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1. *You work as part of a research team at the National Historical Commission of the Philippines. The team is composed of four to five researchers who will take part in an annual conference of Filipino historians aimed to analyze the country's national symbols utilizing primary sources. Your group should be able to explain the meaning of the different symbols and colors of the Philippine flag by showing excerpts of the English translation of the country's declarations of independence originally written in Spanish. Then you are to compare and contrast the past and present meanings that we attach to the symbols and colors of the Philippine flag. Your presentation will be graded based on accuracy of information and flow of presentation.*

After 300 years of Spanish rule, Filipino rebels led by Emilio Aguinaldo declared independence from the Philippines during the Spanish-American War. By mid-August, the Spanish had been ousted by Filipino rebels and U.S. forces, but Aguinaldo's hopes for independence were shattered when the U.S. formally annexed the Philippines as part of its peace treaty with Spain. The flags of the world can be divided into families; in turn, each family traces its design origin to its influences for nationalist and other ideological movements. The Philippine flag, as it was conceived by General Emilio Aguinaldo, adopted the color palette of the flag of the United States red, white, and blue together with other elements derived, in turn, from the flag of the State of Texas, elements that are shared by the Philippine, Cuban, and Puerto Rican flags. All three countries sought independence from the Spanish Empire at the close of the 19th century, and bore a close affinity for the republican revolution that gave birth to the United States of America and finally it was resolved unanimously that this Nation, already independent from today should use the same flag which it has used, The blue color of the sky, means our hope in a future prosperity, through progress; the red means the blood with which we bought our independence; the white represents peace which we wish for ours and foreign countries. Realistically the three aforementioned forces representing the white triangle as the distinctive symbol of the famed Society of the Katipunan, which through the blood compact impelled the masses to rise in revolt; the three stars representing the three principal islands of this Archipelago Luzon, Mindanao, and Panay in which the revolutionary movement broke out; but today we acknowledge that the the three stars represents Luzon , Visayas , Mindanao , in the other hand the sun indicating the gigantic steps taken by the children of this country on the road to progress and civilization; the eight rays symbolizing the eight provinces Manila, Cavite, Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Bataan, Laguna and Batangas which declared themselves in a state of war almost at the very start of the uprising; and the colors of blue, red and white commemorating the flag of the United States of North America as a manifestation of our profound gratitude towards this Great Nation for its disinterested protection which it lends us, and continues to lend us. And, carrying this flag, I unfurl it before the gentlemen assembled here and we all solemnly swear to acknowledge and defend it to the last drop of our blood.

2. *You work at a broadcasting company. Your station manager has selected you to annotate for a video highlighting the recollection of veterans during the administration of President Ferdinand Marcos. You have to conduct an interview or a series of interviews with an individual or group of individuals who were witnesses to the changes in Philippine society between 1965 and 1986. Write your script for a three-minute video presentation. Your presentation will be graded based on its content, creativity, impact.*

**Anna:** Good day Mr. Maning Romulo are you a human rights activist in the Philippines on the time of Ferdinand Marcos . How did this start and why?

**Maning :** It really began during my seminary years. I had the ability to see first -hand the plight of the poor, back though I was in high school. I went to a seminary under the leadership of the missionary congregation, the religious order established by Saint Vincent de Paul. They were interested in humanitarian work, so I spent a lot of time as a seminarian visiting hospitals, slums, orphanages, leprosariums, and engaging with the very poor of society..

**Anna:** And what role has the regime of Ferdinand Marcos played in your life?

**Maning :** it plays a large part on my life

**Anna:** May you tell me more about it?

**Maning:** If martial law had not intervened, I must say that I would have been a lawyer. I may be eligible to run for office in the Philippines. I wouldn't have made it to the U.S. If things had been left alone as they were, I would not have wanted to come to the U.S. But, of course, with the declaration of martial law, as a result of the trauma of becoming a political prisoner, of being on the watch list of the government, I lost part of my life. This isn't easy to bear.

**Anna:** Why were you on the government watch list?

**Maning : when I was** in college, In the student movement, I was really involved. I was the student council president and the college paper's editor-in-chief. And at that time, on the horizon, we could see signs that Marcos had other plans for the Philippines, that he planned to take over. We can see the incremental militarization of the culture of the Philippines. And I wrote posts, of course. I led marches, coordinated student groups, and helped striking workers.

**Anna:** Tell me, Sir Maning , over all, what was it like in the Philippines during the years of martial law?

**Maning :** Count yourself fortunate, because, during the darkest days of martial law, you did not live in the Philippines. There was a curfew from midnight to four o'clock. For a good reason, for a bad reason, or for no reason, you could get arrested. Some activists have vanished. Extrajudicial killings have also occurred. And, of course, everywhere you looked, you could feel the presence of the military.

**Anna:** When you say, 'You could get arrested,' who is going to arrest you?

**Maning :** It could be either the police or the Philippine Constabulary, which at that time was the national police, or intelligence from the army.

**Anna:** And during the leadership of Ferdinand Marcos, did all these sort of thing happen?

**Maning :** yes.