

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: WHORM Subject Files
**Folder Title: CO 125 (Philippines) 435000-
445999**
Box 153

To see more digitized collections
visit: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:
<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

August 26, 1986

436363

4400

CD125

AB

HUD13-20

Dear Mr. Alfarero:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your letter in which you request an appointment here at the White House for statehood leaders from the Philippines in either late August or early September. We regret that we will be unable to arrange this opportunity for you since the President will be in California until a week after Labor Day.

With the President's kind regards,

Sincerely,

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.
Director, Presidential
Appointments and Scheduling

Mr. C. C. Alfarero
National Chairman
Philippine Statehood, U.S.A. Movement
8876 Zeiler Avenue, Arleta
Los Angeles, CA 91331

FJR/PSH:vml 8FJR



CENTURY FREEWAY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Suite K
3209 N. Alameda
Compton, California 90222
(213) 637-1387

C. C. "Mel" Alfarero
Consultant



CENTURY FREEWAY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Suite K
3209 N. Alameda
Compton, California 90222
(213) 637-1387

C. C. "Mel" Alfarero
Consultant



PHILIPPINE STATEHOOD, U.S.A. MOVEMENT

(temp.) NATIONAL HEADQUARTER

8876 Zeiler Ave., Arleta, Los Angeles

California U.S.A. 91331

No. (818) 892-0939

C.C. (Mel) ALFARERO
National Chairman
U.S.A.

July 31, 1986

Ronald Reagan
The President
United States
of America
Washington, DC.

RECEIVED

AUG 7 1986

SCHEDULING
OFFICE

Dear President Reagan,

I hope you have not forgotten the Philippines. We leaders of the Statehood Movement, like to meet with you and present our program to help the Philippines. Our statehood leaders from the Philippines will be attending the International Statehood Convention in Phoenix, Arizona on August 29-31, 1986. We will be happy if you can receive us at the White House either a week after or a week before the end of August 1986 at your convenience.

The anti U.S. Base sentiment and your image with the Filipinos must improve, and we must show our concern for the welfare of the millions of impoverish people. We shall reclaim the sliding image of America in the Philippines. With your support our task will be lighter.

The following leaders will form the Statehood panel to see the President at the White House. PSUSAM means, Phil. Statehood USA Mov'mt.

1. Governor Roy Padila, President, PSUSAM, Philippines
Mr. Johnny Moreno, Political Director, PSUSAM, Philippines (alternate)
2. C.C. "Mel" Alfarero, Chairman, PSUSAM, United States, formerly Finance Chairman, Fil-Am. Reagan-Bush '84
3. M.H. Jacaban, Finance Chairman, PSUSAM, United States, formerly Co-Chairman, Fil-Am. Reagan-Bush '84
4. Felix Manalili, Acting Chairman, PSUSAM, Philippines
5. Eric San Juan, Membership Director, PSUSAM, Philippines
6. Lemonado Lim, Economic Director, PSUSAM, Philippines

We will be looking forward with your reply soon.

Respectfully,

C.C. "Mel" Alfarero
National Chairman
PSUSAM, U.S.A.


REGRET

Date

8-18-86

JAI

Presidents in California until week after Labor Day

PHILIPPINE STATEHOOD, U.S.A. MOVEMENT



(temp.) NATIONAL HEADQUARTER

8876 Zeiler Ave., Arleta, Los Angeles

California U.S.A. 91331

No. (818) 852-0939

C.C. (Mel) ALFARERO
National Chairman
U.S.A.

August 1, 1986

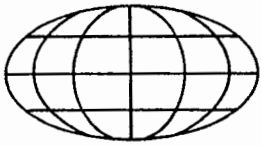
Fellow Statehood Supporters:

Permit me to share with you briefly my observations, with the latest development in the Philippines. My three weeks recent visit to the Philippines where spent partly on these places; Visayas, Luzon and Metro Manila. During those weeks I interviewed all sorts of people, analyze the news, attend radio and press conferences, guests to civic and social affairs, meetings with the leaders of the Statehood Movement, meeting with high official of the U.S. embassy in Manila. Also I had the pleasure of meeting Jaime Cardinal Sin at his residence at the Bishop's palace in Mandaluyong, the Cardinal has signify to be our guest speaker next year's Statehood Convention.

During our convention in Phoenix on Sunday August 31, I will be discussing in details Philippine Statehood. Some of the events that will shape our statehood agenda are the following:

1. The constitutional commission adopted in July 15 a people power provision, which allow a people petition representing 10% of the total voters in the Philippines to propose a legislation.
2. The Aquino government wrote Statehood stating that they will consider plebiscite or referendum on Statehood during election at the proper time (I have copy of the letter)
3. I received massive support from the Association of Barangay Council of the City of Manila the largest in the country. The Council says that they can provide one(1) million people in two weeks notice to rally in support of Statehood.(I have copy of the letter)
4. The intellectuals and the professionals are moving into the leadership of the Statehood Movement in the Philippines.
5. There is growing anti-U.S. Bases sentiment and nationalist group in Manila. The U.S. is concerned of this development.
6. I meet with the U.S. embassy official, my feeling is that Statehood could be funded if properly programmed acceptable to Washington.
7. The Filipinos are saying, it will take more than 10 years to reverse the economic trend, if the present conditions persists, the people can not last even for a few years.
8. There is absence of economic activity and investment from abroad. What is needed quickly is solution to the people's unemployment and deep poverty in the Philippines.

