

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

10 JUL 26 1974

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SENATE

S.B. No. 2047

Introduced by Senator EDGARDO J. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The improvement of the regular officer delivery system of the Philippine Air Force (PAF) has a long-felt need in the military establishment.

The PAF Flying Schools (PAFFS), which is at present, the main source of regular officers in the PAF can no longer cope with the required number and proper training of officer pilots for the PAF because of inadequate facilities and logistical support. Additionally, since a college degree is an academic requirement for entrance into the PAFFS, thousands of our gifted high school graduates are denied the opportunity of serving our country through the PAF simply because they are unable to obtain financial support for a college education.

The creation of Philippine Air Force Academy (PAFA) is a response to this problem in line with the constitutional mandate of guaranteeing equal *access* of opportunity *for* public service.

Given the inherent political instability of a developing country such as the Philippines, we should see to it that an unwanted relationship among officers often called "regular 'officer homogeneity'" is not created. Concerned Sectors believe that this "officer homogeneity" may endanger a potentially explosive political situation where an Armed Forces is controlled in all its branches, and at all levels, by regular officer school. The creation of the PAF Academy will help preclude this situation.

There is also a need to professionalize the other Air Force officer career areas like aircraft maintenance, avionics and air logistics to further enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the PAF. These highly specialized career fields cannot be adequately addressed by a traditional military academy like the Philippine Military Academy.

The PAF Academy as conceptualised, is geared towards making available an adequate and dedicated corps of professional Air Force officers with the proper education, training and orientation to lead and manage the complex technologies inherent in the field of aviation.

For the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested


EDGARDO J. ANGARA

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE ACADEMY
(PAFA) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **SECTION 1. *Philippine Air Force Academy.*** - There shall be established
2 in the Philippine Air Force an educational institution to be known as the
3 Philippine Air Force Academy (PAFA), hereinafter referred to as the Academy,
4 for the instruction and preparation for military service of Air Force Cadets.
5

6 **SEC. 2. *Administration.*** - The Academy as herein established shall be
7 organized and administered by the Commanding General, Philippine Air Force
8 (PAF) under the general supervision and control of the Chief of Staff of the
9 Armed Forces of the Philippines.
10

11 **SEC. 3. *Academic Board.*** - The Academic Board of the Academy shall be
12 composed of the Superintendent, the Dean of the Corps of Professors, the
13 Commandant of Cadets and the Heads of the departments to be constituted as
14 follows:

15 (a) The Superintendent and the Commander of Cadets of the Academy
16 shall be detailed to those positions by the President from the Officers
17 of the Air Force.

18 (b) The Dean of the Corps of Professors shall be appointed from the
19 permanent professors who have served as heads of departments of
20 instructions at the Academy.

21 (c) The Academic Board shall have the power to confer the degree of
22 Bachelor of Science under the rules and regulations as the Chief of
23 Staff of the New Armed Forces of the Philippines may prescribe upon

1 all cadets who may hereafter satisfactorily complete the approved
2 course of studies.

3
4 **SEC. 4. *Department Title and Faculty.*** - The Chief of Staff of the Armed
5 Forces of the Philippines may prescribe the titles of each of the departments of
6 instruction and professors of the Academy. However, each change of the title of a
7 department of professor shall not affect the status, rank or eligibility for
8 promotion or retirement of, or otherwise prejudice, a professor of the Academy.

9
10 **SEC. 5. *Cadet Corps of the Philippine Air Force.*** - The student body of
11 the Academy shall be known as the Cadet Corps of the Philippine Air Force
12 (CCPAF). The President is authorized to appoint annually, subject to such
13 physical and mental examinations as may be prescribed, the number of cadets
14 necessary to maintain the Cadet Corps at a strength of four hundred and not
15 exceed four hundred eighty (480) at any one time.

16 The strength of the Cadet Corps of the Philippine Air Force is as follows:

17 (1) Two (2) cadets from each Congressional District nominated by the
18 Congressional Representative of the District; and

19 (2) Eighty (80) cadets from the Philippines at large which shall be
20 composed of:

21 (a) Twenty (20) selected in order of merit, as established by
22 competitive examination from the children of members of the
23 Armed Forces who were killed in action or died of wounds or
24 injuries received or diseases contracted in or preexisting injury
25 or disease aggravated by active service; provided, that, children
26 of members of the Armed Forces who were awarded the Medal
27 of Valor for an act performed while in the Armed Forces shall
28 automatically qualify for admission.

