

## RECORD OF THE SENATE

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1990

### OPENING OF THE SESSION

*At 3:03 p.m., the Honorable Sotero H. Laurel, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, called the session to order.*

**The President Pro Tempore.** Binubuksan ang pulong ng Senado.

Pangungunahan tayo sa panalangin ni Senate President Jovito R. Salonga.

*Everybody remained standing for the opening prayer.*

### PRAYER

Senator Salonga.

O God of truth and wisdom and power:

You know us better than we know ourselves.

You know our secret thoughts, our hidden motives, and there is no way we can deceive You.

Help us to be what we really are, without any pretense, but always aspiring to be what You want us to be — serving You and serving our people with integrity, courage, and dedication. Teach us to follow the dictates of our conscience, regardless of the applause of the crowd or the heckling of the cynics. We know that if we are with You every step of the way, nothing else should matter.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

### ROLL CALL

**The President Pro Tempore.** Babasahin ng Kalihim ang talaan ng mga Senador.

**The Secretary.**

Senator Heherson T. Alvarez .....	Present
Senator Edgardo J. Angara .....	Present
Senator Agapito A. Aquino .....	Present*
Senator Juan Ponce Enrile .....	Present
Senator Joseph Ejercito Estrada .....	Present
Senator Neptali A. Gonzales .....	Present
Senator Teofisto T. Guingona, Jr. ....	Present
Senator Ernesto F. Herrera .....	Present
Senator Sotero H. Laurel .....	Present
Senator Jose D. Lina, Jr. ....	**
Senator Ernesto M. Maceda .....	Present

\*Arrived after the roll call

\*\*On official mission

Senator Orlando S. Mercado .....	Present*
Senator John H. Osmefia .....	Present
Senator Vicente T. Paterno .....	Present
Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr. ....	Present
Senator Santanina T. Rasul .....	**
Senator Alberto G. Romulo .....	Present
Senator Rene A.V. Saguisag .....	Present
Senator Leticia Ramos Shahani .....	**
Senator Mamintal Abdul J. Tamano .....	Present
Senator Wigberto E. Tañada .....	Present
Senator Victor S. Ziga .....	Present
The President .....	Present.

**The President Pro Tempore.** Labingwalong Senador ang dumalo sa ating pagpupulong; mayroon tayong korum.

### THE JOURNAL

**Senator Guingona.** Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the reading of the *Journal* of yesterday's session and consider the same as approved.

**The President Pro Tempore.** Is there any objection? [*Silence*] The Chair hears none; the *Journal* is approved.

The Secretary will now proceed with the reading of the Order of Business.

### REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**The Secretary.**

March 21, 1990

**Mr. President:**

I have been directed to inform the Senate that in view of the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 28379, entitled

**AN ACT TO DECLARE THE EIGHTH DAY OF MARCH OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY TO BE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY,**

passed by the House of Representatives on March 7, 1990 and Senate Bill No. 1430, entitled

**AN ACT TO DECLARE MARCH EIGHT OF EVERY YEAR AS AN OFFICIAL WORKING HOLIDAY FOR WOMEN TO BE KNOWN AS NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY,**

which was passed by the Senate on March 12, 1990, the House of Representatives on March 20, 1990 requests a conference on these two bills and has designated Congressmen Pablo P. Garcia, Cirilo Roy G. Montejo, and Congresswomen

## RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

*At 6:00 p.m., the session was resumed with the Honorable Jovito R. Salonga, President of the Senate, presiding.*

**The President.** The session is resumed.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF  
SENATE BILL NO. 155

**Senator Guingona.** Mr. President, may I move that we suspend consideration of Senate Bill No. 155.

**The President.** Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, the motion is approved.

BILL ON SECOND READING  
Senate Bill No. 88 — Citizens' Soldiers

**Senator Maceda.** Mr. President, I move that we consider Senate Bill No. 88 as reported out under Committee Report No. 548.

**The President.** Consideration of Senate Bill No. 88 is now in order. With the permission of the Body, the Secretary will read only the title of the bill, without prejudice to inserting in the *Record* the whole text thereof.

**The Secretary.** Senate Bill No. 88, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION,  
ORGANIZATION, TRAINING, MAINTENANCE  
AND UTILIZATION OF CITIZEN SOLDIERS  
OR RESERVISTS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF  
THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

*The following is the full text of Senate Bill No. 88:*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

## ARTICLE I. TITLE

SECTION 1. *TITLE OF THIS ACT.* - THIS ACT SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE "CITIZEN SOLDIERS OR AFP RESERVISTS ACT."

## ARTICLE II. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

SEC. 2. *THE REGULAR FORCE.* - IT IS THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO MAINTAIN A SMALL STANDING OR REGULAR MILITARY FORCE IN TIME OF PEACE CONSONANT WITH ITS ADEQUATE AND ACTUAL NEEDS ON THE SECURITY OF THE STATE BUT WHICH CAN BE RAPIDLY EXPANDED BY THE WELL-DISCIPLINED CITIZEN ARMED FORCE IN THE EVENT OF WAR, INVASION, OR REBELLION.

SEC. 3. *THE SECURITY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE.* - THE CITIZEN ARMED

FORCE SHALL BE PROVIDED THE MAXIMUM OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN SAFEGUARDING THE SECURITY OF THE STATE AND IN ASSISTING IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

SEC. 4. *THE CALL TO PERSONAL MILITARY AND CIVIL SERVICE.* - THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCE SHALL BE SO ORGANIZED, TRAINED, DEVELOPED AND MAINTAINED AS TO ENSURE THEIR READINESS TO IMMEDIATELY RESPOND TO THE CALL FOR SERVICE.

SEC. 5. *THE PUBLIC AWARENESS.* - THE STATE SHALL PROMOTE AND DEVELOP PUBLIC SUPPORT TO AND AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCE AS A PROTECTOR OF THE PEOPLE AND THE STATE.

SEC. 6. *THE MANPOWER OF THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCE.* - THE MANPOWER OBJECTIVE FOR THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCE SHALL CONFORM TO PROJECTED AND ACTUAL NEED. IT IS NOT ENVISIONED BY THE STATE TO HAVE A NATION UNDER ARMS, UNLESS EXTREMELY NECESSARY.

ARTICLE III. MISSION AND ORGANIZATION  
OF THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCE

SEC. 7. *MISSION.* - THE MISSION OF THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCE, ALTERNATELY REFERRED TO AS THE RESERVE FORCE, IS TO PROVIDE THE BASE FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE EVENT OF WAR, INVASION, OR REBELLION; TO ASSIST GOVERNMENT FORCES IN THE MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL SECURITY, LAW, AND ORDER; ASSIST IN RELIEF AND RESCUE OPERATIONS DURING DISASTERS OR CALAMITIES; ASSIST IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND ASSIST IN THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE UTILITIES IN THE FURTHERANCE OF OVERALL MISSION.

SEC. 8. *ORGANIZATION.* - THE RESERVE FORCE SHALL BE ORGANIZED INTO FIVE COMPONENTS, NAMELY:

- (1) ARMY RESERVE COMPONENT
- (2) AIR FORCE RESERVE COMPONENT
- (3) NAVY RESERVE COMPONENT
- (4) AFP-WIDE TECHNICAL RESERVE COMPONENT
- (5) AFFILIATED RESERVES

SEC. 9. *ORGANIZATION OF RESERVE COMPONENTS.* - THE ORGANIZATION OF EACH COMPONENT OF THE RESERVE FORCE AND THE MANPOWER OBJECTIVE OF EACH COMPONENT SHALL BE AS PRESCRIBED BY THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL. THE ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE, MANNING, AND EQUIPMENT OF RESERVE UNITS SHALL CONFORM TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE REGULAR FORCE. RESERVE UNITS OF A BATTALION TYPE OR EQUIVALENT SHALL BE ORGANIZED ON A PROVINCIAL BASIS, AND RESERVE UNITS OF A

BRIGADE AND DIVISION TYPE OR EQUIVALENT ON A REGIONAL BASIS. THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND MANNING OF THE AFFILIATED RESERVE UNITS WILL BE PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND WILL AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE CONFORM TO THEIR EXISTING CIVILIAN ORGANIZATION.

SEC. 10. *AFFILIATED RESERVES.* - AS THE PRESIDENT SHALL APPROVE UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, CERTAIN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES, CORPORATIONS, ESTABLISHMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS AT THE NATIONAL, PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL LEVELS WHICH PROVIDE ESSENTIAL PUBLIC SERVICES SUCH AS WATER, LIGHT, TRANSPORTATION, AND COMMUNICATION WHICH ARE NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE PROSECUTION OF NATIONAL DEFENSE PLANS OR TO MEET AN EMERGENCY SHALL BE ORGANIZED AS AFFILIATED UNITS OF THE RESERVE FORCE. THESE AFFILIATED UNITS SHALL BE CONSTITUTED BY THE APPROPRIATE ORDERS TO BE ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, GIVEN UNIT DESIGNATIONS AND ASSIGNED TO THE APPROPRIATE RESERVE COMPONENTS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP). THE ROSTER OF THE OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THESE AFFILIATED UNITS SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ORDERS CONSTITUTING THE UNITS. THESE UNITS SHALL BE SO UTILIZED IN TIMES OF WAR OR EMERGENCY TO ENSURE THE CONTINUOUS AND UNINTERRUPTED PROVISION OF THE ESSENTIAL SERVICES THEY ARE RENDERING.

[SECTION 2] ARTICLE IV. DEFINITION OF  
CITIZEN SOLDIERS

SEC. 11. *Definition of Citizen Soldiers.* - Citizen soldiers are reservists of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) who shall constitute armed force as provided for in Article XVI, Section 4 of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines. Citizen soldiers [are] INCLUDE those citizens of the Philippines who are:

1. Graduates of the [Citizen Military Training (formerly the Reserve Officers Training Corps)] RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC) basic and advance courses and AFP Training Command/service schools and who, as a result thereof, were issued orders as reservists or reservist officers of the AFP;
2. Graduates of the [20-year-old trainee instruction] AUTHORIZED BASIC MILITARY TRAINING INSTRUCTIONS and who, as a result thereof, were issued orders as reservists of the AFP;
3. Ex-servicemen of the AFP and the United States Armed Forces who were honorably discharged from the service and are Filipino Citizens;
4. Recognized World War II guerillas who were honorably discharged from the service;

5. Commissioned and non-commissioned officers and enlisted personnel procured under Project 36-70;

6. Members of the Integrated Civilian Home Defense Force (ICHDF) and private security units who have completed the ICHDF and Security Guard Basic Military Course and were subsequently issued orders as reservists of the AFP]

ARTICLE [II] V. CATEGORIZATION AND  
CLASSIFICATION OF CITIZEN SOLDIERS

SECTION [3] 12. *Categories of Citizen Soldiers.* - There shall be three (3) categories of reservists or citizen soldiers: the First Category Reserve, the Second Category Reserve and the Third Category Reserve.

1. *First Category Reserve.* - The First Category Reserve shall be composed of able-bodied reservists whose ages are between [twenty (20)] EIGHTEEN (18) years and thirty-five (35) years inclusive.

2. *Second Category Reserve.* - The Second Category Reserve shall be composed of able-bodied reservists whose ages are between thirty-six (36) years and fifty-one (51) years inclusive.

