MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1990

OPENING OF THE SESSION

This being the day set by Presidential Proclamation No. 676 for the opening of the Special Session of the Congress of the Philippines to consider legislation, the President of the Senate, Honorable Jovito R. Salonga, called the session of the Senate to order at 3:27 p.m.

The President. Binubuksan ang espesyal na pulong ng Senado.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The President. Aawitin ng Musikapelle ang Pambansang Awit at "Sa Lupang Sarili", at pagkatapos ay pangungunahan tayo sa panalangin ni Senador Mamintal Abdul J. Tamano.

Everybody rose for the singing of the National Anthem and the opening prayer.

PRAYER

Senator Tamano.

Bismillah Rahman Irahim.

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

Praise be unto You, the Lord of Creation.

Dear Lord, we meet in special session during this blessed season of Christmas which our Christian brethren celebrate to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ.

It is not difficult for Muslims to join in celebrating Christmas, because Jesus Christ is also revered in Islam as a Prophet.

Make us, therefore, Christians and Muslims alike, build upon our common reverence for Jesus Christ a firm foundation for a strong, united, and God-fearing nation:

Give us, O Lord, for the rest of the year and in the

year to come a surcease from the natural and manmade calamities that have sorely tried our faith in Your Divine Mercy;

Let us make a good start by making our special session productive;

Give us the wisdom and the forbearance to surmount the differences between us, and enable us to pass the measures that will lighten the crushing burden of the budget deficit;

Let this special session be an example to our people that their leaders can effectively respond to the needs of the times;

Finally, bless and protect our President, Corazon C. Aquino, and let us not forget our parents, relatives, and friends who have gone before us. Let them forever dwell in paradise.

Amen.

The President. The Secretary will now read the Proclamation of the President of the Philippines.

The Secretary.

PROCLAMATION NO. 676

CALLING THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES TO A SPECIAL SESSION

Pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Constitution, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, do hereby call the Congress of the Philippines to a special session on December 17 to 21, 1990 to consider the following measures:

- (a) the bill liberalizing the investment activities of foreign investors;
- (b) the bill increasing the forest charges on timber and other forest products;
- (c) the bill on alien stay legalization program;
- (d) the bill providing limitations in business deductions; and

AN ACT TO PROMOTE, DEVELOP AND ASSIST SMALL-SCALE ENTERPRISES THROUGH THE CREATION OF A SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE CONVERSION OF THE BUREAU OF SMALL AND MEDIUM BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AS THE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

and Senate Bill No. 1258, entitled

AN ACT TO RATIONALIZE AND PROMOTE SMALL ENTERPRISES, ESTABLISH A CREDIT AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION, PROVIDE FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd.) QUIRINO D. ABAD SANTOS, JR. Secretary

The President. To the Archives.

The Secretary.

December 12, 1990

OF THE PH

The Honorable JOVITO R. SALONGA President of the Senate Manila

Mr. President:

I have been directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives approved on December 11, 1990 the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing votes of 4467, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE RADIO MINDANAO NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED THIRTY-ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO TO ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF EXPIRATION.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd.) QUIRINO D. ABAD SANTOS, JR. Secretary

The President. To the Archives.

BILLS ON FIRST READING

The Secretary. Senate Bill No. 1701, entitled

AN ACT FIXING THE DATE OF THE LOCAL ELECTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Introduced by Senator Romulo.

The President. Referred to the Committees on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation; and Local Government.

The Secretary. Senate Bill No. 1702, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE PHILIPPINE NORMAL COLLEGE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY.

Introduced by Senator Rasul.

The President. Referred to the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance.

The Secretary. Senate Bill No. 1703, entitled

AN ACT REPEALING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1853 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Introduced by Senator Tamano.

The President. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Secretary. Senate Bill No. 1704, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF INTERIOR DESIGN IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Introduced by Senator Guingona, Jr.

The President. Referred to the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance.