



kabalita

No. 3666, September 29, 2016

GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER



(Ret.) GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO

Former Chief, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency
Former Director, Bureau of Corrections, Department of Justice
Former Executive Director, Dangerous Drugs Board
Former Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines

KABALITA

No one could completely understand the Duterte Administration's war on illegal drugs better than an officer and a gentleman who has seen it all, having been once the Chief Drug Buster of our country. Let the drug war begin as he makes a timely return to Asia's First Rotary Club.

What's Inside

Programme	2-3
President's Corner	4
Guest of Honor and Speaker's Profile	5-9
The Week that Was / Rotary Briefing	10-18
Interclub Activities	18-20
D3810 Feeding Program	21
News Release	22-23
On the lighter side	24-25
Public Health Nutrition and Child Care	26
Advertisement	27-28

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA BOARD OF DIRECTORS and Executive Officers 2016-2017

TEDDY OCAMPO
President

EBOT TAN
Immediate Past President

BABE ROMUALDEZ
Vice President

BOBBY JOSEPH
ALBERT ALDAY
SUSING PINEDA
CHITO ZALDARRIAGA
ART LOPEZ
ISSAM ELDEBS
Directors

NING LOPEZ
Secretary

CHITO TAGAYSAY
Treasurer

LANCE MASTERS
Sergeant-At-Arms

AMADING VALDEZ
Board Legal Adviser

CALOY REYES
Assistant Secretary

RAOUL VILLEGAS
Assistant Treasurer

DAVE REYNOLDS
Deputy Sergeant At Arms

PROGRAM

RCM's 12th for Rotary Year 2016-17

Thursday, September 29, 2016, 12N, Manila Polo Club McKinley Room

OIC/Moderator : **Rtn. "Caloy" Buendia**

Program Timetable

11:30 PM	Registration and Cocktails	
12:25 PM	Bell to be Rung: Members and Guests are requested to be seated	Rtn. "Caloy" Buendia
12:30 PM	Call to order Singing of Republic of the Philippines National Anthem Invocation RCManila Hymn	Pres. "Teddy" Ocampo RCM WF Music Chorale PD "Armie" Aquino RCM WF Music Chorale
12:35 PM	Introduction of Guests and Visiting Rotarians and Personalities seated at the Head Table	STAR Rtn. "Jovee" Ong
12:38 PM	Happy Birthday (Birthday Celebrants:) Oct. 3...PP "Benny" Laguesma, Rtn. "Bodo" Goerlich; Oct. 4...PP "Francis" Juico; Oct. 5...PS "Butch" Marking Happy Birthday Song	RCM WF Music Chorale
12:40 PM	Induction of new members to RCManila Brief Introduction of Inductees by their Proposers	Pres. "Teddy" Ocampo, Inducing Officer
1.	Mr. TOMAS LAUCHENGCO "Tom" DRILON (Filipino) General Manager INTERTEK INTERNATIONAL LTD (Phil Branch) Classification: Business Services – Quality Assurance Proposer: STAR Rtn Enrico M Trinidad	
2.	Mr. RENATO R. "Rene" POLICARPIO (Filipino) Director, POLIMED ADULT CARE SERVICES Classification: Health Services – Wellness Proposer: PE "Jimmie" Policarpio "Welcome Baby Rotarian" Song	
		RCM WF Music Chorale

12:45 PM	Presentation of 1-Ruby Paul Harris Fellow to Pres.-Elect “Jimmie” Policarpio	Pres. “Teddy” Ocampo
12:47 PM	Entertainment song numbers by Mr. “Val” Librea through the courtesy of IPDG “Obet” Pagdanganan	
1:00 PM	President's Time	Pres. “Teddy” Ocampo
1:02 PM	Introduction of Guest of Honor & Speaker	PVP “Roy” Golez
	ADDRESS: General Dionisio R. Santiago (Ret.) Former Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines Former Chief, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency	
	Public Forum	
	Club fund-raising cash raffle	Dir. “Bobby” Joseph, Jr.
	Response, Presentation of token of appreciation to General Dionisio R. Santiago (Ret.)	Pres. “Teddy” Ocampo
2:00 PM	Adjournment	

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Last week, our weekly luncheon meeting was a full house as our very own Manila Rotarian, Secretary Carlos “Sonny” G. Dominguez, III of the Department of Finance, literally “brought the house down” with a very eloquent presentation of the advocacies of the department he heads meant to bring the change our country has come to know. His peculiar fine points on the taxes portion was, indeed, an eye opener for all of us, as he even alluded to certain justifications to emphasize his case in point. We hope that all his plans for our country would be carried out during the term of President Duterte as his views on business define a fresh start for our country.

