

Editor's Notes

The first article by Emmanuel Lallana discusses the various interpretations of the February political revolution that resulted in the overthrow of the Marcos dictatorship. He argues that various sectors — from church to the military to the left to the Americans — have their own interpretations of the February events depending on their world view and class interests. Lallana's article locates "people power" in its proper context.

Ledivina Cariño suggests in her article various means by which "people's power" can be transformed into a lasting force to effect changes in society and the government. In the third article, Carolina Guina offers new vistas on how to re-orient the civil servants in the bureaucracy and make them participate in the general effort to implement the goals of the newly installed Aquino administration.

Gabriel Iglesias stresses the importance of local autonomy and how people at the grassroots level can truly become a potent force in the national decision-making processes. He posits that involving people and community organizations in the activities of the government also instills in them the interest and commitment needed for realizing the national development goal. By focusing in the health sector, Ma. Concepcion Alfiler lays down possible activities, e.g., financing and marketing schemes, which nongovernmental organizations could undertake to effectively plan and implement projects and programs on a self-help basis.

This issue features three documents. The first is the controversial Executive Order No. 17 which resulted in the summary dismissal of so-called undesirable government officials and employees. Reacting to the haphazard implementation of this executive order, the faculty and staff of the University of the Philippines College of Public Administration issued an appeal in support of the career civil servants. This is the second document in this issue. Finally, the "Principles of Reorganization" adopted by the Philippine Commission on Government Reorganization (PCGR) is featured. This document served as the blueprint of the PCGR in its overall task to streamline and reorganize the entire government bureaucracy.