CCA



INTERNATIONAL STATEHOOD

ADVISORY BOARD:

JOEL BURNS
Chairman

MEL ALFARERO
Chairman of Invitation Committee

DOUGLAS PLEIN
Secretary/Treasurer

CRAIG SCHOONMAKER
Expansionist Party of the U.S.

R. H. PECK
California Committee

RICHARD FIELD
Arizona Committee

JAMES WIRTH
Hospitality Committee

August 1, 1986

Dear Statehooders:

You are cordially invited to attend and join the Statehood Movement. It is open to all statehood believers and supporters. The convention will be held in Phoenix, Arizona. And the new date is finally set on AUGUST 29,30,31, 1986.(Fri.Sat.Sun.)

There will be discussion on issues, objectives, funding, organization and project proposals where you can take active part and at the same time benefit from the program.

Statehood has overwhelming appeal to the Filipinos now and the U.S. is expected to play an active rule. One way of helping the Filipinos is to support implement our economic program and be part of Statehood Team in the U.S. and in the Philippines.

Enclosed you will find brochure and convention program. At the back page of the program is our registration information.

Please call toll free number (800) 842-4242 for your Hotel reservations or pre-convention registrations. Take advantage of discount air fare by booking your reservations in advance from your local airlines. Hoping to see you in Phoenix soon.

Sincerely,

C.C. "Mel" Alfarero
Chairman, Invitations
Committee

Enclosures:

Note: Economical if three or four persons share a room,
Registration fee includes food and beverages for 3 days,
as indicated in the agenda.

(Free amenities and extras compliments of the management)

Resume of: CAMILO C. ALFARERO
8876 Zeiler Avenue Arleta
Los Angeles, California 91331
(213) 637-1387 off.
(818) 892-0939 res.

Present Experiences:

- Business * Consultant, Century Freeway Technical Assistance Project.
Compton, California
* California License. Contractor, Engineering & Building #326178
- Civic * Member, Filipino American Press Club of Southern California
* " World Affairs Council of Los Angeles
- Politics * National Chair, Philippine Statehood Movement USA
* Member, California Republican Transportation Committee
* " National Republican Committee
* " Fil-Amer. Republican Council of California (FAR-CC)

Past Experiences:

- Business * Construction Engineer, U.S. Engineering Co. Assigned at
Northrop Electronics Hawthorne California 1982-83
* Estimator, Ralph M. Parsons of Pasadena, California 1981-82
* Proj. Engineer, Falik Development & Design Construction 1980-81
* Const. Manager, MDR Financial & Development Company 1979-80
* Const. Specialist, Minority Business Development Agency 1978-79
* Facilities Engineer, Price Pfister Brass Mfg. Company 1973-77
* Manager, Carl's Jr. Restaurant #79 No. Hollywood 1972
* Contractor, Own Brokerage firm Manila, Philippines 1971-72
* Development Engineer, V.V. Soliven Realty, Philippines 1970-71
* Sr. Appraiser, Philippine Appraisal Company, Manila 1967-1970
* Field Engineer, Public Works Dept. Philippines from 1960-1967
- Civic * Charter Member, Fil-Amer. Jaycees of Los Angeles
* " " Damayan Lions Club " " "
- Politics * National Finance Chair, Fil-Amer. Reagan-Bush '84 Campaign
* Organizer, Philippine Statehood U.S.A. Movement, Philippines '71
* Operations Director, Gerry Roxas for Vice Pres. Philippines '65

Education :

- * Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, 1960 at the
Cebu Institute of Technology, Cebu Philippines. Curriculum
and instruction patterned after Purdue University.
- * UCLA, two subjects to complete Degree in Engineering Manage-
ment for Construction.

References:

- * Dr. Jaime Campbell, medical board examiner, Phoenix, Arizona
Tel.No. (602) 952-9187
* Mr. Max Alvarez, news editor, California Examiner
Los Angeles Tel. No. (213) 380-3980
* Mr. M.H. Jacaban, public relations, Sacramento, California
Tel. No. (916) 443-1203

434266

August 26, 1986

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

On behalf of Mrs. Reagan, I am pleased to inform you that she has accepted your thoughtful invitation to serve as the Honorary Chairman for the third annual Sportscaster's Hall of Fame dinner to be held on November 18, 1986.

Please contact me at (202) 456-7905 to discuss the details of Mrs. Reagan's chairmanship.

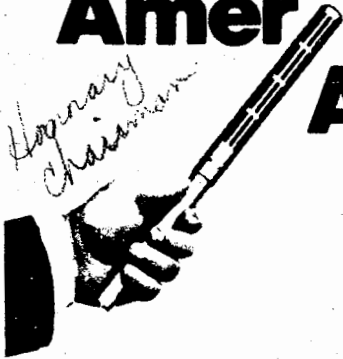
Sincerely,

Kenneth L. Barun
Director of Projects and Policy
Office of the First Lady

Mr. Louis O. Schwartz
Executive Director
American Sportscasters
Association, Inc.
150 Nassau Street
New York, New York 10038

AUG 22

American Sportscasters Association Inc.



August 14, 1986

Ms. Nancy Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

*can
not
accept
per Jack*

*Please
do
acceptance
with
We need to
get out
today!
Thanks!
MS*

Dear Ms. Reagan:

You are cordially invited to ~~serve~~ as the ~~Honorary~~ ~~Chairwoman~~ for the third annual Sportscaster's Hall of Fame dinner, hosted by the American Sportscasters Association.

