



*Tang, apan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary*

January 13, 1999

DECS MEMORANDUM
No 5, s 1999

NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN OF REVERENCE FOR THE PHILIPPINE FLAG

To **Regional Directors
Schools Superintendents
District Supervisors
Private Elementary and Secondary School Principals**

1 The Philippine Centennial Commission, in cooperation with the Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSP), the Girl Scouts of the Philippines (GSP) and the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), is undertaking a nationwide campaign of reverence for the Philippine flag in accordance with Section 14 of Republic Act No 8491 on the Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines which provides for the proper disposal of worn out flags as follows

“A flag worn out through wear and tear shall not be thrown away
It shall be solemnly burned to avoid misuse or desecration. The flag shall
be replaced immediately when it begins to show signs of wear and tear”

2 The objective of this provision is to instill the value and spirit of patriotism and nationalism among the Filipino people, specially the youth

3 The BSP and the GSP will spearhead the removal, retrieval and disposal of worn-out flags. All DECS Regional Offices, Division Offices, District Offices and schools both public and private are hereby enjoined to support the scouts in the removal, retrieval and disposal of all worn-out flags still being displayed in both public and private schools

- a Likewise, DECS regional offices/division offices are hereby requested to coordinate with their respective local government officials regarding the simultaneous nationwide program on the Reverence for the Philippine Flag on January 20, 1999 at 4 30 p m
- b It is further requested that the DECS NCR will send two thousand boys and girls scouts to witness the culminating ceremony of the said activity on January 20, 1999 at 4 30 p m, Rizal Park, Manila

4 It is suggested that a solemn conduct of the ceremony shall be properly undertaken due to the heraldic symbolism of the Philippine Flag. Inclosed is the suggested "Disposal Ceremony for Worn-out Flags" for the guidance of all concerned.

5 Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is expected.


ANDREW GONZALEZ, ESC
Secretary

Reference

DECS Memorandum No 146 s 1998

Allotment 13—(D O 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects

/CAMPAIGN

/FLAG

BOY SCOUTS OF THE PHILIPPINES
National Office
Manila

WORN-OUT FLAG DISPOSAL CEREMONY

SEQUENCE

- Audience gather at Flag Area (U-Formation)
- Flag is lowered
- Flag is folded
- Flag bearer march to a designated area – Remain Standing
- Emcee announces start of ceremony
- Song "Allegiance to the Flag"
- History of the Pilipino Flag (Designated Official)
- Poem or vocal solo
- Talk "What the flag should mean to all of us"
- Flag is unfurled and held facing audience
- "Panunumpa sa Watawat"
- Flag is handed to highest official
- Drum ruffed during burning
- Audience execute salute
- After flag is burned Drum stops
- 2 Scouts get hold of the urn and gather ashes into clay receptacle
- "Taps" is sounded
- Song "Pilipinas kong Mahal"
- Scouts march out to designated burial hole while audience disperses "QUIETLY"
- Ashes are poured into hole

INTRODUCTION

Our Flag Code says "A Flag worn out through wear and tear shall not be thrown away. It shall be solemnly burned to avoid misuse and desecration. The Flag shall be replaced immediately when it begins to show signs of wear and tear."

Many National Flags too worn or tattered to be displayed are lying in storerooms because no one seems to know what to do with them.

