



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
MANILA

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11-19-96

24 October 1996

DEPARTMENT ORDER)

SUBJECT : MEASURES AND GUIDELINES TO
CORRECT MISINFORMATION BEFORE
THE MEDIA

No. 180)
Series of 1996)

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for info

The President during the 37th Cabinet Meeting last 17 September 1996 instructed all Cabinet members to immediately correct or clarify, within 24 hours, any wrong information/misinformation in media on issues within their scope of responsibility.

Pursuant to this instruction, the following measures and guidelines must be observed:

1. Any misinformation or issue sensitive in nature with national impact and involving the Central Office must be clarified and answered by the DPWH Secretary or the Undersecretaries concerned and/or by the Public Information Division, as the case may be, after having been cleared with the Office of the Secretary or Undersecretaries;
2. Any misinformation or issue localized in nature involving the regional office must be answered and responded to by the Regional Director or his Assistants and, in the case of district engineering office, by the District Engineer or his Assistants thru the Office of the Regional Director in coordination with the regional public information office (PIO);
3. Any misinformation or issue involving the different Project Management Offices (PMOs) must be answered and responded to by the Undersecretaries concerned or the Project Director or his Assistant in coordination with or thru the Public Information Division;
4. For any reported misdeeds within a certain area of jurisdiction of a Department Official, Regional Director, Project Director, the official concerned having jurisdiction over the matter must undertake and institute corrective measures, and likewise inform media accordingly;
5. In undertaking and instituting of corrective measures, the official concerned may request or form a fact-finding/investigative team to look into the matter and submit a report to the DPWH Secretary within a certain period depending on the expediency and complexity of the case at hand; and

6. To facilitate monitoring of responses, the Official concerned must furnish the Officer-In-Charge, Public Information Division-Central Office, a copy of the response on the misinformation and/or any corrective measures instituted on the reported misdeeds not later than one (1) week after receipt of misinformation, and who will in turn consolidate the responses for submission to the Office of the Press Secretary (OPS) and the Presidential Management Staff (PMS) as per Presidential Memorandum Circular No. 139 dated 21 December 1995.

This Order shall take effect immediately.


GREGORIO R. VIGILAR
Secretary