As for updates within our club, I would like to ask you to storm the heavens for our fellow Manila Rotarian Sonny Arevalo who rushed to the Medical City last September 26, 2016 after suffering a cardiac arrest and is still in a coma. It is our fervent wish that he be saved and his life be extended so he could still enjoy many happy moments with us. Also, please pray for the recovery of Rtn. Nicky Villaseñor who has also been hospitalized last September 27, 2016 at the St. Luke’s Medical Center in Quezon City for dengue. Let us pray for both of them as well as all our fellow Manila Rotarians that the Almighty will give us more years to touch lives and make a difference. On a brighter note, it is with great pride that I announce the graduation of our very own hardworking Executive Secretary, Anna Kun-Toledo. She completed and graduated with a Master in Management degree from the Technological University of the Philippines. This adds another feather to the cap of our club. This will definitely enhance her capabilities of managing the Secretariat of our club. Again, our heartfelt congratulations! After this meeting, PE Jimmie Policarpio is inviting all of us to attend the First Fellowship of our club which he is hosting at this residence at Pacific Village in Muntinlupa City. This promises to be another fellowship to remember as we endeavor to forge and enhance camaraderie among all our members.

Updates from around the district include the attendance of DGN/IPCoS/PP Rudy Bediones and CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo at the 16th Induction and 15th Handover Ceremony of the Rotary Club of Hiyas ng Bacoor last September 22, 2016 at the Island Cove Hotel and Leisure Park in Cavite where my classmate, ASP Jojo Jarcia was inducted as President for Rotary Year 2016-2017. The following day, September 23, 2016, DGN/IPCoS/PP Rudy Bediones, CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo and PD Armie Aquino attended the 8th Charter Anniversary and Induction Ceremonies of the Rotary Club of Manila Sta. Ana at the Bayview Park Hotel in Manila where my classmate, ASP Linda Buenafe was inducted as President for Rotary Year 2016-2017. CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo was likewise present earlier during their Governor’s visit. The next day, September 24, 2016, DGN/IPCoS/PP Rudy Bediones and CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo attended the 7th Charter Anniversary and Mass Induction of the Rotaract Club of University District Manila at the Tramway Buffet Restaurant in Manila. Two days later, September 26, 2016, CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo and DCoS/SDG/Dir. Albert Alday attended the feeding program of the district for special children led by the Solid Cavite, entitled, “Save a Life, Feed the Hungry” which coincided with the birthday of DG Ernesto Yuyek at the Rosario Elementary School in Cavite. The next day, September 27, 2016, CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo attended the Governor’s Visit of the Rotary Club of Pasay Business District at the Copacabana Apartment Hotel in Pasay City.

Today, we welcome Ret. Gen. Dionisio Santiago, former PDEA Chief, as he speaks on the administration’s drug war. I look forward to your cooperation as we endeavor to make our stars shine this Rotary Year 2016-2017 through meaningful projects and fellowships that will strengthen the bonds of Asia’s First Rotary Club.

GUEST OF HONOR AND SPEAKER'S PROFILE



Gen Dionisio Reyes Santiago (Ret)

+63920-261-5681; +63977-783-7379 email: dionisiosantiago2016@gmail.com

PERSONAL

Date of Birth	:	08 April 1947
Place of Birth	:	Navotas City
Address	:	235 Gov. Pascual St., Sipac Almacen, Navotas City
Civil Status	:	Married
Spouse	:	Hermogena M. Santiago, 19 April 1946
Children	:	Mylyn Marie S. Rivera, 06 September 1972 Marco Jonet M. Santiago, 27 November 1973 Melon Carlo M. Santiago, 15 January 1976

civilian education

GRADUATE	:	<i>Master in Public Administration</i> 10 Dec 1983 Seattle University
SPECIAL PROGRAMS / INTERNSHIP	:	Prison Management 2003 Galilee College, Israel <i>Transit Management</i> Seattle Metro 20 Mar 1983 <i>Airport Management</i> 15 Mar 1983 Port of Seattle <i>Airline Management</i> 15 Mar 1983 Seattle University <i>Real Estate Salesperson Course</i> 15 Mar 1982 John Mykut Real Estate School

System Analysis Des & Prog (s) 15 Mar 1974
UNIVAC Philippines/UP/MIT

UNDERGRADUATE : *Mechanical Engineering* 1963 to 1966
Mapua Institute of Technology

Master in Public Administration 1973 to 1974
University of the Philippines, Manila

SECONDARY : **Jose Rizal High School** 1959 to 1963

ELEMENTARY : **Navotas Elementary School** 1953 to 1959

Military education

GRADUATE : **Bachelor of Science** 22 Mar 1970
Philippine Military Academy

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND COURSES:

