

## Exchange Student Writes

# Philippine Wedding Goes on Despite the Blackout

(Editor's Note: Barbara Moffitt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Moffitt, is in the Philippines participating in the American Field Service American Aboard program this summer. Barbara has recorded some of her impressions of the Philippines, its life and people, for Press-Herald readers. She will return in September to Torrance High School, where she will be a senior.)

Hello again. This is my third Sunday in the Philippines. At the moment everyone is sitting around reading the paper (just like at home!). We won't go to mass until 4:30 because masses in the morning end at 8 o'clock (I think probably because the churches get so hot in the mid-morning). The mass (which is in Tagalog) is also said on Saturday for

those who can't make it on Sunday. Pretty good, no?

I attended a thrilling wedding the other night. Grace (my 15-year-old sister) was maid of honor so I attended with Cilirino Mabulas, the AFSSer going to Tennessee. Rainy season was in full swing by then and as we sat in the small church in downtown Lucena we heard the rain pelted down (and believe me, it sounds like a million stones hitting a tin roof when it falls) and the simultaneous thunder and lightning (which didn't make me feel too secure).

In the middle of the wedding, which was similar to most American Catholic weddings, a blackout hit! Every single light in the church, save two candles on the altar, went out amidst the loudest community groan I've ever heard. The wedding went on and when pictures were taken it was a regular light show!

The reception was also in the dark. We ate the wedding supper lighted by candles in Coke bottles. Very exciting.

NOW THAT the rainy season has started, it rains at least once a day. It's really nice because it keeps the temperature very cool. The only problem is that we can't go to the beach regularly. We went last Saturday and I fell in love with it. The place we went to is about a 20-minute drive and in a little fishing village that looks like something out of a National Geographic. The water is like bath water and so soft and pleasant to swim in, I was dumbfounded to find that most of the people in our party either didn't want to swim or couldn't. So I and a fellow who is a speech and drama professor at the University of Philippines (and considered rather

avante-garde) swam together for three hours without going back to the shade where all the other Filipinos were protecting their "sensitive" skin. We collected some really beautiful shells. I've never seen anything like them.

Which brings me to the subject of my current "crush" (that's what Thelma calls it). My first weekend in Lucena, Kuya Ed (29) was producing an amateur theatrical production "Tea and Sympathy" and I was an usherette. Anyway, the director, Behn Cervantes, was really neat. After Saturday night's performance, we all went to La Casita to eat and dance and I danced until about 1 o'clock.

THEN AFTERWARDS, all of us went to the botanical gardens; there's this round stage-like affair there and all of us sat around it and Behn gave us a one-man

show of Broadway songs. Then I sang a little (they think I sing well. The night was so lovely and the entire production was really like a dream. The next morning we went to the beach.

Behn sings so well that he's even scheduled to have his own TV show starting in April. That night the Abceces gave a cast party and since the DJ at the radio station is a good friend, he played straight soul for us to dance to until 4 a.m. What a life!

I'm going to stay with Thelma at her dorm at Dili-man (UP Manila) next weekend and Behn is taking us to the Manila beaches. I saw a Tagalog movie last week (Luhus sa Karimlan) that was filmed there and they looked gorgeous.

AFTER LAST weekend, this weekend was nothing... but still fun. Saturday night Grace and

I and two escorts were invited to dinner at a history teacher's house. I really got to ask about RFK then. The Filipinos are all devoted to the Kennedys. Their admirer was a Filipino I'd be in tion for them, I've found, is nothing short of adoration. It's really amazing.

By the way, skirts are just as short here as at home (if not shorter). When the Abceces saw my gree dress they insisted I shorten it. Looks a lot better now. Even my school uniforms are short. The hair styles are the same, too. I got my hair cut last week—it was the best it's ever looked and cost only 50 cents.

We registered for school last Monday. Most of my fourth year classmates are younger than I am (14 or 15) because grade school only goes up to grade 6. If I were second year college!

IT'S KIND of bad now be-

cause most of my friends are leaving for universities. Thelma left this morning. I hope I can make friends with the younger ones. Anyway, they all return on weekends so I'll study on week days. I'll be taking Filipino I. Philippine history, community life, government, and physical education. The others take eight classes so I'll really have plenty of free time. I'll also be on the staff of the school paper, "Coconut."

Did I tell you about the dress the Abceces made for me? The material is beautiful, pink, hand embroidered, and native. The pattern is simple A-line. I was measured for it Monday and it was finished Wednesday. And labor was only \$1.25. Before I leave, I think I'll have lots of clothes made. Shoes—good ones, too—are very cheap also.

This country operates on what they call "Philippine time." That is if you make

an appointment for 5, you usually arrive (if you are the punctual type) around 6:30. The 4:30 mass today started at 5:15. It's really great. Never any need to rush things.

THE BOYS here serenade, too! Several groups have asked to serenade me, but I can't be serenaded until I learn Tagalog songs. I'm in the process now. It's a difficult one although the songs are very lovely. I'm also learning to dance, which, as you probably would guess, isn't easy for me.

Tagalog is one of the most beautiful and uncomplicated languages I've ever encountered. They think I'm "magaling" (bright) because I've picked up a lot, but actually it's due to the simplicity of the language and also to the fact that at present I'm being left out of the lot of conversations.

Mahal Kita (I love you), Barb

## Burglary Suspect Arrested

Compton police have picked up a suspect in connection with July 19 burglary of Bernard's Men's store, 306 Avenue I, in which 30 men's suits were stolen.

Police arrested Ernestine Clark, 24, of Compton, following investigation into a routine disturbing-the-peace report. Compton police turned the suspect over to the Torrance police after they found a new Bernard's suit on the premises fitting the description of one of the stolen suits.

