

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 165, December 08, 1994]

CONSTITUTING A NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF BESSANG PASS, ILOCOS SUR ON 12 MAY – 14 JUNE 1995

WHEREAS, The period May 12 to June 14, 1995, marks the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Bessang Pass in Ilocos Sur which was signalled the beginning of the end of Japanese resistance in the Philippines during the World War II;

WHEREAS, this event should be appropriately observed to promote, preserve and memorialize the principles, ideals and deeds of Filipino military veterans as a means of enhancing patriotism and love of country, especially among the youth of the land;

WHEREAS, the commemoration of this event should be focused on the values of freedom and lasting peace for which Filipino war veterans fought valiantly, many of whom paid the ultimate sacrifice;

WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate all activities that are envisioned to foster nationalism among Filipinos, particularly with that of the National Centennial Commission, which was created pursuant to E.O. 128, dated October 4, 1993, to act as the principal coordinator for all activities related to the Centennial Celebrations of the Philippine Independence.

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:

SECTION 1. Creation of a National Executive Committee. There is hereby constituted a National Executive Committee on the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Battle of Bessang Pass hereinafter referred to as the Committee, to be composed of the following:

- (1) The Secretary of National Defense, as Chairman
- (2) The Secretary of Tourism, as Vice-Chairman
- (3) The Secretary of Foreign Affairs;
- (4) The Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports;
- (5) The Secretary of Interior and Local Government;
- (6) The Secretary of Transportation and Communications;
- (7) The Secretary of Public Works and Highways;
- (8) The Secretary of Budget and Management;
- (9) The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources;
- (10) The Secretary of Finance;
- (11) Press Secretary;
- (12) Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines;
- (13) Chief, Philippine National Police;
- (14) Administrator, Philippine Veterans Affairs Office;
- (15) Chairman, National Historical Institute;