

12:35 PM

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Feb. 6, 1971
Saturday

MALACAÑAN PALACE
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Jur. and Jura. Richard Berlin are our guests at Suite I of the palace. He heads the large and prestigious Hearst Publications.

We sleep at the boat (777) tonight after dinner on the way to Corregidor and Dambana by Kagitingan.

The futile exercise that is Congress has started with Talantino and Puyat attacking my veto of the appropriation act provision that requires the automatic release of Congressional funds including their allowances and Roy catching the Herald headline on his waging war on my executive order increasing the tariff on crude oil from 10% to 15% and Perez sarcastically commenting on our hot and cold policy on the demonstrators.

I have directed the issuance of a press release on the first two items. I enclose the release.

5:45 P.M. after the
rally of the Kasari, the
teachers and the organized men
supporting the democratic
revolution and the fight
against the oligarchs.

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Atty. Suprino Fajaro, the head of the striking
drivers just called me up after Bung Tanco met
him, to inform me that he was calling off the
strike on his own and in accordance with his
conscience because he and his men "are being
used as tools by evil minds" and the strike
has resulted in senseless killing.

He had been calling me up through
Bobby Reyes and he indicated that he wanted
a face-saving device so he could call off the
strike. He wanted me to meet with him and the other
leaders of the strikers and to appeal to them so
they could graciously call off the strike. I had
Bung Tanco call him ^{to a meeting} and inform him that he
has to do it on his own, although if he needed
to say that I had appealed to him (Fajaro)
he could do so. Apparently there was no need for it.

Fajaro is a better man. The strikers have
not been able to stop the jeepneys and buses
from running. And the citizenry is turning against

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them. Even the media has partially turned around and are in some sectors fairer to the government authorities.

I doubt it if Sagara can stop the students, though. If Sagara calls off the strike the students will have no ground to stand on. The UP take-over will be untenable and the students will have to peacefully hand it over to the University authorities. In a way this will be a let-down for many people who want the UP radicals to be taught a lesson, arrested and prosecuted. For that matter many people now want forceful action against the radicals.

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Chino Pocos and Henry Lopez are up to their old tricks again. They invited the publishers and editors to a breakfast at 7:30 AM at the Andres Soriano Hall at San Miguel Bldg. allegedly to consider Senate Bill 589 of Sen Tavaña, the anti-monopoly bill which these two claim was my creation and which I asked Tavaña to file (which, of course, is not true).

But Chino Pocos, according to Europa editor of Evening News, who was sent to the breakfast by Freddie Elizalde, tried to incite Andrew Go, the publisher of The Daily Star, against me saying that I was blaming the Chinese for high prices and that I would soon burn Christown. And Andrew Go seemed to believe this.

Anyway, these two were working for the newspapers to come out with a pooled editorial asking my resignation. Tony Araveta was for this.