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◆ JULY 30, 2016 ◆

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EDITORIAL

Philippines Wins Int'l Court Ruling

On a classic David vs. Goliath showdown, the little guy won. The unanimous July 12th ruling by the Hague-based Permanent Court of Arbitration favored the Philippines against China regarding legal rights to disputed areas in the West Philippine Sea. As a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), China is obliged to obey the ruling but to no one's surprise, it has denounced the tribunal's verdict. Although final and binding, the tribunal is in no position to enforce the verdict.

Despite being a longtime ally of the Philippines, the U.S. has taken a neutral stance and rightly so. The U.S. cannot afford to protect and police the entire world, particularly when American interests are not directly at stake. The primary responsibility should rest with those nations in East Asia who are more directly threatened and stand to lose the most. America's allies in the region have the financial means to underwrite military expenditures for their own collective security needs. However, should diplomacy fail and China continues to build its military presence in the area, the U.S. must look to play more than a supporting role. The U.S. is in fact the only thing standing between China and its ambitions. America has already sent a carrier strike group to the West Philippine Sea at a cost of \$6.5 million a day to U.S. taxpayers.

The area is vital to global commerce with its shipping lanes. Over one-third of the world's shipping totaling some \$5 trillion in commerce passes through the West Philippine Sea, which is crucial to the economies of Japan, South Korea, Australia and other countries in the region. If China claims this area uncontested, what's to stop it from charging fees to ships for passing through its waters? China could also force such ships to travel around the sea, greatly increasing distances and costs.

We can only hope and pray that the formal ruling by the internationally recognized court will exert diplomatic and moral pressure on China to end pursuit of its claims. If not, a confrontation is inevitable. But first things first. The best hope is for the Philippines to pursue bilateral talks until a fair solution is reached for the sake of long term peace and economic stability for the region of nations surrounding the West Philippine Sea.

Filipino Veterans Inch Toward Gold Medal Recognition

Filipino veterans are on the cusp of receiving the Congressional Gold Medal which recognizes their efforts to fight alongside U.S. troops during World War II. A few weeks ago, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed S.1555, a bill authored by U.S. Rep. Mazie Hirono that would confer the medal—the highest civilian award that Congress can bestow—to the veterans. The bill now moves to the U.S. House of Representatives, where Hawaii's U.S. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, who authored a companion measure, hopes to gather enough support to send the legislation to President Barack Obama for his signature before the end of the year. Gaining approval will be more difficult in the House, where at least two-thirds (290) members must co-sponsor it. So far, about 180 members of the House have signed on as cosponsors, or nearly two-thirds of the minimum support needed.

One such supporter was the late U.S. Rep. Mark Takai, who before his death supported other issues relating to the Fil-Am

FROM THE PUBLISHER

W

ith the summer vacation nearly over, tens of thousands of public and private school students will be resuming classes. And with it comes the inevitable increase in traffic on our highways and roads. As a gentle reminder, please pay attention to traffic advisories from transportation officials and show more aloha for other motorists and especially pedestrians.

This issue's cover story is about a recent ruling by an international tribunal in favor of the Philippines in a contentious case stemming over territorial control of disputed waters in the West Philippine Sea. Filipinos worldwide hailed the ruling, but Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte took a more cautious and subdued approach. The dispute is far from over and bilateral discussions with China are needed to pursue a peaceful settlement, rather than direct confrontation. Duterte has asked former President Fidel Ramos to serve as the Philippines' point man in bilateral talks with China. Fortunately, the court's ruling places the Philippines in a better position to negotiate. For more on the tribunal's ruling, please turn to page 4. We also have more on matters relating to President Duterte in our Philippines News section on pages 11-12.

In other news, Jose Minana, Jr., a top Jollibee Restaurant official, will be speaking on how the mega-successful restaurant chain built its empire. If you are a small business owner, consider attending the seminar scheduled for August 1, 2016 at the Hawaii Prince Hotel. For more details on this event, please turn to page 6.

Lastly, Hawaii thankfully dodged another bullet as Tropical Storm Darby dumped a lot of rain but left no major damage. It's still early in the Hurricane Season so let's not be complacent but instead remain vigilant and prepared for any and all disasters—natural as well as man-made.

That's all for now. As always, thank you for faithfully supporting the Hawaii Filipino Chronicle. Please take some time to read the informative articles in this issue and feel free to email us at: filipinochronicle@gmail.com with any story idea, suggestion or concern you may have. We would love to hear from you!

Until our next issue...*aloha* and *mabuhay!*

Chona A. Montesines-Sonido

veterans, including the first bill he introduced in Congress—the bipartisan Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act, which lifted the numerical number on family visas for children of Filipino Veterans of World War II. The bill was later included in inter-agency recommendations to modernize and streamline the U.S. Immigrant Visa System, which led to the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole (FWVP) Program.

Congress has already recognized the wartime contributions of other minority military units, beginning with the Tuskegee Airmen in 2006; Navajo Code Talkers in 2008; Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPS) in 2009; the Japanese-American soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service in 2010; the Montford Point Marines—the first African-Americans to serve in the Marine Corps—in 2011; and in 2014, the 65th Infantry Regiment, known as the Borinqueneers—the only Hispanic, segregated military unit in the Korean War whose soldiers were predominantly from Puerto Rico.

Filipinos are the only racial/ ethnic group that has not been recognized by the U.S. government for their service in World War II. Over 260,000 Filipino and Filipino-American soldiers re-



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CANDID PERSPECTIVES



By Emil Guillermo

Filipinos React to Trump's Dark Vision vs. Hillary's Historic Run

The end of convention season means the stretch run is ahead for the final 100-plus days to the finish. But the greatest act of political democracy may have taken place in Philadelphia with the Democrats. In the roll call, Sen. Brian Schatz began but turned it over to a Sanders supporter who cast 19 votes for whom he called "the leader of our revolution which shall continue."

And then Schatz picked it back up and cast the remaining 15 votes "for the next president of the United States, Sec. Hillary Clinton." So it went throughout the roll call. Sanders got his due but Hillary got her votes. In the end, even as South Dakota's votes put her over the 2,382 votes she needed, the big boost came from her fellow Democratic competitor.

In a magnanimous show of unity, putting aside differences and working toward a common goal, Sen. Bernie Sanders called to dispense with the rules and nominate Clinton by acclamation. And why not as a set-up for history?

I just wasn't ready for it in a year when politics has been nastier than ever, starting with the Republicans. More Filipinos in the U.S. are Democrats, though voter polls in recent years indicate a growing number of GOPinoy. Still, none of the American Filipino Republicans I talked to seemed very enthusiastic about their party nominating a man who had been their personal bottom

choice in the primaries. That makes one poll that gives Donald Trump a three-point lead over Hillary Clinton—a bit of a surprise after the Donald was 7 points down in the same poll a week before.

Convention bounces are to be expected. But usually bounces are bigger. But then I talked to one Filipino Republican. After the Ted Cruz non-endorsement at the convention, in a complete show of classless selfishness, and then the speech of the Donald, the whole thing seemed to fall just short of the lovefest the party really needed.

Ron Falconi, the mayor of Brunswick, Ohio, a small suburban community outside of Cleveland, went into this campaign a support of John Kasich. He left the Republican National Convention last week reluctantly unified.

"Donald Trump did what he needed to do to convey his vision for America," says Falconi, an American born Filipino. But he's far more conservative than yours truly. He's for small government, low taxes and virulently anti-Hillary.

It doesn't mean we can't be civil and friendly and have something in common—our "Filipino-ness." That's when Falconi was able to summon up something positive about Trump's speech.

"He also foreshadowed what would happen if he did not win," Falconi told me. "We would face an America, run by Hillary that would continue the failed policies of the past."

Failed policies? Well it depends on your perspective. The U.S. is on the verge of the fourth longest recovery on record. The stock market is

booming. Unemployment is below 5 percent. There are income disparities that make the U.S. seem like the Philippines, but overall, the Republicans should be happy with the way things are going, since they have been enriched.

But that's what makes listening to Trump's speech last week pretty frustrating. Considering the evangelical tilt of the GOP, the only time Donald Trump came close to talking about God in his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention was when he talked about himself.

"I am your voice," Trump declared to the American people. If you ever wanted to speak in tongues, Trump's offering. And that's as close to godliness as it got on the last night of the convention, this week's megaphone for Trump's megalomania.

Need a definition for that malady? Look at a picture of him delivering that acceptance speech. After breaking with tradition and appearing every night at the convention of the GOP faithful, Trump's sales pitch began in earnest with that last face-to-face close.