3. *Third Category Reserve.* - The Third Category Reserve shall be composed of able-bodied reservists who are above fifty-one (51) years of age.

SECTION 13. *Classification of Reserve Force Units.* - Based on the categorization provided in Section 12 [3] above, the Reserve Force Units shall further be classified into the Ready Reserve, the Standby Reserve and the Retired Reserve, BASED ON THEIR OPERATIONAL READINESS FOR IMMEDIATE DEPLOYMENT/UTILIZATION.

1. *Ready Reserve.* - The Ready Reserve shall be composed of citizen soldiers belonging mostly to the First Category Reserve and others as provided in the Act, who shall be organized, trained and maintained as mobilizeable ready reserve subject to call at any time to augment the regular armed force of the AFP not only in time of war or national emergency but also to meet local emergencies arising from calamities, disasters and threats to peace, order, security and stability in any locality including the need to provide assistance in relief and rescue work and other civil assistance activities.

Any reservist or citizen soldier belonging to the Second Category Reserve and/or the Third Category Reserve, particularly the commissioned and non-commissioned officers, who will volunteer to serve with the Ready Reserve shall be allowed, if qualified and fit for duty, to join and actively participate as part of the Ready Reserve and shall serve with an appropriate Ready Reserve Unit.

Furthermore, members of the AFP affiliated Reserve Units of the various government and private utilities and services considered essential for preservation of the economic stability of the country or particular locality, such as power and electricity, water supply, transportations and communications, among others, regardless of the categorization shall be classified as Ready Reserve.

All citizen soldiers belonging to the First Category Reserve, except those exempted under this Act, shall be required to serve with Ready Reserve Units and will have assignments and promotions [similar to that of the active force] IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING POLICIES OF THE AFP until [they shall have been] transferred to the Standby Reserve by virtue of their age.

The following citizen soldiers may be exempted from rendering service with said Reserve Units:

- (a) Active members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Integrated National Police;
- (b) Those who are residing abroad but only during the duration of their absence from the Philippines;
- (c) Those who are physically and mentally unfit to serve their tour of duty;
- (d) Those who are convicted for crimes involving moral turpitude AND HAVE DEROGATORY RECORDS; and
- (e) STUDENTS OF COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS WHO ARE UNDERGOING ROTC TRAINING DURING THE PENDENCY OF THEIR TRAINING RECOGNIZED BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AS AMONG THOSE UNDERGOING TRAINING TO QUALIFY AS RESERVISTS.

[(e)] (f) Those who may be exempted from duty for valid reasons which may be authorized on a case-to-case basis by appropriate and competent authority. For this purpose, the AFP shall issue such appropriate guidelines, rules and regulations as may be necessary.

2. *Standby Reserve* - The Standby Reserve shall be composed of citizen soldiers belonging mostly to the Second Category Reserve and the Third Category Reserve, except as provided in this Act. Members of the Standby Reserve shall be organized and assigned to [paper] SPECIFIED reserve units and shall be maintained through annual assembly tests to update their records and their present addresses, among others. The Standby Reserve may be mobilized or ordered to active duty only in times of national emergency or war. Ranks of members of the Standby Reserve may be upgraded if they voluntarily participate in training or serve with the Ready Reserve Units in their areas or if their Standby Reserve Units undergo retraining. They will, however, be encouraged to upgrade their military knowledge and skills by taking up non-resident or resident courses which shall be set up for the purpose.

3. *Retired Reserve*. - The Retired Reserve shall be composed of citizen soldiers who have qualified for retirement through length of service, old age or disability. For this purpose, sixty-five (65) years will be considered as the retirement age. However, if qualified and fit for duty, a member of the Retired Reserve may be ordered to active duty in times of local or national emergencies if he volunteers for active duty and when the Secretary of National Defense determines that there are not enough qualified citizen soldiers with his special skills and qualifications in the Ready Reserve

or the Standby Reserve in his particular area of residence.

#### [ARTICLE III. ADMINISTRATION, ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING]

#### ARTICLE VI. MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT

*\*NOTE: Insert the following pertinent provisions on Manpower Development.*

SECTION 14. *COMPULSORY MILITARY REGISTRATION AND TRAINING*. - ALL MALE CITIZENS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 AND 35 YEARS, WHO ARE NOT RESERVISTS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO REGISTER FOR MILITARY INSTRUCTION. REGISTRATION SHALL TAKE PLACE IN SUITABLE REGISTRATION PLACES TO BE PRESCRIBED BY THE CITY, OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT BETWEEN THE DATES OF APRIL FIRST AND SEVENTH COMMENCING ONE YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT. ANNUAL REGISTRATIONS SHALL BE HELD DURING THE SAME PERIOD IN SUCCEEDING YEARS.

SEC. 15. *EXEMPTION FROM COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING*. - THE FOLLOWING ARE EXEMPTED:

- (1) MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY OF ANY RELIGIOUS ORDER OR SECT;
- (2) THOSE IN THE ACTIVE SERVICE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND POLICE MEMBERS OF THE INTEGRATED NATIONAL POLICE;
- (3) SUPERINTENDENT AND UNIFORMED MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL PENITENTIARY, CORRECTIVE INSTITUTIONS, AND INSANE ASYLUMS; AND
- (4) LICENSED AIR AND MARITIME PILOTS, NAVIGATORS AND MERCHANT MARINE OFFICERS.

SEC. 16. *REGISTERING OFFICER*. - FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGISTRATION AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 14, THE CITY MUNICIPAL TREASURERS OF CHARTERED CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES ARE HEREBY DESIGNATED AS REGISTERING OFFICER. THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL PRESCRIBE AND PROVIDE THE FORMS TO BE USED IN REGISTRATION AND PRESCRIBE THE PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT AND REPORTING OF THE RESULTS OF THE REGISTRATION.

SEC. 17. *PERSONS DISQUALIFIED OR EXEMPTED FROM REGISTRATION*. - THE FOLLOWING PERSONS ARE DISQUALIFIED OR EXEMPTED FROM REGISTERING:

- (1) PERSONS WHO ARE DISQUALIFIED BY LAW FROM EMPLOYMENT IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE;
- (2) THOSE WHO ARE PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY UNFIT AS CERTIFIED BY AN AFP MEDICAL OFFICER;
- (3) THOSE SUFFERING INCARCERATION AWAITING TRIAL BY A COURT OF LAW: *PROVIDED*, THAT UPON THEIR RELEASE FROM CUSTODY THEY SHALL WITHOUT DELAY REGISTER;

(4) THOSE CONVICTED BY FINAL JUDGMENT FOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES INVOLVING MORAL TURPITUDE. THOSE KNOWN IN THE COMMUNITY AS HAVING DEROGATORY RECORD OR OF DISREPUTABLE CONDUCT AND CHARACTER;

(5) STUDENTS OF COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS WHO ARE UNDERGOING ROTC TRAINING DURING THE PENDENCY OF THEIR TRAINING RECOGNIZED BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AS AMONG THOSE UNDERGOING TRAINING TO QUALIFY AS RESERVISTS.

(6) THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE CONSTITUTED AS MEMBERS OF AFFILIATED UNITS FOR THE DURATION TIME THAT THEY HOLD SUCH MEMBERSHIP: *PROVIDED*, THAT UPON THE TERMINATION OF THEIR MEMBERSHIP, THEY SHALL BE SUBJECT FOR MILITARY TRAINING.

SEC. 18. *SELECTION OF REGISTRANTS FOR COMPULSORY TRAINING.* - REGISTRANTS WHO ARE TO UNDERGO COMPULSORY TRAINING AS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ACT SHALL BE SELECTED IN THE MONTH OF MAY EVERY YEAR BY DRAWING OF LOTS BY A BOARD OF CANVASSERS. THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL PRESCRIBE THE PROCEDURES FOR THE SELECTION OF REGISTRANTS.

SEC. 19. *BOARD OF CANVASSERS.* - THERE IS HEREBY CREATED A BOARD OF CANVASSERS, ONE FOR EACH PROVINCE AND CHARTERED CITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELECTING THE REGISTRANTS WHO WILL UNDERGO COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 18. THE BOARD SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING:

#### PROVINCE

Division Superintendent of Schools .....	Chairman
Provincial Fiscal .....	member
Constabulary Provincial Commander or the appropriate military commander as the Secretary of National Defense may designate .....	member

#### CHARTERED CITY

City Superintendent of Schools .....	Chairman
City Fiscal .....	member
Chief of Police .....	member

SEC. 20. *QUOTA FOR COMPULSORY TRAINING.* - THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL FURNISH EACH PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR AND CITY MAYOR WITH THE QUOTA OF REGISTRANTS FOR COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING TO BE DRAWN FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE PROVINCE OR CHARTERED CITY. THE QUOTA FOR THE PROVINCE SHALL BE BROKEN DOWN INTO MUNICIPAL QUOTAS.

SEC. 21. *ACCEPTANCE OF REGISTRANTS VOLUNTEERING MILITARY TRAINING.* - REGISTRANTS WHO ARE NOT SELECTED FOR COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING BUT WHO VOLUNTEER FOR SUCH TRAINING MAY BE ACCEPTED AND ALLOWED

TO UNDERGO MILITARY TRAINING. *PROVIDED*, THAT SAID VOLUNTEERS SHALL PHYSICALLY QUALIFY FOR FITNESS AFTER EXAMINATION FOR TRAINING AND SHALL BE MADE TO EXECUTE A WRITTEN TESTAMENT THAT THEY VOLUNTEERED FOR TRAINING ON THEIR OWN WILL.

SEC. 22. *REGISTRATION OF CITIZENS RESIDING OR WORKING ABROAD.* - FILIPINO CITIZENS RESIDING OR WORKING ABROAD, WHEN THEY BECOME LIABLE TO REGISTER FOR RESERVISTS TRAINING UNDER THIS ACT, SHALL REGISTER WITH THE NEAREST DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES WHICH SHALL TRANSMIT THE REGISTRANTS DATA TO THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.

SEC. 23. *NOTICE TO SELECTED REGISTRANTS.* - THE BOARD OF CANVASSERS SHALL CAUSE THE IMMEDIATE AND ADEQUATE PUBLICATION OF THE NAMES OF REGISTRANTS WHO HAVE BEEN SELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 18 HEREIN AND AT ONCE NOTIFY THE REGISTRANTS CONCERNED TO REPORT TO THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD OF THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY WHERE THEY RESIDE. THE BOARD OF CANVASSERS SHALL FURNISH EACH ACCEPTANCE BOARD THE LIST OF THE REGISTRANTS WHOSE NAMES WERE DRAWN.

SEC. 24. *ACCEPTANCE BOARDS.* - THERE IS HEREBY CREATED AN ACCEPTANCE BOARD IN EACH MUNICIPALITY AND CHARTERED CITY WHICH SHALL EXAMINE AND CLASSIFY REGISTRANTS WHOSE NAMES HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO IT BY THE BOARD OF CANVASSERS AND PASS UPON THE REGISTRANTS FITNESS FOR TRAINING AND APPLICATION FOR DEFERMENT, IF ANY. THE DECISION OF THE BOARD SHALL BE BY MAJORITY VOTE. THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL PRESCRIBE THE PROCEDURES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD.

