

Republic of the Philippines
Ministry of Public Highways
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER
Manila

April 19, 1979

MINISTRY ORDER

No. 164

Series of 1979

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SUBJECT: Retentions from the share of regular maintenance for roads and bridges of the different Highway District and City Engineering Offices

Some District and City Engineers are complaining that the bulk of their regular share for maintenance of national roads and bridges is being withheld in the Regional Offices, obligated for rentals of equipment to be used by them in maintenance operations; that because of these so many retentions, the amount actually released to the District and City Engineering Offices is not sufficient to effectively maintain their roads and bridges; and what is worse, according to them, is that if there are savings or balances of the amounts retained for payment of equipment rentals, such balances are never released to them but are used to purchase materials and tools by the Regional Offices for the districts without their knowledge and/or request.

To improve the present procedure regarding the release of the regular shares of provinces and cities for maintenance of national roads and bridges within their respective areas and to ensure that this fund is used for more effective maintenance, it is hereby directed that henceforth, the following procedures shall be strictly followed:

1. The regular share for maintenance of national roads and bridges of District and City Engineering Offices shall be released thru the Regional Offices. The Regional Director may retain 10% of the total amount released for contingency purposes, to be used only during times of emergency and/or natural calamities.
2. Upon receipt of their allocation for maintenance of national roads and bridges, the District or City Engineering Office concerned shall obligate forty percent (40%) of the amount received for rentals of equipment to be used in carrying out its maintenance program. These obligated amounts should in no case be used for other purposes. However, if before the end of the calendar year the District or City Engineer concerned can secure a certification from the Chief of the Regional or Area Equipment Services that his office has no more unpaid rental obligations for equipment used in maintenance work and there is still a balance left of the amount obligated, such balance may be used to procure tools, materials or supplies needed for further maintenance work.

Any District or City Engineer who shall use the amount obligated for the payment of equipment rentals, for other purposes and will not be able to pay the rentals of equipment used in his maintenance program as a result thereof, shall be held liable for technical malversation of public funds and/or gross violation of reasonable office orders and, for which reason, he may be summarily dismissed from the service.

All previous orders, memoranda or circulars inconsistent with this Order are hereby modified and/or superseded as the case may be.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

BALEAZAR AQUINO
Minister

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