At the end of the hearing our lawyers filed a Manifestation requesting that the new guidelines for EJKs be applied immediately to Pops case so as to assign special investigators with authority to summon the military officers handling the Bagani and Politicians connected with them. We have also additional witnesses ready to testify.

The public inquiry by the CHR and the new Guidelines of A.O. 35 raised expectations that finally the moment of truth will come for the Tentorio case. But, I was surprised that the CHR inquiry did not give us any official findings and recommendations, and apparently the new Guidelines are not yet implemented. Is this another set of promises with no results?

The Regional Prosecutor Al Calica has announced that he will soon issue the resolution on the charges filed, but he will base his conclusion only on the statements already filed. New testimonies and new investigations may follow later.

During the time of Cory Aquino the killers of Fr. Tullio Favali PIME were sentenced to life imprisonment even though their leader, commander Bukay Manero, was the most famous asset of the military during Martial Law who eventually served 23 years in prison, then he came to the grave of FR. Tullio and asked forgiveness... Now under Cory's son, who is the president now, is justice possible for Pops and other EJK victims? If not in the court of law, maybe in the court of Public Opinion? Certainly in the Court of God

Meanwhile, the witnesses may not stand forever, because they may be eliminated or pressure to surrender. The masters of the system of impunity maybe the same as the masters of the system of corruption. Will they last forever?

2 years since the killing of Fr. Fausto, so many investigators unable to investigate elements of the state forces that are still hiding under the practice of impunity which is an extension of Martial Law. So much waste of public funds, so many other cases denied the chance of justice in the court of law. Still we keep on seeking justice because "the truth will make us free".

Our persistent cry for justice keeps our martyrs alive and also their cause alive!

Prepared by:

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JPM Convenor