

2299

Sept 8th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

Sen. Aquino is, of course, playing a double game. He was in danger from the Maoists, as reported by him to Sec. Ponce Enrile when he (Aquino) interviewed Thelma Ortigas in the stockade. He had been told by Ortigas that he, Ponce and Osmeña were going to be liquidated by the Maoists, then put the blame on the administration.

So I believe he negotiated a meeting with Jose Mari Sison and is protected from that side. But now he is convinced he is also in danger from the government. So to go through the nation of giving information to the Secretary of National Defense to get protection from government.

And I believe that he will, however, help the Maoists more than the government.

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9:30 AM - Credentials presentation by the Dominican ambassador based in Japan
10:00 - Santo Anniversary which was a presentation of awards to the model berries of the Philippines, contest held under the auspices of IACD.

11:00 AM - Sugar conference -

Before that met speaker Villanueva and Sec. Romulo on the Moscow visit of the former. I directed that we maintain the present policy. But that we must encourage more intensified exchanges in culture and trade. We must push more sales of our mineral ore, coconut oil and abaca.

In the sugar conference we took up:
1. The Sugar Act which authorizes the suspension of the sugar quota in case of appropriation of property of American citizens
2. Domestic sugar - raw sugar, including those coming from the Visayas will now be used to flood the market. We will not need to refine the sugar.

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3. Quedans without sugar. The PNB should with the DBP guaranty a \$5 million loan to Buena and Pasunil payable over ten years, and with sufficient collateral, so that Pasunil can pay off the P20 million shortage of sugar in its warehouses.

Careli is holding 130,000 piculs worth of quedans of the Pasunil shortage of 190,000 piculs.

I told them that I did not feel like helping a scoundrel but that if it was necessary to do so, we would have to.

4. We will be able to fill up our quota in the U.S. of 1,401,000 tons. We now have a 200,000 ton shortage. and we can make it up by early milling which started Sept 1st.

Conferred with Soc. Ponce Enrile and Sen. Ver on the need to prepare for an early attempt of the President to arrange Manila.