

## **WHY EVERTIME OUR COUNTRY IS IN “DEEP SHIT” ENGINEERS ARE CALLED TO FIX IT.**

I was born in 1949, I saw and experience for myself 6 decades of our country's political history. It is these events in our country's history I witness the destruction of our socio-economic and political life of our Country **by men of good intention turn sour** and the rise of simple men whose intention was to redeem our country's pride for the sake of the Filipinos. It is this patriot who will save our country from the brink of disaster that are called again to bring our country's future to a correct path. Today this patriots are being called to arms again, to redeem our country from many enormous problems today of our beloved Country like, having the highest Covid-19 infection rate is Southeast Asia, lowest Gross National Product (GNP) in 2020 in Asia ever recorded, highest inflation rate recorded, high cost and scarcity basic food, and high cost of electricity, poor public transportation system, air and water pollution, clean water supply, millions are homeless illegal settlers, floods, disasters, rebellion, west Philippine Sea, and the worst of them all poverty of the Filipino families.

When I was about 8 years old my parents then were engaged in an abaca rug business. My father travels between Manila and Subic Base in Zambales to sell his products to the American Base. It was a profitable business at that time when the US military based was being reconstructed. He and my mother usually talk about the events that are happening at that time [Magsaysay 1953-1957]. On topic about politics regarding the news that the communist inspired Hukbalahap is at the doorsteps of Manila when Ramon Magsaysay became the President of the Republic of the Philippines. That was always the topic because he usually go to Subic, Olongapo, Zambales the hometown then of President Magsaysay. The story was President Magsaysay stopped the entry of the Hukbalahaps to Manila. History writers will tell the same story. President Magsaysay was acclaimed as the “President for the Ordinary People or Masang Filipino”. Ramon Magsaysay serves the country with distinction that:

“Magsaysay's administration was considered one of the cleanest and most corruption-free in modern Philippine history; his rule is often cited as the Philippines's "Golden Years". Trade and Industry flourished, the Philippine Military was at its prime, and the country gained international recognition in sports, culture, and foreign affairs. The Philippines placed second on a ranking of Asia's clean and well-governed countries”.  
[[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramon\\_Magsaysay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramon_Magsaysay)]

When I was in college [1970s] the socio-economic and political situation in the Philippines deteriorated so much that President Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law on September 21, 1972 the year I graduated college. Admittedly the first two years of martial law was satisfactory. However, again the socio-economic political situation deteriorated due “massive corruption” or what was called economic “cronyism”. The government purse is almost empty to the point that no international banking institution wanted to financially help the Philippines. In 1981 Cesar Virata who was then Finance Minister was elected by

the Batasang Pambansa to be the Prime Minister. In my opinion is a decision out of expediency by the Marcos Regime because:

“Prime Minister Virata developed a reputation for unsullied integrity, shining competence and sterling performance. It is a well-known fact that during the Philippines’ most turbulent crises of the 1970’s to the mid-1980’s, it was the reputation of Prime Minister Virata, which allowed the country continued access to international finance and recognition by the world business and banking community”.

[<https://pjsmedalofmerit.wordpress.com/2015/01/21/cesar-e-a-virata/>]

Cesar Virata prevented the bankruptcy of the Philippines. I remember at that time the only dollar denomination we have are at the hands of the exporter. One cannot import anything if your company cannot export to earn dollars. I remember during this time there are no brand-new cars, and the car business is limited to secondhand cars. That was how grim we are at that time. There are no even imported fruits seen in the market.

After the EDSA Revolution President Corazon Aquino became the President of the Philippines. Her six year as President was defined as the turbulent political years of the Philippines. It is a term characterized by years of “coup-de-tat”. The economy could not jump-start and the whole of President Cory presidency wasted her time in preventing military take-overs. I remember one coup-de-tat were low flying US fighter jets passed thru my house to prevent the bombing and strafing of Malacanang.

After six years of political chaos Fidel Ramos became the President of the Republic of the Philippines. Things became quite and it is time to build the Philippine economy. But there is a huge problem, the power plants cannot run 24 hours in fact we had an eight to twelve hours brown-out daily for many months. Also, my engineering office opened in September, 1993. I remember at that time it is difficult to have a PLDT phone connection. In short PLDT has the monopoly of the telecommunication industry. It was President Fidel Ramos who brought back electricity, dismantled business monopolies and business cronyism.

Fidel Ramos the 12<sup>th</sup> President of the Philippines (1992–1998), is remembered for steadfastly promoting the principles of people empowerment and global competitiveness. In 1993, **he put an end to the power crisis that crippled Filipino homes and industries for two years.** He pursued, focused, and converged programs to fight poverty in accordance with the will of the Filipino people expressed by 229 structural/reform laws enacted by Congress during his term.

The Philippine economy recovered dramatically during the years 1993–1997. Ramos implemented a comprehensive Social Reform Agenda (SRA) that addressed the long-standing problem of poverty: jobs and livelihood, health, education and skills training, housing, environmental protection, children and the youth, the elderly and the handicapped, agrarian reform, and access to equal opportunity. The country's Gross National Product (GNP) averaged 5 percent annually. Average income of the Filipino family grew larger during his administration than in the preceding two

decades. He pushed for the deregulation of key industries and the liberalization of the economy. He encouraged the privatization of public entities, to include the modernization of public infrastructure through an expanded Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) law. While communist insurgency dwindled to historic lows, he achieved a peace agreement with military rebels and the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) for which he won for the Philippines the coveted 1997 UNESCO Peace Award—the first for Asians”. [[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency\\_of\\_Fidel\\_Ramos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Fidel_Ramos)] It was during this time my company started to advance financially. Except for President Gloria Macapagal the rest of our Presidents made our Country in a “shit” situation even right now.

Being one of the witness to our history I wonder now why every time our Country is in “deep shit” Engineers are called to fix it. To stop this “shit” why not have more Engineers-Politician in the Executive and Legislative offices.

**Therefore, I have thought of #ibotomoengineer.**