

LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS NO. 439, July 23, 1976

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TO:

The Secretary of National Defense
Chairman, Executive Committee of the National Security Council
Camp E. Aguinaldo, Quezon City

Pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 1081 dated September 21, 1972 and Presidential Proclamation No. 1104 dated January 17, 1973, as well as the National Security Code dated January 17, 1973, and in my capacity as Chairman of the National Security Council, in order to prevent the use of privately-owned newspapers, magazines, radio, television facilities and other media of communication for propaganda purposes against the Government and its duly constituted authorities, or for any purpose which is injurious or inimical to the national interest or which undermines or tends to undermine the faith and confidence of the people in the Philippine Government or which aggravates any national emergency, your Committee is hereby directed to take or cause the taking of such continuing and effective measures as would best preserve national security and public order.

The term "Public order", as herein used, shall include specifically, but not limited to (1) preventing the public exhibition of any film or live show in any theater, stage or television; (2) removal of any objectionable parts of any film; and/or (3) prohibiting or stopping the publication and distribution of any printed material when in the determination of that Executive Committee, such film, live show or printed material or any part thereof is offensive to public morals or the high standard of decency under the New Society, it being hereby understood that this authority of the Executive Committee shall prevail over the determination/decision on the same matter(s) by any other office or agency of the Government.

In carrying out the foregoing order, you are hereby also directed to see to it that reasonable means are employed by you and your men and that injury to persons and property shall be avoided.

In the implementation of this Letter of Instructions, the Secretary of National Defense, as Chairman, Executive Committee of the National Security Council, is hereby authorized to issue the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

DONE in the city of Manila, this 23rd day of July, in the year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-Six.

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