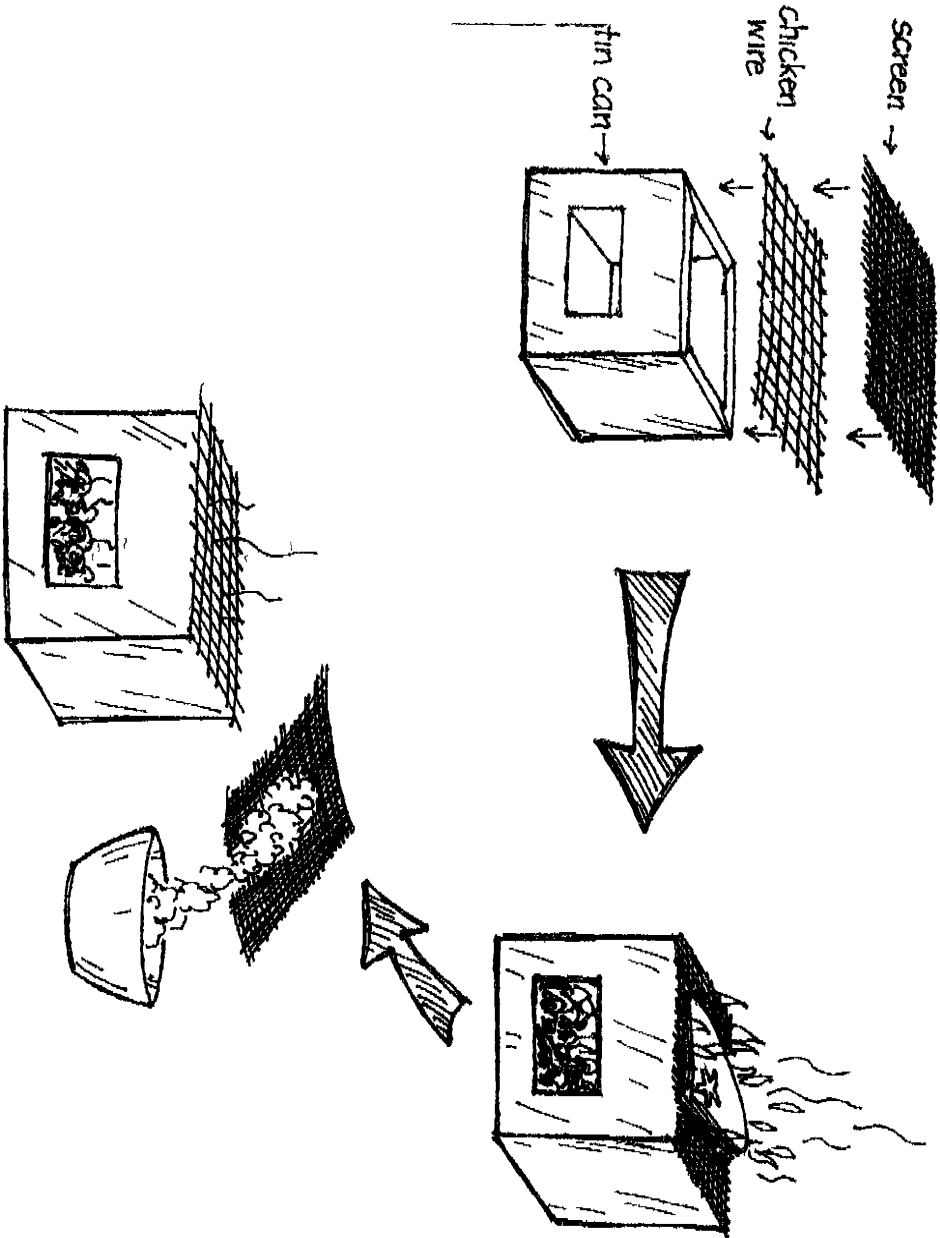
The following is therefore a prescribed ceremony (preferably after an Institutional Flag-lowering ceremony) of the reverent disposal of faded and tattered National Flags

The ceremony may also be held towards the end of a campfire program when the embers are burning low. If held in conjunction with a camping activity/jamboree, it must be the last organized activity in the evening.

It is also suggested that this be held as special feature during the observance of Scouting Month.

II SCRIPT FOR THE CEREMONY

- A The audience is gathered in U-formation. In the center is a small firelay already lighted and with a support where a piece of mesh wire screen (about 18" x 18") will be placed (This is where the Flag(s) will be burned.) A small table is placed not too far from the firelay where the Flag(s) is placed. On the table is a clay or brass urn for the ashes.
- B The Emcee announces the start of the ceremony. A patriotic song is sung by the audience to set them in the proper mood.
- C A designated Speaker talks briefly on the history of the Filipino Flag which may be interlaced with a display of its evolution.
- D An appropriate poem or a vocal solo is rendered by a selected Scout.
- E The Guest Speaker talks on the significance of the ceremony and on "What the Flag should mean to all of us."
- F Ceremony Proper
 - 1 A designated Official, preferably a lady to remind us that it was a lady who made our first Flag, stands at a distance from the fire with her side towards the guests so that she is clearly visible to the guests and the audience.
 - 2 A Flag Detail of four (4) Scouts pick the (first) worn out Flag to be disposed of and Flag is unfurled and held facing the audience. The audience recites the "Panunumpa ng Katapatan sa Watawat, Flag detail march in slow cadence brings it to the



Official, and holding the four corners, present it with the base of the white triangle facing the Official and the blue field to her left. Flag is then folded and hand it over to the Official.

- 3 The Highest Officials or Guest Speaker receives the flag and reverently places them into the fire. Those in uniform execute the hand salute standards are dipped while the others place their right hand on their chest.

(The same procedure is followed for the other worn-out flags, if any, although the carrying may be done for other Scouts.)

- 4 A pair of Scouts gather the ashes into the urn. While the ashes are being gathered, "Taps" may be sung or sounded.
- 5 The audience then sings "Pilipinas Kong Mahal" as a final hymn before the dispersal. The two Scouts march out with the urn to the designated burial place.
- 6 The audience disperses quietly by unit.
- 7 The ashes are poured into a waiting hole on the ground (at least 1 ½ feet deep on a place not usually trodden upon).

III Some suggested songs/recitations "Ang Panunumpa Sa Watawat" "Pledge of Allegiance" song "Ako Ay Pilipino", "O Pilipinas" (Ideology) "Punt na Bandila"

IV Some hints If you need something to start the fire, you may use candle scraps or oil. Never use gasoline or kerosene.

The Boy Scouts of the Philippines
22 April 1998
cce/ravjr