



# Razor's Edge

By  
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*Joe Mari Mecedaer - Consul General Cecil Rebong.....*

## *Gripping With the Community Means Nothing*

*"... her enemies criticize her for doing nothing for Filipinos.. "*

NEW YORK, N.Y., Jan. 05 (*PinoyGlobal*) - I have been told that lately Consul General Cecile Rebong's speeches smack of *argumentum ad miserecordiam*, begging for sympathy. It is the opposite of *argumenutum ad hominem*, which is resorting to aggressive insults and this happens when reason flies out of the window. Often times *ad hominem* leads to *ad baculum* (violence).

They say Ms. Rebong's speeches have been revolving on just one theme lately, that her enemies criticize her for doing nothing for Filipinos in her domain - the East Coast. Could it be she knows her days are numbered with her job being coterminous with GMA or Secretary Alberto Romulo her boss who may have to resign because his corruption case is pending in the Sandiganbayan?

But if she is consistent she should also mention that the criticisms included the charge that she is selective with the people she socializes with, and that she demeans her position by brazenly kowtowing to so-called community leaders and photo-op maniacs who are obsessed to be pictured with "celebrities," public officials, politicians, clowns, comedians, singers and boxers.

While griped about the criticisms she gets her audience were whispering among themselves – "Tama



*New York Philippine Consul General  
Cecil Rebong*

nga naman, namimili siya sinong papansinin niya, meaning she selects the people she would talk with (discriminating on lowly domestic workers).

The nonentities with colonial mentality lionizing her go to any length just to be with their idol. They shamelessly exhibited this asinine penchant in Las Vegas, recently,

exhausting the limits of their credit cards just to bask in the shadow of popular figures present during the Pacman-De La Hoya bout, as if instantly they became public figures themselves by merely associating with important people. Although, primarily they all went to Las Vegas, for Pacquiao, hoping that the fame of Manny would spill on them as well.

**Vice President Noli De Castro, Speaker Prospero Nograles** and the retinue of VIPs among them governors, congressmen and mayors who came with the team of Pacman, only enjoyed collateral recognition because they could not eclipse Pacquiao here or in the Philippines. Curiously, their trip did not increase their mandate, which should be significant enough not because of joining the rodeo of our boxing icon in Nevada's Mecca for gamblers (Las Vegas) to be in the ring with Pacman on the magic of the night.

I know of some "bugoys" and drunkards went to Las Vegas just to have a picture with Pacquiao and that is all right, but not for the motive in their mind that the poor boy (from General Santos City), turned millionaire in dollars, will rub off his celebrity status on them, thus refurbishing their checkered reputation in the community. Pacman is not a miracle worker who could anoint or infect them with his greatness in the ring—a prowess solely his. This will never happen not for all the tea in China.

As expected they came back still with the stains on their names and faces and I will not be surprised if one of them was the one featured in this newspaper a few months back, as "A Swindler On The Loose." His scam is enticing prospective gullible partners to join his business ventures ending with him absconding the money and proceeds of the business.

I agonize to hear that Cecile Rebong described her critics as enemies because my criticisms against her are

not because I consider her an enemy because I don't. Nevertheless I feel alluded to by her remarks since I wrote that she has done nothing for Filipinos in distress in her turf in the East Coast. That poor lady who died and was almost decaying in the morgue because the Consulate did nothing to send her corpse to her family back in the Philippines, was rescued from decomposing only by the loud outcry of Filipino Americans asking Cecile to act at once.

Her domain in the Consulate is a mirror of discrimination and arrogance. Taxpayers are rudely made to wait indefinitely for their papers even though they paid for them already, while VIPs and friends of Rebong are ushered in the board room while their papers fly from one table to another signed by consuls and clerks and handed to them in a silver platter.

This syndrome of arrogance and subservience to her boss to mind Foreign Affairs Secretary Alberto Romulo who has shamelessly clung on the apron strings of Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo even when his subordinates spit on his name behind his back because he is arrogant, rude and unfair.

Now with more reason he hangs on to her (GMA) because his case for corruption in the Sandiganbayan filed by the prestigious Editor's Guild of the Philippines is pending. He allegedly, makes a handsome kickback yearly on laminated passports issued by the Foreign Affairs Department. Thanks to his patron saint Hollogram Industries whom he awarded the bidding even though another company won the bidding.

I do not say birds of the same feather flock together, because Cecile is not "involved" in anomalies that I know of, but they are akin to each other in their cavalier attitude of looking down their noses at humble Filipinos in their respective bailiwick. That is just as bad. #