

c) Chief, Special Action Group, Office of the Mayor, Quezon City from 08 March 1988 to 07 May 1988;

d) Operations Officer, Intelligence and Special Operations Division, QCPS from 03 July 1988 to 07 August 1988;

e) Officer-in-Charge, Baler Sub-Station, QCPS, from 17 January 1989 to 30 January 1989;

f) Deputy Commander, Novaliches Police Sub-Station, QCPS from 25 October 1989 to 11 November 1989;

g) Commanding Officer, Litex Detachment, PS5-CPDC from 18 March 1990 to 16 October 1990;

h) Chief, Intelligence and Special Operations Division, PS-5 CPDC from 16 October 1990 to 10 December 1990;

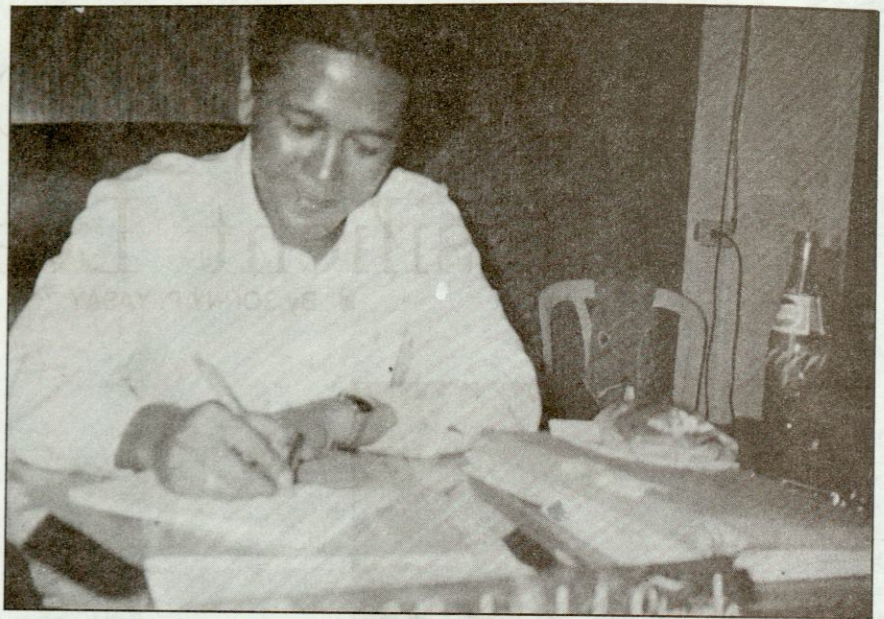
i) Chief, Station Investigation Division PS-5 CPDC, from 10 December 1990 up to 18 November 1991;

j) Chief, Station Investigation Division, PS-2 CPDC, from 19 November 1991 to August 24, 1994;

k) Deputy to the Assistant District Director for Operations CPDC from 30 September 1994 to 17 February 1995;

l) Chief, Intelligence Division, PS-6 CPDC from 18 February 1995 to 31 May 1995;

m) Chief, Station Intelligence and Investigation



Senior Inspector Gilbert Dela Fuente attends to his work untiringly.

Division concurrently Chief, Operations & Administrative Branch PS-6 CPDC from 01 June 1995 to present.

Dedication to duty, skills honed by education, experience and exhausting training programs he has undergone, the vast wealth of knowledge and know how in this field of endeavor with the able support of his men are the main weapon of dela Fuente in carrying out his drive against all forms of criminality.

As Chief Investigator, Senior Inspector Gilbert dela Fuente has been mainly responsible for the expeditious solution of the following cases,

a) The celebrated Novaliches massacre which occurred on July 12, 1992 at the Novaliches Police Sub-Station, Novaliches, Quezon City, resulting to the death of SPO4 Rogelio Z. Tapan, PO3 Reynoso P. Bacnat PO3 Renato Zafra and civilian Alfredo R. Lazcano. All

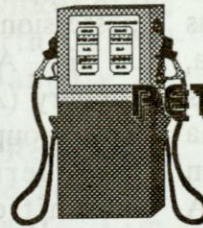
suspects on the gruesome murder have been arrested, namely: Chief Inspector Eliezer V. Gimenez, SPO1 Julius C. Gamboa, PO3 Edgar A. Ablay, PO3 Alexander M. Dionisio and PO3 Reynaldo P. Martin who were charged with murder (Art. 248 RPC) and all of whom have been summarily dismissed from the service;

b) The Loveres massacre which occurred on 08 March 1992 at Tambis St. Area 9, Pasong Tamo, Quezon City, wherein the victims were: Lucita Gertos Loveres, Domingo Loveres y Gervoso, Robert Loveres y Gertos, Edgar Loveres y Gertos, and Maximo Trabuncony Suyom. All principal suspects in this case have been arrested from various parts of Metro Manila and Iloilo City and subsequently charged for murder (Art. 248 RPC);

c) Series of robbery hold-up cases committed on board passenger jeepney along Quirino Highway, Novaliches, Quezon City in the arrest of

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**EDUARDO B. MENDOZA
DEALER**

Romeo Espina y Rocio, Alyas Romy Saya and his gang and confiscation of unlicensed firearms from their possession suspects were charged for high way robbery and illegal possession of firearms and ammunition;

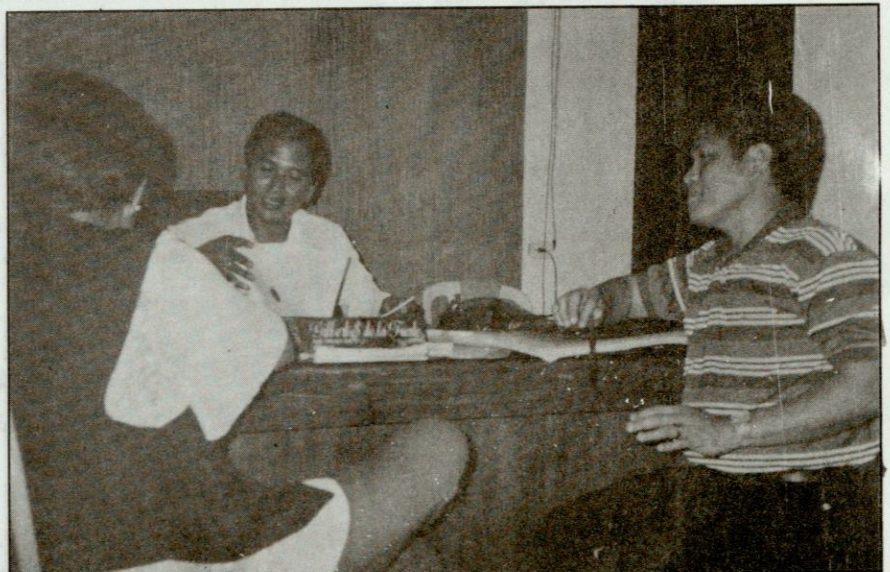
d) The arrest of Renato Cruzy Contreras, A well known drug dealer and distributor of Novaliches and Bulacan during a raid conducted at his residence on 3 June 1992 which yielded regulated drugs (shabu) and unlicensed firearms. He was subsequently charged for violation of RA 6425 and illegal possession of firearms and ammunition;

e) The apprehension of (5) notorious drug dealers of Novaliches, Quezon City during successive police operations on 26 August 1992

namely Alejandro Mendiola y dela Cruz, Arturo Figueroa y Nazario, Moises Cruz y Francisco, Lourdes Tolentino Bayani and Milan Chua y Lilac, who were charged for violation of RA 6425;

f) The arrest of Dr. Joselito

Sanga Y Maximo, Emmanuel Salamatin y Lucero and Jennifer Santillan y Gloria, all known drug pushers of Balintawak and Novaliches area during police operations on 24 June 1992, all of whom were charged for violation of RA 6425;



SENIOR INSPECTOR DELA FUENTE exchanging pleasantries with Police Tribune staff during an interview at his office.

g) The apprehension of "marijuana queen," Annabelle Reyes y Cruz during a buy bust operations at Banlat, Tandang Sora, Quezon City on 5 July 1992 as well as seizure of marijuana cakes from her possession charged for violation of RA 6425;

h) The busting of the notorious "Ipit Taxi Gang" armed with handguns this group victimized an alarming number of Taxi drivers within Metro Manila and suburbs. After a month long surveillance, on August 3, 1991, in Veterans Village, Quezon City, suspects Nicolas Bueno y Quintero (alias Jun Sabog later had been known as a member of the bank robbery group, "paracale gang") Eduardo Madridano y Maristela, Aguido Gabriel y Doria, Serapio Radaza y Lagario, Gerardo Guevarra y Pangan, and Jose Cadandog, were arrested, several car plates and handguns. They were charged of PD 532 (anti

highway robbery law), Republic Act 6538 (Anti Carnapping Law), and illegal possession of firearms.

