

FOR BARRIO CAPTAINS

HOW TO GET AND TO CASH BARRIO AID CHECK

As of last week, more than 15,600 barrios in 590 towns have received from President Marcos their share of ₱2,000 each from the ₱100-million Rural Improvement and Community Development Project.

PACD Secretary Ernesto Maceda and Assistant Executive Secretary Flores Bayot have requested *The Philippine Magazine* to publish the following guide for barrio captains regarding the ₱2,000 FM checks:

STEP ONE: Know what your barrio needs most in the following areas of development: roads and bridges, waterworks, communications, health and sanitation, and food production.

STEP TWO: Sit down with the barrio council and determine priorities of development — doing first things first.

STEP THREE: Prepare a program of work including a bill of materials. Consult with government technical agencies or PACD representatives in your area.

STEP FOUR: Upon approval of your program, you will receive your ₱2,000 check personally from President Marcos.

STEP FIVE: As custodian of barrio funds, the barrio treasurer (duly bonded) may encash the ₱2,000 check. He must have with him a written certification from the assistant provincial development

officer that the ₱2,000 will be used for the approved project.

STEP SIX: As an alternate step, the barrio treasurer may deposit the check with the PNB branch in the province or with the provincial or city development officer as a trust account.

STEP SEVEN: Disburse the amount according to the approved budget and upon resolution of the barrio council, following applicable auditing-accounting rules.

Remember to keep a record of your disbursement.

If you have any question, ask a PACD representative or write *The Philippine Magazine*; we shall be happy to find the answer for you. **PM**



Counting on some solid achievements FM is running for reelection

Can Marcos Break The Reelection Jinx?

Despite the ban on political campaigning that will not be lifted until June the air is already filled with sounds of political activity. The advent of the political season is evident in the activities of prospective candidates which the daily press reports in fulsome detail. Even the most self-serving press releases are published by newspaper editors without, it seems, great regard for veracity. On radio and television, both parties are reported to have already bought time in advance of the legal period.

LP Standardbearer

The activity is more frenzied in the Liberal Party camp for the simple reason that they still have to choose their Presidential standard bearer while everything is sewed up for a Marcos reelection bid in the Nacionalista Party camp. The Liberals are faced with the problem of choosing their standard bearer before they can hold a convention, which can only be held on or after June 14, without starting a legal court case. Liberal leaders say that the Liberals have decided to choose their candidate at a secret balloting on or before March, to junk the convention, and to produce the candidate as soon as the law will allow.

Four Aspirants

Among the Liberals, at least four people are known to have serious presidential ambitions: former Speaker Cornelio Villareal, Senator Sergio Osmeña, Jr., Senator Ambrosio Padilla, and ex-

President Magsaysay. Among the four, Osmeña, who was once expelled from the NPA because of an uproar grid charge against President Garcia, is considered the most financially capable.

Osmeña

Osmeña, however, is considered by some elements as anti-nationalist. In fact, he has been heard to boast of having secured the backing of certain senior officers of the American community. Political analysts who give credence to this boast say that the U.S. generally is against the reelection of an incumbent because a second-term would prove difficult to "handle." President Marcos, especially, has shown a great degree of independent-mindedness. U.S. policy makers are reported to be very surprised and vexed by the Marcos administration's independent salience in the international diplomatic scene, including the exploration of trade with East European nations, breaking down of old barriers that separated us from half the world. In fact, the President seems to have secured popular support. Even an influential ex-

Senator Antonio Padilla is renewing his efforts as a fiscalizer of the administration. A couple of years ago, he seemed very effective but it is evident he has been upstaged by the younger and more dynamic Benigno Aquino. Aquino would make a very strong candidate, except that he is not yet old enough to run for president.

Salonga

Other spokes of Senator Jovito Salonga as a presidential or vice-presidential prospect. As a presidential aspirant, Salonga, a professional, will be handicapped by his religion. He could of course turn Catholic, but that wouldn't look all too well with the public. "I'd rather have a Protestant than a hypocrite for a President," said a well-known lay Catholic leader.

