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Collection Name WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

Withdrawer

DLB 8/4/2010

File Folder CO125 (PHILIPPINES) (352000-359999)

FOIA

S10-306

Box Number 151

SYSTEMATIC

925

ID Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
95461 MEMO	NICHOLAS PLATT TO JOHN POINDEXTER, RE: REQUEST FOR PRESIDENT MARCOS	1	2/25/1986	B1 B7(E)

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

00125

DATE RECEIVED: NOVEMBER 19, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BILL GOODLING

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES LETTER FROM HUGH SCOTT, WASHINGTON,
D.C. PRESENTING HIS VIEWS ON THE STATUS OF
UNITED STATES AND PHILLIPINE RELATIONS

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY		ORG	85/11/19	MO	A 85/12/23
REFERRAL NOTE:			/ /		/ /
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDJA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240
MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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| * | * | *CORRESPONDENCE: | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET | *S-SUSPENDED | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* | | * OUTGOING | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * | | | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE | | | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY | | | * |
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

December 3, 1985

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your November 18 letter enclosing correspondence to the President from former Senator Hugh Scott.

Your interest in forwarding this letter is appreciated, and please know that the President was made aware of Senator Scott's views regarding U.S.-Phillippine relations.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr.
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Bill Goodling
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MBO:KRJ:MDB

WH RECORDS MANAGEMENT HAS RETAINED ORIGINAL INCOMING

352527



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

BILL GOODLING
19TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

November 18, 1985

Dear Mr. President:

Recently I received the enclosed letter from our colleague Hugh Scott presenting his views on the status of United States - Phillipine relations.

I thought you would find his comments worthwhile and interesting.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill".

BILL GOODLING
Member of Congress

President Ronald W. Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

LAW OFFICE

SCOTT, HARRISON & MCLEOD

2501 M STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20037
(202) 861-1234
CABLE SCOTTLAW
TELEX 350-340

HUGH SCOTT
PARTNER

October 31, 1985

PERSONAL

The Honorable William Goodling
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Bill:

During World War II, I served as a Navy Lt. Commander in the Pacific. I spent considerable time in the Philippines and was in Manila Bay at the time of the Japanese surrender. This war experience was the beginning of a life-long friendship with the Philippines and the Filipino people.

I have been back to the Philippines on several trips as a Congressman and later as a Senator. I have found the deterioration in American/Philippine relations, as revealed in the press the last few years, and particularly in the last few weeks, to be disheartening and disappointing. The Republic of the Philippines is a loyal ally and a great friend. We all know the importance of the two military bases in the Philippines and our mutual defense pact with the Philippines.

Many of my Filipino friends have expressed their disappointment that the U.S. replaced them as our leading supplier of foreign sugar in 1982, and I continue to hear reports from the Philippines that it is in the sugar areas that the communists are making their biggest gains.

SCOTT, HARRISON & McLEOD

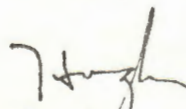
The Honorable William Goodling
October 31, 1985
Page - 2 -

One of the easiest ways that we can improve our relations with the Philippines is to do what we can to help their sugar industry. I understand that my friends Orrin Hatch and Steve Symms have joined Dan Inouye and John Melcher in sponsoring an amendment to assist the Philippines sugar industry. This amendment has support from all sides in the Philippines, including opposition leaders, and I think it would be sound policy if the Congress approved the amendment and let the Philippines know that their record of being a loyal ally to the U.S. is going to be reciprocated in their time of need.

This could well be the breakthrough that will lead to much needed help for the Philippines economy and a much better Philippine attitude toward the United States.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely,



Hugh Scott

HS:jb

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO/25
8537785

INCOMING

NASH

DATE RECEIVED: NOVEMBER 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE FRANCIS "BROWNIE" BYERS

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING THE PRESENT SITUATION AND
THE FUTURE IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION			
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD	
LISA FRIDAY		ORG	85/11/25	LAF	A	85/12/20	TR
<i>State</i>	REFERRAL NOTE:	F	85/12/24		A	86/01/07	PY
<i>Defense</i>	REFERRAL NOTE:	R	85/12/24			/ /	
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /	
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200

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| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
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- *****

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

Unclassified
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8537785

Date January 17, 1986

For: VADM. John Poindexter
National Security Council
The White House

Reference:

To: President From: Francis "Brownie" Byers

Date: November 20, 1985 Subject: Writes concerning the
present situation and the future in the Philippine Islands

WH Referral Dated: December 24, 1985 NSC ID# 352897
(if any)

 The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State

Action Taken:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- X An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason
cited below.
- The Department of State has no objection to the
proposed travel.
- Other.

Remarks:

for *Tom Collins*
Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8537785

Date January 9, 1986

For: VADM John M. Poindexter
National Security Council
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: The Honorable Francis Byers

Date: November 20, 1985 Subject: The Present Situation and
the Future in the Philippine Islands

Referral Dated: December 24, 1985 ID# 352897
(if any)

_____ The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State

Action Taken:

_____ A draft reply is attached.

_____ A draft reply will be forwarded.

_____ A translation is attached.

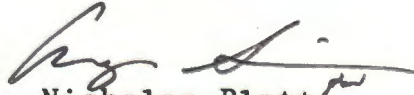
XX _____ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.

_____ We believe no response is necessary for the reason
cited below.

_____ The Department of State has no objection to the
proposed travel.

_____ Other.

Remarks:


Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JAN -7 1986

Dear Mr. Byers:

The President has asked me to reply on his behalf to your letter of November 20 regarding U.S. policy towards the Philippines.

I can assure you that the U.S. Government is very aware of the current situation in the Philippines and is mindful of the concerns which you mention in your letter. We believe that major reforms must be initiated by the Marcos Government if the country is to deal with its current problems, to return to political and economic health and to prepare for a stable transition to the post-Marcos era, whenever it occurs.

