

THE WEEKEND JUNCTION

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MABUHAY ANG PILIPINO!!! BAGUIO CITY, AND LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

Pahayagang palabanan!!! **Stop Electrocuting Public with Ludicrous charges in Power, Escudero Tells Gov't**



*DANGER AT THE DOORSTEP. Fears of Irisan Dumpsite Residents come literally inches away from their doorsteps during a heavy downpour, May 3. While the city looks for a suitable site for its engineered sanitary landfill, peddling mediocre presentations that leaves even the Baguioan unconvinced, the safety clock for residents is ticking more loudly by the second. **CDCC photo*

Opposition senator Chiz Escudero today called on the government to “stop electrocuting us with silly charges that hurts”.

Escudero said one of the primary reasons for the country’s expensive power cost is the slapping of value added tax (VAT) on systems loss. However, the senator said there is no provision in the RVAT law that this should be. “It is bad enough that we end up paying for electricity that is lost to illegal connections “and to heat”, but coughing up an additional 12% tax to phantom power is too much”. He said VAT is supposed to be a levy on goods and services, on tangibles one receives and enjoys, not on imaginary things like electricity which has vaporized or vandalized.

The senator said a VAT on systems loss is therefore a tax on theft, only that in this case it is the victim who pays. But he doesn’t pay for the actual cost of what had been stolen from him, but he becomes a victim twice over when he pays, by

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Ang sabi nga, nasa kamay ng Gobyerno ang pagpapapbaba ng singil sa kuryente

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BWD plea for rate hike do not deserve Baguio support

BY ARTURO BOQUIREN

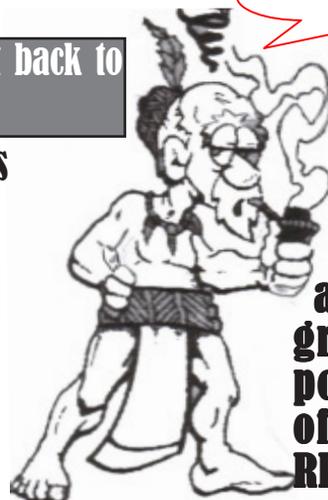


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KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Birheng Maria, “tulong sa mga Kristiyano”

BY. BATAS MAURICIO



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Govt Officials Warned To Stay Away From Casinos

The CSC is once again reminding government officials to refrain from going to casinos as embodied in Office of the President Memorandum Circular No. 8, issued in August 2001, which bans all public officials connected directly with the operation of the government, except for casino personnel, to enter or play at gambling casinos. Also prohibited under the circular are members of the Phil-

ippine National Police and Armed Forces of the Philippines, including the Army, Navy and Air Force.

RA 6713, otherwise known as the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees enjoins all government employees to observe in their professional, as well as personal lives the eight (8) norms of behavior: Commitment to Public Interest; Professionalism;

Justness and Sincerity; Political Neutrality; Responsiveness to the Public; Nationalism and Patriotism; Commitment to Democracy; Simple Living.

Violations of OPMC No. 8, s. 2001 and Republic Act No. 6713 may be reported to the Mamamayan Muna Action Center hotline at (02) 932-0111 or to 0917-TEXTCSC (0917-8398272). Apprvd: Atty. Lorenzo S. Danipog Director IV

City backs conduct of young People's Summit

BAGUIO CITY – A young people's summit to focus on population, health and environment will soon be held here.

Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. last week created a technical working committee (TWC) and technical secretariat to facilitate the summit pursuant to city council Resolution No. 51 series of 2008 urging him to convene the said summit.

The summit aims to “mobilize strong youth participation in achieving clearly defined integrated population, health and environment program as a new approach to address high population growth rate due to un-

wanted pregnancy and early marriage and human migration.

In his Administrative Order No. 54, Bautista said such project is necessary to address overpopulation which is linked with the problems of health and environment.

“Awareness on the relationship between population, health and environment should be instilled in each and everyone and encourage particularly the involvement of the youth sector of the society,” the mayor noted.

The TWC will be headed by Councilor Erdolfo Balajadia, chairman

of the city council committee on health and environment, as action officers with youth councilor Gloria Ysabel De Vera and representatives of the public information division, the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources-Environment Management Bureau, the Baguio-Benguet Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc., National Youth Commission, Baguio Regreening Movement, Population Commission regional office; and the Baguio Association of Health Advocates for Youth Inc. (BAHAY) as members.

The City Health Office-City Population

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city right on target on dumpsite closure but back to square one on landfill bid

BAGUIO CITY – The city is faring well on its target to totally close its dumpsite at Irisan barangay here but is facing setbacks in its bid to establish a sanitary landfill as a permanent solution to its garbage woes.

