

7:50 P.M.

2372

Oct. 10, 1942

Tuesday

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

10 minute interview by BBC's Derek
Wilson (London based in Singapore)

15 minutes TV interview by ABC's Jim
Higgins based in Saigon. He is colored and I like
him.

Then 15 minutes TV interview by CBS' Don
Webster for the Cronkite show.

and finally 20 minutes interview by correspondent
Mr. Bate of the Asahi Shimbun

Practically the same questions on martial
law.

ABC and CBS will mean millions more of
listeners and viewers. I was able to put in the
points: the landing in Palawan, miserable government,
front organizations, urban guerrillas and better yet —
that we have been fighting since the war —
and our children will not fight the same battles
all over again.

I attach a sample of letters and messages
we are getting about these interviews — a letter from
Tony Raguja.

2973

Oct. 10th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

Asked Ting Pexas who arrived only yesterday to work in the Think Tank and start on the Housing program.

Then met the generals for the command conference for lunch.

1. Explained the reform program
2. The rise of criminality in the Greater Manila area. There was a hold-up of Equitable Bank of more than P100,000 yesterday by three men in uniform. And Rudy Marshall reports his paymaster was robbed P800 last Saturday night by men in uniform at the clover leaf at Epifanio de los Santos by riding in a Datsun car with number 32-45.

We agreed to pick up all police characters and concentrate them. Increase strength of Metrocom by 150 men provided with tactical vehicles for immediate reaction to reports of crime.

An agent Chua of Metrocom, a former or retired master sergeant, was held up last

2374

@ J. 10th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

might with the collusion of the taxi driver of the taxi he was riding in at about the same place by two men whom he had to shoot with his 45. He suffered a head wound from the taxi driver.

A carney by three men in uniform took place the other day.

We agreed to push the clean up of the local police faster.

3. The trial by the military tribunals of the AFP personnel in gun running and the manufacturers of the bomb that was used in bombing Jase's Dept. store that killed one.

As well as the Chinese manufacturers and dealers in heroin.

4. Military operations - I suggested that we catch the leaders of the NPA in a commander's conference which I am sure they will call any day now. And since Isabela is now harvesting mountain rice if we stop the operations there all the leaders

2375

Oct. 10th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

of the NPA will seek sanctuary there.

So all units will double operations (except those in Jambela). Then we drag out Jambela.

I attach report on the assassination plot. The guns of Comandante have been confiscated. His houses in Cebu and Zamboanga have been raided; so has his apartment and hideout.