9:35 PM
On Board the 777
after Ubat and between Leyte
and Samar and southward to
Cagayan de Oro

2174
June 20, 1942
Tuesday

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

Left Tacloban at 7:30 PM and were at Ubat, Tolosa at about 8:40. Weather is fair but there are already some squalls although we have not yet passed Samar that screens our route from the east. The wind is supposed to be from the southwest but is actually coming from the southeast.

Woke up at 9:00 AM. Skiied up to 11:30 AM. Press interview; meeting between Pedrosa (Dr. Paulino Pedrosa and Sec. Estuartan) and the Dept of Health, Com. on Highways, Agpaoa, Dir. of Public Works Delana, Com. on Fisheries Juane, provincial and municipal officials.

Coordinating Committee between the Dept of Health and Pedrosa set up.

The new program for cold storage set up.

Schoolhouse repair and construction.

Then lunch and a short rep. It rained. Taught the kids (John John, Hartzel, F. Martin and Bitbay) some archery.

Just talked to Alex Melchor on his message which I attach.

2148

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

The media and boys of Malacañang are with us in the ship. They asked me if I trust anybody who could lead the country in those troubled times. I told them that we have to develop a leader in a year and a half.

I told them that what I feared most was when I had retired the armed forces may be pushed to the wall and for their own individual survival they might take over the country.

The alternatives or options were I run out of the country or stay and help stave off the revolution.

And I do not intend to run away after I had been given the honor of serving as president of the Republic!!