SEC. 25. *COMPOSITION OF THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD.* - THE BOARD SHALL BE COMPOSED AS FOLLOWS:

#### (1) IN CHARTERED CITIES

Local Civil Registrar .....	Chairman
City Health Officer .....	member
Chief of Police .....	member
One Civic Leader (to be chosen by local civic organizations) .....	member

#### (2) IN MUNICIPALITIES

Local Civil Registrar/Municipal Treasurer .....	Chairman
Municipal Health Officer .....	member
Chief of Police .....	member
One Civic Leader (to be chosen by local civic organizations) .....	member

SEC. 26. *CLASSIFICATION OF SELECTED REGISTRANTS.* - REGISTRANTS SHALL UNDERGO PHYSICAL EXAMINATION TO BE CONDUCTED BY

THE HEALTH OFFICER. THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD SHALL THEN CLASSIFY THEM INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

CLASS A - FIT FOR UNLIMITED SERVICE  
 CLASS B - FIT FOR LIMITED SERVICE ONLY  
 CLASS C - DEFERRED UNTIL LATER DATE  
 CLASS D - EXEMPTED FOR MENTAL/PHYSICAL REASONS

SEC. 27. *DEFERMENT FROM TRAINING.* - THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD, UPON EVALUATION OF THE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT APPLICATION FOR DEFERMENT, MAY GRANT DEFERMENT ON THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS AND CONDITIONS:

(1) INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INDISPENSABLE TO THE SUPPORT OF THEIR DEPENDENT FAMILIES MAY BE GRANTED DEFERMENTS NOT EXCEEDING TWO YEARS AFTER WHICH THEY SHALL BE SUBJECT FOR TRAINING.

(2) STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ARE AUTOMATICALLY GRANTED DEFERMENT WHICH SHALL NOT EXTEND BEYOND THE PERIOD THEY ARE TO COMPLETE THEIR BASIC ROTC TRAINING. STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE SUCH TRAINING SHALL BE EXEMPTED. THOSE WHO FAIL TO COMPLETE, OR DISCONTINUE THE TRAINING SHALL BE SUBJECT FOR TRAINING.

(3) SEMINARY STUDENTS OF ANY RELIGIOUS SECT SHALL BE GRANTED DEFERMENTS NOT EXCEEDING THE PRESCRIBED COURSE IN THE SEMINARY. THOSE WHO COMPLETE THE COURSE SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM TRAINING. THOSE WHO FAIL TO COMPLETE SHALL BE SUBJECT FOR TRAINING.

(4) CADETS OF THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY AND OF OTHER MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES, LOCAL OR FOREIGN, TO INCLUDE CADETS OF THE PHILIPPINE MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY AND OTHER SIMILAR LOCAL MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMIES DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE TRAINING OF OFFICER CANDIDATES, INCLUDING THOSE SELECTED FOR CADETSHIP IN SUCH ACADEMIES, SHALL BE GRANTED DEFERMENT FOR NOT EXCEEDING TWO YEARS. THOSE WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE HALF OF THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF THE COURSE SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM TRAINING. THOSE WHO FAIL TO COMPLETE ONE HALF OF THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD SHALL, UPON THEIR DISCHARGE FROM THEIR COURSES, BE SUBJECT FOR TRAINING.

(5) HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO ARE IN THEIR LAST YEAR OF SCHOOLING MAY BE GRANTED DEFERMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE YEAR.

(6) SELECTED REGISTRANTS RESIDING OR WORKING ABROAD SHALL BE GRANTED DEFERMENT FOR THE DURATION OF THEIR STAY ABROAD.

(7) ELECTED OFFICIALS AND PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES WHOSE APPOINTMENTS ARE PASSED

UPON BY THE COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS DURING THEIR INCUMBENCY.

SEC. 28. *APPEAL FROM DECISION OF THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD.* - WHERE THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD DENIES THE CLAIM OF AN INDIVIDUAL FOR DEFERMENT, HE MAY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF WRITTEN NOTIFICATION BY THE BOARD APPEAL HIS CASE IN WRITING DIRECTLY TO THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE. THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL RENDER A DECISION THEREON WITHIN SIXTY DAYS FROM THE DATE OF FILING OF APPEAL. THE APPELLANT SHALL BE ACCORDED THE RIGHT TO ENJOY, THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD BY HIMSELF AND COUNSEL AND TO PRESENT EVIDENCE IN HIS BEHALF. THE DECISION OF THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL BE FINAL.

SEC. 29. *EXPENSES OF THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD.* - THE EXPENSES INCIDENT TO THE OPERATION OF THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD SHALL BE BORNE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE WHICH SHALL INCLUDE THE FUNDS THEREFOR IN ITS ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS. THE NATURE AND AMOUNT OF SUCH EXPENSES SHALL BE PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE. MEMBERS OF THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD SHALL NOT RECEIVE ANY SALARY OR COMPENSATION FOR THEIR SERVICES IN THE BOARD. THEY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE ALLOWANCES AS THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL PRESCRIBE.

SEC. 30. *FINAL ACCEPTANCE BY THE BOARD.* - REGISTRANTS WHO SHALL HAVE BEEN FINALLY QUALIFIED AND SELECTED BY THE ACCEPTANCE BOARD SHALL BE REPORTED TO THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE. THOSE SELECTED SHALL UPON INSTRUCTION REPORT TO THE DESIGNATED MILITARY CAMP OR UNIT FOR TRAINING.

SEC. 31. *PROCUREMENT OF RESERVIST OFFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS FOR AFFILIATED RESERVE UNITS.* - KEY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE ENTITIES, CORPORATIONS, ESTABLISHMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHICH HAVE AFFILIATED UNITS SHALL BE ENCOURAGED TO UNDERGO MILITARY TRAINING TO QUALIFY THEM AS RESERVE OFFICERS OR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS. AS SUCH, THEY SHALL BE ASSIGNED TO KEY POSITIONS IN THE AFFILIATED UNITS WHERE THEY ARE EMPLOYED AND CALLED TO ACTIVE SERVICE WITH THESE UNITS ONCE THEY ARE ACTIVATED.

SEC. 32. *SECURITY OF TENURE IN GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT WHILE ON MILITARY TRAINING.* - AN EMPLOYEE OF A GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATION OR PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT WITH MONTHLY OPERATING VOLUME OF NOT LESS THAN THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS AND NOT LESS THAN TWENTY

EMPLOYEES, WHO UNDERGOES MILITARY TRAINING, SHALL NOT BE SEPARATED OR TERMINATED FROM SUCH EMPLOYMENT, SHALL NOT FORFEIT HIS SENIORITY STATUS, IF ANY, AND SHALL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE SALARY HE WAS RECEIVING PRIOR TO HIS CALL TO MILITARY TRAINING. IN THE CASE OF PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT, PAYMENT OF BASIC SALARY DURING SUCH MILITARY TRAINING SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING LAWS OR WITH HIS COMPANY'S POLICIES ON ITS EMPLOYEES ON LEAVE FROM HIS EMPLOYMENT. UPON TERMINATION OF HIS MILITARY TRAINING, HE SHALL RESUME HIS FORMER POSITION, OR IF NOT PRACTICABLE, ASSIGNED TO A NEW POSITION WITHOUT DIMINUTION OF HIS PAY AND ALLOWANCES, PROVIDED HE IS HONORABLY TERMINATED OR DISCHARGED FROM SUCH TRAINING OR SERVICE, OTHERWISE HIS RECORD OF DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE FROM MILITARY TRAINING OR SERVICE SHALL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS TO WHETHER HE SHOULD BE REINSTATED TO HIS FORMER EMPLOYMENT.

SEC. 33. *DRAFTEE TRAINING AND SERVICE.* - AS MAY BE ORDERED BY THE PRESIDENT, MALE CITIZENS BETWEEN THE AGES OF EIGHTEEN AND THIRTY-FIVE SHALL BE CALLED FOR TRAINING AND ACTIVE SERVICE FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-FOUR MONTHS, BROKEN DOWN INTO A TRAINING PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN SIX MONTHS AND AN ACTIVE SERVICE PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN EIGHT MONTHS. REGISTRANTS WILL BE SELECTED FOR DRAFTEE TRAINING AND SERVICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 14 TO 26 HEREIN. A DRAFTEE MAY VOLUNTEER AND BE ACCEPTED FOR AN EXTENSION OF ACTIVE SERVICE OF NOT MORE THAN TWELVE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS, AFTER WHICH HIS SERVICES AS DRAFTEE SHALL BE TERMINATED. A DRAFTEE DURING THE PERIOD OF HIS ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE TO INCLUDE THE PERIOD OF EXTENSION OF SUCH SERVICE IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE ALL THE PAY AND ALLOWANCES DUE HIS GRADE AS RECEIVED BY ANY MEMBER OF THE REGULAR FORCE: *PROVIDED*, THAT UPON TERMINATION OF HIS DRAFTEE SERVICE, HE SHALL RECEIVE A SEPARATION GRATUITY OF NOT LESS THAN ONE MONTH SALARY FOR EVERY YEAR OF HIS SERVICE TO INCLUDE THE SIX MONTHS OF TRAINING UPON THE CONDITION THAT A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS SHALL BE CONSIDERED A COMPLETE YEAR FOR PURPOSES OF GRATUITY.

SEC. 34. *RETENTION FOR MAXIMUM HOSPITALIZATION.* - A RESERVIST/DRAFTEE WHO IS INJURED OR CONTRACTS A DISEASE OR SICKNESS WHILE UNDERGOING TRAINING AND SERVICE, NOT DUE TO HIS INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT, WILLFUL FAILURE OR NEGLECT, OR VICIOUS OR IMMORAL HABITS, SHALL BE RETAINED BEYOND THE PERIOD OF HIS RESERVIST SERVICE WITH HIS CONSENT FOR THE NECESSARY HOSPITALIZATION AN MEDICAL CARE UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT HE RECOVERS, OR IS DETERMINED THAT FURTHER HOSPITALIZATION

WILL NOT IMPROVE HIS CONDITION. DURING THE PERIOD OF HOSPITALIZATION, HE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES AND HOSPITALIZATION BENEFITS AS ARE AVAILABLE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE REGULAR FORCE WHO ARE PATIENTS IN ARMED FORCES HOSPITALS.

#### ARTICLE VII CITIZEN MILITARY TRAINING

SEC. 35. *BASIC CITIZEN MILITARY TRAINING.* - REGISTRANTS FINALLY SELECTED FOR MILITARY TRAINING PURSUANT TO SECTION 30 SHALL UNDERGO A BASIC MILITARY TRAINING FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN SIX MONTHS. THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL PRESCRIBE THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTION SHALL INCLUDE SUBJECTS ON MORAL VIRTUES, PATRIOTISM, DISCIPLINE, SUPPORT FOR AND ADHERENCE TO THE CONSTITUTION, AND RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF CIVILIANS.