Mayor Reinaldo Bautista Jr. bared this during his Ugnayang Panlungsod media briefing last Thursday.

The mayor said the city has no reason to worry over the issuance of a six-month ultimatum for all local government units to scrap their dumpsites by Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Lito Atienza as it has been making headway in rehabilitating and closing the dump facility.

He said that at present the city has closed 70 percent of the dumpsite and the remaining 30 percent is being operated as a controlled dump facility

which showed that the city is on the right track in its dumpsite closure target.

Early this week, city environment and parks management officer-in-charge Cordelia Lacsamana told city officials that barring some hitches, the on-going project for the dumpsite's conversion into a controlled dump facility will soon be completed. She promised to give a complete report on the project as soon as possible.

During the media briefing, the mayor also reported that the city faced a setback in its bid to locate a suitable lot for its sanitary landfill project.

He affirmed that the city's two options, one in Itogon and the other in Tuba have both hit a snag after the town officials and residents opposed the city's proposals.

“So practically, we're back to square one as far as the land-

fill project is concerned,” he said adding that the city has however received new offers along this line.

As to the proposed privatization of the city's waste management system, the mayor admitted preference to a privatized set-up and assured that the city can bend its rule by amending the ten-year waste management plan to accommodate the scheme.

He however said this option would depend on two conditions: first, that the private company to take over the system must be ready to absorb in its employ all the city government personnel presently undertaking the waste collection along with all the equipment invested by the city for the project; and second that the firm must be ready to take over the task of working out the establishment

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J U E T E N G

NOTICE TO OUR DEAR READERS

This paper or any of its official staff members are not receiving any payoffs, bribe(s) and/or any other form of benefits from the illegal numbers game known as JUETENG or from any other forms of illegal gambling presently operating within the City of Baguio and Benguet Province, unlike other MEDIA outfits/entities who are restricted and cannot disseminate to the general public the news and information on Jueteng as they are beholden (their hands are tied and their mouths are gagged) to the Jueteng operators/financiers due to their acceptance of dirty jueteng bribe money. This paper has no restrictions and welcomes any and all information concerning Jueteng operations, its proponents, adherents, protectors etc... more so information concerning the involvement of the members of Media, the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Mayor's Office etc... All information received by this newspaper on the issue of Jueteng is guaranteed to see print immediately upon verification and confirmation. (SGD) Odell P. Aquino
The Junction- OIC

CSC Cancels Third Level Examination Scheduled in June 2008

The CSC shall no longer conduct the Career Executive Officer Examination (CEOE) Written Test originally slated on June 8, 2008. However, the conduct of the Supplemental Written Examination (SWE) covering the CEOE written test conducted on June 10, 2007, will be conducted simultaneously with the Career Service Examination – Paper and Pencil Test (CSE-PPT) on July 27, 2008. Queries relative to this may be addressed to the Examination Services Division, C S C - C A R (4439282; 4428012 or 4435982 local 17).

The cancellation was based on a recent discussion of the CSC with the Career Executive Service Board (CESB) in the light of the

review / evaluation of existing policies and regulations governing the Career Executive Service positions, and the managerial and executive positions in the career service other than Presidential appointees.

Meanwhile, the examination for the Local Scholarship Program - Master's Degree Courses and the Qualifying Test for the Foreign Service Officer (FSO) Examinations to recruit candidates for appointment to the position of Foreign Service Officer, Class IV shall be conducted nationwide simultaneously on May 4, 2008 by the Civil Service Commission.

Applicants should bring the following on examination day: Notice of Admission or Examination Permit; Application Receipt; Lead Pencil/s (No. 1 or 2) and eraser/s; Ball Pen (blue or black); and the same Valid ID Cards (Current Office ID, Driver's license, SSS ID, BIR ID, Postal ID, Valid Passport) presented during

the application stage.

Republic Act 9416, otherwise known as "An Act Declaring as Unlawful Any Form of Cheating in the Civil Service Examination, Unauthorized Use and Possession of CSC Examination-Related Materials, and Granting the Commission Exclusive Jurisdiction Over the Cases including those Committed by Private Individuals" was signed into law by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on March 25, 2007. Pursuant to its Section 10, the Civil Service Commission has promulgated the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the said Act. The Law and its Implementing Rules and Regulations were published in the Philippine Star on March 30, 2008 and took effect on April 14, 2008. Apprvd: Atty. Lorenzo S. Danipog Director IV



DANGERS AHEAD- A passing vehicle full of passengers (not shown in photo) narrowly escape from a falling boulder caused by landslide in San Roque Barangay due to intermittent rain every afternoon. Shown in photo are the members of the City Disaster Coordinating Council headed by Engr. Archiemor Ellamil and Julius Santos are advising the citizenry to be vigilant as the City of Baguio is prone to landslides during heavy downpour of rain.— By Bong Cayabyab

Upland Ilocos Sur Villagers Thumb Down Mining Exploration

Quirino, Ilocos Sur – Villagers in Quirino, an upland town of Ilocos Sur, have thumbed down a mining exploration in their village citing traditional resource extraction instead of large scale mining.

