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crime either in itself. What is prohibited is "knowing membership"; that is, overt act of membership in the Communist Party of the Philippines. That means that any person who, after the enactment, or after the approval of the said law, shall knowingly become a member of the Communist Party in the Philippines, together with its military arm, that had been declared by the Anti-Subversion Law as an organized conspiracy against the Government of the Republic of the Philippines that seeks to overthrow it by means of force and violence and to deliver the country to foreign control or domination. That is really the definition of a subversive organization. If one who joins it, or becomes a member of the Communist Party without such foreknowledge but thereafter acquires that knowledge still remains as a member of the Communist Party of the Philippines, that becomes now "Knowing membership" which is punishable under the Anti-Subversion Law. I just want to complete our record by volunteering that information for whatever it may be worth. I hope it does not tarnish by one whit the Gentleman's speech which, by itself, is already a gem that deserves the praise and acknowledgment of the members of this Body and of the general public.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Senator Pimentel. If my speech is a gem, the Gentleman's remarks are a jewel fit to crown the whole proceedings tonight.

Senator Mercado. Mr. President.

The President. The Majority Floor Leader is recognized.

Senator Mercado. Can I just ask one question? I have just been wondering in all of these labellings of leftist and rightist. Did it ever occur to the Gentleman where the center was? Because I am reminded, Mr. President, of organizations in the United States, just like, let us say, the John Bird Society which can freely call, I

believe, if I remember right, even the fact that when you are labelled leftist or rightist depends on the one who is looking at you and his political spectrum for that matter.

Senator Pimentel. That is why Lipset insists that these terms are very imprecise and there is no categorical delineation of the meaning of these terms actually.

Senator Mercado. Thank you very much, and we appreciate the fact that being labelled leftist or rightist can be a very dangerous thing nowadays.

BILL ON THIRD READING

bf **Senate Bill No. 17 – System of Initiative and Referendum**

Senator Mercado. Mr. President, I move that we vote on Third Reading on Senate Bill No. 17. Copies of the Bill have been distributed to all the Members of the Senate on September 23, 1987.

The President. Is there any objection? [*Silence*] The Chair hears none, the motion is approved.

Voting on Third Reading on Senate Bill No. 17 is now in order. The Secretary will please read the title of the bill only.

The Secretary. Senate Bill No. 17, entitled:
AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

The President. The Senate will now proceed to vote on the bill. The Secretary will please call the roll.

The Secretary called the roll and the result of the voting was as follows:

ital **YES – 23**

Senator Alvarez
Senator Angara
Senator Aquino
Senator Enrile
Senator Estrada

Senator Mercado
Senator Osmeña
Senator Paterno
Senator Pimentel
Senator Rasul

Senator Gonzales	Senator Saguisag
Senator Guingona	Senator Shahani
Senator Laurel	Senator Tamano
Senator Lina	Senator Tañada
Senator Maceda	Senator Ziga
Senator Manglapus	The President
Senator Romulo	

NO – None

ABSTENTION – None

The President. With 23 affirmative votes, no negative vote, and no abstention, Senate Bill No. 17 is approved on Third Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

(Reaffiliation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union)

Senator Mercado. Mr President.

The President. The Majority Floor Leader is recognized.

Senator Mercado. Mr. President, with the permission of the Body, I would like to move for the consideration of the Report of the Committee on Rules on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6, entitled:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES WITH A VIEW TO ITS REAFFILIATION WITH THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION OR IPU

Mr President, I move for the adoption of said resolution.

The President. This is the affiliation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Is there any objection? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the same is approved.

Senator Mercado. Mr. President.

The President. The Majority Floor Leader

RECOMMITMENT OF BILLS

Senator Mercado. Mr. President, appearing on the Calendar for Ordinary Business are Senate Bill Nos. 55, 32, 26 and 65.

We have discussed with the Chairmen of the various Committees involved. In order to consolidate these Committee Reports with the other reports forthcoming from the other Committees to which they have been referred, I move that said bills be recommitted to the following committees:

Senate Bill No. 32 to the Committee on Cultural Communities;

Senate Bill No. 27 to the Committee on Women and Family Relations; and

Senate Bill No. 65 to the Committee on Women and Family Relations.

The President. Is there any objection? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the same is approved.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 3

(Legislative Calendar for the First Regular Session)

Senator Mercado. Mr. President, I move for the creation of a Conference Committee to discuss Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7 and House Concurrent Resolution No. 3.

Mr. President, I move that said Conference Committee be created to meet with its counterpart in the House of Representatives to confer on Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 7, entitled:

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR ITS FIRST REGULAR SESSION

and the House Concurrent Resolution No. 3.

For this purpose, Mr. President, I move that the Committee be composed of Senators John