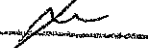


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

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SENATE

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Introduced by SENATOR COMPAÑERA PIA S. CAYETANO

A RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHIES AND CONDOLENCES OF THE PHILIPPINE SENATE OVER THE DEATH OF MAXIMO "MAX" V. SOLIVEN, PHILIPPINE STAR PUBLISHER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD AND COLUMNIST, AND ONE OF THE MOST DECORATED FILIPINO JOURNALISTS OF ALL TIME

Whereas, in the morning of November 24, 2006, Maximo "Max" V. Soliven, *Philippine Star* Chairman of the Board, Publisher and Columnist, died at the age of 77 in a hospital in Tokyo, Japan;

Whereas, Soliven is acknowledged as one of the pillars of Philippine Journalism, having led a colorful career in journalism that spanned almost six decades, chronicling significant events and interviewing personalities both here and abroad, and bringing the news and his commentaries to a broad range of readers;

Whereas, he began his career at the age of 20 as associate editor of the Catholic newspaper *The Sentinel*, before moving to the *Manila Chronicle* as a beat reporter, and later as business editor of *The Manila Times* from 1957 to 1960;

Whereas, in 1960, Soliven, at the age of 27, became publisher and editor of the now-defunct *The Evening News*, which he steered to become one of the most widely-read dailies at the time;

Whereas, as a foreign correspondent, he covered major events in Asia and around the world, including the Vietnam War, the 1968 Tet Offensive, and the Gestapu Coup in Indonesia in 1965, among others;

Whereas, Soliven is also credited for having covered exclusively the detonation of the first atomic bomb in the People's Republic of China, where he was also able to interview Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai;

Whereas, shortly upon the declaration of Martial Law in 1972, Soliven, then a prominent columnist at *The Manila Times*, was jailed and was later released on probation after three months, banned from leaving the capital for three years, and prevented from leaving the country and from writing for seven years;

Whereas, Soliven is also considered one of most decorated Filipino journalists of all time, having been named "Journalist of the Year" by the National Press Club, with the award presented to him by his former teacher, the eminent American statesman Henry Kissinger;

Whereas, Soliven's outstanding work also earned him the distinction of being perhaps the only Filipino conferred with the highest decorations by both France and Spain;

Whereas, he was recently conferred with the rank of Officer in the French Legion of Honor (*Légion d'Honneur*) by French President Jacques Chirac through French Ambassador to Manila H.E. Gerard Chesnel; the second award given to him by the French Republic after being awarded the National Order of Merit with the rank of Chevalier by the late French President Francois Mitterand in 1991;


Whereas, Soliven had also been awarded with the rank of *Encomendero de la Orden Isabel la Catolica*, one of Spain's most coveted decorations, from Spanish King Juan Carlos;

Whereas, in 1986, Soliven, together with the late Betty Go-Belmonte established the broadsheet the *Philippine Star*, currently one of the most widely read dailies in the country;

Whereas, Soliven had called the press as "our last best hope" against a tyrannical government, a description that still rings true to this day;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines express its profound sympathies and condolences over the death of Maximo "Max" Soliven, Philippine Star Publisher, Chairman of the Board, and columnist, and one of the most decorated Filipino journalists of all time.

Adopted,


COMPANERA PIA S. CAYETANO
Senator