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**SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS  
SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION ON THE  
DECEMBER 1, 1989 COUP ATTEMPT**

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*SWS Occasional Paper*

*December 1989*

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SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION  
ON THE DECEMBER 1, 1989 COUP ATTEMPT

500 GMA voting-age adults, December 11-18, 1989.  
Error margin: +/- 5%.

SUMMARY

- Coup attempt of 1989 even more unpopular than that of 1987.
- Pro-government forces again seen as heroes, and rebels as villains;
- Presidential performance rating bounces back up.
- Rebel rationalizations for coup have basis as factual social conditions, but do not justify coup.
- Rebel intentions no longer given benefit of the doubt.
- Public wants tougher disciplinary action against rebels.
- Even if rebels won, the public would not have collaborated.
- US assistance appreciated, but public attitude towards military bases is unchanged.
- No to martial law; yes to declaring state of emergency; however, present powers are enough to deal with it.
- Call is for Laurel and Enrile, not Aquino, to resign.
- Other unpopular figures are Maceda, Reyes, Concepcion, Quisumbing.

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS  
 Public Opinion on the  
 December 1989 Coup  
 Greater Manila Area

MARGIN OF SATISFACTION  
 RE PERFORMANCE DURING COUP  
 (% OF THOSE AWARE)

	Sep 87	Dec 89
Pres. Cory Aquino	+31	+43
B.Gen. Rodolfo Biazon	+41	+68
Gen. Alfredo Lim	+68	
Gen. Renato de Villa	+39	+58
Sec. Fidel Ramos	+43	+56
B.Gen. Alexander Aguirre		+50
Cardinal Sin		+47
Manila Police	+50	+41
Col. Honesto Isleta	+36	
Security Adviser R. Ileta	+23	+40
M.Gen. J. de Leon		+34
M.Gen. R. Montano		+31
Rear Adm. C. Cunanan		+30
B.Gen. G. Florendo		+27
Col. Voltaire Gazmin		+24
B.Gen. L. Abadia		+21
B.Gen. A. Galido		+20
M.Gen. M. Cacanando		+ 8
PSG	+23	+38
PC		+36
PMA	-11	+24
PAF Pilots		+16
Philippine Marines		+12
Scout Rangers		- 4

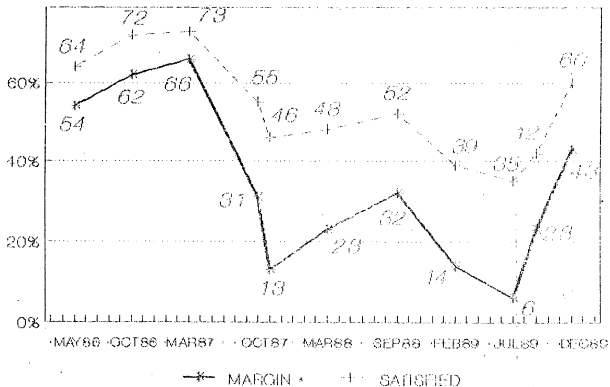
SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS  
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MARGIN OF SATISFACTION  
 RE PERFORMANCE DURING COUP  
 (% OF THOSE AWARE)

	Sep 87	Dec 89
Gen. E. Abenina	-19	- 3
Ex-B.Gen. J. Zumel		-19
B.Gen. M. Blando		-20
Gov. R. Aguinaldo		-26
Commodore D. Calajate		-34
B.Gen. J. Comendador		-37
Ex-Col. G. Honasan	-46	-56
Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile	-13	-57
VP Salvador Laurel	+15	-65
RAM		-46
Phil. National Red Cross		+85
Catholic Church		+65
DZRH		+78
DZEC		+25
Chief Justice M. Fernan		+29
Senate Pres. Jovito Salonga		+23
Speaker Ramon Mitra	+31	+19
Sen. Raul Manglapus	+42	+14
Senate	+25	+ 5
House of Reps.	+39	+ 1
Sen. Ernesto Maceda		-19
Foreign govts anti-coup		+44
US Pres. G. Bush		+22
US Embassy		+22
Foreign govts anti-US act		+17
US Ambassador N. Platt		+ 4

# PERFORMANCE RATING OF PRES. AQUINO

## Greater Manila Area



\* Satisfied minus Dissatisfied

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REASONS GIVEN BY THE REBELS	% WHO SAY THAT THE REASONS HAVE BASIS	
	Sep 87	Dec 89
Very low pay/benefits of military	71	73
Too much graft and corruption	54	73
Difficult life for most Filipinos		69
Hard to relay complaints to President	64	67
Neglect of basic needs of Filipinos		66
Weak/indecisive leadership in military	42	63
Favoritism in military promotions	48	59
Nepotism in govt	48	
Too strict human rights policy	48	
Low regard for military by govt officials	44	58
Weak/indecisive leadership in government		57
Communist-leaning high govt officials	37	55
Weak/indecisive leadership in DND		54
Lack of arms/equipment for military	54	50
Govt coddles Communist/Muslim rebels	37	39
Cheating in May 1987 elections	36	
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Do these complaints justify a coup?		
YES	30	30
NO	65	67
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Are these the true objective of the rebels , to grab power for selves or civilian backers		
AGREE	32	48
DISAGREE	44	24
-----		
If the Pres. is not performing her duties properly, any group within military has reason to overthrow her, even by force		
AGREE	33	28
DISAGREE	41	43