The gala event will be held November 18, 1986 at the Marriott Marquis in New York City, and promises to be an evening of excitement and memories as we salute the legendary voices of sports broadcasting.

This year's event will be chaired by William E. Simon, former Secretary of the Treasury, and Brian Dyson, President of Coca-Cola USA. The proceeds from the dinner will once again go to benefit the Sportscaster's War-On-Drugs campaign and the Summer Jobs for Youth Program in conjunction with the National Alliance of Business.

Your own stand against drugs among our youth is well known and much appreciated. We would be honored and delighted to have you join us in our own fight against drug abuse.

I look forward to what my Board and I hope will be a positive response.

Sincerely,

Louis O. Schwartz
Louis O. Schwartz
Executive Director

LOS/rs
enc

Artial July 8-84
43697
3100

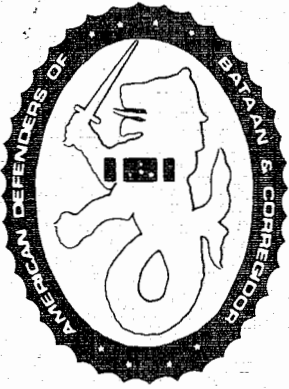
September 17, 1986 CD125

PR0050



To President ^{AQUINO} Aquino
On the occasion of your visit to Washington
with best wishes and warm regard
Nancy and Ronald Reagan

438602
C0125



AMERICAN DEFENDERS OF BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR WESTERN STATES CHAPTER

(Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah and Idaho)

INCLUDING ANY UNIT OF FORCE IN THE ASIATIC FLEET, PHILIPPINE
ARCHIPELAGO, WAKE ISLAND, MARIANAS ISLANDS AND DUTCH EAST INDIES.

1943 Desert Circle #3
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
22 October 1986



The Honorable Donald Regan
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, District of Columbia 20500

Dear Mr. Regan:

I appreciate your taking action on my letter of September 8th anent the alarming signs in the Philippines. Director Charles B. Salmon, Jr., of the State Department's Philippine Desk, at your behest has written to me to convey the official stand of our Government toward the regime in Manila: "The government of the Philippines, under the leadership of President Aquino, enjoys the unequivocal support of the U.S. government. We fully support her strategy for dealing with the communist insurgency We have no evidence that any members of the Cabinet are communists."

Some people like to think that the Establishment knows best. I hope to God, for the sake of America, that the Administration is correct in its perceptions and that subsequent events will prove me wrong.

Sir, I can not help but feel concerned when U.S. media correspondents dish out almost daily in the newspapers reports to the contrary of what the State Department believes in. I trust that America's envoys in Manila have not buried their heads in the sand along Manila Bay's shore, ostrich-like and oblivious to events as they really are.

Let us look at the record. Shortly after assumption of the presidency, Mrs. Aquino released Communist Party and New Peoples Army top leaders Jose Maria Sison and Bernabe Buscayno alias Commander Dante. Several weeks after they regained their freedom, these two insurgents make trips abroad to shop for arms for the NPA!

Over the objections of her Defense Minister and Army Chief of Staff, she relentlessly pursues "peaceful reconciliation" with the communist insurgents even as hundreds of soldiers continue to be slaughtered in the countryside.

Over the objections and the warnings of business and industry leaders, U.S. investors and executives in the Philippines included, Mrs. Aquino unwittingly has contributed to labor unrest by making it easier for unions to strike and by pursuing pro-labor and anti-management policies drafted by a Minister of Labor and Employment whose patently communistic views have been denounced far and wide throughout the Philippine archipelago. News reports are to the effect that there have been over 500 walkouts and strikes since March 1. I challenge the State Department to explain why this is so.

If Mrs. Aquino is on America's side, how come her handpicked Constitutional Commission enacted a draft Constitution with a provision clearly directed against U.S. bases: the one calling for freedom from nuclear weapons on Philippine territory "consistent with the national interest." It does not take to be a bright Director to digest the painful reality that if that provision is fully implemented, American naval vessels would be barred from entering America's biggest military base abroad, the sheltered deep-water Subic Bay Naval Base, thus jeopardizing -- if not neutralizing -- the U.S. strategic advantage in the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean.

But that is just the edge of the woods. Mrs. Aquino's new Constitution would treat the Military Bases Agreement as a treaty to be entered into between the United States and the Philippines, subject to ratification by the Philippine Senate and a plebiscite by the whole country. This will be the excuse for the nationalists -- and their leftist allies -- who are opposed to American bases to stir up anti-American feelings and endless acrimonious debates on the U.S. presence.

Sir, can the State Department tell us how it is possible for the Communist Party to have established a "parallel government" in the Philippines? One does not have to look far for evidence that there are communists in the Aquino Cabinet. The Cabinet Ministers who are advising her to make conciliation with the insurgents the theme of her administration are suspect. Because of her insistence for the peace talks, the insurgents have been given a breather: a time to strengthen their political base and stock up on their arsenal of weapons.

I can see why Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Army chief General Fidel Ramos are against the ceasefire and the negotiations with the rebels: President Reagan and yourself will agree with Minister Enrile's observation that "Negotiations entered into by Marxists are not negotiations for peace but negotiations for war." Given the track record of communists the world over, the Philippine communists are negotiating as part of a grand strategy to take over the Aquino government and the entire country. It does not take a fool to see that the Philippine insurgents are using the negotiating process to consolidate their armed strength and increase -- nay, maximize -- their use of political front organizations.

