

The write-up and photos below were lifted off a blog “The Aristocratic Thieves” that denigrates the Benitez clan. Link is below.

<https://aristocraticthieves.wordpress.com/>

The write-up from the above blog summarizes the accident at the Manila Film Center in 1981, and puts squarely the blame of the gruesome events following the accident on Betty Benitez.

A much expanded write-up about the Cultural Center and other monumental projects of Imelda Marcos are in another blog with link shown below (copy & paste to your browser):

<http://tinyurl.com/hxcalnk>

Reported by Danny Gil, 11/29/16

--o0o--

We Googled this bit of information and we found this [piece in the Philippine Star by the late great journalist Teddy Benigno](#). He said that in 1981, Betty was handling the 24/7 construction works of Imelda Marcos’ Manila Film Center. At around 3:00AM, the scaffolding collapsed and at least 169 workers fell and were buried under quick-drying wet cement.

Mr. Benigno wrote: ***“Hundreds were buried in the cement debris. Thousands? Nobody in authority knew about the tragedy at the time, not even Imelda. Betty Benitez, a high priestess of the film festival, was immediately notified by telephone. Her instructions were to rope off the place, not to allow media to penetrate. It was martial rule, remember? This scandal had to be kept secret.”***



Other [sources even said that it was Betty who ordered to pour more concrete over the piles of dead bodies](#). Tragically, Betty died months later in a bizarre accident in Tagaytay.



Betty Bantug-Benitez and
Conrado “Jolly” Benitez