

# **[ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1879, August 27, 1983 ]**

## **AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION CREATED UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 469 TO ISSUE COMPULSORY PROCESSES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, under Administrative Order No. 469, a fact finding Commission was created to investigate the circumstances surrounding the assassination of former Senator Benigno S. Aquino, Jr.;

WHEREAS, in order to have a thorough, unlimited and exhaustive investigation into all aspects of the above-mentioned tragedy, it is imperative that the Commission be empowered to issue compulsory processes to compel and secure the attendance of witnesses and the production of any evidence relating to the matter under investigation by the Commission;

WHEREAS, to enable it to effectively carry out its objectives, it is necessary to appropriate funds for the Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree:

SECTION 1. The Commission shall have the power to issue subpoena duces tecum and other compulsory processes requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of any evidence relative to any matter under investigation by the Commission.

The Commission, or any member thereof, or its duly authorized representative may administer oaths and affirmations, examine witnesses, and receive evidence.

SEC. 2. In case of contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to any person/s under the provisions of Section 1 of this Decree, the Commission may deputize any law enforcement agency to arrest and compel the attendance of said person/s before the Commission.

The Commission may appoint sheriffs and deputize any law enforcement agency as may be necessary to ensure compliance with its orders.

SEC. 3. The Commission may hold any person in contempt directly or indirectly and impose appropriate penalties therefor.

A person guilty of misbehavior in the presence of or so near the Commission as to obstruct or interrupt the proceedings before the same, including disrespect towards said officials, offensive personalities towards others, or refusal to be sworn or to answer as a witness or to subscribe to an affidavit or deposition when lawfully required to do so may be summarily adjudged in direct contempt by the Commission and punished by a fine not exceeding P200.00 or imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days or both.

Judgment of the Commission on direct contempt shall be final and unappealable.