Our newspapers and TV stations are again predicting that the Aquino government will fall due to her policy of accommodating the rebels. Let's see the State Department prevent Minister Enrile, allied with other despised political groups, from ousting President Aquino.

Does "unequivocal support of the U.S. government" for the leadership of Mrs. Aquino include the sending of U.S. Marines to the Philippines? And at what cost in American lives will this entail?

The people at the State Department may be blind, but I like to think that President Reagan and his Chief of Staff at the White House are not blind fools.

Sincerely yours,
Edward A. Fisher
EDWARD A. FISHER
Past Commander, ADBC-WSC

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

CO125
8629738

- O - OUTGOING
 - H - INTERNAL
 - I - INCOMING
- Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 8619112

Name of Correspondent: Edward A. Fishere

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Concerns regarding the Aquino government in the Philippines

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CS/NOLA</u>	<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>861912</u>		<u>C 861912</u>
<u>NSD/CDA</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>860917</u>		<u>C 8610920</u>
<u>99DOS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>860924</u>		<u>A 861001</u>
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>

ACTION CODES:

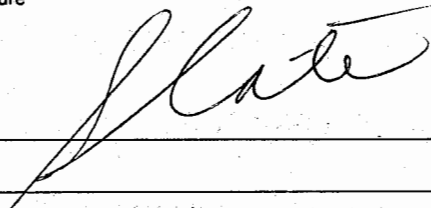
- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: 

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8629738

Date October 2, 1986

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

Reference:

To: Donald Regan From: Edward A. Fisher

Date: September 8, 1986 Subject: Concerns regarding
the Aquino Government in the Philippines

Referral Dated: September 24, 1986 ID# 438602
(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.

XXX 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

Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

October 1, 1986

Mr. Edward A. Fisher -
American Defenders of Bataan and
Corregidor - Western States Chapter
1942 Desert Circle #3
Walnut Creek, California 94598 ..

Dear Mr. Fisher:

I have been asked to reply to your September 8, letter to White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan. You wrote to express your concern over Philippine President Aquino's strategy for dealing with the Philippine communist insurgency and over allegations that certain members of the Philippine government are communists.

The government of the Philippines, under the leadership of President Aquino, enjoys the unequivocal support of the U.S. government. We fully support her strategy for dealing with the communist insurgency -- a strategy that combines economic and political reform and measures to strengthen the effectiveness of the military with political dialogue. We have no evidence that any members of the Cabinet are communists.

I am enclosing for your information, President Reagan's recent public statement on the Philippines released during the visit of President Aquino. I hope the statement will be useful in clarifying U.S. policy toward the Philippines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. B. Salmon, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Charles B. Salmon, Jr.
Director

Office of Philippine Affairs
Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 17, 1986

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AND PRESIDENT CORAZON AQUINO
OF THE PHILIPPINES
AT DEPARTURE CEREMONY

The South Lawn

1:35 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: It was truly a pleasure to welcome and meet today with Philippine President Corazon Aquino. Her courage and her commitment to democracy, mirroring those same qualities in the Filipino people, have inspired the world and it's been an honor to have her as our guest.

President Aquino and I discussed her strenuous efforts to bolster the democratic institutions of her country and to insure its security and strengthen its economy. And I assured her that all America wants the Philippine democracy to succeed and to prosper and that we'll do what we can to help.

These have been trying times in the Philippines. President Aquino has been overseeing an historic transition. In the coming months a new constitution will be submitted which will pave the way for strong, democratically elected local and national governments. In the meantime, President Aquino has been doing her level best to unite her richly diverse people under a banner of freedom and opportunity.

Her efforts to reconcile all elements of her society and bring them into the democratic process are applauded here. I might add that her personal bravery in this heroic endeavor to diffuse conflict has won the hearts and imagination of the people everywhere.

Despite President Aquino's efforts, however, well-armed communist guerrillas remain a threat to democracy in the Philippines. President Aquino and I discussed her strategy to meet this challenge. It includes attacking the root political economic and social problems that feed insurgencies. The second half of the formula is building the Philippine military into a professional, properly armed and trained force that is capable of dealing with any threat.

The United States stands ready to assist President Aquino in her quest to create a stable and secure land, as well as in her commitment to invigorate the Philippine economy.

During our discussion today, President Aquino reaffirmed her belief that free enterprise is the surest path to development, the surest method of opening the door of opportunity and advancement to all her people. Her government stands for free trade and is encouraging private investment. She knows in the long-run nothing would better serve the Filipino people than unleashing the entrepreneurial spirit and putting the creative and economy building power of the marketplace to work.

As one might surmise after hearing this, I'm bullish on the Philippines. I would hope American as well as foreign investors take notice of this incredible opportunity to help build a country. For our part, we will hold our -- hold our efforts to encourage development in the Philippines. Today, for example, we discussed the idea of increasing Philippine exports to the United States, including improved treatment under our generalized system of preferences.

We also considered ways in which the Philippines can provide a larger share of the goods and services consumed by the U.S. military facilities within that country.

And just a side note. When talking about those bases, our two countries share common interests in the peace and stability of the Pacific region. I'm confident that we will continue to enjoy a strong mutual defense relationship for the foreseeable future.

President Aquino reaffirmed today that the military base agreement will be respected through its current term. I understand and am comfortable with her position. The next review of our defense relations is scheduled in 1988, and that gives us and the people of the Philippines plenty of time to think about it.