The Donald doesn't just want your vote. He wants to gentrify you. He's like a developer eyeing a teardown. He doesn't want to be you. He just wants to be your voice. It's executive ventriloquism, and you get to be the dummy.

Trump isn't really interested in governing. Of course, he's the least qualified to govern. That's "for the people, by the people," public sector stuff. Trump's no boring government worker, after all. He's above all that, a private sector guy driven by profits. He's all about making deals. And here's his

biggest: He wants to come on down, be our voice to help those of us "neglected, ignored, and abandoned," be part of Trump's World. It's Trump's message. He's rich. You're not. He's fearless. You're not. He's the self-proclaimed God's gift to brand-name "democracy." He's the CEO, a semi-benevolent bully who likes to play by his own rules.

"I have joined the political arena so that the powerful can no longer beat up on people who cannot defend themselves," he said to a full nine seconds of conventioneer cheering. "Nobody knows the system better than me," Trump said, pausing to another nine-second cheer. "Which is why I alone can fix it!" Another ten-second cheer.

"I alone"? I tweeted that out as soon as I heard it. I didn't think automatically of "dictator" or "authoritarian."

Because the speech was sprinkled with enough passable good will. He expressed concern for the youth in our inner-cities and their lousy education; for the blue collar workers, hurt by all the bad trade deals that a businessman like him wants to fix. And all of it said with a typical lack of Trumpian humility, which is really why he needs his own country. Preferably not ours.

But on Thursday night, in "always be closing" fashion, Mr. Art of the Deal continued to close. And his best close revolves around fear. Trump took advantage of the coincidental rash of violence on both international and domestic fronts, and packaged them into a powerful law and order theme. But

then he went a step further and linked the recent police shootings with immigration. Trump said: "The number of police officers killed in the line of duty has risen by almost 50 percent compared to this point last year. Nearly 180,000 illegal immigrants with criminal records, ordered deported from our country, are tonight roaming free to threaten peaceful citizens."

What do the two have to do with each other? Nothing really. Trump then bundled it up in a Hillary wrapper and said, "Hillary Clinton is proposing mass amnesty, mass immigration and mass lawlessness."

Oh, and did you know she's responsible for ISIS, too? Reasonable people may be quick to dismiss Trump's rhetoric. But then who thought Trump would have any credibility left in the tank after all that racist birther nonsense about President Obama? Trump is refueling, using Hillaryphobia and xenophobia, and telling us he's the only way out of this "rigged system" that has kept you down.

I kept thinking about the ugly rhetoric of the 1930s in the U.S. that led to the exclusion of Filipinos as colonized American nationals to enter the U.S. That's the same dark vision of America, only this time coming from Trump. This week, the Democrats provided a much needed contrast that makes it easy for any U.S. voter, no matter the party.

"I believe that Hillary's vision for our country and her experience will prevail among voters in November," Filipino American Democrat Irene Bueno told me before the convention. Bueno runs a public

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EDITORIALS (from page 2, FILIPINO VETERANS...)

sponded to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's call-to-duty and fought under the American flag during World War II. But with less than 16,000 Filipino WWII Veterans alive today, time is truly of the essence to honor these courageous men with the long overdue recognition they deserve. As Filipinos, we need to

honor these men for the legacy they built for us. We call on our *kababayans*, especially on the mainland, to contact their respective U.S. representative NOW and lobby for his or her support. Together, we can help our heroes be recognized with the Congressional Gold Medal.



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COVER STORY

Philippines Wins Int'l Court Ruling on West Philippine Sea

By Dennis Galolo

On July 12, 2016, the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) rejected China's claims over the West Philippine Sea, a vast expanse of ocean encompassing 3 million square kilometers and teeming with marine life and natural resources like oil, natural gas and other minerals. The resource-rich waters through which over \$5 trillion in ship-borne trade passes through every year are also claimed in part by Vietnam, Brunei, Malaysia and Taiwan.



HISTORIC CASE. The arbitral tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, listens to the first country that brought China to court over the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea). Photo courtesy of PCA

Established by treaty in 1899, the PCA is an intergovernmental organization that provides a variety of dispute resolution services to the international community. The Hague-based international tribunal ruled that China's "Nine-Dash Line" claim over the disputed waters is invalid. In a press release, the tribunal concluded that there is no legal basis for China to claim historic rights to resources in areas falling within its controversial "Nine-Dash Line" policy.

It also upheld the Philippines' exclusive economic zone (EEZ) covering some disputed islands and said China violated the Philippines' sovereign rights by constructing ar-

tificial islands in these areas. The court added China's massive reclamation activities inflicted irreparable harm on the marine environment.

The Philippines and China both claim the territory but took different approaches to resolving the dispute. In 2009, China cited the "Nine-Dash Line" claim and insisted that the issue is purely an Asian problem that Western countries should not get involved in. It has resorted to nothing short of bullying tactics, sending warships to the area to confront Philippine fishing vessels in a brazen display of power. China has also rapidly developed reefs and rocky outcrops into islands, complete with air strips

capable of landing military aircraft.

In contrast, the Philippines took a conciliatory approach, bringing the matter before the international tribunal in accordance with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in hopes of a peaceful and just resolution.

Ratified by 85 percent of the entire membership of the United Nations including China, UNCLOS is the primary international law governing the use of the planet's oceans and seas. China, however, refused to participate in the case, claiming that sovereignty issues extend beyond the tribunal's legal authority.

Philippine officials say the Chinese government balked at the arbitration proceedings because it realizes that the historical basis for its territorial claims has long ceased to be recognized under modern-day treaties like the UNCLOS.

U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz, a member of the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, applauded the Philippine government for pursuing a peaceful course of arbitration to resolve the dispute. He says the tribunal's ruling proves that China's claims have no basis in international law.

"It also showed that the dispute resolution process works and that countries that commit to addressing territorial disputes through legitimate arbitration or diplomatic

processes are more credible and have a stronger claim under international law," Schatz says.

Unwilling to Budge?

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, Japan Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and Australia Foreign Minister Julie Bishop met in Laos on July 25, 2016, for a series of meetings organized by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). In a joint statement, the three officials expressed strong support for the rule of law and called on China and the Philippines to abide by the arbitration panel's award.

The three leaders urged all parties to refrain from "unilateral actions that cause permanent physical change to the marine environment ... and from such actions as large-scale land reclamation, and the construction of outposts as well as the use of those outposts for military purposes."

However, China's military continues to stage live-firing exercises in the area and will begin regular aerial patrols over the sea. China also asserted that it will not be deterred from continuing construction of its man-made islands.

Schatz called on the Chinese government to refrain from provocative behavior and to accept the ruling.

"It is time for China to stop its efforts to redraw the region's maritime boundaries and sus-

pend building artificial features. China's actions are proof that it is causing severe harm to coral reefs and breaching its responsibility to preserve and protect the region's marine environment that supports the livelihoods of so many across the Asia Pacific region. Continuing these actions is irresponsible and does nothing but exacerbate the risk of miscalculations, accidents and conflict," he says.

Dr. Belinda Aquino, a recognized expert on Philippine foreign relations and founding director of the Center for Philippine Studies at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, hopes China will abide by the ruling.

"To me, the decision should be respected and followed," she says. "It's obviously good for the Philippines and once again proves that it has legal rights to the territory."

If China proves non-compliant, Aquino says the Philippine government must negotiate until a fair and reasonable agreement is reached. Any U.S. involvement, she says, will only complicate matters.

"The U.S. has pending issues with the Chinese government relating to security and other matters in Asia, which has future implications for the region," she says. "You don't want to put another fly in the ointment."

A Cause For Celebration

Filipinos nationwide cele-

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COVER STORY

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brated the tribunal’s ruling. Loida Nicolas Lewis, lawyer, philanthropist and West Philippine Sea advocate, spoke at a victory rally in New York City near the United Nations headquarters. She called the tribunal’s ruling a “just and wise decision.”

“UNCLOS is clear—200 nautical miles from the shore belongs to the Philippines. It is now up to the General Assembly of the United Nations to encourage a peaceful solution to this West Philippine Sea issue,” she says.

In San Francisco, the Filipino community rallied at the People’s Republic of China Consulate where they chanted and hailed the tribunal’s decision. Philippine Consul General Henry Bensurto, Jr. tweeted “It is a victory for the rule of law. We hope that the relevant parties will respect the outcome of the arbitration. It protects the strong as it does to the weak.”

Rally organizer Rodel Rodis was more demonstrative.

“We are here to serve an eviction notice on China that you have to get out of the West Philippine Sea. You are trespassing. You are interlopers. You are invaders and we want you out of the Scarborough shoals,” he told the protesters.

