

10:50 PM

543

Dec. 14, 1970

Monday

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

Our first day with Bong Bong. Woke up late believing he would not be able to awake early but he had breakfast with the two girls before seven o'clock. He looked bored the whole morning as I attended to my visitors — Ambassador Urabe, Mrs. Adelina Rodriguez, the Cante officials on Sangley Pt (we decided to inform the American Ambassador we would like to see the turn-over take place finally after one year; we are going to set aside an area for a ship-building complex for Bayside Shipping which is being given reparations items this year and some electronic factories; but best of all finish the coastal road to Cante City although we will have to wait for the case pending in the sala of Judge de la Rosa of the Sorsogon City Court of First Instance; the runway is only 5,000 feet long and therefore cannot be utilized for big planes)

In the afternoon we had the Christmas festival at 3:00 PM for the indigent children. Bong Bong delivered the speech for the family partly in Tagalog and partly in English — "Ikingagalala Kong pinakabaitan sa mga magulang na magandang pagpapalagan xxx This Christmas is doubly happy for us — it is the land of happiness that I intensely wish for everyone — for you, all our people and

Dec. 14th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

our country. x x x Deligayang Pasco at Pangong
Bazong Taon sa niyong labat!

But again the hysterical explosion of greetings
for Bazong. "Guapo sa Bazong" was the comment.
Of course the girls were more ~~excited than~~ ^{excited} the boys.
I received all of these as a matter of fact and casually.

After the induction and dinner of the officers of
the Federation of Filipino - Chinese Chambers of Commerce
led by Mr. Antonio Roxas Chua at which they pledged coopera-
tion with my administration as was I met Baby Yonson
at 7:15 P.M. He brought an air rifle with tranquilizer
darts. I asked Bazong to come and help me get the
gun working. He showed scarce interest and went back as fast
as he could to his room to do a recording.

I am amazed at the rapport between Lou and his
sisters. I have had faithfully written him every event that
had happened here and now they seemed to have so much
to talk about — classes, the idiosyncrasies of his "mansters",
the characters in his school, what he thought of the Filipino
boys in Wattle (Jingo Zabel who he says is forever to be
rich but thick [thick headed] and is always copying his
homework and the Soriano boys who are on their third

Dec. 14th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

year in Uerth; he does not think very highly of them. They talk of drama, Shakespeare, Bernard Shaw, James Joyce and the other writers. Inelda and I just listen very fondly - too fondly I am afraid.

But he is more orderly in his habits, takes care of his room which used to be untidy before he went to Uerth and seems shy with the girls.

Incidentally all the girls big and small wanted to meet him and shake his hand.

He seems decided not to go to Oxford after Uerth but to go to the University of the Philippines instead for his law degree. Apparently he is affected by his classmates who seem to think that Oxford was not much.

And anyway, he says, for him to go to Oxford, he would have to stay six years in Uerth.

We are letting him make up his own mind. After all he seems to know what he wants.