11:10 PM

2083

May 26, 1972

Friday

MALACAÑAN PALACE

MANILA

Helicoptered to Malolos, Bulacan for the Agro-Industrial Fair '72. Promised the Sabangan Channel for flood control and the International Transport System, cooperatives and land reform.

Met the Mountaineers, Dave Cowenji and sent one helicopter to Abra (Bellypedal) for the person of James Miller transfer.

Then sent one Navy boat to fetch Delegate Quintero from Leyte.

Gov. Romualdez, from Cebu (he was worried of being trapped in Leyte so he flew to Cebu to call me up) says that Quintero has issued through PHS a statement that the First Family has nothing to do with the supposed "payola". He (Quintero) is also looking for a lawyer as he wanted to keep his silence about the supposed identity of the persons who had handed him the money in envelopes. My guess is he now realizes that his past loans are catching up with him.

This morning the Malapong Electoral Reform and Suffrage Committee, chaired by Rep. Ortega, voted 19-17 against the San Juancos provision and in favor of the Victor Ortega motion to delete the San Juancos

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provision from the report. The change in the voting was occasioned by the vote of Julio Ozamiz from neutral or abstention to "in favor of the motion to delete." Harry Espina of Manila then changed his ~~abstention~~ negative vote to a positive vote. This broke the deadlock which was occasioned by the Ozamiz vote.

But the vicious Detelvic of Bong Espina on Channel 9 carried the opposite news — we are supposed to have lost the vote. The commentators also referred to me as "ignorant" on the Transfer of Funds issue. They claim I had said that I am unaware of the provision to the effect that the transfer of funds will not be included in the 1972 budget. What I actually said was that I am unaware of any agreement with the Congress and between the two Houses that the provision would be excluded in 1972.

I have asked Juanito Clavelde to inform Don Manolo who is now abroad about the inaccuracy of the Bong Espina broadcast.

2085

May 26th (Cont)

MALACAÑAN PALACE

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The Moscow visit of Pres. Nixon seems to be a great success as five agreements have been signed so far.

Although Vietnam seems to have been discussed — no results.

Imelda is in pain. Both Gloria (Aragon) and Dr. Gengel seem to think that Imelda will not be able to hold the pregnancy and may have a miscarriage.

She has just been given a mild sedation. & probably need one too.