Republika ng Pilipinas
PAMBANSANG PANGASIWAAN NG PATUBIG
(NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION)
TANGGAPAN NG TAGAPANGASIWA
Lungsod ng Quezon

MC # 84, s. 1968

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

TO : ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, CHIEFS OF DIVISIONS AND SECTIONS, AND REGIONAL ENGINEERS

SUBJECT : The Need for the Proper Channeling and Final Clearance of Statements and/or Information Intended for the Press

Recently, it has been noted that statements and/or information relating to policies, certain sensitive issues, and other important matters that are still the subject of discussion in the conference table had been picked up and given a wrong slant by certain sectors of the press. These statements and/or information were reportedly the results of casual conversations between members of the press and some officials of the NIA.

Conversations of this type between a representative of the press and a government official many times tend to go off course so much so that matters mentioned in good faith and not intended for publication are at times given varied interpretations, speculations - and worst, misinterpretations which in effect may prove prejudicial to the interests and official standing of the government agency concerned. Also, such conversations may prematurely place the agency concerned in an embarrassing position of appearing to have made an official commitment or stand on certain issues that are actually still under careful study and scrutiny.

Blame can not be placed entirely on the press representatives. They are understandably trying to do their duty to get the best materials which they sincerely believe are most newsworthy.

To preclude such unwholesome and embarrassing situations for the NIA, to maintain the good image of our Agency and to keep it out from unwarranted controversies, it is hereby earnestly enjoined upon all concerned that statements and/or information relating to sensitive issues, policies and other significant official matters concerning this Agency should be carefully prepared, reviewed and properly channeled through this Office for final clearance.

Please be guided accordingly.

ALFREDO L. JUINIO
Acting Administrator

December 4, 1968

GCM/ALJ/bcv