Our position is clear that the Philippine Government must act to produce across-the-board political, economic and military reforms and restore the faith of the Filipino people in their institutions of government. U.S. policy calls for vigorous support for the reform and revitalization of democratic political institutions, especially the holding of free, fair, open elections which are credible to the Filipino people.

As you are aware, a Presidential election is currently scheduled for February 7 and elections for local officials will be held later in the year. These are key to stability in the Philippines. We believe that among the key indicators of a fair election are: accreditation for an independent, freely functioning citizens' poll watching group; an impartial Commission on Elections; an apolitical Armed Forces; equal access to the media for the opposition; a fair election law; adequate time for organization and campaigning; and acceptable resolution of constitutional and procedural questions.

U.S. economic policy, in concert with the IMF, World Bank and other donor nations, is aimed at dismantling the debilitating structures of monopoly capitalism and the

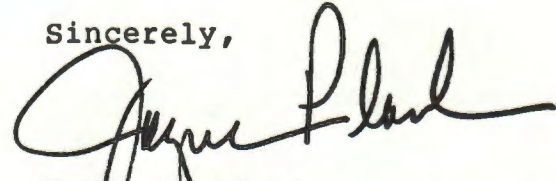
The Honorable Francis Byers
House of Representatives
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, Wisconsin.

restoration of a free market system. We are also assisting the ongoing military reform effort aimed at restoring the professionalism and capabilities of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), curbing military abuses of civilians, and restoring combat effectiveness so that the AFP can conduct a successful counter-insurgency campaign against the communist New People's Army (NPA). Without these wide-ranging reforms the situation in the Philippines will continue to be highly uncertain.

I hope that this information will be of use to you. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jayne H. Plank". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "P".

Jayne H. Plank
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
Office of Legislative and
Intergovernmental Affairs

7 JAN 1986

In reply refer to:
1-19483/85

The Honorable Francis Eyers
Member of the House of Representatives
of the State of Wisconsin
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Dear Representative Eyers:

Thank you for your letter to President Reagan concerning the situation in the Philippines. The views of the Department of Defense regarding this situation were stated during my appearance before a Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee on December 5, 1985. I hope that my statement at that hearing, which I have enclosed, will provide you with a clear understanding of the considerations that have shaped our defense policy for the Philippines and the objectives that we shall pursue in the coming year.

Please contact me if you have further questions on this matter.

Sincerely,



James A. Kelly
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
East Asia and Pacific Affairs

Enclosure
a/s

COORDINATION:

EXSEC Q 2 JAN 1986

PREPARED BY DON EIRICH, EAPR, X53164

Original + 1 for addressee (Mailed)
ASD/LA
DSAA/CON REL
OSD, CCD
EAPR
R&C (3)

W12948

SITUATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

STATEMENT TO
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JAMES A. KELLY
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
FOR
EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS
DECEMBER 5, 1985

NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL RELEASED BY THE COMMITTEE

MR. CHAIRMAN,

I APPRECIATE THE SUBCOMMITTEE'S INTEREST IN THE SITUATION IN THE PHILIPPINES. WE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REGARD THIS SITUATION TO BE OUR MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM IN EAST ASIA, AND CONSEQUENTLY I AM PLEASED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS US DEFENSE POLICY, WHICH WE HAVE DEVELOPED IN CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH MEMBERS OF BOTH HOUSES OF THE CONGRESS.

THE PHILIPPINES, AS 1985 CONCLUDES, FINDS ITSELF WITH AN UNCERTAIN POLITICAL FUTURE; ELECTIONS RECENTLY ANNOUNCED FOR FEBRUARY 7; SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS; AND A GROWING COMMUNIST INSURGENCY. FRIENDS OF THE PHILIPPINES ARE CONCERNED FOR THE FUTURE.

OUR GROWING ATTENTION TO EVENTS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES TOO OFTEN CONCENTRATES EXCLUSIVELY ON OUR DEFENSE FACILITIES WITHIN THE ISLANDS. THESE FACILITIES ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES, AND, IN OUR VIEW, NO LESS IMPORTANT TO PHILIPPINE NATIONAL SECURITY. THEY ARE ALSO IMPORTANT TO OTHER FRIENDS AND ALLIES IN THE REGION WHO REGARD OUR PRESENCE AS A REASSURING COUNTER BALANCE TO GROWING SOVIET NAVAL AND AIR CAPABILITIES AT CAM RANH BAY IN VIETNAM.

OUR ALLIANCE WITH THE PHILIPPINES IS NOT, HOWEVER, LIMITED TO A DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP. IT IS DERIVED FROM A BROADER, SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS DEVELOPED BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES OVER MANY YEARS. THE UNITED STATES HAS A SHARED HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE, COMMON BELIEF IN BASIC DEMOCRATIC VALUES, AND IMPORTANT LINKS OF IMMIGRATION, TRADE AND CULTURE WITH THE PHILIPPINES THAT ARE NOT

ONLY UNIQUE FOR THE UNITED STATES -- THE PHILIPPINES BEING OUR ONLY FORMER COLONY -- BUT UNIQUE AMONG THE RELATIONS OF FORMER COLONIAL POWERS WITH THEIR FORMER COLONIES. FILIPINOS STILL LOOK FIRST TO THE UNITED STATES AS A MODEL FOR MANY IDEALS AND ELEMENTS OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR AND AS THEIR COUNTRY OF FIRST CHOICE FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION, AND TO SOME, FOR IMMIGRATION. "LOSS OF THE PHILIPPINES TO COMMUNISM" WOULD BE A SERIOUS POLITICAL ISSUE IN THE UNITED STATES AND WOULD BE SEEN ABROAD AS A DISILLUSIONING REPUDIATION OF THE AMERICAN MODEL AND AMERICAN ASSISTANCE. THE ADVERSE STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS, IN AN ASIAN/PACIFIC CONTEXT, WOULD BE MOST SERIOUS.