Mrs. Clark was also charged with possession of narcotics when police found a red capsule resembling seconal on the floor of the residence.

## License Renewal Date Set

Wednesday is the deadline to renew county public health licenses without penalty, Harold J. Ostly, county tax collector, said today.

Ostly said persons renewing their licenses after the deadline date will have to pay an additional 25 per cent penalty.

Owners of boarding houses, apartment houses with five or more units, restaurants, food markets, and other businesses requiring an annual health inspection must have a public health license.

## McCarthy Office To Open

A new area campaign headquarters for Senator Eugene McCarthy will be opened Sunday evening at Hermosa and Pier avenues in Hermosa Beach.

The office, to serve as the "nerve center" for the McCarthy campaign throughout the Southwest area, will be open 24 hours each day.

Peter Deuel, star of the television series "Love on a Rooftop," will host the opening.

## Deadline Set For Employers

Wednesday, July 31, is the deadline for filing California Unemployment Insurance wage reports and contribution returns for the second quarter of 1968. W. P. Nebergall, district tax administrator for the State Department of Employment in Long Beach, has reminded employers.

Employers who need help in preparing their returns and wage reports may contact the district office at 1315 Pine Ave., Long Beach.



NEW RTD LINE... Commuter Freeway Flyer Line 125 service, recently inaugurated by the Rapid Transit District, will make the trip from Redondo Beach to Ninth and Figueroa Streets in downtown Los Angeles in 50-55 minutes; another 10 minutes to the RTD Terminal at Sixth and Los Angeles Streets. The new commuter flyer shortens the trip time 20 minutes each way compared with previous bus service. Commuter Flyer Line 125 operates Monday through Friday with five morning inbound trips and five after-work-hours return trips. Taking part in the recent inaugural of the flyer service were, from left, Mrs. Diane Jenkins, Redondo Beach Mayor William Czuleger, City Manager Francis E. Hopkins, and RTD Director David K. Hayward.

## Ten Finalists Named for Miss Press Club Title

Ten Southland beauties will pass in review during the 1968 "Miss Press Club" finals and coronation dinner next Friday at the Greater Los Angeles Press Club.

Entertainers Eddie Fisher, Inger Stevens, and David Canary, and Cole of California executive Barbara Kelley, will join judging chairman Charles Champlin, entertainment editor of the Los Angeles Times, to select the new Miss Press Club.

Comedian Pat Buttram will serve as master of ceremonies and music for the event will be provided by Bill Wood and his Woodmen.

THE CORONATION dinner and final review is open to all Press Club members and to the general public. Tickets, \$8 per person, are available through the Greater Los Angeles Press Club, 600 N. Vermont Ave.

The 10 finalist, including several starlets and professional models, were selected from a field of 50 entrants during preliminary judging at the Press Club July 23.

All finalists will parade the stage twice Friday night, once in evening gowns and once in swim suits. Following the judging, each of the finalists will be awarded the fitted swim suits provided

for the occasion by Cole of California.

THE NEW Miss Press Club, who will represent the club in various roles throughout the year, will be crowned by her predecessor, Universal actress Eileen Wesson.

The winner will receive a number of prizes, including a three-day Las Vegas vacation, a gold watch, and dresses from Irene Kasner. She also will receive a 30-inch trophy provided by Press Club member Bev Roland.

FINALISTS, selected on a basis of pulchritude, person-

ality and poise, include: Sherry Alberoni of Westchester, Julia C. Blackburn of Granada Hills, Devon Blaine of West Hollywood, Gay Gordon of West Hollywood, Maurishka of West Hollywood, Leslie McRae of Sunset Strip, Tanya Morgan of Silverlake, Jami O'Riley of West Hollywood, and Pattie Walsh of Santa Monica.

The Greater Los Angeles Press Club is a professional association comprising 1,200 members representing all phases of the communications industry — newspapers, magazines, radio, television, advertising and public relations.

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## Expand College Rec. Program

The summer recreation program at Los Angeles Harbor College has been expanded to meet community needs during its second week of operation.

Facilities at the college will now be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. Saturday and Sunday hours run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Bob Myers and Janet Guddie have joined the original staff of Verne Kelsey and Gordon Wells. Miss Guddie, college dance instructor, is supervising a modern dance class Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Myers is in charge of recreation nights for the summer session school students and

the community starting Friday, July 12.

Using the fields and gymnasiums at the present time are members of the armed forces training for the Olympics, Pony League, Little League and American Legion ball teams, a slo-pitch league, volleyball and basketball leagues.

Many joggers are using the Harbor track. The equipment in the weight room is also available for individual use. Shower facilities are available but athletes must supply their own towels.

Local or community groups interested in individual or league competition are encouraged to get in touch with one of the coaches at the Harbor Gym, 835-0161.

## Hahn Urges Governor To Veto Judges Plan

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has urged Governor Reagan to veto a bill which would allow judges to stay on the bench past age 70 without loss of retirement benefits.

Hahn said Assembly Bill 113, introduced by Assemblyman James Hayes of Long Beach should be vetoed "in the interest of the sound administration of justice in California."

It would amend the Retirement Act which now requires a judge to retire at age 70 or lose valuable retirement benefits.

"Because of political pressure from the judiciary, it took many, many years of

hard work to get a law through to make mandatory retirement at age 70," Hahn said in a letter to the Governor.

"There had been cases in California where judges were senile and incompetent, yet no lawyer wanted to criticize them because of the obvious reason that a judge might take his wrath out on a lawyer that disagrees with him," he added. Hahn added the judges of California should be treated exactly like every other state and county employe.

"Age 70 is long enough for anyone to have worked," he said.



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