In the meantime, I will continue to ask Congress for appropriate levels of economic and military assistance above and beyond existing U.S. base-related commitments.

The latest installment of our current aid effort -- a \$100 million grant of economic support funds, which I am pleased to announce will be signed by our respective Cabinet members in a few moments -- a \$50 million grant of military assistance, along with a \$20 million package of medical supplies and services, has been approved.

In the future, to the largest extent possible, future U.S. aid will be designed to provide the greatest benefit without exacerbating the country's debt burden.

And one last thought. Today governments, businesses, financial institutions and individuals are dealing with a new kind of government in the Philippines. We are dealing with a noble and honest people -- people with ideals, people we can trust, and we place a high value on character and hope everyone appreciates this and takes it into account.

A great Filipino hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, once wrote, "G is justice: he cannot abandon his cause -- the cause of liberty without which no justice is possible." Well, Jose Rizal, like President Aquino's husband, died for freedom and inspired his nation.

President Aquino and I reaffirmed the commitment of our two peoples to the ideals which so many Americans and Filipinos have given their lives, and we also reaffirm the bonds of friendship and affection between the United States and the Philippines.

It was truly an honor to have her here.

Thank you and God bless you. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT AQUINO: Thank you, President Reagan. This has been an opportunity to get to know each other, to explore common issues together. Above all, though, I can say that for my part the most important aspect has been the chance to meet each other.

We are both politicians who set great store on face-to-face encounters. Government-to-government contacts have their proper place, yet when the leadership of a country changes in such a dramatic fashion,

MORE

as happened in the Philippines, it is only right that the Presidents of two such close allies meet and get to know each other. Issues do not generate of their own accord the decisions that will resolve them. In the end, decisions will be made by the people who have the responsibility to make them.

From this meeting today, both our governments will go on with a clear sense of priorities, with a recognition that we must both work hard to strengthen the bonds between us. I hope we have set the tone and direction for a new relationship. By recovering our democracy, we Filipinos have recovered our self-confidence and pride and hence our ability to deal with our major ally on an equal footing. This is the only basis for a relationship between friends. And I think we were able to start on that agenda today. I was able to explain to President Reagan the problems we have inherited, all of them reaped in a devastated economy. I was also able to outline to him what we are going to set things right. I am gratified that President Reagan understands and supports what we are trying to do.

As you know, we have placed our faith in the private sector as the stimulus of growth. I also briefed the President on the wide range of reforms we have embarked on to resolve our difficulties. A new constitution is in the final stages of drafting. There will be a referendum on it followed by elections early next year.

We are carrying out a long overdue program of military reform. Within this context of an economic reconstruction, political rebuilding and military reform, we can combat our remaining problem -- the insurgency. As you know, we are pursuing a political approach, but this is backed by the military option. In all these areas of rebuilding, I hope we can count on American support and understanding.

But most important, reform is being done in a new environment of freedom, human rights, and democracy. So, as today's discussions showed, we have a lot of values in common again. We admire freedom and hard work in just the way you do. For two countries who have a faith in God, in freedom, in the family, and in democratic values, we should allow nothing to come in the way of an evergrowing friendship.

Today was a good beginning and I thank you all for it.
(Applause.)

END

1:45 P.M. EDT

Date Rec'd

9/25

~~Date Due~~

9/30

Assigned

PHL

Number:

8629738

TO: Donald Regan

FROM: Edward A. Fisher

RE: Aquino gout in the PHL.

PI - POj

8629738

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

REFERRAL

SEPTEMBER 24, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 438602

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 1986

TO: DONALD REGAN

FROM: MR. EDWARD A. FISHER
AMERICAN DEFENDERS OF BATAAN AND
CORREGIDOR - WESTERN STATES CHAPTER
1942 DESERT CIRCLE #3
WALNUT CREEK CA 94598

SUBJECT: CONCERNS REGARDING THE AQUINO GOVERNMENT IN
THE PHILLIPPINES

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, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

8629738
438002



AMERICAN DEFENDERS OF BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR WESTERN STATES CHAPTER

(Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah and Idaho)

INCLUDING ANY UNIT OF FORCE IN THE ASIATIC FLEET, PHILIPPINE
ARCHIPELAGO, WAKE ISLAND, MARIANAS ISLANDS AND DUTCH EAST INDIES.

1942 Desert Circle #3
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
8 September 1986

The Honorable Donald Regan
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, District of Columbia 20500

Dear Mr. Regan:

I am an old retired serviceman who saw action in the Philippines during World War II. I have taken the liberty of writing to you because I am not happy with recent U.S. policy decisions affecting the Philippines and I am afraid that the leader we hand-picked to replace President Ferdinand Marcos, Mrs. Corazon C. Aquino, is naively being manipulated by leftists in her Cabinet and the government bureaucracy.

It is too late to cry over spilt milk and it was regrettable that U.S. support was decoupled from the Philippine Government and thrown to a rabble-rousing revolutionary movement fueled by an opportunistic alliance between left-radical and reactionary elements in our former colony. Now, an August 31 dispatch from The New York Times news service reports that "Reagan Administration officials are increasingly concerned by what they see as a lack of effectiveness by Philippines President Corazon Aquino in handling insurgencies by Communists and other groups." Well, what can you expect from a plain housewife without any political experience whatsoever.

