

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 322, March 20, 1997]

AUTHORIZING CERTAIN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO UNDERTAKE ACTIVITIES IN PREPARATION FOR THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN 1997, 1998 AND 1999

WHEREAS, several offices/agencies have been established by the First Philippine Government under President Emilio Aguinaldo during the 22 March 1897 Tejeros Convention; 17 April 1897 Naic Assembly; in President Aguinaldo's 23 June 1898 Proclamation; and the Proclamation of President Aguinaldo as President by the First Philippine Congress on 23 January 1899;

WHEREAS, these offices/agencies include the Philippine Army created on 22 March 1897 during the Tejeros Convention; the Ministries of War, Interior, Finance, and Justice (now the Departments of National Defense, Interior and Local Government, Finance and Justice), created on 17 April 1897 during the Naic Assembly; Department of Foreign Affairs, Navy and Commerce (now the Philippine Navy and Department of Trade and Industry, respectively), Public Works, Education and Hygiene (now Departments of Public Works, Education Culture and Sports and Health, respectively); Agriculture and Manufacturing (now Department of Agriculture) created through the 23 June 1898 Proclamation of President Emilio Aguinaldo; Department of Communication (now Department of Transportation and Communications) created during the 20 January 1899 Ratification of the Malolos Constitution; and the Office of the President created during the 23 January 1899 Official Proclamation of the Presidency of President Emilio Aguinaldo by the First Philippine Congress;

WHEREAS, to ensure the successful celebration of the 100th Founding Anniversary of these agencies and to heighten awareness on the significance of these centennials, there is need to supplement the efforts of the National Centennial Commission (NCC) by creating a body in the respective agencies which shall initiate plans and programs, coordinate with multi-sectoral components from business, education, culture and media, and oversee the successful implementation and completion of their respective Centennial Celebrations; and,

WHEREAS, Administrative Order No. 263 dated 26 March 1996 authorizes the grant of anniversary bonuses to government personnel of agencies which are celebrating milestone anniversaries, which shall be sourced from their respective savings from released allotment for operating expenditures.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order as follows:

Section 1. Agency Centennial Celebrations. The Departments of National Defense, Interior and Local Government, Finance, Trade and Industry, Justice,