MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

Jan. 7, 1974
Friday

Tonight I have committed the Philippines to the positions. (DFA and DND were not informed of the specific nature of the new approach because they may have tried to modify it.)

Our [illegible] is not for sale.
Neither is it negotiable.

2. We are now studying the possible termination of the U.S.-Philippine military bases.

3. The State Department has insulted and offended the people of the Philippines.

We want to be friends with the Americans but they make it impossible to be so.

Their political leadership has lost its capability for fairness and justice.

The State Department submitted a secret report in December in accordance with a recently passed law principally authored by Rep. Donald Fraser, Democrat - Minnesota, Chairman of the Subcommittee of the House International Relations Committee. This report, required by said law to be submitted upon the request of any member of the committee. Rep Donald Fraser asked ~~[illegible]~~ report be declassified. The Department agreed.

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As reported by Associated Press, "the Department said that aid to the Philippines should be continued in order to preserve U.S. access to military bases there, despite what it said were 'reports of torture ... cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment' for political prisoners."

In the case of Iran, it said reports were "unsubstantiated". In the case of Iran it said "there was no 'verifiable evidence of widespread torture'." Regarding Indonesia it said "most of the communists imprisoned in 1965 have been released and the rest may be released following elections this year."

The least that they could have said of the Philippines was that the reports of torture ... or cruel inhuman and degrading punishment for political prisoners are not supported by reliable evidence. In the case of the Philippines and American allegations made by the "Black commandos" in the US are false and untrue. There may have been one or two cases but only that, they are not the rule. The embassies have won in the United States propaganda

game.

Nor are there political prisoners, if by this is meant persons detained for their political persuasion and without formal criminal charges filed against them.

What galls me is ~~that~~ the aid they refer to is a solemn obligation of the United States under a formal treaty, the Military Assistance Treaty.

And our Military Assistance Agreement is a consideration for the use of the military bases.

It is not aid they give without consideration. It is the price they pay for the bases.

We should now protest the attitude to pass judgment over us in a cavalier and casual manner and without relation to the evidence.

the most forward perimeter of the American Defense line from the Aleutians to Japan, Korea, Okinawa and the Philippines. If there is any outbreak of hostilities, we would be the first target as we were the first target of Japan in the 1941 war. And the Americans abandoned us then. They will abandon us again.

And if it is a thermonuclear war, we would be so devastated, there would be nothing to rebuild.

At the same time the United States does not seem inclined to help us in the event of a massive infiltration from outside or of subversion. This was demonstrated in the Mindanao Document where we have had to fend for ourselves.

So these threats of us are not outright aggression but massive infiltration and subversion, then the mutual defense pact becomes useless to us.