

**Subject:** September 11 and the real Marcos Legacy

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Dear Rappler Reader,

Today, the Senate resumes its inquiry into the [P6.4 billion worth of shabu shipment](#) from China.

While the nation waits for the next installment in this over a month-long saga, our [#AnimatED](#) takes on an issue that continues to polarize the country: efforts to reinvent history and portray the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos in a positive light.

The most preposterous claim so far is that the late dictator [took Philippine gold bars in order to protect the economy](#). Further that the Marcos family is charitable enough to return the wealth they took because they want to help the Duterte administration with its programs.

President Duterte also declared Marcos' birthday: September 11, as a [special holiday in Ilocos Norte because he is hero to the Ilocanos](#).

We ask: was the same honor conferred by Germany and Cambodia on Hitler and Pol Pot? Sept. 11 is important, our [#AnimatED](#) concedes. But it should be used as an opportunity help today's youth understand the real legacy of the Marcos dictatorship. Because a correct understanding of the dark days of the Martial Law is key to understanding our current national situation.

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