

# [ VOL. IV, September 20, 1986 ]

## R.C.C. NO. 88

Saturday, September 20, 1986

### OPENING OF SESSION

*At 9:51 a.m., the Vice-President, the Honorable Ambrosio B. Padilla, opened the session.*

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: The session is called to order.

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: Everybody will please rise to sing the National Anthem.

*Everybody rose to sing the National Anthem.*

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: Everybody will please remain standing for the Prayer to be led by the Honorable Bernardo M. Villegas.

*Everybody remained standing for the Prayer.*

### PRAYER

MR. VILLEGAS: Almighty God, You sent Your only begotten Son Jesus Christ to bring peace to this world. He is our Prince of Peace. For the past few days, we have been especially remembering the peace that still eludes mankind. Teach us to be the men and women of goodwill to whom peace was promised by the angels who announced the birth of the Redeemer.

We know that to be of goodwill, we must love You with all our heart, with all our strength and with all our mind. You gave us the acid test for loving You above all things. With divine succinctness, You said: "If you love me, keep my commandments." Keeping Your commandments, Lord, requires constant struggle. Peace can be attained only if each of us wages a war against his own greed, sensuality and pride. You have made it clear that the true freedom of man is found in the liberation from the radical slavery of personal sin.

Sometimes we look for scapegoats. We talk about evil structures, about iniquitous institutions, about social sin. But as we look into our inner selves with utmost sincerity, we realize that in the final analysis, evil comes from the heart of man. You said that "out of the heart come evil thoughts murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander and blasphemy." Please remove the scales from our eyes so we can see that only a personal conversion can bring us that peace and joy that You — as a good Father — are eager to give us.

Our task of writing a constitution is not yet over. We entertain no illusion that the rest of the way will be less tortuous. We pray that You continue to illumine our minds and strengthen our will so that, despite the inevitable clash of opinions, we can be the first to set an example for our people in achieving truth, justice, fraternity and love. Above all, let us be exemplary in being at peace with ourselves by waging that spiritual battle against the threefold concupiscence of which St. John

spoke: the concupiscence of the flesh, the concupiscence of the eyes and the pride of life. That inner peace will make possible our being at peace with those around us. This we ask You through Your Son Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

#### ROLL CALL

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: The Secretary-General will call the roll.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, *reading*:

Abubakar	Present <sup>*</sup>	Natividad	Present <sup>*</sup>
Alonto	Present <sup>*</sup>	Nieva	Present
Aquino	Present	Nolledo	Present <sup>*</sup>
Azcuna	Present <sup>*</sup>	Ople	Present
Bacani	Present <sup>*</sup>	Padilla	Present
Bengzon	Present <sup>*</sup>	Quesada	Present <sup>*</sup>
Bennagen	Present	Rama	Present
Bernas	Present	Regalado	Absent
Rosario Braid	Present	Reyes de los	Present
Calderon	Present	Rigos	Present
Castro de	Present	Rodrigo	Present
Colayco	Present	Romulo	Present
Concepcion	Present	Rosales	Absent
Davide	Present	Sarmiento	Present <sup>*</sup>
Foz	Present	Suarez	Present
Garcia	Present <sup>*</sup>	Sumulong	Present
Gascon	Present	Tadeo	Present
Guigona	Present	Tan	Present
Jamir	Present	Tingson	Present
Laurel	Absent	Treñas	Present
Lerum	Present <sup>*</sup>	Uka	Present
Maambong	Present	Villacorta	Present <sup>*</sup>
Monsod	Present	Villegas	Present
Munoz Palma	Present <sup>*</sup>		

The roll call shows 31 Members responded to the call.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: The Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

MR. CALDERON: Mr. Vice-President.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: The Assistant Floor Leader is recognized.

MR. CALDERON: I move that we dispense with the reading of the Journal of yesterday's session.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

## APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

MR. CALDERON: Mr. Vice-President, I move that we approve the Journal of yesterday's session.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none, the motion is approved.

MR. CALDERON: Mr. Vice-President, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Secretary-General will read the Reference of Business.

## REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

*The Secretary-General read the following Resolution on First Reading and Communications, the Vice-President making the corresponding references:*

### RESOLUTION

Proposed Resolution No. 546, entitled:

RESOLUTION URGING THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION TO AGREE TO CONCLUDE ITS WORK SOONEST BUT IN NO CASE LATER THAN OCTOBER 15, 1986.

