

12-15 PM

2055

May 11, 1942
Thursday

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

Met with the ConCon delegates who are still doubtful about the form of government. We have opted for a parliamentary form of government as this will allow bright young men with limited resources to become head of government. In the presidential system only the millionaires can qualify for the presidency because of the cost of campaigning which can reach ₱60 million.

The debates on the form of government start on the 14th with Henry Espina reporting out the Executive Power's committee report and Godwin Panos, Jesus Cuadras, Faria etc sponsoring (a total of eight for eight hours).

The boys, Bibit Duant, Tony Tupay and Ken Yanga predict a vote of 170 against 120. I have asked that as great a majority be obtained so as to make the plebiscite campaign easier.

The Senate last night, passed a resolution asking that they be consulted on foreign affairs. I believe they are smarting from the ConCon decision to abolish the Senate in the new Constitution. I intend to ignore the resolution.

2056
May 11th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

I attack the revolution and the letter of Sen. Jose Poy to the effect that it is not a censure as there is a conflict as to the powers of the president and the senate.

Inelda is doing well. She was allowed bathroom privileges this morning and she may be allowed to walk this week-end.

I intend to continue drumming up unity for the sake of the nation in the government, the party and all levels of society.

Gen. Willoughby sent word about his new book on the underground movement in the Philippines. He requests an order for 5,000 copies. He said word through Mrs. Willauer and Alex Melchor. He lives in Naples, Florida.

Played golf with Joe Luna Castro and Richard Co. They were surprised when I did my exercises after the golf game.

No change in the Vietnam situation. I attach an assessment of the blockade.