**Ugly American**

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| **Tuesday, February 17, 2009** |
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| My good friend, the lawyer Juliano “Jelly” Nacino, former legal counsel of the National Press Club, emailed me an open letter by a certain Art Bell, a radio talk show host from Nevada, USA, and the reply from Ms. May Muñoz, a Filipina.  Although the e-mail did not specify his personal background, I suspect that Bell is a neo-Nazi or belongs to the white supremacist group in the US whose consuming desire is to wipe out from the face of the earth all black Americans, Jews and other non-white minorities.  The open letter, which Bell first aired in his radio program and rebroadcast throughout the US, is dripping with insults and slander against the Filipino people.  Because of limited space, I cut some portions both of Bell’s hate letter and the reply of Ms. Muñoz but without diluting their substance.  Here is Bell’s open letter:  **Filipinos make me puke**  In the past few decades, Filipinos have begun to infest the United States like some sort of disease. Their extensive involvement in the US Armed Forces is proof of the trashy kind of qualities all Filipinos tend to exhibit on a regular basis.  Are Filipinos really Asians? Well we’ve come to accept the fact the Filipinos come from a part of the world known as Southeast Asia. But the term ‘Asia’ is used in the wrong way. You may notice that contemporary Filipino Americans try very hard to associate themselves with groups that we know as Asian.  I cannot count the number of times I have seen a ‘Third World’ Filipino try to connect himself to the Chinese or Japanese people. There is no connection. The Philippines is a Third World country. Nothing respectable has ever been created by Filipino people during our entire human history.  It’s even funnier that, in Japan, Filipinos are heavily discriminated against. The only Filipinos that can live successfully in Japan are the Filipino prostitutes. But that’s the case for most Filipino people no matter where they live in the world.  Nothing in the Filipino culture can be seen as Asian. They have no architectural, artistic, or cultural influence, which is in anyway Asian. Thinking of the great countries in Asia such as Japan, Korea, and China there is no way you can possibly connect the Philippine Islands. This assault by Filipino Americans to connect themselves with the great peoples of North East Asia is foul and disgusting. Nothing good has ever come from Philippines and I don’t believe anything good ever will.  A message to Filipinos: Please recognize your roots. You come from the Third World. Your country is a disgusting and filthy place. Most people there live in poverty. Your culture has much more Spanish influence than Chinese and absolutely no Japanese influence whatsoever.  **Here is Ms. Muñoz’ reply:**  I find this funny although he is right in some ways because Filipinos don’t actually have an ‘identity’. I think this is due to the confusion of our mixed races from Hispanic, Chinese, American and Malay origins. Imagine young generations wearing ski caps and ski goggles in a tropical country, baggy pants like that of African Americans in the Bronx of New York.  But Bell’s ignorance also blinds him from the other truth. He is not aware that a nameless Filipino may be responsible for some technical aspects of some Japanese software.  That the antibiotic Erythromycin was discovered by Dr. Abelardo Aguilar from Iloilo creating the brand ‘Ilosone.’ That the fluorescent lamp we use today was invented by Agapito Flores (a Cebuano named Benigno Flores of Bantayan Island, according to the Philippine Daily inquirer), a Filipino scientist. That the personal physician of former US President Bill Clinton was Eleanor ‘Connie’ Concepcion Mariano, a Filipina doctor who was the youngest captain in the US Navy.  Who does he think educate the toddlers of Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan? Filipino nannies who are loving and caring. And on prostitution, Filipinos are not the only ones engaged in this oldest profession. All he has to do is watch porn movies featuring American prostitutes. And it’s only in America that you have dial-a-sex service.  We do not need to create an identity for ourselves. We are who we are. At least we still have our own values. We don’t put our aging parents in nursing homes. We don’t have that much number of single mothers who get pregnant in their early teens and eventually became parasites of the government. Yes, we came to your country to work, to earn decent money, half of which, by the way, goes to taxes because there are so many social parasites in your race.  Ms. Muñoz has said it all. All I can add is that if Art Bell comes to visit Manila, not a few Filipinos would love to skin him alive.  **opinion@manilatimes.net** |