

# Peñafrancia

## Festival & Tourism

By JACK A. GABIGAO  
PRO, BTTI, Legaspi City

All roads lead to Naga City come September of every year. It is the festival time of Our Lady of Peñafrancia, the miraculous Virgin and patron Saint of Bicolandia.

Bicolanos throughout the country always find time once a year to go to Naga City to pay homage to their Blessed Virgin. They come by land, water and air—through the railroad, by cars and boats and by plane. There are also thousands of visitors from foreign lands and natives from various sections of the country who join the pilgrimage of the Bicolanos.

Due to the presence of varied tourist attractions in the Bicol region, most of these visitors never fail to take a look at the different natural, cultural and historical spots in Bicol.

The Board of Travel and Tourist Industry, Bicol regional office at Legaspi City, in its desire to help promote tourism, is extending its full cooperation with the city officials of Naga, provincial officials of Camarines Sur, the Bicol Weekly newspapers and metropolitan publications in disseminating information to tourists where they can go during their short sojourn at Naga City on the occasion of their pilgrimages to our Virgin of Peñafrancia.

In Camarines Sur, for example, the travellers will find delight in seeing for themselves the historical "Quince Martires" monument in Naga City's poblacion. This is a memorial to the 15 Bicolano freedom fighters who gave up their lives for the cause of our country.

Also in Naga, worth visiting are the sprawling campus of University of Nueva Caceres, the first university and best laid out school campus in the Bicol area; Colegio de Santa Isabel, the oldest and exclusive girls' institution in Bicol; the age-old cathedral of Nueva Caceres; Nordia Lodge Resort and others.

The quaint and small sleepy town of Buhil in Camarines Sur is a "must" for tourists. It boasts of its placid lake, "La Roca Encantada", a mass of big boulders piled along the beach of the lake, its numerous waterfalls, which needs further government development; Buenavista Resort, a high promontory overlooking the lake, and "tabios," the smallest edible and commercial fish in the world.

Other places to see are the "grotto" of Our Lady of Lourdes on the top hill in Iriga, the zigzag road of Sipocot leading to Daet, Bato Lake and the different islands along Sagay town, scene of some international movie locations.

At nearby Albay province, majestic Mayon Volcano beckons the visitors. The only live volcano in the world with a near-perfect cone, Mayon serves as the symbol of Philippine tourism. Here, 2,509 feet above sea level, the government Board of Travel and Tourist Industry (BTTI), recently constructed a Malayan type mountain lodge costing P100,000 where tourists can pass their days and nights.

Equally interesting are the historic "Battle of Legaspi" monument near the city's supermarket. Puro white beach, Kalaykusi black beach resort at Sto. Domingo, Ta-

baco pier, Naglagbong boiling lake, Tiwi hot springs resort, Joroan's "banging roads", Rosa-Monte's Diavoland in Tabaco, modern abaca stripping at barrio Paulog in Ligo, the buried church of Cagsawa, Daraga church on top of a hill and its "stairway to heaven," abaca handicraft industries, Kimantong's winding sky-view drive and Legaspi oil factory, a multi-million Philippine-American joint business venture that processes coconut into oil for export abroad.

Sorsogon is another Bicol province that abounds with tourist attractions.

Foremost is Bulusan Lake, dubbed as the "Switzerland of the Philippines." The BTTI recently built a modern rest house here and constructed a cemented path along its Lover's Lane where visitors can now walk around the lake with considerable ease and comfort. The BTTI also donated a twinmotored fiberglass speed boat for use of tourists for a leisurely drive in the natural lake which is located high above mount Bulusan.

Rizal White Beach is another top attraction of Sorsogon. The BTTI also donated a pavilion for use of bathers and excursionists. Rep. Salvador Eberina also built here a multi-million-peso hotel beach resort.

Other tourist spots of Sorsogon attracting domestic and overseas travellers all-year round are Masaroc medicinal swimming pool, San Benito Springs resort, the Old Irosin catholic church that perched on the side of a hill, Sorsogon bay where the sunset rivals that of Manila in beauty, the well laid out lawn of the provincial capitol, Palhi springs swimming resort, "Tolong Gopo" beach in Bacon and others.

Camarines Norte, another Bicol province, provides numerous attractions for the visitors.

The first memorial built



Rizal's First Monument

by the Filipinos in honor of Dr. Jose P. Rizal after he was shot at Bagumbayan, was built in Daet, the provincial capital.

Mercedes town has its long white beach; which is favorite among excursionists and visitors from outside the province, need a pavilion. It has also the only wooden ship and boat building yards in Bicol.

At Pnaganiban is located the government NASSCO steel shipyards. Its barrio, Larap, is the site of the Philippine Iron Mines, one of the world's biggest of its kind.

Several of the towns have gold deposits. Its mountains are rich in timber and wild games like deer, pigs and chickens.

A number of its municipalities are inhabited by negroes which are tourist attractions.

The island province of Catanduanes is equally gifted with tourist spots. Known as "an island in the sun," it has long, white beaches. Facing the Pacific Ocean, the natives and their visitors bath on its beaches shaded by swaying coconut trees or bask under the sun.