Rodis, who also reiterated the call to boycott China-made goods, says that world support is needed in enforcing the decision now that the Philippines has a legal basis for ownership of the 200-mile EEZ.

Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Perfecto Yasay Jr., welcomed the ruling but said that the government should be circumspect in its reactions.

“We have to be restrained in our reactions. We cannot gloat about our triumph,” he said in a media statement. “Our experts are studying the award with the care and thoroughness that this significant arbitral outcome deserves. In the meantime, we call on all those concerned to exercise restraint and sobriety. The Philippines reiterates its abiding commitment to pursue a peaceful resolution and management of disputes with a view to promoting and enhancing peace and



stability in the region.”

Former president Benigno Aquino III expressed elation in what he called a “monumental ruling against China.”

“We want to thank the Permanent Court of Arbitration for their fair judgment and we would also like to extend our gratitude for the clarity with which they presented their ruling,” said Aquino, whose administration initiated the arbitration. “The best way to look at this judgment is that it is a victory for all. The clarity rendered now establishes better conditions that enable countries to engage each other, bearing in mind their duties and rights within a context that espouses equality and amity.”

What Now?

Consul Roberto T. Bernardo of the Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu expects extensive dialogue to begin between the Philippines and China, with former president Fidel V. Ramos appointed as special envoy by President Duterte. Bernardo is optimistic that a fair and equitable settlement can be reached.

“We hope that eventually China will soften its stance and come to an agreement with the Philippines, but at this point, we don’t know what may be agreed upon, if any,” he says. “China is an economic giant which values international relations. Thus, I think it will realize that it is also to its advantage to dialogue.”

Dr. Celia Lamkin, founder and global chair of the National Youth Movement For the West Philippine Sea (NYMWPS), encourages Duterte to continue pressing the Philippines’ interests. Some observers say Duterte appears to be friendlier to Beijing than the previous administration and that China

may attempt bribe the government by offering to build a railway system in Mindanao.

“We urge the Duterte administration to continue the multilateral strategy to ensure that adequate pressure is brought on China to constrain it from taking more aggressive and irresponsible actions in the future which will not only be to the detriment of the Philippines but to international peace and stability,” she says.

Lamkin also called on President Duterte to unite the Filipino people to face China’s imperialistic ambitions and establish a strong response to future Chinese acts of aggression.

The nation’s political leaders also agree that the time for diplomacy is now. Kabayan party-list Rep. Harry Roque said the historic PCA ruling makes the Philippines an equal among nations regardless of size and power.

“The total effect of this arbitration is that it has made us a co-equal party to negotiate with China. We could not negotiate before with the Chinese because it was like having a gun pointed at your head,” Roque says.

With the ruling, Roque said the “gun was removed” and the Philippines can now negotiate with China on equal footing.

Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Raymund Villafuerte said the UN court’s ruling should “be the first of many positive steps toward the peaceful resolution of issues relative to the West Philippine Sea.”

“Now is the time to use diplomacy to have a peaceful settlement,” Villafuerte says. “Let this promising development also serve to rally our people behind flag and country. While there may be numerous views as to how this ruling can best be leveraged to advance

our interests, we should all stand as one in celebrating this ruling not just as a victory of the Filipino people but as a monumental triumph of the rule of law.”

Former Philippine Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert F. del Rosario, who worked under the Aquino administration on the dispute, says the Philippines met with China over 50 times, yet a solution remained elusive—until now.

“If China wishes to maintain its standing as a responsible member of the international community, it must abide by the ruling of the Arbitral Tribunal,” he says. “The Philippines believes that in the face of China’s relative power, it is better to have the dispute settled by international law—the great equalizer.

“The overwhelming support of the Filipino public for the arbitration case and our rules-based approach to the West Philippine Sea dispute proves that taking a principled stance, one that is based on respecting the rule of law and pursuing peaceful settlement of disputes, strongly resonates with our people. Having been given a strong mandate by the Filipino people, the Philippine government will continue to pursue all peaceful means to find a just and durable solution to the West Philippine Sea dispute.”

Antonio Carpio, an associ-

ate justice on the Supreme Court of the Philippines, is optimistic that the ruling will in time favor the Philippines.

In a column for the Wall Street Journal, Carpio writes, “While there is no world policeman to do so, the world’s naval powers, led by the U.S., have declared that they will sail and fly in the high seas and EEZs of the South China Sea to assert freedom of navigation and overflight for their military and civilian vessels and aircraft. Since China cannot prevent the world’s naval powers from asserting such freedom of navigation and overflight, an important part of the ruling will definitely be enforced. The South China Sea can never become a Chinese lake as China intended under its nine-dash-line claim.

“Over time, the ruling will be enforced substantially because the world will never accept that a single state can claim ownership to almost an entire sea that is bordered by several states. Such a precedent would mean the demise of the Law of the Sea.”

Lamkin says Hawaii’s Filipino community should be concerned because events in the West Philippine Sea will impact the future of the Philippines economically, politically and environmentally. ipino people everywhere as well as future generations in the Philippines,” she says.



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Mayor Signs ADU Incentive Bill

Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell signed Bill 27, which saves up to \$9,000 to \$10,000 in application fees for homeowners wishing to build an accessory dwelling unit (ADU).

ADUs are small, separate housing units complete with kitchens, bathrooms and sleeping quarters that are attached or detached from a main house and can be rented out to either family members or outside parties. ADUs are a flexible housing option that meets the needs

of a wide variety of people, including low-income households, elders seeking to age in place and young adults.

Municipalities on the mainland have permitted and encouraged ADUs for years as a vehicle to boost their affordable rental housing inventory. On Oahu where secondary units have been used as ohana dwellings and for intergenerational living, ADUs would help to address the acute shortage of affordable rental units for families that are struggling

to make ends meet.

Bill 27 was drafted by the City's Department of Planning and Permitting and passed by the City Council on July 6, 2016. The measure waives all building permit, grading, and inspection fees, and wastewater facility charges, for a two-year period. It also permanently waives park dedication requirements for ADUs.

Supporters hope that the temporary fee waiver will encourage homeowners who are

considering adding a second unit on their property, or converting part of an existing structure, to act now. Soon after the bill to allow ADUs was signed into law in September 2015, the City received complaints from homeowners who said the fees were an additional expense that might keep them from adding an ADU.

"We have challenged the building industry to design and produce a range of ADUs that homeowners could easily add to their lots to help solve

the rental housing crisis," Caldwell says. "We heard from contractors that a temporary fee waiver would really help them to sell ADU packages and ramp up production like it did with the solar panel industry."

Homeowners who applied for an ADU permit and have paid the fees will be refunded the fees if requested. Those seeking an after-the-fact building permit to convert an illegally constructed structure into a legal ADU will not be eligible for the fee waiver.



Jollibee President to Lecture on Restaurant's Success

Do you want to know the secret to success of mega fast food chain Jollibee Foods Corporation (JFC)? If so, mark your calendars for the Annual Dr. N.H. Paul Chung Memorial Lecture and Luncheon scheduled for August 1, 2016 at the Hawaii Prince Hotel's Mauna Kea Ballroom from 11:45 am to 1:30 pm.

The keynote speaker will be JFC Group President Jose Minana, Jr. who will discuss "Jollibee's Secret to Success: Understanding the Filipino Consumer—Domestically and Abroad." Minana will share

his valuable insights into the Filipino consumer, using his vast experience with JFC and its global operations.

JFC has over 3,000 restaurants worldwide, including four in Hawaii—Ala Moana Center Food Court, Waipahu Shopping Plaza, Dillingham/North King, and Seafood City in Waipahu. The chain has rapidly expanded in Hawaii and plans to open more locations in the coming years.

The lecture is sponsored by the Pacific Asian Management Institute. For additional information, contact Rochelle McArthur at 384-4186 or via email at rochellemcarthur@hotmail.com.

DOH Confirms Hepatitis A Infection at Waikoloa Restaurant

The State Department of Health (DOH) has confirmed a new case of hepatitis A infection in a food service employee on the Big Island. The employee worked at the fast food and catering restaurant, Sushi Shiono, located in the Waikoloa Beach Resort, from July 5 through July 21, 2016.

DOH officials say that the likelihood of infection is very low but are advising those who consumed any food products from the store during this period to contact their healthcare providers about receiving the hepatitis A vaccine or immune globulin, which may provide some protection if administered within the first two weeks after exposure.

"Preventing exposure from infected food handlers is difficult because patients with hepatitis A are most contagious one to two weeks before symptoms start," says State Epidemiologist Dr. Sarah Park. "It is possible that other

food service establishments will be affected with additional new cases."