i) Apprehension of robbery (Akyat Bahay) gang. This group is responsible for the series of robbery committed in residential houses mostly in Quezon City. The seven man group was composed of Alex Lasiaco y Del Pilar, Dennis Casaldy Del Pilar, Pedrito Coronel y Balanayco, Raymundo Cazalda Y del Pilar, Manuel Dagdag-Calucer, fell to the hands of the law after they were caught with their loot (several household appliances, pieces of jewelry, etc.) in their hide out at Meton corner Villon Sts. Quezon City on raid conducted against the group. They were charged accordingly in court.

j) The apprehension of carnapping syndicate group which operates not only within Metro Manila but also in nearby provinces. Extensive operations conducted resulted

to the recovery of thirty six (36) carnapped vehicles, the bulk of which were recovered in the groups hide out in Barangay Patiis San Mateo, Rizal. Arrested were the group's leader Godofredo Mejia and his wife Bella Efa Mejia and five (5) of their henchmen namely, Rogelio Mejia y de Guzman, Vicente Paildem y Ilongo, Romeo Ravir y Zamudio and Oscar Cas padillo y Delarmente. Firearms, considerable number of car registration plates, tampering devices, were also been recovered from the group.

k) The encounter with the group of ex marine Sgt. Ernesto Baliola alyas "Erning" a long wanted person for string of homicide, attempted and frustrated homicide, series of robbery cases, qualified theft, estafa, and physical injuries with two (2) warrant of arrest issued by Quezon City RTC Judge Oscar Leviste. The encounter resulted to the death of Sgt. Baliola and recovered from his possession a caliber .45 pistol.

The above cited cases were just mere fraction of the many cases solved by Sr. Inspector Dela Fuente and his men, restoring the citizens confidence in the PNP organization marred by few misguided elements involved in immoral activities.

He said, the fight against criminality occupied a significant place in the social, political and economic stability of our country. The



The reportorial team of Police Tribune together with Senior Inspector Gilbert Sanuco dela Fuente (center) at the Batasan Hills Police Station.

prevention of crimes requires effective coordinated efforts of all law enforcement agencies and of the public.

De la Fuente's crime prevention strategies are designed not only to reduce victimization, but also to increase the socialization and social control capacity of the local institutions.

In recognition to his devotion to duty and efficiency in the performance of his official duty, this tireless young officer has been accorded countless awards and decorations:

a) Certificate of Merit as Junior Field Officer of the Year 1992, National Capital Region, Philippine National Police during the 2nd Anniversary of the PNP on 3 February 1993 at Camp

Crame, Quezon City.

b) Plaque of Recognition as Junior Field Officer of the Year 1992, North Capital Command on January 21, 1993.

c) Plaque of Recognition as Alumnus of the Year 1992 at Camp Vicente Lim, Canlubang, Laguna on 16 April 1993.

Due to his unstained consistency in demonstrating exemplary efficiency, and loyalty to duty, De la Fuente became a recipient of four (4) Medalya ng Papuri, five (5) Medalya ng Kasanayan, three (3) Medalya ng Kagalingan, PNP Medalya ng Pagtulong sa Nasalanta with first bronze Sampaguita cluster, twenty six (26) letters of Commendation and three plaques of appreciation from civic

organization for community services.

In retrospect, destiny has destined that this young and energetic officer lustered and shined in the noble profession of arms as a law enforcement officer. As fate remains kind to him and the way he exercise his chosen vocation which made him worthy of the awards and decorations accorded to him, the Philippine National Police is nurturing a young officer to metamorphose into a fine and seasoned officer worthy to be readjusted to a higher rank.

Aside from his being one of the most promising PNP officer, Gilbert is happily married to Ma. Cecilia B. de la Fuente from whom he begot sons Joshua, Jeremiah, Christian and only daughter Princess. ■

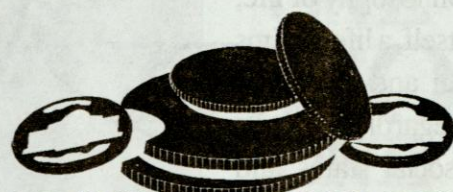
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The Human Rights Advocate Among the Ranks

Continuous growth and development as a human being unfolds the essence of a human person as he/she undergo the process of becoming one.

This philosophy in the view of the writer is the fundamental philosophy of life, in fact it is itself, a life. It aims to enlighten and challenge everyone, regardless of age, sex, race, social status and other human dimension. Everyone is indeed entitled of respect and recognition as a human being in pursuit of just and humane living.

In this regard, P/Senior Inspector Eduardo de Luna Balmaceda is one of the voices who recognize and promote human dignity as he performs his duties as a police officer of the Philippine National Police (PNP).



**P/S INSP EDUARDO DE LUNA BALMACEDA
COMMANDER, BLOCK 4, STATION 2
MAKATI POLICE STATION
SOUTHERN POLICE DISTRICT COMMAND, PNP**

Balmaceda, who is married to Susan Rionda Balmaceda, continuously explore all the avenue of communication and understanding in order to be more

sensitive not only to the needs and problems of his local constituents but also to the general social problems our country is facing right now.

As a medium of doing so, Balmaceda engages himself in human rights advocacy through different seminars and workshops. To mention two, they are Human Rights Seminar And Seminar/Workshop on the rights of the Accused. The first one was held at the HSPD in Fort Bonifacio dated February 25-March 7, 1987 while the second one was held at the UP Campus in Diliman, Quezon City, on December 10-12, 1987.

His record in-service trainings speak well of his personality.

COURSE TAKEN	SCHOOL	LOCATION	INCLUSIVE DATES
Current Situation and Police System in Japan	National Police Agency	tokyo, Japan	27 Feb-09 March 1995
The 6th Seminar on Community Policien the Asian & African Region	National Police Agency	USA, Tokyo, Japan	21-24 Feb. 1995
Advanced Explosive Incident Counter Measures Course	Louisiana State Police Academy	Louisiana, USA	17 July-18 Aug. 1989
Explosive Incident Counter Measures Course	Louisiana State Police Academy	Louisiana, USA	17 Jul-18 Aug. 1989
Basic Intel. Course for Constabulary/ INP Officers	CITC	Camp Crame, Quezon City	27 July - 20, 1989
Traffic Management for law Enforcers	UP, TTC	Diliman, Quezon City	20 July - 14 Oct. 1989
Special PC/INP Explosive Ordinance Disposal Course	NCRTC	Fort Bonifacio	16 Feb. - 31 Mar. 1985
Basic INP Intel. Course	CTC	Camp Crame, Quezon City	Feb. 30 - Mar. 1977
Narcotic Investigation Course	CANU	Camp Bicutan, Taguig	16 Feb. - 31 Mar.
Police Basic Course	POLCOM	Fort Bonifacio, Makati	03 Jan. - 31 Mar. 1973
Markmanship and Special Weapons Training (SWAT)	PC CRC/MPF	Camp Bagong Diwa	01-15 Jan. 1990
Data Base Super GALC Computer PC/INP Intel. Course	UP, TTC HPC Mobile Intel Training Team	Diliman, Quezon City Fort Bonifacio Makati	20 Jun. - 14 Oct. 1989 21-25 Nov. 1977
Modulized Intel. Seminar Firearm Proficiency Course	HSPD NCRTC	Fort Bonifacio Fort Bonifacio	07 - 30 Apr. 1987 16-28 Apr. 1983
Bombing Seminar Scene, Forensic Seminar	FBI	US Embassy, Manila	06 Feb. 1992
Counter Terrorism Awareness	US Diplomatic Security Service	US Embassy, Manila	06 Feb. 1992
Protective Security Operations Seminar	US Diplomatic Security Service	US Embassy, Manila	14 Mar. 1994
Seminar Workshop on the Criminal Procedure	Multi-Purpose Hall	Camp Crame, Quezon City	23 - 30 Sept. 1989
Seminar/Workshop on Value formation	Multi-Purpose Hall	Camp Crame, Quezon City	22 - 24 Oct. 1990
Tanglaw Seminar	NCRTC	Fort Bonifacio	25 Feb. - 9 Mar. 1985
National Seminar and General Assembly of PCAP	NAPOLCOM	Makatri City	27 Mar. 1990
Value Formulation Seminar/Workshop	Multi-Purpose Hall	Camp Crame, Quezon City	20 Nov. 1990
Personal Growth and Community Relations	Ateneo de Manila	Quezon City	11 - 16 June 1995

■ **TRAINING PROGRAM**

The above stated trainings are part of his pledge to the police force and to the Filipino people to which his utmost commitment to serve is directed and realized. As a man who belongs to the government institution that guarantees peace and order, protection of life, liberty, and property, and the general welfare, Balmaceda consistently update his knowledge and awareness as clearly manifested in his personal involvement in the above trainings. It is therefore in this content he received his promotion and medals/awards/and commendations from equally honorable, personalities in the Philippine National Police (PNP).