SEC. 36. *CITIZEN MILITARY TRAINING CENTERS.* - THERE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN EVERY PROVINCE AT LEAST ONE TRAINING CENTER FOR THE CONDUCT OF CITIZEN MILITARY AND RESERVIST TRAINING WITH A MINIMUM TRAINING CAPACITY FOR ONE INFANTRY RIFLE COMPANY AT A TIME. THESE TRAINING CENTERS SHALL FORM PART OF THE RESERVE COMPONENT ORGANIZATION OF THE MAJOR SERVICES AND SHALL BE REFERRED TO AS CITIZEN MILITARY TRAINING CENTER.

SEC. 37. *INCORPORATION INTO TRAINING.* - UPON REPORTING TO THEIR ASSIGNED TRAINING CENTERS, THE SELECTED REGISTRANTS SHALL BE PHYSICALLY EXAMINED AND IF FOUND FIT FOR THE SERVICE SHALL BE INDUCTED INTO SERVICE. WHERE A CHANGE OF TRAINING CENTER IS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE THE REQUISITE TRAINING, THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE TRAINING CENTER SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE THE NECESSARY ORDERS COVERING HIS TRANSPORTATION AND PROVIDE THE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE: *PROVIDED*, THAT NO REGISTRANTS SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO A TRAINING CENTER OUTSIDE HIS PROVINCE OR DESIGNATED TRAINING CENTER EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF PHILIPPINE NAVY AND PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE REGISTRANTS IF THERE ARE NO AIR OR NAVAL TRAINING CENTERS THEREAT.

SEC. 38. *RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS.* - MILITARY TRAINING FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING IS MANDATORY PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE ACT AND THE 1987 CONSTITUTION.

SECTION 39. *ESTABLISHMENT OF ROTC UNITS IN SCHOOLS.* - AT SUCH COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING THAT REQUEST FOR THE CONDUCT OF MILITARY TRAINING



IN THEIR INSTITUTIONS, THERE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORP UNITS AS THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE MAY APPROVE, WHICH SHALL CONDUCT MILITARY TRAINING FOR THE STUDENTS OF SUCH INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRODUCING ENLISTED AND OFFICER RESERVISTS. THE PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION SHALL BE PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND MAY INCLUDE INSTRUCTION TO PREPARE FEMALE STUDENTS FOR MILITARY SERVICE: *PROVIDED*, THAT SUCH COURSE OF INSTRUCTION SHALL NOT EXCEED TWO ACADEMIC YEARS IN THE CASE OF ENLISTED RESERVISTS, AND FOUR ACADEMIC YEARS IN THE CASE OF OFFICER RESERVISTS WHICH SHALL INCLUDE AS NECESSARY SUMMER OR PROBATIONARY TRAINING OF NOT MORE THAN SIXTY CONSECUTIVE DAYS. THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF ROTC TRAINING, WHICH IS MANDATORY, IS REFERRED TO AS BASIC ROTC WHILE THE SECOND TWO YEARS AFTER SAID BASIC ROTC, WHICH IS VOLUNTARY, IS REFERRED TO AS ADVANCE ROTC. THE ALLOCATION OF ROTC UNITS TO THE VARIOUS MAJOR SERVICES OF THE AFP SHALL CONFORM TO THE PROJECTED MANPOWER NEEDS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE RESERVE COMPONENTS.

SECTION 40. *ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVANCE ROTC.* - STUDENTS WHO VOLUNTEER FOR ADVANCE ROTC SHALL BE SCREENED BY AN ROTC ACCEPTANCE BOARD WHICH IS HEREBY CREATED FOR THE PURPOSE, COMPOSED OF THE COMMANDANT OF THE ROTC UNIT, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SCHOOL NOMINATED BY THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES, AND A MILITARY PHYSICIAN. THE STUDENT VOLUNTEER SHALL BE PHYSICALLY EXAMINED FOR FITNESS FOR TRAINING AND SHALL FURTHER BE MADE TO EXECUTE IN WRITING A STATEMENT THAT HE VOLUNTEERED FOR TRAINING ON HIS OWN VOLITION. WHERE THE STUDENT IS BELOW EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE, HE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN HIS PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S CONSENT. IN THE CASE OF STUDENTS VOLUNTEERING FOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING, THEY SHALL BE FURTHER SUBJECT TO COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION IN ORDER TO SELECT THE BEST MATERIAL. THE STUDENTS UNDERGOING ROTC WILL BE REFERRED TO AS ROTC CADETS.

SECTION 41. *ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING OF ROTC UNITS.* - THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL PRESCRIBE THE ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING OF ROTC UNITS. RESERVE OFFICERS IN ACTIVE SERVICE AS WELL AS QUALIFIED ENLISTED AND OFFICER RESERVISTS ON INACTIVE STATUS SHALL BE GIVEN PRIORITY TO HANDLE TRAINING INSTRUCTION AND TO ASSIST IN ADMINISTRATION AND SHALL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE HONORARIA AND OTHER ALLOWANCES AS THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SHALL PRESCRIBE.

SECTION 42. *FUND FOR MAINTENANCE AND*

*OPERATION OF SCHOOL ROTC UNITS.* - THE FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF ROTC UNITS SHALL BE PROVIDED FOR IN THE REGULAR ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES. SUCH APPROPRIATIONS SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE FULL FUNDING SUPPORT FOR THE ADVANCE ROTC ONLY. THE SCHOOL OF THE STUDENT MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO SPEND ANY AMOUNT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ROTC TRAINING: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE SCHOOL REQUESTING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE TRAINING GROUND AND OFFICE FACILITIES FREE OF CHARGE. THE ADVANCE ROTC CADET SHALL EACH BE PROVIDED FREE TWO SUITS OF FATIGUE UNIFORM WITH HEADGEAR, BELT AND ONE PAIR OF COMBAT BOOTS FOR THE DURATION OF TRAINING. HOWEVER, THOSE TAKING THE BASIC ROTC ARE REQUIRED TO PAY A REASONABLE ROTC FEE, THE AMOUNT TO BE DETERMINED BY THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE IN COORDINATION WITH THE SCHOOL OFFICIALS CONCERNED.

SECTION 43. *SCHOLARSHIP INCENTIVE FOR ADVANCE ROTC TRAINING.* - STUDENTS UNDERGOING ADVANCE ROTC WHO BELONG TO THE UPPER FIVE PERCENT OF THEIR ACADEMIC CLASS SHALL BE PROVIDED A TUITION SUBSIDY OF FIFTY PERCENT OF THEIR ANNUAL TUITION FOR THE PERIOD OF THEIR ADVANCE ROTC. THE FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE SHALL BE CARRIED IN THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS OF THE AFP. THE CHIEF OF STAFF, AFP SHALL PROMULGATE THE GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROVISION.

#### ARTICLE VIII. INCORPORATION INTO THE RESERVE FORCE

SECTION 44. *ELECTED OFFICIALS AND PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES.* - ELECTED OFFICIALS AND PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES MAY BE COMMISSIONED IN THE RESERVE FORCE SUBJECT TO THE EXISTING AFP RULES AND REGULATIONS.

SECTION 45. *AWARD OF RANKS AND ASSIGNMENTS TO RESERVE UNITS OF GRADUATES OF ROTC.* - GRADUATES OF BASIC ROTC SHALL BE GIVEN A RESERVE ENLISTED RANK AND SERIAL NUMBER AND ASSIGNED TO RESERVE UNITS AND MOBILIZATION CENTERS IN THEIR PROVINCES. THE RANKS TO BE AWARDED SHALL BE FROM PRIVATE TO SERGEANT OR ITS EQUIVALENT: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE QUOTA FOR NON-COMMISSION OFFICERS SHALL NOT EXCEED FIVE PERCENT OF THE AUTHORIZED STRENGTH OF THE UNIT TO WHICH THE RESERVISTS SHALL BE ASSIGNED AFTER GRADUATION AND: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT THOSE TO BE AWARDED RANK ABOVE PRIVATE SHALL BE CHOSEN BASED ON MERIT. THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO THE ADVANCE ROTC COURSE SHALL CONTINUE TO CARRY THEIR ENLISTED RANK UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF ADVANCE ROTC.



**SECTION 46. DISPOSITION OF GRADUATES OF ADVANCE ROTC.** - THOSE WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ADVANCE ROTC COURSE SHALL BE RECOMMENDED FOR COMMISSION IN THE RESERVE AS SECOND LIEUTENANTS AND ASSIGNED TO THE RESERVE UNITS AND MOBILIZATION CENTERS IN THEIR PROVINCES. THOSE WITH MANIFEST POTENTIAL MAY BE COMMISSIONED IN THE REGULAR FORCE AS SECOND LIEUTENANT SUBJECT TO THE CRITERIA FOR REGULAR OFFICERS OF THIS RANK FOR THAT PARTICULAR SERVICE. THOSE WHO FAIL TO COMPLETE THE COURSE SHALL BE CONFERRED THE ENLISTED RANK OF SERGEANT OR ITS EQUIVALENT AND SIMILARLY ASSIGNED TO RESERVE UNITS AND MOBILIZATION CENTERS. PROBATIONARY TRAINING AS A REQUISITE BEFORE COMMISSIONSHIP SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE AFP RESERVE COMMAND ON TECHNICAL SKILLS, EXPERIENCES OR QUALIFICATIONS OF THE APPLICANTS.

**SECTION 47. NOTIFICATION OF RESERVE ASSIGNMENT.** - THE RESERVIST SHALL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING OF HIS ASSIGNMENT TO A RESERVE UNIT AND A MOBILIZATION CENTER. HE SHALL BE MADE TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT IN WRITING OF SUCH NOTIFICATION.

**SECTION 48. RESERVISTS REGISTRY.** - THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES RESERVE COMMAND SHALL PROVIDE ALL CITY/MUNICIPAL TREASURERS OF CHARTERED CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES OF THE LIST OF THOSE WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED MILITARY TRAINING, INDICATING THEREIN AMONG OTHERS THEIR RANK, SERIAL NUMBER, RESERVE UNIT ASSIGNMENT AND MOBILIZATION CENTER. IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR TO MAINTAIN AND UPDATE THE RESERVISTS REGISTRY UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE AFP RESERVE COMMAND.

#### ARTICLE [III] IX. ADMINISTRATION, ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING OF RESERVE FORCE

**SECTION [5] 49. Administration of the Citizen Soldiers.** - All citizen soldiers shall be managed and their affairs administered under the same policies, rules and regulations governing those in the active AFP Forces. They shall be accounted for, their records updated and shall be classified according to their age, residence, profession, special skills and military training and experience, if any.

For the purpose of administering the affairs of citizen soldiers, including their organization, training, maintenance and utilization, an AFP Reserve Command is hereby established within the Armed Forces of the Philippines. [The Metropolitan Citizen Military Training Command (MCMTC) shall be the nucleus of this command.] It shall be manned by qualified reserve officers and reservists who shall serve in the active service of the Armed Forces or as civilian personnel. The AFP shall take such steps, issue such rules and regulations and provide such funds as will be necessary to establish the AFP Reserve Command including the screening and appointment of reserve officers and other reservists who will be assigned to

man the Command and its local units in each region or province.

As far as practicable and possible, the AFP Reserve Command shall utilize the local chapters and posts as well as individual members of reservists organizations, such as the AFP National Reservists Association, the Reserve Officers Legion of the Philippines, and other similar reservists or war veterans associations as may be necessary in the accounting, organization and maintenance of the citizen soldiers in their areas.