FOR THESE REASONS, THE U.S. IS ENCOURAGING THE PHILIPPINES TO REINVIGORATE ITS DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS, REVITALIZE ITS ECONOMY, AND REFORM ITS ARMED FORCES. WE BELIEVE THAT CONTINUED OPERATION OF OUR FACILITIES DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH THESE EFFORTS, BUT IN FACT COMPLEMENTS THEM.

IMPORTANCE OF US ACCESS TO THE FACILITIES

OUR DEFENSE POLICY IN THE PHILIPPINES, HOWEVER, NECESSARILY FOCUSES ON THE BASES: SUBIC BAY IS OUR LARGEST AND MOST IMPORTANT NAVAL BASE OUTSIDE THE U.S.; CLARK IS AN AIR BASE OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE. BOTH FACILITIES SUPPORT OUR WIDE RANGING COMMITMENTS ALL ALONG THE ASIAN LITTORAL, INCLUDING OUR SECURITY COMMITMENTS IN KOREA AND JAPAN AND OUR IMPORTANT NATIONAL INTERESTS IN THE PERSIAN GULF. THE GEOSTRATEGIC LOCATION OF THE PHILIPPINES IS UNSURPASSED WITH REGARD TO MEETING THESE NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITMENTS.

THE U.S. NAVAL FACILITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES HAVE A CURRENT PLANT VALUE TOTALLING MORE THAN \$1.1 BILLION. THE SHOPS, DRY DOCKS, CRANES AND MAJOR INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITIES AT THE NAVAL SHIP REPAIR FACILITY PROVIDE DEDICATED SUPPORT TO OUR SEVENTH FLEET, AVERAGING REPAIRS TO 250 SHIPS PER YEAR. THIS MAY BE COMPARED WITH AN AVERAGE OF 100 SHIPS PER YEAR REPAIRED AT YOKOSUKA, JAPAN, AND 25 AT GUAM. THE COST OF THE TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED FILIPINO LABOR FORCE IS ABOUT ONE-THIRD THE COST OF LABOR AT YOKOSUKA, AND ONE-FIFTH THAT AT GUAM.

TRAINING FACILITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES RECEIVE HEAVY USE; APPROXIMATELY 4300 HOURS OF LIVE-FIRE TRAINING WERE CONDUCTED THERE DURING FISCAL YEAR 1985. THIS REQUIRES UNINHABITED AREAS THAT ARE PARTICULARLY HARD TO FIND. THE CROW VALLEY AIRCRAFT WEAPONS RANGE (NEAR CLARK) ALONE ACCOMMODATED THOUSANDS OF HOURS OF USE BY U.S. AIR FORCE UNITS FROM THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC, THE PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE, AND THE AIR FORCES OF SEVERAL FRIENDLY THIRD COUNTRIES. THIS INSTRUMENTED RANGE IS THE ONLY ONE OF ITS SIZE AND CAPABILITY OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES AND INCLUDES AREAS FOR CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, TACTICAL MANEUVER AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE TRAINING.

U.S. FACILITIES AT CLARK AIR BASE AND SUBIC BAY OFFSET THE GROWING SOVIET PRESENCE AT CAM RANH BAY AND, AS A CONSEQUENCE, PRESERVE THE STABILITY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA BY SECURING THE VITAL SOUTH CHINA SEA LANES AGAINST THE EVER INCREASING SOVIET THREAT. THE SOVIET MILITARY BASE AT CAM RANH BAY IS NOW THE LARGEST SOVIET FORWARD DEPLOYMENT BASE AND STAGING FACILITY OUTSIDE THE

SOVIET UNION. THE SOVIETS HAVE INVESTED HEAVILY IN NEW AND IMPROVED AIRFIELD AND PORT FACILITIES, INDICATING THAT THEY INTEND A LONG PRESENCE. APPROXIMATELY 30 NAVAL UNITS OPERATE DAILY IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, INCLUDING SURFACE COMBATANTS, CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR POWERED SUBMARINES, AND NAVAL AUXILIARIES. SOVIET LONG-RANGE TU-95 BEAR RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT MAINTAIN A CONSTANT PRESENCE AT CAM RANH BAY AND ARE PERIODICALLY DETECTED OPERATING OVER SEA LANES IN THE SOUTH CHINA AND PHILIPPINE SEAS. TU-16 BADGER BOMBERS AND MIG-23 FIGHTERS ALSO OPERATE FROM CAM RANH BAY. OPERATING FROM THEIR BASES IN VIETNAM, SOVIET AIR AND NAVAL FORCES COULD STRIKE U.S. MILITARY UNITS AND FACILITIES IN THE PACIFIC AS WELL AS INTERDICT SEA LINES OF COMMUNICATION IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND BETWEEN THE PACIFIC AND INDIAN OCEANS.

FINALLY, THE FACILITIES GUARANTEE THE EXTERNAL SECURITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AND REPRESENT OUR MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE U.S.-PHILIPPINE MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY. THE BEGINNINGS OF OUR DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PHILIPPINES CAN BE TRACED TO THE INITIAL BASING AGREEMENT THAT WAS SIGNED IN MARCH, 1947. THE TERM OF THIS ARRANGEMENT EXTENDED FOR 99 YEARS AND PROVIDED FOR FREE AND UNHAMPERED ACCESS TO ALL OF THE FACILITIES, INCLUDING CLARK AND SUBIC, FREE OF RENT. SINCE 1947, THE BASIC AGREEMENT HAS BEEN AMENDED 42 TIMES. IN 1966, THE TERM OF THE ARRANGEMENT WAS REDUCED FROM 99 TO 25 YEARS. AT THE EXPIRATION OF THIS 25-YEAR PERIOD IN 1991, THE TERM WOULD BECOME INDEFINITE, WITH EITHER SIDE HAVING THE OPTION TO TERMINATE UPON ONE YEAR'S NOTICE. UNDER THE 1979 AMENDMENTS, THE BASES BECAME PHILIPPINE TERRITORY

THAT ENCOMPASSED REDUCED SIZE U.S. DEFENSE FACILITIES. PERIMETER SECURITY OF THE BASES WAS ASSIGNED TO PHILIPPINE BASE COMMANDERS; THE U.S. RETAINED UNHAMPERED ACCESS; A SECURITY ASSISTANCE PACKAGE WAS NEGOTIATED; AND THE U.S. CONSENTED TO REVIEWS OF THE AGREEMENT EVERY FIVE YEARS. THE MOST RECENT REVIEW IN 1983 PROVIDED FOR OUR CONTINUED ACCESS AND INCREASED SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR THE PHILIPPINES. THE NEXT NEGOTIATION IS SCHEDULED FOR 1988.

PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE FACILITIES

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BASES TO THE SECURITY OF THE ISLANDS IS WELL UNDERSTOOD BY FILIPINOS. ALL POSTWAR PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING THE PRESENT ONE, HAVE SUPPORTED THE BASES. MOREOVER, EVERY REPUTABLE PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY HAS EVIDENCED AN ACCEPTANCE OF THE BASES BY THE MAJORITY OF THE PHILIPPINE PEOPLE. THIS HIGH LEVEL OF ACCEPTANCE REPRESENTS A FUNDAMENTAL RECOGNITION BY FILIPINOS THAT U.S. ACCESS TO THE FACILITIES BENEFITS BOTH NATIONS. ECONOMIC FACTORS MAY ALSO INFLUENCE THIS HIGH APPROVAL RATING -- FOR, IN FACT, THE BASES ARE THE SECOND LARGEST EMPLOYER IN THE PHILIPPINES AND CONTRIBUTE AN ESTIMATED \$300M TO THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY EACH YEAR.

AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THIS BROAD SUPPORT, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT BOTH THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT -- IRRESPECTIVE OF THE OUTCOME OF NEXT FEBRUARY'S ELECTION -- AND THE PHILIPPINE PEOPLE WILL WELCOME THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THE FACILITIES THROUGH 1991 AND BEYOND. IN VIEW OF THIS WIDESPREAD SUPPORT AND BECAUSE THERE ARE NO ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVES, I WOULD LIKE TO STATE CLEARLY AND

FOR THE RECORD THAT CURRENTLY WE ARE NOT PLANNING TO RELOCATE OUR FACILITIES FROM THE PHILIPPINES. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE SUBMITTED MILITARY CONSTRUCTION BUDGETS THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH SUCH A TENURE. OUR PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ARE A MIX OF OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS, ENHANCED LIVING FACILITIES FOR OUR SERVICE PERSONNEL, AND PRUDENT MEASURES TO INCREASE THE SECURITY OF THE FACILITIES. THE COST OF PROJECTS TO BE REQUESTED OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS, AS PROJECTED IN AIR FORCE AND NAVY PLANNING DOCUMENTS, WILL BE ONLY A PORTION OF THE ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED \$1.3B THAT HAS BEEN REFERENCED IN RECENT PRESS STORIES. THE COST TO STAY IN THE PHILIPPINES WILL BE MODEST WHEN COMPARED TO THE BILLIONS OF DOLLARS THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR A RELOCATION, NOT TO MENTION THE ACCOMPANYING REDUCTIONS IN OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES AND INCREASED HARDSHIPS TO OUR SERVICEMEN AND SERVICEWOMEN.

WE HAVE, OF COURSE, EXAMINED ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS, AND THAT EVALUATION IS ONGOING. THESE EFFORTS ARE NOT SUDDEN. BASING RIGHTS HAVE BEEN A CONSIDERATION IN OUR PACIFIC ISLAND TRUSTEESHIP NEGOTIATIONS AND RESULTING COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION FOR MORE THAN 15 YEARS. IN 1983, THE CONGRESS APPROVED A LEASING ARRANGEMENT FOR 18,000 ACRES IN THE NORTHERN MARIANAS, PRIMARILY ON THE ISLAND OF TINIAN. THESE AREAS, AS WELL AS OUR CURRENT BASES IN JAPAN, KOREA, AND GUAM DO OFFER ALTERNATIVES TO OUR FACILITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES. BUT IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT NONE OF THESE OPTIONS, SINGULARLY OR IN COMBINATION, PROVIDE THE ADVANTAGES WE NOW ENJOY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

SECURITY OF THE FACILITIES

OUR PLANS TO REMAIN IN THE PHILIPPINES ARE NOT OBLIVIOUS TO THE INCREASING THREAT OF THE INSURGENCY. WE ARE TAKING PRUDENT ACTIONS TO INCREASE SECURITY ON A VARIETY OF LEVELS. OUR COMMANDERS AT CLARK AND SUBIC ARE UPGRADING PHYSICAL SECURITY BY EMPHASIZING TRAINING IN FACILITY SECURITY AND BY CLOSELY COORDINATING WITH PHILIPPINE COMMANDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR PERIMETER SECURITY AT THE BASES. OUR MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM INCORPORATES PROJECTS THAT WILL INCREASE THE PHYSICAL PROTECTION OF OUR PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS. THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY OF OUR FY 86 SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS EQUIPMENT THAT WILL HELP THE PHILIPPINE COMMANDERS PERFORM THEIR SECURITY MISSIONS MORE EFFECTIVELY. FINALLY, ON A MORE GENERAL LEVEL, THE AIM OF OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS TO DEVELOP A PROFESSIONAL, COMBAT-EFFECTIVE AFP WHICH, IN TURN, WILL HELP DEVELOP AN ENVIRONMENT OF ENHANCED SECURITY THAT WILL ENABLE OUR FACILITIES TO OPERATE WITH REDUCED THREATS FROM TERRORISM AND SABOTAGE.