But it is also very important to note the immeasurable participation of his fellow policemen in each and every success he has solved in the name of public service and national sovereignty.

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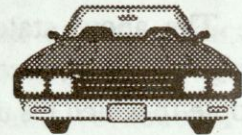
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NATURE OF AWARD	DATE AWARDED	AUTHORITY
Medalya ng Kagalingan (60 TI-P)	30 March 1990	Alexander Aguirre
Medalya ng Papuri 1st Bronze Sampaguita Cluster	05 November 1990	BG Marino Filart
Medalya ng Papuri (GO-97)	28 September 1993	P/Director Sistoza
Medalya ng Kasanayan (GO 158-P) with 3rd Sampaguita Cluster	26 January 1990	BG Marino Filart
Medalya ng Kasanayan (GO 157-P) with 2nd Sampaguita Cluster	26 June 1990	BG Marino Filart
Medalya ng Kasanayan (GO-277-P) with 1st Sampaguita Cluster	12 October 1990	BG Alexander Aguirre
Medalya ng Kasanayan (GO 44-P) without Sampaguita Cluster	21 February 1989	BG Alexander Aguirre
Medalya ng Kasanayan (GO 182-P)	09 July 1990	BG Marino Filart



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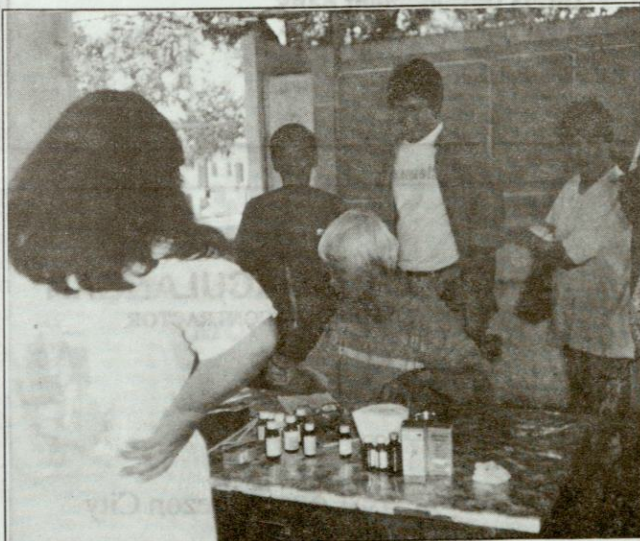
Short Message

Dra. Victoria Batongbakal, Director of Ma. Santisima De La Paz Hospital recently conducted their second Medical Mission for the lahar victims in Mt. Pinatubo area, Pampanga.

Thru our magazine, Dra. Victoria Batongbakal would like to thank all her friends, not only in Marilao, Bulacan for their full support regarding their aim "Operation Tulong 1996" and also DZRH Radio for airing the project.

The whole management and staff of the Ma. Santisima De La Paz Hospital and Director Victoria Batongbakal and the Shepherds Flock Movement congratulates the "Police Tribune Magazine" for featuring their visit in Cabalantian, Pampanga.

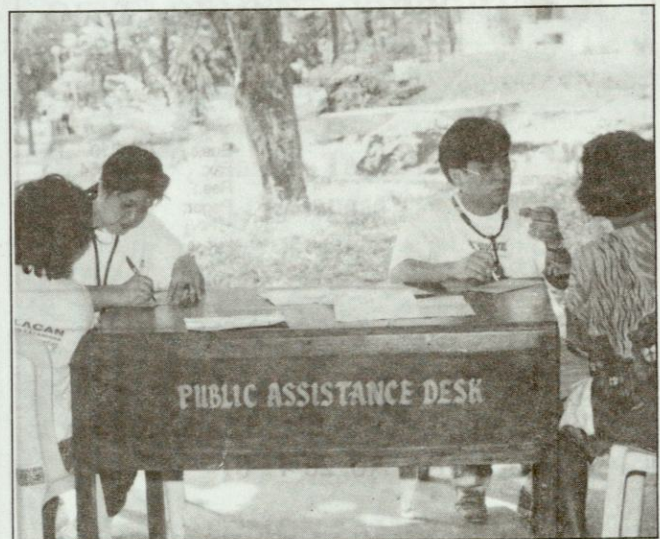
More Power, Good Luck and God Bless you All!



DRA. VICTORIA BATONGBAKAL, seated, attends to some patients during their medical mission in Pinatubo area.



DR. VICTORIA BATONGBAKAL and some of her staff distributes medicine to lahar victims.



MEDICAL staff of the Ma. Santisima De La Paz Hospital during their "Operation Tulong Project" in Bulacan.

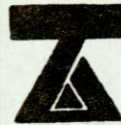


OPERATION Tulong Project members rescues some of the victims in this flooded area in Bulacan.

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■ **MEDALS/AWARDS/COMMENDATIONS RECEIVE**

Achievements is good for the soul. It elevates oneself in the realization of a noble end. One has to be very strong and principled in performing his/her duties and responsibilities not only as a duly recognized person of authority but also as a person whose love and respect to his fellow human being is promoted and guarded from destructive elements of societal problems.

It is in this light, the writer wants to reiterate the significance of having a genuine man/woman of service like P/Insp. Balmaceda. One need not be a bemedalled office at the expense of human being.



P/Sr. Insp. Eduardo L. Balmaceda attended the 8th Seminar on community police in the Asian and African region on Feb. 21-24, 1995, National Police Agency, Japan.

Let us all be reminded of this simple and yet fundamental basis of becoming a responsible citizen of this country. ■



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BY SONNY P. YASAY

Philippine National Police Celebrates 5th Year Of Service

Many years ago the policeman and the constable were among the respected figures of the community, placed in the same pedestal as the parish priest and the public school teacher, emulated by everyone.

Reversely the present policeman is much feared and mistrusted, often the butt of cruel jokes and ridicules.

To our good friends from the PNP, let us join hands and work together to erase the public perception that we are an ineffective organization.

Welcome to the "POLICE TRIBUNE MAGAZINE," your exploits as peace officers will enliven the pages of this magazine, dedicated to the men and women in uniform who sometimes die in line of duty without any epitaph from the brutal and bloody tabloid newspapers.

This magazine manifest the fruits of our efforts, and make the vision to serve, a reality.

Five years ago, the Philippine National Police (PNP) was placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).

DILG Secretary Rafael M. Alunan III opens the formal rites of the wreath-laying ceremony at the PNP Battle Monument at Camp Crame, Quezon City.

Full-dress honors, including parade and review, have been prepared for President Fidel Valdez Ramos as guest of honor and speaker of this year's celebration of the PNP 5th Anniversary, Police Director General Recaredo A. Sarmiento II, PNP Chief introduce the President after

awards and decorations have been presented.

The ceremony accentuate the situation of the country's police force, which has been evaluated as being "undermanned." In a previous press statement, Secretary Alunan has cited the number of police as 97,000 and the military as 150,000.

Because of the inadequacy of these numbers to combat crime, the DILG has forged an agreement with the country's two major private security agency groups to draft "blue guards" in the campaign against crime. The private group will act as an auxiliary force to boost police visibility patrols and help gather information on crimes. Secretary Alunan said that the groups cover a wide area and, as the umbrella security associations in the country, account for 226,718 trained members. This is roughly equal to the combined forces of the military and the police.

We commend the Philippine National Police for continuing its mission of law enforcement in spite of criticism, for the good work of the force should not be unappreciated because of the wrong-doing of a minority.

The anniversary and its observance will boost the morale of the country's police force and at the same time, remind them of their essential role of maintaining order and securing the peace of mind of our citizenry.

WEEDING OF UNDESIRABLES

President Ramos said that he will continue to pursue the proces of cleaning the government of misfits, legally probing those who personally benefitted from the government through unlawful means, and regularly conducting performance audits to monitor possible violation of laws and policies.

The President stressed that he mean it when he said that he would go "graft-busting" and weeding undesirables" out of his administration.

The Chief Executive announced that he will be watching closely the performance of local government executives and warned them that absenteeism will not be tolerated by the government.

He disclosed that Government expert have devised a high-tech computer system that will determine and identify officials and employees who do not report for work but continue to received their salaries. ■



The Saga of Juan L. Soria, Cavalry Man

■ By CHARLIE C. GRICALDA

Out of the holocaust which was the Second World War, the Filipino were dragged into a bloody conflict with fellow Asians (the Japanese) in a war which was not their own making.