The AFP Reserve Command shall maintain for every citizen soldier his own records to show his development, promotions and transfers while in the reserve force. The maintenance of such records shall be decentralized to the regional or provincial units of the Command as far as practicable.

The citizen soldier shall be motivated and encouraged to participate fully in the activities of mobilizable Ready Reserve Units in his area.

[To provide the link between policy making and implementation/execution, there is, likewise, created an office within the Department of National Defense, to be headed by an Undersecretary of National Defense for Citizen Soldier Affairs. This office shall exercise general supervision and control, through the AFP, over the administration, organization, training, maintenance, mobilization and utilization of citizen soldiers and shall formulate such policies and guidelines as may be required or necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.]

**SECTION [6] 50. ORGANIZATION OF CITIZEN SOLDIERS.** - Citizen soldiers shall be organized according to their categorization, classification and permanent place of residency. All reservists belonging to the First Category Reserve or the Ready Reserve and reservists commissioned and non-commissioned officers belonging to the Standby Reserve who volunteer for service with the Ready Reserve and who are permanently residing in a particular area shall be organized into a Ready Reserve Unit of the AFP Reserve Command, Armed Forces of the Philippines for that particular area. Depending on the number of qualified and able-bodied reservists residing permanently in each province, city and district in Metropolitan Manila, there shall be organized initially at least one Ready Reserve Unit of battalion strength or size in each province, city and district in Metro Manila. These mobilizable Ready Reserve Units will follow the Table of Organization and Equipment (TO/E) or the Table of Distribution (TD) of the regular armed force units of the AFP.

All Second Category Reserve and Third Category Reserve citizen soldiers shall, likewise, be organized into Standby Reserve Units in their respective areas.

The Standby Reserve Units will be (TO/E) OR (TD) paper reserve units which shall be called to annual assembly tests for the accounting of reservists and updating of their records.

Citizen soldiers belonging to the Retired Reserve shall be listed according to their skills, expertise, experience and qualifications. They will be maintained as a reserve pool to be availed of in cases where their expertise are particularly required and where such expertise are not available in the

**Ready Reserve or the Standby Reserve.**

The organization of these citizen soldiers reserve units shall be parallel or similar to the organization of existing active land, sea and air units of the regular armed force of the AFP.

**SECTION [7] 51. TRAINING OF RESERVE UNITS.** - Maximum participation of citizen soldiers in the reserve force development program is necessary and imperative, hence, no limits shall be placed on the number of days of voluntary active duty training (ADT), except for those ADT programs which are funded by the AFP. AFP-funded ADT of thirty (30) days followed by about a week field exercise shall be programmed for each Ready Reserve Unit at least once every three (3) years to maintain their proficiency and readiness status.

Training of these reserve units shall essentially concentrate on individual soldier and small unit up to company level proficiency. These reserve units shall be authorized to use any or all existing military training facilities, equipment, grounds firing ranges and installations of the AFP and the INP.

Subject to fund availability, Standby Reserve Units may also undergo pre-mobilization training at least once every five (5) years.

Reservist commissioned and non-commissioned officers shall be required to undergo training according to their grade and unit assignment to develop and maintain their proficiency as leaders of their reserve units. They shall be provided with non-resident instructions followed by about a week practical field exercises in AFP service schools. Subject to funds availability, they may be allowed to attend resident courses in AFP service schools.

The AFP Reserve Command shall be directly responsible for the training of all reserve units whether Ready or Standby, including the training of AFP Affiliated Reserve Units of government and private utilities and services, the [Citizen Military Training (CMT)] RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC) in schools, colleges and universities and the non-resident training of reservist commissioned and non-commissioned officers.

**SECTION 52. CLASSIFICATION AND MAINTENANCE OF READINESS OF RESERVE UNITS.** - UNITS WHICH ARE COMPOSED OF RESERVISTS OF THE READY RESERVISTS SHALL BE CLASSIFIED AS TO DEGREE OF READINESS TO RESPOND TO THE CALL FOR SERVICE, AS FOLLOWS:

(1) **READY RESERVE-I. UNITS CLASSIFIED AS READY RESERVE-I** SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN A HIGH DEGREE OF READINESS AS TO BE READY FOR OPERATIONAL EMPLOYMENT IN NOT MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS AFTER ACTIVATION. THE INDIVIDUAL AND CREW SERVED WEAPONS AND INDIVIDUALS CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT SHALL BE READY FOR DISTRIBUTION UPON THEIR ACTIVATION. THE WHEREABOUTS OF THEIR RESERVISTS SHALL BE CONSTANTLY ASCERTAINED. AS NECESSARY, THESE UNITS WILL CARRY AN EXCESS OF TWENTY PERCENT

OF THEIR AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL STRENGTH TO COMPENSATE FOR THOSE WHO MAY FAIL TO REPORT OR BE LATE IN REPORTING FOR DUTY.

(2) **READY RESERVE-II. UNITS CLASSIFIED AS READY RESERVE-II** SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN A DEGREE OF READINESS AS TO BE READY FOR OPERATIONAL EMPLOYMENT IN NOT MORE THAN FIFTEEN DAYS.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF, AFP SHALL SELECT AND RECOMMEND TO THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE THE RESERVE UNITS UNDER READY RESERVE-I AND READY RESERVE-II: *PROVIDED*, THAT IN AREAS THREATENED BY INSURGENCY, THERE SHALL BE AT LEAST ONE UNIT OF INFANTRY BATTALION STRENGTH UNDER READINESS STATUS OF READY RESERVE-I.

**SECTION 53. MOBILIZATION STOCK.** - THE MINIMUM ESSENTIAL INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES SHALL BE PROCURED, STORED AND MAINTAINED FOR SELECTED READY RESERVE UNITS TO ENHANCE RAPID TRANSITION TO READINESS REQUIRED FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME.

**ARTICLE [IV] X. MAINTENANCE AND UTILIZATION OF RESERVE UNITS**

**SECTION [8] 54. MAINTENANCE OF RESERVE UNITS.** - It shall be the responsibility of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to keep the Ready Reserve Units in a state of constant readiness and high proficiency. If funds are inadequate, volunteer "weekend warrior" training shall be instituted to maintain the desired state of proficiency and readiness of these Ready Reserve Units.

As far as practicable and possible, the AFP Reserve Command shall coordinate with, secure the cooperation of, and utilize the services of reservists organizations, such as the AFP National Reservists Association, the Reserve Officers Legion of the Philippines, et cetera, in insuring that the citizen soldiers meet regularly and on a continuing basis when they are not on actual training or in active duty with the AFP. These reservists organizations may be utilized for accounting and updating records of the citizen soldiers, as well as provide off-duty liaison with the AFP.

**SECTION [9] 55. UTILIZATION OF READY RESERVE UNITS.** - The Ready Reserve Units are mobilizable reserve units which may be utilized to render service to the community during calamities and disasters, provide augmentation to local armed force units of the AFP to meet threats to peace and security resulting from local civil disturbances and insurgency, and form part of the regular armed force of the AFP in case of war or national emergency.

Authority for the utilization of Ready Reserve Units shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Act as may subsequently be provided by law or by guidelines, rules and regulations to be issued by the Department of National Defense and the AFP as approved by the President of the Philippines.

However, to meet local emergencies such as typhoons, fire, relief, and rescue missions and other natural calamities or disasters purely civil in nature, the use of ready reserve units may be authorized by the AFP Regional Unified Commander who has jurisdiction over such ready reserve units in coordination with the Office of the President.

Upon the request of the provincial governor or the city mayor, as the case maybe, and duly recommended by the appropriate military commander of the area and the AFP Regional Unified Commander of the region concerned, the President of the Philippines may authorize the utilization of the ready reserve units for local emergencies. It can also electively mobilize appropriate Ready Reserve Unit or Units necessary to meet the threats of local civil disturbances or augment regular armed force units in their respective specific areas to meet the threats to national or local security.

On the other hand, the Standby Reserve Units shall be utilized only in case of war or national emergency when a full or total (national) mobilization is declared.

#### ARTICLE [V] XI MOBILIZATION OF RESERVE UNITS

**SECTION [10] 56. MOBILIZATION.** - The emergency employment of the nation's citizens and resources for national defense, to counter the local insurgency problem, or to meet a national or local emergency or contingency shall be effected by a call for mobilization. Mobilization includes the execution of all measures necessary to move the country or part thereof from peace status to a full war footing. Mobilization may also be resorted to on a limiting scale to meet a national or local emergency or disaster.

There are four (4) types of mobilization: full mobilization, total or national mobilization, partial mobilization and selective mobilization.

1. **Full mobilization** - Full mobilization is the expansion of the regular armed force of the AFP, through the joint act of Congress and the President of the Philippines, by the mobilization of all ready and standby reserve units in the approved citizen armed force structure and all citizen soldiers (reservists) and the materials resource needed to sustain such forces.

WHEN FULL MOBILIZATION IS ORDERED, ALL UNITS OF THE READY AND STANDBY RESERVES WILL BE ACTIVATED, THE RESERVISTS CONSTITUTING THEM ARE CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY, AND THE UNITS ACTIVATED ARE PLACED ON OPERATIONAL READINESS. ALL OTHER RESERVISTS NOT ASSIGNED TO ANY UNIT OR THOSE ASSIGNED TO RESERVE POOLS SHALL BE ORGANIZED INTO REPLACEMENT UNITS.

2. **Total or National Mobilization** - Total or national mobilization is the expansion of the regular armed force of the AFP, through the joint act of Congress and the President of the Philippines, by the mobilization of all reserve units in the approved citizen armed force structure and all citizen soldiers (reservists) and the organization, training and subsequent mobilization of additional units composed of volunteers (non-reservists) from the entire citizenry and the

mobilization of all national resources to sustain such forces.

3. **Partial Mobilization** - Partial mobilization is the expansion of the regular armed force of the AFP, through the joint act of Congress and the President of the Philippines, by the mobilization of ready reserve units and citizen soldiers (reservists) to meet all or part of the requirements of a particular national contingency and/or operational war plan.

WHEN PARTIAL MOBILIZATION IS ORDERED, ONLY THE UNITS OF THE READY RESERVE AS ARE NECESSARY TO MEET THE THREAT WILL BE ACTIVATED, THE RESERVISTS ASSIGNED TO THESE UNITS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY AND THE ACTIVATED UNITS PLACED ON OPERATIONAL READINESS. THE PRESIDENT WILL SPECIFY THE UNITS TO BE ACTIVATED.

4. **Selective Mobilization.** - Selective mobilization is the expansion of the regular armed force of the AFP, by authority of the President of the Philippines, by the mobilization of a particular ready reserve unit or units to meet a local emergency situation such as civil disturbances and insurgency where the AFP may be used to protect life, government property and function, or to prevent disruption of government and economic activity.

Selective mobilization differs from *national or partial* mobilization in the sense that the former will not normally be associated with requirements for contingency involving external threats to the national security.

