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Office of the President
of the Philippines

Malacañang
Jan. 20, 1980
Sunday

2:55 PM -

The President must do almost everything in the government. Nothing moves unless the president does it.

So I had to meet the student demonstrators themselves. Their speeches were getting obscene and loud. I told them that I was told that they could not deliver nice mature speeches in more elegant language, but I frankly told them no [illegible] until after Jan. 30.

I met with the Labor leaders for breakfast after the oath-taking of the new Court of Appeals Justices including Vicente Rafael, labor leader who is objected to by Justice Roman Ozaeta of the Philippine Bar Association as he (Vicente) was allegedly an undistinguished labor practitioner.

Also met the extended gondolo who I am retiring. Gen. Sangalang says he has no fuck provided that the will all be terminated at the same time. I referred the suggestion to the Sec. of Nat Defense thru the Capt Gen Yan.

Sec. Romualdez has his misgivings about the plan to free the rate of exchange and to allow it to seek its own level. He is worried it may plunge down too low. Dr. Zaldivar says from his experience it will not. Anyway I have ordered that we be ready with some foreign exchange to support a more stable rate and to finance the importation of essentials.