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MALACAÑANG
MANILA

May 18, 1970

11:15 PM

The Mansion, Baguio

Have just called Sen. Leonie Perez, Sen Pres. Gil Puyat and Act Pres Pro Tempe Jose Roy for allowing or ordering Philippine Veterans Bank President Estafania Cabanos to be jailed for contempt for refusing to reveal the bank deposit balances in the American aid of about $15 million billed by the U.S. as for commercial consumables but used by us for intelligence purposes and national security which cannot be revealed.

Cabanos was right as the law does not allow a deposit to be revealed and no special committee has the power to punish for contempt. Nor does Cabanos have authority to reveal expenses for national security passing through the bank.

At first Sen Pres. Gil Puyat claimed the entire senate had approved the resolution but Sen Tamano says that their desk tells them that there was no approval of the senate and that Sec. Ponce Enrile is now testifying on the amounts given by the Americans and the expenditures and balances as I had directed him to.

But from now on I am going to do what is right no matter who gets hurt Liberals or Nationalistas.

The International Press Institute in its General Assembly in Hongkong today "condemns the flagrant and high-handed action taken by the Philippine authorities in departing, pending legal procedures, the two Chinese" "in violation of the Declaration of Human Rights and the Principle of Press Freedom"

We must send them a note on the facts of the case. But this is intervention in the internal affairs of the Philippines specially on security. This is the work of Alma Reyes of the Times.

Played golf at Camp John Hay at 5:15 - 12:00 AM with Ben Palispis, Nelson and Nap. Then saw the workshop of Imelda Roces