**SECTION 57. MOBILIZATION CENTERS.** - THERE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN EACH PROVINCE AS MANY MOBILIZATION CENTERS AS NEEDED CORRESPONDING TO THE NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF RESERVISTS IN THE PROVINCE TO WHICH RESERVISTS WILL REPORT WHEN MOBILIZATION IS ORDERED. THE CITIZEN MILITARY TRAINING CENTERS IN THE PROVINCES ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS ACT MAY ALSO BE USED AS MOBILIZATION CENTERS. THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF, AFP AND IN CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL EXECUTIVES, SHALL PRESCRIBE THE LOCATION OF THE MOBILIZATION CENTERS. THE LOCATION OF THESE CENTERS SHALL BE GIVEN THE WIDEST PUBLIC INFORMATION BY THE LOCAL EXECUTIVES.

**SECTION 58. DEMOBILIZATION.** - WHEN THE THREAT OR EMERGENCY FOR WHICH MOBILIZATION HAD BEEN ORDERED HAS PASSED, THE PRESIDENT WILL ORDER THE DEMOBILIZATION OF THE RESERVE UNITS ACTIVATED AND THE RESERVISTS OF SUCH DEACTIVATED UNITS SHALL BE REVERTED INTO INACTIVE STATUS.

**SECTION 59. AUXILIARY SERVICE.** - FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING IN RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS DURING DISASTERS AND CALAMITIES, HEALTH WELFARE ACTIVITIES AND PARTICIPATING IN LOCAL SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, THE PRESIDENT MAY CALL UPON THE RESERVISTS IN THE AFFECTED OR CONCERNED

## LOCALITIES TO VOLUNTEER THEIR SERVICES.

**SECTION 60. WOMEN RESERVISTS.** - WOMEN SHALL NOT BE DEPRIVED OF THEIR RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE TO SERVE WITH THE AFP. HOWEVER, THEY SHALL BE ACCORDED SPECIAL PRIVILEGES/ PROHIBITIONS RELATIVE TO THEIR PHYSICAL/ MEDICAL PECULIARITIES AND SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM COMBAT DUTIES OR FIELD SERVICE INVOLVING HARD PHYSICAL EXERTIONS. THEY SHALL BE PROVIDED SEPARATE BILLETING FROM THE MEN AND SUCH OTHER AMENITIES AS ARE PECULIARLY NECESSARY.

## ARTICLE [VI] XII. FUNDING

**SECTION [11] 61. FUNDING.** - All funds previously appropriated for the administration, development and training of the reserve component of the AFP and which will subsequently and hereinafter be appropriated for the purpose shall be used exclusively for the purpose of implementing the provisions of this Act.

To sustain the efficient and effective administration, organization, training, maintenance and utilization of ready reserve units and keep them appropriately and adequately equipped and in a state of readiness, as well as provide for the adequate training of citizen soldiers or reservists, adequate funds for this purpose, as may be requested or recommended by the AFP Reserve Command or the AFP, shall be appropriated and made available on a continuing basis.

THE PRESIDENT SHALL UTILIZE A PORTION OF THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE FUND AVAILABLE FROM ANY SOURCE TO AUGMENT THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE RESERVE FORCE.

## ARTICLE [VII] XIII. PAY AND ALLOWANCES

**SECTION [12] 62. MOBILIZED RESERVE UNITS.** - If any reserve unit is mobilized by joint act of Congress and the President of the Philippines and thus integrated into the regular armed force, the members of the said reserve unit who will render active military service shall receive pay and allowances according to their grades and tenure of their services. All benefits granted to members of the regular armed force will also be extended to the citizen soldier so mobilized.

**SECTION [13] 63. UTILIZED READY RESERVE UNITS.** - If a ready reserve unit is utilized for local emergency as authorized by the President of the Philippines, the citizen soldiers of said ready reserve unit so utilized will receive allowances and/or honorarium on the case-to-case basis depending on their utilization or employment.

The difference between mobilization and utilization is that in mobilization, the reserve units will be committed and will operate as part of the regular force in the area, such as counter-insurgency operations or civil disturbances action. On the other hand, in utilization, the ready reserve unit is employed only for civil assistance activities during local emergency or disaster. Utilization may include community development activities or socioeconomic undertaking.

## ARTICLE [VIII] XIV. OTHER PROVISIONS

[SECTION 14. There shall be only one classification of reserve officers, whether in the active or in the inactive status, regardless of their source or nature of commission.]

[SECTION 15. There shall be only one seniority and lineal list for all commissioned officers in the active service, whether he be a regular or a reserve officer. Similarly, there shall be only one seniority and lineal list for all reservist officers whether in the ready reserve or in the standby reserve and regardless of their source of commission.]

All reservist officers, regardless of their source or nature of commission, shall have the same benefits, privileges and rights befitting their respective ranks and promotions and assignment to positions shall be made on the basis of merit, qualifications, competence and seniority in the lineal list of reservist officers.]

**SECTION [16] 64. PENALTIES.** - All citizen soldiers belonging to the Ready Reserve including those who have volunteered for service with the Ready Reserve are required to render obligatory service once their ready reserve unit is utilized or mobilized and ordered to active duty. Failure to report for duty shall be punishable, upon conviction by a general court martial, by imprisonment of not less than two (2) months to not more than twelve (12) months.

All citizen soldiers belonging to the Standby Reserve are, likewise, required to render obligatory service when mobilization is called in time of national emergency or war. Penalty for failure to report for duty full or total (national) mobilization shall be subject to the decision of a general court martial according to the provisions of the Articles of War.

**SECTION 65. RETENTION OF ROTC UNITS IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.** - ROTC UNITS IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SHALL CONTINUE WITH ROTC TRAINING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT.

**SECTION [17] 66. REPEALING CLAUSE.** - THE PROVISIONS OF E.O. NO. 264, E.O. NO. 292, C.A. NO. 1 AND OTHER LAWS, DECREES AND ISSUANCES INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT ARE HEREBY REPEALED.

**SECTION 67. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** - IF FOR ANY CAUSE, ANY PART OF THIS ACT IS HEREBY DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL, THE REST OF THE PROVISIONS SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE AND EFFECT.

**SECTION 68. EFFECTIVITY.** - THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT 15 DAYS AFTER ITS PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OR IN A NATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION.

Senator Maceda. I ask that we recognize Senator Guingona to sponsor the bill.

The President. Senator Guingona is recognized.

## SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR GUINGONA

Senator Guingona. This is a bill concerning the mandate of the Constitution that we create a Citizens Army with a corps of professional soldiers.

This has been consolidated with Senate Bill No. 845 and the authors are Senators Pimentel, Laurel, Tañada, Mercado and Shahani. There is a similar bill in the House of Representatives, House Bill No. 12251, and we will consolidate all of the pertinent provisions during the period of amendments.

The Citizen Soldiers are reservists of the Armed Forces of the Philippines who were trained pursuant to the provisions of the Commonwealth Act No. 1, otherwise known as the National Defense Act.

Today, they number about one million and they represent all sectors of society. They are basically loyal, patriotic, and possess basic military-oriented skills. Many are experts in their respective fields of endeavor. But these AFP reserved manpower are just like an idle deflated tire; it is a reserved tire but it is useless because it is a paper organization. Many of us here in the Senate are part of that reservists organization, but we have never been called for periodic training. We are not ready. Many of us have forgotten the skills of military training; and, therefore, it is not the military citizens army that is envisioned in the Constitution.

The Constitution mandates that we create, revive the reorganization and give it new life and meaning. And so we have consolidated these three bills. The bill sets forth the definition of what is a "citizen soldier". It categorizes and classifies the same into three categories and in accordance with the classification, also classifies them correspondingly into "Ready Reserve," "Standby Reserve" and "Retired Reserve," depending upon age and capability.

Article III of the bill defines the Administration, Organization and Training; and Article IV, the Maintenance and Utilization of Reserve Units.

If approved, this bill, in effect, will replace the CAFGU, the present CAFGU, which unfortunately, has figured prominently in many instances of abuse, including that of being utilized for rebellious acts, which shows that CAFGU structure is deficient and needs to be corrected.

So, I earnestly urge that we adopt and approve this measure.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Is there any question? Any interpellation?

Senator Guingona. If there are no interpellations, I move that we close the period of interpellations.

Senator Pimentel. Mr. President.

The President. Senator Pimentel is recognized.

## SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

Senator Pimentel. We would like to reserve the right to interpellate the Sponsor, if we can only, maybe, suspend the session for about one or two minutes.

Senator Guingona. Certainly, Mr. President.

The President. The session is suspended, if there is no objection. *[There was none.]*

*It was 6:07 p.m.*

## RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

*At 6:10 p.m., the session was resumed.*

The President. The session is resumed.

Senator Pimentel. Will the Gentleman kindly yield for some questions for clarification?

Senator Guingona. Certainly, Mr. President.

Senator Pimentel. How would the Citizen Soldiers differ from the present CAFGU organizations?

Senator Guingona. The present CAFGU is organized arbitrarily in the sense that the standards are as the military necessity dictates. There are no terms and conditions for their employment. Their allowance is limited but they may, precisely for that, accept donations and, therefore, their creation is of doubtful constitutional standing as embodied in Executive Order No. 264 and the corresponding Executive Order No. 292, Section 37. Whereas here, the Citizen Soldiers would be defined as stated embodying all the citizens enumerated therein similar to the Israeli concept where the citizens falling under those categories, depending on age, will form part of the citizens army. They would know when they would be called to arms. They would know when they can be harnessed for civic duties and they would know when they would be subjected to training and up to when they would serve as the active reserve, the secondary reserve or the retired reserve.

This is in accordance with the mandate of the Constitution that the calling to arms of citizens must be under stated conditions pursuant to law.

Senator Pimentel. So, in effect, while the CAFGUs are, actually, components of the military who are actually serving also with the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Citizens Soldiers will not necessarily be so?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Pimentel. And the structure, that we are suggesting in this bill is patterned after the Israeli experience. Is that correct?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Pimentel.** What will be the immediate effect of the organization of the Citizen Soldiers that we are envisioning in this bill on the standing army of the Republic?

**Senator Guingona.** Of the standing army of?

**Senator Pimentel.** Of the standing army of the country.

**Senator Guingona.** There will probably be, through another bill, a phaseout because the standing army as of now is very substantial and the bill would probably provide after the proper retraining of the soldiers so that they can be returned to civilian life after they have learned the proper trades or craftsmanship. This is a problem that must be faced by legislation.

**Senator Pimentel.** Exactly, because one of the reasons a citizen army is to be created is, precisely, to reduce the existing standing army of any nation and that is exactly how Israel has also been able to mobilize at any given time without necessarily maintaining a huge standing army, is that not correct?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, that is correct, Mr. President.

**Senator Pimentel.** So, it is our intention, therefore, in this bill to probably lay the basis for the reduction of the present standing army of the country?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, that is correct, Mr. President.

**Senator Pimentel.** Even if there is no provision that calls for that reduction in this bill, would the distinguished Gentleman think that it would be possible to insert some appropriate article or section in this bill that would effectuate such an intention?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, I think it is possible as long as it does not violate the two-subject rule.

**Senator Pimentel.** Since the purpose is really to create a citizens army, it will not, I think, be violative of the two-subject rule if we insert a provision that would have something to do with the phasing out of some elements of the Armed Forces?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Pimentel.** When the citizen army soldiers are not in training, they are not going to receive salaries, are they?

