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APO SAN FRANCISCO 96301

The US Military Experience in Korea, 1871-1982:

In the Vanguard of ROK-US Relations

James P. Finley, Command Historian

Command Historian's Office, Secretary Joint Staff, Hqs, USFK/EUSA
APO San Francisco 96301
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62: note of return

New Philippine Senate president opposes U.S. bases

By Tom Breen
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

MANILA — Jovito Salonga, who was once jailed by former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos and later ran the government body that stalked the ousted leader's "hidden wealth," was chosen yesterday to head the new 24-member Philippine Senate.

The office of Senate president, traditionally treated with great respect, is considered a steppingstone to the presidency. Mr. Salonga himself was once a presidential contender.

The 67-year-old Mr. Salonga, a liberal, is considered pro-American on many issues but has gone on record opposing the presence of U.S. bases in the Philippines and favors a nuclear-free zone for Southeast Asia.

American diplomats based here had no comment last night on the Salonga appointment but are known to be exceedingly wary of his anti-bases position.

The U.S. operates two huge military installations here, Clark Air Base and the Subic Bay Naval Station, as well as several smaller operations.

A recent unofficial survey by newspapers showed that at least 12

of the new senators, including Mr. Salonga, are opposed to the presence of the bases in the archipelago.

Mr. Salonga, a Manila-trained lawyer with advanced law degrees from Harvard and Yale, was tortured by the Japanese during World War II while serving with the Philippine resistance. In 1971, he nearly died in a bomb attack on a Liberal Party rally. It left him deaf in one ear, blind in one eye and with 100 pieces of shrapnel lodged in his body.

Mr. Salonga was jailed for subversion by Mr. Marcos in 1980. He was released after nearly 40 days and fled to the United States, where he stayed four years working with anti-Marcos groups from his one-bedroom flat in Encino, Calif.

He returned to the country in 1985, regained control of the liberal bloc and was considering running for president against Mr. Marcos in February 1986 but rallied behind Mrs. Aquino. Friends say he still has presidential ambitions but doesn't talk about them much.

Being president of the Philippines is not "a case of life and death with me," he said earlier this month. Close friends, however, add that being president "is still his dream."

He is, however, a favorite of President Corazon Aquino. After his se-

lection by a caucus of the pro-Aquino bloc that will dominate the new Senate, Mr. Salonga said: "I pledge my full support in carrying out President Aquino's program for our people."

Until the Senate campaign last spring, he headed up the Presidential Commission on Good Government, the agency pursuing charges that Mr. Marcos had stashed away billions of dollars of government money.

Mr. Salonga, who fought Mr. Marcos with a passion, pursued the Marcos money with equal enthusiasm but grew weary toward the end, calling the job "heartbreaking, controversial and thankless."

Mr. Salonga was a top vote-getter in the May Senate race, as he was in the Senate races of 1965 and 1971. He was considered a leading candidate for president in the 1973 election but was thwarted when Mr. Marcos declared martial law a year earlier.

Mrs. Aquino remains staunchly loyal to Mr. Salonga, who was a lawyer for Benigno Aquino, a prime oppositionist and the president's slain husband.

"No blood on the wall at all," said Sen. Orly Mercado, also a television personality known for his toothpaste commercial, when asked about yesterday's vote of the new senators. "Most of us wanted Salonga."

In the Senate, at least 22 of the legislators will be part of the pro-Aquino bloc, although a few are expected to go their own way. Only movie star Joseph Estrada and possibly former Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile will represent the opposition. Mr. Enrile, although holding on to 23rd place as final votes continue to trickle in, remains to be declared an official winner.

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recommended by a Presidential commission that investigated the explosion of the Challenger and death of its seven crew members.

Proposal for an Escape System

The report summarized changes to the shuttle that had, for the most part, been reported in the press in the past year.

One of the commission's nine recommendations was that the space agency provide a crew escape system for level controlled flight. Astronauts always feared that if they had to ditch their craft in the ocean in an emergency return, the ship would break up on impact.