THREAT OF A COMMUNIST VICTORY

THE PROSPECTS FOR A CONTINUED US PRESENCE IN THE PHILIPPINES WOULD, OF COURSE, CHANGE DRASTICALLY IF THE COMMUNISTS WERE TO GAIN POWER. ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT PREDICT SUCH A TURN, A COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT IN MANILA, OR EVEN A LEFTIST COALITION GOVERNMENT DOMINATED BY THE COMMUNISTS, WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY SEEK TO END US ACCESS TO THE FACILITIES AND WELCOME THE RESULTANT DAMAGE TO OUR INTERESTS IN ASIA.

TO FORESTALL THIS OUTCOME, WE HAVE REORIENTED OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT PHILIPPINE EFFORTS TO COUNTERACT THE GROWING INTERNAL THREAT. THE TWIN OBJECTIVES OF OUR ASSISTANCE ARE, FIRST, TO HELP THE AFP RESTORE ITS PROFESSIONALISM AND ITS POSITION AS PROTECTOR AND DEFENDER OF THE PHILIPPINE NATION AND, SECOND, TO PROVIDE THE AFP THE WHEREWITHAL TO FIGHT THE COMMUNIST NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY (NPA).

FOSTERING MILITARY REFORMS

WE RECOGNIZE THAT MILITARY HARDWARE ALONE WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT TO DEFEAT THE INSURGENTS. THERE ARE POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC REFORMS NEEDED. EQUALLY NECESSARY IS THAT THE AFP MUST BE REFORMED. DISCIPLINE MUST IMPROVE; TRAINING MUST BE REEMPHASIZED; PROCUREMENT PRACTICES MUST BE STREAMLINED; AND, ABOVE ALL, STRONG, PROFESSIONAL MILITARY LEADERSHIP MUST EMERGE. OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE SEEKS TO RESPOND TO ALL OF THESE REQUIREMENTS.

WITH REGARD TO AFP LEADERSHIP, OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM NOT ONLY PROVIDES MATERIEL, BUT ALSO REASSURES THOSE DEDICATED, PATRIOTIC OFFICERS WHO WANT TO SEE THE ARMED FORCES RESTORED TO THEIR FORMER EFFECTIVENESS THAT WE WILL SUPPORT A PROFESSIONAL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT. THIS SOLID CADRE OF PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS IS CAPABLE OF CORRECTING THE INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF THE MILITARY AND AGGRESSIVELY PURSUING A SUCCESSFUL COUNTERINSURGENCY STRATEGY.

IN THIS REGARD, WE APPLAUD THE INTENTION OF PRESIDENT MARCOS TO REORGANIZE THE AFP, WHICH WE TRUST WILL FACILITATE THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW, VIGOROUS PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP. IT IS OUR JUDGMENT,

HOWEVER, THAT THE RETURN EARLY THIS WEEK OF GEN VER AS CHIEF OF STAFF WILL UNAVOIDABLY HANDICAP REORGANIZATION AND REFORM. ALTHOUGH GEN VER HAS BEEN ACQUITTED OF ANY INVOLVEMENT IN THE AQUINO ASSASSINATION, HE DOES BEAR COMMAND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THAT FAILURE OF SECURITY. ALTHOUGH THE DECLINE OF THE AFP OCCURRED OVER 10 YEARS, A PROCESS THAT WAS WELL UNDERWAY BEFORE GEN VER BECAME CHIEF OF STAFF, THERE IS A STRONG PERCEPTION, FAIRLY OR UNFAIRLY, THAT GEN VER FAILED TO ARREST THE DETERIORATION AND, IN FACT, CONTRIBUTED TO THE POLITICIZATION OF THE AFP AND THE DECLINE OF PROFESSIONALISM. IT IS NOT FOR THE UNITED STATES TO PRESCRIBE THE STEPS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT REFORMS WITHIN THE AFP. NEVERTHELESS, IT SHOULD BE CLEAR TO ANYONE THAT OVERSTAYING GENERALS WHO FAIL TO MEET THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONALISM AND PATRIOTIC DEDICATION TO DUTY SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED ON ACTIVE DUTY.

CONCLUSION

IN CONCLUSION, MR. CHAIRMAN, I CANNOT EMPHASIZE TOO STRONGLY THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION OF OUR DEFENSE FACILITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES TO OUR VITAL NATIONAL INTERESTS IN ASIA. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR CONTINUED UNHAMPERED ACCESS TO THESE FACILITIES ARE EXCELLENT, EVEN BEYOND 1991. ACCESS TO OUR FACILITIES IS BEST PRESERVED, WE BELIEVE, BY SUPPORTING LARGER U.S. INTERESTS IN PHILIPPINE DEMOCRACY, AND DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS. TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY ENVIRONMENT OF PEACE AND ORDER, EFFECTIVE MILITARY FORCES ARE ALSO NEEDED. FOR THIS REASON, OUR DEFENSE POLICY HAS BEEN SHAPED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO ENCOURAGE

REFORM WITHIN THE PHILIPPINE DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT AND TO PROVIDE THE AFP WITH APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO DEFEAT AN ARMED COMMUNIST INSURGENCY THAT, IF VICTORIOUS, WOULD DESTROY DEMOCRACY WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES.

85 DEC 26 11:11

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

DECEMBER 24, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE *4*

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

REMARKS: ALSO REFERRED TO DOS

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 352897

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED NOVEMBER 20, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE FRANCIS "BROWNIE" BYERS
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
WISCONSIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
POST OFFICE BOX 8952
MADISON WI 53708

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING THE PRESENT SITUATION AND
THE FUTURE IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

W12948

8537785

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

DECEMBER 24, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

REMARKS: ALSO REFERRED TO DOD

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

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UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

*need S/S-I
1030 12/23/85
SKS*

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 20, 1985

Dear Representative Byers:

On behalf of the President, I want to thank you for your recent correspondence.

