

Actually I wrote this at  
8:00 P.M. Saturday, Jan. 7th  
as on Thursday evening I was  
ill with a severe cold which they  
treated with Decolgen resulting in  
some painful spasms of the <sup>MANILA</sup> ~~abdomen~~ <sup>pharynx</sup>  
and which drove me to bed.

24  
Jan. 7, 1971  
Thursday

Bongbong took down the outline I dictated in bed  
hereto attached.

Dr. Dito Zagala took an electrocardiography and  
found my heart very solid. That removed all the worries  
of friends and my doctors inasmuch as several of my  
friends have come down with heart attacks lately. It is  
the tension of these days.

And I have been working hard lately, although I  
have been feeling heavy and sluggish because of an inci-  
pient cold that turned severe after golf in Pangloss where  
it was terribly cold.

The morning I spent on the cabinet meeting, a study  
of the government reorganization plan and the educational  
survey submitted by Sec. Corpus.

But before that I placed Tony Paganji who has  
been issuing press releases demanding the resignation of  
Sec. Ponce Enrile. He told me that Ponce Enrile had humiliated  
him and treated him like a job-seeker when he sought to  
talk to him about the call to active duty of a certain Tomas.

I directed Hon. Sicaris to reestablish arbitrage  
in the sale of stocks of domestic corporations so that we  
can raise funds abroad.

In the cabinet meeting we reviewed the stabilization  
efforts of the past year when we succeeded in converting  
a \$300 deficit into a \$35 surplus.

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Jan. 7th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

and the agricultural recovery program because of the sudden increase of the prices of fruits, vegetables, poultry, eggs and pork. We are spending ₱35 million on this immediately.

The budget took much of our time as we went over what Com. Sychangco referred to as a "flexible budget". It looks like we will spend a total of ₱7.1 billion, ₱200 million more than last year.

We have decided to make a study of the need of all government corporations and their assets. It started with the reorganization of O.P.C. Administrators to liquidate the Manila Hotel and Apoc. Sec. Ponce Enrile who was a corporation lawyer before he joined government opined that it would take years to do so. We should sell the assets instead.

Apparently all the cabinet members agree on the continuing study of the recommendation to establish diplomatic relations with Russia and other socialist countries except Red China.

After the cabinet meeting which ended at about 1:00 P.M. I authorized Sec. Virata to guarantee the new loan of the I.S.M.I. at an increased rate of interest which seems unfair as the Export-Import Bank is taking advantage of our difficult situation.

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Jan. 7th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

I also directed Sr. Virata to insist upon the Marubique Corporation to which was given the right to exploit Parcel II of the Surigao Metal Mines, the condition

Melba told us at lunch about the recent funeral of Dean Corrado Benitez. Rather long but impressive.

In the afternoon (about 4:00 PM) after half an hour trying to sleep I attended the Taek-Won-Do-Sikaran-Karate graduation exercises of Task Force Pasig but mostly of my security men. Very impressive. They have been training for five months.

Bongbong could not participate as he is still recuperating from his flu and tonsillitis. But he received his Brown Belt and Certificate.

At about the end I was presented with the reconstructed Ruben I (the original keel was discovered and the boat rebuilt on it) as well as the crew members and the owner.

This was the boat I used to go to Mindoro from Pangasinan, Quezon (then Tayabas) to contact Col. Fertig in 1943.

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Jan. 7th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

A lump was in my throat as I looked at the boat and it brought a flood of memories of the guerrilla days when we were all willing to give up comfort, love, life and even honor itself for people and country.

I know then that I must risk comfort, the future, love, family and even life and honor itself for a people and country the strength of which was being eroded slowly but systematically by their all-wishers.

But I must be just as cool, deliberate but bold and daring as we were during those dark days of the war.

There was no other course. God had made it so.

So after that I asked Cags. Ibarra and Ali Dimaporo to prepare their younger men for training under the concept of citizen military training so that Mindanao could be contained by native troops (even reservists) if trouble started in Sulu.

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Jan. 7th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

I then wapped out with Ronnie Velasco the P600 million rural electrification program.

I then hurried to the Palace to meet the two factions of the jeepney drivers — one faction headed by Oscar Sazaro helped by Pelagio Velayas and the other by Atty. Sypino Sazaro, Oscar's first cousin and who was the lawyer of their driver's union the Pasang-Magda until they had a falling out.

Oscar and Velayas are willing to stop the jeepney and bus driver's strike while Oscar's cousin, Atty. Sypino Sazaro insists on the strike claiming he cannot stop it anymore.

I felt that they should test their strength and there was no way of bringing down the increase by Velayas of 2 centavos for standard gasoline.

DIARY

Jan. 7/41 Thursday

OUTLINE

1. Tony Baguina + Ponce Enrile
2. Arbitrage - Luz Licenses
3. Nationalist China (oil)
4. Cabinet meeting
5. Re-organization plan
6. Educational <sup>survey</sup> survey
7. Sec. Corpny
8. Sec. Niaty - Manulague - conversion of preferred shares to common
9. Export - import bank, authority of Niaty to sign contracts for increase interest rates
10. Yesterday - funeral of Sr. Conrado Bentez <sup>FL</sup> attended
11. Gae - He - Won - Do / Liharan
12. Ruben I
13. Met with sugar group
14. Cong. Al. Simapuro, Cong. Navarro, Mindanao  
citizen military training
15. Rural Electrification, Ronda Velasco
16. Jeepney drivers
17. Electrocardiography - nothing wrong
18. Retired
19. Slept
20. TULOG