The pro-communist color of the Aquino Government should be very evident to the Administration in Washington by now. Mrs. Aquino has made conciliation with rebel groups the main theme of her presidency. Anybody who knows the communists knows that they will not honor their plighted word, so it is useless to talk to them. Yet, she sticks to her conciliatory approach.

President Aquino has been yielding to the demands of the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the New Peoples' Army. Her first official act after we helped install her as President was to release all the captured communist and NPA leaders who had been jailed by Marcos. She did this over the vehement objections of her Defense Minister and Army Chief. This action has emboldened the insurgents and strengthened their ranks: they have seized additional territory, they have been killing soldiers who are under military orders to exercise maximum tolerance, they're grabbing and capturing arms and munitions from the Philippine armed forces.

What is more despicable is the fact that President Aquino has appointed known communists to her Cabinet and in high decision-making levels of the bureaucracy. She has replaced career officers with card-carrying Communist Party members and left-leaning radicals. This is confirmed by wire reports.

Aquino Government key officials favor the early removal of the U.S. bases, at Subic Bay and Clark Field. I do not have to remind you that the Philippines is the most strategically situated nation in that part of the globe and forms an integral part of our defense network. It straddles vital air and sea "chokepoints" -- narrow passages connecting the Pacific Ocean, the South China Sea, the Straits of Formosa and the Indian Ocean.

Considering the ominous military presence of the Soviets at Cam Ranh Bay and Danang in Vietnam, which have made the China Sea a veritable "Russian pond," there is geostrategic necessity that the Philippines remain friendly to the U.S. and that the American bases there be held safe and available for the deployment of American forces to maintain the "balance of forces."

If we allow the Philippines to continue its inexorable slide into communist hands, I am terrified at the prospect of another Vietnam that will draw us into war again. That is why it is necessary to eliminate by military action the communist insurgents in the Philippines while there is still time. Already Communist Party and NPA leaders are boasting that they now have the capability to overrun Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Force Base.

No less than the Philippine Armed Forces Chief of Staff, General Ramos, warned the U.S.-Philippines Mutual Defense Board recently that there is "real danger that the Philippines will turn into another Vietnam."

I read that some of your own people and Minister Enrile himself have expressed concern over on-going peace talks with the rebels and the belief that the Communists are infiltrating and subverting the Philippine Government. The Defense Ministry in an assessment published recently by the San Francisco Examiner accused the National Democratic Front, the grouping of political organizations dominated by the Communist Party, of delaying the talks while strengthening their forces to seize power. In the interim, they have consolidated their political base and bolstered their bargaining position. The New York Times reports that some aides of President Reagan, "unlike the Aquino Government, (are) convinced that many of the insurgents do not wish to end their rebellion."

Nobody can be more naive than our hand-picked President Aquino. And it is going to be the same President Aquino who will deliver the Philippines -- and our military installations in the Philippines -- to the communist forces.

We do not have to return Marcos to power to rectify our error. It is important that the Administration must do something immediately to stop the continuing slide of the Philippines into communism and the inevitable loss of our bases. The Aquino Government has shown by word and by deed that it is not in sympathy with our business interests and security needs. We are slowly losing one of our biggest trading partners in the Orient and soon, also lose an important link in our global security network. The U.S. Government, especially the Republican leadership, must act decisively now!

Sincerely yours,

Edward A. Fisher

EDWARD A. FISHER

Past Commander, ADBC-WSC

MCII CABLE DISPATCH
TEL. 800-524-1378
201-562-9780
255 OLD NEW BRUNSWICK RD.
PISCATAWAY, NJ 08854-3712

CJ 10

440747
C0125

MCI Mail

The nation's new postal system.

SECRETARY PAT BUCHANAN
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC 20500

MESG ID : WCB263 UWNX
FROM : PHILIPPINES
CUBAO/QUEZONCITY 73 16 917PM H/ETPI 2211
SECRETARY PAT BUCHANAN
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC 20500
THE COURTESIES EXTENDED TO ME BY THE AMERICAN
PEOPLE PARTICULARLY BY YOU DURING MY VISIT IN THE
WHITE HOUSE INSPIRED US IN RESTORING DEMOCRACY IN
THE PHILIPPINES. I AM SURE THAT WITH YOUR KIND
ASSISTANCE AGAIN THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PRES. REAGAN
AND PRES. AQUINO WILL BE OF VITAL BENEFITS TO OUR NATIONS.
WARMEST PERSONAL REGARDS. MABUHAY.



MEDxJUSTIANIANO
PRESIDENT PIA

COL CKD
WCB263 MNW951 ROC134 RCE906
Time: 11:57 BDD763 9/16/86 VIA CMS JMM.
NNNN

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523

444093
00125

OFFICE OF
THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Date: January 22, 1987

TO : Sally Kelley, Presidential Correspondence, The White House
FROM : ES/CCS, Vernice Butler-Johnson *VBJ*
SUBJECT: Response to Presidential Correspondence

Response(s) to the following correspondence is (are) attached:

Letter dated October 16, 1986 from Mr. Walter L. Andit addressed to President Reagan re \$400 dollars to repair a multipurpose building with basketball court damaged by typhoon "NITANG".

The background material is also attached per your request.

Attachments: a/s

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

C0125

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: NOVEMBER 05, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. WALTER L. ANDIT

SUBJECT: REQUESTS \$400 DOLLARS TO REPAIR A
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING WITH BASKETBALL COURT
DAMAGED BY TYPHOON "NITANG" IN 1984 FOR USE
BY THE KABATAANG BARANGAY ORGANIZATION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D
JOHN POINDEXTER	ORG	86/11/05		
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
90% AID	R	86/11/10		
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				

COMMENTS:

maybe usaid, but not nsc

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: 1 MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*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 *			*

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.

