



APPENDIX 5.5

TIMELINE FROM THE MARCOS PRESIDENTIAL CENTER WEBSITE

The Marcos Presidential Center website (www.marcospresidentialcenter.com) was perhaps the first attempt of the Marcos camp at having a stable pro-Marcos online presence. It is now defunct, apparently downed by hackers (Japanese characters appear onscreen when one visits the site nowadays). Besides the straightforward enumeration reproduced here, the website also features a year-by-year “clickable” carousel version of the following timeline. One major factual error that stands out is in the entry for 1970—the Plaza Miranda bombing happened in 1971. An appropriate entry would be the killing of protestors at Mendiola Bridge on 30 January 1970. The text under 1986 is a typical loyalist description of the EDSA Revolution; an ouster becomes a voluntary sacrifice by a heroic leader. Other features of the website as of 2 August 2002 were an online poll (“Should the government allow the Marcoses to inter FM’s body in the Libingan ng mga Bayani?”), an eight-entry bibliography consisting mostly of propaganda published during the Marcos regime, and a promise that the website will “have an online library of digital materials, such as video, audio, photographs, and printed materials documenting the life, work and family of the 6th President of the Republic of the Philippines.” That promise was never fulfilled; pro-Marcos social media pages/channels became online repositories for various “Marcosiana.”

Source

Marcos Presidential Center. 2002 “Home.” Marcos Presidential Center. August 2. <https://web.archive.org/web/20020802112603/http://www.marcospresidentialcenter.com>.

"...it is therefore necessary for the entire society to move as one."

MARCOS PRESIDENTIAL CENTER

HOME | AT A GLANCE | BIOGRAPHY | FIRST FAMILY | TIMELINE | LEGACY | BIBLIOGRAPHY

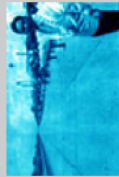
A FILIPINO

Biography, Legacy and Family of President Ferdinand E. Marcos



Medals

Myth or fact. A Filipino historian sheds light to the mysteries behind Ferdinand Marcos' war achievements.



More Roads.

More Bridges. Get the complete list of infrastructures completed during Ferdinand Marcos' 20-year administration.



Let your voices be heard.

Should the government allow the Marcoses to inter FM's body in the Libingan ng mga Bayani?



We want to hear from you.

What else do you want to see and learn about Ferdinand Marcos?

TIMELINE



1969



1970



1971



1972



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1965

Elected 6th president of the Republic, Ferdinand Edralin Marcos on his inauguration tells the Filipino people: "This Nation will be great again." To a nation in great turmoil, plagued by deepening social and economic problems and growing disenchantment with a weak and idle government, President Marcos unveils a national development program which promises a better life for the Filipino in the years to come.

1966

Before a rapt audience at the historic Seven-Nation Summit in Manila, President Marcos proudly presents his first year accomplishments as president – a land reform program boldly being executed, a peace program for the nation's rebels, an anti-smuggling program that works, and determined efforts to punish grafters in his government.

1967

Asked to join the United States war efforts in Vietnam, President Marcos, instead of sending combat troops, brings to the war-torn neighbor an engineering unit and medical teams for humanitarian work, then urges other Asian nations to exert efforts to restore peace in Indochina.

1968

The Philippines under President Marcos's leadership makes a new thrust in foreign policy by taking bold first steps towards recognizing the socialist countries. At the same time, he liberalizes trade with the Free World and hastens industrialization efforts along with a massive infrastructure program in the countryside.

1969

Marcos steps into his second term after winning handily in a national presidential election. Concerned with the growing communist movement in the country, President Marcos starts to develop a Citizen Army and modifies the Armed Forces work from pure military to socio-economic efforts such as in school and road-building, flood control, and rural health.

1970

Heinous bombing of a political opposition rally at Plaza Miranda forces President Marcos to suspend the writ of habeas corpus in the face of insurgent threats, even as he continues to improve the national economy, with GNP rising at 6 percent. The suspension of the writ, however, fails to stem the tide of rebellion spawned by decades of socio-economic problems.

1971

The Philippine economy continues to grow at unprecedented levels. GNP rises to an increase of 20.6 percent over that of 1970; gross domestic capital, exports of goods and services gained 10.2 percent while imports are lowered by 9.2 percent.

1972

The nation's economic growth momentum is halted by a P2 billion damage caused by rains and floods of June-July-August. Worse, while the communist and Muslim rebellions are peaking, student and labor demonstrations, organized crime and vested interest unrest are paralyzing normal government and private business operations. On Sept. 22, President Marcos declares martial law all over the country and calls on the armed forces to quell the rebellions. At the same time, he announces the establishment of a new order in the society. Among the first decrees that he signs are the Agrarian Reform law, and those that provide for government reorganization to root out grafters, launching of new economic projects, and democratization at the barangay level.

1973

President Marcos grants amnesty to every rebel who peacefully surrenders, and begins serious efforts to settle the grievances of rebels. To fight organized crime, the police are professionalized and integrated under a single command. Under this crisis government, though, laws are upheld and the military remains subordinate to civilian authority. The new Constitution of 1973 is ratified which provides sweeping reforms in the political system, restoring among other things, the power of the judiciary.

1974

As the world-wide oil crisis deepens, the Philippines weathers its worst energy crisis yet and organizes its first solar and geothermal energy projects. The government launches a massive agricultural modernization program [sic] which allows credit liberalization, land redistribution, rural electrification, and more village infrastructure. Rice production leaps to 137 million cavans during the year, the highest in the country's history then. On the labor front, the landmark legislation, the New Labor Code, takes effect, protecting the rights, interests and welfare of the country's industrial and commercial workers.