Indigenous peoples of barangay Lamag, in Quirino have rejected an application by US-based Phelps Dodge for

a mining exploration after unanimously voting against it (118) during last months' referendum conducted by the Ilocos Sur provincial office of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP).

The NCIP processed the acquisition of the consent of affected Lamag residents by facilitating a referendum.

Only 34 residents favored the exploration.

The area covered

by Phelps Dodge application overlaps with the ancestral domain of the indigenous y-Lamag.

Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise known as Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA), provides that the free and prior informed consent (FPIC) of the affected communities be sought by firms seeking to conduct mining operations within indigenous peoples' ancestral

domain.

Residents claimed that allowing mining exploration would open them to operations later on.

Lamag is located in the tri-boundary of Abra, Mountain Province and Ilocos Sur.

Like in the past, mining firms attempted but failed to obtain indigenous communities approval.

Most of Lamag village is forested. "The mountains are the source of our water, the Balas-iyon River, that has headwaters from Besao and Sagada towns in Mountain Province.

Lamag villager Alfredo Silot said that their traditional water resource use practiced with their neighbors in the upstream Balas-iyon communities assured them of water supply for their rice fields.

They can have two crop-harvests every year enough for their food and the excess sold for their other needs and education of their children.

Lamag is considered a rice granary of Quirino due to its abundant rice production through the Balas-iyon River.

Residents fear mining their areas would pollute the Balas-iyon River.

The reported pollution of the Abra River caused by decades of commercial mining upstream in Benguet, villagers of Lamag claim, is an eye opener for them./Ace Alegre

PROBLEMA Sa Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB-CAR)?
 Send us an email at info@hlurb.net or text/call 0917-5069123 and we will post the information at www.hlurb.net.
Magsumbong at mag-ingay para mabawasan ang katiwalian sa Gobyerno!!!

We believe that the Golden Rule applies to animals, too. We don't accept the prevailing notion that "people come first" or that "people are more important than animals." Animals feel pain and suffer just as we do, and it is almost always humans making animals suffer and not the other way around. Yet in spite of how cruelly people behave towards animals – not to mention human cruelty to other humans- we are supposed to believe that humans are superior to other animals. If people want to fancy themselves as being of greater moral worth than the other creatures on this earth, we should begin behaving better than they do, and not worse. Let's start treating everyone as we would like to be treated ourselves.

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno

www.linisgobyerno.org

Aquino Papers-Revisited

(We just marked World Press Freedom Day. Few recall how Benigno Aquino, confined in a Fort Bonifacio maximum security cell shattered the dictatorship's censorship.)

(In "The Aquino Papers", Filipina journalist Miriam Grace A. Go reveals how Aquino smuggled to the Bangkok Post the first media challenge to the "New Society". The Marcos regime punished Corazon Aquino for this "crime of committing journalism." Here's the abridged Go article. — JLM)

BANGKOK—Five months after Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law, the Bangkok Post ran articles written by Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. Smuggled into to Thailand, (they) become the Post's "world-exclusive. How did this "subversive" material get to editor in chief Theh Chongkhadikij?

EDITORIAL

Marcos had closed down independent papers. TV was censored. "Subversive" journalists were detained. And those released were under surveillance.

(Before fax and internet) the only way was: have Aquino's papers published outside the country. Alfonso Policarpio Jr., Ninoy's assistant, asked journalist and Mabuhay columnist Juan L. Mercado: "Can you get the papers out?"

Released by the military two months earlier, Mercado had resumed work with Press Foundation for Asia. "Poli" counted on PFA's extensive media contacts.

They earlier wrote about the country's underground press (samizdats). "I had known Senator Benigno Aquino Jr. as a journalist, a politician and a governor," he wrote an introduction to "The Aquino Papers."

"It was Poli's job to get the paper out from Camp Bonifacio", Mercado recalls. My job was to get it out of Manila."

Aquino's oldest daughter, Ballsy, smuggled the papers from prison "During visiting hour, Ninoy (signaled) Ballsy: go to the rest room after he came out," recalls Corazon Aquino, the wife who'd later become president. In the rest room, Ballsy shoved her father's writings into her pocket.

Cory recalls that Ninoy instructed her: give a copy to Policarpio and Robert Chaplen of The New Yorker. In his book, Policarpio wrote: Aquino added: Stanley Karnow of Baltimore Sun, T.J.S. George of Far Eastern Economic Review, Carl Zimmerman of Honolulu Star-Bulletin, and Theh.

After Policarpio gave the papers to Mercado, the latter picked "a carrier pigeon."— the Air India manager who flew out of Manila regularly. "Would you carry an envelope to Theh as part of 'company mail'," Mercado asked. "His eyebrows arched... But he didn't flinch. Neither did he ask questions. He brought it out of Manila."

Mercado learned from Theh later: the manager-friend even hand-carried the envelope to the Post. "'God bless Air India,' I've always said since then," Mercado says.

The Post published in full Aquino's "situationer-memo." But Theh was remarkably balanced. "The Aquino Papers," he wrote, "are probably like the Pentagon Papers, giving only one part of the story, (albeit a) documented part". The senator gave "an honest account of what he knows or thinks he knows... Keep in mind that he is a politician with great rhetorical skill."

(Two weeks later) the Post ran, in full, Marcos's reply. Cabled by then Press Secretary Francisco Tatad, the 8,000-word rebuttal mentions Aquino's name only once, at the beginning. He was thereafter dubbed only as "the man" or "the detainee."

The reply "downplayed the significance of the Post exclusive and cast doubts on Aquino's integrity. "Perhaps some of our detainees will write memoirs, others, articles for

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DIRETSAHAN

Ang "Kabopoloan" ng ating Opisyal de Gobyerno

BY RUDY "BANTAY SIYASAT" GARCIA



Hindi kaya dahil sa "Kabopolan" ng ilang mga opisyal natin sa gobyerno kaya nagdaranas ngayon ng hirap at dusa ang karamihang Juan De la Cruz dito sa ating bansang pinas? Maari sigurong oo o hindi at maaring pareho! Tumbukin nga natin mga suki.

Sa krisis ng bigas at pagkain ay masasabing hindi lang 'pinas ang nakakaramdam ng krisis kundi sa ibang bansa man, at ganoon din sa nakalulang pagtaas sa presyo ng pandaigdigang petrolyo.

Ang petrolyo kasi ay marami ang pagagamitan kaya't naapektuhan din nito ang mga pangunahing bilihan a "Domino Effect" ika nga, pero hindi ito pwedeng gawing rason o palusot ng ating gobyerno para sila'y maging inutil sa pagpigil ng walang humpay na pagtaas ng mga bilihan katulad ng bigas, de lata, noodles, atbp. At sa paghuli at pagpataw ng karampatang parusa sa mga mapagsamantalang ganid at gahaman na negosyante. At ano na ang nangyari sa kampanya ng ating pamahalaan na gawin lahat ng nararapat para malampasan ng madlang pinoy ang mga problemang nararanasan at kinakaharap. Mga problema sa korapsyun, pagtaas ng presyo sa petrolyo at mga pangunahing bilihan, banta ng malawakang "transport strike" krisis sa bigas, mga petisyon para sa "wage increase", at fare increase mga problema sa sakahan, enerhiya etcetera!

Isinabay pa sa mga problema ang paghagupit sa atin ni inang kalikasan katulad ng "flash floods", pagbaha at pagguho, at ngayon naman ay ang problema sa bangaan ng gobyerno at meralco.

Hindi ko sinasabi na ang lahat ng ito ay dapat ibunton ng sisi sa ating gobyerno pero kung pakaisipin. Ay talagang nagkulang kundi man nagpabaya ang mga opisyal na ang tungkulin ay pangalagaan ang kapakanan ng sambayanang Pilipino, pero ang tanong, hindi naman kaya talagang "bopol" ang iba nating opisyaes sa gobyerno kaya imbes na malutas ang puno ng problema ay lalo lang itong nagsasanga? nagtatanong lang po. Ang mga problema natin kasi ngayon ay parang sakit na kanser na dapat lang operahan pero sa halip ay kung ano anong pansamantalang lunas lamang ang ginagawa ng ating gobyerno. Hay naku, kawawa naman si Juan, naghihingalo na, umuutang pa,... Tama na! Sobra na!

ooOOoo

At ano na naman kaya ang pumasok sa "kukote" ng ating mga mambabatas at gusto na naman nilang "buhayin" at isulong itong "cha-cha"? ang sabi kasi ng iba sa kanila ay nakabubuti raw itong cha-cha para malutas ang problema at gumanda ang ekonomiya ng bansa. Palakpakan ang mga pulitikong halatang namumulitika na naman, pweh! Kahit palitan

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