

Tanggapan ng Pangulo ng Pilipinas
(OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES)

Dec. 22, 1976

4:40 PM

At 7:00 PM upon arrival from the airport
departure of Thai Prime Minister Tanin Kraivixen,
I was able to pass through a telephone
call through the unreliable Silyan communications
system.

Sec Barbers jubilantly told me that last
night at 8:00 PM Silyan time which would be
2:00 AM branch time, immediately after the
call of Imelda to Pres. Gheddafi, he was called
to the President's house where after he explained
that the term "under ~~over~~ in accordance with
an constitutional promise" meant a plebiscite,
but upon the query of Pres. Gheddafi as to
whether this included the question of local
autonomy, that the question to be answered
would be only whether this promise or that
wanted to belong to one region or another.

Sec Barbers further told Pres. Gheddafi that
since Pres. Marcos had promised to give local au-
tonomy to the Muslim provinces, he was going to
do so, but the constitution required the President
to ask the people whether they wanted to be in one
region or the other.

Tanggapan ng Pangulo ng Pilipinas
(OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES)

Dec. 22, 1976 -

2

Pres. Aquino said this was reasonable and invited Minister Al Tria to call the four ministers and work out the details the following morning.

So there is an agreement ^{in private} with Pres. Aquino who had also informed U.S. Parkers that he had talked to the first four whose appeal apparently did the trick although Pres. Aquino also extended. is thanks to me for offering a compromise solution. And our Constitution will be complied with.

What a relief!

I have to explain this too, to the people of the South especially those outside Regions IX and XII like Palawan, Catulato and Davao

and I have asked the leaders of the center to stick around Manila until tomorrow so that I can explain what agreement has been entered into.