This bloody conflict, which lasted for nearly four years, cost tens of thousands of lives, mostly of innocent civilians and other non-combatants and, of course, military personnel. The Filipino soldiers fought side by side with Americans during the war.

Despite the fact that this has no relevance to the Filipinos as the Japanese were not their enemies, they being fellow Asians, the Filipinos fought as bravely and as gallantly and even more ferociously than their American counterparts in the firm and honest belief that they were fighting for freedom and democratic way of life.

Of the estimated 120,000 officers and men of the United States Armed Forces in the Far East (USAFFE), 80,000 were Filipinos and the rest were Americans.

About 40,000 Filipinos reportedly died from combat wounds and other diseases due to lack of foods and medicines, malnutrition, malaria dysentery, dengue fever, and allied diseases.

Just as there was a number of American Officers and men who displayed outstanding gallantry and heroism in the field of battle against the vastly superior Japanese forces, there was also a number of

Filipinos — Officers and men — who showed bravery and courage in the fight against the same foes.

Among the outstanding Filipino fighters were Captain Jose Calauag who was the first Filipino officer to be awarded the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honor; Captain Jesus Villamor, fighting pilot who distinguished himself in the fight against superior Japanese enemy fighter planes; and Private Juan L. Soria, who has the distinction of being able to shoot down two Japanese bombers with a fifty (50) caliber machine gun. Soria also single-handedly disabled two enemy tanks with the use of hand grenades which he dropped inside the said war machines.

The exploits of Captain Calauag and Villamor have already been written expensively in books and articles about the Second World War in the Philippines by Americans as well as Filipino authors.

This is our third subject, Private Juan L. Soria, whose heroic adventures during World War II that will be treated in our Manila Studies

Association's lecture today.

Private Soria's war exploits earned him several distinguished medals and citations from Filipino and American military authorities equal to a rank of a general today.

SORIA'S BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH AND TRAINING IN THE ARMY

Private Soria first saw the light of dawn on March 22, 1918 in Barrio Sta. Fe, San Marcelino, Zambales (Philippines). A son of Simon Soria and Pelagia Ladiero (both of Zambales), he is fifth among eight family members (five females and three males).

Soria's parents were industrious farmers working some 100 hectare land which is now in the present site of Mt. Pinatubo.

Sometime in 1939 he was called by the government for military training in the Philippine Army.

He underwent training at Iba Cadre in Zambales, however after eleven months as trainee Soria went back to Sta. Fe and worked in their farm.

He helped his parents plant fruit trees, while also tending cattle and a couple of horses in the hundred-hectare family ranch.

Johnny, as he was fondly called by comrades, was called to active duty in Fort Stotsenberg (Clark Field) in late 1940, and there he learned the strict discipline of a youthful military man at the age of 18.

Johnny could still remember his senior officers lecturing their troops to familiarize themselves with map reading, road signs, identifying important land marks, mountain terrains, rivers and coastal areas in Luzon and knowing neighboring provinces and particular municipalities.

As a new recruit of the Philippines Scout Troop-B 26th Cavalry Regiment, he was trained in horse galloping and "readiness at all times" during a red alert. Here Johnny's experiences as a young rancher served him in good stead. Their commander would always remind them that in emergency cases when the troops in the cavalry were separated, they had to reunite on certain assembly point. There was a "jumping course," which Johnny vividly remembered — his horse would run fast and jump as he would rapidly fire his .45 caliber pistol at two targets and maneuvering left and right. He was also trained to handle the sabre, thrusting and slashing the sand bag while in motion.

The Filipinos fought as bravely and as gallantly and even more ferociously than their American counterparts in the firm and honest belief that they were fighting for freedom and democratic way of life.

In troop-B, he was one of the best machine gunners. In a wargame as plane had to pull in the air some hundreds of tied balloons and with his mounted machine gun he could hit them, scoring 80 to 90 percent.

In John Toland's dramatic account of Pearl Harbor and the Pacific War (but not in shame, 1961), he recounts a chaotic day in December 1941, shortly after Gen. Douglas Mac Arthur had decided to put in to effect War Plan Orange 3 (WPO-3) which involved the retreat to Bataan.

"Everything was going north-to Bataan" he says. "Military installations in the Manila areas were in the state of wild confusion as personnel

hastily loaded into trucks, cars and buses. At ... Fort Mckinley General Brereton was telling his staff of their retreat to Australia ... No one knew what was going on... No one knew, in fact, who was in command..."

"One hundred air miles to the north, Gen. Masaharu Homma's advance troops were smashing through at Binalonan (Pangasinan), at about 10 miles above Gen. Jonathan Wainright's main line of defense on the Agno River. For the first time they had been stopped. Since 5 a.m. only 450 men remnants of the 26th cavalry, had held off heavy attacks on the town.

A DESPERATE SITUATION

By 3 p.m. the calvary men's situation was desperate, Japanese tanks were rolling toward their road-block and they had no anti- tank guns Captain Barker, commander of Troop B, called his platoon leaders together and asked for volunteers to knock out the oncoming tanks. Only one Private Soria, raised his hands. As the rest of troop B fell back to prepare fox holes, Soria hid in the ditch with the grenades and three Coca Cola bottles filled with gasoline.

"As the first tank rumbled by, Soria leaped on the rear. He tapped on the hatch with his pistol, hoping the turret would open. Instead the turret gun

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swung around, sweeping Soria into the road. The tank backed off and its 37-mm gun roared. Machine-gun bullets raked the ditch. Soria, razed in the shoulder by a big gun, jump out the ditch and run to the rear. The tank hesitated and then, apparently scared off by Soria, retreated.

"Word came from Wainright to pull back; the cavalry men had held the Japanese long enough for the Agno River line to be manned.

TRIBUTE TO THE FILIPINO SOLDIER

A rout had been saved by a few Coke bottles and the 2 cavalry. Wainright, an old Cavalryman himself... reported it had been a 'A true Cavalry delaying action, fit to make a man's heart sing.' It also proved what Mac Arthur had always insisted: the Filipino if well trained made an excellent, courageous soldier."

FIRST BOMBING

On December 8, 1941 members of the Philippines Scouts were lined up for inspection at Fort Stotsenberg (Clark Field) in Pampanga when Japanese planes suddenly started bombing the area. Caught unaware the jolted troops had to scamper for safety and finding themselves with out

a commander, holed up in the vicinity of the air base.

DEFEND THE CAMP

A couple of days later, they went back to the camp and found their barracks badly damaged. They decided to stay put and defend their camp at any cost.

On December 11, Japanese planes came again to drop more bombs. The troops were mobilized to their respective positions. One of

*Filipinos if well trained
made an excellent,
courageous soldier.*

them, Johnny, mounted his 50 caliber machine gun on the low branch of tree and trained his sights on a bomber. As the bomber came along leading the rest of the planes. Soria opened fire, hitting the bomber, first on the tail, then the wings and then the engine. It whirled down, burning and exploding in the air.

Then minutes later another V-shaped wave of planes came dropping more bombs. This time Soria fired relentlessly in the group of several Japanese planes, hitting another which was knocked

down in the talahib area.

Caught unaware, without our commander, we all rushed toward the Bamban River. Our troops holed up in the vicinity for these days, and then realizing the enemy could not have landed anywhere yet, we sneaked back to camp. Our barracks was heavily damaged.

Shortly afterwards, we received orders to move to Northern Luzon to block the advancing Japanese spearhead."

"We met the full enemy force in the vicinity of Damortis, La Union. We were about 450 cavalrymen and we positioned ourselves in an ambush over the Damortis (which is now called Barangay Alacan)."

"Some 15-mile stretch at the Western Horizon of the China Sea were some 85 Japanese transport ships unloading ammunition on small boats and with troops coming in our direction in beaches from Agoo down to Lingayen. Those ships looked like they were at a parking area at sea.

In the frontline, my group suffered many casualties and the Japanese as well. The Japanese were strafing and artillery bombarding us from the transport."

"It was reported that in the northern seacoast near Bauang, a Filipino battalion of the 11th Division fought savagely, delaying the onrushing

invaders with several machine guns. Despite the heavy casualties and the Japanese forces little by little gained in the beaches, driving the 26th cavalry."

Soria recounted that since their arrival in Damortis at 7:30 in the morning and until 4:00 in the afternoon of December 23, he was still holding the line by ambushing Japanese infantrymen in the beaches some 400 to 500 yards while resisting on the overlook of Damortis mountain.

Soria said the landing was during somewhat stormy weather making the swimming Japanese soldier easy targets, killing them by the hundreds with 50 caliber machine gun "nagsawa ako ng kamamasingan" he said.

"I knew I was hitting hundreds of the Japanese and I could clearly see with my naked eyes floating dead bodies turning the sea water into scarlet. But as I look around I noticed I was alone as some of my comrades were already withdrawing.