I have forwarded a copy of your comments to the appropriate officials at the Department of State and the Department of Defense for their review and direct reply.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the attention of the Administration. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lisa A. Friday

Lisa A. Friday
Deputy to the Special Assistant to
the President for
Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Francis Byers
Member of the House of Representatives
of the State of Wisconsin
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

#352897

Wisconsin
State
Assembly

8537785

*Lisa
Kudry*

November 20, 1985



President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

State Representative
FRANCIS R. BYERS
40th Assembly District

Dear Mr. President -

A number of us in the Wisconsin Legislature are deeply concerned about the present situation and the future in the Philippine Islands. We are concerned because of the Philippine's strategic importance in the Pacific to the "free world"; the human values which we fear are being deferred, stultified, and trampled; and because of the sentiment many of us feel from the days when conditions there warranted our intervention and ultimate salvation of that nation from domination by the then Axis countries.

It is our opinion that the Philippines continue to be an important stepping-stone to the Asian continent. It is further our opinion that usefulness in this regard is only possible if some kind of change in attitude and emphasis is forthcoming from our State Department in Washington.

We would like to suggest a change in administration in the Philippine Islands in the effort to end military rule over that country.

- Member:
- Committee on State Affairs
 - Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs
 - Committee on Government Operations
 - Educational Communications Board

Respectfully,

Francis Byers

FRANCIS "Brownie" BYERS
State Representative
40th Assembly District

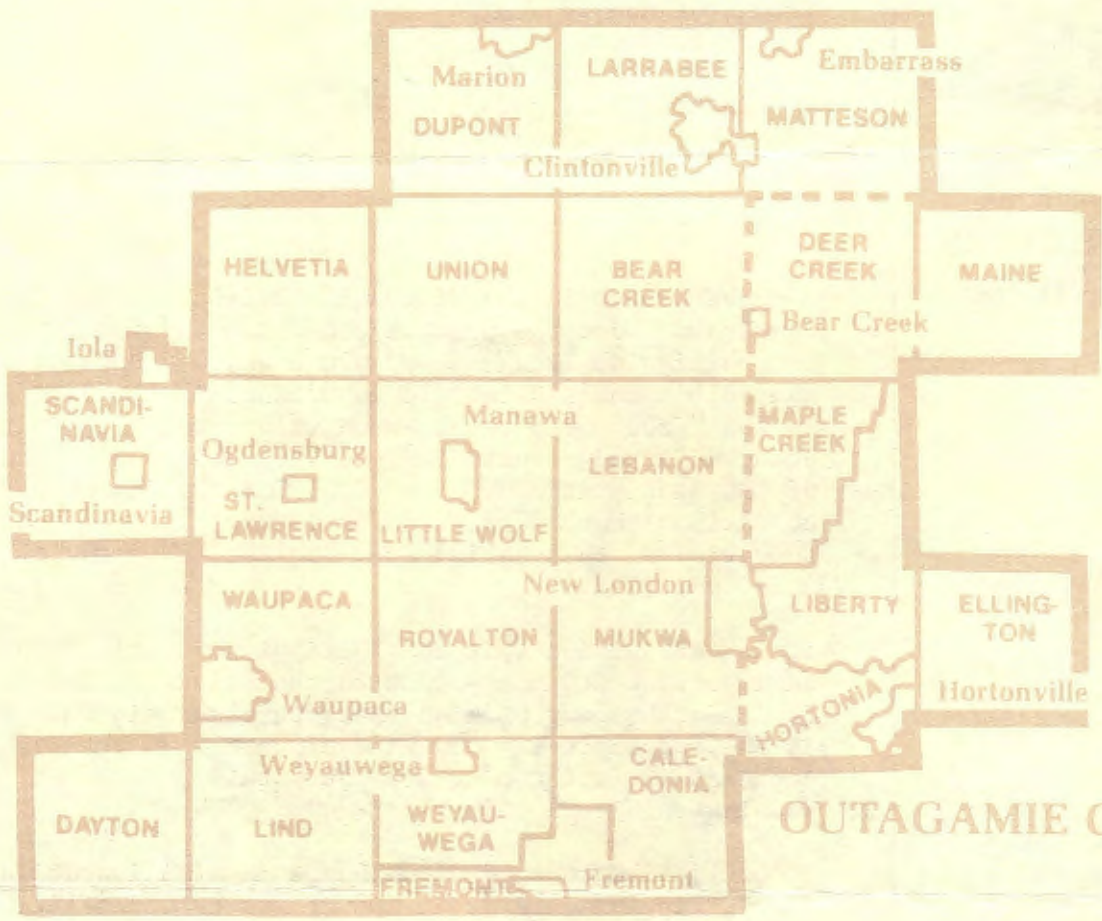
FRB:lmi

Office:
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708
608-266-3794

Home:
P.O. Box 495
Marion, WI 54950
715-754-2233

8255528

WAUPACA CO.



OUTAGAMIE CO.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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WVS

February 26, 1986

FG012-11

FG011

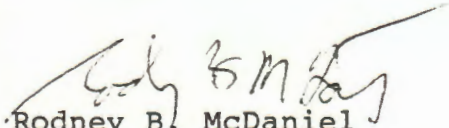
FG006-12

Bye

MEMORANDUM FOR NICHOLAS PLATT
Executive Secretary
Department of State

SUBJECT: Request for Secret Service Protection for Former
President of the Philippines Ferdinand Marcos

Secret Service protection for Former President Marcos is approved
for 30 days. At the end of that time President Marcos will have
to make other arrangements.