Program for Senior Executive in National and International Security Harvard University	31 Aug 2001
International Fellowship Program US Army War College	10 Jun 1993 to Jun 1994
Pre-Command Course for Battalion Commanders Training Command, PA	10 Oct 1988
Battalion Commanders Course Training Command, PA	10 Oct 1988
Seminar/Workshop on AFP Intel OJ2, GHQ, AFP	01 Jan 1987
Command & General Staff Course AFP Command & General Staff College	06 Jun 1986
Seminar on Hostage Negotiation Avescom, PAF	20 Apr 1984
Seminar Workshop on Development and Security RUC 5, AFP	01 Jan 1984
Special Trade Info College Course National Intelligence & Security Auth / UNIVAC	10 Mar 1977
Classified Studies in International Trade National Intelligence And Security Authority	04 Mar 1977
CSU Seminar Workshop National Intelligence & Security Auth / UNIVAC	02 Mar 1976
Special Counter Intelligence Course National Intel & Security Authority	23 Apr 1974
Seminar on Public Relation HQS, PA	20 Feb 1973

Infantry Battalion Intelligence Staff Officer Course	17 Jun 1972
MITS, MSC, PA	
Infantry Officer Basic Course	05 May 1972
Philippine Army School Center	
Counter Subversion & Insurgency Course	15 Feb 1972
Philippine Army School Center	
Scout Ranger Course	01 Sep 1970
Home Defense Forces (ABN)	
Company Officers Course CTW PsyOps / Ranger Course	17 Jul 1970
Philippine Army School Center	

private sector employment

Director, E.L Enterprises, Inc. Jan 2011 to Present

Government SERVICE RECORD

Director General, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency	02 May 2006 to Dec 2010
<i>Office of the President</i>	
Executive Director, Dangerous Drugs Board, 19 Jan 2005 to 28 April 2006	
<i>Office of the President</i>	
Director, Bureau of Corrections, <i>Department of Justice</i>	02 Jun 2003 to 14 Sept 2004

MILITARY SERVICE RECORD / ASSIGNMENTS

Chief of Staff, AFP	28 Nov 2002 to 08 April 2003
Vice Chief of Staff, AFP	14 Nov 2002 to 28 Nov 2002
Commanding General, PA	02 Apr 2002 to 14 Nov 2002
Commanding General, CENTCOM, PA (VISAYAS)	01 Dec 2001 to 13 Apr 2002
Commander, VISCOCOM, AFP (VISAYAS)	17 Jul 2001 to 01 Dec 2001
Commanding General, SOCOM, PA	04 Aug 1999 to 17 Jul 2001
Asst. Division Commander, 8ID, PA (VISAYAS)	16 Feb 1999 to 04 Aug 1999
Commanding Officer, 803 rd Brigade, 8ID, PA (VISAYAS)	18 Mar 1996 to 16 Feb 1999
Dep. Brigade Commander, 103 rd Infantry Brigade, 1ID, PA (VIS)	13 Oct 1995 to 16 Mar 1996
Assistant Chief of Staff for Plans, G5, Headquarters Phil. Army	03 May 1995 to 13 Oct 1995
Director, National Security Studies, AFP, JSCSC	01 Jul 1994 to 03 May 1995
Attached Unassigned, SSU, PA / Foreign Military Schooling	01 Jan 1993 to 01 Jun 1994
Group Commander, ISG, Philippine Army	01 Dec 1990 to 01 Jan 1991
Manager, GSD, AFPMBAI	16 May 1990 to 01 Dec 1990
Attached Unassigned, SSU, Philippine Army	16 Feb 1990 to 16 May 1990
Battalion Commander, 12IB, 3ID, PA (VISAYAS)	01 Jul 1987 to 31 Dec 1989
Group Commander, MIG 6, ISAFP (VISAYAS)	01 Dec 1986 to 30 Jan 1987
Assistant Group Commander, MIG 15, ISAFP01	Sept 1986 to 01 Dec 1986
Assistant Division Chief, OID, ISAFP	01 June 1986 to 01 Sep 1986
Dep. Task Group Commander, Task Group Panther, First Scout Ranger Regiment, PA (MINDANAO)	16 Apr 1985 to 13 Sept 1985
Asst. Chief of Staff for Opns, U3 & for Intelligence U2, RUC, AFP	01 Jan 1984 to 05 Apr 1985
Asst. Chief, Combat Research Division, OJ3, GHQ	01 Jan 1983 to 01 Jan 1984
Military Attaché, Phil. Consulate, Seattle WA, USA (PSC/NISA)	01 Jun 1980 to 01 Dec 1983
Asst. Trade Attaché, Phil. Embassy, KL, MALAYSIA (PSC/NISA)	10 Jan 1977 to 07 May 1980
Detached Service, Presidential Security Command, Admin CO, PA	01 Aug 1975 to 10 Mar 1979
Liaison Officer, Bureau of Forest Development	01 Jan 1976 to 01 Jan 1977