Since mid-June, there have been 93 confirmed cases of hepatitis A, 29 of which have required hospitalization. All cases have been in adults who were on Oahu during their exposure periods. DOH continues to investigate and is working to identify the source of infection for this outbreak.

Symptoms of hepatitis A infection include fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, abdominal discomfort, dark urine, diarrhea and yellow skin and eyes. Individuals exhibiting symptoms of hepatitis A should stay home and contact their healthcare provider.

State law requires all unvaccinated food handlers who are contacts of confirmed

cases be tested for infection before returning to work. A "contact" with the case is defined as unvaccinated household members, unvaccinated sexual contacts, anyone sharing illicit drugs with a case, anyone sharing food or eating or drinking utensils with a case, or anyone consuming ready-to-eat foods prepared by an infectious food handler with diarrhea or poor hygiene.

While vaccination provides the best protection, frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and warm water, changing a diaper and before preparing food can help prevent the spread of hepatitis A. Appropriately cooking foods can also help prevent infection.

For additional information about hepatitis A, visit the DOH website at: <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/hepatitis-a-outbreak-2016/>.

City Lights Display Application Deadline is August 31

Non-profit organizations wishing to place a display on the Frank F. Fasi Civic Center grounds during the annual Honolulu City Lights exhibition must submit applications by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 31, 2016 to the Department of Customer Services (DCS) at 550 South King Street.

Permits will be issued for five display sites through a lottery. The lottery drawing will take place on September 15, 2016 at 10 am in the Mission Memorial Building Hearings Room at 550 South

King Street. Organizations that receive a permit will be responsible for the set-up, maintenance and removal of their display. Applicants must be non-profit organizations under HRS Chapter 414D, or a charitable organization formed pursuant to HRS Chapter 467B, or under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The application, instructions and rules governing the use of the Civic Center grounds are available at http://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/csd/Non-profit_application_form_2016.pdf or by contacting DCS at 768-3392.

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WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY?

America Needs a Duterte - How About Donald Trump?



By Atty. Emmanuel Samonte Tipon



America needs to start winning again. Nobody likes a loser and nobody likes to be bullied.

What we need is leadership that can deal with our mess and begin to apply practical solutions to our problems. I know how to deal with complex issues and how to bring together all the various elements necessary for success. It's time we turn America around from despair and anger to joy and accomplishment. It can happen, and it will happen." — Donald Trump, Crippled America, How to Make America Great Again.

Almost everyone hates flying since 9/11 with tight security and tighter economy class seats. Economy class is the only way officials should travel even if they can afford first class, says Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte. Traveling by air is the only way to come to Cleveland, Ohio to vote for Donald Trump as a Hawaii state Trump official delegate to the Republican Party National Convention. Trump received sufficient votes to make him the official nominee of the Republican Party for President of the United States.

I had the honor and privilege of personally meeting with, shaking hands, getting autographs and taking selfies with Donald Trump and Mike Pence, the vice presidential nominee, at an exclusive gathering of some 250 original Trump volunteers at Mr. Trump's hotel on Friday morning after the convention ended Thursday July 21. "God bless you, Mr. President," I said to Mr. Trump. "Thank you, thank you very much," Mr. Trump replied.

Everyone should place in their bucket list attending a Republican national convention. It is fun, it is exciting, it lifts your



Donald kisses Melania after her speech at the Republican National Convention |Photo by Emmanuel S. Tipon

spirit, you are with a group of intelligent people who want to help make America great again. The FBI and Secret Service have carefully vetted every delegate. There are no crazies inside the arena – but outside who knows? I had planned to bring a piece of brick and present it to Trump as the symbolic first brick to be laid for the Great Wall of America to keep illegal aliens out like the Great Wall of China kept the barbarians out. But I was told that the Secret Service would not allow it. Such a wall would be a tourist attraction and pay for itself if we cannot make the Mexicans pay for it.

"What attracted you to Trump?" asked Paul Henson, North America New Bureau Chief of The Filipino Channel, ABS-CBN, when he interviewed me at the Quicken Loans Arena, the convention's venue. "His stand on illegal immigration," I answered. "We must stop illegal immigration. It is prejudicial to law abiding Filipinos with approved visa petitions who are waiting in line for their visas to become available. It is like having a ticket to a movie theater and waiting in line for the doors to open and suddenly a group of ruffians without tickets break the line and push you backwards." Illegal aliens take jobs away from citizens and lawful permanent residents. They have no affidavits of support. They are a security risk. They

have not been checked by the FBI. They do not have birth certificates. "What would you do with the illegal aliens?" Henson asked. "Deport them, that is the only way to deal with people who break our immigration laws," I replied. It can be done. Where there is a will there's a way. Thousands of aliens are being deported everyday. Ask Obama, reputed to be the "Deporter in Chief."

But more than the issue of illegal aliens, what Americans want is to kick out the establishment in Washington like Duterte kicked out the establishment in Manila. The establishment is responsible for the decline of America like it has been responsible for the decline of the Philippines. The middle class has shrunk and the poor have become poorer. Trump, like Duterte, has seized on the "disenchantment and frustration" of the people and given them hope. Trump, like Duterte, has denounced the "special interests" who have the politicians doing their bidding while lining their pockets with taxpayers' money. People like Trump because, like Duterte, he tells it like it is, even using "coarse" language. Trump, like Duterte, says things that we would like to say ourselves but cannot or will not because we would be laughed at or even persecuted. Trump, like Duterte, eschews political correctness that the leftist liberals insist upon in order to re-

strict our freedom of speech.

Trump's battle cry is "Make America Great Again." If I had been asked to write it, I would have written: "Let us make America Great Again." "Let us" are words of exhortation. They urge people to act – or react. When Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos saw me with a red cap bearing the words: "TRUMP Make America Great Again" as we boarded the plane to attend the late President Marcos' 98th birthday celebration in Ilocos Norte last September, she quipped: "So you are for Trump." I answered "Yes, Ma'am". Then I whispered "I think he borrowed the slogan of Manong Andy 'This Nation Can Be Great Again.' Imelda laughed, saying "Please come visit me and let's talk."

A delegate asked if it was true that I was also a preacher besides being a lawyer. "I am not a preacher but a prophet," I said with mock seriousness. "What is your prophecy?" the delegate asked. "I have consulted the Oracle of Waikiki and I predict that Trump will win if the Republicans unite."

I was about 20 feet from the stage taking the picture of Donald kissing Melania after she delivered her speech extolling Donald as a "loving and caring" person who cares for the people of America. The next First Lady of America told us: "If you want someone to fight for you and

your country, I can assure you, he is the guy. He will never give up and most assuredly, he will never, ever let you down. . . His word is his bond." The leftist liberal pro Democratic media accused Melania of plagiarizing Michelle Obama, saying that Michelle said the same "his word is his bond" in a 2008 speech. In the name of Allah, "my word is my bond" is a commonly-used phrase. There is no copyright to it. Michelle did not invent it. Michelle's speechwriters did not create it. Much ado about nothing. The anti-Trump media will eat black crow like the pro Poe and anti Duterte Manila newspapers.

I have organized "Legal Immigrants for Trump". Please join me and "Let us make America Great Again."

ATTY. TIPON has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. He specializes in immigration law and criminal defense. Office: 900 Fort Street, Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96813. Tel. (808) 225-2645. E-Mail: filamlaw@yahoo.com. Websites: www.MilitaryandCriminalLaw.com. He is from Laoag City and Magsingal, Ilocos Sur. He served as an Immigration Officer. He is co-author of "Immigration Law Service, 1st ed.," an 8-volume practice guide for immigration officers and lawyers. This article is a general overview of the subject matter discussed and is not intended as legal advice.

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TUBBATAHA: CROWN JEWEL OF PHILIPPINE DIVING

RENDEZVOUS By Christine S. Dayrit

One of the world's diving meccas can be found on our shores. Welcome to Tubbataha Reefs National Park, the crown jewel of Philippine diving.

Sitting smack dab in the middle of the Sulu Sea, scientists believe that Tubbataha is the nursery for fish and coral spawn that populate the Sulu-Sulawesi Triangle — an area that not only covers the most important and productive fishing grounds of the Philippines but extends as far south as Malaysia and Indonesia. So important is this submerged structure in the balance of the underwater ecosystem that UNESCO declared Tubbataha a World Heritage Site as far back as 1993. In 1998, former Philippine President Fidel Ramos, a keen diver himself, created Task Force Tubbataha and a station equipped with radar and manned by zealous rangers was established.