Top attraction of the province is Balingbong waterfalls. Source of hydroelectric power, it is located in Bato town, a few kilometers from Virac, provincial capital. It is provided with a swimming pool. This needs further improvement as this was destroyed by a series of typhoons that lashed Catanduanes during the past years.

There is also a historical cave between Virac and Calolbon. It needs a flight of stairs in going down from the national road. A waiting shade can be constructed for tourists.

The cattle province of Bicol is Masbate. Being another island province; towns along the seacoast are lavish with long stretch of beaches. A small island near Masbate capital is surrounded by white beach which needs a pavilion for sea bathers and excursionists.

## Gotos na Bareta

Can mjercoles Sept. 7, sarong bus sa Catmon, Cebu, may lunsd nin 28 personas, sempote daa an nagadan pagpotee can mga dinamita na carga sa bus. An bus nagcararaot sabi sa report can P. C. na dai pang gayo verificado.

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Sa Indonesia sagkod gononian mayo nin catoninognan buli sa ribec can dung grupo nin asti asin pro-Sukarno. Sabi mismo ni Presidente Sukarno siya pigbibimatan na gadanon can ibang contra can saiyang autoridad. An mga estudiantes duman daa may mga demostraciones contra ki Sukarno asin favor ki Gen. Subarto. May peligro na magdaula pa an guerra oivil duman.

x x x

Ipigboot ni Acting Secretario Juan Ponce Enrile can Hacienda an pagprohibir sa mga empledo na sakop can departamento na ini an pagdalao sa mga night-clubs asio sugalan patin carreras. An mga etietna can aduana, rentas internas, teerretias, etc. sakop can departamento na ini. Haloyon nang igua can prohibicion na ini, alagad dai pig-ootob sabi ni Enrile. Si Enrile bagoc nombrahan ni Pres. Marcos sa puesto na ini.

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Ipigpaiei ni Col. Osmundo Mondonado na general manager can RCA na ganonian

## PARTIAL REVIEW

by Andres G. Diez

### What is a Foreign Policy?



A foreign policy is a set of rules governing the establishment and maintenance of a friendly and commercial relation of an independent nation with the other independent nations of the world. Why is this a necessity of great importance to a nation? Because no nation can ever achieve prosperity by depending alone on its resources, no matter how vast.

The case of the United States is an example. Considered and admitted as the richest country in the world in natural resources, she is also at the same time the No. 1 in world commerce.

It is incontrovertible that the biggest bulk of any country's income comes from the tariffs and taxes paid by commerce from without and within.

From here one can easily glean the comparison that a nation like an individual has to have friends. Take the case of Morgan, for example. Among his known friends who are Robert, Marcos, Manuel, Andy, Leon, Jaime and many others, there is Andy who is to him the best of all. Why? Because in many a tight occasion Andy has always been the one responsive and ready for help among the many of them. Now, the question is: Is Morgan wrong in reciprocating Andy the same amount of affection and loyalty?

Out of gratitude to the love expressed in material and physical help that America has lavished on us, we the true Filipinos choose the Americans as our best friends from among the others who are also our friends. But what some of us who happen to sustain a different viewpoint should know is: Could there be any true friendship without love? Those who attack us for loving the Americans as our friends dug up this wit which is supposed to be the late Dr. Laurel's. Here it is: "No one can love the Filipinos better than a Filipino himself".

This wit is as unnecessary as it is silly. Our love for our people is in our nature. It is in our blood. We don't need a Laurel to teach us that neither do we need a Tolentino to remind us about that also. Now, as a counter argument, we are asking them these questions:

- 1- Is my love to my family affected or minimized by my love for my friend?
- 2- Has love its limits and boundaries like the material wealth of the Rockefellers?
- 3- If love has no limits and boundaries, why should anyone ask me foolishly to deprive my best friend to share 'from it'?

Our government had no boat fast enough to outrace the speedboats of the smugglers. America donated us just recently 2 of her fastest that can outrun any ship in Philippine waters. How about the anti-Americans, what did they donate? B I G W O R D S .

talagang culang kita nin ba- can ibang osagroring; gas sagkod na dai omabot x x x an panahon nia arariban An procesion sa salog (fluparoy. I An solucion catni, vial) can imageas ni Virgen sabi niya, asipuhan sa mga de Peñafrancia asio Divino tauo magpatood nin pagao. Rostro sa suwad na sabacac can bagas na sasalacan dong hapon gigibohan nin aia gialling na meiz An pelisula na papaluason sa RCA mapabacal nin bagas cine asin television sa man na 30 por ciento meiz, 70 por iba-ibang lugar sa kinaban, ciento sana an bagas nin pa- Sabi ini rogaring nin sarong roy, Ipagpapabacal ini yaon compania na ingles, Talagang na sa mga sepot asia barate an fiesta nin Peñafrancia sa an precio Sabi pa ni Men- Bicol saro sa pinacadacula donado, ini pigprobaran na asia atractiva sa mga fiestas sa Manila asin nagustohan religioas sa bilog na kinaban. can mga tauo. Segun sa re- Ini sarong tradicion sa cabicord deul pa an bagas o colan na dai nakikita sa paroy, alagad pinagtatago ibang lugar.

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