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FROM THE FRONT PAGE

More bets expected to quit...

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Deficer returned from the United States to become a state witness at the investigation of the 2000 murders of publicist Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver, Emmanuel Corbito.
Former Senior Supt. Cezar Mancao has implicated Lacson to the murders. Lacson has denied any role in the killings.
Faring poorly in surveys
Faced with the threat of being charged in the killings, Lacson is faring poorly in surveys. Getting only 4 percent, he trailed De Castro (18 percent), Escudero (17 percent), Estrada (15 percent), Villar (14 percent) and Roxas (13 percent) in the Pulse Asia survey last month of voters' preferred presidential candidates.
Interviewed over radio station dzBB, Angara said Lacson's decision was expected.
"It's possible that it's not only (Lacson) (who will pull out from the race)," said Angara, head of

the once dominant Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino.
In a phone interview, Legarda said that next year, there would be three candidates for president at the minimum and four or five at the maximum.
Unrealistic
Legarda said the present list of presidential hopefuls was "unrealistic."
Other personalities will drop the idea of running for president in May 2010 not only because of limited resources but also because of coalitions and mergers, she said.
Asked how serious she was about seeking the presidency, Legarda, whose rating in the Pulse Asia survey dropped five points to 7 percent in May from 12 percent in February, said she would soon make an announcement on her plans.
She said she could go around the country and consult the people only in July because she still

had to meet her commitments to the United Nations, including speaking at the meeting of the UN Secretary General in Geneva on June 16.
Legarda earlier said she would run for president next year.
Romance
In a separate phone interview, Roxas said he was "very serious" in seeking the presidency and in serving the people.
"The Liberal Party will participate in [the] 2010 [elections]," said Roxas, the party's president.
His survey numbers have been improving since he announced on a noontime TV show in April that he would marry broadcaster Korina Sanchez.
Roxas acknowledged that his romance with Sanchez was a factor in the boost he got from the Pulse Asia survey.
He has been spending heavily on TV ads. ■

The Nacionalista Party: 100 Years...

PAGE A1 ◀
clear vision of what a nation should be at a time when certain sectors were agitating for being simply a federal state.
The Nacionalista Party is an organization brought to life with a vision of promoting love of country among Filipinos. The motto "*Ang Bayan Higit sa Lahat*" (The Nation Above All Else) has always been the fundamental and basic guiding principle of the party in its programs, advocacies and undertakings.
The party's colorful history is made more historic by its past Party Presidents—Sergio Osmeña, Manuel L. Quezon, Jose Yulo, Eulogio 'Amang'

Rodriguez, Sr., Gil J. Puyat, Jose B. Laurel, Jr., Salvador 'Doy' Laurel, who navigated through the colonial, neo-colonial, and independent stages of the country producing, in the process, six Philippine Presidents and a stellar cast of senators and congressmen.
Sen. Manny Villar, the party's current president, continues with the party's mission to unify Filipinos, now still against the oppressive clutches of poverty and inequality. For the past five years, Sen. Villar has been at the helm of NP, infusing new blood to the party, strengthening the involvement of the youth and encouraging party-mates to a more pro-active role. ■

Arroyo allies plan Con-ass next...

PAGE A1 ◀
A pastoral statement issued over the weekend by Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, urged peaceful protests against HR 1109, but Domogan said the Church action was "premature."
"The final judge would be the Filipino people in a plebiscite that I would ratify whatever proposals that would be approved [by a constituent assembly]," Domogan

told reporters in Baguio.
Referring to criticism that Cha-cha was meant to prolong the term of the President, which is expiring next year, Domogan pointed out that HR 1109 did not seek the extension of term limits of elective officials.
Everyone invited Domogan said the House would start the Cha-cha process when Congress resumes in July by "inviting everyone" to form the constituent assembly, including senators.

According to him, the assembly would proceed even if senators refused to cooperate, unless the high court is allowed to deliberate on HR 1109's constitutionality.
"We want the court to settle once and for all how to interpret the provisions guiding Charter amendments so that the next Congress won't have to argue should they move to invoke this mode of amending the Constitution," Domogan said. (*Inquirer.net*)

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