Several factors are responsible for the almost virgin conditions of this underwater jewel. The convergence of currents constantly brings in a barrage of the nutrients and clean water a healthy reef and its inhabitants demand. Being the largest and almost lone structure in the middle of a vast expanse of ocean guarantees a healthy influx of pelagic visitors looking for a meal and other services an underwater community provides.

My discovery of Tubbataha last summer was courtesy of my good friend Yvette Lee, who is also a celebrated

underwater photographer. We landed in the bustling city of Puerto Princesa, the capital city of Palawan, on a hot summer day. The city is the jump-off point for the live-aboard ships that operate in Tubbataha during the summer months of March to early June.

Palawan is called the last frontier due to the still pristine state of its terrestrial and underwater resources. Rugged bluish silhouettes of a mountain range provided a mysterious background to the ship I was transferred to as it anchored in the channel that was just off the jetty. This ship, the second and newest addition to the Discovery Fleet, is called the *Discovery Adventure*.

As the day unfolded, the pier took on the busy atmosphere of a tropical port. I enjoyed watching people and cargo move in and out, with decibel levels rising and falling with the arrival and departure of other vessels.

Representatives came from the Tubbataha Management Office. They, along with our dive leaders, gave an orientation on the parks' rules and regulations. We were also informed of the location of our jackets and what to do in case of a boat emergency.

Soon enough, it was our turn to leave and I contained my excitement as our ship pulled away from its moorings and headed out to the open sea for the overnight sail to what is considered the Apex of Philippine dive destinations, Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park.

In the middle of nowhere

I woke up to flat seas and a



A diver in a field of foliose coral in Jessie Beazey Reef

pink sunrise and I enjoyed the early morning quiet, appreciating an almost uninterrupted 360-degree view of an empty ocean. There was an early continental breakfast and I enjoyed my hot beverage while others had toast, cereal and fruit.

Our first dive was at Staghorn Crest, which I knew to be what is called a “check-out” dive. We were told beforehand what we were expected to demonstrate to our dive masters: mask clearing, regulator recovery and buoyancy control.

We boarded chase boats that would bring us to the reef from the mother boat, and as these craft skimmed over the shallows, the sea turned from dark blue to cyan, and we could see the white sandy edge. Back-rolling into gin-clear waters, I was awed at the fields of staghorn coral that stretched out before me. So mesmerized was I looking at the reefscape and the fishes fleeing about, my dive leader had to tap me on the shoulder to indicate it was my turn. Business done, we drifted off the reef and into the walls that were accented by delicate purple sea fans. As we neared the end of the dive, we were once again on the reef-top, where we saw turtles munching on coral or just sitting quietly, gazing our way.

Back on the boat, famished with the hour-long immersion

in what actually was warm seawater, I was ecstatic to see a hot breakfast buffet spread out. Our steward called out, “Ma’am, how would you like your eggs?” They even cooked our eggs to order. I had a fluffy omelet with everything on it and accompanied by *Discovery Adventure*'s own boat-baked bread.

We did the Southwest Wall for our second dive and it could have been called the “Hanging Gardens of Babylon,” with all the sea fans and soft corals in colors that would have given Picasso a run for his money.

But Tubbataha is known for the big stuff not normally seen in other Philippine dive spots, and in this, it did not disappoint.

Delsan Wreck is marked by the remains of a forgotten sunken ship. Only a bit of it can be seen at low tide and the dive-pros use it as an entry point to get to what they call the “crack.” It is a plateau that juts out from about 25 meters from an otherwise endless wall.

When there is a current, this plateau is awash with schools of jacks, barracudas and beefy grey reef sharks. The ground itself is covered by sea whips, barrel sponges and corals that bloom in the nutrient-rich waters.

Shark Airport is another site known for its bigger inhab-

itants.

The parade of pelagics began as we descended along an immense wall that stretched endlessly in front of us.

Turtles and white-tip sharks launched themselves off their crevices and ledges and we came across several large schools of jacks that whirled into the depths. Like a waterfall of molten silver, they cascaded endlessly over our wide-eyed expressions.

Curtains of chevron barracuda hung seemingly motionless off into the blue only to turn away simultaneously whenever we attempted to approach.

We gassed off among the shallow corals and found why the area is known as the shark airport. White-tip sharks lay on the sandy slopes like parked jets and as divers approached, they would take off, circle, and land once more!

Several other sites such as Black Rock and Kook gave us mantas and whale sharks. Whale sharks have been abundant the past few years according to the seasoned pros. I would like to think the information and education campaigned by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the other government agencies are finally bearing fruit.

(continued on page 15)

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and enjoy the e-copy of the hawaii filipino chronicle



HEALTH & FAMILY

Blood Donation: The Gift of Life

MIND YOUR BODY
by Willie T. Ong, MD



Have you heard about these myths on blood donation?

Myth 1: The body only has a limited amount

of blood.

Fact: Only around 350 to 500 ml of blood is taken out in one session. Provided you are not anemic, the body has enough blood for its needs. Your body will also produce new blood immediately after you donate blood.

Myth 2: Blood donation leads to weakness. You will not be able to perform sports activities anymore.

Fact: The body will automatically replenish the lost blood in three to four weeks. Donating blood does not lead to weakness or disability. Just



take plenty of fluids after donating blood and rest for a while. In a short time, your body will adjust and will be back to normal. You can go back to your regular physical activities the next day.

Myth 3: Women and girls cannot donate blood.

Fact: Women can donate blood just like men.

Myth 4: It is painful to give blood.

Fact: The pain from blood donation is the same as a needle prick. However, there will be a slight soreness in the area of the prick.

Myth 5: You will be exposed to infections, such as

HIV, if you donate blood.

Fact: The blood donation team ensures sterility in equipment and needles during the procedure. New needles are used for each person.

Myth 6: Some races are not fit to donate blood. Only certain people are allowed to donate blood.

Fact: Donating blood depends on your current health status and your blood type. It has nothing to do with race, ethnicity or sex. Everyone can be considered for blood donation as long as he/she is healthy.

Myth 7: The process is tedious and they will ask you

embarrassing questions before you donate blood.

Fact: The World Health Organization requires all blood donors to answer questions that will ensure that the blood being donated is safe. This is not meant to embarrass the donor but to protect the recipient of the blood.

A health worker will ask you about your medical history and check your blood pressure, pulse rate and temperature. You will be asked about risky behaviors such as intravenous drug use and multiple sex partners. All answers will be kept confidential. During the screening process, a sample of blood will be taken to check your hemoglobin level to make sure you are not anemic.

Myth 8: Donating blood will take a long time.

Fact: The actual blood extraction will take 10 minutes. All in all, the whole process of donation will take about one hour.

Why donate blood

The Philippine Red Cross

encourages everyone to donate blood. The lives of other people are at stake. Blood is needed for operations, hospital cases, and during emergencies.

Nothing can be more pitiful than seeing a parent look for blood in order to save the life of his child. If the hospital or your locality does not have an adequate supply of blood, then it is possible that people may die as a result.

You can donate blood if you are in good health and between 16 and 65 years old. Teens who are 16 to 17 years old need their parents' consent. Eligible blood donors should weigh at least 110 pounds and pass the medical history and physical examination. Vital signs should be within normal limits. You should also not be sick or have a fever.

A healthy person can donate blood every three months. Even if you had a flu shot, you can still donate blood. On the other hand, those who underwent a tattooing procedure, acupuncture, and other proce-

(continued on page 15)

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

SC Rules with Finality: EDCA Constitutional

by Edu Punay
Wednesday, July 27, 2016

MANILA, Philippines – With no new arguments presented, the Supreme Court (SC) yesterday gave its final nod to the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) between the Philippines and the United States.

In a session coinciding with the day US Secretary of State John Kerry arrived in the country for a two-day visit, the SC justices voted 9-4 to deny the appeals filed by former senators Rene Saguisag and Wigberto Tañada and militant lawmakers led by Bayan Muna Reps. Neri Colmenares and Carlos Zarate.

The high court, citing a lack of new arguments, instead affirmed its January decision finding the EDCA not constitutionally infirm as alleged by the petitioners.

Malacañang lauded the SC decision and expressed optimism it would further improve Philippine-US military relations.

“We likewise remain confident that through this military cooperation we would improve our joint humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts,” Presidential Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said in a text message to reporters.

The petitioners reiterated their main argument in their separate motions for reconsideration last February that EDCA violated Article 18, Section 25 of the Constitution, which requires concurrence of Senate on treaties.

“Petitioners do not present new arguments to buttress their claims of error on the part of this Court. They have re-hashed their prior arguments and made them responsive to the structure of the decision, yet the points being made are the same,” read the resolution penned by Chief Justice Ma. Lourdes Sereno.

