[MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 131, January 20, 2004]

DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE TO LEAD THE 2004 OBSERVANCE OF ARAW NG KAGITINGAN AND THE PHILIPPINE VETERANS WEEK.

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 203, s. 1987, declared April 9 of every year as a regular holiday for the celebration of Araw ng Kagitingan; WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 466, s. 1989, designated the period from April 5 to 11 of every year as Philippine Veterans Week in order to promote, preserve and memorialize the principles, ideals and deeds of our war veterans as a means to enhance patriotism and love of country, especially among youth of the land; WHEREAS, it is important that the said events be observed with appropriate and meaningful activities. **NOW**, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPACAL-ARROYO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order: **Section 1.** The Secretary of National Defense shall lead the observance of the 2004 Araw ng Kagitingan and Philippine Veterans week. Sec. 2. The Secretary of National Defense may call on any agency or instrumentality of the government, including government-owned and controlled corporations, and to invite any private individual or non-government organization for assistance as he may need in the discharge of his functions for the duration of the celebration. All such government agencies and private individuals or organizations are enjoined to cooperate with the Secretary of National Defense to ensure success in the commemoration of these two important events. Sec. 3 The release of TWO MILLION PESOS (P2,000,000.00) DONE, in the City of Manila this 20th day of Jan., in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

By the President: (Sgd) ALBERTO G. ROMULO Executive Secretary



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(Sgd) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO