

**[ LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS NO. 597, September  
09, 1977 ]**

**CREATING AN INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE TO FORMULATE AND  
IMPLEMENT AN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR MOUNT  
ARAYAT AND IMMEDIATE VICINITY.**

TO: ALL CONCERNED

WHEREAS, our history is replete with records of the revolutionary struggle of the Filipino people for the improvement of their political, economic and social life;

WHEREAS, the contemporary Filipino, seeking no less the uplift of the country, is likewise imbued with the same revolutionary zeal for change, striving to realize this change through revolutionary but peaceful means;

WHEREAS, the New Society with its program of reforms, has provided the encouragement and the impetus for the Filipinos to pursue these changes so that they may realize their dreams, hopes and aspirations for a better life;

WHEREAS, Mount Arayat in Pampanga has been the nursery of some of these revolutionary struggles;

WHEREAS, it is deemed desirable to embark on a program of development for Mount Arayat and its environs for the primary purpose of establishing the area as the monument to the revolutionary spirit of the Filipino people and of the socio-economic reforms that has been undertaken for the upliftment of the masses, especially under the New Society;

WHEREAS, in order to achieve this end there is a need to create an inter-agency task force to formulate and coordinate the planning and implementation of an integrated development plan for Mount Arayat and its immediate vicinity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution, do hereby order the following:

1. It shall be the objective of the Government to develop Mount Arayat and its immediate vicinity and to build it as the symbol and embodiment of the programs of change designed to improve the socio-economic condition of the area and the quality of life of its residents under the New Society;
2. There is hereby created a task force to implement a program of development for Mount Arayat as envisioned composed of various government agencies involved in rural development.

The members of the task force are the following:

- (a) NEDA Regional Director for Region III—Chairman
- (b) Dr. Fortunator Battad, Sr., President of Pampanga Agricultural College—Co-Chairman and Project Coordinator
- (c) Regional Director of the Department of Agriculture— Member
- (d) Regional Director of the Department of Natural Resources—Member

- (e) Regional Director of the Department of Agrarian Reform— Member
- (f) Regional Director of the Department of Local Government and Community Development—Member
- (g) Regional Director of the Department of Education and Culture—Member
- (h) Regional Director of the Department of Public Highways—Member
- (i) Regional Director of the Department of Public Works, Transportation and Communication—Member
- (j) Regional Director of Kabataang Barangay—Member
- (k) Regional Director of the National Irrigation Administration—Member
- (l) Provincial Governor of Pampanga—Member

The heads of departments, agencies and offices herein mentioned shall extend all possible support for the Task Force.

3. The Task Force will be supported by a National Advisory Committee composed of the Presidential Executive Assistant, Dr. Waldo S. Perfecto, EDPITAF Executive Director, the Budget Commissioner, and the Provincial Governor of Pampanga.
4. The Task Force is hereby authorized to call government agency or instrumentality thereof to provide such assistance as may be necessary for the Task Force to carry out its functions effectively. (A list of these agencies is attached.) The Presidential Management Staff shall act as the Secretariat for the Task Force to monitor the execution of the above programs.
5. The Mayors of Magalang and Arayat and other leaders of the communities within the area are called upon to support this project.
6. Implementing agencies involved are hereby authorized to utilize any savings they maintain for CY 1977 to fund the implementation and the operation of projects identified under this program. The Budget Commission shall ensure that savings of these agencies are correctly certified and disbursed against such identified projects. The Budget Commission shall further ensure that funding requirement for CY 1978 and annually thereafter shall be incorporated in the respective annual budgets of the concerned agencies.
7. The following projects are identified as top priority and the Committee shall work out a program for their early implementation:

A. Infrastructure and Utilities

1. Quitangil River Control
2. Irrigation Projects

- \* San Nicolas, Arayat Communal Irrigation Project
- \* San Agustin, Magalang Communal Irrigation Project
- \* Pampanga Agricultural College Dam Irrigation System

3. Magalang-Arayat Road, Barangay Roads, and the PAC Road Network and Bridge
4. PAC water, and power and artesian wells for Arayat and Magalang
5. Power to barrios of Magalang and Arayat as well as for irrigation pumps.