PREFACE

This monograph presents four case studies of political change in the Philippines, all of which are based on subnational units of analysis. The first case study describes political changes from one generation to the next in one village; the next two concern political changes at the provincial level; and the fourth analyzes political changes among chartered cities. This focus on local politics rather than on the nation-state as a whole permits, we believe, a more accurate understanding of national political trends. The purpose of the monograph is to add information to the existing body of literature on various sectors of Philippine society.

The essays here result from two conferences of the Association of Asian Studies. In March 1972 Professor Machado presented an early draft of his essay to the annual AAS meeting in New York City. Afterward he organized a panel for a regional meeting of the AAS in November 1972, this one focusing specifically on local politics in the Philippines. At this November panel Professors Benson, Nowak, Snyder, and I presented the original versions of our essays. Among the panel commentators was Professor Rosenberg, who offered a con-

structive critique of the papers. He and the other two commentators, Daniel Scheans and Nestor Pilar, demonstrated that the findings were interrelated even though we had worked independently and had used different approaches and methods.

Following the two professional conferences, we revised our papers, although we did this mainly to make editorial changes rather than to alter our arguments. Afterward, Professor Rosenberg wrote a conclusion to knit the four together.

Although these essays, with the exception of the conclusion, were written prior to the September 1972 declaration of martial law in the Philippines, they do provide valuable insights into the situation that led to its imposition. Professor Rosenberg's synthesis shows why martial law was a feasible alternative for the national political elite. He concluded that martial law was the result of increasingly concentrated economic and political power in the hands of the elite.

While doing research in the Philippines, each contributor accumulated debts to numerous individuals and institutions. We have acknowledged some of these in the essays themselves. But all of us here share a large debt of gratitude to the College of Public Administration of the University of the Philippines. All of us are especially grateful to

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the Local Government Center and to its director, Dr. Raul P. De Guzman (now dean of the college). For various periods between 1969 and 1971, we enjoyed the hospitality, assistance, services, and intellectual stimulation of the people in the college--its faculty, students, secretaries, and administrators. And certainly we were not the only young scholars to have found help there. Many had preceded us and many have followed. Consequently, we have dedicated this publication to the college as a small token of our appreciation. But because the college never directed nor restrained our separate researches, neither it nor anyone associated with it can be held responsible for errors or for the interpretations found in these essays.

Benedict J. Kerkvliet
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