Macapagal

There is, of course, former President Macapagal who appears to be still very strong and healthy. He now teaches economics at the University of the East when he is not delivering speeches criticizing the new Marcos in running the country. He could be prevailed upon to run, but in the words of a member of the Young Turks group, "It will look very queer for Macapagal to go around the country telling people how he proposes to run the government. They have seen him run the government and they apparently didn't approve of it."

Philippine political year begins Can Marcos Beat the Reelection Jinx?



President Ferdinand E. Marcos

By Lorenzo J. Cruz

MANILA

In the Philippines, where political activity during the last three years, certainly seems to become bolder every year. Last November, robbers held six passengers on a local Philippine Air Lines flight — a mid-air. A Chinese businessman was gunned down in the once fashionable shopping district of Escolta. But the black spot in Pangasinan Province in Central Luzon, where Communist Hukla and shadowy liquidation squads associated with the authorities are struggling in a twilight conflict.

Mr. Marcos is acutely aware of the danger in Central Luzon. He has poured money into the region through the Central Luzon Development Authority, which he has asked his most trusted lieutenants to run. He has also doggedly refused to let the Army take full responsibility for the area — although the general staff demands a full-fledged campaign against the dissidents. He continues to treat Central Luzon as a social and not a military problem. The policy decision will, inevitably, determine the type of dramatic and ultimately profitable solution.

On foreign policy there have been three grave shifts under Mr. Marcos. One is the decision more actively to press the claim on Sabah (North Borneo) against Malaysia. The two others are more closely interrelated. They are a palatable cutting-away of the American opening and a cautious opening of doors to the Soviet bloc countries.

It is not clear what changed the American assessment of Mr. Marcos when President Johnson in 1967 awkwardly described as his "right arm in Asia." It is no secret, however, that many of Mr. Marcos's policies, attitudes and policy decisions have not been too well received by the local U.S. Embassy. Mr. Lee, for instance, takes umbrage his wing several lieutenants who had not been suspected of radical sympathies. It is known too that he has for sometime been unhappy over the conduct of the Vietnam

war — the Philippines contributed a billion dollars to the war effort and medical cases in 1967. The State Department was shocked when the dossier he plunged into over Sabah. And the old Cold Warriors at the Pentagon wouldn't have rejoiced at his kind opening to the Left.

But foreign policy never by itself settles a Philippine election. Mr. Marcos will rise or fall on issues much closer to home. Many new Filipinos are coming to believe that time is running out for their essay in electoral politics. Oscar Gomez, former brother of the ousted Ramon Magsaysay, has let it more than his reveal name to recommend him. He served in Congress (he's heading for second term as Senator) has been entirely lockstep. He has, however, been able to keep alive the insurgency legend among the masses, and sentimental folk.

The Presidency (minimum age, 40). He is right over the hottest political property in the country — his political party might even rival Mr. Marcos's. Naturally, one wouldn't expect Aquino to leave himself out propelling a third man to the Presidency — since his best bet is to have Mr. Marcos (uncharacteristically) barred from a third term) warning and efficiency. An old hand of mine — a classmate in primary school — whom I latched up this year, told me Manila, put it very simply. "Next year," he says wryly, "living gets harder, government gets more corrupt, and it's less safe to walk on the streets." My friend is a middle-aged, well-dressed man with a new-fangled beard, who dresses in a new-fangled looking as in the best chance for Philippine democracy. I pull myself together. He has indeed done creditably well so far — conducting the government that settles him. Many of these who will vote for him in November will do so as the pressure of the present, he care lead his country forward.

TWO OF A KIND

By a very happy coincidence, The Philippine Magazine, which has been patterned and conceived along the concepts of The Asia Magazine, have in the space of four weeks (P.M. Feb. 15) came out with identical prognostications (see above) on Philippine political development beamed to the forthcoming presidential elections in November. Both magazines have essayed realistic appraisal of the local situation and asked "Can Marcos Break the Reelection Jinx?" As we go to press with this issue, the Liberal Party was enmeshed in an expensive 5-day-long survey (the LP hierarchy calls it a consensus) to find the man likely to tangle with Marcos. Our guess is that it will be the tycoon from Cebu: Sergio Osmeña, Jr. Right photo, A.M. Mar. 9.