

Diliman Commune Timeline

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INFOGRAPHIC BY Jefferson Villacruz

Events prior to the Diliman Commune

1971

JAN. 30, SATURDAY

First year anniversary of the **First Quarter Storm**

JAN. 31, SUNDAY

Human barricade at the University Avenue junction began

JAN. 11, MONDAY

Jeepney drivers stage a **strike** against the increase in oil prices

Diliman Commune

FEB. 1, 1971, MONDAY

Morning

Jeepney drivers resumed their strike; students led by Kabataang Makabayan and Samahang Demokratiko ng Kabataan (SDK) declared their support for the strike.

First barricade went up the University Avenue, vehicles were asked to turn around; 200-300 students participated in barring vehicles from entering the University.

Students ran to Vinzons Hall shouting "Namamaril ang mga Pulis."

Faculty and Office personnel were asked politely to just walk to their classrooms and offices; UP President Salvador P. Lopez (SP Lopez) asked Dean of Students, Prof. Armando Malay, to talk to the barricaders to allow the vehicles to enter the campus.



Shortly before Noon

Security personnel scuffled with barricaders; the former wanted to remove the small tree the barricaders placed across the road.

A pillbox exploded, no one was hurt. Then the students began running, shouting "Si Campos, si Campos may baril."

Mathematics professor Inocentes Campos drove towards the

University Avenue. He was denied entry like the others and at first students thought it was okay for him. But then again he returned, this time he had firearms. When the barricaders saw he had the intention of harming them, they retaliated. A pillbox exploded and Campos's car's left rear tire was damaged forcing the car to stop.

Campos began firing his gun towards the barricaders for five minutes.



12:05 PM

At 12:05 PM SDK member Pastor "Sonny" Mesina Jr. was shot by Campos on his forehead; he was rushed to the Infirmary, later he was moved to the Veterans Memorial Hospital. He died three days later.

Mesina was declared UP Diliman's first martyr of the anti-Marcos dictatorship struggle.

Campos arrested by security guards and brought to the Quezon City Police Department.

Another student who was injured on his left cheek by Campos's shotgun firing was Leo Alto.

Incensed, students barged into Quezon Hall in the President's Office; SP Lopez and UP Student Council (SC) President Eric Baculiniao had a confrontation.

Afternoon

Quezon City police dispatched to UP were stopped at the barricades and reported back to their headquarters.

SP Lopez was summoned to the Peace and Order Council in Camp Aguinaldo.

SP Lopez opposed the Council's plan for the police to forcibly enter the UP campus to dismantle the barricade and disperse the human barricade.

SP Lopez went to Quezon City Hall to appeal on Mayor Amoranto to prevent police intrusion into the campus.

The protest was no longer about being in solidarity with the jeepney drivers' strike; nor the death of Mesina. The protest was now about the intrusion of the military and their suppression of academic freedom.

Students put up a human barricade on University Avenue but the Quezon City police broke it up, chased and arrested scores of students.



FEB. 2, 1971, TUESDAY

Morning

Faculty members and campus residents asked for a dialogue with SP Lopez to know how they can enter the campus.

A motorized column of police were sighted going to the University Ave. and the rear entrance along Katipunan Avenue.

Tear gas was thrown to the barricades; students dispersed and ran to Quezon Hall.

Afternoon

Intrusion of the armed forces, UPD would be filled with the explosion of tear gas canisters, shots of guns, pillboxes and Molotov cocktails.

Some faculty members, staff and students had a dialogue with Quezon City Chief of Police Karingal in an area compared as a no-man's land.

Negotiations with the police failed; a gun was fired, Quezon City police and soldiers moved in.

Police dispersed the students and cleared the barricades; students scampered toward Abelardo Hall, the Physical Plant Office building, and the Faculty

Center. Police withdrew after destroying the barricades.

Undersecretary of National Defense Jose Crisol came to UP.

Police and Philippine Constabulary Metropolitan Command (MetroCom) rushed to Vinzons Hall after smashing the barricade on Katipunan road.

Students put up barricades all over the campus; but mainly along the College of Arts and Sciences (AS) area

Early Evening

Students and about seven cafeteria workers who were being chased by police officers ran from Vinzons Hall to the area of Sampaguita and Kamia dormitories; the dormers gave them refuge from pursuing policemen; some 50 students were brought to the police headquarters; dormers after the last military vehicles left the campus went in their dormitories; the dormers found some cash and valuables were missing.

UP SC member Alice Lagman called Malay to ask for food.

Students occupied Palma Hall and seized the DZUP station.

FEB. 3, 1971, WEDNESDAY

Early Morning

Red flags were hoisted on top of Palma and Melchor Halls; the Philippine flag was raised over Quezon Hall with its red side up; there were few people on the streets.



SP Lopez called for an assembly of UP constituents; a patrol jeep with a loudspeaker made the announcement around the campus.

Philippine Collegian Editorial courtesy of its editor Reynaldo Vea stated "Raise high the barricades!" It called on all UP students to defend academic freedom, preserve student's independence and to transform UP as a base of the national democratic cultural revolution.

11 AM

Protest Assembly at the AS Steps where a young Boni Ilagan spoke before a multitude and SP Lopez protested UP's militarization and proposed the University's closure.

Student lookouts on top of Palma Hall warned that soldiers were coming a few minutes before Lopez's speech was over.

About 10 faculty members met to dialogue with soldiers.

Quezon City police Capt. Clemente told Malay there were orders to clear the national road; faculty members pleaded with Capt. Clemente.

Afternoon

Capt. Clemente relented and ordered his troops to march back to their area in front of Quezon Hall.