NOV 20 1986

Mr. Walter L. Andit
President
Pangbayan Na Katipunan Ng Kabataang Barangay
Surigao del Norte Province
The Philippines

Dear Mr. Andit:

I have been asked to respond to your October 16 letter to President Reagan requesting funds to repair a building damaged in the 1984 typhoon, "Nitang."

As you may know, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) assisted the Filipino people in 1984 and again in July 1986 when devastating typhoons hit parts of the Philippines. U.S. assistance was provided in direct response to requests made by the Philippine Government to help alleviate problems arising from damage caused by the typhoons. Following the 1984 typhoons we provided food, medicines, blankets, and other necessities to meet the immediate critical needs of those affected. U.S. disaster assistance contributions exceeded \$4.2 million and was coordinated directly between our two governments. Such assistance is normally provided within the first 90 days after a disaster; however, because of the extent of the damage, we continued the assistance well into 1985.

We are no longer providing assistance resulting from damage caused by the 1984 or the 1986 typhoons. Even when our disaster assistance programs were under way, we were only able to provide assistance if specifically requested by the Philippines Government.

I regret that we cannot be more responsive to your request. I hope you will be successful in finding funds to make the repairs you wish to undertake in Kabataang Barangay.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Greenleaf, Jr.
Charles W. Greenleaf, Jr.
Assistant Administrator
Bureau for Asia and Near East

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 10, 1986

TO: AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 444093

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 16, 1986

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. WALTER L. ANDIT
PRESIDENT
KABATAANG BARANGAY ORGANIZATION
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE
LIBJO
SURIGAO CITY PHILIPPINES

SUBJECT: REQUESTS \$400 DOLLARS TO REPAIR A
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING WITH BASKETBALL COURT
DAMAGED BY TYPHOON "NITANG" IN 1984 FOR USE
BY THE KABATAANG BARANGAY ORGANIZATION

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, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

702150

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506ACTION

July 18, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN M. POINDEXTER

FG 006-12

FROM: STEPHEN I. DANZANSKY

SUBJECT: President Aquino's Visit to Washington:
A Role for the EPC?

TR

This memorandum presents for your approval a proposal for a meeting between President Aquino and the Economic Policy Council during her upcoming visit to Washington, September 16-19. The two principal purposes of the Aquino visit are to provide an opportunity for personal exchanges between the Presidents and for discussion of economic issues. Such a meeting with the EPC, preceded by an informal breakfast with the President, will provide an excellent opportunity for Presidential rapport, and the EPC may prove an efficient use of Cabinet time as well as a beneficial educational experience for both Aquino and the economic policy agencies.

Preparations for the Aquino visit are underway. A major element of the proposed Philippine agenda will be economic issues and a desire on President Aquino's part to engender greater U.S. investor confidence in the Philippine economy. As for all such visits by heads of State, arrangements must be made for meetings between Mrs. Aquino and Cabinet members representing the major economic agencies.

For this visit, it may be desirable to consolidate these purposes in a special session of the Economic Policy Council, with the President as Chairman, to meet directly with Mrs. Aquino to discuss the economic issues of primary importance to the Philippines.

There would be several advantages to holding such a meeting:

-- It would be a high profile event highlighting U.S. interest in the concerns of a less developed country.

-- It would be a practical "one-stop shopping" approach for Aquino to present the Philippine economic story to the U.S. government. Of course she may well schedule separate stops at Treasury or State, but she ought to obtain from the meeting of all economic ministers a better understanding of the interrelationship between economic issues, e.g., debt and investment, AID and trade.

-- It may be a useful educational experience for Aquino to see firsthand the varied economic and political pressures under which the President operates, and for members of the Economic Policy Council to see firsthand the problems faced by a

developing country and the effect of various U.S. policy decisions (Farm Act, 301 cases, etc.) upon a struggling democracy.

Although there have been meetings between the Cabinet and other heads of state (i.e., Nakasone this spring), this would be the first time the Economic Policy Council would be used in this role. While it would not be desirable to establish a precedent that the EPC meet with every head of state, scheduling a meeting between an important visitor and the de facto controlling economic policy body in the U.S. Government, in the President's presence, may be a useful means of communicating U.S. policy objectives and forcing policy coherence.

The breakfast portion would be an extra occasion to emphasize the special U.S.-Philippines relationship and provide additional time for our President to make clear the U.S. commitment. We would envision a 30-45 minute breakfast at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 18 or Friday, September 19, followed immediately by a 45 minute EPC.

In addition, on a purely bureaucratic level, the initiative to hold an EPC meeting with Aquino would come from the NSC, represents an excellent opportunity for full NSC-EPC coordination on an international economic issue, and may assist in the strengthening of the NSC-EPC relationship.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That you approve the concept of a special session of the EPC, with the President as Chairman, to meet with Mrs. Aquino during her visit to Washington.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

That you approve, in principle, of preceding the EPC with a Presidential breakfast.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

That you use the attached talking points (Tab I) to speak to Secretary Shultz to propose the EPC-Aquino meeting.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

If Secretary Shultz agrees with the proposal, Steve Danzansky would work with Secretary Baker and the EPC Secretariat to schedule the meeting and establish a core working group of EPC and NSC staffers to work out the agenda.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

^{JAK} Jim Kelly, ^{CD} Dick Childress, ^{WR} Walt Raymond, ^{AP} Alex Platt and Frank Lavin concur.