Manager, Prod Branch, IMD (PSC / NISA)	01 Jan 1975 to 01 Jan 1977
Interviewing Officer, Task Force Salaan, GHQ, AFP (PSC / NISA)	01 Jan 1975 to 01 Aug 1975
Assistant Chief, Travel Clearance Branch, DFA (PSC / NISA)	01 Jan 1973 to 01 Jan 1975
Executive Officer, 5PPC, West Sector, PC Metrocom (PSC / NISA)	01 Jan 1974 to 01 Jan 1975
Duty OG2, Presidential Security Command (PSC / NISA)	01 Feb 1973 to 01 Jan 1974
Officer –In-Charge, A Co, 1 st IB, 1ID, PA (PSC / NISA)	16 Oct 1972 to 01 Feb 1973
Team Leader, 1 st Home Defense Forces Group (A), ASWBDE, PA	10 May 1972 to 16 Oct 1972
S2 North Sector PC Metrocom / 1 st IB, 1ID, PA, (PSC / NISA)	01 Jan 1972 to 01 Feb 1972
Company Commander, A Co, 1 st IB, 1ID, PA (PSC / NISA)	01 Jan 1972 to 01 Feb 1972
Intel Officer, 1 st IB, 1ID, PA (PSC / NISA)	01 Jan 1972 to 01 Feb 1972
Company Commander, B Co, 27IB, 4ID, PA (MINDANAO)	01 Apr 1971 to 23 Jan 1972
Executive Officer, B Co, 1IB, PA (MINDANAO)	01 Jan 1971 to 01 Jan 1972
Acting S1 & Adjutant, 27 IB, 4ID, PA (MINDANAO)	01 Jul 1970 to 01 Dec 1970

MILITARY SERVICE RECORD / SPECIAL DUTIES

Member, Board of Senior Officers, HQS, PA	01 Jan 1999 to 31 Jan 2010
Member, Promotion Board "A", HQS, PA	01 Jan 1999 to 31 Jan 2000
Member, Promotion Board "A", HQS, PA	01 Jan 1998 to 01 Jan 1999
Member, Board of Senior Officers, HQS, PA	01 Jan 1998 to 31 Dec 1998
Chairman, GRP-MNLF Provincial Ceasefire Committee, GHQ, AFP	13 Oct 1995 to 16 Apr 1996
Member, Plans Committee, MDB, HQS, PA	03 May 1995 to 13 Oct 1995
Member, Efficiency Separation Board, HQS, PA	01 Jan 1992 to 01 Jun 1993
Chairman, Security Adjudication Board, HQS, PA	01 Jan 1992 to 01 Jun 1993
Member, Philippine Army Selection Board "B", HQS, PA	01 Jun 1991 to 01 Jun 1992
Chairman, Security Adjudication Board, HQS, PA	01 Dec 1990 to 01 Jun 1993

AFFILIATION

VP, Business, Industry, and Retired Cavaliers Inc., PMAAA	June 2016 to Present
Governor, Philippine Constitutional Association	Jan 2012 to Present
VP for Military Affairs, Philippine Constitutional Association	Jan 2010 to Jan 2012
Board of Trustees, Asian Peace & Unity Corps (APUC) Philippines	May 2015 to Present
Member / Ambassador of Peace, Universal Peace Federation (UPF) Intl.	Oct 2014 to Present
Board Member, Association of Generals and Flag Officers (AGFO)	Nov 2002 to Present
Rotary Club of Pasig	Jul 2006 to Present
Rotary Club of Catarman (Northern Samar)	June 1997 to Present
Rotary Club of San Juanico (Tacloban, Leyte)	Apr 1996 to Present
Rotary Club of Cabanatuan (Nueva Ecija)	Jul 1994 to Present
Rotary Club of Navotas	Jan 1993 to Present
Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association (PMAAA)	Apr 1970 to Present

AWARDS RECEIVED

Special Award of Honor by the International Narcotic Enforcement Officers Association (INEOA), Inc. in New York, USA

Order of Sikatuna, Degree of Commander

International Fellows Hall of Fame by the US Army War College

Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association (PMAAA) Cavalier Achievement Award

Outstanding Achievement Medal

Most Outstanding Citizen of Navotas

Various Military Merit Medals

Various Awards of Recognition

Various Commendations and Citations from various sectors such as the Military, Government and Private Sectors

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Implemented major reforms and enhancement of PDEA's capabilities and competencies of its Agents and personnel by cleaning and policing among the ranks (filing admin cases vs. erring agents), improving facilities, providing new equipment & firearms and improving PDEA Academy's systems, processes and manpower using funds / grant from The Presidential Anti-Graft Commission (PAGC) helping the agency to effectively fulfill its mandate.

Conducted a series of major raids, drug-busts and dismantling of mega drug laboratories and illegal drug operations that led to PDEA's arrest of high profile local and international syndicates and dealers which garnered national attention – effectively affecting the decrease of supply and increase of street value due to scarcity of major illegal drugs during term as Director General.