The SC stood firm on its finding that EDCA is not a form of treaty, but rather a valid executive agreement that former president Benigno Aquino III was allowed to enter into with the US under the Constitution, to implement the earlier Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) and the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT).

“EDCA did not go beyond the framework. The entry of US troops has long been authorized under a valid and subsisting treaty, which is the Visiting Forces Agreement. Reading the VFA along with the longstanding Mutual Defense Treaty led this Court to the conclusion that an executive agreement such as the EDCA was well within the

bounds of the obligations imposed by both treaties,” the high tribunal stressed.

The SC said the arguments of petitioners “fell flat before the stronger legal position that EDCA merely implemented the VFA and MDT.”

The SC also again rejected the argument of petitioners that the agreement should be considered a treaty as it introduced “amendment” to the military bases agreement through exchange of notes.

“Diplomatic exchanges of notes are not treaties but rather formal communication tools on routine agreements, akin to private law contracts, for the executive branch. This cannot truly amend or change the terms of the treaty, but merely serve as private contracts between the executive branches of government,” it pointed out.

Furthermore, the high tribunal said it could not grant the petition of the former and incumbent lawmakers and rescind EDCA just because it is not a good deal for the country.

“Unfortunately, the Court’s only concern is the legality of EDCA and not its wisdom or folly; their remedy clearly belongs to the executive or legislative branches of government,” it added.

Sereno was joined by eight magistrates in the majority ruling: Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio and Associate Justices Presbitero Velasco Jr., Diosdado Peralta, Lucas Bersamin, Mariano del Castillo, Jose Perez, Jose Mendoza and Bienvenido Reyes.

Associate Justices Teresita Leonardo-de Castro, Arturo Brion, Estela Perlas-Bernabe and Marvic Leonen dissented, while Associate Justices Francis Jardeza and Alfredo Benjamin Caguioa took no part due to their previous role in the case as solicitor general and chief presidential legal counsel.

Under EDCA, the US is allowed to build structures, store as well as preposition weapons, defense supplies and materiel; station troops, civilian personnel and defense contractors; transit and station vehicles, vessels and aircraft for a period of 10 years.

It was signed by officials of both countries hours before President Obama arrived in the country for his two-day state visit on April 28 and 29, 2014.

Andanar said EDCA is now indisputably constitutional, as “the court of last resort has spoken.”

“The Supreme Court’s decision upholding EDCA’s legality hopes to increase the interoperability of our armed forces and contribute to its modernization,” he added. (www.philstar.com)

PHILIPPINE NEWS

Bishops Laud Duterte's SONA

by Evelyn Macairan
Wednesday, July 27, 2016

MANILA, Philippines – Despite President Duterte's pronouncements against the Catholic Church, some bishops were pleased when he said that there should be no separation between God and state.

"I hope it is intentional on his part. If he is serious, he should also follow the commandments, especially 'thou shall not kill,'" Manila Auxiliary Bishop Broderick Pabillo said.

Pabillo, chairman of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines-Episcopal Commission on Laity (CBCP-ECL), was among those who led the launch of the Huwag



President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on his first State of the Nation Address.

Kang Papatay campaign on Monday afternoon.

He was happy that the revival of the death penalty was not mentioned in Duterte's State of the Nation Address

(SONA).

Cubao Bishop Honesto Ongtioco was elated that the President had said the truth, that we could not separate God from the state.

"We should never lose our focus on God. Hopefully good change will come," Ongtioco said.

Sorsogon Bishop Arturo Bastes was dismayed when Duterte emphasized the full implementation of the Reproductive Health (RH) Law, saying this would be "the start of national calamity of reduced population.

"The moral aspect of artificial birth control was ignored," Bastes said.

Bataan Bishop Ruperto Santos, chairman of CBCP-Episcopal Commission on Migrants and Itinerant People, found Duterte's 98-minute speech inspiring and encouraging.

Santos was pleased that the Chief Executive intends to put up a one-stop shop for overseas Filipino workers.

"The President is magnanimous and forgiving. He did not resort to finger pointing on the sins of the past. I am grateful for his compassion and concern for our OFWs," he said.

Two Mindanao bishops also expressed satisfaction with Duterte's declaration of a unilateral ceasefire.

Bishop Dinualdo Gutierrez of Marbel, South Cotabato said the President's first SONA was "very good."

Basilan Bishop Martin Jumoad said Duterte wants the country to attain peace, which everyone aspires for.

"The President is sincere. I hope the Communist Party of the Philippines — New People's Army will do the same. We welcome these changes," Jumoad said. (www.philstar.com)

Senators Back Emergency Powers for Rody

by Paolo Romero
Wednesday, July 27, 2016

MANILA, Philippines – Despite President Duterte's pronouncements against the Catholic Church, some bishops were pleased when he said that there should be no separation between God and state.

"I hope it is intentional on his part. If he is serious, he should also follow the commandments, especially 'thou shall not kill,'" Manila Auxiliary Bishop Broderick Pabillo said.

Pabillo, chairman of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines-Episcopal Commission on Laity (CBCP-ECL), was among those who led the launch of the Huwag Kang Papatay campaign on Monday afternoon.

He was happy that the revival of the death penalty was not mentioned in Duterte's State of the Nation Address (SONA).

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(CANDID PERSPECTIVES from page 3, FILIPINOS REACT....)

affairs agency in Washington and is excited about the historic week ahead when the Democrats will nominate a woman to lead the ticket.

"(Hillary) believes when we work together to address issues facing our country that we can solve problems," Bueno told me. "She has the experience, knowledge, and ability to work across party lines to get things done as demonstrated from her work as First Lady, Senator and Secretary of State. Trump was very negative and tried to scare voters into voting for him."

Doesn't mean the Dems won't be unscathed by yet another

e-mail scandal, this time concerning former DNC chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz who was forced to resign before the convention. E-mails suggested the DNC did little for Bernie Sanders in the stretch drive to wrest away the nomination from Clinton. Is it the rigged system that Trump likes to talk about? Or just a minor distraction. I just don't see it as enough to change a thing.

This is a race about negatives. And so far, the dislike for Trump is still greater than the dislike for Hillary. Especially now that Hillary has made history to be the first woman presidential nominee.

She may or may not win. But I still think Bernie stole the show. Roll call votes are usually pro forma affairs. At conventions, the drama is usually in the main stage speeches. But this was different. Sanders act of unity should make an impression on all about politics going forward. We can and must get along. Especially if we want to achieve history.

EMIL GUILLERMO is an award-winning journalist and commentator who writes from Northern California. He recently won the 2015 Dr. Suzanne Ahn Award for Civil Rights and Social Justice from the Asian American Journalists Association California.





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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Analysis: Deconstructing Duterte's Clamor for Radical Change

by Dindo Manhit
Tuesday, July 26, 2016

MANILA, Philippines - On Monday, President Rodrigo Duterte delivered a conversational yet comprehensive State of the Nation Address or SONA. In it, Duterte summed up his first priorities in legislation, in national projects, and in delivering public services, so as to realize his vision of a people-centered government during his six-year term.

In over 90 minutes, Duterte emphasized his desire to intensify the nationwide anti-drug, anti-crime, and anti-corruption campaign; begin to build peace with the armed Communist movement and Moro separatists; and shift the country to a federal-parliamentary form of government. Impressively, 91 percent of the Filipino people trust that he will deliver based on the Pulse Asia survey conducted from July 2 to 8.

We can examine Duterte's policy thrusts and strategic interventions against six governance initiatives: strategic leadership, transparent and accountable government, responsive public services, strong rule of law and a stable policy environment, improving social inequality, and the defense of territorial integrity and maritime rights. These initiatives serve as a guide in determining how well Duterte has done in fulfilling his duty as the leader of the land and well as his promise of radical change—the powerful battle



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, center, is applauded by Senate President Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel, left, and House Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez prior to delivering his first State of the Nation Address (SONA) before the joint session of the 17th Congress Monday, July 25, 2016, at suburban Quezon City northeast of Manila, Philippines. | AP/BULLIT MARQUEZ

cry that led to his phenomenal rise to the presidency.

Strategic Leadership

While it drafts its medium-term strategy documents, the Duterte administration is providing an introspective form of strategic leadership that reflects his strong emphasis on law and order. The government's campaign to combat social evils intensified upon Duterte's assumption of office, soon after which he personally named five "narco-generals" and replaced the guards of the New Bilibid Prison with elite Special Action police forces.