1975

International economic crises threaten to sweep away many of the gains in the New Society, as prices of crude have quadrupled. President Marcos boldly responds to the crisis with a policy of dynamic flexibility designed not only to stem the crisis but also to continue the country's rate of expansion and growth. Timely measures and sound economic management have resulted in increased production and supply of basic goods. Manufacturing rises by 6 percent and construction skyrockets to 40 percent as major government and private infrastructure projects are pushed vigorously. Agriculture goes up with the new rice and corn programs in place. Employment is at a peak performance, with a record 15.3 million fully employed, (compared to 12 million in 1973). A socialized pricing scheme to bring prices of basic goods keeps inflation down below 10 percent. At yearend, President Marcos has instituted a total crisis response system to meet any of the international economic crises.

1976

Marcos takes historic visit to the Soviet Union to open diplomatic relations with the USSR, declaring the era of "special relations" with the U.S. has come to an end. Better yet, with the normalization of relations with the entire socialist world, President Marcos proclaims that on the issue of American bases in the Philippines, the extra-territorial rights must go. The heads of governments of the ASEAN sign in Bali, Indonesia the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, ensuring closer ties between the Philippines and its Asian neighbors. President Marcos also attends UNCTAD conference in

Nairobi, Kenya, to state that the time has come for the dominant powers to end legacies of colonization in the Third World. President Marcos is known to be the strongest voice for the Third World. Following negotiations by the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda Romualdez Marcos, with Libyan President Khaddafi, the Tripoli Agreement that provides for the establishment of autonomous regions in Mindanao is signed with the Moro National Liberation Front.

1977

President Marcos steps up the nation's resettlement program under the Agrarian Reform Code providing regional areas with more infrastructure, increased agricultural production, land titling, health and forest development. The "land for the landless" program opens up several resettlement areas in Mindanao. Significantly all tenanted sugar lands in the country are now listed under the expanded land reform program. President Marcos also launches the nationwide school-on-the-air program to educate barangay folk on farm and home technology, land reform, health and resources consideration.

1978

In June, the unicameral national legislature composed of 160 elective members from all the 13 regions of the country, the Interim Batasang Pambansa, is inaugurated. Economic growth (5.8 percent in GNP) reaches more Filipinos, as the number of employed grows to 15.5 million, personal consumption expenditures rise to P52.3 billion. To ensure steady stream of productive opportunities, the new Ministry of Human Settlements under Mrs. Marcos embarks on nationwide livelihood projects.

1979

Amid unprecedented growth, the country's energy demands are expected to exact a heavy toll on the economy. To the amazement of other Asian nations, Marcos orders the launching of a massive energy program that is helped providentially by the discovery of an oil deposit site. Along with the development of more hydro-electric and steam power plants in many parts of the country, the President inaugurates the Philippine's first oil drilling site, in Palawan, and before the year ends, orders the commissioning of the Philippines' first nuclear power

plant in Luzon. The power plant, to be built in Bataan, is seen as a culmination of the fuel diversification program of the decade.

1980

The election for *Batasang Pambansa* paves the way for the holding of local elections. Most of the winners in the nationwide polls belong to President Marcos's political party. The First Lady, Mrs. Imelda Romualdez Marcos, launches a nationwide shelter program called BLISS and steps up the operations of PAGIBIG Fund to provide affordable housing to ordinary citizens. Three-fourths of all towns all over the country are now energized, with about 10 million people directly served by electric cooperatives which have mushroomed in the countryside. The human settlement program identifies Metro Manila as the starting point to build satellite cities in outlying areas to decongest the capital metropolis.

1981

On June 17, President Marcos issues a proclamation formally ending martial law. After winning an overwhelming victory in the June presidential election, he drops his prime minister's portfolio and hands it over to Finance Minister Cesar Virata. The lifting of martial law provides room for intense rivalry in the military, with Chief of Staff Gen. Fabian Ver being openly challenged by Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile and Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel Ramos.

1982

The political opposition to President Marcos gets bolder and stronger with the lifting of martial law. In exile in the United States, opposition leader Benigno Aquino starts to plan his return to the Philippines even as his closest rival, Salvador Laurel, organizes his own party. President Marcos's health is at a critical point, and rumors of his incapacity to govern spread.

1983

President Marcos orders the police and military to exercise maximum tolerance to the turbulence in the streets following the assassination of former Senator Benigno Aquino on his return to the country. Then he

creates a presidential commission to investigate and weigh all the evidence on the Aquino killing with absolute independence and impartiality. The Agrava Commission, whose members are of proven integrity, hears the case against a group of suspects belonging to the military.

1984

The regular National Assembly composed by both Administration party members and the Opposition opens, replacing the Interim Batasang Pambansa. President Marcos, unfazed by the continued rioting by Aquino followers and the economic crisis that it causes, has restored fully the country's democratic system.

1985

In December the Sandiganbayan acquits all the accused in the Benigno Aquino murder, including Gen. Fabian Ver, who was tagged as among its masterminds. The acquittal sparks more street demonstrations and protest in the media from the Opposition. Known leftist and rightist organizations join hands to stage mass rallies in the cities. The nation's economy sinks.

1986

Following a tumultuous "snap" presidential election, the so-called EDSA revolution takes place in February. Faced with a choice between unleashing the military might to crush the crowds supporting the Enrile-Ramos "rebellion" on EDSA and exercising a statesman's restraint, President Marcos choose the latter. Eventually, to avert bloodshed, he gives up power and goes into forced exile in Hawaii.