Glancing back where I tied by horse in big tamarind tree, my horse was screaming with its tail blown out by the big guns from the transport.

Weakened by almost 7-hour continuous fighting without food except for water in their canteen and supplemental food tablets to sustain their fighting strength, few cavalry men remained in the line. Others had already withdrawn or retreated.

"Seeing on my part that I

was alone I had to retreat with my selected shortcut passage through the tree forested mountains in Damortis, fleeing towards the town of Rosario in La Union."

Arriving at the Rosario wooden bridge at about 8:00 in that evening of December 23, 1941, we let the column of tanks pass by the bridge, believing they were American tanks. later on we realized that our comrades advancing towards the bridge had been routed."

Moments later Japanese tanks come from the opposite direction firing at close range at the 26th Cavalry. This prompted Soria to gallop faster over those dead horses and men.

Soria observed unmanned horses running in the slippery



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highway in chaotic situation under cover of darkness. Maj. Tomas Trapnell had to prevent the rout and set fire on the wooden bridge.

Sgt. Justiniano Bulawan commanded the troop to proceed to Pozorrubio town purposely to regroup but the Japanese continued to pursue the cavalry, going to the south direction.

After a brief rest in the dark highway, they again continued galloping toward Binalonan (Pangasinan) arriving at the place at about 10 in the evening of December 23.

The following morning, Soria and the remaining cavalrymen, engaged the Japanese tanks with their 50 and 30 caliber machine guns. Even the 50 caliber machine

guns were no match to the enemy tanks. When the cavalrymen engaged in a bolo-bayonet fight, Soria jumped inside a culvert to protect himself from being surrounded. Unluckily, he was spotted and three Japanese soldiers fired at him hitting his right arm and his shoulder. The slugs from the bullets are still lodge in his body.

HOLD AT ALL COST

We had no food nor sleep, we fired until exhausted, and then we retreated. But the Japanese seemed to trail us into the hills. We fought hit and run encounters all the way from Pozzorubio to Binalonan, Pangasinan, by which time the Japanese columns included

tanks.

On that day, December 24, we were to hold Binalonan at all cost. It was hell. Filipinos and American alike fought to the last man. My platoon disintegrated before my eyes. I remember we spoke of folk tales about banana trunks being impenetrable by bullets. Before they day was over, there was not a single banana left, either.

My own retreat brought me to a concrete bathroom. Eventually I discovered that many of my comrades were also seeking shelter inside that house. I told I had a lucky escape.

We spent another hellish day in the area. Once, in the middle of renewed firing, I ran for cover underneath a house,

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among some big jars (Tapayan). When the bullet hit the jars, I was sprayed with basi all around and the smell of basi kept in high spirits.

THE TANK INCIDENT

On the highway, some Japanese had engaged my comrades in a bolo-bayonet fight, I hid behind the slope of the road with my machine gun. We were ordered to block the oncoming tanks. But my companions left me, and I was alone, practically buried in mud up to my eyes, I could see five tanks approaching, besides my machine gun I had a hand grenade, gasoline filled bottles, and a pistol I jumped on the first tank that passed me and tried to open the hatch." As I peeped down, a bayonet was thrust up at me. I holstered my .45 caliber pistol, pulled the pin of a grenade and threw it into the compartment. I jumped aside as the tank burst into flames, I crawled away fast. Other five tanks were approaching, one fired at me but missed.

Another tank came towards me so as it maneuvered to a ditch near a tree, the said tank almost pinned me to death but I evaded it quickly. When I got a chance I climbed the tank, opened the hatch and lobbed a grenade, putting it out of commission. After this incident other tanks to my surprise, retreated I stood up and reported to my sergeant, Justiniano Bulawan who brought me to Capt. Barker

who had witnessed the battle with tanks.

After being taken by his American commander to a safer place, Soria was interrogated; "We saw you climb the Jap's tank cleverly you knocked them down into flames. And what's your name? Soria replied, "Private Soria, sir!"

Sgt. Bulawan even told Commander Barker he was the last man to battle against the 85 transports with his 50 caliber machine gun in the Damortis landing. "You also knocked down two Japanese planes in Fort Stotsenberg?" Commander Barker impressed by Soria's performance said "You are the harvest soldier in my outfit."

Soria was sent by his commander to a hospital in Asingan, Pangasinan and later to Umingan and then was transferred to Lupao in Nueva Ecija.

After recovering from his bullet wounds (as a result of the fighting in Binalonan) Soria, though limping a little bit, walked all the way to San Fernando, Pampanga for nine days wearing only a pajama,

having in his mind to rejoin his comrades in Bataan. He could still remember a sworn promise to his senior officer to concentrate in Bataan as their last and final stand against the invading Japanese.

SORIA ARRESTED IN SAN FERNANDO GARRISON

Since his release from Lupao, Nueva Ecija on January 5, 1942 and after hiking a long way to San Fernando, Pampanga, Soria decided to go to church saying he will offer prayers to the Lord for having arrived in the said town safely.

Unluckily, Soria was arrested by the Japanese. In a nearby garrison he was stopped and interrogated on suspicion that he was a soldier. Without much denial he readily told the truth to the Japanese manning the garrison because of the signs of bullet marks in his right arm which showed that Soria was a machine gunner.

Soria was tied to a big trunk of tree. For three days there, he was slapped kicked,

After letting him go a distance, a Japanese mounted machine gun raked Soria, he was save by jumping and crawling, after the incident, Soria said This great escape is a will of God.

pistol-whipped and doused with water. After exposing him under the scorching sun. Another form of torture was to let him drink dirty water in the drum which the Japanese used for bathing. By telling the Japanese officers that he will be going home (to Santa Fe, San Marcelino, Zambales) and promising to cooperate with the Japanese government, Soria was released on the condition that he would go directly to his hometown. A "pass" was issued to him for his safe travel in case he would pass by a Japanese sentry or station.

In three days time he reached Layac-junction (the Y junction crossing to Bataan and Zambales) and the Japanese guarding the bridge questioned him.

He showed him his safe conduct but the Japanese would ask many more questions and after a slight disagreement, the Japanese forced him to eat his pass paper.

After letting him go a distance a Japanese mounted machine gun facing the bridge raked Soria. He was saved by jumping and crawling in the sugar cane field. After this incident Soria said to himself: "This great escape is a will of God."

SORIA DISGUISED AS HOSPITAL AIDE IN LIMAY

In order to get information for his comrades whereabouts and purposely to join with his troop B26 Cavalry Regiment,

Soria disguised himself as volunteer aide in the Limay Hospital in Bataan.

Soria was wanted man by the Japanese because his war exploits were heard repeatedly in the Voice of Freedom. Some of his comrades thought he was either missing or alive. Only a few knew that he was brought to Asingan Hospital in Pangasinan in the early part of the war.

Through the radio broadcast by Gen. Carlos P. Romulo in the voice of freedom in Malinta tunnel, Soria was proclaimed a hero.

Finally after about two weeks working in the said hospital, he was able to contact Gen. Segundo in his field office. Soria was advised by the General to lie low for a while

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and change his name to "Manuel." His life was very much in danger because the Japanese could be looking for him.

BATAAN SURRENDER

It was in the battle ground in Mariveles when the news was received by Soria, and his comrades that Bataan had surrendered. Soria and his band of hardcore soldiers did not want to surrender, thus they had retreat to Limay.

Bataan meant more retreats, on April 6, while we were proceeding to Limay, the Halili private truck transporting Filipino soldiers collided with a Japanese truck in a zigzag road. My three other companions and some Japanese occupants died due to the sudden collision.

I remember it was completely dark and realizing that they were enemies, fighting ensued, Soria recounted.

I suffered a broken leg but my companions brought me to a safer area to avoid capture, Soria recalled.

The wounded were taken to the evacuation hospital in Cabcaben which was already under Japanese supervision.

The Filipino doctors decided to amputate Soria's leg so they had to tie him to the bed. But before they could cut off his legs they discovered the special order in his pocket and realized that the guy was none other than the famous Juan L. Soria, the hero. The doctors

promised to do their best and saved him from losing his leg.

During the next few days, the wounded leg began to heal. Soon the Japanese told them that he had to be transferred and he must come along with the rest of the patients and captured soldiers. Soria joined them but he found out it was actually the "Death March."

Somewhere along the way in the Death March, knowing fully well that he could not go any longer because of his wounded leg, he rolled down a canal and pretended to be dead. The death marchers left him there at kilometer no. 147. For the whole night, he had to crawl back to the evacuation hospital at Little Baguio.

A few days later, he and some patients were loaded onto a truck like logs and brought to Manila at the UST Hospital where he was confined. When he was well enough, he was brought to Fort Santiago in a dark dungeon. Some of his companions died there, they were crowded in standing position wading inside armpit-deep water. For three nights they stayed in the dungeon with a foul odor of their waste and urine.

