

*Army Vision: By 2028, a world-class Army that is a source of national pride*



# **ARMY**

**Serving the people. Securing the land.**

**[oacpa.army2012@gmail.com](mailto:oacpa.army2012@gmail.com)**

## **OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS CLIPPINGS**

**21 November 2016**

**Monday**

*Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.*

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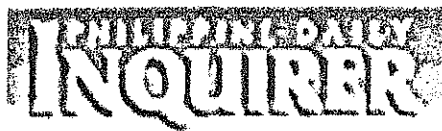
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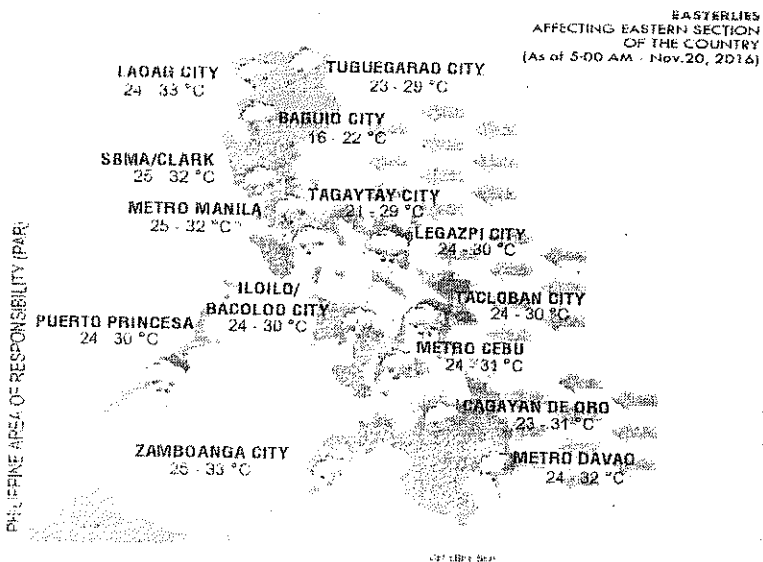
**PANAHON TV**
































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**TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | NOVEMBER 21, 2016 | MONDAY**



SUNRISE	SUNSET
6:00 AM	5:24 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
11:10 PM	12:01 PM
LAST QUARTER	NEW MOON
NOV 21 4:35 PM	NOV 28 8:18 PM
LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
MANILA SOUTH HARBOR 10:37 AM -0.07 Meter	1:42 AM 1.07 Meter
Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms	
Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms	

	NOV 22	NOV 23	NOV 22	NOV 23	NOV 22	NOV 23		
METRO MANILA	 25 - 32 °C	 24 - 33 °C	TAGAYTAY	 21 - 29 °C	 22 - 30 °C	TACLOBAN	 25 - 31 °C	 24 - 31 °C
TUGUEGARAO	 23 - 30 °C	 24 - 30 °C	LEGAZPI	 24 - 31 °C	 24 - 32 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	 23 - 31 °C	 23 - 32 °C
LAOAG	 24 - 33 °C	 24 - 33 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	 25 - 31 °C	 25 - 31 °C	METRO DAVAO	 24 - 33 °C	 24 - 33 °C
BAGUIO	 17 - 22 °C	 17 - 23 °C	ILOILO/ BACOLOD	 24 - 30 °C	 24 - 31 °C	ZAMBOANGA	 23 - 32 °C	 24 - 32 °C
SBMA/ CLARK	 25 - 32 °C	 25 - 33 °C	METRO CEBU	 24 - 30 °C	 24 - 30 °C	 SABOT KO, PARALA MO!		



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# Bigger protests vs Marcos burial set

**FROM A1**

**By Inquirer staff  
@Team\_Inquirer**

A broad protest movement is set to greet President Duterte on his return on Friday to show the people's indignation over the furtive burial of the dictator Ferdinand Marcos at Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig City amid demands that the Supreme Court order an exhumation.

"We're laying it on him because no matter how we look at it, the process started with his pronouncement that if he becomes President, he's going to allow the burial," Bonifacio Ilagan, convenor of the Campaign Against the Return of the Marcoses to Malacañang (Carmma), told the Inquirer on Sunday.

The President is currently in Lima, Peru, for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit.

Ilagan said Marcos' burial on Friday at Libingan was a direct affront to the victims of martial law and the activists who fought against the dictatorship.

"While we are personally affected, at the end of the day, we ponder on its implication to the present and the future, the next generation who will live under the impression that the Marcos regime could be honored like that," said Ilagan, also the vice chair of a group of former political detainees.

National Union of People's Lawyers (NUPL) secretary gen-

eral Edre Olalia said his group will file their motion in the Supreme Court today to cite in contempt the Marcos family and officials of the Philippine Army and the Philippine National Police and that they be fined and imprisoned.

Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman is likewise filing today a similar motion in the high tribunal, calling the Libingan burial premature, precipitate and irregular.

"The burial showed that the true colors and attitude of the Marcoses have not changed. They are so used to deceiving, lying to and abusing our country," he said in a radio interview.

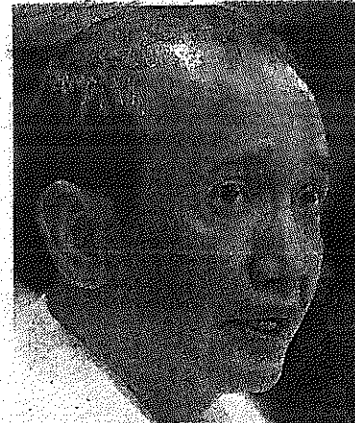
Olalia, who represents former Bayan Muna Representatives Satur Ocampo and Neri Colmenares in the petition against the burial, slammed the "premature execution" of the court's Nov. 8 decision, which he said was not yet final.

Olalia said court rules allow them 15 days to appeal the decision. Since they received an official copy on Nov. 11, they supposedly have until Nov. 26 to file a motion for reconsideration.

But the Marcoses proceeded with the military interment rites on Nov. 18, sparking spontaneous protests.

Due to the turn of events, Olalia said the NUPL will not only ask the Supreme Court to overturn its decision allowing the burial but also order the exhumation "and probably even exorcism" of the dictator's remains from Libingan.

Solicitor General Jose Calida said he did not think the court



**OLALIA:** A motion to cite in contempt the Marcos family will be filed in the Supreme Court today.

would grant the motion, noting the "landslide" 9-5-1 vote of the magistrates supporting Mr. Duterte's directive to allow the burial at Libingan 23 years after the dictator's body was returned to the Philippines.

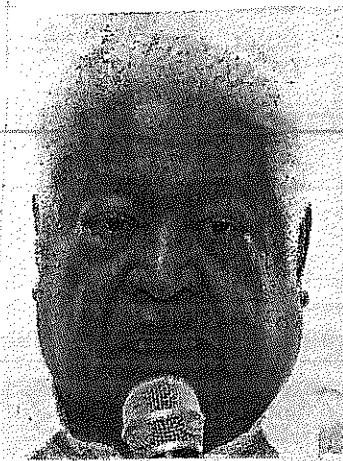
Marcos died in exile in Hawaii three years after his ouster in the EDSA People Power Revolution in 1986. His body had been preserved at a mausoleum in his Batac hometown.

## **Marcos style**

Calida said the court's decision was deemed "immediately executory" and that there was "no legal basis" for the appeals or the contempt demands.

Ilagan said Carmma was touching base with all institutions, organizations and individuals who issued statements against the burial to make the protest encompassing.

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LAGMAN: The burial shows that the true colors and attitude of the Marcoses have not changed. —EDWIN BACASMAS

The details are still being ironed out, although they are looking at Luneta Park in Manila and Ayala Avenue in Makati City, he said.

"We're hoping the crowd will be really big and we want this to have a different atmosphere. We want this to be neutral, encompassing all sectors," Ilagan said. "I suppose it's going to be a whole day affair, there will be small rallies in various places then at some point we will all meet."

Ilagan said Mr. Duterte's partiality to the Marcos family created an environment favorable to the concept of a one-man rule.

"The implication of the burial is the revival of the Marcosian ideology, that we need one strong person to rule and he cannot be questioned because he has all the best intentions," Ilagan said, agreeing that this

was similar to Mr. Duterte's leadership style.

#### Nationwide protests

Protests also are planned in the provinces next week.

"Definitely, there will be more and bigger protests against this insult against the people, especially those who suffered torture and kin of those who died or remain missing fighting the Marcos dictatorship," said Rey-lan Vergara, secretary general of the human rights group, Panay Alliance Karapatan.

Vergara said various groups and martial law survivors in Iloilo, Aklan, Antique and Capiz provinces would join nationwide protests set on Nov. 25 and Nov. 30.

"We are inspired by the groundswell of protest especially with many of our youth at the forefront," said Elias Guiloreza, chair of Samahan ng mga Ex-Detainees Laban sa Detensyon at Aresto in Panay.

"The youth were also at the forefront in protest against the rule of Marcos especially just before martial law was declared. Now our young people are again the most active in condemning his treacherous burial," said Guiloreza, 65, a former student-activist who was tortured and detained for 19 months.

In Naga City, Ateneo de Naga University students live-streamed videos on social media of students walking out of the university right after the news of the late dictator's burial broke out on Friday morning.

Roselyn Balmes, the student

council president, said at least 1,500 students joined the noise barrage.

#### Never a hero

Students from University of Nueva Caceres, Universidad de Sta. Isabel, Bicol State College of Applied Science and Technology, and Naga College Foundation also joined the protest chanting that the late President was "never a hero then, never a hero now, and will never be a hero."

They made their way to Plaza Quezon at the city center where they staged their demonstrations.

In Legazpi City, Albay province, Bicol University's student council released a statement on social media calling on Bicolanos "to be relentless and vigilant."

But hackers defaced its website early Sunday after the council called Marcos a "thief, a dictator, and worst of all, a murderer."

In Daet, Camarines Norte province, militant groups staged a red ribbon protest and noise barrage at the Daet Elevated Plaza on Friday afternoon.

On Saturday, 50 demonstrators from the Kabataang Artista Para sa Tunay na Kalayaan, Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, and Karapatan Alliance for the Advancement of Human Rights brought placards and mock gravestones at the century-old Alice Bridge in Sorsogon City.

