

MALACANANG
MANILA

35
Veterans Memorial Hospital
Saturday

Jan. 18, 1970

Manila Times and even the Bulletin are trying to promote a fight between us and the media. Manila Times has declined the Nolan resignation ~~with~~ actually editorializing in that story. Then, yesterday, the Bulletin carried the front page story of me keeping on with attacks on the press quoting my statement or speech read by Lopez in the Bureau of Plant Industry inauguration that "notwithstanding the critics, we have moved forward". This was interpreted, I suppose, to mean that the press are critics or the only critics and should not be referred to with the slightest hint of derision.

My relations with the press in general, with the exception of the Malacanang days has soured since the inaugural speech.

They can dish it out but cannot take it.

My erstwhile opponent, Sen. Sergio Osmeña has gone to see Pres. Suharto of Indonesia, and as reported by Ambassador Farolan, is determined to get the ~~concession~~ ^{concession} of Brigido Valencia at (East Kalimantan) ~~or Sumatra~~ ^{or Sumatra} ~~belonging to Brigido Valencia~~. Accompanied by a representative of Indio - Indji, apparently the financier, this party surveyed the Sumatra concession of Valencia and apparently a favorable report submitted.

Someone bragging here in Japan and the Philippines that he can buy any Indonesian affair. Apparently the funds to be used by the Adroso group in their association

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and take-over plans will come from Aswana. Aswana is also in touch with the groups that are preparing a revolution in Sabah and has been instructed in the offer by Malaysian or Sabahan authorities in offering to Prince Parka and Sultan Ismail Kiran to buy out their claim to Sabah. They may sell only their private rights. But I have ordered Sec. Romulo to write a formal letter to Sultan Ismail Kiran that he has authorized the Philippine government to bargain for him and that he must not embarrass our government, and for Amb. Busuogo to imperially notify the Malaysian authorities that Sultan Kiran cannot bind the Philippine government.

Deputy Premier Tun Abdul Razak of Malaysia has announced a record US\$ 267.7 million budget for defense and internal security or 25% of the total expenditure of US\$ 1,080,130,000 for FY 1970. Defense budget for FY 1969 is US\$ 132M or 9.2% of the total 1969 budget. Razak justified the increase with the British military withdrawal and the stepped up communist terrorist activities.

In Pakistan 56 million registered to vote out of 125 million in Pakistan's first general elections scheduled 5 Oct 1970.