**Senator Guingona.** No, they will not, Mr. President.

**Senator Pimentel.** In fact, what is envisioned here is for the citizen soldier to be gainfully employed in civilian life if they are not actually mobilized by the government, is that not correct?

**Senator Guingona.** That is correct, Mr. President.

**Senator Pimentel.** So, in effect, with an organization of this kind, we also can effectively reduce our military spending required in the maintenance of so many, let us say, soldiers of the country?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Pimentel.** And the money that can thus be saved may, probably, be utilized for more productive enterprises, is that not correct?

**Senator Guingona.** That is one of the intentions, Mr. President.

**Senator Pimentel.** Since the distinguished Gentleman is always agreeing with me, I have no more questions.

**Senator Guingona.** Thank you.

**Senator Enrile.** Mr. President.

**The President.** The Minority Floor Leader, Senator Enrile, is recognized.

**Senator Enrile.** Mr. President, may I direct some questions to the distinguished Majority Floor Leader?

**Senator Guingona.** Certainly, Mr. President.

**Senator Enrile.** Under the National Defense Act, compulsory military training must be given to every 20-year-old citizen of the Republic. Does the distinguished Gentleman have any idea how many 20-year olds do we have every year?

**Senator Guingona.** About 5,000 to 10,000, Mr. President.

**Senator Enrile.** Five thousand to 10,000 20-year olds out of a population of 60 million?

**Senator Guingona.** Annually, yes.

**Senator Enrile.** That is the number of Filipinos reaching their 20th birthday every year?

**Senator Guingona.** Not all are qualified, and this has been suspended for three years.

**Senator Enrile.** Which one?

**Senator Guingona.** This compulsory military training.

**Senator Enrile.** In other words, we are not enforcing the compulsory military training of every 20-year old?

**Senator Guingona.** No, we are not. I understand, there are logistical problems.

**Senator Enrile.** How many 20-year olds do we train every year to become members of the reserve, Mr. President?

Senator Guingona. I think, the same number, between 5,000 to 10,000.

Senator Enrile. Can we have a clear idea of the exact number?

Senator Guingona. We can get the records, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. These are trainees of the major services: Army, Navy, Air Force, and the Constabulary.

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. And these 20-year olds who are trained annually to become members of the reserve are outside of those who are trained under the ROTC training, CMTs - Citizens Military Training, and in our high schools and universities?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President, outside.

Senator Enrile. All told, what would be the number of male and female citizens of the Republic that would be added annually to our reserved pool of trained military personnel?

Senator Guingona. I understand 40,000 to 50,000.

Senator Enrile. A year?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. Mr. President, what would be the acceptable level of the first reserved of the country, given our national condition and economic circumstance, especially, and the security environment where we find ourselves today?

Senator Guingona. About 150,000, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. How many are there now in the Reserved Force of the Philippines that belong to the first category — meaning 20 years old up to not more than 35 years old?

Senator Guingona. Mr. President, about 150,000.

Senator Enrile. As of now?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. So we have already this, enough for the first reserved.

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. How about in the second category?

Senator Guingona. About 250,000, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. How about the last category?

Senator Guingona. I think about the same number — 250,000.

Senator Enrile. Given this situation and the very meager resources of the country, does not the Gentleman think that it is not a sound policy to continue training people when there is no need for it anyway?

Senator Guingona. First of all, it is a mandate of the Constitution that the concept of citizens army be implemented. Second, the finances of the present budgetary allocations for the Armed Forces of the Philippines, plus what is allocated for CAFGU, would have to be considered for the establishment of the citizens army.

Senator Enrile. Precisely, I am raising this issue, because there is a duplication in this area. We have the CAFGU, trainees, ROTC cadets, and CMTs that get into the reserved pool of the country, which all entail financial resources, and so we might just be wasting money in training people when there is no need for it. Why do we not stagger this training so that we can economize from our money costs in this area? Does not the Gentleman think that that would be a better policy, Mr. President?

Senator Guingona. Yes, the plan would envision a phasing out of the regular Armed Forces as the citizens army training increases proportionately, all within the constraints of logistical and budgetary considerations.

Senator Enrile. But since we have, at any given time, mobilizeable force of 150,000 in the first category, why should we not now start the attrition of the regular force, if that is the policy embodied in this particular measure? What is the point in continuing a training program and maintaining a force of about 170,000 force? This is exclusive of the CAFGU.

Senator Guingona. Yes, but part of this will go to the PNP and considerably reduce the regular armed forces.

Senator Enrile. The PC numbers about, I think, 50,000.

Senator Guingona. Sixty thousand.

Senator Enrile. Sixty thousand, out of a force of 170,000. So, we still have 110,000.

Senator Guingona. Yes, and we cannot reduce the regular soldiers without worrying about the absorption into the civilian stream. They have to be productive. Therefore, there has to be a separate piece of legislation to enable them to undergo training so that they will be useful citizens learning some craft, other than holding a gun and shooting.

Senator Enrile. We have already initiated that a long time ago — training program for members of the enlisted personnel of the military before they are mustered out of the service. In fact, if we will study the policies adopted then, we use military trainees in Mindanao. After six months training, some were extended for another six months, others were extended for one year up to a maximum of two years. After which, they were mustered out of



the service. And before they were mustered out of the service, they were given vocational training to help them.

**Senator Guingona.** I am glad to hear that. And so, the phaseout may be implemented more speedily in the light of that assertion.

**Senator Enrile.** I do not know the policies of the present administration now, whether they have followed the concepts that we have adopted in the past. But, what I am saying is that, I think, it is time for us to review our policies in this area because we keep on training people, spending money. We might not have any use for this trained personnel later on, and they could become a ready source of trained personnel for those who may wish to challenge the authority of our government. I think, it is not farfetched to say that some of those who were being used against the government, against the State, and against our soldiery were products of our training efforts.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, that is the experience recently. That is why we would like to correct that.

**Senator Enrile.** After all, we are already training enough college students who probably would want to fight the enemies of the country, whether from inside or outside, since they are the ones who would lose more if the enemies of our country would succeed, instead of training our farmers to fight the worse for us.

**Senator Guingona.** The concept would still maintain a small corps of regular armed forces.

**Senator Enrile.** There is no question about that, but, I think, that is more of a wish than a reality that could be reached at any foreseeable future because we have been planning a streamlined military organization for years and years, running over decades and the organization continues to bloat every year. We can see in the budget of the military organization the "added personnel." I do not know what is the additional personnel for the current year of 1990. I think it is 4,000 for the entire AFP or only for the army. That only shows that instead of reducing our personnel, as the distinguished Gentleman envisioned, every year we are providing it in the budget. Maybe, what we should do is to trim down the budget by stopping the training program in the meantime.

**Senator Guingona.** That is a question of policy, whether to maintain a large armed force or to reduce the same and, in the process, have the savings allocated instead to a civilian army. We are just following the mandate of the Constitution.

**Senator Enrile.** The distinguished Gentleman talks of the citizens army similar to that of Israel or that of Switzerland. Does the Gentleman think that we can follow the practice in Switzerland where we allow our citizens, who are going to be part of the national army, to keep their guns in their homes? That is the essence of a real citizens army. Because if we mobilize them, what are they going to use to fight with, *kampilan*, *balisong*, or *badang*?

**Senator Guingona.** Each nation has its own culture. When we speak of citizens army, we do not follow literally the things that we should not follow. There is a way of having training. In 1948, I understand, the distinguished Gentleman trained in Floridablanca, and he did not carry the gun, which he used in training, with him to the civilian office.

**Senator Enrile.** That is true, Mr. President, we were provided with firearms by the government to train with. What I am saying is: Once we are impressed into the reserves, then we are a part of an army. But what are we going to use, if we are going to the colors?

**Senator Guingona.** It is when they are mobilized or when they are given guns. I recall that the distinguished Gentleman was sergeant, I think.

**Senator Enrile.** I was a sergeant in the guerrillas. I was a sergeant in the reserves. Until now, I am a sergeant.

**Senator Guingona.** I mean, in the Floridablanca training.

**Senator Enrile.** But I was saluted by generals, Mr. President. [Laughter]

**Senator Guingona.** He was a sergeant, I was a corporal. [Laughter]

**Senator Enrile.** The distinguished Gentleman will probably salute me, if we are called to the colors.

Anyway, what I am trying to point out is if we want really to develop a true citizens army in the country, then we must select the people who will become members of the reserved force, either because of their physical capabilities and their moral fitness, and entrust them with the weapons of war that they are trained to fight with, like the citizens army that we know of in other countries. Switzerland is a classic case. The trained members of the reserves bring their guns, including the ammunition, in their homes, and they keep them in their homes. So that if they are called to fight a war inside their country or outside of their country, they do not have to bother the supply sergeants with uniforms, handkerchiefs, boots, pouches, ammunitions and guns. They have them ready, and they are ready to go to war. Can we do that?

**Senator Guingona.** That is the ideal, Mr. President.

**Senator Enrile.** Not an ideal, it is a fact.

**Senator Guingona.** It is a fact for other countries. But, whether we can do so — and we should do so — that is another question. As a matter of fact, when they are mobilized, that is the time they are given the guns.

**Senator Enrile.** That was the problem in the last war. The distinguished Gentleman did not fight in Bataan. But some of our friends fought in Bataan without any gun, although they were

members of the citizens army of our Commonwealth Government then. I do not think we should allow a repetition of the same thing. That is why we should really rethink our position, because what is being advocated in this country as a citizens army is not really a citizens army. It is just a pool of trained people without anything to fight with.

**Senator Guingona.** The process of having a citizens army is not to get everyone. As a matter of fact, the bill itself states who would constitute it.

**Senator Enrile.** What is the difference between a trained citizen in the art of war and an untrained one, unless we give a gun to the trained one? There is none.

**Senator Guingona.** A citizen who has undergone training need not go to bed with his gun when he goes into civilian life. As long as the training is adequate, as long as the training is periodic enough, I think he can be a good member of a citizens army.

**Senator Enrile.** How long a time does the Gentleman think would be needed to really train a civilian to become proficient in the art of war, so that he can be considered as a part of an effective army of the people? Six months?

**Senator Guingona.** I would have wanted every year, at least.

**Senator Enrile.** A yearly training.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes. But under the bill, every three years, because of the budgetary constraints.

**Senator Enrile.** And the initial training would still be maintained at six months.

**Senator Guingona.** The initial training, yes.

**Senator Enrile.** Six months, just to gain proficiency in squeezing the trigger and aiming the gun, and, maybe, crawling and marching.

**Senator Guingona.** I think it is more sophisticated than that.

**Senator Enrile.** Then, the Gentleman would want a mobilization every year or every three years?

**Senator Guingona.** There is a refresher course periodically, every three years.

**Senator Enrile.** How long will that refresher course be, 30 days active duty training?

**Senator Guingona.** Thirty days plus one week of active field exercise.

**Senator Enrile.** All I can tell the Gentleman is I wish him the best of luck in his measure.

**Senator Guingona.** Thank you.

**The President.** All right. Is there any further questioning?

**Senator Tamano.** Mr. President.

**The President.** Senator Tamano, the Chairman of the Committee on National Defense in the Commission on Appointments is recognized.