—WITH REPORTS FROM ERIKA SAULER, DONA Z. PAZZIBUGAN, NIKKO DIZON, REY ANTHONY OSTRIA AND NESTOR BURGOS INQ

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## Suspected Abus abduct victims from a Malaysian-registered trawler off Sabah

They are holding 22 captives, including a Dutch, a German, a South Korean, five Malaysians, two Indonesians, six Vietnamese and six Filipinos. —THE STAR/ASIA NEWS NETWORK WITH REUTERS



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**MANILA BULLETIN**  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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# Indonesians abducted in waters where Abu Sayyaf prowls

**K**UALA LUMPUR (AFP) – Two Indonesian fishermen have been abducted in waters off Malaysia that are plagued by kidnappings by Philippine-based Islamic militants, a security official said on Sunday.

The Malaysian head of security in the area, Wan Abdul Bari Wan Abdul Khalid, was quoted by Bernama news agency as saying the fishermen were seized Saturday night.

The victims were identified as Sawal Maryam and Saparuddin Kone and they were reportedly taken by five masked men, who came on board a speedboat, off the Kunah District in Sabah, Malaysia, according to the Armed Forces of the Philippines Western Mindanao Command (WesMinCom).

WesMinCom added that the speedboat fled towards high seas, and that Joint Task Force Tawi-Tawi has already been alerted about the incident.

The perennially poor security situation in the area has prompted the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia to cooperate more closely on bringing the banditry to heel.

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak said earlier this month after talks with President Rodrigo Duterte that the Philippines had agreed to allow Malaysian and Indonesian maritime forces to pursue the Islamist kidnappers into its waters.

The three countries agreed earlier this year to increase cooperation, including possible joint sea patrols.

The waters between Malaysia's eastern state of Sabah on Borneo island and the southern Philippines have for years seen repeated kidnappings by the Abu Sayyaf militant group.

While the Abu Sayyaf's leaders have in recent years pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group, analysts say it is mainly focused on running a kidnapping business rather than religious ideology.

On November 11 gunmen abducted five crewmen of a Vietnamese cargo vessel in southern Philippine waters.

Last May, Abu Sayyaf bandits released 14 Indonesian sailors they had kidnapped in two previous raids in the high seas.



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NO HERO RECOGNITION

## MARCOS BURIED AS SOLDIER, EX-PRESIDENT, SAYS SOLON

Deputy Speaker Fredenil Castro yesterday reminded Ferdinand Marcos loyalists that the dictator was buried at Libingan ng mga Bayani not as a hero, according to the Supreme Court, but as a former President and soldier.

"It did not say that he would be buried at Libingan ng mga Bayani because he is a hero. That is an issue that has yet to be resolved to this day because it was sidestepped by the Supreme Court," Castro said in a radio interview.

"What the Supreme Court merely said was he can be buried there because he was a soldier and a former President, and that is in accordance to the law," said the Capiz representative.

Castro said the Marcos loyalists should not blow up the issue by saying that Marcos was a hero.

"Perhaps they should just keep that in their hearts because that has yet to be proven. And in fact, that heroism is under question because of the many things discovered ... which does not qualify him to be a hero. In fact, many say

that [Marcos] faked his records and medals. Even the US government said it did not confer to him a medal," Castro said.

To those opposing the burial, Castro said there was "enough legal process that where they could ventilate their opposition."

"We have the laws like the right to claim damages. If they know who were responsible for the death or disappearance of their loved ones," Castro said, adding the prescriptive period for criminal liability does not apply in this instance as the perpetrators have not yet been identified and haled to court.

Castro, a lawyer and former activist, was also a martial law victim.

Asked if the atrocities could still be blamed on Marcos, Castro said it was possible.

"But considering he has died, it is his estate that would be liable for this. Criminal liability ceases after his death ... And since his estate had been inherited by his children, it is his children who would be responsible for the damages," Castro said. —NIKKO DIZON, INQ

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**Malaya**  
*The Nation's Newspaper*

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## Mega drug rehab center opens Nov. 29

THE first of the four buildings of the 10,000-bed Mega Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center in Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija is set to open on November 29, the interior department yesterday said.

Interior Undersecretary John R. Castriciones said the inter-agency task force tasked to oversee the establishment of Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers (DATRCs) is now in the thick of preparations for the partial opening of the center.

"While the government and our law enforcement agencies are striking hard

on drug lords and coddlers, we have a soft heart for drug users and dependents who are the victims of this drug menace. With the opening of this facility, the government is fulfilling its promise to assist and help those who are willing to mend their ways," Castriciones said.

The first phase of the mega drug rehab center has 2,500 beds. He said this is part of the President's directive to build at least two drug centers in Luzon, one in Visayas, and one in Mindanao with the long-term goal of having at least one in every province.

Dagupan City continues to be a model of success for the Philippine National Police's Oplan Double Barrel and President Rodrigo Duterte's all-out war on drugs.

Dagupan Police Chief Supt. Neil Miro said Barangay Poblacion Oeste was the latest area to be declared drug-free by the PNP, joining nine other barangays believed to be rid of this social menace.

Miro said that Poblacion Oeste had at least 43 drug personalities in their list, and all of them were either arrested or surrendered under Operation Tokhang. – *Raymond Africa*

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Standard

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## Cemetery for non-heroes proposed

By Macon R. Araneta  
and Rey E. Requejo

SENATE President Aquilino Pimentel III has filed a bill that seeks to set aside the land within the Libingan ng mga Bayani where Filipinos of historical interest, such as presidents, statesmen, dignitaries, and national artists

and scientists are interred, in a cemetery separate from the remains of those who served in the military.

This cemetery will be called the Libingan ng mga Makasaysayang Pilipino.

If passed into law, it will preserve the LNMB as a military memorial consistent with the pur-

pose intended for it when it was established in 1947 as the Republic Memorial Cemetery.

The Republic Memorial Cemetery was renamed the Libingan ng mga Bayani in 1954 through Proclamation No. 86 of then-President Ramon Magsaysay.

In 1948, a year after the

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## Cemetery...

From A1

establishment of the LNMB, Republic Act 248 mandated the construction of a National Pantheon where remains of all presidents of the Philippines, national heroes, and patriots would be interred to perpetuate their memory for the inspiration and emulation of generations of Filipinos.

In the bill's introduction, Pimentel explained that, "since no new National Pantheon was constructed pursuant to the said law, LNMB served as the National Pantheon envisioned under the law to be the burial place of the mortal remains of all the presidents of the Philippines, national heroes, and patriots."

Pimentel said that this is the reason AFP Regulation G-161-375

included Filipinos of historical interest and others to be interred in the LNMB alongside the remains of those with military service.

The government's top lawyer, meanwhile, said there was nothing illegal about the burial of strongman Ferdinand Marcos in the LNMB on Friday, even though the case questioning the move was still pending at the Supreme Court.

Solicitor General Jose Calida disputed the argument of Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman and other petitioners in the SC case that the burial was an act of contempt of court since they have yet to file an appeal and that the decision is not yet final and executory.

He said the Court ruling allowing Marcos' burial was immediately executory.

"As a result of the dismissal of the petitions, there was no further

hindrance for the respondents to proceed with the burial of Ferdinand Marcos' remains at LNMB," he said in a text message.

He added that he believed Lagman's plan to ask the Court to find the government in contempt and to order it to exhume the remains of Marcos would not prosper.

"Representative Lagman and other lawyer-critics should brush up first their knowledge on recent jurisprudence regarding the effect of lifting of status quo ante orders in certiorari cases before they bash the respondents in media," he said.

The chief state counsel also said he does not see the Court reversing its ruling on the matter, citing the clear margin in the 9-5 voting of the justices.

Lagman reportedly said the petitioners plan to file their appeals on the deadline on Nov. 28.

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**Malaya**  
The National Newswatch

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## Military beefs up security at LNMB

BY VICTOR REYES

THE Armed Forces has beefed up security at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig City amid protests for last Friday's sudden burial of former President Ferdinand Marcos at the heroes cemetery.

"The Philippine Army, which owns the facility, has deployed more personnel to secure the gates. There will be controlled access for now," said AFP spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla.

Padilla said military personnel will tighten the security measures to ensure that only relatives of those buried at the LNMB will be able to go inside the cemetery.

Marcos was buried at the LNMB last Friday noon. Media men, who learned of the burial a few hours before the interment, were not allowed inside on the request of the Marcos family to keep the ceremony private.

Padilla said it will be the

See MILITARY > Page B6

### MILITARY

PNP which will be in charge of crowd control in case of protests at the LNMB.

Padilla said security forces will not allow break-ins. "Break-in is a violation of the law. It's trespassing. It's a restricted area... Anyone can air their sentiments; they can do protest actions. Our only appeal to the protesters is to do this in a peaceful.

At the House, Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman wants the Supreme

Court to order the exhumation of Marcos' remains at the Libingan, saying his burial last Friday was "premature, precipitate and irregular."

The opposition lawmaker, one of the petitioners against the burial, said Marcos was buried hastily even if his family knew very well that the SC's decision is not yet final.

Lagman is set to file an omnibus motion today to ask the High Court to order the exhumation and cite in contempt

all those responsible for the alleged premature burial.

He said a motion for reconsideration will be filed after the omnibus motion.

He said those who should be cited in contempt for the premature burial are members of the Marcos family, the executive secretary, the secretary of national defense, the AFP chief and vice chief of staff, those who are managing the LNMB, and other conspirators. - *With Wendell Vigilia*

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INQUIRY

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# PH eyes Russia's, China's help to boost defenses

By Amy R. Remo  
@amyremoINQ

The Philippines plans to beef up its defense capabilities with the help of countries like Russia and China, as it seeks to establish industrial defense complexes in areas considered highly "vulnerable to attacks."

These complexes, which will house defense-related manufacturing firms, are targeted to be put up in places like Palawan, since it faces the Spratlys and Zambales, because of the Scarborough Shoal, said Charito B. Plaza, director general of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (Peza).

"We have military reservations that can be utilized as defense industrial complexes depending on the studies to be undertaken by the Department of National Defense (DND). I suggested that we should put up these defense industrial complexes in vulnerable areas of attacks like Palawan and Zambales," Plaza said.

## 'Window shopping'

She also suggested that two defense industrial complexes be put up in Mindanao. "This is not just about the transfer of

technology. We will also be able to modernize our armed forces and the police."

Plaza explained that Peza had begun "window shopping" for prospective locators from Russia, China, Israel and other countries that have sophisticated defense industries.

The target is to have locators from these countries to manufacture drones, equipment as well as the hardware and software needed by the military and police both for export and local use.

Peza started to scout for possible locators during a military exhibit in Qatar, which saw the participation of 86 countries that have defense industries, according to Plaza.

She said many of them had expressed interest in joining the country's defense industrial complexes.

"It will be mainly for export. But we will come up with an agreement wherein instead of these companies leasing the land, they can pay in terms of equipment so we will be able to modernize (our defense capabilities). For example, within how many years, these companies should be able to deliver a squadron of military aircraft,

or fleet of ships for the Navy," the Peza director general said.

## First complex in Bataan

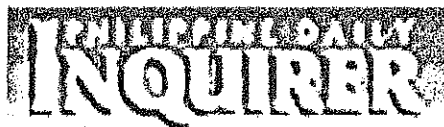
The first of these complexes is expected to be put up in Bataan.

"We have in Bataan an existing arsenal owned by the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the DND. It will be the first defense industrial complex that the DND and Peza will be partnering for," Plaza said.

She said Peza was inviting locators to the Bataan complex. "We're in a hurry to do this. The advantage of the Philippines is that it is in a strategic location economically, politically and militarily, and so, all these countries we're looking at, the superpowers, are looking to establish their presence in the Philippines," the Peza chief said.

Plaza said she had shared her plans to set up this new type of ecozones to President Duterte, who was reportedly "excited that we will have our own defense industrial complex so we can modernize and equip our military and the police." INQ

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THEY'RE JUST SHOOTING FOR THE MOON

## EXHUMATION UNCHRISTIAN, SAYS SOLICITOR GENERAL

By Marlon Ramos  
@MRamosINQ

Digging up the remains of Ferdinand Marcos would be "unchristian," Solicitor General Jose Calida said on Sunday, insisting that Friday's interment of the deposed strongman at Libingan ng mga Bayani did not violate the Supreme Court ruling on the ticklish issue.

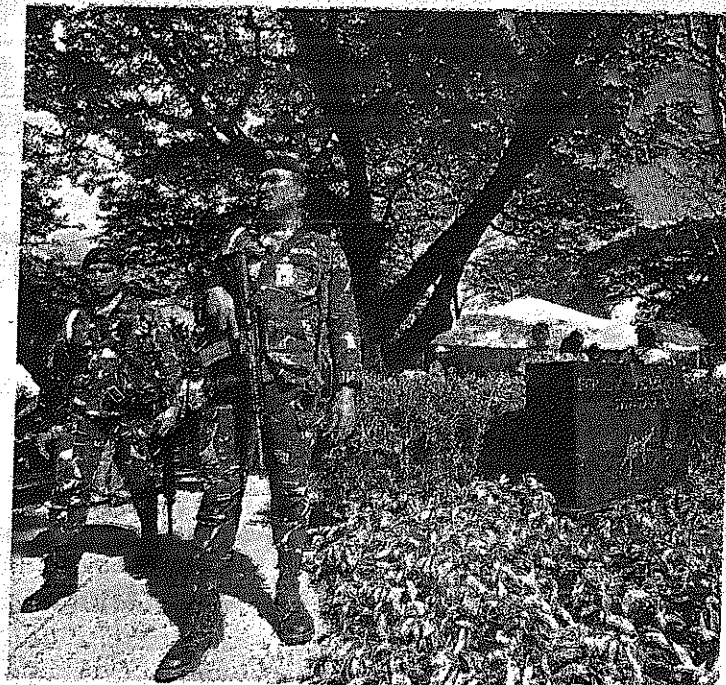
Calida, who led government lawyers in defending President Duterte's order authorizing the interment, said there was no legal impediment to bar the Marcoses from burying their clan patriarch at Libingan in Taguig City.

### Unlikely to reverse

In a phone interview, he said urging the magistrates to order the exhumation of Marcos' body would be against Christian values.

"That is unchristian. I don't think the Supreme Court will allow that," Calida said when asked to comment on the plan of some martial law victims to petition the court to unearth Marcos' remains.

He said the court, in a vote of 9-5 with one abstention, was



**VIGIL AFTER BURIAL** Soldiers keep watch at the tomb of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos after his unannounced burial on Friday drew widespread condemnation, especially from victims of human rights atrocities during his rule.

—RICHARD A. REYES

unlikely to reverse its Nov. 8 decision.

"After deciding by a landslide margin ... that there's nothing illegal in the burial of the remains of Marcos, can you

expect the Supreme Court to turn around and say that the remains should be exhumed?" he said. "They're just shooting for the moon."

Calida maintained that the

status quo ante order, which the court had extended twice, to defer the interment of Marcos, was already lifted when the high tribunal upheld Mr. Duterte's order.

### Immediately executory

As in any other cases, he said the court's action should be deemed "immediately executory" as it did not order the government to further hold the burial pending the filing of motion for reconsideration of the petitioners.

"There was no more legal obstacle for the burial of Marcos," Calida said.

He said a petition seeking to cite the Marcoses and the Duterte administration in contempt of court "will have no legal basis."

The solicitor general also maintained that the President's order to have Marcos interred at Libingan was "an executive action, a political question."

"The main cases have been dismissed. Once it is lifted, the order is already executory. You don't have to wait for a motion for reconsideration because the status quo ante order has no basis," he said. INQ

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INQUIRY

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## LEFTISTS TAGUIWALO, MAZA WON'T RESIGN FROM CABINET

By **Dona Z. Pazzibugan**  
@dpazzibugan

Two leftist Cabinet members said they would continue to work in the Duterte administration on other important concerns, even if they protest the burial of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos at Libingan ng mga Bayani.

Social Welfare Secretary Judy Taguiwalo, who was imprisoned and brutally tortured during martial law, said Duterte appointed her even though he was aware they dif-

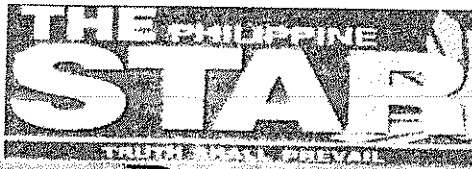
fered in some issues, including the Marcos burial.

National Anti-Poverty Commission Secretary Liza Maza said the Left could still pursue a "common agenda" with Duterte even if they do not agree with him over the Libingan issue.

Another martial law victim, Agrarian Reform Secretary Rafael Mariano also denounced the surprise burial but has not spoken whether he and other Cabinet members nominated by the National Democratic Front should resign in protest. INQ



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# Reds urge Duterte to reverse hero's burial for FM

**Where do you stand?**

BAGUIO CITY – Warning of massive protests, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) urged President Duterte to reconsider the burial of Ferdinand Marcos at the Libingan ng mga bayani (LNMB).

The CPP denounced the government for honoring Marcos with full military honors in what it called "surreptitious" funeral rites.

"In ordering his military honor guards to bear the tyrant's casket in a hero's funeral, Duterte exhibited gross disrespect and insensitivity to the Filipino people's sufferings under the brutal martial rule and to the martyrs and heroes of their epic resistance," the CPP said.

The CPP said Marcos' interment at the LNMB "was an act of great reversal of the historical judgment of the Filipino people against the US-Marcos dictatorship and a completion of the political resurrection of the Marcoses."

The CPP said it is supporting organizations and various sections of society protesting the Marcos burial.

The CPP warned Duterte faces isolation in the face of mounting protests against the Marcos burial. It advised the President "to reverse this historical wrong."

"Instead of paying tribute to Marcos, Duterte should support the people's demand to hold Ferdinand Marcos, as well as Imelda and their children, accountable for the crimes of plunder and violations of the people's civil and political rights," the CPP said.

"By giving Marcos a hero's burial, Duterte has succeeded in stoking the anger and rage of the victims of the US-Marcos dictatorship as well as of the younger generation of Filipinos who are highly conscious of the lessons of martial law and indignant of the innumerable crimes of the fascist tyrant," it said.

The CPP said Duterte is proving himself as a rotten "trapo" (traditional politician) in allowing the hero's burial for Marcos.

"The Filipino people advises Duterte to renounce Marcos-style rule," the CPP said. "He must stop effusively praising Marcos' mythic brilliance which makes him sound like a loyalist, and end making suggestions about reviving such hallmarks of Marcos' martial law as the constabulary and the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus," it said.

Other sectors, however, called on officials in the government, particularly those who had opposed the Marcos burial to cut their ties with Duterte and resign from their posts.

Other critics wanted to charge the Marcos family and some officials of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police for allowing the burial.

Senators called on Cabinet officials to make clear their stand and resign from the government.

Senate President Pro Tempore Franklin Drilon particularly called on Secretaries Judy Taguiwalo of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, Silvestre Bello III of Labor, Rafael Mariano of Agrarian Reform and Secretary to the Cabinet Leoncio Evasco, all of whom have been active anti-Marcos activists since their youth.

Sen. Risa Hon-tiveros, who had pushed a Senate resolution opposing the Supreme Court ruling upholding President Duterte's discretion to order the burial of Marcos at the LNMB, said she is

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**By ARTEMIO Dumlao**

leaving it up to the concerned Cabinet officials to decide on whether they would heed calls for them to resign.

However, she asked administration of-

ficials to make a more definite and stronger stance on the issue, "especially Cabinet officials who supposedly espouse progressive ideals."

"There can be no nuancing on this matter. Lest they want to be part of the massive historical revisionism, they must tell the President—straight to his face—that this is on him," Hontiveros said.

Sen. Francisco Pangilinan said he was leaving it up to the officials who feel alluded to by calls to resign to act on the matter.

Sen. Richard Gordon said those calling for the officials' resignation could only be promoting more divi-

sion or even destabilization.

He said it does not mean that whenever a subordinate disagrees with a president, he or she must immediately resign even as he pointed out that Cabinet officials serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

— With Paolo Romero, Pia Lee-Brago, Non Alquitran, Giovanni Nilles

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The Manila Times

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# MILF's Bravo feared going on rampage

BY JULMUNIR I. JANNARAL

**C**OTABATO CITY: Residents of Lanao del Sur are fearing that once Commander Bravo of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front is booted out by the MILF Central Committee for being abusive as shown by his allegedly heinous offenses and major violations of the MILF's ceasefire agreement with the government, he might go on a rampage in their peaceful community.

