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[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 19, April 02, 1966]

PRESCRIBING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR APPEALS TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT FOR FINALITY OF DECISIONS THEREOF

WHEREAS, it is the common practice of parties aggrieved by or dissatisfied with the decisions the different departments of the Executive Branch of the Government to appeal therefrom to the Office of the President and for this Office to entertain such appeals, notwithstanding the considerable length of time that has elapsed from the date of receipt of the disputed decisions;

WHEREAS, not infrequently this Office has received petitions for reconsideration of decisions rendered by it long before, and because of the absence of specific rules or regulations fixing the period of finality of said decisions and the period for filing requests for reconsideration and limiting the number thereof, this Office is often left without recourse but to entertain the petitions, thereby taking much of its time in the process which otherwise could be devoted to more important and pressing matters;

WHEREAS, it has been observed that, with rare exceptions, these appeals and petitions for reconsideration are without merit and have been filed obviously to delay as much as possible the execution of the decisions of the different departments; and

WHEREAS, with a view to minimizing, if not totally eliminating, the consequent evils or mischiefs arising from such practice which indeed is not conducive to smooth, speedy and efficient public administration, it is considered necessary in the public interest to adopt a definite, formal procedure to be observed in the taking of appeals and filing of petitions for reconsideration, so that there will be stability and finality of administrative decisions and frivolous appeals may be discouraged.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby promulgate the following rules and regulations for the purpose:

- 1. Unless otherwise provided or governed by special laws or where time is clearly of the essence, an appeal to the Office of the President, which is not a matter of right in the absence of statutory provisions to that effect, shall be taken within thirty (30) days, reckoned from receipt of the decisions or action appealed from.
- 2. Failure to appeal within the prescribed period shall render the decision of action subject thereof final and executory.