Introduced by Honorable Ople, Maambong, Rama, de los Reyes, Jr., Rigos, Bengzon, Jr., Jamir, Padilla, de Castro, Regalado, Colayco, Romulo, Monsod, Tingson, Treñas, Rodrigo, Concepcion, Lerum, Villegas, Uka, Bacani and Guingona.

To the Steering Committee.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Communications seeking the inclusion in the Constitution of a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception, from:

1) Ms. Ma. Intes Bettina D. Lumain of 35 Chicago Tech., University Hills, Malabon, Metro Manila, and seventy-four other students of the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City.

(Communication No. 932 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

2) Ms. Carmen G. Diaz de Ventanilla and one hundred seventeen other professors and employees of the University of the Philippines.

(Communication No. 933 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

3) Ms. Luzviminda A. Bando, 345 Pepin St., Sampaloc, Manila, and one hundred ten other students from De Ocampo Memorial College, University of the Philippines, and Maryknoll College.

(Communication No. 934 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

4) Sister Fidela Ramoso of the Carmelite Monastery at Subic, Zambales, and one hundred twenty-one other concerned citizens with their respective addresses.

(Communication No. 935 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

5) Ms. Cecilia B. Hizon and five other concerned citizens.

(Communication No. 936 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Preamble, National Territory, and Declaration of Principles.

Communications urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution the provision that the separation of the Church and State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines, from:

1) Rev. Noe B. Talagtag and twenty-six (26) other signatories, Pigcawayan Evangelical Alliance Church, Pigcawayan, Cotabato.

(Communication No. 937 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

2) Pastor Ponciano G. Undag, Sr. and twenty-three (23) other signatories, Grace Church of Christ, Incl. 91-L Aguadas and Laurel Streets, Ozamiz City.

(Communication No. 938 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

3) Free Methodist Church  
Bangonay, Jabonga  
Agusan del Norte

(Communication No. 939 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

4) Rev. Bartolome Bagni  
Pentecostal Bible College  
Mabini St., San Fernando, La Union

(Communication No. 940 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

5) Pastor Joel Dumapit and twenty-two (22) other signatories, Miracle Christian Center, 141-A East Rembo, Fort Bonifacio, Makati, Metro Manila

(Communication No. 941 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communications calling for foreign military bases-free and nuclear-free provisions in the Constitution of the Philippines, from:

1) Mr. Lutgardo Juscales, Jr. and one thousand four hundred ninety-four other signatories, Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom and Democracy (NAJFD), 5 Rosal Street, Cubao, Quezon City

(Communication No. 942 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

2) Ms. Maria Lisa Dacanay and four thousand six hundred eleven other signatories, Nationalist Alliance for Justice, Freedom and Democracy (NAJFD), 5 Rosal Street, Cubao, Quezon City

(Communication No. 943 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Preamble, National Territory and Declaration of Principles.

Communication from the Samahan Taga-Sa-Panahon, Candelaria, Quezon, requesting the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution provisions providing support for the National Elderly Association, the association of senior citizens of our country, just as it had given our youth primary, importance in their education.

(Communication No. 944 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Social Justice.

Communication signed by seventy (70) Filipino professionals, veterans, businessmen, and residents of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, requesting the Constitutional Commission to incorporate and include in the Constitution provisions synchronizing national and local elections, limiting reelection to the same office to not more than two 4-year consecutive terms.

(Communication No. 945 — Constitutional Commission of 1986).

To the Steering Committee.

Letter from Mr. Jose Mabulay, Jr. and Fr. Nemie Angus, OFM, Justice and Peace Council, 29 Sacrepante Street, Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, submitting a position paper containing a description of the features of the concept of a "mechanism for selective objection," together with its rationale.

(Communication No. 946 — Constitutional Commission of 1986).

To the Committee on Amendments and Transitory Provisions.

Communication from the *Confederacion Nacional de Profesores de Español, Inc.*, signed, respectively, by its President and Secretary, Rosario Valdes-Lamug and Teresa Salazar, urging the Constitutional Commission to include Spanish as one of the official languages of the Philippines.

(Communication No. 947 — Constitutional Commission of 1986).

To the Committee on Human Resources.

Communication from Ms. Sol Rombuena, President, Immaculate Conception Cathedral Parish, Ozamiz City, requesting the Constitutional Commission to include in the Constitution a provision making religion a required subject in the public and private elementary and high schools.

(Communication No. 948 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Human Resources.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT: The Floor Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF  
PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 537  
(Article on the Declaration of Principles)  
*Continuation*