

Office of the President
of the Philippines

Malacañang Palace
Jan. 24, 1970

1:00 PM

I have just directed the retirement of Gen. Raval and all the extended generals effective Feb. 11 and April 1st. I will retain Gen. Yap as Chief of Staff only because there is no one who is qualified to take his place. I will put Gen. Eddie Garcia presently C of the Tabak Division as PC chief.

I do sympathize with Gen. Raval who claims he had nothing to do with the abuses of the Special Forces but there is discontent in the rank and file of the Armed Forces and Gen. Raval is one of the reasons. Another is the feeling of the lower ranking officers that they have no hope of advancement. And with the efforts of the Liberals to intrigue the military into a coup d'état, it becomes necessary to remove all causes of grievance.

The truth of the matter is the retiring officers are better than those who will succeed them. I hope to place some of them in civilian positions.

I cannot ~~get~~ ^{choose} a replacement of Sr. Mata. ~~although~~ I am trying to get a civilian and non-military man. But I guess I will ultimately push Gen. Yap up to Secretary of National Defense while I ultimately push Delto up to Chief of Staff.