

Republika ng Pilipinas  
(Republic of the Philippines)  
MINISTRI NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA  
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE)  
Manila

September 18, 1978

MEMORANDUM  
No. 257, s. 1978

EXCHANGE OF FRIENDSHIP ITEMS AMONG PHILIPPINE  
AND FOREIGN SCHOOL CHILDREN

To: Bureau Directors  
Regional Directors  
Schools Superintendents

1. Supplementing MEC Memorandum No. 243, s. 1978 entitled "1978 United Nations Week Celebration", the United Nations Association of the Philippines (UNAP) has requested the inclusion of an international friendship program among elementary school children as called for in the suggested activities.

2. The friendship items include albums, greeting cards, stamps, get-well cards, paintings, recorded folk songs and dances, and handicrafts. The Philippine National Red Cross, a UNAP member, will send the articles to other countries and receive similar items from abroad for our Filipino children.

3. The following are the suggested ways on how to prepare the international friendship items/articles:

a. Albums may be in the form of an accordion or just bound loose-leaf. An album must not exceed 12 by 14 inches in size and must not weigh more than two kilos when wrapped for shipment. The following should also be considered:

(1) For the cover, use substantial material but make it as lightweight as possible. It should be meaningful and colorful. A Red Cross symbol with a white background







should also be placed on the cover. To bind covers and pages of loose-leaf albums, use cord, ribbon or shoelaces.

- (2) Include a friendly letter greeting the school children who will receive the album and containing an interpretation of the contents of the album.
  - (3) Develop the theme of the 1976 United Nations Week celebration entitled "World Understanding for a Humane Society" with the following conceptual theme: "Promotion of a Better Life Through Understanding and Respect for All Peoples." It should be related to the child's own experiences in the school or community. Use original materials available in the community. Do not make the album a "scrap book" of commercial post cards, travel guides, or magazine clippings.
  - (4) For other contents of the album, school children may use photographs, press clippings, and/or drawings of their homes, schools, streets, yards, and gardens with descriptions of their community, the people, accomplishments, problems, and health services available to individual families. Photographs of customs, traditions, national and favorite sports, tourist spots, recreation and flowers should be described to give the children in other countries a picture of the Philippine way of life.
  - (5) Teachers should insist on high standards of workmanship and design. Correct spelling, punctuation, and grammar are important.
- b. For stamp, greeting, and got-well cards, it is suggested that the material should be Celo or bond paper, size 8 1/2" by 13"









with water color or crayon as the medium. Creative cut-outs or drawings may also be prepared.

- c. For paintings, illustration boards may be used, size 15" by 20", with water color as the medium. The subject matter should revolve around the theme of this year's celebration or the conceptual theme. The child's name, age, grade, and school should be posted or indicated on the back of the art piece.
- d. For recorded folk songs and dances, the school children may be asked to tape record folk and school songs.
- e. For handicrafts, the following items, which should not weigh more than one (1) kilo wrapped for shipment, may be prepared by the child:
  - (1) Embroidered or patched table napkins, handkerchiefs, and placemats.
  - (2) Dolls dressed in Philippine costumes.
  - (3) Fans, wallets, and other articles made of native materials.

4. The school children will indicate in the article/item the name of the country they wish it to be sent. The school's Junior Red Cross teacher-sponsor in charge of the United Nations Week celebration will be responsible for collecting and sending all finished articles/items to the Red Cross chapter administrator, whose office is usually situated in the city or capital of the province, who will, in turn, send the same to the following address:

The Secretary-General  
Philippine National Red Cross  
860 United Nations Avenue  
M a n i l a 9-006  
Tel. Nos. 59-52-14, 59-35-21  
or 59-34-73







The PNRC Secretary-General will then send the articles/items to schools abroad desired by the sender school children with the request that reply articles be sent to the senders through the above address of the Philippine National Red Cross.

5. All school authorities concerned should extend full support and cooperation to this project to insure its success.

(SGD.) JUAN L. MANUEL  
Minister of Education and Culture

Reference:

Department Memorandum: (No. 243, s. 1978)

Allotment: 1-2--(D.O. 1-76)

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