Of the seven prisoners two were Filipinos and five were Americans who were transferred to an interrogation room. The filipinos and Americans were hogtied and tied in a blanket pulled up and down by means of pulley.

A harrowing investigation was conducted by

Gen. Homma himself, through his interpreter. The officer wanted them to tell the truth regarding their participation in the war. Failure to meet their demand meant that they would be executed by dropping them one by one on points of two fixed bayonets aimed by the executioners (berdugo) at the victims wrapped in the said blanket.

Soria survived this ordeal. Homma set him free and embraced him for his heroism after he revealed his exploits in the war. ■

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CHING PIALAN YASAY

Periodical Drug Test Among Law Enforcers

Drug test should be conducted periodically on all applicants and active personnel of the PNP, some of whose officer have been involve in illegal activities.

The proposal is contained in the bill filed by Rep. Antonio Cuenco (Lakas Cebu) seeking to test the PNPmen's "mental and physical capacity to discharge their duties" of protecting the people and securing their properties.

The PNP has late become the focus of the public's attention following the respected involvement of many of it's personnel in controversial cases.

In some instances the solon stressed, policeman who commit irregularities are found to be under the influence of drugs.

The drug test are necessary especially now that there is an ongoing revamp within the agency.

The government recognizes the vital interest that the public has in this institution. It's present thrust is to make its members more effective in the discharge of their functions by getting rid of scalawags.

It is disgusting to witness that law enforcers, instead of being guarding and effective sentinels of society are becoming the tools of destruction.

Under the bill, all applicants and active personnel of the PNP shall undergo drug tests to be administered by the Department of Health.

The solon added that, penalties ranging from suspension to discharge from the police service await any PNP member who fails to submit himself to the required test for the use of illegal drugs.

STRICTER PENALTIES ON ERRING POLICEMAN

Interior and Local Government Secretary and National Police Commission Chairman Rafael Alunan III ordered PNP Chief Director Recaredo Sarmiento II to impose stricter penalties to police commanders who continuously refuse to report their erring subordinates.

Alunan issued the directive following the passage of En Banc Resolution No. 95-041 signed by Alunan, Napolcom Vice Chairman and Executive Officer Guillermo Enriquez Jr. and Commissioners Edgar Dula Torres and Alexis Canonizado.

He pointed out that the Special Action Committee created by the DILG to evaluate all PNP officers and members may not be able to thoroughly assess all erring policeman because some of their superiors do not release vital information on their illegal activities.

Alunan said that if police officials are found guilty of withholding vital information, they should also be charged along with their erring subordinates.

MERCADO SUPPORTS EO 292

Senator Orlando S. Mercado expressed his full support for a presidential order creating a consultative committee through which appointments of Senior Police Officers would have to pass before reaching Malacañang.

Signed recently by President Ramos, Executive Order 292 will empower the committee to review and evaluate the proposed appointments of senior police officials, from the rank of senior superintendents to deputy director general, and submit its recommendations to the President within 30 days from the PNP's submission.

Mercado said, the creation of an outside advisory body, composed of a private sector representative as chairman, two members of the Senate and House of Representatives, the Napolcom Chair, the Presidential Consultant on Police Affairs, and the Presidential Legal Counsel, would allow transparency in the selection of police officers.

"What Congress wanted was for the appointments of high ranking PNP officers to pass through the Commission on Appointments. In as much as this issue has not yet been resolved by the Supreme Court, the compromised solution was for an independent body to scrutinize promotions in the PNP, Mercado said. ■

Continuing His Father's Legacy



MARTIN B. DIÑO
Barangay Chairman, San Antonio
S.F.D.M., QUEZON CITY

A Barangay where basic services are effectively and efficiently delivered to the most number of people at all times has always been the vision of former Brgy. Capt. Simplicio Diño. This vision became his legacy to his 37-year old son, Martin, which propelled this erstwhile Overall Sports Coordinator of the Amoranto Sports Complex to test his mettle with five other aspirants for Barangay Captain in the last Barangay Chairman elections. Relatively a darkhorse, he proved his critics wrong and emerged the winner by a comfortable margin. His decision to

continue his father's legacy was brought about by his sincere dedication and commitment to serve and promises he made which were never meant to be broken.

Now, Barangay San Antonio, which occupies almost half of Roosevelt Ave. from Baler St. to Batangas St., is on the right path and going in the right direction. Under his leadership, he intends to regain lost grounds and restore old glory to Barangay San Antonio through his various programs of government designed primarily to alleviate the living conditions of his constituents who have given him a respectable mandate.

Being at the helm of the second largest Barangay in the first District of Quezon City with almost 15,000 registered voters and more than 300 business establishments is no easy task but Barangay Captain Bobot Diño firmly believes these figures will guide him to initiate projects for the sustainable growth and development of Barangay San Antonio.

In his first seven months in office, Brgy. Capt. Bobot Diño prioritized five programs, namely: infrastructure, livelihood, health services, sports development and peace and order.

INFRASTRUCTURE

With the assistance of the city and national governments, a total of 19 infrastructure projects involving road improvements and drainage development were completed in Barangay San Antonio for the period June to December 1994. These include the road improvement through asphalt repair, asphalt overlay and asphalt patching of 14 local roads, the drainage improvement of three (3) areas and the drainage declogging of 2 sites.

Since most of the streets in Barangay San Antonio have deteriorated through the years because of floods caused by heavy rains, Brgy. Capt. Bobot Diño saw it proper to make the improvement of these streets his first and foremost agenda upon his assumption in office.

Now, the delivery of basic



CAPT. DIÑO personally leads the asphalt patching in the city streets of San Antonio.

services is further enhanced because of the accessibility of the Barangay to the people.

LIVELIHOOD

One of the main thrust of Brgy. Capt. Bobot Diño's program of government is to provide employment to the

unemployed residents of the Barangay by way of teaching them to develop skills provided through training seminars and livelihood programs. Trainers from the office of the Vice-Mayor conducted seminars on dressmaking, hi-speed sewing and cosmetology which netted more than 300 enrollees and produced 200 skilled sewers and beauticians, almost half of which ventured into their own related business or sidelines and are earning respectable incomes today.

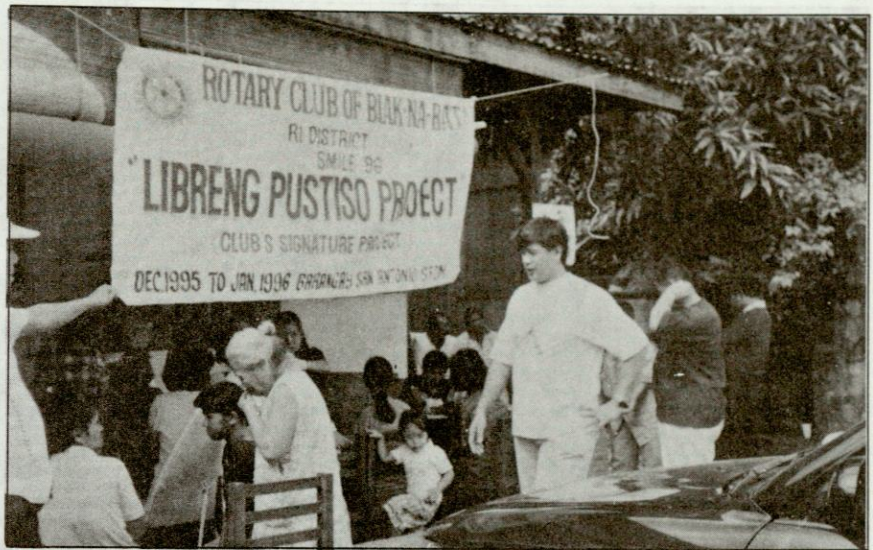
In addition, the Sangguniang Barangay implemented the purchase of five computers with printers as part of its campaign in establishing a Skills Training Center for the youths of the Barangay.



BRGY. CAPT. BOBOT DIÑO opens the Computer Course Training Program for residents of San Antonio.

HEALTH SERVICES

In support to the ongoing efforts of the Barangay Health Center in providing the much needed medical and dental assistance to the residents of the Barangay, this paved the way for the holding of medical and dental missions conducted by city government offices and on-governmental organizations which benefitted hundreds of poor families in the depressed areas of the Barangay particularly at the Madrigal Estate. The missions offered medical check-up including provision for free medicines and dental services including free extraction, fillings and teachings on proper oral hygiene which were availed of by children and adult alike.



DENTAL MISSION at Barangay San Antonio led by Brgy. Capt. Bobot Diño.

