

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION No. 578

**DECLARING MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15-17, 2004, AS
A PERIOD OF NATIONAL PRAYER AND SOLIDARITY
AGAINST TERRORISM IN DEEP SYMPATHY WITH THE
SPANISH PEOPLE AND ALL HUMANITY**

WHEREAS, the Filipino people join the Spanish people and all humanity in their grief for the loss of their loved ones and the injuries and damages caused by the unprecedented terrorist attack on March 11, 2004 on the Atocha Station, El Pozo Station and Sta. Eugenia Station, Madrid, Spain.

WHEREAS, peace-loving peoples of the world condemn such dastardly and deplorable acts of terrorism;

WHEREAS, the grief of countless families will be felt for a long time -"pain that cannot forget falls drop by drop upon the heart until in our despair against our will comes wisdom through the awful grace of God";

WHEREAS, as a gesture of our deep sympathy for such loss, it is fitting and proper that a period of prayer and solidarity against terrorism be observed throughout the country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALBERTO G. ROMULO, Executive Secretary, by order of Her Excellency, **GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**, President of the Philippines, do hereby declare Monday to Wednesday, March 15-17, 2004, as a period of National Prayer and Solidarity against Terrorism in deep sympathy with the Spanish people, and indeed with whole humankind, for this unspeakable tragedy.

Believing the path to peace is through prayers, I call on our countrymen to go to their churches, mosques and other places of worship on these days, to pray to the Almighty for the victims and to help the world in this scourge of terrorism.

During these days flags of all government buildings and installations, at home and abroad, shall be flown at the half-mast.

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 15th day of March, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and four.

By order of the President:


ALBERTO G. ROMULO
Executive Secretary

By the Executive Secretary:


JOAQUIN C. LAGONERA
Senior Deputy Executive Secretary

LIBRARY

Received

MAR 18 2004

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MARIANITO M. DIMAANDAL
DIRECTOR III
MALACANANG RECORDS OFFICE