

[LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS NO. 539, May 13, 1977]

RELATIVE TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

TO: The Chairman, Provisional Government, Southern Philippines Autonomous Region
The Secretary of Local Government and Community Development
The Director-General, National Economic and Development Authority
The Acting Commissioner of the Budget
The Chairman, Presidential Commission on Reorganization
The Chairman, Regional Development Councils, Regions IV-A, IX, XI, and XII
All Heads of Departments, Bureaus, Offices and Agencies of the National Government, including State Colleges and Universities and Government Owned and Controlled Corporations
All Provincial Governors and City Mayors in the Southern Philippines Autonomous Region

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 1628 established the concept of Regional Autonomy and created a Provisional Government covering thirteen (13) provinces and cities in Southern Philippines;

WHEREAS, the members of the Provisional Government have been duly appointed and have begun to discharge their function;

WHEREAS, the full support of all agencies of national and local government is necessary to ensure the sue of the Provisional Government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President the Philippines, do hereby issue these instructions:

Organization and Staffing

1. The Provisional Government shall design its organization, a staffing pattern, and a budgetary program and project structure, and shall prepare estimates of its budget for operational needs for submission to the President through the Budget Commission, within a period of thirty (30) days.
2. In the meantime that the Provisional Government is organizing itself, the Regional Offices of DLGCD in Regions IX and XII shall act as its administrative unit and the NEDA Regional Offices in Regions IX and XII as its planning unit. The said Regional Offices shall target for phase-out of such direct assistance no earlier than December 31, 1977.
3. In order to expedite the conduct of the operations of the Provisional Government, it is hereby authorized to ask for the detail of staff members from the Regional Commissions IX and XII, the national government agencies operating within the region, the various local government units, and the