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DISCIPLINING THE MILITARY

What to do with rebels:

	Sep 87	Dec 89
	-----	-----
Don't punish anyone	18	11
Prosecute only leaders, but do not punish severely	15	10
Prosecute only leaders, and punish severely	17	30
Prosecute all, but do not punish severely	37	28
Prosecute all, and punish severely	11	20

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ATTITUDES TOWARD MILITARY GOVERNMENT

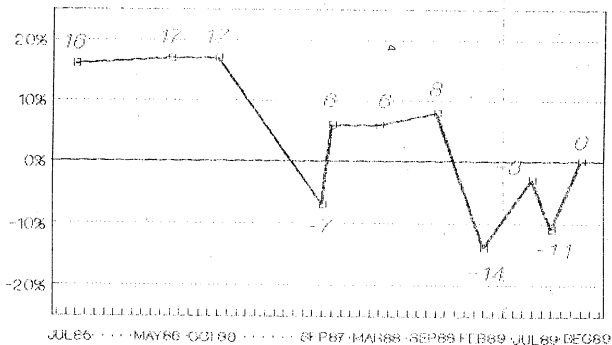
In case the rebels won and set up a military government:

	Sep 87 -----	Dec 89 -----
Active opposition/guerrilla movement	24	37
Neutral, non-oppositionist	42	42
Collaboration with new government	31	18



# U.S. INTENTIONS FOR THE FILIPINOS

Margin of Trust \*  
Greater Manila Area



\*Agree minus Disagree, to the test statement: "Most of what the U.S. gov't wants to happen in the Philippines is good for the Filipinos".

SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS  
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ATTITUDES TOWARDS U.S./FOREIGN INTERVENTION

	<u>AGREE</u>	<u>DISAGREE</u>
Foreign governments should not intervene in conflicts among Filipinos, no matter what happens	51	19
The rebels probably had foreign assistance in planning the coup	30	24
The rebels would probably have won, if the US had not helped the govt	48	20
To save the Aquino government, it was proper to ask for US help	40	24
Due to the US help during the coup, it will be hard to refuse what the US wants re the bases	43	17

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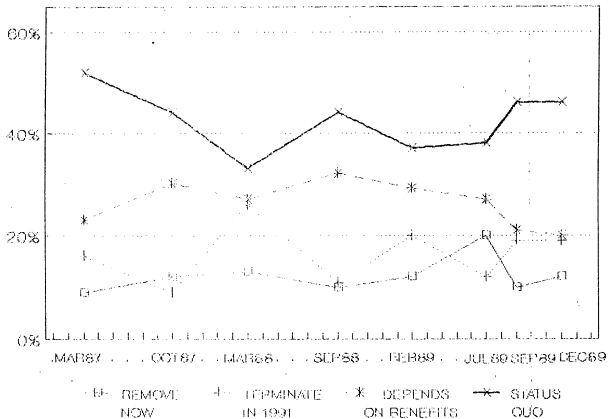
ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE U.S. MILITARY BASES

PREFERRED OPTION  
 (% OF THOSE AWARE OF PRESENCE OF BASES)

	REMOVE NOW	TERMINATE IN 1991	IT DEPENDS ON BENEFITS	STATUS QUO
Mar 87	9	16	23	52
Oct 87	12	9	30	44
Mar 88	13	26	27	33
Sep 88	10	11	32	44
Feb 89	12	20	29	37
Ju1 89	20	12	27	38
Sep 89	10	19	21	46
Dec 89	12	19	20	46

# ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE US MILITARY BASES

## Greater Manila Area



SOCIAL WEATHER STATIONS  
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CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT

	Sep 87 -----	Dec 89 -----
The citizens are ready to use "people power" again if necessary to save the Aquino govt from danger		
AGREE	62	53
DISAGREE	17	14
Given present conditions, it would help to declare martial law		
AGREE	33	28
DISAGREE	41	43
Right for the Pres. to have declared a state of emergency		
AGREE		60
DISAGREE		15
Possibility of Filipinos losing faith in peaceful means of promoting democracy		
BIG	49	35
SMALL	22	29

REGARDING RESIGNATIONS

Are there officials who should resign/be removed? YES: 83%.

If so, who? [open-ended; since 4.5% is the error margin, let us report only those with 5% or more]

	% of those who favor resignations/ removals -----
Salvador Laurel	52%
Juan Ponce Enrile	47
Ernesto Maceda	23
Reinerio Reyes	23 (incl Sec. of Transport/ Telecom)
Jose Concepcion	19
Lourdes Quisumbing	17
Ramon Mitra	12
Corazon Aquino	11
Entire cabinet	7
Jovito Salonga	6
Joseph Estrada	5
Jose Comendador	5

	AGREE -----	DISAGREE -----
Corazon Aquino should resign and a new President should be elected.	22	51
Salvador Laurel should resign and a new Vice-President should be elected.	65	11