"A final decision to implement a space shuttle crew escape system has not been made," the report said. But, it added, "The jettisonable hatch modification has been approved and will be installed prior to the first flight."

Such a system would not have saved the Challenger crew. NASA said it was now evaluating the feasibility of a method to use while the solid-fuel rockets are thrusting in the first two minutes of flight.

Obstacle in Designing System

A major problem in designing any escape system is that it must assure that a crew member does not smash against the shuttle's wing upon leaving the cabin.

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The space agency said it had assessed several manual approaches for reducing that potential contact, including a "deployable tunnel" through which crew members would pass and an extendable rod or rope to guide the escaping astronaut.

There has been concentration, however, on a system to use ejection seats, rocket-powered extraction of seated astronauts, a bailout from the bottom and rocket-powered extraction through the side hatch.

A new ejection seat design, to hurl five crew members through a blow-away top of the shuttle hatch, would not be ready until the mid-1990's, the agency said. The same time period would be required to develop a rocket-powered system to remove up to six seated crew members.

In the "bottom bailout," a panel would be opened on the bottom of the orbiter to deploy a guide chute. The agency said those modifications could be done by 1989, but it would make too many changes in the vehicle.

The most likely concept, and the one NASA is working on, would be an escape through the side hatch using extractor rockets. Up to eight astronauts could get out that way in two minutes if the shuttle was in controlled gliding flight at 20,000 feet and a speed of 200 miles an hour.

The agency said the procedure would be to equalize the cabin pressure with that outside and to blow the hatch.

"Once the hatch is jettisoned, the crew moves to the hatch area and climbs onto a guide ramp," the report said. "Each crew member attaches a tractor rocket pendant to their parachute survival pack." The crew member fires the rocket, then parachutes to the ocean.

The space agency said it planned to test the concept in aircraft tests using dummies.

Nimitz Adopts New Homeport

By GLORIA JOSEPH

Journal of Commerce Staff

SEATTLE — The U.S.S. Nimitz, the 98,000-ton nuclear-powered aircraft carrier that's as tall as a 17-story building, will be making its temporary homeport at Bremerton's Puget Sound Naval Shipyard as of July 2.

An East Coast carrier by birth, the Nimitz and its 12-ship battle group will change its homeport from Norfolk, Va., to a West Coast home. Temporary quarters will be in Bremerton, Wash., until facilities can be completed in about three years time at its permanent homeport in Everett, Wash.

Although most naval ship movements are kept secret, the Navy is giving a play-by-play account of the Nimitz' arrival into Puget Sound.

"It'll pull into Bremerton around 10 a.m. on July 2, and that's when families will get to meet loved ones," said Lt. Karl Grimmelmann, a Seattle Navy Base public affairs officer.

The Nimitz has traveled more than 42,000 miles since it left Norfolk. Having just completed a six-month deployment to the Atlantic and Mediterranean, including a transit of South America, the carrier will undergo a 45-day stand-down once it arrives in Bremerton.

The stand-down will be for normal maintenance, shore leave, and completion of family moves from one coast to the other.

This move is part of the strategic homeport plan the Navy has put into play, said Lt. Cmdr. Joe March, a spokesman for the Seattle Navy base.

He said the placement of the Nimitz in Puget Sound is of strategic importance to the Navy because it provides a quicker reaction time to any threat in the northern Pacific sea lines. It also spreads out the Navy's 14 aircraft carriers and their logistical bases.

reunification of the country. ROK CIA Director LEE Hu Rak visited the North between 2-5 May and met with Premier KIM Il Sung and his younger brother KIM Young Joo. NK Second Vice Premier PARK Sung Chul made a visit to Seoul 29 May-1 June to meet with President PARK Chung Hee. The seven-point agreement included provisions for the establishment of a hot line between the two nations and a mutual promise to refrain from armed provocation and propagandea defamation. Its ultimate goal is reunification of the Korean peninsula, divided for 27 years. One point of contention is the presence of 40,000 US forces in the ROK which the North wants withdrawn. The detente surprises the world in the view of the enmity that has separated the two countries.