Rodney B. McDaniel
Executive Secretary

NSC#8601540

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT STAFFING DOCUMENT

TIME STAMP

URGENT

SYSTEM LOG NUMBER:

1525

ACTION OFFICER: Childress

DUE: 2/26

- Prepare Memo For President
- Prepare Memo For Poindexter / Fortier
- Prepare Memo _____ to _____
- Prepare Memo McDaniel to Chew
- Prepare Memo McDaniel to Elliott

CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS*

PHONE* to action officer at ext. _____

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| FYI | FYI | FYI |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Burghardt | <input type="checkbox"/> Levine | <input type="checkbox"/> Sachs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cannistraro | <input type="checkbox"/> Linhard | <input type="checkbox"/> Sestanovich |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Childress | <input type="checkbox"/> Mahley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sigur |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cobb | <input type="checkbox"/> Major | <input type="checkbox"/> Small |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covey | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandel | <input type="checkbox"/> Sommer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danzansky | <input type="checkbox"/> Matlock | <input type="checkbox"/> Soos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> deGraffenreid | <input type="checkbox"/> May | <input type="checkbox"/> Stark |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Djerejian | <input type="checkbox"/> Menges | <input type="checkbox"/> Steiner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dobriansky | <input type="checkbox"/> Miller | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahir-Kheli |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donley | <input type="checkbox"/> North | <input type="checkbox"/> Teicher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Douglass | <input type="checkbox"/> Platt | <input type="checkbox"/> Thompson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grimes | <input type="checkbox"/> Pugliaresi | <input type="checkbox"/> Tillman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hughes | <input type="checkbox"/> Raymond | <input type="checkbox"/> Wigg |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Laux | <input type="checkbox"/> Ringdahl | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lenczowski | <input type="checkbox"/> Sable | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Thompson</i> |

- INFORMATION McDaniel Pearson Secretariat
- Rodman Lehman _____
- Poindexter (advance) Fortier (advance)

COMMENTS

Return to Secretariat

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT
(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

Withdrawer

DLB 8/4/2010

File Folder

CO125 (PHILIPPINES) (352000-359999)

FOIA

S10-306
SYSTEMATIC

Box Number

151

925

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
95461	MEMO NICHOLAS PLATT TO JOHN POINDEXTER, RE: REQUEST FOR PRESIDENT MARCOS	1	2/25/1986	B1 B7(E)

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing
Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

NSC/S PROFILE

UNCLASSIFIED

ID 8601540

RECEIVED 26 FEB 86 20

TO PLATT, N

FROM MCDANIEL

DOCDATE 26 FEB 86

KEYWORDS: PHILIPPINES

MARCOS, FERDINAND

SUBJECT: SECRET SERVICE PROTECTION FOR MARCOS IN US

ACTION: MCDANIEL SGD MEMO

DUE:

STATUS C

FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

CHILDRESS

SIGUR

COMMENTS

REF#

LOG

NSCIFID

(PS PS)

ACTION OFFICER (S)

ASSIGNED

ACTION REQUIRED

DUE

COPIES TO

C 2/26 McDaniel regd memo

MM, RC, PT, SU

DISPATCH

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W/ATTCH

FILE

(C)

sg

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VI 3500
CO/125

November 7, 1985

Dear Ms. O'Mahony:

I am pleased to reply on behalf of the President to your letter of October 4, 1985, regarding the disappearance of Father Rudy Romano in the Philippines.

Father Rudy Romano, a Philippine citizen and a Roman Catholic Redemptorist Priest, disappeared in the central Philippine city of Cebu on July 11. The circumstances of his disappearance are not fully known at this point and there is no conclusive evidence about those responsible.

The Philippine Supreme Court is hearing testimony on the case. At a July 30 hearing on a writ of habeas corpus filed on behalf of Father Romano, the Solicitor General denied that the missing priest had been arrested or detained by the military and revealed there was no outstanding detention order or arrest warrant against Father Romano. Hearings of testimony of witnesses who may have seen the abduction began on August 2. A key witness identified a soldier as one of the three alleged abductors. The soldier, Corporal Dagatan of the 7th Military Intelligence Group, has been arrested on orders from acting Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos.

The Supreme Court ordered an extensive examination of the facts surrounding Father Romano's disappearance. Investigations are now being conducted by the Philippine Constabulary/Integrated National Police, the National Bureau of Investigation and by the Philippine military. Supreme Court hearings on the government's findings resumed on September 23 and are continuing.

The Department of State has brought its serious concerns and those expressed by the Congress and private citizens about Father Romano's disappearance to the attention of Philippine Government officials in Manila. Also, the American Consul in Cebu has discussed Father Romano's case with Cebu Mayor Duterte and with local military officials. The Department will continue its efforts to ensure as full an accounting as possible of all the circumstances surrounding Father Romano's disappearance.

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

Ms. Una O'Mahony
c/o 62 Stiles Road
Clontarf
Dublin
Ireland
AVH/DOS/AVH/ddb

(11AVH)

NSC 850 8527

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 5, 1985

O.M.
[Signature]

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM: WILLIAM F. MARTIN *W.F.M.*
SUBJECT: Response to Letter From Ms. O'Mahony

We have reviewed and concur in the draft State letter with edits to Una O'Mahony responding to her letter regarding the disappearance of Father Rudy Romano in the Philippines.

Attachments

Tab A Draft State Letter with edits
Tab B Incoming Correspondence

*Not
Controlled*

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 5, 1985

359770

~~CO165~~

[CO125]

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM: WILLIAM F. MARTIN *WRF*
SUBJECT: Response to Letter From Ms. O'Mahony

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Attachments

Tab A Draft State Letter with edits
Tab B Incoming Correspondence

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

November 4, 1985

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR BILL MARTIN

FROM: DICK CHILDRESS 

SUBJECT: Response to Letter from Ms. O'Mahony

Recommend you sign the memorandum to Sally Kelley at Tab I.

Approve 

Disapprove _____

Attachments

Tab I Martin/Kelley Memorandum
Tab A State Proposed Letter with edits
Tab B Incoming Correspondence
Tab II State Transmittal dated 10/31/85

Department of State

Draft Response

Dear Ms. O'Mahony:

I am pleased to reply on behalf of the President to your letter of October 4, 1985, regarding the disappearance of Father Rudy Romano in the Philippines.

