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Incidental Intelligence

PCGG exec suspended

ON the complaint of Lin Bildner, former PCGG Commissioner Ricardo Abcede was found "guilty of misconduct." He was suspended for six months.

The decision was made on June 11. A copy of it was received by the complainant on August 11. That's what we call "snail mail." It took two months to deliver.

The point is Abcede is no longer a PCGG commissioner. So, what did Deputy Ombudsman Orlando Casimiro suspend him from?

This needs clarification. At the time the complaint was filed,

Abcede was still in government service. It took Casimiro too long a time to make a decision that is now moot.

Stupid defense

IN defending himself, Abcede told the Ombudsman that his case is one of mistaken delivery. How can it be when the invoice is in his name? Somebody from Toyota testified that he saw Abcede inspecting the Toyota Camry himself. He paid P1.6 million using money from Philcomsat Holdings.

The car was supposed to be registered in the name of the company. It was never used by anybody else.

Randolf Nicolas, graft investigator, recommended the suspension as early as Oct. 30, 2009. At that time, Abcede was still commissioner of the PCGG.

Bodji Robles to SC

WE jumped the gun on President Aquino. We said two weeks ago that Bodji Robles had been appointed to the Supreme Court and that after the appointment, the Chief Executive sent back the short list to the Judicial and Bar Council.

We took that to mean the President did not like any of the names in the short list although there are two vacant positions in the Supreme Court.

Truth is, Robles has not been appointed and the short list was not returned to the JBC.

Now we have it on good authority that the appointment of Robles may be announced this week. We regret shooting from the hip. It was a slip-up of our historically reliable source in Malacañang.