

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Binay considers running for VP

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dena Honda on Tuesday night. "I am willing to slide down to the Vice-President position if it would be a reason for us to be united," Binay said. There were speculations that he might settle for the number two position due to a crowded presidential field and because of a perception that being Mayor of Makati City

would not be enough experience to qualify him to be President of the Philippines. Binay belongs to the opposition and he is President of PDP-Laban. "Questions like that remind me of your experience in the United States," Binay told Fil-Ams. "Clinton, Reagan, Carter were governors (before they were elected President). The

number one official in China's government used to be the mayor of Shanghai, and the President of France now used to be a city mayor," Binay said. "In two elections, the Presidents of the Republic of China (Taiwan) were former mayors of Taipei."

Binay said that he had been mayor of Makati since February 1986, following the EDSA "People Power" revolution. "I also usually say, 'what is the job of a President that I have not encountered as a city mayor?'" He claimed that Makati City has a nighttime population of 600,000. But that number swells to four million in the daytime, owing to the number of people who work at the city's financial district.

The city's financial district is home to 34 consulates, 453 banks, 6 five-star hotels, and 3,000 restaurants. It is also an urban tourist destination. Binay is very proud of his accomplishments as mayor since he was appointed by Local Governments Secretary Nene Pimentel after Cory Aquino took power in February 1986.

Makati's approximately 5,000 senior citizens each receive a yearly allowance that total PPh 2,000, and a burial allowance of PPh 3,000. They receive a cake on their birthdays every year, are entitled to free movies in all

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