**Senator Tamano.** I am very much interested in this bill, not just because I am the Chairman of the Committee on National Defense in the Commission on Appointments, but I happen to be a Lieutenant Colonel in the reserve. I have served also in the guerrilla.

**Senator Guingona.** So, Senator Enrile and this Representation will have to salute him.

**Senator Tamano.** I would like to direct questions to the distinguished Majority Floor Leader, who is sponsoring this bill, in order to gain some ideas on how this bill will operate with respect to reserve officers, who would be involved in this bill.

**Senator Guingona.** With pleasure, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** There are presently reserve officers serving in the active service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Is that correct?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** These reserve officers in the active service of the Armed Forces, are not included in this group, are they?

**Senator Guingona.** They are not included.

**Senator Tamano.** This bill, if I understand it correctly, is for the purpose of creating a pool of citizen soldiers who would be trained to serve in case of an emergency. Is that correct?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** In the case of a citizen soldier who has served training under this bill, if it becomes a law, he is called to active duty in the Armed Forces of the Philippines on a regular basis. In other words, he is made to command a unit of the Armed Forces; that is a different story.

**Senator Guingona.** To command a reserve unit.

**Senator Tamano.** No, a line company or a battalion or a regiment or what. How does this operate with respect to him? He would be outside the purview of this office that is going to be organized. Is that the idea?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, there will be a reserve man, and those who are called will have their own units but within the reserve command.

**Senator Tamano.** I am not speaking of the reserve command. I am speaking of officers who have been called to serve in the regular military service. Are they not included in this?

**Senator Guingona.** They are not included.

**Senator Tamano.** So, what the Gentleman is only concerned with in this bill are those citizens who are inducted into the reserve force and are given periodic training in order to be prepared for any eventuality. Is that correct?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** Under the present situation, do we not have this pool of reserves already existing?

**Senator Guingona.** We do not have. We have on paper, paper organization which has not been updated, which has not been followed through. As I said, it is like a reserve flat tire which is really not a reserve force, because when an emergency comes, we cannot rely on them.

**Senator Tamano.** What is the reason for that when under existing rules and regulations of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, they have what they call "annual active duty." Is it not that even to be called to annual active duty training is a sort of a *palakasan*, and only those who are close to the powers that be are called for active-duty training? Is that the situation now?

**Senator Guingona.** No. The deficiency in the present system is that there is no mandate; there is no law. It is only pursuant to a Commonwealth Act that the military had this periodic training. And since there had been limited funds, they discontinued such training.

**Senator Tamano.** Yes. That is why, I am trying to point out that under the present system, if one is a reserve officer, he cannot just be called.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, he cannot.

**Senator Tamano.** Because it is really a matter of *palakasan*. There are no existing rules and regulations which would either compel the Armed Forces to call him to active duty. And so, a reserve officer who wants to serve in the army is really at the mercy of the military system or the Armed Forces of the Philippines at present?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** In this bill that the Gentleman is trying to pass would he be able to eliminate that *palakasan* system or haphazard or random selection of officers to serve in the active force?

**Senator Guingona.** We hope to do that because under this concept the mandate is for the reserves to have their own composite unit.

**Senator Tamano.** My understanding of the Gentleman's bill is that, although there is a reserve command, it is just a nucleus of

a command that will continually train and demobilize these trainees after a very short period.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, that is the concept.

**Senator Tamano.** But many of our reserve officers want to serve in the active service not just for three months or six months or one year, but they want to make it a lifetime career. How do we take care of these officers?

**Senator Guingona.** That is taken care of by those who want to make the Armed Forces a regular profession, a career. This is different because this takes into account those who do not want to make the Armed Forces as their main occupation, but they would have to undergo periodic training just in case, and they would have their own units.

**Senator Tamano.** This is an organization for the purpose of putting into some sort of military training those who would constitute the reserve; and they would be periodically called to active duty to update their training in order that, at any time, if they are called in an emergency, they can serve with some competence. In other words, their knowledge of military tactics would not have been obsolete. So, it is a continuous training of those who constitute the reserve.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** This organization that the Gentleman is trying to create is not just for men but also for women. Is that correct?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** Because there are some women who are already in the auxiliary forces.

May I also inquire, how this reserve command would link up with the Reserve Officers Training Corps of the colleges and universities?

**Senator Guingona.** They would be the ones to administer the ROTC training.

**Senator Tamano.** I thought, Mr. President, the administration of the training will be through the reserve command.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, through the reserve command.

**Senator Tamano.** And that the ROTC is a specialized branch dealing particularly with college students only.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** So the reserve command would be taken care of for training people who have either passed through the ROTC training course or may have been trained elsewhere, having been, maybe, a demobilized soldier from the active Armed Forces of the Philippines, or have had military training elsewhere.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, but the reserve command would

also have the supervision over the ROTC, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** As pointed out by the Minority Floor Leader, to what extent can we reduce the active military force that we have now? I understand that we have something like 250,000 which is quite a heavy drain on our budget.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, perhaps, this would be a question of proportion. If we have enough reserves, then the national regular armed forces could be reduced from the present size to say, 50,000.

**Senator Tamano.** Because if we have a large reserve command, we will have to further increase the budget of the military, instead of reducing it.

**Senator Guingona.** We will have to work within the constraints of the present budget.

**Senator Tamano.** In that case, we are not achieving our purpose of reducing the military budget or reducing the army.

**Senator Guingona.** That is only a transition period. Eventually, it will be reduced because the reserve forces do not get the salaries or compensation when they are no longer called for mobilization or when they are not undergoing training.

**Senator Tamano.** That is true. But how many does he contemplate to be under training at any one time?

**Senator Guingona.** Sufficient to be supported by the funds, it is 10,000; then 10,000 will have to undergo the training. That is only for periodic training, let us say, every six months or every three months.

**Senator Tamano.** They will be training, at any one time, 10,000 people.

**Senator Guingona.** As I said, that depends on the budgetary constraints.

**Senator Tamano.** Precisely, what we want to do is to support this program; but at the same time, we want to be shown a way whereby the budget of the Armed Forces could be reduced by telling us that these 10,000 under training will spend only so much, but they could fill in the gap in the Armed Forces, if necessary. Could we demobilize, in other words, 10,000 from the Armed Forces because we have 10,000 under training?

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, if they are only properly trained. I am referring to the regular armed forces, the regular soldiers. We cannot just demobilize them now and have a social problem of unemployment. So, we want at least to train them so that we can demobilize them, and train as many as possible citizens' armed forces.

**Senator Tamano.** The way I see it, if we will demobilize an equal number, we will be maintaining the same number in the standing army but at the same time adding additional overhead by

having 10,000 people under training. That is what I am trying to point out.

**Senator Guingona.** No, this is only for the training. When they are no longer in training, they do not get any compensation. They are not paid if they are not members of the regular forces.

**Senator Tamano.** Yes, we understand that. But the reserve command at any one time, according to the Gentleman, will have 10,000 men in uniform under training in the military camp.

**Senator Guingona.** The reserved command will only have nucleus cadres. It will not have a large corps.

**Senator Tamano.** I understand that also, but I am speaking of these reserves under training. I am trying to find out how many at any one time will be under training by the reserved command which necessarily is a small training group.

I ask for a one-minute suspension, Mr. President.

#### SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

**The President.** All right. The session is suspended for one long minute, if there is no objection. *[There was none.]*

*It was 6:55 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

*At 7:00 p.m., the session was resumed.*

**The President.** The session is resumed.

**Senator Tamano.** During the suspension, we had some consultation with Colonel Ganzon who is the President of the Reserve Officers Legion of the Philippines. We have some idea on how the citizens army will take shape. We would like the vision of the Majority Floor Leader, as proponent of the bill, put into the *Record* on how it will affect the reduction of the personnel component of the Regular Army. Because, that is our idea that we could have a smaller but better trained armed forces in the active service.

**Senator Guingona.** As soon as there is a sufficient number of trained citizens soldiers, say, several battalions comprising a brigade within a span of ten months, there could be a proportionate reduction of the regular Armed Forces, to that extent.

**Senator Tamano.** So, in other words, the creation of the citizens army is a prudent way of reducing the active armed forces and at the same time, being able to call the reserve in case there is a need for them to be in uniform.

**Senator Guingona.** Yes, Mr. President.

**Senator Tamano.** Thank you, Mr. President.

**Senator Guingona.** Mr. President, if there are no interpellations, I move that....

Senator Enrile. Mr. President.

The President. Senator Enrile is recognized.

Senator Enrile. May I just ask additional questions of the distinguished Sponsor?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. In the Gentleman's visualization of this citizens army, does he envision not only the training of adequate reserves, especially in the first category? But, equally, does the Gentleman envision the stocking of supplies like firearms or assault rifles, uniforms, and ammunitions that could be utilized by the reserves in case of actual mobilization?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President. That is part of the mobilization stock.

Senator Enrile. What would be the most ideal, in the Gentleman's opinion, the number of mobilizable battalions as part of their reserves? Let us take the case of the Philippine Army: How many battalions, in his opinion, would be necessary to be maintained and equipped for the Philippine Army as a mobilizable force in the event of an actual need?

Senator Guingona. Usually, one battalion per province.

Senator Enrile. One battalion per province. Is it the concept that these battalions would be deployed in the provinces? Or are they going to be brought together into a maneuver regiment, brigade, or division? Or would he rather that they be scattered by provinces within the region?

Senator Guingona. Within the region, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. Within the region. So, that means that we will have to maintain 73 battalions for the Philippine Army alone.

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. What would be the fill-up for each battalion?

Senator Guingona. About 600.

Senator Enrile. Six hundred — that will be, approximately, how many warm bodies?

Senator Guingona. Ilan iyon?

Senator Enrile. It is about 48,000. Let us say, 40,000. Will we have to provide them with assault rifles?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. Including uniforms already?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. If we are going to use provincial mobilization centers, would the firearms be kept in the provinces or would they be kept in the regional headquarters?

Senator Guingona. Regional Commands.

Senator Enrile. Including the ammunitions?

Senator Guingona. Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. How much appropriation does the Gentleman think would this entail per battalion to equip them with assault rifles, a basic load, plus ammunition supply of, let us say, P300 per head, plus uniforms, plus all their equipment, including their transports and communications? I suppose, what would be the cost of maintaining a battalion reserve such as we envisioned here?

Senator Guingona. I understand, about P4 million, Mr. President. Four million pesos each.

Senator Enrile. Four million each? I do not think that that will be enough. I do not know the costings now, but I think the figures should be much higher than that.

Senator Guingona. It could be a little higher, but that is the educated estimate, Mr. President.

Senator Enrile. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. All right. Why do we not suspend consideration of this bill?

Senator Guingona. Yes. If there are no further interpellations, I move that we close the period of interpellations.

The President. Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, the motion is approved.

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 88

Senator Guingona. Mr. President, I move that we suspend consideration of this measure.

The President. Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, the motion is approved.

Senator Guingona. In view of the lateness of the hour, unless—we still have one bill. But, I understand from the reaction of our Colleagues that they would prefer that we adjourn. I move that we adjourn until two thirty tomorrow afternoon.

#### ADJOURNMENT OF THE SESSION

The President. The session is adjourned until two-thirty tomorrow afternoon, if there is no objection. [There was none.]

It was 7:08 p.m.