Commander Bravo, whose real name is Abdullah Macapaar, and his men figured in another alleged atrocity last week that again challenged the July 1997 Agreement on General Cessation of Hostilities between the MILF and the government.

Bravo's men reportedly attacked the villages (*barangay*) of Bualan and Debarosan in the town of Balindong, Lanao del Sur, last week after conducting an "anti-narcotics operation" in the

provincial capital, Marawi City.

Bualan residents, resisting the intrusion, armed themselves and fired at Bravo's forces as they approached the village, killing three of them.

It was reported that the gunfight left a number of villagers also dead.

Still, the attackers burned a house there and destroyed another with shoulder-fired grenades, forcing some 500 families to flee.

Maranao local leaders led

by Regional Vice Gov. Haroun Al-Rashid Lucman of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and officials of the Malaysian-led International Monitoring Team (IMT) immediately defused the tension to restore normalcy in the village.

The IMT, composed of military personnel and policemen from Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Indonesia, as well as and non-uniformed conflict resolution experts from Norway and Japan, has been helping enforce since late 2003 all interim security agreements between the MILF and the government.

Balindong Mayor Benjie Bagul and the ARMM regional vice governor were able to convince the Bualan villagers to drop their weapons.

Lucman cited former Lanao del Sur congressman Benasing Macarambon Jr., MILF representative Janati Mimbantas, local datu Acmad Lao and Lanao del Sur Vice Gov. Mamintal Adiong Jr. for the restoration of peace and order in the affected villages.

Senior MILF leaders have neither confirmed nor denied specu-

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lations that their Central Committee has decided to kick out Commander Bravo.

They hinted, however, that their superiors were embarrassed by Bravo's latest offense, preceded by his having violated their ceasefire agreement with the government in earlier offenses that could affect the Mindanao peace process.

"The MILF is doing something to address that issue," an MILF leader said.

Bravo's group allegedly had carried out in the past three years unauthorized "law enforcement" in Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur and Marawi City by abducting people whom they would later prosecute in clandestine Shari'ah courts.

Lucman, a member of the ARMM's Inter-Agency Regional Peace and Order Council, said Balindong residents, armed with assault rifles, agreed to let their local government unit and the joint government-MILF ceasefire committee address last week's deadly incident.

The ceasefire committee, com-

posed of representatives from the MILF, the police and the military, is helping maintain law and order in conflict-affected areas covered by an interim truce signed in Cagayan de Oro City in July 1997 by government and rebel negotiators.

"We did not take sides. We made the residents of Balindong understand that our concerns are the safety of civilians and how to prevent escalation of hostilities that can dislocate more people. We want a peaceful closure to this," Lucman said.

The hostilities in Bualan and another village, Debarason, was an offshoot of the arrest in Marawi City last week of Junaira Abdulrahman-Hadji Usman by Bravo's men on mere suspicion she is into large-scale trafficking of methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu.

Members of the Municipal Peace and Order Council in Balindong, located in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Lanao del Sur, said Usman was known to them as a peace-loving, law-abiding resident who has never been engaged in any illegal activity.

Some relatives of Usman,

among them her sibling, Abdulrahman, incumbent village chairman of Bualan, immediately held Bravo's son in one of the villages they control politically for a swap, after learning of the abduction of her sister in Marawi City.

Bravo's men immediately attacked Barangay Bualan, sparking a bloody firefight that was stopped only when a villager named Abdullah, son of Alim Pangalian Solaiman, who is second vice chairman of the MILF, was killed in the crossfire.

Solaiman, an Islamic missionary who graduated in the Middle East, was not in any way involved in the conflict, according to ARMM officials.

Bravo's followers scampered away carrying their dead and wounded companions when they sensed that responding local officials, backed by policemen and soldiers, were closing in.

Residents of Balindong want Bravo and his followers who figured in the incident delisted from the official roster of MILF members by the MILF Central Committee for them to be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

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## Leni links Marcos burial to bid to 'steal' VP post

By Benjamn B. Puita

After expressing her opposition to the burial of the long deceased former President Ferdinand Marcos at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB), Vice President Leni Robredo said yesterday that it will be his post that will be stealthily stolen by the Marcoses.

Former Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. is protesting the close victory over him in the recent elections last May for the vice presidency.



ROBREDO

Georgina Hernandez, Robredo's spokesman, claimed over the weekend, supporters of Robredo have expressed concern about alleged plans of recounting ballots without the direction of the Presidential Election Tribunal (PET).

"The objective is to steal the vice presidency from VP Leni," she said.

In a statement, Hernandez said Robredo's fear was "exacerbated by the way the Marcoses sneaked the burial of the dictator from the Filipino public."

"To get what they desperately want, they have resorted to impunity and complete disregard for the rule of law," she said.

"We urge everyone to be more vigilant about any extralegal movements during this dark time in our history and we thank those who remain committed to a free and just society," Hernandez said.

The government's chief lawyer defended the legality of

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## Leni links Marcos burial to bid to 'steal' VP post

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the burial. Solicitor General Jose Calida said it was not illegal citing the Supreme Court decision to turn down petitions questioning the decision.

Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman and other petitioners earlier insists the burial was an act of contempt of court since they have yet to file an appeal and that the decision is not yet final and executory. Calida stressed that the SC ruling allowing the Marcos burial was immediately executory.

"As a result of the dismissal of the petitions, there was no further hindrance for the respondents (Palace, Department of National Defense and Armed Forces) to proceed with the burial of Ferdinand Marcos' remains at LNMB," he explained in a text message.

SC spokesman Theodore Te earlier said there is no existing order from the high court disallowing the Marcos funeral at the LNMB since the SC lifted the status quo ante order (SQA) in its ruling earlier this month.

Calida believes that the plan of Lagman and other petitioners to seek from the SC contempt of court order against the government and also an order to exhume the remains of Marcos pending finality of the ruling would not prosper.

"Rep. Lagman and other lawyer-critics should brush up first their knowledge on recent jurisprudence regarding the effect of lifting of status quo ante orders in certiorari cases before they bash the respondents in media," he suggested.

"Given the numerical superiority of the majority, I don't think the Supreme Court will reverse it," he stressed. "The 9-5 decision is not only a clear margin. It's a landslide margin similar to President Duterte's victory over his opponents during the May 2016 presidential elections," Calida added.

Lagman reportedly said the petitioners plan to file their appeals on the deadline on Nov. 28. He filed last week a manifestation seeking re-issuance of the SQA suspending the

burial so as not to make their appeal moot and academic, but the SC has not acted on the plea yet.

The petitioners said they would ask the SC to cite the AFP and DND in contempt for allowing the burial pending finality of the ruling. A massive protest against the burial is also being organized this Friday, Nov. 25.

Calida reiterated the Duterte administration's stance that the Marcos burial at LNMB is a major step towards national unity despite the indignation rallies last Friday.

"The landmark decision of the Supreme Court allowing the interment of the remains of former President Ferdinand E. Marcos at the Libingan ng mga Bayani is a major step towards national reconciliation," he said.

Calida, who defended Duterte's position before the SC, said the SC decision has also vindicated the President's call for unity and national healing.

"The judicial imprimatur given by the Honorable Court vindicates the political wisdom of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to hasten unity and national healing. It puts to rest the bitter debate which has divided our people for far too long. It is a welcome development for the Filipino people who thirst for peace and change," he pointed out.

The solicitor general also lauded the nine justices in the majority ruling for "maintaining their judicial independence throughout the proceedings despite strong emotional appeals from various sectors.

"Through its monumental decision, we are confronted by the thought that our Supreme Court never wavered in its role of being the conscience of our nation," he pointed out.

**Palace dares critics to file raps**

Malacañang, meanwhile, dared anti-Marcos groups to file raps against the government.

In a text message to reporters, Presidential Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said the Palace will not hinder anybody from protesting Duterte's decision and initiative to bury the late strongman at the heroes' cemetery

which was recently approved by the Supreme Court (SC).

"Those who will file charges have the right to do so. Protesters can exercise their freedom to assemble," Andanar, who was in Peru as part of the official delegation to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders' summit with President Duterte, said.

Meanwhile, Social Welfare and Development Secretary Judy Taguiwalo, a left-wing activist who was detained during the Marcos regime's martial law, said that even though she remains to be a part of the Duterte administration, she expressed yesterday her opposition to the Marcos burial.

"I have not been silent on the issue of the Marcos burial at the LNMB. I am one with the Filipino people protesting the sudden and sneaky Marcos burial at LNMB. I have said it before and I will say it again, Marcos is not and can never be a hero," Taguiwalo said.

Amid calls from other martial law veterans for her to resign from the Duterte cabinet as a sign of protest, Taguiwalo explained that there's no reason for her to step down.

"Before I was sworn in as a member of his cabinet, President Duterte was aware of our differences in some issues, including the Marcos burial. Still he appointed me to be part of his official family," the DSWD chief explained.

"I accepted the post in the Duterte govt because the Left finds common grounds on pursuing talks for just and lasting peace, prioritizing social services and the needs of the poor," she added.

On the other hand, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) cautioned Duterte of massive demonstrations if he will not reverse his decision of honoring Marcos.

"If he refuses to heed the people's outcry over the hero's burial for Marcos, Duterte risks facing mounting protests and isolation," the CPP's Information Bureau said. **Ted Tuvera, Gerry Baldo, Alvin Murcia**

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**Malaya**  
The National Newspan

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# Anti-FM in Cabinet men should quit, Gordon says

BY JP LOPEZ

MEMBERS of President Duterte's Cabinet should consider leaving their posts if they do not agree with the President's stance on the Marcos burial at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Sen. Richard Gordon said yesterday.

Gordon was reacting to calls from sectors for leftist members of the Duterte Cabinet to resign if they could not accept the President's stance on the Marcos burial.

Among those appointed to the Cabinet positions were

Secretaries Judy Taguiwalo of Social Welfare and Development, Liza Maza of National Anti-Poverty Commission, Rafael Mariano of Agrarian Reform, Labor Undersecretary Joel Maglunsod, and Presidential Commission on the Urban Poor head Terry Ridon.

