



APPENDIX 4.21

MARCOS DIARY ENTRIES, 8 OCTOBER 1970 AND 11 JUNE 1979

These entries show what else one can find in Marcos's diaries—musings, his views on certain crucial events, and his take on his powers under martial law. The 1970 entry mentions several of Marcos's desired legislative legacies and his planned programs for the poor. About half of the entry concerns how history will judge him. Here, he declares that to combat distortion by contemporary writers of history, he will write about the first four years of his administration himself. That volume did not materialize; the first book authored by Marcos was the lengthy political philosophy essay, *Today's Revolution: Democracy* (1971). In the 1979 entry, Marcos clarifies that the Ministry of National Defense (then headed by Juan Ponce Enrile) "has no command function," i.e., is only recommendatory. Marching orders of the Armed Forces can only be promulgated by Marcos as Commander-in-Chief. However, it is also implied that Enrile had previously exercised command functions (e.g., the transfer of the 60th Philippine Constabulary Strike Force Battalion; see appendix 2.5, 389) though Marcos, to "maintain a semblance of unity in the administration," maintained that such were done upon his orders.

Source

Presidential Commission on Good Government Files (through Meynarado Mendoza and the National Historical Commission of the Philippines), Roll No. 1, File Nos. 1090-95 and Roll No. 33, File Nos. 0970-74.

8:10 PM

413

Oct. 8, 1970
ThursdayMALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

I write this after an afternoon of paper work on various new peace proposal for the whole of Indochina (Laos and Cambodia included; not only Vietnam) on the basis of a cease fire-as-is and a general conference for the three countries; smuggling; UNICEF budget assignment for the Unesco conference in Paris on Oct. 12th; the Lapang Palay effort on infrastructure; Central Bank report on economy, security holdings and money supply that went down by \$114 million last month; the ~~proposals~~ for the new intelligence missions all over the country.

This morning I wanted to meet the teachers of the four cities that paraded to Malacanang (although their demand for a 5% living allowance had been granted; they claimed that they had paid for the ~~bonus~~ already and would lose face if they did not go through with it; at the same time it was led by a frustrated politician, Pangilinan, who is running for councilor of Calocan City and who wanted to wipe propaganda out of it). Their ranks were infiltrated by students who are radical activists (from U.P.) who wanted to enter Malacanang grounds also. The security would not allow them to. Then the teachers dispersed because they would not follow the students.

But I have asked all the lesson associations of teachers including the four city associations involved in the rally to send their presidents and vice-presidents Saturday at 10:30 AM.

#14
Oct. 8, 1970 (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

I often wonder what I will be remembered in history for. Scholar? Military hero? Builder? The new constitution? Reorganization of government? Builder of roads, schools? The green revolution? Minister of the variant and antagonistic elements of our people? He brought light to a dark country? Strong rallying point or a weak tyrant?

I certainly would like to see a new society evolve out of the new constitution and the new codes I will submit next regular session (I would like a codification of the administrative Code [now pending in Congress], Penal Code, Labor Code, and Commercial Code among others) I would like to declare the whole Philippines as a land reform area and agricultural cooperatives organized, build houses for all the homeless (I have asked the \$55 and \$515 not to give any housing loans for the lower grade employees unless they buy their houses from the National Housing Commission which is ^{headed by Gen. Valera of the PAF in 1964} ~~headed by~~ ^{headed by} the build 1,000 houses a month; provide free education up to high school level on a competitive and examination basis

There are so many plans that I must still carry through.

4/5
Oct. 8th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

(Concise Phil. History by Bagalonia)

I have just glanced through (fast reading) an alleged history book (up to end of Marcos I and I was shocked (as I always am with the ignorance of alleged intellectuals) at the distortions of the facts and the ease with which far-fetched conclusions are arrived at. But this is typical of contemporary writers. There is none of the dedicated and balanced untiring research and the scholarly, objective and dispassionate approach to the subject. The prejudices and the preconceptions of media and the speculations of columnists and commentators are passed off as gospel truth.

So I have decided to write of my first four years of administration myself. I have asked all departments to submit their contributions to the administration.

But the more important parts will be the hidden meanings of action taken, the various factors that went into decisions and the truth.

This is the demonstration in Congress on Jan. 26, 1970 the coffee and stones as well as bottles were not thrown at Imelda and me but at the policeman who had thrown the coffee at the demonstrators from the flagpole part and had hit at some students with their sticks.

Then the elections of 1969 were called by the opposition as "the costliest and bloodiest elections" and this has been adopted by Bagalonia as true without any reservations.

Office of the President of the Philippines

Manila June 11, 1979

Clarification of Powers and
 Functions of the Ministry of National
 Defense (To Prevent the Division of
 Command Power in Crisis Situations)

I have been asked repeatedly
 what powers the Ministry of National
 Defense has in the transfer of
 and reassignment of military units
 because of the transfer of the
 60th PC Bn from Kalugy - Agayco
~~to~~ ^{were recently} and the PC elements and warlike
 units last May from Samar by
 order of the Minister of National Defense
 apparently without the approval or
 authority of the President/Prime Minister
 as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed
 Forces of the Philippines.

Office of the President of the Philippines
Manila

For the record here and in many wars is replete with ~~some~~ regrettable examples of a divided command.

Presumably, this is the reason for the constitutional provision that the President/Prime Minister shall be the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

This being so, the Ministry of National Defense has no ~~defining~~ ^{command} function. It is a part of the ^{President/Prime Minister's} cabinet that establishes "the program of government" and determines "the guidelines of national policy".

It does not have the power or function to control or order military operations by the Armed Forces of the

Office of the President of the Philippines
Manila

Because of the need to maintain
a semblance of unity in the administration, I have
maintained that these were done
upon my orders.

However, because the question
goes well beyond the said transfers of
~~power to~~ military units raise the basic
and crucial principle of the need of
a united and NOT a divided
command, I find it necessary to
establish these rules that
delineate powers and jurisdiction
to prevent a conflict of authority
that may result in a divided
command of our small armed
forces with the attendant inefficiency,
confusion and tragedy that has
often resulted from such divided command.

Office of the President of the Philippines
Manila

Philippines as a whole or any of the units thereof. It cannot endanger officers and men, units or their equipment.

These are command functions exercised by the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces and the President/Prime Minister as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

The Ministry of Defense may recommend and may even participate in the preparation of operational plans when so ordered by the President/Prime Minister. But the orders ^{for operations} are promulgated by the Commander-in-Chief, the President/Prime Minister.

**Office of the President of the Philippines
Manila**

To allow otherwise would
result in possible conflict of
orders and in time of crisis and
war, potential failure and tragedy.

8 OCTOBER 1970

I write this after an afternoon of paper work on Nixon's new peace proposal for the whole of Indo China (Laos and Cambodia included; not only Vietnam) on the basis of a ceasefire-as-is and a general conference for the three countries; smuggling; Usec. Ingles assignment to the Unesec conference in Paris on Oct. 12th; the Sapang Palay effort on infrastructure; Central Bank report on loans, security holdings and money supply that went down by P114 million last month; the proposals for the new intelligence missions all over the country.

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11 JUNE 1979

Clarification of Powers and Functions of the Ministry of National Defense (To Prevent the Division of Command Power in Crisis Situations).

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However, because the question as well as the said transfers of military units raised the basic and crucial principle of the need of a united and NOT a divided command, I find it necessary to establish these rules that delineate powers and jurisdiction to prevent a conflict of authority that may result in a divided command of our small forces with the attendant inefficiency, confusion and tragedy that has often resulted from such divided command.

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