

10:30 PM

2267-a

Aug. 28, 1942

Sunday

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

I just talked to Kokoy Romualdez at Washington on the cablegram report of Ambassador Edwards Romualdez on his talk to Marshall Green, the State Department man of the far East on the reported Japanese plan to recognize Red China, in which conversation Marshall Green "bluntly told us that the Philippines government has overestimated the aid extended by the Chinese (Red) government and the Chinese communists in the Philippines to the local communists."

The U.S. State Department has a consistent record of error in the assessment of Asian situations and judging Red Chinese intentions. It is preposterous, therefore, for them to lecture to us on their estimate of the threat we face from the local communists. And apparently, they are at it again in the Philippines.

Perhaps, the U.S. Embassy here is most to blame. For I think the Ambassador and his staff, the CIA man, Canaris, have finished as of last year a report on the Isabela situation concluding that the NPA operates out of the pocket of Sison and Corpus? And does not pose a serious threat - numbering less than 100.

2268

Aug. 27 (Cont'd)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

How stupid can they get?

And after we, in the government, had traced
the interlinking of the front organizations in the
cities like Manila^(the KM), with the NPA, the CIA man,
Canaris, offered to spend good money on the question
of whether there were any connections at all between
the front organizations and the NPA.

If the NPA has no funds except those from
the pockets of their leaders, where did they get
the \$5 million that was used, according to the
captured NPA, in the purchase of the ^{SS} Karyatian
and the about 2,000 M-14 rifles, arms, markets,
communications equipment, clothing and food.

And why is there an increase in their number,
so much so that in most engagements in Iloilo,
our boys were outnumbered, contrary to the basic
principles of guerrilla warfare.

The NPA is spreading to the Bicol, Samar,
Sytlo, Panay Island, Negros, Mindanao and over fully.

And the KM's are proliferating in greater
numbers.

What about the Supreme Court decision. Are the
Americans saying that the justices are incompetent? Like
all of us, supposedly?

2264

Aug 27th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

After the ambush ^{in Makina} of a Metrocom car which resulted in the capture of an M-14 with serial number beginning with 620 like the M-14's captured in Digos, Palawan.

So I have asked Hon. Romualdez to ask our friends, like Hon. Blackburn and Poling Valenzuela to put things aright in the lower levels.
And to send word to the cabinet level and National Security Council level that I feel that we are being misused.

Anyway I was so exercised by the reported ex cathedra statement of Marshall Heber that I asked for the clarification of the intention and purpose as well as the surrounding circumstances of the statement.

But that is the U.S.

This reminds me of the assessment of the 1970 situation in U.S. News and World Report (Feb. 23, 1970, p 54 - Worldgram) - "Add this to Asia's troubles: Filipinos are on the brink of a peaceful -- or a bloody revolution. Change must come quickly. Everyone

2270

Aug. 27th (Cont.)

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

agrees on that.

Filipinos have lost confidence in their political leaders. The treasury is virtually empty, exports are lethargic, the peso is weak and corruption is rampant. The gulf between the very rich and the very poor is widening.

Is the U.S. to blame for this crisis? Let it all yet it could end up in the middle. Filipinos who respect Americans are asking what the U.S. will do: Stand behind the legal Government, or with those who demand reform?"

This is one of the most preposterous, false and misleading statements I have read.

It is a restatement of the position of the political opposition — of the irresponsible press — of Chris Roces who went to the extent of demanding my resignation as President at the height of the violent demonstrations which started in Jan. 26, 1970.

Incidentally our exports increased by 21% in that year 1970!

And the magazine suggests intervention by the U.S. government in our internal affairs very casually.

I attach the magazine in Envelope No. XXXIV-P.

2271

Aug. 294 (Cont.)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

After golf this morning I laid a wreath at the Unknown Soldiers' Tomb on the occasion of National Heroes Day.

"Anonymity in Herism" was my theme.

Then worked on the problems tomorrow. Party and the Sup. Ct. Decision is still the top news.

But whatever may be done, we must be fair and equitable in dealing with the Americans.