Vice President Leni Robredo has also expressed her opposition to Marcos' burial at the INMB.

"Kapag ikaw ay kokontra at hindi na kayo magkaigihan ng President, you resign or the President fires you,"

Gordon said.

But the call for resignation is a call to conscience, Gordon said. "If they have a conscience, if that is really their position, they must follow their conscience," he said.

They may not resign, he said, because they think it would be to their advantage strategically if they would maintain an alliance with the President.

"They should inform the President that they disagree with the President, but they would still be staying because they are loyal to the country," he said.



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## Vintage Marcos

**T**he clandestine burial of the dictator in the Libingan ng mga Bayani last Nov. 18 is vintage Ferdinand Marcos: sinister, treacherous, unapologetic.

**Sinister.** Many officials and pundits used the words "like a thief in the night" to describe the surprise interment, forgetting that the phrase was used in the Bible to describe Jesus' second coming. On hindsight, that might be the Marcos game plan: to make this burial a mark for the wretched resurrection of their political dynasty.

Watching the press conference of the Marcos family immediately after the ceremony at the Libingan, one cannot mistake the look of vindication on Ilocos Norte Gov. Imee Marcos' face. "*Kasama namin kayong nangarap nanalangin sa halos tatlong dekada na makita ang araw na ito,*" she said, and reading between the lines, we know what she really meant. Three decades after being removed from power, now they have not only successfully buried the strongman among the ranks of fallen heroes, their family is also almost at the gates of Malacañang.

**Treacherous.** Remember how then President Marcos engineered the declaration of martial law through a series of staged violent acts? His burial reeks of the same brand of deceit.

President Duterte, whom the Marcos family credits for the fulfillment of the dictator's wishes, frequently emphasizes that the burial will contribute to the healing of the nation. Yet in the aftermath of the clandestine

### COMMENTARY

MARJOHARA TUCAY

interment, more old wounds are opening.

On one hand, the burial may have been kept secret for fear of sparking mass protests. That in itself still proves how deep the Filipino people still resent Marcos' tyrannical rule. (Nonetheless, indignation rallies erupted all over the country immediately after news of his interment broke.) On the other hand, it also proves the lengths to which the Duterte administration is willing to go just to adhere to the demands of the Marcoses, even if it means subverting and revising history. Be it due to a debt of gratitude or any other reason, the administration is complicit in this sordid tale.

**Unapologetic.** The Marcos family's self-styled "private family affair" blatantly disregards the violence, the deaths, and the millions upon millions stolen by the dictatorship. Never mind the fact that the Marcoses have not yet even been held accountable for their vile deeds. Never mind that countless families are still looking for their missing loved ones, the ones who, during the dark days of martial law, were abducted, tortured, and summarily executed.

In the Libingan ng mga Bayani, there now lies a black marble slab with this epitaph: "Ferdinand E. Marcos, Filipino." And that is yet again another vicious masterstroke.

Calling Marcos a "Filipino" is in itself a grave insult to the nation, a nation that once united and toppled his tyrannical rule.

The lesson this dark episode teaches us is to remember: Remember that the trademark moves of a dictator seldom change. Remember that the tyranny of martial law still lingers in the dark, waiting for the right moment to catch us unaware. The faces may change, dictators may be conferred undeserved honors, yet what is more sinister is if we once again fall into the hands of another strongman, if due to our short memory we fail to read the writing on the wall.

Beyond our rightful rage, this is a chance for us to get our act together and turn the tide of historical revisionism. The debate on the burial of the dictator in the Libingan should not end on mere hysterics. The task ahead is to expose the system that has allowed dictators to rise, fall, and in the end, be vindicated. The task ahead is to actively oppose this system, lest it pounce on all of us at the most unpredictable time.

Marjohara Tucay is the national president of Kabataan Partylist.

### THERE'S THE RUB

CONRADO DE QUIROS IS  
ON MEDICAL LEAVE. —Ed.



2) November 2016



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# Marcos can be reburied in Rizal Park

If former senator Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. becomes president in the future, he can choose to transfer his father’s remains to Rizal Park, in the same hallowed ground where lie the remains of our national hero Jose Rizal. In fact, President Duterte can allow Ferdinand Marcos’ remains to be exhumed from the Libingan ng mga Bayani and reburied in Rizal Park.

These scenarios are made possible courtesy of the reasoning adopted by the Supreme Court in allowing the dictator’s burial in the Libingan.

The principal essence of the Supreme Court’s decision is that Mr. Duterte’s order allowing the burial is an executive policy of “national healing and forgiveness” that is the sole prerogative of any president and not subject to judicial review.

Because of this executive prerogative, the President can choose to allow the Marcos burial in the Libingan and, for exactly the same reason, even in Rizal Park. After all, Marcos was a soldier, a Medal of Valor awardee, and a three-term president. Rizal possessed none of these qualifications.

If then Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon could easily erect a 40-foot statue of Lapu Lapu in Rizal Park in 2004 even against the objections of the National Historical Institute, it will be a lot easier for President Duterte or a future President Bongbong Marcos to have his father’s remains buried in Rizal Park considering the Supreme Court decision.

Issues of *delicadeza* and class legislation will not be problems for a future President Bongbong Marcos because the Supreme Court considers these matters irrelevant when it called to task the two



## FLEA MARKET OF IDEAS

JOEL RUIZ BUTUYAN

Aquino presidents for their failure to craft rules expressly prohibiting a Marcos burial in the Libingan.

The Supreme Court has sustained Mr. Duterte’s executive prerogative to seek national reconciliation through a Marcos burial in the Libingan notwithstanding its clear invalidity because of the following:

1) There is a fundamental legislative policy that is violated by such an executive policy. This contrary legislative policy is intrinsic in our laws, such as the continuing mandate of the Presidential Commission on Good Government to go after the ill-gotten wealth of the Marcoses, and the law just renewed by Congress last April titled “An Act Providing for Reparation and Recognition of Victims of Human Rights Violations During the Marcos Regime, [and] Documentation of Said Violations.”

2) Our Constitution, whose birth resulted from the ouster of Marcos, has many provisions that are animated by a spirit that runs counter to an executive policy honoring the

dictator with a Libingan burial.

3) Our republic is still pursuing 15 contentious criminal and civil cases against the Marcoses and their cronies for the recovery of \$1 billion in ill-gotten assets.

But the nine pro-burial justices contend that there is no specific law that literally prohibits a Marcos burial in the Libingan. This is a virtual demand for a law that says verbatim: “Ferdinand Marcos is prohibited from being buried in the Libingan.”

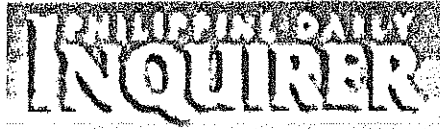
This demand for a literal law is analogous to a demand to show physical proof of air. We cannot perceive air with our eyes but we feel, breathe, and experience its effects. Like air, the constitutional and legislative policies that abhor a Marcos burial in the Libingan are omnipresent as an integral part of our Constitution, inherent in our institutions, intrinsic in our laws, and innate in our pending cases against the Marcoses.

The Supreme Court has upheld the right of the unborn child in environmental cases; the natural-born citizenship of Sen. Grace Poe, and similar cases where it recognized rights and obligations emanating from policies that are not literally spelled out in a single law but animate the principles and rules we live by. It is heartrending that the nine justices refuse to see the even more omnipresent policy that abhors giving the dictator Marcos the honor of interment in the Libingan.

The nine justices demand a literal interpretation of our laws. But in the process, they have given a literal meaning to the adage that justice is blind.

Comments to fleamarketofideas@gmail.com

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## Why SC decision on Marcos burial is wrong

**S**ingapore—What was lambasted along with the *hokage* (ninja) burial of former president Ferdinand Marcos in the Libingan ng mga Bayani? A viral video of retired justice Angelina Sandoval-Gutierrez scolding a Supreme Court candidate to read her cases.

The candidate agreed with the Court's decision on the burial and cited Republic Act No. 289 on the "national pantheon." Sandoval-Gutierrez angrily explained this was not its basis.

The candidate only read news reports, which proved as accurate as the Mocha Usan Blog's sources.

The justices' voting is difficult to follow.

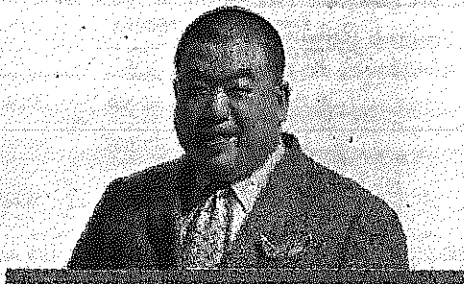
Curiously, Justice Jose Mendoza's opinion is joined by five (Velasco, Leonardo-de Castro, Del Castillo, Perlas-Bernabe) and mirrored by two (Brion, Perez). Justice Diosdado Peralta's main opinion is joined by five (Velasco, Leonardo-de Castro, Brion, Bersamin).

Mendoza's 11-page opinion simply says no explicit rule prohibits the burial. It is a "political question" for the President, not judges.

He stresses that the Supreme Court is not deciding whether Marcos is a hero. It remains etched in victims' minds that "Marcos was a heartless dictator and rapacious plunderer of our national economy and patrimony."

Mendoza's argument is straight from a freshman law book. It invokes, not "legal technicality," but separation of powers, our democracy's central foundation. While one is free to criticize it, critics must be careful not to be branded "temperamental brats refusing to concede to the outcome of regular processes."

Former lawmaker Neri Colmenares



### SISYPHUS' LAMENT

OSCAR FRANKLIN TAN

publicly trumpeted the pantheon law as a sure win argument. Yet even dissenting justices agreed that the pantheon is a different cemetery. Only Justice Marvic Leonen disagreed, but surely the other 13 justices found the right cemetery.

Colmenares' word games were not only a logical stretch; they also ended up framing even the dissents in literal interpretation (where the anti-Marcos side is weak) and blocking a common dissenting argument, thus strengthening the political-question argument.

Justice Benjamin Caguioa (joined by Justice Francis Jardeleza) argues that the burial violates the sanctity required by a law on national shrines. Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio argues that military regulations disallow it because Marcos' ouster is the highest dishonorable discharge. Both add international law obligations to human rights victims.

Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno focuses on a "holistic view" that the burial is not "consistent with the spirit" of our post-Marcos Constitution and laws and Supreme Court decisions documenting his abuses.

Justice Jose Perez counters: "The election [shows] there is no longer a national damnation of President Ferdinand E. Marcos; that the 'constitutionalization' of the sin and its personification is no longer of national acceptance." Justice Arturo Brion adds that history is generally not basis for law.

Peralta's main opinion also centrally cites the political question. But it adds potentially political commentary: The Edsa Revolution "should not be automatically given a particular legal meaning other than its obvious consequence—that of ousting [Marcos]," and he "was not pure evil either. Certainly, just a human who erred like us."

Both Peralta and Mendoza ask the country to "move on"—a pro-Marcos refrain. Peralta even says the petitioners have no "standing" or right to even sue—a stunning procedural ruling for such a public issue.

However, the side comments do not affect the decision's doctrine.

Critics might reiterate international obligations and the Constitution's spirit, which received more attention in the hearings summarized in my past columns. But they cannot simply curse the decision as inherently wrong, especially not its textbook doctrine. It is wiser to use the decision's own logic in possible counters, such as questioning why access to Marcos' grave is restricted if it is in a public cemetery.

Idealism cannot be a crutch for ignorance. Critics must attack the decision without undermining the judicial institutions they will need in the future.

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SECRET

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THE YOUNG  
US ARMY PRIVATE  
QUICKLY ADOPTED  
TO FILIPINO CADET  
LIFE AND SOON  
WAS SPORTING  
A FILIPINO  
NICKNAME, 'KIKO'



# REVELLE

RAMON J. FAROLAN

The Vietnam Veterans' Memorial honors US servicemen who died in Vietnam or in Southeast Asia. The complex actually consists of three separate memorials:

First, the Memorial Wall. It lists the names of 58,307 servicemen who were killed in action or missing in action during the Vietnam conflict. Those killed in action are denoted by a diamond beside their name; those missing in action are denoted by a cross. The design of the Wall was chosen in open competition with prize money amounting to \$20,000. Maya Lin, a Chinese-American architect, submitted the winning design that bested 1,421 other entries. The Wall itself is made of stone from Bangalore, India, and was chosen for its reflective quality.

Second, the Three Soldiers' Statue. A short distance from the Wall is a bronze statue depicting a white American, an Afro-American, and possibly a Hispanic soldier.

Third, the Women's Memorial. It honors the women, mostly nurses, who served in Vietnam.

The Memorial Wall was officially dedicated in November 1982.

So now, let me begin our story.

athletic record, offered cadetship at the USMA or at the Philippine Military Academy. After much thought, he chose the latter.

Kiko, the first American cadet at the PMA, finished at the top of Class of 1963, winning the Presidential Saber for being the class valedictorian as well as garnering most of the medals that were handed out. Cadet Renato C. Valencia, now a prominent business executive, was the class' first captain, or baron. Solomon was followed by four other Americans: Donald Philpotts, Class of 1964 (he did not graduate); Franklin D. Besecker, Class of 1966; William B. Geier Jr., Class of 1967; and Robert L. Dance, Class of 1968.

After graduation, Solomon returned to Florida and married his high school sweetheart. They had three kids: Eckwood III, Cynthia and Aaron. He topped the artillery officer basic course in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, won his Parachutist Badge in Fort Benning, Georgia, and soon volunteered for Vietnam. On July 27, 1966, barely three years after graduation from the PMA, he was killed in a mine-clearing operation.

Last July 30, members of the East Coast Chapter of the PMA Alumni Association (Overseas) gathered at the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, DC to commemorate the 50th death anniversary of Capt. Eckwood "Kiko" Solomon Jr., the first American graduate of the Philippine Military Academy.

Thirty members of the alumni association led by its officers, Cavaliers Gabriel Riego De Dios (Class of 1981), Rey Regis (Class of 1986), Harold Ochoco (Class of 1981), MJ De Leon (Class of 1968), and others stood before the Wall where Solomon's name is etched as Taps was sounded. This was followed by the singing of the PMA alma mater song while hundreds of tourists at the Wall stood in silence and respect.

Sonny Busa (Class of 1986, USMA), gave this tribute: "The Wall behind us is a reminder of all that is good about America, and the presence of Solomon's name on that Wall is a true symbol of the good about the Philippines."

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One of the strongest bonds in the US-Philippine relationship is the exchange of students not just in civilian schools but especially in the military. We send our young people to the US Military Academy, the US Naval Academy, the US Air Force Academy, and the US Coast Guard Academy, and our officers to higher or specialized institutions of learning in the US military organization. We send many of our enlisted personnel for training in US facilities. It is therefore no surprise that the Armed Forces of the Philippines has always been considered as leaning toward the United States. And so, even when President Duterte publicly announces the end to joint PH-US military exercises, we continue to plan for more of these exercises. It is an addiction difficult to discard.

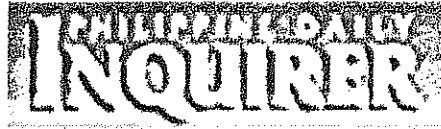
Unfortunately, there is a price to pay for this addiction. We become totally dependent to the point of subservience to our benefactor. We need to change our attitude and adopt an open mind. Without turning our back on the United States, let us see what else is out there that we can use to our advantage.

Many of the facts on Solomon's life are from an article in Cavalier Magazine, by Harold Ochoco (Class of 1981) and Winston Arpon (Class of 1964).—RJF

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## THE YOUTH TAKE UP THE STRUGGLE

**T**he burial of Ferdinand Marcos on Nov. 18 in the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB) was hurriedly and secretively carried out, with military-style logistical support. A military helicopter brought the remains from Ilocos Norte, where a wax replica of the dictator's body was displayed in the Marcos Museum, to the LNMB. The Marines and the police were mobilized to encircle the perimeter of the cemetery. They were put on red alert.

The enabler was President Duterte. It was, all along, a state-sponsored burial. Mr. Duterte ordered it, the Supreme Court authorized it. The burial was accompanied with a 21-gun salute and the pompous ceremony that accompanies an official burial.

Did they actually think they could get away with it? Thousands, predominantly youth and university students, spontaneously walked out of their classrooms and immediately took to the streets to protest the burial, sending the President a clear message that this is a miscalculation he will be made to regret.

A new generation took to the streets demonstrating that it would be the guardians of a history that was also proudly made by the generation of the First Quarter Storm—the student radicalization that was the basis of an organized mass movement that led to the overthrow

of the Marcos dictatorship. The young protesters chanted the slogans of the martial-law generation: "Makibaka, Huwag Matakot!" and "Marcos, Hitler, Diktador, Tuta!" They sang "Bayan Ko." Most of them do not belong to any radical organization. They are students of history. A history that cannot be covered up. A product of the continuing organization and education of the martial-law generation.

Significantly, the young people also sense history in the making—the climate of fear leading to martial law, of more repression and another dictatorship. A new generation has signaled that it will not stand by and watch this happen. They have sent a warning to the Duterte administration. They have now taken up the cudgels.

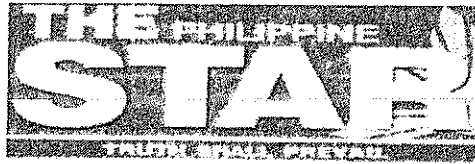
With the authority of these mass rallies they have declared that the protests will continue. They have put forward some demands, chanting "Hukayin!" They want the remains dug up and buried where these belong: in the dustbin of history.

The Partido Lakas ng Masa will accompany the youth in this struggle and in the coming struggles under an administration that refuses to learn the lessons of history.

SONNY MELENCIO, chair,  
Partido Lakas ng Masa,  
sonnymel@yahoo.com



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## As A Matter of Fact

By SARA SOLIVEN DE GUZMAN

### Demoralized

Politics has ruined our country. We need to stop it. There should be a new form of public service, one that protects the citizens from the corrupt and evil; from all this madness.

The President must be having nightmares on his decision to bury the late dictator Ferdinand E. Marcos at the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani. Either that or he is just callous about it. With the many decisions and acts the President has so far done from the beginning of his term, this one is difficult for me to fathom.

On a positive note, however, I am happy that this happened now for the new generation to experience and know how the Marcoses can be unperturbed by their actions, blinded by what they believe is indestructible. But as Shakespeare's Mark Anthony said, in his tribute to the murdered Julius Caesar: "The evil that men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones."



The fact of history, purified from the dross of prejudice and political misrepresentations, show that from the very start we resisted martial law. Many valiant men and women led a good fight against the tyranny, against despotism, against corruption, against the 'plagued' that Marcos created. And it was only after almost 20 years that the inferno was over. The Filipinos angered by his leadership finally ousted the late dictator. And today, his wife, his children and their loyalists seem to want us to believe that we just woke up from a bad dream; that nothing bad happened at all during the reign of their beloved one. *Sana magaan!*

So, to all the young Filipinos out there continue to protect this country and let your voices be heard. While Marcos rots under the rubble of this land, his family suffers with the stigma they have placed upon themselves. Learn from this demoralizing experience and never ever let it happen again. Be a new citizen, be a better public servant, think of country before self.

\* \* \*

I was actually going to the Libingan Ng Mga Bayani on that very day Marcos was buried. It was a day to celebrate the birth anniversary of the late Vice President and Foreign Affairs Secretary (during Cory Aquino's administration) Salvador Laurel. After all the hullabaloo caused by the Marcoses, the Laurel family finally was able to celebrate a mass at sunset. In my late father's column entitled, *Fond farewell to Doy*, he wrote, "It is despicable, to say the least, that he had till the very end, been plagued with accusations of 'graft' in connection with the Centennial fund, which was poor reward for a lifetime devoted to our country's cause. For Doy fought the good fight."

It was their karma alas, that in 1965 he and his brother, the late Speaker Jose "Pepito" Laurel, had helped "smuggle" Ferdinand E. Marcos, then the president of the ruling Liberal Party, into the Nacionalista Party – despite the strong rejection of Marcos by the NP chief, Senate President Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez. (Marcos had just lost the LP nomination for the Presidency, understandably, to the incumbent President Diosdado Macapagal – GMA's dad.)

