



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
UL Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig, Metro Manila



June 16, 1998

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sa DECS*

DECS MEMORANDUM
No. 253, s. 1998

**SQUATTER DEMOLITIONS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS
TO EDUCATION**

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Superintendents
Private Elementary and Secondary School Principals

1. A research study conducted by the Urban Research Consortium, a nongovernment research institution, found that children in squatter areas bear the brunt of demolitions. They suffer from ill health, lose interest in school, and are forced to work to augment the meager income of their parents.

2. In response to the ill-effects brought about by the violent evictions and relocations among the families of school children, the following suggested steps/assistance shall be undertaken by the DECS Officials concerned to address the special educational needs of the children:

- a. The DECS Regional Offices shall request the City Mayor's Office that the Schools Superintendents be furnished copies of demolition orders so they could inform the schools located near the areas. The school officials and teachers concerned are urged to help disseminate the correct information to parents and children on the reasons for the demolition as well as the pros and cons of leaving the area. Likewise, the schools shall assure the parents that their children will be assisted in seeking transfer to other schools;
- b. Schools Superintendent concerned shall take the initiative in finding out where the families will be relocated. He/She shall write the DECS officials in that area requesting that the following assistance should be provided to school children of families newly relocated:
 1. Home visits to the families and listing down the prospective pupil-transferees;
 2. Orientation of the families on the location of existing schools;
 3. Enrolment of the children in existing schools;

4. Providing makeshift classrooms in the area and organizing multigrade classes/school whenever necessary.
 5. Providing tutorial lessons to pupils who need them; and
 6. Providing guidance and counseling, medical and other services through partnership with the National Center for Mental Health of the Department of Health and other GOs and NGOs.
- c. The DECS Regional Offices through the Nonformal Education Division shall coordinate with the Philippine Commission on Urban Poor, other GOs and NGOs, so that families in the relocation areas can be given livelihood programs and projects.
3. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned is desired.


ERLINDA C. PEFLANCO
Secretary

Reference:

None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

PUPILS
TRANSFER