Father Rudy Romano, a Philippine citizen and a Roman Catholic Redemptorist Priest, disappeared in the central Philippine city of Cebu on July 11. The circumstances of his disappearance are not fully known at this point and there is no conclusive evidence about those responsible. ~~However, public attention in the Philippines has focussed on members of the military, acting independently, as the primary suspects. Father Romano's supporters have met with local military leaders, who continue to deny complicity in the case. The Father Superior of the Redemptorists in the Philippines has met with the Minister of Defense who stated that he was not aware of any military or intelligence operation involving Father Romano. The Father Superior, accompanied by the Papal Nuncio, met with President Marcos on September 4. President Marcos denied that the government was involved in Father Romano's~~

Ms. Una O'Mahony
c/o 62 Stiles Road
Clontarf
Dublin, Ireland

~~disappearance and promised a thorough investigation would be conducted. There is general concern, nevertheless, that the longer Father Romano's whereabouts remain unknown, the less chance there is that he will be returned safely.~~

~~There have been a number of public demonstrations on Father Romano's behalf in Cebu City. Although some demonstrations have spilled over into unauthorized locations and extended beyond the time specified in official demonstration permits, the local Philippine authorities have generally shown restraint and avoided violent confrontations with the demonstrators.]~~

The Philippine Supreme Court is hearing testimony on the case. At a July 30 hearing on a writ of habeas corpus filed on behalf of Father Romano, the Solicitor General denied that the missing priest had been arrested or detained by the military and revealed there was no outstanding detention order or arrest warrant against Father Romano. Hearings of testimony of witnesses who may have seen the abduction began on August 2. A key witness identified a soldier as one of the three alleged abductors. The soldier, Corporal Dagatan of the 7th Military Intelligence Group, has been arrested on orders from Acting Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos.

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Sincerely,

Sawt

can

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8531552

Date OCT 31 1985

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane
National Security Council
The White House

Reference: Letter

To: President Reagan From: Una O'Mahony
Date: 10/04/85 Subject: Father Romano in Philippines

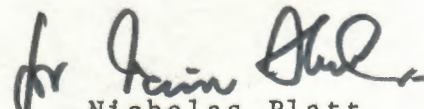
WH Referral Dated: 23 OCT 85 NSC ID# 8508527
(if any)

 The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State

Action Taken:

- XXX A draft reply is attached.
 A draft reply will be forwarded.
 A translation is attached.
 An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
 We believe no response is necessary for the reason
cited below.
 The Department of State has no objection to the
proposed travel.
 Other.

Remarks:


Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

8531552

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 8508527

REFERRAL

DATE: 23 OCT 85

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

STATE SECRETARIAT

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: O'MAHONY, UNA

DATE: 04 OCT 85

KEYWORDS: TERRORISM

PHILIPPINES

ROMANO, RUDY

IRELAND

MP

SUBJ: LTR TO PRES RE ABDUCTION OF FATHER ROMANO

REQUIRED ACTION: DRAFT REPLY FOR WH SIG

DUE DATE: 30 OCT 85

COMMENTS:

Diane Ross

FOR WILLIAM F. MARTIN
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

*Received in 5/5-I
10/24 at 9:56 AM (QA)*

8527

37
NSC

IRISH FRIENDS OF FATHER RUDY ROMANO

c/o 62 Stiles Road
Clontarf
Dublin 3

4th October 1985

President Ronald Reagan
White House
Washington D.C.
U.S.A.

Mr. President

I write to you on behalf of the thousands of Irish Friends of Father Rudy Romano.

We know you are aware of the case of Father Romano, a member of the Philippine Irish Redemptorist Mission, who was abducted by the military on the 11th July 1985 in Cebu City, Central Philippines. To date we have no information as to his whereabouts.

The Irish people are aware of your intervention with the Philippine authorities in the case of Father Niall O'Brien which resulted in his speedy release. Mr. President, we ask for your help again.

We are addressing this letter to you because we know that there are extremely close ties between the U.S. and Philippines Government and because we are certain that intervention on your part is the truly effective means left to save Father Romano's life. We appeal to you to use your undoubted influence to ensure the release of a man whose only crime is that he has upheld the basic rights of the people.

Apart from our immediate concern for Father Romano's safety we are greatly perturbed by the fact that his disappearance is not an isolated case but appears to be an element in a pattern of terror directed, in particular, against people active in the human rights area. A number of religious and professional people, active in community health care and development, have already been murdered. For this reason we are extremely worried about Father Romano's fate.

Mr. President, intervene now. Tomorrow may be too late for Father Romano.

Yours sincerely

Una O'Mahony
For "The Irish Friends of Father Rudy Romano"

8527

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

State reply —
Info copy - NSC.



(W)

RECEIVED 23 OCT 85 18

TO PRESIDENT

FROM O'MAHONY, UNA

DOCDATE 04 OCT 85

KEYWORDS: TERRORISM
IRELAND

PHILIPPINES
MP

ROMANO, RUDY

SUBJECT: LTR TO PRES RE ABDUCTION OF FATHER ROMANO

ACTION: DRAFT REPLY FOR WH SIG DUE: 30 OCT 85 STATUS D FILES WH

FOR ACTION
STATE

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO
NORTH
CANNISTRARO
CHILDRESS
SIGUR
SOMMER

COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID (DR)

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
-	10/31	Rev'd SIS draft		OW, PS
RC	S	1/1 memo Martin to	1/6	
		Jalley Kelley		
C	1/5	Martin by memo		RC

DISPATCH *[Signature]*

W/ATTCH FILE (C)

RECEIVED AT THE
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

TO THE

RECEIVED AT THE DEPT. OF JUSTICE

SUBJECT: THE FURTHER ABANDONMENT OF PATRICK HENRY

ACTION: TO BE TAKEN BY THE COURT

FOR CONSIDERATION

DATE: 11-1-11

BY: [Signature]

FOR: [Signature]

CONFIDENTIAL

RECEIVED

ACTION: TO BE TAKEN BY THE COURT

[Handwritten signature and notes]

CONFIDENTIAL

A

B

14

