

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



GRIM CATCH Soldiers retrieve bodies of five fishermen that surfaced in the sea off Mariveles, Bataan. The fishermen were killed when their boats were swamped by furious waves induced by Typhoon "Basyang." Rescuers continue to scour the heavy seas in search for more fishermen whose boats capsized off Bataan, Catanduanes and Camarines Norte. **RAFFY LERMA**

BIR targets pawnbroker



IN LINE with the new dispensation, HK-bound Jose Miguel Arroyo, husband of Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and son Camarines Sur Rep. Dato Arroyo do not ask for VIP treatment and take their turn at the airport immigration counter on Thursday afternoon. (Story on Page A9)

He bought P26-M car but paid no income tax

By Ronnel W. Domingo

PRESIDENT AQUINO'S promised crackdown on tax evaders began yesterday. The owner of a popular pawnshop chain declared a zero income in the year he acquired a P26-million Lamborghini sports car.



NOT SO FAST! A 2006 Lamborghini Gallardo Spyder. Manufacturer's suggested retail price was \$195,000, according to Yahoo!Autos. A brand new 2010 Lamborghini Gallardo Spyder costs \$229,100.

William R. Villarica, sole proprietor of W Villarica Pawnshop, was named in a tax evasion case filed by the Bureau of Internal Revenue with the Department of Justice at the start of Mr. Aquino's drive to raise revenues in lieu of imposing taxes to cover a whopping P325-billion deficit that could put a damper on efforts to stimulate the economy.

"We find it to be not just criminal but perhaps immoral for a person that earns profits out of people in need of financial assistance, yet fails to do his one duty to the country and pay his proper taxes," BIR

'Basyang' death toll hits 37; 46 missing

By Jocelyn R. Uy, Inquirer Southern Luzon and Inquirer Central Luzon

RESCUERS RECOVERED five more bodies of fishermen killed when huge waves swamped their boats off the coast of Mariveles town in Bataan at the height of Typhoon "Basyang," raising the death toll to at least 37 people, with 46 others still missing.

Basyang (international code-

Meralco: Full power supply back today in Metro but . . .

By Amy R. Remo and Kristine L. Alave

POWER SUPPLY in Metro Manila and nearby provinces is expected to be fully restored today, two days after Typhoon "Basyang" plunged Luzon into darkness early Wednesday morning.

A Luzon-wide blackout was declared at 12:42 a.m. of Wednesday. The outage paralyzed not only water service in some areas that depend on motor pumps to draw water, but also the commuter train service

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

DPWH chief 'appoints' self to head MWSS

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Kristine L. Alave

IT APPEARS that Public Works Secretary Rogelio Singson could not wait for his boss to appoint him to head the body that regulates the private water concessionaire that he used to manage.

On his own, Singson, the former president and chief executive officer of Mayni-



NEW JOB Vice President Jejomar Binay is new housing czar. (Story on Page A12)



CHIEF PEACE NEGOTIATOR UP law dean Marvic Leonen explains his new role. **LYN RILLON**



EX-NEGROS Occ. Governor Lacson, a close Aquino family friend, now chairs GSIS. **NEW GSIS/A8**

New GSIS chair: Title or no title, I'm committed

By TJ Burgonio

DANIEL "BITAY" LACSON, a former governor of Negros Occidental and close friend of the Aquino family, is the new chair of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS).

"I have signed the appointment papers of the new chairman of GSIS, former Governor Lacson of Negros," President

President keeps hands off Palace pork

By Christian V. Esguerra

MALACANANG yesterday announced the issuance of Memorandum Order No. 1, reverting the "management and administration" of the President's Social Fund (PSF)—also known as the presidential pork barrel—to the Presidential Management Staff (PMS).

The order dated July 14 outlined ways under which Malacañang would handle the estimated P1-billion fund that is sourced mainly from earnings from Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor), the state gambling arm.

New head of peace panel with MILF: No surprises

By Christian V. Esguerra in Manila and Edwin O. Fernandez in Cotabato City

PRESIDENT AQUINO has assembled a new panel to negotiate peace with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), and ruled out at the outset the establishment of a separate territory that the secessionist group demanded during the Arroyo administration.

The President has instructed the new team to "review the past agreements and recommend how we can move forward cognizant of the limitations that both parties have to deal with." He said the government would learn from "the mistakes of the past."

Marvic Leonen, dean of the University of the Philippines College of Law and described as an expert in constitutional and



Noy: I'm no Barack, just a regular P-Noy

By TJ Burgonio

CAN YOU spare some *pasa-load*, Mr. President?

He may now be the country's most powerful man, but President Aquino says his first two weeks in office have hardly made him immune to some of the irritants of everyday life—like reckless motorists and "text scams."

That's why he would rather be considered the face of Juan de la Cruz than be flattered by comparisons with US President Barack Obama.

Mr. Aquino, whose popularity