Attachment

Tab I Talking Points

Talking Points

- We are preparing over here for Mrs. Aquino's visit to the United States in September.

- The major objectives of Mrs. Aquino's trip will be to provide an opportunity for her to develop a personal relationship with the President and to have a discussion of economic issues.

- In order to fully coordinate the U.S. Government's response to her economic presentation, I would like to recommend that as part of her White House visit we schedule a special session of the Economic Policy Council, with the President in his role as Chairman, to meet with President Aquino. I would see this EPC meeting being preceded by an informal breakfast with the President and representatives from the U.S. and Philippines.

- I think an EPC session could be a useful high profile meeting demonstrating our concern for the Philippines and be a sort of one stop shopping experience for Aquino, rather than having a series of meetings all over town.

- It may be a useful educational experience for her, and also for the EPC members themselves.

- We wouldn't have these special EPC meetings routinely for visits of heads of state; but for important visits, I think it might be worth trying. I'd like some of our Cabinet officers to hear firsthand the effect of errant policy (Farm Act, §301 cases) upon struggling Third World democracies.
- If you agree, we'll work this out with Jim Baker.

~~SUSPENSE~~

RECEIVED 23 JUL 86 16

TO POINDEXTER

FROM DANZANSKY

DOCDATE 18 JUL 86

KEYWORDS: PHILIPPINES

ECONOMICS

AQUINO, CORAZON

SUBJECT: PRES AQUINO VISIT TO WASHINGTON / ROLE FOR EPC

ACTION FOR DECISION DUE 25 JUL 86 STATUS X FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

POINDEXTER

COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID (PS)

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

C 10/1 OBE per NSC/S

DISPATCH _____

W/ATTCH FILE _____

(H)
(C)

8633670

445054

3100

00125

FG006-12

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

October 3, 1986

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

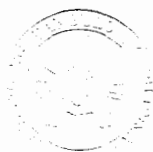
May I thank you deeply for the many courtesies, the great welcome, and the warmth extended by your government to me and my party. It was for me, and, I believe, for the Filipino people who watched and read about it, truly a visit among friends. The revival of Philippine-American friendship upon the basis of mutual respect and concern for our common interests was the chief accomplishment of my American visit.

I should like to thank you, Mr. President, personally, for your supportive statements and efforts, and to reiterate my invitation to you and your wife for a state visit to my country.

I wish you all the best. And again, I wish to say, thank you.

Corazon B. Aquino

NSC # 8607812



MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

October 3, 1986

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

May I thank you deeply for the many courtesies, the great welcome, and the warmth extended by your government to me and my party. It was for me, and, I believe, for the Filipino people who watched and read about it, truly a visit among friends. The revival of Philippine-American friendship upon the basis of mutual respect and concern for our common interests was the chief accomplishment of my American visit.

I should like to thank you, Mr. President, personally, for your supportive statements and efforts, and to reiterate my invitation to you and your wife for a state visit to my country.

I wish you all the best. And again, I wish to say, thank you.

Corason B. Aquino



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 3, 1986

UNCLASSIFIEDMEMORANDUM FOR VADM JOHN M. POINDEXTER
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: Response to President Aquino's Letter Thanking President Reagan for his Hospitality and Support during her Official Working Visit, September 17-19.

In view of the nature of the letter received and since the President spoke with President Aquino on the telephone immediately prior to her departure, we do not believe any response is required.

Nicholas Platt
Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

REFERRAL

DATE: 28 OCT 86

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: AQUINO, CORAZON

DATE: 03 OCT 86

KEYWORDS: PHILIPPINES

HS

SUBJ: LTR TO PRES FM PRES AQUINO

=====

REQUIRED ACTION: RECOMMENDATIONS / DRAFT REPLY

DUE DATE: 04 NOV 86

COMMENTS:

Amy P. Koyseck

FOR RODNEY B. MCDANIEL

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

*Rec'd 5/5-1
10/28:1650
QAB*

RECEIVED 28 OCT 86 12

TO PRESIDENT

FROM AQUINO, CORAZON

DOCDATE 03 OCT 86

KEYWORDS: PHILIPPINES

HS

SUBJECT: LTR TO PRES FM PRES AQUINO

.....

ACTION: RECOMMENDATIONS / DRAFT REPLY DUE: 04 NOV 86 STATUS D FILES WH

.....

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

STATE

CHILDRESS

KELLY

RODMAN

COCKELL

COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID (AK)

.....

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
-	12/9	Recd State Memo		
C	12/9	No response required per State		Same
-	12/9	Add To File		

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH FILE

27

RECEIVED 28 OCT 86 12

TO PRESIDENT

FROM AQUINO, CORAZON

DOCDATE 03 OCT 86

PLATT, N

03 NOV 86

KEYWORDS: PHILIPPINES

HS

SUBJECT: THANK YOU LTR TO PRES FM PRES AQUINO RE AQUINO VISIT TO US

ACTION: RECOMMENDATIONS / DRAFT REPLY DUE: 04 NOV 86 STATUS D FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

STATE

CHILDRESS

KELLY

RODMAN

COCKELL

COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID (AK)

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

C 10/4 No response reqd per State

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH

FILE

WH

(C) ✓