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

In line with President Fidel V. Ramos "Sports for All" policy, Brgy. Capt. Bobot Diño deemed it necessary to promote sports development at the Barangay level by providing the appropriate facilities for the holding of various sports activities. This was made possible through proper representations made with the city government for the construction of basketball covered court at San Jose St. which could



OPERATION CLEANLINESS and drainage declogging headed by Brgy. Capt. Diño (standing in front).

serve as the venue for this purpose.

PEACE AND ORDER

Probably the most pressing problem which has plagued the Barangay during the past year was criminality. This was the primary reason why Brgy. Capt. Bobot Diño initiated the reorganization of the Barangay Security and

Development Office and coordinated efforts with the Central Police District Command's Cops on the Block program in the effective maintenance of peace and order. The BSDO's are now conducting nightly patrols to ensure the security and safety of each and every residents in the Barangay. To facilitate the filing of complaints, the Barangay Multi Purpose Hall is now open 24 hours a day,



BRGY. CAPT. BOBOT DIÑO, (right to left) **COL. ARCEGA**, **MAJ. CLEMENTE**, **MAJ. GAMUSANO** AND **GOV. STO. DOMINGO** takes a breather during a training break at the Phil. Army Training Center, Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija.

seven days a week. The presence of the BSDO's during their tours-of-duty assure complainants of immediate action and response to untoward incidents and the apprehension of the perpetrators.

Barangay San Antonio is the first ever barangay to conduct a special forces rescue training course for its BSDO's led by Brgy. Capt. Diño, to effectively combat against any forms of criminality, held at the Philippine Army Training Center, Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija.

As a result of this effort, the BSDO's under the leadership of indefatigable

Diño, seized a 5 million worth of fake watches in Adams St., San Antonio, SFD, Quezon City sometime in January of this year, and then led the arrest of some members of the Budol- Budol gang operating along Roosevelt Avenue in February, 1996.

The BSDO's of Barangay San Antonio have been responsible in the apprehension of known criminals in the Barangay who have been forwarded to police authorities for proper investigation.

True to his form, in his effort to maintain peace and order Brgy. Capt. Diño led the BSDO's in letting free hogtied employees of the HLS

Engineering and Construction Corporation from seven gangsters who walk in and ransacked the company for about P100,000 in May 29, 1994.

He also apprehended an abusive PA-ISAF member, Sgt. Benito Cecogo who poke his gun to anybody whenever he is drunk, in October 1995.

The most sensational of these cases was the rape of 10-year old Rosessa Echegaray by her father who was consequently convicted and sentenced to death penalty by Judge Maximiano Asuncion of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court.

Barangay Captain Bobot Diño implemented City

Ordinance 8589 prohibiting the drinking of liquor along streetside and in front of stores, keeping passers-by and residents safe and without fear even until wee hour of the night.

It is safe to say then that no other Barangay has achieved so many in so short a time. This is mainly because Brgy. Capt. Diño's earnest desire to put Barangay San Antonio in the forefront of progress and development and make it one of the most outstanding Barangay in the country.

All these Brgy. Capt. Bobot Diño was able to attain because of his good rapport and close and constant coordination with city officials. His never-ending deter-



(Seated from right to left) Brgy. Capt. Diño, Major Cesar Cabiling and Councilor George Canseco, standing right, Police Tribune President Ching Yasay, Brgy. Kagawad Arceo and Attorney Rojas during an interview break.

mination to finish what he had started has prompted Quezon City Mayor Ismael A. Mathay Jr. to give him the monicker "Mr. Follow-Up."

Because of his persistence,

insistence, and consistence with able support from his Sangguniang Barangay, the vision of his father was finally realized. And the legacy is now a reality. ■

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use of taxi cabs in Metro Manila. Four men were captured, together with their mastermind who was identified as Francisco de Leon y Abundo alias "Kiko," 24, jobless, of 43 G. Banahaw St., Quezon City. The success of the said case was a collaborative effort of Laboriante's other teammates in the Theft and Robbery Section of Makati Police Station.

In 1972-1984, he was placed under the Narcotics Unit with Major Peña as the Commander-in-Chief. His five years in the Narcotics Unit

exposed him to all forms of drug-related problems like rampant drug abuse which is considered as one of the major causes of other social menace.

In response to this cause, drug pusher who are liable to drug user served as the guiding point of Laboriante in his mission to eradicate

Recognitions are encouragement to men and women in uniform to excel in whatever duties are assigned to them in line with service or maintaining peace and order situation.

drug-related problems.

Two of the notable case he had solved during his term in the Narcotics Units involved drug pushing. The first one was the use of a small store as a front for drug pushing while the other one was actually done inside the Makati Drug Abuse Rehabilitation Cell — a supposed safe cell for the rehabilitated drug addicts. In the first case, a police team led by then Pfc.

This social reality challenged Laboriante to further strengthen law enforcement.



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In the Pursuance of Just and Humane Society

■ By MARILOU RECTO MACEDA



**INSPECTOR EDUARDO OPADA LABORIANTE
DEPUTY COMMANDER-BLOCK 4
MAKATI POLICE STATION**

Makati City, a city where people would probably want to go because of its so called economic advancement but for Insp. Eduardo O. Laboriante, Deputy Commander - Block 4 of Makati Police Station, Makati's significant is surely not just an economic issue but

a place where action takes place in his twenty three years of service to the police force in the name of just and humane society.

As Laboriante's assignment record, he assumed his first assignment in the Traffic Bureau as Traffic Investigator on July 1972 - April 1973 under the command of Capt. Alberto.

After nine months in Traffic Bureau, his position was immediately elevated to Traffic Enforcement Officer under the command of Col. San Miguel. He stayed for about four months in the said position. It was in 1974-1975 under the authority of Col. Jacob in Patrol Division when he was given an award,

together with other seven Makati policemen, who excelled in various aspects of police work. They were given plaques of appreciation and merit. The said recognition served as encouragement to men and women in uniform to excel in whatever duties are assigned to them in line with service of maintaining the peace and order situation in Makati.

From then on, this 47 years old criminology graduate, displayed laudable performance of duties. He was then at the Criminal Investigation under the command of Col. Lauzon when his name started to appear in different newspapers as a recognition for each success case he had accomplished in the name of public service.

One of the celebrated cases Laboriante had encountered was the case of robbery-holdup involving the



Inspector Laboriante and Senator Tito Sotto during a courtesy call attended by the former.

Inspector Eduardo Laboriante during an actual shooting training looking on is Senator Tito Sotto.



Eduardo Laboriante and Sgt. Felix Arevalo raided the store and in the second case, the suspect was apprehended while actually doing the act of selling the dried Marijuana leaves inside the cell. He was identified as Artemio Cruz, sing,e 24, of 9045 Hormiga St., Makati.

In every assigned position, there are stories attached with it. And in every promotion, Laboriante had to undergo from the supervisory level of Sub-Station 2 to the Central Police District Command (CPDC) as Asst.

Commander all the way to his present position as Block 4, Deputy Commander of Makati Police Station. Laboriante is continuously challenged to give his best effort in the prevention of crime doubled with his unwavering hope to eradicate major social problems.

As a social reality, crime is

committed everywhere regardless of sex, age, social status, time, and occasion. One notable case, Laboriante had just encountered was committed during the New Year's Day, January 1, 1995. It was a rape case of a six-year-old girl at the South Cemetery in Makati by a pedicab driver, identified as

Ricardo N. Marcelo, 25, a resident of 1046 Batangas St., San Andres Bukid, Manila.

Life in the police force is indeed a chain of action based from actual events whereas the men and women in uniform should be a consistent catalyst of productive output. Awards, commendations, and other merits received are not just papers of appreciation from higher police/military officials of the land but most importantly, they are papers of recognition due to invaluable participation and immensely displayed of valor for the civilian government to which they served.

This must be the philosophy behind the

unwavering service of Laboriante to the constituents of Makati. Since 1976, Laboriante is a consistent receiver of commendations from equally honored men of the Philippine National Police (PNP). Just recently, he received the Long Service Award which is the Medalya ng Paglilingkod (INP Service Medal), given on the 14th of August 1992 under the authority of Sr. Supt. Tranquilino A. Aspiras. The said award is in recognition of his 20 years or more of faithful and honorable service with the Integrated National Police Service.

In all these achievements, Laboriante never ceases to be

a responsible husband to Mrs. Yolanda P. Laboriante, and a proud father of their four children, namely: Jerome (21), Glezilda Rose (19), Sheryll Anne (18), and Ryan Carlo (14), his youngest son.

As a man of service with a cause to serve the Filipino nation, Inspector Eduardo Opada Laboriante is absolutely a consistent effective law enforcer who has high regard in different community projects, seminars, and workshops in order to give space for improvements and most especially, it facilitates the unwavering challenge to keep the flame of service to the Filipino citizenry alive. ■



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The Colorful Military Career of

Lt. Col. Palawan Langco Macadindang

■ By BERT A. MABINI



In 1 May 1967 at the age of 21 years old, then Mr. Palawan Langco Macadindang joined the Military Training as Probationary 2nd Lt in the Philippine Army at IV Military Area (IVMA), Camp Patag, Cagayan de Oro City for a period of Six (6) months.