- 1972 5 Jul The US destroyer Chevalier is transferred to the ROKN in San Diego to bolster ROK sea power.
- 1972 29 Aug The ROK Red Cross 34-man delegation and twenty selected press representatives depart for Pyongyang for tomorrow's first full-dress session on the reunion of war-separated families. After a credentials check at Panmunjom, the entourage crosses the "Bridge of No Return" to make the historic entry into the North where they will stay for four days. It is the first time in twenty-seven years that the South has had a chance to see the North by mutually arranged agreement.
- 1972 2 Sep The ROK Red Cross delegation completes its four-day stay in the NK capital. In the opening session on 30 August, a five-point agenda was adopted which included (1) locating dispersed families, (2) free visits and meetings between them, (3) free correspondence, (4) their reunion, and (5) other humanitarian matters.
- 1972 13 Sep The second full-dress conference between South and North Red Cross delegations is held at the Chosun Hotel in downtown Seoul. No tangible results are announced.
- 1972 3 Oct The US Senate unanimously approves a \$2.337 billion military construction appropriation bill for FY 73, which contains \$4.7 million for improvement of US military facilities in Korea.
- 1972 12 Oct Political delegations from South and North Korea, led respectively by CIA Chief LEE Hu Rak and Second Vice Premier PARK Sung Chul, meet for four hours at Panmunjom in the DMZ. In a joint statement both sides "reconfirmed the spirit of the 4 July announcement," and "earnestly discussed the question of accelerating a free unification of the fatherland."
- 1972 16 Oct The US and ROK sign an agreement to exchange information on the development of military weapons and equipment. An annex to a

C Bill: my guess is that this was superseded by the CFC agreement. It's not listed in section 24 of CINCPAC's Unpub. Agreements for ROK. PA.

- * 1963 data exchange accord, it provides the US with a legal basis to supply the ROK with technological knowledge for the production of arms, vehicles, and ammunition, radio communication equipment and missiles.
- 1972 23 Oct NK lays claim to territorial waters surrounding the UN controlled Northwest Islands (NWI) and commences deliberate air and naval provocations in the vicinity of NWI chain.
- 1972 1 Nov Financial transactions by all authorized Military Payment Certificates (MPC) holders in Korea will henceforth be recorded by data processing equipment. The system, similar to that presently operating in exchanges and commissaries, will use the ration control plate to identify each transaction involving changing of MPC dollar instruments.
- 1972 2 Nov South and North Korea hold the second round of political talks in Pyongyang to pursue peaceful territorial reunification of the divided peninsula. The joint coordinating committee will meet twice during the three-day conference, and the South Korean delegates will pay a courtesy call on NK Premier KIM Il Sung.
- 1972 4 Nov In a joint communique issued at the close of reunification talks in Pyongyang, North and South agree to discontinue propaganda broadcasts against each other and call for political, economic, social and cultural exchanges, and avoidance of military confrontations.
- 1972 22 Nov All USA operations at Suwon AB are terminated as the 6170th Combat Spt Sqdn and other elements stationed there are inactivated. The closeout is a management action to achieve financial savings and permit more effective utilization of AF personnel and equipment. The 330-man complement will be assigned elsewhere in Korea.
- 1973 27 Jan ROK Defense Minister YU Jae Heung announces that the 37,000-man ROKF-V contingent will be withdrawn from the RVN within sixty days in accordance with the ceasefire. They will be flown home by US-contracted aircraft.
- 1973 30 Jan A 100-man advance party of the returning ROKF-V lands at Suwon AB aboard a World Airways jet. More than 320,000 ROK troops have served in Indochina since their October 1965 commitment, with some 3,700 killed and 8,300 wounded. The ROKs inflicted eleven times that many casualties on the Communists.
- 1973 1 Feb The USASTRATCOM Signal Bde-Korea is redesignated the 1st Signal Brigade effective today. Signal Bde-Korea was formed on 15 November 1967 to install, operate, and maintain the Korea portion of the worldwide Defense Communications System and