

COLLEGE LIBRARY
ATENEO DE DAVAODS
Davao City -
Water Supply
P -3

27

BULLETIN TODAY, MON., AUG. 9, 1976

Davao water source polluted

DAVAO CITY, Aug. 8 — The Malagos water reservoir here is polluted and the water it supplies to at least three districts in Davao city is not safe for drinking.

This was disclosed the other day by city health officer Jose Salcedo Quimpo who said the Malagos watershed is now occupied by squatters who wash, bathe and throw their refuse within the vicinity of the dam.

"During a heavy rain, all the dirt finds its way into the reservoir," Quimpo said.

Quimpo produced a copy of a letter addressed to the city mayor stating that water samples taken from the dam are "bacteriologically unsatisfactory".

The dam supplies wa-

ter to Calinan, Tugbok, Mintal and Cataunan Grande districts, all in this city.

The unsanitary condition within the water source was pinpointed by Quimpo as one of the main causes of dysentery in Calinan and Tugbok during the hot summer months.

What is worse, Quimpo said, is that some portions of the watershed have already been titled to certain occupants and he blamed certain government agencies for this.

Quimpo said that when he went to Malagos some six years ago, he discovered that squatters had started encroaching within the watershed. "Now," he said, "they are all over."

To rehabilitate the reservoir, Quimpo proposed

the following:

— Drive the people from the reservoir and cancel the titles of those who have encroached within the watershed;

— Improve the treatment of water in the dam;

— People living near the reservoir should not be allowed to wash and bathe from 250 meters below the dam;

— Water district employes should not be allowed to build houses within 500 meters from the dam;

— Regular chemical and bacteriological examinations of water from the reservoir must be done to check the potability of water;

— Regular cleaning of the reservoir;

— Increase the number of security guards; and

— Fence the whole reservoir area.

ple
and
ose
red
at-
um;
par
lot
nd

