

Sound Snipings

BY Jimmy Cabato

What kind of inconsistency is in the mind of this breed of a man, Andres Bautista, the Comelec chairman.

He gave a dissenting vote to that of the majority opting to disqualify Sen. Grace Poe from the presidential race, and penned what he so titled as, "Concurring and Dissenting Opinion"

Can't seem to fathom that, even after this corner browsed over portions of his quoted explanations.

And according to Yen Makabenta, a TMT opinion writer, "By press release, by statement and by broadcast interviews, Bautista stepped on the otherwise declarative message of the commission, and questioned the wisdom and finality of its decisions, to plead, of all things, the case for Senator Poe."

Makabenta also said, knowing fully well dissenting opinions are normally milked for publicity in this country, Bautista has not stopped talking since then.

The writer branded Bautista's release as a labored 53-page opinion to the media, as though he were unveiling an opinion by a justice of the Supreme Court.

Then he opined that Ms. Poe committed an “honest mistake” when she stated in her CoC (certificate of candidacy) that she was a natural-born-citizen of the Philippines, and that she had the ten-year residency required by the Constitution.

When public demand developed for Ms. Poe’s removal from the election ballot, Bautista declared that Senator Poe should be allowed to run for President, he said.

He then seemingly displayed pride by stating that he agonized over his decision, claiming it was hard due to pressures from many corners, but just followed his conscience and balanced the points.

Bautista also said, in making his decision he thought of other Filipinos who have left to pursue opportunities abroad and have become foreign citizens, and may desire to come home.

In the end, he agreed with the majority decisions of the two Comelec Divisions that Poe lacked the 10-year residency requirement under the Constitution.

Thus, Makabenta satirically concluded, “... yet in saying this mouthful, Bautista stressed that he was concurring with the majority decision, even while dissenting from it.”

So there! Does that make sense to you at all? Your call . . .

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Repeat, on several editions in this space , we have written about a predicable chaotic scenario in the 2016 elections.

Only yesterday, political analyst Ramon Casiple predicted the same.

Today, veteran politician and newspaper columnist of TMT, Homobono Adaza is saying the same.

Adaza writes, “We really are at the fork of the road – a choice is to be made. Which is which – election or a peaceful constitutional revolution? “

He said, election is not the appropriate choice, as it would not bring meaningful changes in our country.

The election he continued, is evil; and that what is good, is the constitutional peaceful revolution.

Adaza, however, qualifies, if a peaceful constitutional revolution does not happen, a violent revolution will break out. It just is a matter of time, he forecast.

He added, the elections of May 12, 2016 will not come, explaining that the contradicting elements are so overwhelming that to expect the elections is as groundless as a clean and an honest election in our country now.

This corner does agree, and borrowing his words, we say “You know it, I know it – we all know it, kids!”

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The original “AlDub,” the noontime television show “Kalyeserye,” struck the unparalleled level when the movie on the love team made the P1-million mark at the box office on the first hour of showing alone.

The motion picture, "My Bebe Love: Kilig Pa More," is an entry in the 2015 Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) that competed with seven others.

A teary-eyed Jose Javier Reyes, movie director, took to the Twitter on Christmas Day and acknowledged the tremendous support of the fans of Alden Richards and Yaya Dub (played by Maine Mendoza), a love team team known to millions of fans as "AIDub." The phenomenal duo started out of a "Kalyeserye" storyline featured in Eat Bulaga, a popular noontime show, and emerged a sensation.

He tweeted, "According to Boss Orly, million mark hit on first hour with incomplete results." Reyes said.

It is the first appearance of the two on the big screen.

With them in the film are Eat Bulaga host Vic Sotto and Comedy Queen Ai Ai delas Alas.

Other movies in this year's MMFF are "Honor Thy Father" starring John Lloyd Cruz, "Haunted Mansion" (Janella Salvador, Jerome Ponce), "Nilalang" (Cesar Montano, Maria Ozawa), "Beauty and the Bestie" (Vice Ganda and Coco Martin), "Buy Now, Die Later" (Vhong Navarro), "All You Need is Pag-Ibig" (Kris Aquino, Derek Ramsey) and "Walang Forever" (Jennylyn Mercado, Jericho Roasales).

The 2015 MMFF awards night will be held at the Kia Theater in Cubao, Quezon City, on Sunday, Dec. 27. (With reports from TMT)

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Quoting as an emergency, the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) has

awarded minus public bidding a P3.81-billion long-term maintenance contract for the Metro Rail Transit Line 3 (MRT-3) to a Korean-Filipino group. The deal was reached at by negotiated procurement.

P3.81 B, with no public bidding. Stupendous. Campaign source?

Bagging big money were the joint venture of Busan Transportation Corp., Edison Development & Construction, Tramarc Mercantile Inc., TMICorp. Inc. and Castan Corp.

In a press release, DOTC statement said the contract is intended to improve the services of the glitch-prone MRT-3, spanning the North Avenue station in Quezon City to Taft Avenue in Pasay City.

By Jan. 5 next year, the winning concessionaire will undertake the general maintenance requirements of the Metro Rail System for the next three years, the DOTC said.

Former MRT general manager Al Vitangcol is facing trial for graft for awarding the previous maintenance contract, also without public bidding, to a group that included his uncle-in-law and a fund-raiser of the ruling Liberal Party (LP). The company, which was newly organized and had less than P1 million in capitalization, replaced Japanese giant Sumitomo.

So there ..! "a fund-raiser of the ruling Liberal Party (LP)". Hmmm. Seems well timed deal.

The previous contract then was signed by Transport Secretary and LP president Joseph Emilio Abaya, and placed at worth \$1.15 million a month. It was extended several times, lasting 10 months.

Abaya, who replaced Mar Roxas as DOTC chief, said he was just two days into the job when he signed the deal, and was spared from indictment by the Office of the Ombudsman.

Ooops. What about the extensions spread in ten months? Gone with wind, it appears.

It is not clear, however, in spite of the large sum of money involved, the indictment was only for graft instead of the serious and non-bailable offense of plunder. (With PS lifts)

Alam na..! (The picture is clear). Need we say it?