29 For the purpose of this Act, a determination by the Line of
30 Duty Board of the major services that a death is service
31 connected is binding upon the Secretary of National Defense.

32 (b) Forty (40) from the enlisted members of the Armed Forces,
33 twenty (20) from the regular Armed Forces and twenty (20)
34 from the reserve components of the Armed Force.

35 The Secretary of National Defense shall prescribe regulations
36 for the selection of candidates under this subsection.

37 (c) Twenty (20) from the cultural communities as may be selected
38 by the President.

1 The Academy shall provide for educational and physical facilities for the
2 recruitment and training of women as members of the Cadet Corps.

3 Four (4) Years from the approval of this Act, women shall be admitted and
4 shall comprise not less than five per cent (5%) of the strength of the Cadet Corps
5 at any time.

6 All cadets shall be appointed by the President. An appointment is
7 conditional until the cadet is admitted.

8 If it is to be determined that, upon the admission of a new class to the
9 Academy; the number of cadets at the Academy will be below the authorized
10 number, the Chief of Staff may nominate, as may be qualified, alternates and
11 other qualified candidates who competed for nomination and are recommended
12 and found qualified by the Faculty as are necessary to meet the needs of the Air
13 Force, but not more than the authorized strength of the Cadet corps.

14
15 **SEC. 6. Eligibility for Admission.** - To be eligible for admission, a
16 candidate must be:

- 17 (1) Single and must never have been married;
- 18 (2) A natural-born citizen of the Philippines;
- 19 (3) At least seventeen (17) years of age but not more than twenty two (22)
20 years of age on the first day of April of the year of admission;
- 21 (4) At least high school graduate;
- 22 (5) A successful examinee of the prescribed physical and mental
23 examination; and
- 24 (6) A successful examinee of the National Secondary Assessment Test.

25
26 **SEC. 7. Pay and Allowances.** The pay and allowances of the Cadets of
27 the Academy shall be fixed by the President.

28
29 **SEC. 8. Undertaking.** - Each cadet shall sign an agreement that unless
30 sooner separated by duly authorized authorities, he shall:

- 31 (1) Complete the course of instruction at the Academy;
- 32 (2) Accept an appointment and serve as a commissioned officer of the
33 Armed Forces of the Philippines for at least eight years immediately
34 after graduation from the Academy.

35
36 **SEC. 9. Cadet Requirement.** - Any Cadet who shall after entrance to the
37 Academy and before completion of prescribed courses of training, be found
38 physically and mentally unfit for military assignment by reason of injury or

1 disease incident to the service, shall be retired with the rank of a second lieutenant
2 of the Armed Forces of Philippines.

3
4 **SEC. 10. *Prohibition Against Hazing.*** Subject to the approval of the
5 Secretary of National Defense, the Superintendent of the Academy shall issue
6 rules and regulations preventing hazing and prescribe dismissal suspension, and
7 other adequate punishment for violation thereof.

8 For the purpose of this Act, "hazing" means any unauthorized assumption
9 of authority by a cadet whereby another cadet suffers or is exposed to any form of
10 injury, indignity, humiliation, hardship or oppression or the deprivation or
11 abridgement of any right.

12 If a cadet is charged with violating any rule or regulation issued pursuant
13 to this Section, the penalty of which is dismissal from the Academy, a request in
14 writing for a trial by a general court martial may be submitted.

15 A cadet dismissed from the Academy for hazing shall not be reappointed
16 as an Air Force Cadet and shall be ineligible for appointment as a commissioned
17 officer in the Armed Forces of the Philippines unit after two (2) years from the
18 graduation of this class.

19
20 **SEC. 11. *Commission.*** - Upon satisfactory completion of the course of
21 instruction at the Academy, the cadets shall be commissioned second lieutenants
22 in the regular force or the Philippine Air Force with the relative rank in the order
23 of final general standing as determined by the Academic Board of the Academy
24 and approved by the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

25
26 **SEC. 12. *Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.*** - The Philippine Air Force
27 Flying School, including the members of its faculty and personnel, *its* records,
28 equipment assets and liabilities are hereby transferred *to* and integrated with the
29 Philippine Air Force Academy.

30
31 **SEC. 13. *Budget.*** - The initial appropriations necessary for the
32 establishment of the Academy shall be charged to the appropriation of the
33 Department of National Defense. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the
34 improvement, operation and maintenance of the Academy shall be charged to the
35 appropriation of the Department of National Defense. Thereafter, the amount
36 necessary for the improvement, operation and maintenance of the Academy shall
37 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1 **SEC. 14. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

2

3 *Approved,*