

11:15 PM

2353

Sept. 30, 1942
Saturday

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

Tillman Durdin of New York Times has now reported favorably on the developments in Manila contrary to his initial reports. I attach called report on his story and other stories.

Since the New York Times is the bell weather of American newspaper sentiment, this should mark the generally favorable reaction to martial law.

This morning at 9:30 I met all the generals at Camp Aguinaldo. I cautioned them against complacency arising out of the euphoria of easy victory; to watch October as it may be the crucial month; that the reform movement and the creation of the Hen Society is our principal objective but keeping down criminality and prices is the urgent and immediate objective; that it is easier to win a war or a revolution (for no matter how peaceful or constitutional it is, it is a revolution) than it is to run a government; but that I am confident in their capacity to continue the excellent performance.

Increased allowances of enlisted men and pay of officers.

2354
Sept. 30th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

Decreased the rates of Iloilo to 20.9% from 36%. This is the crying need of the people. I attach the order as well as other orders I signed today.

Antonio Roxas Chua and the other sugar dealers and traders were apprehended for hoarding and profiteering. They were also getting P10 a bag of sugar sold to industrial users.

He has offered to sell all his sugar at controlled prices. So have the others.

I attach his offer through Ralph Mulla whom I authorized to see him.

The Iloilo oligarchs are trying to see me. The head of the clan, Eugenio Lopez, Jr., has been trying to get me by telephone. One of the sons (Junior) has asked to meet with Gov. Koko Romulo. They said Tony Ayala. They are also going to use Bobby Bonadictis with the Governor. In sum it is about the rates.

Now the old man is due to arrive Monday.

I intend to remove all power rates throughout the Philippines.