It was the balimbing cum somersault act of the century. Having pole-vaulted into the opposition Nacionalista Party, Marcos then snatched the NP nomination away from such loyal NP stalwarts as Emmanuel Pelaez (former Vice President), Senate President Gil Puyat, and others. The Marcos victory condemned us unwittingly to a decade and a half of outright dictatorship and martial law.

Doy and Pepito argued that they had welcomed Marcos with open arms into their party with all the "good intentions" in the world. You know how the road to hell is paved with such good intentions. In any event, Doy himself was among the first to discover their dreadful mistake. He valiantly stood up to protest Marcos' totalitarian rule at the height of the despot's martial law powers. Pepito for his part bitterly cursed Marcos both when he was sober and in his cups (the latter often enough).

Doy was nominated for President to fight Marcos by 28,000 delegates at the UNIDO – or United Opposition – convention held at the Araneta Coliseum on June 12, 1985. When it became a toss-up between him and Ninoy's widow, Corazon C. Aquino, as to who would run against Marcos, Laurel was convinced by friends, led by His Eminence Jaime Cardinal Sin, that a divided opposition could not win against the dictator and his Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL).



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*Laurel gallantly stood aside for Cory to be the opposition's standard-bearer, while he ran for vice president. Marcos might have cheated his way to triumph in February 1986, but the actual vote count could not be denied – then People Power at the EDSA barricades assured the ascent of the two to office.*

*In victory, however, the two parted ways. Cory, Doy declared, had pledged to be the candidate of the UNIDO, but in the end she cast the UNIDO aside. Was a deal made that Doy should be named "Prime Minister", not just Vice President? What he got instead was the Secretaryship of Foreign Affairs. Nursing his political wounds, smiling through his period of being regarded as a virtual outcast within the Aquino Cabinet, Laurel did a fine job as foreign minister and head of the intrigue-ridden Department of Foreign Affairs (still a Puzzle Palace, if you ask me).*

*Finally, the break became irrevocable between Cory and Doy. Cory unkindly sneered at him as a langaw (fly). How can you fight against St. Cory at that time viewed as our national Joan of Arc? Indeed, how can one fight against a sitting president stubbornly set against you, and suspicious of your every move? This spelled the end of Doy Laurel's political career. His ascent was out down in mid-trajectory. He never recovered his momentum again.*

*We honor him today, however, for what he accomplished, for his self-sacrifice, his idealism – and his lost hopes. For, like his friend Ninoy Aquino, Doy dreamed the "Impossible Dream." I can still remember him vividly, singing that song a capella in his unusually rich baritone, with fervor, accompanied by his own accomplished children. Doy fought "the unbeatable foe."*

\* \* \*

*In this world where many a times injustice prevails because of evil and avarice, we must find it in our hearts to recognize Filipinos who have made heroic sacrifices for the country. They are the men of valor. They are our true heroes, the eternal source of inspiration and guidance to the nation and to our people. They are the only ones who can strengthen and intensify our national spirit and solidarity. Let us continue our quest for a better Philippines as we must still have faith in ourselves and in our people.*

★

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## Losers then, losers now

**L**eftists have threatened President Duterte with a probable break-up of their shaky alliance over his decision to bury former President Ferdinand Marcos at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB), and his close ties with the Marcoses could lead to a break-up of their shaky alliance.

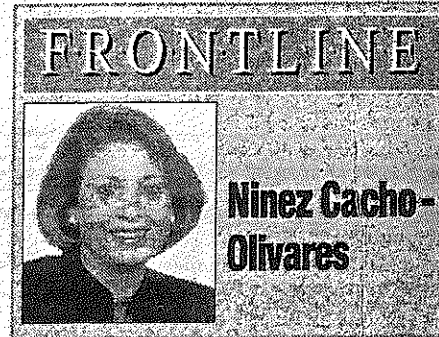
If the communists carry out their threat, they would be losing more than what the Duterte government had offered them.

However, perhaps it is the best thing for the country if these communists and their armed New People's Army (NPA) cut off their alliance with the government, since it will do so anyway in the future after the Duterte administration gives in to all their demands, the biggest of which is the declaration of amnesty for all the commies and the freeing of all of their comrades in jail today.

Never had the commies had it so good under the Duterte presidency. For one, there are enough leftists in his Cabinet, something they couldn't have hoped for under other presidents — except under Duterte's. For another, NPA leaders, such as the Tiamzon couple, plus a host of other leftists, were allowed by the courts — including the Supreme Court — the freedom to leave the country and join the peace talks in Oslo for six months while the talks take place.

It is almost certain that the Tiamzons and their comrades who were allowed to join the peace talks as consultants will definitely not be returning to the country and to the Philippine jails, which will prove their bad faith in negotiating for peace.

At this time, the Muslim problem in Mindanao — save for the Abu Sayyaf problem, is on its way of achieving peace. This would free the military and the Philippine National Police from fighting



with them and concentrate on the elimination of the problem of armed communists in this country.

The truth is the communist rebels have no hope to ever take over government and it is only now, under the Duterte administration, that some of their comrades have been given the opportunity to be part of Rod's administration.

But apparently, Satur Ocampo threatened that "If the influence of the Marcoses is too big on the President that it affects his pro-people commitment, then we will have to consider our tactical alliance."

He added that "If the President is clearly trying to revive the concept of 'bagong lipunan' it might spell a separation," Ocampo added, referring to the new social order Marcos tried to establish under martial rule.

All these are empty threats issued by the communists — even those armed communists. They have been fighting a useless war for decades that amounted to nothing — by way of an armed struggle and even a parliamentary struggle. They know that they can never ever be at the helm of government power. And they and their fighters are tired of fighting and want peace.

But if they insist on breaking off, the already shaky alliance, just what will the above ground leftists do — and all because of the burial of Marcos at the LNMB? Stage rallies? Stage more protest actions?

And who will follow them, save for those students activists who believe that staging protests is better than their studies in the classrooms?

People's protests no longer work. This was already proven in 2001, when a farcical people's power was staged against then sitting President Joseph Estrada. Estrada is now mayor of Manila and doing well. He almost won the presidency in 2010, which only shows what the Filipinos really thought of the People Power II.

So what happened to them? Sure, because they supported the Arroyo regime then, they were able to get seats in Congress, as partylisters. After that, they went against Gloria Arroyo. Then came a time when they went against Noynoy Aquino. So now they are threatening to cut off from the Duterte government. So what else is new in the pattern of the commies and their above ground leftists?

In one of its strongest statements against the President's actions, the Communist Party of the Philippines said on Saturday that Mr. Duterte "exhibited gross disrespect and insensitivity" to the sufferings of Filipinos under martial law and could face mounting protests.

So what are they proposing to do? Kick out Duterte? They can try, but they will find that they won't have enough Filipinos to support them — certainly not now. He is much too popular with the masses who will fight and even die for him.

It is the leftists who will lose out, not Duterte.

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# A question of heroes

**T**he stealth of Ferdinand Marcos' burial at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB) last Friday did not come as a surprise to those who kept tab of the developments surrounding that waxed figure of the late dictator.

They knew the Marcoses would not be able to attempt a long-march from Batac to the LNMB for fear of being blocked by the people opposing their attempt at a complete revision of history, despite all the stolen money they have spent for that most expensive piece of real estate that part of Taguig, where the Cayetanos hold sway.

Days earlier, media practitioner Louie Navarro's source had partly revealed some details of the plan.

Another veteran media figure, Philip Lustre, had many times warned about it.

Both of them have rightfully claimed that the Marcoses and partly, the government, were misinforming the public until the military choppers (probably the same ones used by Kris Aquino when she campaigned in the provinces for Mar Roxas) touched off Batac and into the LNMB.

There, a small invited group waited to witness the military-led honor ceremony befitting the dictator. It was lost on the Marcoses that until the last minute of their dead patriarch's supposed burial, the people have denied him the real honor of being recognized a hero, despite the effort of his family to make him such.

Marcos, despite all claims from his family, fans and followers of his greatness, never had his chance to be honored by the nation which – as it turned out – is still grieving and continues to be appalled by his and his family's excesses during and after Martial Law, which they imprinted with abuses, murder, thievery and plunder matched only by some of the most hated figures in world history.

History has not been kind to Ferdinand Sr. whose name is clumped together with other tyrants and dubbed as one of the world's greatest thieves.

And the people did not forget. And surprise, they include the millennials whom GenExers, hippies and the baby boomers first thought as detached from the realities of the world.

They went out to protest the burial and what they claimed as a connivance between this Marcos-friendly government and that family.

The youth and students came out in big numbers last Friday. They were back at the People Power monument on Saturday night. I was told they were to be back Sunday night after this writing.

And everyday, until the culmination of a big protest assembly on Friday, November

25, they vowed to be back in places where they would be heard.

Marcos, even long after death, has once again stirred a tempest that his scheming family, for sure, is hoping would not come into a full blown full quarter storm.



Aldrin Cardona

□ □ □  
This rubbernecker borrowed the title of this column from the great

Nick Joaquin's book, a collection of essays critical to the widely accepted facts about the lives of 10 of our heroes past.

The list included Rizal, as an accidental hero who swayed away from the revolution despite "invitations" for him to lead it; Bonifacio, who led an unsuccessful one-week attempt to establish a kingdom of the Tagalogs; the murderous Emilio Aguinaldo who stirred clanship and the regionalism that still divide the Filipinos as a people today; mention about a historical fault that would have taken out a third of the Gomburza for mistakenly including the gambler and non-militant Jacinto Zamora among those strangled to their death; and of Ricarte, Lopez Jaena and Antonio Luna, among others.

Joaquin chose to write about the heroes of his past. He may have reserved to future authors the questions to be raised about his contemporaries, most of them now also dead.

Maybe a few of them did, although not as comprehensive yet as Joaquin's critical treatment of the 10 heroes in his book.

In Nelson Navarro's "The Half-Remembered Past," he mentioned how history had been kind to the likes of Claro M. Recto, named as the Great Nationalist and The Great Dissenter, long after he had collaborated with the invading Japanese Imperial Army, for whom the great son of Batangas, Jose P. Laurel, served as a puppet republic's president.

There have been other names to have served the Japanese, including Manuel Roxas, who astutely stayed within the fringes of collaboration with the Japanese until his redemption by the Americans who led him to Malacañang; and Benigno Aquino Sr., who, like Laurel, had been imprisoned in Japan after the US had won World War II in this side of the world.