In a July 14 report, the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism said that in the first two weeks of July, around 66,300 people voluntarily surrendered for drug offenses, 1,800 suspects were arrested, and 135 suspects were killed. At the same time, more than 43,000 houses were "visited" under Project Tokhang, with around P146.3 million worth of illegal drugs

seized. In the same period, several civil society groups raised their clamor for the respect for due process and fair hearings, and for Duterte to avert the growing number of extra-judicial killings.

Duterte also turned his anti-crime sights on the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), vowing to employ the full force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and strengthen coordination with Indonesia, Malaysia, and other bilateral partners to crush the ASG and other lawless elements.

To help build peace, Duterte declared a unilateral ceasefire with the New People's Army (NPA), effective immediately, in preparation for the resumption of peace talks. He also urged the Congress to pass a more inclusive, more constitutionally compliant form of the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) which shall serve as a template for his envisioned federal structure. Throughout the SONA, Duterte repeatedly emphasized his desire for a radical

shift to a federal-parliamentary form of government that will decentralize power. He said he hopes for a federal system of government to be put in place four to five years into his term following a referendum.

"Throughout the SONA, Duterte repeatedly emphasized his desire for a radical shift to a federal-parliamentary form of government that will decentralize power."

Transparent and Accountable Government

Duterte vowed to provide concrete mechanisms to render the government more transparent and accountable. Just before the SONA, he signed an Executive Order providing Freedom of Information to Filipinos—fulfilling a campaign promise and especially admirable coming so early in his term as President. In the SONA, he urged Congress to turn the Executive Order into law.

To improve accountability, Duterte is set to implement an 8888 anti-corruption hotline for Filipinos to report the practices of wayward public officials. The National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) has already issued a memorandum order for its use effective August 1. He also pushed for the relaxation of the Bank Secrecy Law aimed at improving tax collection and preventing tax evasion.

"The National Telecommunications Commission has already issued a memorandum order for the use of an 8888

anti-corruption hotline."

Duterte vowed to strictly implement environmental standards. With marching orders from the president, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) began embarking on a new pro-environment crusade, auditing all mining firms in the country, seeking for bigger revenue share for the government, and suspending those which fail to comply with safety standards as stipulated in the Mining Act.

Responsive Public Services

After tackling issues on security and accountability, Duterte set his sights on the country's need to pursue industrialization and improve the quality of life of all citizens. To achieve these twin goals, he revealed a plan to improve existing national roads, bridges and railways and implement and develop new logistics networks and transit systems. To resolve traffic congestion in Metro Manila, he asked for emergency powers and proposed the revival of daily operations of the Pasig River Ferry Service System. All of these moves will facilitate freer and faster movement of goods and people across the archipelago.

In this regard, the Department of Budget and Management said it will adopt a hybrid form of Public-Private Partnership, wherein the government will build hard public infrastructure non-stop while a private firm will perform maintenance. Duterte also earlier met with Chinese diplomats led by to draw financial support and technological capability for the proposed railway systems. To decongest the Ninoy Aquino International Airport specifically, he proposed that a new airport be constructed in Sangley Point, Cavite, while other flights be moved to Clark International Airport, which will be to Metro Manila via railway. He also called for a National Broadband Plan to upgrade our cyber infrastructure.

"Duterte also earlier met

(continued on page 13)

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LEGAL NOTES



By Reuben S. Seguritan

DOJ Petitions For Rehearing of DAPA/DACA+ Case

It may not yet be end of the road for the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) and the expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA+). On July 18, the Department of Justice filed with the US Supreme Court a petition to rehear United States versus State of Texas.

In its petition, the Department of Justice argued that “the Court should grant rehearing to provide for a decision by the Court when it has a full complement of Members, rather than allow a non-precedential affirmance by an equally divided Court to leave in place a nationwide injunction of such significance.”

The petition underscored that although it is exceedingly rare, it is not a new practice for the Court to grant a rehearing.

In the past, it has also granted rehearing in other cases especially when the court was unable to obtain a decision due to a vacancy. It was not also uncommon that upon reargument, a majority vote was arrived at.

The petition highlighted the immediacy of the resolution of the case. With the Supreme Court’s deadlock on the issue, the preliminary injunction issued on February 16, 2015 by US district court Judge Andrew Hanen which was later affirmed on appeal by the Fifth Circuit, stays. And although the Fifth Circuit is only made up of three states--- Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, the injunction nevertheless effectively halted the implementation of the two immigration initiatives introduced by Pres. Barack Obama back in 2014.

“The preliminary injunction prohibits the government from implementing the Guidance anywhere nationwide; there is no reason to expect that the district court would

issue a permanent injunction that is narrower. Unless the Court resolves this case in a precedential manner, a matter of ‘great national importance’ involving an ‘unprecedented and momentous’ injunction barring implementation of the Guidance will have been effectively resolved for the country as a whole by a court of appeals that has divided twice, with two judges voting for petitioners and two for respondent States,” the petition stated.

This is a welcome development and one that has given a glimmer of hope to potential recipients. However, the rehearing depends on the confirmation of a ninth judge which may happen after the November US Presidential elections. The Court could dismiss the case for lack of standing of the plaintiff or reverse the decision of the Fifth Circuit thus allowing DAPA/DACA + to be implemented. It could also affirm the Circuit’s decision and uphold the injunction and the case would go back to the

district court whose decision could eventually be appealed to the Fifth Circuit and the Supreme Court a second time.

While waiting for this new development to take some steps forward, it must also be noted that the Supreme Court’s ruling did not affect the president’s authority to establish priorities for the enforcement of immigration laws and the grant of deferred action. Shortly after the SC made its decision, Obama clarified that undocumented immigrant who are otherwise qualified under DAPA and DACA+ and have no criminal conviction, are still among the lowest priority for deportation. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) therefore still has authority to review and grant individual request for deferred action.

The decision also did not

affect the DACA which was announced by Obama back in 2012. Those who meet the program’s criteria established in 2012 may continue to apply – both first-time applicants and the DACA recipients who seek to renew their deferred action and employment authorization.

Based on estimates, there are about four million undocumented immigrants who could have benefited from DAPA and DACA+. Of that figure, there are still those who can avail of other forms of deportation relief. In fact, according to the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), 14.3% of DACA-eligible population may qualify for other forms of relief, even more permanent than DACA+ and DAPA.

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PHILIPPINE NEWS from page 12, ANALYSIS....

with Chinese diplomats led by to draw financial support and technological capability for the proposed railway systems”

As regards agriculture and aquaculture, Duterte promised to provide free irrigation for farmers and establish modern harvest and postharvest facilities to minimize losses. He tasked the Department of Agriculture with conducting nationwide soil analysis to optimize the production of rice and other crops. He also vowed to strictly enforce fisheries laws, particularly on illegal fishing and promote aquaculture along river banks and in backyards. With regard to energy, however, Duterte reiterated his stand that he will not honor the landmark Paris Agreement on Climate Change, believing that its restrictive provisions on carbon emissions will stifle the country’s ability to jumpstart industrialization.

Duterte also vowed to address the bottlenecks within the government bureaucracy reducing processing time in issuing business permits, clearances and licenses to the barest minimum, preferably within three days at the maximum.

Strong Rule of Law and Stable Policy Environment

Duterte assured that he will complement these objectives with sound macro-economic management. His administration will provide continuity of macroeconomic policies and honor the contracts made by the Aquino government. Duterte plans to achieve this through the appointment of pro-business technocrats who will provide a sense of balance to his appointment of some left-leaning leaders in the Cabinet, thereby helping translate high growth into more and better job cre-

ation and poverty reduction. Furthermore, Duterte stressed the need to attract more investments, particularly in sectors of manufacturing, agriculture, and tourism.

“His administration will provide continuity of macro-economic policies and honor the contracts made by the Aquino government.”

One topic that was not tackled at length during SONA, however, was the implementation of no-contractualization policy although the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) earlier vowed to carry this out.

Preference for the poor and inclusive growth

Duterte advocated for the expedient implementation of progressive policies, such as the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law. According to Duterte, this is

(continued on page <None>)

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Palace: Government Won't Spare 1 Cent for Miss Universe

by **Alixandra Caole Vila**
Friday, July 29, 2016



President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and Miss Universe Pia Wurtzbach during her courtesy call in Malacañan Palace last July 18, 2016. Image from Pia Wurtzbach IG account (@piawurtzbach)

MANILA, Philippines — Presidential spokesperson Ernesto Abella said on Friday that the Philippine government will not give a "single centavo" to fund the Miss Universe pageant, set on Jan. 30, 2017.