Successfully conducted PDEA's strategic operations and international cooperation with key ASEAN Drug Enforcement Agency counterparts to neutralize and arrest notorious international drug courier syndicate / members, such as the West African Drug Syndicate (WADs), which victimized a score of Filipino couriers and OFW's.

PDEA garnered recognition as being included in the Ten (10) least corrupt and most efficient government offices cited by the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission .

Initiated and implemented the computerization of PDEA's permits and Licensing system for the issuance of the S2 I.D. required for Doctors prescribing and license for dispensing dangerous drugs, to resolve efficiency and red tape issues related to issuance of vital clearances for medical practitioners and institutions.

Launched a campaign to clean-up and fix the management of the New Bilibid Prison and other Bureau of Correction Facilities by implementing improved system of routine inspection, raids, audit and policing among the ranks of personnel (filing cases vs. erring jail guards / personnel) – which resulted to neutralization of gang wars / activities, confiscation and stopping the systemic smuggling of contrabands, discovery and dismantling of drug laboratories, neutralizing drug syndicate operations by dispersing key / high profile drug lords operating within the facilities.

Created and activated the Light Reaction Company (LRC) as Commanding General of the Special Operations Command (SOCOM) PA (04 Aug 1999 to 17 Jul 2001), which was used and pivotal in the rescue operations during the Basilan (Burnham) Hostage involving ASG. This became the forerunner leading to the establishment of the Light Reaction Regiment (LRR) as one of the important pillars of the AFP's premier counter-terrorism force.

Led the GRP-MNLF Provincial Ceasefire Committee as Chairman and Chief Negotiator (13 Oct 1995 to 16 Apr 1996) working with then MNLF Counterparts / Leaders including Mislimin "Jan" A. Jakilan and Yusop Jikiri.

One of the elected non-lawyer members of the Board of Governor of The Philippine Constitutional Association (2012 to present)

THE WEEK THAT WAS...



Rtn. "Roy" Zosa as OIC/
Program Moderator directs the
program of activities.



Rtn. "Emyl" Eugenio delivers
an ecumenical prayer.

STAR Rtn. "Karl" Leung
introduces the guests, visiting
Rotarians and personalities
seated at the presidential table.



WEEKLY BIRTHDAY CELEBRANT/S



Guest Speaker Hon. Rtn. Carlos G. "Sonny" Dominguez III, Secretary, Department of Finance; Member, Rotary Club of Manila, as special birthday celebrant is presented by **Pres. "Teddy" Ocampo**, and warmly greeted by the **RCM World-Famous Chorale** with a ***"Happy Birthday Song"*** for the blowing of candle on the birthday cake.



Rtn. "Tong" Payumo does the honour and pleasure of introducing **Hon. Rtn. Carlos G. "Sonny" Dominguez III**, Secretary, Department of Finance; Member, Rotary Club of Manila as guest of honour and speaker.



Secretary Carlos "Sonny" G. Dominguez, III of the Department of Finance presented before his fellow Manila Rotarians, Visiting Rotarians and guests, the advocacies of the Department of Finance in painting a better and more financially stable Philippines.

SPEECH

SIMPLER, FAIRER AND MORE EFFICIENT

CARLOS G. DOMINGUEZ

Secretary of Finance

Remarks before the Rotary Club

September 22, 2016

(Pleasantries)

The Duterte administration has set ambitious goals for itself.

By the time this presidency bows out in 2022, we aspire to reduce the nation's poverty rate from the current 26% to just 17%. We seek to achieve peace within the country and with our neighbors by finally ending the insurgencies that festered for decades.

We look forward, over the next six years, to achieve a law-abiding country with capable and reliable law enforcement. In the medium term, we see the country achieving high middle-income status with investment-led and inclusive growth.

On a longer horizon, we expect that by 2040 the great task of completely eradicating poverty shall have been achieved. We expect a dynamic and nurturing community that opens equal opportunities for all Filipinos. In one generation from today, we foresee achievement of high-income country status for the Philippines.

This is not a pipe dream. The medium-and long-term goals are eminently achievable. There is only one benchmark we need to consistently attain year after year: this is to keep growth at 7% for the next generation.

Such a sustained growth performance cannot be achieved if our economic performance is exclusive: enriching only a few and impoverishing the many. Nothing can be achieved if the nation slides into the cauldron of drug addiction and narco-politics. The nation cannot be at its best if law enforcement is weak and the judicial system is corrupted. Such conditions will only nourish a criminal obligarchy that keeps the majority mired in poverty.

We need to reconfigure our economy with the goal of enhancing, access to opportunity, reducing disparities among the regions and preparing the young for meaningful economic roles through superior but accessible educational systems. Achieving inclusive economic growth is not a macroeconomic goal. It requires a comprehensive microeconomic program of economic management.

This is why, while the new administration adheres to the macroeconomic policies of its predecessors, it also introduces a 10-point economic agenda to guide its governance.