Commissioned Reserve in the Philippine Army as 2Lt and

called to Active Duty on 1 March 1969 with the Philippine Constabulary.

Undergone Fifteen (15) days PC Orientation Course at the Philippine Constabulary School, Camp Panopio, Quezon City and was assigned in Mindanao, reassigned to Hqs 54th PC Bn (Zone Striking Force), stationed at Camp Kiethly, Marawi City,

however before his development to the line companies, he undergone Forty Five (45) days Battle Indoctrination Course conducted by said Bn along with 27 newly CAD Officers.

After 45 days of Training, 2Lt Macadindang was reassigned to 543 PC Coy, temporarily stationed at Pikit, North Cotabato (now Maguindanao Prov.) as Junior Officer. However, 2 Lt Macadindang was placed attached with the North Cotabato Constabulary Command with 34 Enlisted Personnel and utilized as the Prov'l Striking Force of the said Command. 2Lt Macadindang's platoon was provided with Two (2) Armored Tanks in patrolling the City and

Suburbs. At that time, Cotabato City and adjoining provinces were haven of goons and private armies when Gov. Udtog Matalam planned to defy the Central Government and threatened to declare Independence in Mindanao (MIM).

Few months after, 2Lt Macadindang was reassigned and absorbed with the North Cotabato Constabulary Command. 2Lt Macadindang being a discipline and a service oriented Officer gained the trust and confidence of his superior officers, he was utilized as a trouble shooter, where the problems areas are, he is sent there for assignment. 2Lt Macadindang served as either Junior or Executive Officers

of all the line Coys of North Cotabato Const. Command, such as: 452 PC Coy, stationed at Kida-pawan, North Cota-bato; 455 PC Coy, stationed at Kalamansig North Cotabato (now Sultan Kudarat Prov.) (Twice); 454 PC Coy, stationed at Isulan, North Cotabato (now Sultan Kudarat Prov); 437 PC Coy, stationed at Kida-pawan, North Cotabato (452 PC Coy was re-deployed); 431 PC Coy, stationed at Cotabato City.

Sometime in January 1970, when 2Lt Macadindang was assigned as Junior Officer of 455th PC Coy, stationed at Kalamansig, North Cotabato (now Sultan Kudarat Prov.) while on patrol encountered about Fifteen (15) heavily armed lawless elements at the vicinity of Brgy. Canipaan, Palimbang, North Cotabato resulting to the killing of Two (2) Outlaws and the recovery of Two (2) long firearms and several ammunitions. (Decorated for an Award of Military Merit Medal).

In 1972, in view of

the growing conflict between the Christian and Muslim populace in the coastal Town of Palimbang, again 2Lt Macadindang was assigned back to 455th PC Coy, temporarily stationed at Palimbang, North Cotabato. While assigned there, he escorted Muslim evacuees to get their personal belongings and other important properties from their abandoned homes, however while at Brgy. Canipa-an, Palimbang a report was received by 2Lt Macadindang that certain Datu Sa Biwang Tadul with his family were massacred at their homes in the upper part of the Brgy. 2Lt Macadindang immediately maneuvered with Eleven (11) PC Personnel and Two (2) Policeman to the place of reported incident. Recovered the dead body of Datu Sa Biwang buried in a shallow grave with erected wooden Cross of about Ten (10) feet high, members of his family were slaughtered to death inside their house, only his wife escaped with hacked wounds who pretended to have

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been dead. But, while 2Lt Macadindang was transporting the cadavers to the Poblacion of Palimbang Municipality, a heavily armed men suddenly appeared along the road numbering about Twenty (20), thus 2Lt Macadindang ordered his men to deploy to a nearby coconut trees and wait for his orders. With a distance of about One Hundred (100) meters, 2Lt Macadindang shouted towards the armed men that they were PC

personnel, but the armed group shouted back, "MGA MUKLO KAYO" (You are all Moros) and fired upon the government troops prompting them to return fire. A gun running battle ensued for about thirty (30) minutes forcing them to withdraw in different directions and as a result, a certain Pedro Dieron and only Tony were killed on the spot. Recovered from the bodies of slain armed men were two (2) long firearms,

two (2) bolos and several ammunitions. Macadindang was decorated for an Award of Military Merit Medal with 1st Bronze Anahaw Leaf.

2Lt Macadindang was promoted to the rank of 1st Lt on 4 January 1972, however in September 21, 1972 Martial Law was declared in the whole country. 1Lt Macadindang was recalled at the Prov'l Hqs, North Cotabato Const Command and designated as Home Defense Officer of the Command.

However, then Prov'l Comdr Cirilo Bueno, Jr., in the implementation of the different General Orders and Letter of Instructions from the President, one influential Datu, named Datu Baguinda Ali, a resident of Nuling, North Cotabato (now Maguindanao Prov.) was among the top list maintaining goons and private armies. The Prov'l Comdr ordered to raid the compound of Datu Baguinda Ali, being an influential and a tough man in the



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City of Cotabato and some parts of Cotabato Province, Officers who were directed to conduct the raid and search to Baguinda Ali compound refused due to fear of retaliation, familiarity, etc. However the Command Chief Clerk approached 1Lt Macadindang about the impending raid, he (1Lt Macadindang) volunteered without hesitation. 1Lt Macadindang conducted the raid and yielded: Four (4) Browning Automatic Rifles; Two (2) Ar-

malite Rifles (AR15); Six (6) Carbine Rifles (M2/M1); One (1) Garand Rifles cal 30 M1; one (1) Shotgun rifle (12 Gauge); One (1) Long Rifle Cal 22; Two (2) Short Firearms (Pistol Cal 45 and Rev Cal 22 Magnum; and One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Five (1,255 rounds of ammunitions.

During the raid, Datu Baguinda Ali was not around at his residence. He (Baguinda Ali) intentionally left his home having knowledge of the raid through his

friends at the Prov'l Hqs, only their house maid was left alone. 1Lt Macadindang and his men searched the whole compound, but to no avail despite a very positive report and a public knowledge. 1Lt Macadindang discontented of the result, sat down in a filed woods near the crocodile inside a cage, keenly and diagnostically observing the area from all directions starting at the Pulangi River, Wooden Wharf, 2-storey building made of light materials, Garage made of light

materials, a Crocodile inside a cage of about 2-foot long and the Bungalow-Type house with a German-looking dog tied at the uncemented basement. At this juncture, 1Lt Macadindang confronted the house maid about the dog, but she said, "That dog is owned by Datu, but no one can get him, except Datu Baguinda Ali." 1Lt Macadindang impossibly believed, the house maid was responsible in feeding the dog and must be the person closest to the dog 1Lt Macadin-



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dang uttered silently to himself. 1Lt Macadindang. Threatened the housemaid by telling her, "If you will not remove that dog, I will be forced to shoot that dog." 1Lt Macadindang said the housemaid cried and slowly removed the dog. He ordered Four (4) of his men to produce shovel and dig the soil where the dog was previously tied, however about Four (4) feet deep, a galvanized iron sealed casket was seen and turned out to be a cache of high powered firearms. Datu Baguinda Ali was arrested while driving his car at

Downtown, Cotabato City. He was placed in stockade and charged for illegal possession of firearms before the Military Tribunal. 1Lt Macadindang was decorated for an Award of Military Merit Medal with 2nd Bronze Anahaw Leaf.

In view of the positive result of the raid, 1Lt Macadindang was designated as Intelligence and Operations Officer of the Command. He worked overnight due to the plan of the MNLF to launch simultaneous attack on government installations throughout the Province. The MNLF plan was carried out indiscriminately,

cutting roads and bridges leading to Cotabato City, annihilated troops in the field and overran PC Detachments of the Command and friendly forces due to surprise superiority of firepowers and manpower resources.

However, when the situation in Cotabato Province was placed under control by the Army and other AFP Units, 1Lt Macadindang took his PC Officer's Basic Course at 111PCZ, Cebu City in Sept. 3, 1973, 1Lt Macadindang was returned back to Mindanao and reassigned to IVPCZ Special Training Center, Camp

Parang, Parang, Maguindanao and designated as the Asst Comdr/Training and Operations Officer of the said Training Center. 1Lt Macadindang has molded a thousand of soldiers at the time warm bodies were needed badly in the field I view of the heighten atrocities of the Southern Philippine Terrorists group. 1Lt Macadindang was promoted to the rank of Captain on April 1, 1975. With his assignment with the Zone Special Training Center, he was awarded a Military Commendation Medal. ■



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