Marcos had used the poison of the collaboration issue in 1986 against Cory Aquino, whose martyred husband is the son and namesake of one of the collaborators; and against Doy Laurel, son of the Japanese

puppet, who ran as vice president to Cory.

Ninoy Aquino had tried to correct his family's historical mistake when he treaded the path of Rectorian nationalism that has also drawn the likes of later nationalist Jovito Salonga, Jose Diokno and Lorenz Tañada, until the lure of Maoism had veered the anti-Marcos fight to a different direction.

Ninoy had also cleared the way to the Maoist path when helped several young members critical of the old pro-USSR Communist Party to establish a new party right at the Hacienda Luisita, which is now a battleground between the CPP influenced groups and Cory's family.

Marcos had conveniently used these facts against his political enemies. But he was no saint, either.

Aside from faking his credentials as a war hero, Marcos, of course, left ambiguous his participation in the black market trade that sold wartime commodities to the Japanese enemy. If that is not collaboration, then serving another imperial government could not be, too.

Marcos' acknowledged father, Mariano, also had questionable dealings with the Japanese invaders. Mariano died as the hands of the guerrillas.

Pro-Marcos rhetoric blames past administrations for the grave sin of allowing the Marcoses to return the dictator's body and the family back in power.

They are right, in a sense.

But blame is not theirs alone for letting historical faults pass.

Aguinaldo was made a hero despite his murder of Bonifacio.

Collaborators have become presidents of the republic.

Schools and roads are being named after plunderers.

But the people won't forget.

Only Rizal was forgiven for not joining the revolution he helped stir.

Proper historical corrections would come. Our youth would assure that

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# THE DAILY tribune No rest

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Binah S. Ventura

**A** most divisive issue, the Marcos burial rose up again in a big way on Friday, November 18, when the Philippines woke up to news that the deed had been done.

Black Friday, anti-Marcos groups called it, and they gathered everywhere out of sheer emotion. A trickle began outside the place former President Ferdinand Marcos was being buried, the much-argued about National Heroes' Cemetery.

Marcos, they insist, was no hero, and therefore did not deserve to be buried there and given even a soldier's honor of a 21 gun salute.

Of course, the surprise decision – “ninja moves,” my colleague in this little space called it – angered many. A loud, insistent protest reverberated on social media, kept up by legitimate news reports and resulting in black-clad gatherings in different parts of the country until late Friday night. Loud beeps and chants would have possibly drowned a 21-gun salute.

Edsa came alive once more, peopled quite surprisingly by many of the younger generation, the much-criticized or taken for granted millennials, whom one Marcos loyalist said should not concern themselves over an issue that began when they weren't even born yet.

Yet there they were, speaking up for victims of the sadly unresolved, decades-old issue, their elders seeming to be too tired and cynical at this point in history.

For the Marcos family, the burial was meant to mark the end of their campaign to have the former leader's remains buried in the Libingan ng mga Bayani as he had wished before his death.

Objections to this have been firm and emotional as many still remember the abuses and corruption under the Marcos regime. Records show that thousands were imprisoned, tortured and

His ouster in the 1986 “People Power” revolution did not bring closure as many cases remain open and justice remains fleeting for the families of those that suffered directly under his iron rule.

His death in 1989 did not spell the end either. When then-President Fidel Ramos approved the return of his remains to the country, to rest in the family's stronghold in Ilocos Norte, forgiveness was still not forthcoming. And when President Rodrigo Duterte upheld the law and agreed to let the burial take place, people still would not “move on.”

Afterwards, Imee Marcos spoke for the family, thanking President Duterte and the Supreme Court for ruling that his burial was legal.

The President, currently in Peru, called for understanding and forgiveness.

Vice President Leni Robredo, however, described how the Marcoses acted as being like a “thief in the night.” Keeping the burial date secret (even the police were reportedly notified just 24 hours prior) was another form of betrayal, especially since the protest case was yet unfinished.

“(Marcos) is no hero. If he were, obviously his family would not have to hide his burial like a shameful criminal deed,” stated the VP, who ran against Sen. Bongbong Marcos in the last elections.

The Marcos family explained that they simply wanted to bury their father in peace. They wanted to avoid the noise, as obviously there would be.

But what they did, as even senators claim, was underhanded and sneaky. Many did not like the surprise burial, which felt like a surprise attack on the unsuspecting populace. Shameless, some called it. Arrogant as ever, others said. Indeed, countless Filipinos, silent or otherwise, possibly feel as anti-burial protest lawyer Edre Olalia says in a CNN report: “It smacks of bad faith (and) bad taste.”

On the other hand, like Duterte believes, others, not just Ilocanos, think that it had to get done so that the country may start to let go of the past and heal. Let Marcos rest, they call.

But for many Filipinos, there will be no eternal rest for him, and never for this issue – not until someone pays!

21 November 2016



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# What's the fuss?

**T**he Supreme Court (SC) ruled last November 8 that former President Ferdinand Marcos deserves to be buried at the state cemetery Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB) ruling that "there is no law that prohibits the burial."

Last Friday, in what anti-Marcos forces called as a sneaky maneuver, the Marcos family buried the remains of the former President in accordance with the ruling of the highest court of the land.

The yellow mob responsible for the two extraconstitutional People Power overthrows of the past went alive but only generated media coverage but no public support in condemning the burial as being stealthily done.

Due to the SC decision and the family's decision for a simple burial, the only surprise in the Friday burial was the extent of the resentment displayed by the anti-Marcos forces.

Rody gave his word during the campaigns that Marcos will be buried at the LNMB to aid the healing of the nation which has grown tired of political strife.

The six years of the incompetent and insensitive Noynoy was all about political vendetta and selective justice in which his yellow cohorts, friends and relatives were all shielded from accountability while political opponents were targeted in the guise of anti-corruption campaigns.

Since it was a campaign promise which went with his being overwhelmingly voted into the presidency last May, Rody is expected to fulfill it.

The decision not to make the burial plans public was also something between Rody and the Marcos family who both could be worried about the security considerations of a very public simple burial.

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Consider the arguments of the anti-Marcos forces in stressing the supposedly rushed and stealthy character of the burial: that the Marcos family gave no information until the day of Marcos was to be interred at the LNMB.

Their presence, however, will not be of any help in following the orders of the SC. Also the contention that an appeal for reconsideration will be filed can't preclude the burial.

SC spokesman Theodore Te stated clearly that there was no legal impediment on the burial.

"There is no order prohibiting it because the status quo ante order was lifted," he said.

The anti-Marcos forces said that the SC order did not consider Marcos' acts that abused his authority as president.

Of course the issue presented to the court was the legality of the burial according to the wishes of a dead man.

Cases were brought against the Marcoses ever since the former President was deposed in 1986 and exiled in Hawaii but as Rody had said none had conclusively proved that Marcos committed the numerous allegations on him.

These cases do not stop due to the LNMB burial of Marcos nor does the burial diminish the value of the pieces of evidence presented for the cases.

What was done beyond the trappings of vindictive politics was to grant the wish of a person, whom even the Supreme Court ruling said rendered a long service to the public, who died nearly 30 years ago.

The yellow mob nonetheless worry about the return of the Marcoses to power which is more of a sentiment related to the political demise of the Liberal Party (LP) more than anything else.

Rody's affinity with the Marcoses has magnified such worries of the LP and its yellow minions.

The military atrocities blamed on Marcos is also a peculiar gripe since the allegations of abuse heaped on the police and soldiers still happened beyond martial law and the Marcos regime yet his successors were not entirely blamed for these.

The issue, which is a 27-year issue should be allowed to lay to rest along with the body of the dead president which should have found its final peace.

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## **ONLINE NEWS**

### **21 NOVEMBER 2016**

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#### **Davao City-based anti-terror unit showcases capability**

From Update.Ph (Nov 20): **WATCH: Davao City-based anti-terror unit showcases capability**

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**Joint Task Force Haribon, the Davao City-based anti-terror unit under the operational control of Eastern Mindanao Command of the Armed Forces of the Philippines has conducted a showcase of assets and capabilities.**

Joint Task Force Haribon's activation last month came amid the changing security landscape in Davao City with its emergence as the alternate seat of government and a venue for international events. The said joint task force is also assisting the Presidential Security Group in securing President Rodrigo Duterte.

**It is in command of Task Force Davao and Task Group Samal as its land component, while Task Force 71, which includes the Navy Special Operations Unit of the Naval Forces Eastern Mindanao, comprises the joint task force's naval component.**

**Additionally, elements from the Tactical Operations Group XI and the Special Operations Wing of the Philippine Air Force comprises its air component.**

<http://www.update.ph/2016/11/watch-davao-based-anti-terror-unit-showcases-capability/11179>



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## USS Comstock arrives in Subic Bay

From the Philippine Information Agency (Nov 20): USS Comstock arrives in Subic Bay

**The amphibious dock landing American ship, USS Comstock (LSD 45) with embarked Marines of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit visits Subic Bay to provide the crew and Marines an opportunity to rest and recuperate after nearly a month and a half at sea.**

Alava Pier in Subic Bay marks the second port visit for the Comstock after departing Naval Station San Diego on October 14. Several Filipino-American Sailors and Marines will also spend time with their families and experience the local culture while learning about their own heritage.

**"I am very proud that my first port visit as the Commanding Officer of the Comstock was to my birthplace, Guam, and I'm even more honored that our next port visit will be to the country where my mother and father were born - the Philippines," said Comstock Commanding Officer Cmdr. Gervy Alota.**

**"It will be a fantastic opportunity for my crew to enjoy and learn about the history and culture of the Philippines and to strengthen the already close ties between our two nations. I look forward to reuniting with my family and forming new friendships with the people of Subic Bay,"** he added.

The Comstock and embarked 11th MEU, part of the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group, have been conducting training together for nearly a month and a half at sea. Comstock and other ships of the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group are currently on a routine patrol in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations in support of security and stability in the region. The Comstock is based out of Naval Station San Diego, Calif. The 11th MEU is based out of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. (US Embassy Manila)

<http://news.pia.gov.ph/article/view/1141479455664/uss-comstock-arrives-in-subic-bay>

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