MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 24
Series of 1985

TO : All Private Employment Agencies, Service and Construction Contractors, Manning Agencies, Organizations engaged in the conduct of PDOS and All Filipino Contract Workers.

SUBJECT: Common Violations Committed by Filipino Contract Workers in Saudi Arabia: For Dissemination during PDOS.

Please be informed that an analysis of the offenses committed by Filipino Contract Workers who are in jail in Saudi Arabia shows that an overwhelming majority of them are in jail for offenses which could have been avoided if these workers have stronger personal discipline. The top five offenses for which workers were arrested and jailed are as follows:

1. Gambling - 35.5%
2. Drug or Marijuana possession/trafficking/pushing - 13.6%
3. Theft/robbery/serious physical injuries - 12.9%
4. Expired or without Iqama - 11.15%
5. Drunkenness or possession/ drinking of liquor - 4.2%

Car accidents (3.8%) rank sixth as the cause for arrest and detention of Filipino workers. The other kinds of violations are immorality, possession of indecent pictures, misappropriation of funds, going out without permits, and forgery/counterfeiting.

The above information clearly indicates that with a more effective PDOS program, we can prevent a lot of our workers from being arrested and imprisoned in foreign jails. In view of this, everyone is enjoined to give the Pre-Departure Orientation Seminar a more serious attention and that the above information be relayed to the participants during PDOS in order that they may be properly forewarned.

16 September 1985.

CRESCENCIO M. SIDDAYAO
Deputy Administrator and Officer-in-Charge