"The Philippine government will not be giving a 'single centavo' [to Miss Universe] except of course in terms of services, in terms of protection, in terms of security, but not in actual cash," Abella said at a press conference streamed online.

The government was previously made to shoulder part

of expenses of the Miss Universe pageant it hosted in 1994. But President Rodrigo Duterte already directed Tourism Secretary Wanda Teo not to allow Filipinos taxes to go to the pageant hosting next year.

"Basically, when it was first broached to the president, he said it's going to be magastos [noh]. His impression is it's going to be expensive...\$11

million, that is his assumption," Abella said.

Earlier this month, reigning Miss Universe Pia Wurtzbach paid a courtesy call on President Rodrigo Duterte to discuss plans to host the international pageant in the Philippines. Teo has said that Duterte already "approved in principle" the proposal, but he also emphasized that expenses must be shouldered by private

sector.

Abella said, meanwhile, that the president has already been assured by the private sector the expenses will be covered.

Meanwhile, it was not clear yet whether who among the private organizations will sponsor what is arguably the most pageant in the world.

Miss Universe is a global marketing event and Teo said

it would be an opportunity to boost the tourism industry of the Philippines.

A state news report earlier on Friday revealed the government is looking at six destinations to be featured at the 65th Miss Universe pageant.

After getting the approval of President Duterte for the Philippines to host the pageant next year, the Department of Tourism has begun the negotiations with the organizers of Miss Universe. (www.philstar.com)

(from page 13, ANALYSIS....)

aimed at empowering the Filipino families, especially the poor to have freedom of informed choice on their preferred number and spacing of children. He lobbied for Universal Health Care through PhilHealth which will equalize and broaden access to quality health services. Furthermore, he called for genuine tax reform which would entail lowering income and corporate taxes.

Conclusion

In general, Duterte succeeded in electrifying the government bureaucracy in his first 100 days of office, thereby giving the Filipino populace a new ray of hope that the new administration is committed to genuine political, economic and social revolution. Although far from being perfect, Duterte managed to lay down the overall groundwork for the accomplishment of his three strategic objectives towards the end of his six-year term, namely: reestablishment of law and order, rendering of a more inclusive socio-economic growth and development, and restructuring of the form of government.

"Although far from being perfect, Duterte managed to lay down the overall groundwork for the accomplishment of his three strategic objectives towards the end of his six-year term."

The fundamental challenge is for Duterte to sustain the growing momentum of his radical agenda by: translating his personal, patriotic vision into strong, dynamic and first-world state institutions that will outlive him; empowering a new breed of political, bureaucratic and business elite to carefully implement his pro-security and pro-developmental policies, plans and programs; maintaining support among the majority of the Filipino populace; and managing bilateral and multilateral relations with neighboring countries as well as regional powers. (www.philstar.com)

Defending territorial integrity and maritime rights

Duterte departs from former President Benigno Aquino III by balancing between the US and China, and keeping a more moderate position on the West Philippine Sea dispute with Beijing. Despite the favourable Arbitral Tribunal ruling, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) earlier called for restraint and sobriety rather than increase in diplomatic pressure for China's compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas (UNCLOS).

Former President Fidel V. Ramos has already acceded to Duterte's request to become the special envoy for the resumption of high-level talks. It remains to be seen, whether or not Duterte will use the ruling as the basis for future negotiations with China. There are hints that Duterte is likely to put the ruling in the backburner in exchange of greater "benefits", i.e. increased Chinese financial and infrastructural aid.

"It remains to be seen, whether or not Duterte will use the ruling as the basis for future negotiations with China"

DINDO MANHIT is the President of Stratbase-Albert Del Rosario Institute (ADRI) for Strategic and International Studies.

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PHILIPPINE WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB (PWCC), FILIPINIANA BALL & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS | August 13, 2016, Saturday | 6:00 p.m | HIBISCUS BALLROOM, ALA MOANA HOTEL | For more info, contact Letty Saban @ 255-9429, Edith Gudoy @ 457-0253 or Mimi Gozar @ 312-0778

RE-AFFIRMATION AND INSTALLATION OF ILOCOS SURIAN ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII [ISAH] OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2016-2018 | August 14, 2016, Saturday | HONOLULU COUNTRY CLUB | For more info, contact Amado Yoro, co-organizer and adviser of ISAH @ 364-5258

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII (UPAAH), GALA DINNER INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS | August 20, 2016, Saturday | 6:00 p.m | FILCOM CENTER | Contact: Bea Ramos

Razon @ 778-6291, Melody Calisay @ 224-9535 or Jenny Normandy @ 286-4426

FILIPINO WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB MARIA CLARA BALL | September 17, 2016, Saturday | 6:00 p.m | HIBISCUS BALLROOM, ALA MOANA HOTEL | Contact: Bernadette Fajardo @ 342-8090 or Cecilia Villafuerte @ 780-4985

FILCOM CENTER'S BAYANIHAN GALA DINNER 2016 | October 14, 2016 | 6:00 PM | SHERATON WAIKIKI HOTEL | Contact 808-80-0451 for more information

MAUI FIL-AM HERITAGE FESTIVAL BY THE MAUI FILIPINO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | October 15, 2016 , Saturday | 10:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m | MAUI MALL, KAHULUI, MAUI | Contact Kit Zulueta @ 808-291-9407

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MAINLAND NEWS

Democrats Formally Nominate Hillary Clinton for President

PHILADELPHIA — Hillary Clinton makes history as the first woman to become the presidential nominee of a major U.S. political party, winning the nomination of the Democratic Party. The former first lady, New York senator and secretary of state

claimed her party's nomination over Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who asked Democrats to nominate her by acclamation.

The former secretary of state, New York senator and first lady wants to be the first female president in U.S. history — and to do



that, she'll have to beat Republican Donald Trump in the general election in November.

TRAVEL & LEISURE (from page 8, TUBBATAHA....)

Access to Tubbataha is only through live-aboard dive ships and although the park is open year round, the weather allows a small window — from late March to mid June — for divers to visit. The strong winds and rough swells the rest of the year

deter both authorized and unauthorized incursions into the park and permits the reef to settle back into its natural state of regeneration.

To check out the waters of Tubbataha is to welcome changes in your life. Nature has its way of fortifying

your spirit and cleansing your soul — especially when all you hear underwater is the hissing of your oxygen tank and the beating of your heart. In Tubbataha, an underwater celebration is held anywhere you look. After all, it is the crown jewel of Philippine diving. (www.philstar.com)

HEALTH & FAMILY (from page 9, BLOOD....)

dures with needles are prohibited from donating blood for one year. Those who had a tooth extraction are also deferred from donating blood for a year.

Here are the steps to follow before donating blood:

1. Get enough rest and sleep the night before.
2. Do not drink alcohol within 24 hours before the blood donation.
3. You should not have taken any medication for the past 24 hours.
4. Take a regular meal before donating blood. Avoid fatty foods.
5. Drink lots of fluids, such as water and juice, before and after donating blood.

And here are the steps to follow after donating blood:

1. Rest for around 10 minutes.
2. Drink plenty of fluids, like water or juice, to replenish the fluid you lost.

3. Apply pressure on the puncture site to avoid bleeding. Limit using the arm for lifting heavy objects. You may apply cold compress on the puncture site if there is bruising or swelling.
4. Refrain from stooping down after blood donation.
5. Avoid heavy physical activity and avoid driving big vehicles such as buses and trucks.
6. If you feel dizzy, just lie down and keep your feet slightly elevated. Your dizziness will go away in a few minutes after the body has adjusted.

What happens to your blood after the donation?

First, the blood is tested to determine the type, which is classified as O, A, B or AB. The Rh factor refers to the presence of a specific antigen in the blood. Most people are Rh factor positive.

In general, people with type O blood (especially Rh-negative) can donate blood to many other people, while those with type AB blood can receive blood from many people. In the Philippines, the most common blood types are as follows: Type O and Rh-positive, 45 percent; Type B and Rh-positive, 25 percent; Type A and Rh-positive, 24 percent; Type AB and Rh-positive, five percent; Rh-negative group, less than one percent.

Second, the blood will be tested for infectious diseases such as HIV, malaria, hepatitis B and C, and syphilis. If the donated blood tests positive, then the blood will be discarded. Persons with such infections are disbarred from donating blood.

The Philippine Red Cross says that donating blood is giving the gift of life. If you would like to donate blood, visit the Philippine Red Cross website to find the nearest blood donation center. (www.philstar.com)

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Dr. Jon Avery Go is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Medicine and Surgery and underwent training at the Roger Williams Medical Center in Providence, RI which is affiliated with Boston University School of Medicine.