The 10-point agenda includes: continuing the sound macroeconomic policies of our predecessors; the introduction of a tax-reform package that will ensure both fairness as well as broad participation; improvements on the ease of doing business through more efficient and responsive governance; massive investments in new infrastructures to close the gap between what we need and what we have; a new focus on rural development to assure that our agricultural sector will be an engine for wealth-creating rather than the poverty-trap it has been; reform of our land administration system to free up land as a component of our nation's capital base; increased investments in improving our human capital; increased support for science, technology and the arts; the consolidation of our social protection programs; and, expansion of our reproductive health services.

The aspiration for a just and prosperous society calls for numerous reforms in policy. These reforms will ensure we have the institutions of governance required to speed up growth and make the economy more inclusive.

The massive investments in infra as well as education and health care in turn requires robust revenue inflows. Without reforming our tax system so that it becomes fairer, simpler and more efficient, government cannot undertake the volume of spending required in achieving the goals earlier mentioned.

This brings me to the point I would want to discuss with you today: the package of tax reforms we intend to bring to the Congress for legislation.

Before I do so, let me assure you that we will improve the efficiency of our tax system by addressing the discrepancies between the volume of imports as reported by authorities and the figures actually reported by the exporter-countries.

You may not believe it, but official 2014 records alone of the UN Comtrade World Exports Show a value gap of one point eight trillion pesos (P1.8 trillion) between the value of imports as reported locally as against the value of shipments to the Philippines by exporting countries. This staggering figure means we can still collect P231 billion more or 2% of GDP. We note, however, that part of this trade gap can also be due to timing issues and inclusion and exclusion of particular commodities in reporting.

In order to bridge this gap, we need to relax bank secrecy for fraud cases, simplify and automate processes, and improve the ability of customs to enforce the law. We will also send customs personnel to these countries and reconcile our trade records with them to find out the reason behind these discrepancies and plug whatever leakages need to be addressed to make sure that we are able to collect the right amount of taxes.

Meanwhile, we can collect around P726 billion or 6.44% of GDP if we simplify, address inefficiencies, and remove loopholes in BIR tax administration and tax policy. Critical in bridging this gap are: relaxing bank secrecy for tax fraud cases, making tax evasion a predicate crime to money laundering, automating electronic filing and payment, reducing the number of pages and fields in tax reforms, preparing simpler forms for micro and small taxpayers, expanding the large taxpayer service from 2,300 to 3,000 large corporations, and hiring young Filipinos of competence and integrity into 10,000 vacancies in the BIR.

We are focusing on making payment of taxes simpler and easier. We are looking at further segmentizing our taxpayers by including a Medium-Sized Taxpayers Division to better address the needs of these taxpayers. We are simplifying the process of paying taxes and changing the mindset of BIR employees to make them service-oriented and more customer friendly.

Recovering the tax gaps we have mentioned is already set in the revenue targets of BIR and BOC. But without reforms in tax policy that make it easier for the bureaus to collect and taxpayers to pay their taxes, recovering these tax gaps will be impossible.

As for the tax reform package, we need to lower personal and corporate income taxes. Each item that will result in revenue loss will be coupled with a proposal that will result in revenue gain. When all these reform measures are undertaken, we expect a net revenue gain that will help finance inclusive growth.

We are now ready to propose the restructuring of personal income tax rate; expansion of the VAT base by reducing the number of exceptions to the tax; adjustment of the excise taxes imposed on petroleum; and, imposition of a new excise tax on sugar-sweetened beverages in the interest of public health.

Over a two-year period we expect to reduce the top tax rate from 32% to 25%—excepting the ‘ultra-rich’ which is defined as individuals making P5 million or more annually. The reduction will bring our income tax rate in line with the rest of the Southeast Asian region.

The reduction of income tax rates will greatly benefit the mass of wag-workers. It will effectively increase their disposable income, which will redound to the benefit of the domestic economy.

To help compensate for the revenue loss from lowering personal income tax rates, we propose to raise excise taxes on fossil fuels. The increase will account for the depreciation over the years. It will have marginal impact on fuel costs since we expect the current low price regime for petroleum products to last for quite a while.

An excise tax on petroleum products will not make our tax system regressive. Economic studies demonstrate that per capita consumption of these products hew closely to income levels. It is regressive to subsidize petroleum; but it is eminently progressive to tax consumption of the product.

To cushion the impact of the tax adjustment, we will be funding direct subsidies for the vulnerable sectors that will be affected by higher fuel prices in the form of conditional cash transfers, cash cards, direct discounts and other forms of social protection for the affected sectors. About a quarter to a third of the net revenues of some P370 billion that we expect to gain from the tax reform plan will be set aside for these proposed subsidies for the benefit of sectors that will be affected the most by this tax adjustment.

