

11:55 PM

2344

Sept. 26, 1942

Tuesday

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

The second day without any reported crime  
And an almost unanimous endorsement of the procla-  
mation of martial law.

Amended Proclamation No. 1081 and  
Gen. Order No. 2 and issued a statement on the validity  
of obligations and past contracts  
of all the copies.

Spoke to the separate unit commanders  
and the major service commanders at the coronal  
hall: The proclamation of martial law is a consti-  
tutional exercise of power; it is not a coup d'etat war.  
Military take over, it being a legitimate exercise of  
power, the government is a constitutional government  
the reforms are necessary to win the battle because  
this battle is not just the battle with guns but of  
the minds and the hearts of our people that reform  
will counteract subversion which is the bigger battle  
that the use of media is a legitimate necessity.

2345

Sept 26th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

Then finished the decrees of reform and the abolition of the CSC and removal of GAB chairman Montano.

In the afternoon I gave the first interview to Thomas Durdin of the New York Times and later to the UPI Vic Melwary and Pat Killan.

They asked how long it will last - I will keep it only as long as it is necessary - "to dismantle the Communist apparatus" and this includes the reforms I envision.

For a corrupt government cannot long last - nor a sick and criminally infested society.

"I hope before the end of my term."

The Com Com and Congress continue. The power of the President merely augments the deficiencies.