IMAGE Ateneo Rizal Library

Three policemen fired their guns and tried to enter the Narra Residence Hall but were talked out of entering the dormitory.

Police clashed with the barricaders; tried to enter Vinzons Hall thrice only to withdraw thrice.

Senators visited the UP President's Office; explosions were heard coming from the direction of the Main Library and AS building; a group of senators sought audience with Philippine Pres. Ferdinand E. Marcos to request the recall of MetroCom as another group went to the barricades.

After one hour of waiting, Marcos called SP Lopez to say that the MetroCom will be withdrawn from UP campus.

FEB. 4, 1971, THURSDAY

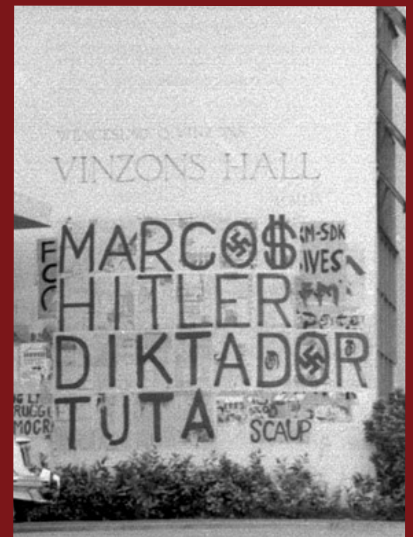
Morning

Police from Katipunan Road fired gunshots at the barricades along Quirino and Shuster Streets. Students hit back with pillbox and kwitis from the roof of the Narra Residence Hall.

Students took over UP Press; Malay offered to send two to three regular pressmen to help.

Bandilang Pula newspaper was printed with the help of pressmen from UP Press.

1410 kilohertz became a byword which stands for DZUP; the radio frequency was enhanced for broadcast to reach the whole of Metro Manila, and the areas of Cavite, Laguna and Bulacan.



FEB. 5, 1971, FRIDAY

"Bandilang Pula," the communards' newspaper came out.

New names were given to the buildings: Faculty Center became Jose Ma. Sison Center, Quezon Hall became Ka Dante Hall, the Main Library became Amado Guerrero Hall, and Abelardo Hall became Tanghalang Bayan.

cord which left him with a half-body paralysis and kept him wheelchair-bound for the rest of his life.

Area residents set a community patrol system to ensure security for those who chose to stay inside the campus.

First trip of a bus shuttle service inside the campus.

FEB. 7, 1971, SUNDAY

The day was quiet; there were talks of the Chemistry Lab as a kwitis factory.

Barricades were set up in UP Los Baños campus.

FEB. 8, 1971, MONDAY

Explosion was heard near the Sampaguita Residence Hall.

Gasoline drums belonging to the Weather Bureau were burned.

Dialogue among SP Lopez, Mayor Amoranto and Police Chief Karingal was held.

Amoranto said he would hold back on ordering the smashing of the barricades.

Karingal threatened to arrest UP SC Chair Baculinao and the barricaders.

SP Lopez sent his resignation statement to the media.

The "Provisional Directorate ng Demokratikong Komunidad ng Diliman" (Provisional Directorate) decided to lift the barricades.

FEB. 9, 1971, TUESDAY

The main barricades went down.

Classes resumed but many chairs and other facilities were missing.

Maintenance employees and students cleared the campus roads.

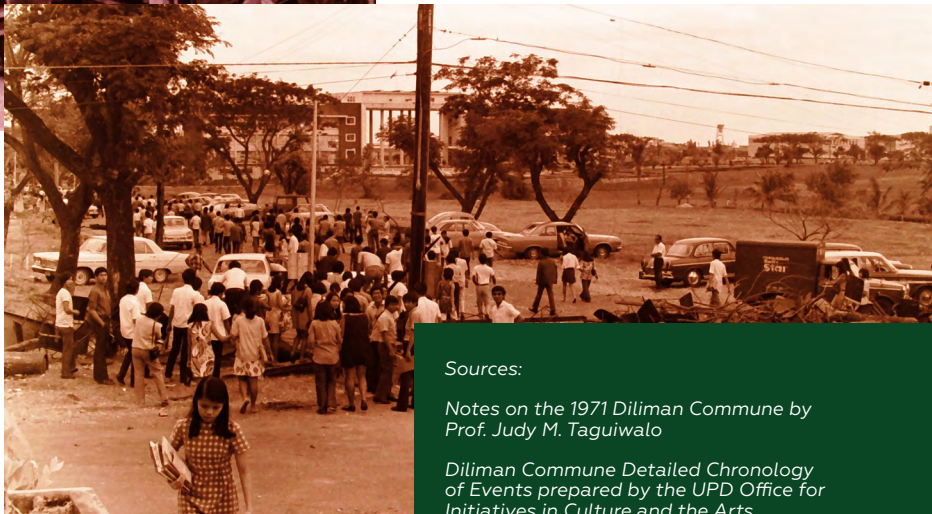
The Diliman Commune ended with the barricades removed at 8 a.m. by virtue of the announcement made by the Provisional Directorate.



FEB. 6, 1971, SATURDAY

Police and MetroCom smashed the barricades on Katipunan Road; three students were hurt.

Danilo "Dangke" Delfin of the Rayadillo Coy was hit by a sniper's rifle. He was taken to the Veterans Memorial Hospital. The bullet entered his left shoulder, damaging his lungs and spinal



Sources:

Notes on the 1971 Diliman Commune by Prof. Judy M. Taguiwalo

Diliman Commune Detailed Chronology of Events prepared by the UPD Office for Initiatives in Culture and the Arts