

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 246

REVOKING PROCLAMATION NO. 106 DATED MAY 11, 1987 AND RESERVING FOR SETTLEMENT PURPOSES THE LAND COVERED THEREBY UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION AND DISPOSITION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM

WHEREAS, a large tract of fertile agricultural public land, located in the municipalities of Hinunangan, San Juan and St. Bernard, province of Southern Leyte, consisting of THIRTEEN THOUSAND (13,000) HECTARES more or less, was found to be available and suitable for settlement purposes;

WHEREAS, said tract of public land has been previously reserved for settlement purposes, under Proclamation No. 1497, dated September 11, 1975 but was reverted to the status of forest land pursuant to Proclamation No. 106 dated May 11, 1987;

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 106 was issued to prevent illegal logging in the area under the guise of clearing lands for settlement purposes;

WHEREAS, subsequent investigations conducted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources confirmed that such activities have already been curtailed and that the Department of Agrarian Reform has made extensive developments in the area;

WHEREAS, the reversion of the area to the status of a forest land will not only affect the rights of individual settlers who have introduced improvements and developed portions of the said tract of land, but will also negate the developments and improvements introduced by the Department of Agrarian Reform on said tract of land;

WHEREAS, as a corrective measure, there is a need of reinstating the classification of the land as a reservation for settlement purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby revoke Proclamation No. 106, dated May 11, 1987, and reserve for settlement

purposes the land covered thereby under the administration and disposition of the Department of Agrarian Reform more particularly described as follows:

"A parcel of land situated in the municipalities of Hinunangan, San Juan and St. Bernard, province of Southern Leyte, beginning at a point marked "1" on plan being latitude 10 degree 18'36" and longitude 125 degree 12'27"

- thence S. 28 deg. 27' W., 1,851.98 m. to point 2;
- thence N. 74 deg. 26' W., 4,580.06 m. to point 3;
- thence N. 49 deg. 51' W., 6,766.99 m. to point 4;
- thence N. 3 deg. 27' W., 4,555.24 m. to point 5;
- thence N. 13 deg. 41' E., 3,731.20 m. to point 6;
- thence N. 49 deg. 37' W., 6,308.55 m. to point 7;
- thence N. 45 deg. 28' E., 4,863.43 m. to point 8;
- thence S. 51 deg. 16' E., 7,563.33 m. to point 9;
- thence S. 7 deg. 34' W., 4,153.05 m. to point 10;
- thence S. 59 deg. 06' E., 957.15 m. to point 11;
- thence S. 26 deg. 01' E., 11,452.70 m. to point of

beginning containing an approximate area of TWELVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY THREE (12,673) HECTARES, more or less.

In order to facilitate the development of the area subject of this proclamation, the Department of Agrarian Reform is hereby allowed to cut the available timber in the area for its use in the development of the settlement, subject to forestry laws, rules and regulations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the City of Manila, this 13th day of April in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and eighty-eight.

*Maximo B. Aquino*

By the President:

*Catalino Macaraig, Jr.*  
CATALINO MACARAIG, JR.  
Executive Secretary