Public health concerns inspire us to propose an excise tax on sugar-sweetened beverages. This excise tax will be on a uniform rate of P10 per liter or kilogram regardless of form, liquid or powdered. The products covered by this excise tax are softdrinks, soda pop, energy drinks and sweetened teas and coffees.

Lastly, we are seeking to remove all other exemptions outside of agriculture, health, banks, education and purchase of medicines by senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

There are other measures we are closely studying to enhance revenues and improve the capacity of our tax system for producing inclusive growth.

The tax reform package thus far outlined may be described as the linchpin of the broader reform package envisioned by the Duterte Administration. Without tax reforms, the broader strategic goals mentioned at the onset of this presentation will be compromised.

In closing, let me seek your support for this particular reform effort. Taxes are never popular. We are emerging from a history of chronically low tax efforts and damaged institutions. This history of weak and inefficient governance is a more significant factor than colonialism in explaining our underdevelopment.

Today, we have a leadership with enough political will to alter the historical patterns and finally deliver to our people the satisfaction of modern nationhood.

Thank you and good day.

- - - - -



A pro-active open forum by PE Jimmie Policarpio, Rtn. Joel Valdes, Rtn. Cris Acosta, Rtn. Tony Lopez immediately followed right after the speech of Secretary Carlos G. “Sonny” Dominguez III.



Pres. "Teddy" Ocampo's response and presentation to **Secretary Carlos G. "Sonny" Dominguez III** a special bell trophy, as the club's token of appreciation, for being the guest of honour and speaker.



Pres. **Teddy Ocampo** and **SDG/PP Frank Evaristo** conduct the Club's fund-raising raffle for and in behalf of **Dir. Bobby Joseph**.



In a posterity photo from L-R: Department of Finance Secretary Carlos G. “Sonny” Dominguez III, Pres. Teddy Ocampo, PVP Manny Dy & SDG/PP Frank Evaristo.

INTERCLUB ACTIVITIES

RC HIYAS NG BACOR INDUCTION



DGN/IPCoS/PP Rudy Bediones and CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo attended the 16th Charter Anniversary and 15th Handover Ceremonies of the Rotary Club of Hiyas ng Bacoar last September 22, 2016 at the Tejeros Room of the Island Cove Hotel and Leisure Park in Binakayan, Kawit, Cavite.

ROTARACT CLUB OF UNIVERSITY DISTRICT MANILA



DGN/IPCoS/PP Rudy Bediones and CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo attended the 7th Charter Anniversary and Mass Induction of the Rotaract Club of University District Manila last September 24, 2016 at the Tramway Buffet Restaurant in Manila.

RC MANILA STA. ANA INDUCTION



DGN/IPCoS/PP Rudy Bediones, CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo and PD Armie Aquino attended the 8th Charter Anniversary and Induction Ceremonies of the Rotary Club of Manila Sta. Ana last September 23, 2016 at the Bayview Park Hotel in Manila.

DISTRICT 3810 FEEDING PROGRAM



CoS/IPSDG/PP Cesar Ubaldo and DCoS/SDG/Dir. Albert Alday attended the feeding program of the district led by the Solid Cavite, entitled, "Save A Life, Feed the Hungry" held last September 26, 2016 on the occasion of the Birthday of DG Ernesto Yuyek at the Rosario Elementary School in Cavite.

NEWS RELEASE

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2016



THE ALAY Lakad Foundation recently celebrated its 44th anniversary. The foundation is headed by Frank Evaristo, who's been its president for 25 years. With "Alay Lakad, May Pag-asa ang Kabataan" as its theme, the advocacy raises funds to finance its educational assistance and livelihood programs for cash strapped youngsters.

This year's event, in cooperation with the Federation of Filipino Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is headed by Jeffrey Ng. The Members of Alay Lakad, include many government agencies, non-government organizations and individuals. President Rodrigo Duterte is the chairperson of the Alay Lakad Foundation.

E-mail: mandynavasero@yahoo.com



Not So HIDDEN AGENDA By Mary Ann LL. Reyes (The Philippine Star) Sunday, September 25, 2016



NAGASAKI TOURISM: Hisakazu Matsukawa (2nd from left), director general of the Nagasaki Prefecture Tourism and International Affairs, was among the special guests during the 26th SKAL Tourism Personality Awards and 35th Founding Anniversary at the New World Hotel in Makati City. Nagasaki as a tourism and business destination was featured in a video presentation during the event attended by leading tourism, travel, business and education personalities that include Robert Lim Joseph (left), president of SKAL International Makati; Jaime Bautista, president of Philippine Airlines (right); Akira Kojima, managing director of Sasebo Convention Association (3rd from left); Kenichiro Yamashita, executive director Omura city hall, Department of Tourism, Commerce and Industry; and Hiroyuki Baba, executive director, Omura Motorboat Racing Bureau.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE



PDG VINCE CARLOS

Why I Like Retirement!

Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Two hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?

Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called seniors?

Answer: The term comes with a 10% discount.

Question: Among retirees, what is considered formal attire?

Answer: Tied shoes.

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?

Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?

Answer: NUTS!

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?

Answer: Normal.

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?

Answer: The never ending Coffee Break.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

Question: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with?

Answer: He is too polite to tell the whole truth.

* * * * *

And, my very favorite....

QUESTION: What do you do all week?

Answer: Monday through Friday, NOTHING. Saturday & Sunday, I rest.

Serenity

Just before the funeral services, the undertaker came up to the very elderly widow and asked, 'How old was your husband?' '98,' she replied.... 'Two years older than me'

'So you're 96,' the undertaker commented..

She responded, 'Hardly worth going home, is it?'

* * * * *

Reporters interviewing a 104-year-old woman:

'And what do you think is the best thing about being 104?' the reporter asked...

She simply replied, 'No peer pressure.'

* * * * *

The nice thing about being senile is you can hide your own Easter eggs and have fun finding them.

* * * * *

I've sure gotten old! I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half blind, can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine, take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts. Have bouts with dementia. Have poor circulation; hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92. Have lost all my friends.

But, thank God, I still have my driver's license.

* * * * *

I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.

* * * * *

My memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

Also, my memory's not as sharp as it used to be.

* * * * *

Know how to prevent sagging?

Just eat till the wrinkles fill out.

It's scary when you start making the same noises as your coffee maker.

* * * * *

These days about half the stuff in my shopping cart says, 'For fast relief.'

* * * * *

The Senility Prayer

Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

* * * * *

Always Remember This:

You don't stop laughing because you grow old,

You grow old because you stop laughing!

PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITION AND CHILD CARE



SOME THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MULTIVITAMINS (Part 3) “Vitamin B-1, B-6, and B-12”

Elias D. Adamos, M.D.

There are 8 B vitamins. The more popular ones that are often found in multivitamin supplements are vitamin B-1, B-6, and B-12. B vitamins are often referred to as vitamin B-complex. B-complex vitamins are needed for a healthy liver, skin, hair, and eyes. Vitamin B-complex help the body convert food (carbohydrate) into fuel (glucose), which the body uses to produce energy. The brain and the nervous system also need vitamin B-complex. All B vitamins are water soluble, meaning that the body does not store them.

Vitamin B-1

The other name for vitamin B1 is **thiamine or thiamin**. Vitamin B-1 is sometimes called an “anti-stress” vitamin. It strengthens the immune system and improves the body’s ability to withstand stressful conditions. It is called B-1 because it is the first B vitamin that was discovered. A multivitamin supplement with **50 to 100 milligrams (mg)** of thiamine is safe. Foods that are rich in vitamin B-1 are pork, beef, poultry, organ meats, wheat germ, legumes, bran, nuts, and whole-grain cereals and rice.

Vitamin B-6 (pyridoxine)

Adequate levels of this vitamin may help reduce the risk for heart attack. It lowers blood homocysteine that is considered as a risk factor for heart attack. Pyridoxine also improves immune system function. Older adults who don’t eat variety of foods may not get enough of pyridoxine. A good idea is a daily multivitamin supplement that contains just enough of vitamin B-6: that is, **2 mg of vitamin B-6**. Research on pyridoxine revealed that very high doses result in nerve damage to the arms and legs. It is usually reversible and nerve function goes back to normal when supplementation is stopped. Foods that are rich in vitamin B-6 are leafy vegetables, cereal grains, potatoes, bananas, carrots, spinach, cheese, eggs, fish, and sunflower seeds.

Vitamin B-12 (cobalamine)

Adequate levels of vitamin B-12 may reduce your risk of anemia, cardiovascular disease and stroke. It is a micronutrient that is needed by the body to maintain red blood cells, nerve cells, and normal covering of nerve cells (*myelination*). It also improves neurotransmitter function in the brain. Older adults often don’t absorb this vitamin well. A multivitamin with **2 micrograms (mcg)** may help. Milk and dairy products, eggs, meat, fish, poultry, and shellfish are rich in vitamin B-12.

ADVERTISEMENT



Exquisite Wines

Excellent Pleasures

Lasting Experiences

WWW.PWM.COM.PH

2253 Aurora Blvd. Pasay City PH 1300

8322523 / 8537421

philwine@compass.com.ph



FOR MORE PRODUCTIVE MEETINGS

In business, the smallest details make the biggest impact on the bottomline.

Whether you are planning for the rest of the fiscal year, holding a meeting with partners from overseas or a training your team, you will be able to access first-class facilities and the best of Philippine hospitality within our halls.

Hold your next meeting and business conference at The Manila Hotel and seal the deal in five-star luxury. Discuss your requirements with our team by calling 5270011 local 1271 to 1274 or emailing banquet@manila-hotel.com.ph.

M

THE MANILA HOTEL