

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE INAUGURATION OF THE BICOL INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

[Delivered in Daraga, Albay | 07 October 2021]

Kindly sit down. Thank you.

In bold letters nandito, "Mr. President, we are live on TV kaya huwag kang magmura." *[laughter]* This is not a place for epithets and making curses. Ano ito, pormal ito.

You know, in the hindsight, one of the things disappointed ang mga taga-Davao is because sinabi ko sa lahat sa Cabinet, the funds walang political alignments, walang political color. It will be distributed equally. But there was one caveat na sinabi ko kay Art, "Unahin ninyo ang ibang lugar, huwag ang Davao." So ang Davao kung napunta kayo, hindi makalahati sa ganda, and the space, crowded masyado.

Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade; Senator Bong Go; Presidential Adviser for Bicol Affairs Marvel Clavecilla... Iyong mga kaibigan mong NPA, pakisabi nga sa kanila na they have been overtaken by modernization ng bayan. Iyong sinunog nila dito, it only shows their bankruptcy in the mind. Hindi ako bilib sa tapang-tapangan nila.

Albay 2nd District Representative Joey Salceda; Ako Bicol Partylist Representative Alfredo Garbin; Albay 3rd District Representative Fernando Cabredo; Ako Bicol Partylist Representative --- officials in attendance; Albay Governor Al Francis Bichara, sir, nice to see you, it's been a long time; Daraga Municipal Mayor Victor Perete; Daraga Municipal Vice Mayor Gerry Raphael Jaugian --- Jaucian --- pasensya ka na matanda na ang --- nagdodoble minsan --- fellow workers in government; Lt. Col. Connie De Leon of the PNP, saan ka ba? Mahiyain masyado itong --- ano eh aide ko 'yan, taga-Daraga ito, balang araw mag-mayor 'yan mga kababayan. Na-miss na niya. Biyuda 'yan. Ang asawa niyan pulis, pinatay ng NPA. Ang tatay ng asawa niya pulis, pinatay ng NPA. Ewan ko kung anong nakuha nila. What gain or gains they earn by killing people? It used to be a very relevant issue 'yang insurgency because of the dynamics of our society, at one time.

But, you know, kami ni Presidential Adviser sa Bicol, si Marvel Clavecilla, naalaala ko pa, fourth year law kami and we could not go to the school because of the constant riots between the police and the --- mga --- `yung panahon na `yun siguro. But to continue... Galit ako sa kanila. To continue the killing and continue the ferocity of the hate, ewan ko kung anong gusto nitong mga `to. But I am not happy with them. I am glad that we suspended ito. Maybe the next president can do it, but hindi ko kaya.

May I read my speech, this is only two pages. Tapos uwi na tayo.

It is my pleasure to join you today on the inauguration of the Bicol International Airport.

The completion of this world-class and state-of-the-art government infrastructure project brings us pride and joy as it will provide better transportation for our people who are traveling to and fro the Bicol region.

I congratulate the Department of Transportation, as well as the local officials and project partners, including the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, for turning the Bicol International Airport into a reality after an 11-year delay.

Indeed, today's inauguration is another milestone in the administration's "Build, Build, Build" Program. We are fulfilling our vision of improving the lives of Filipinos by providing quality infrastructure projects that allow for greater connectivity and mobility, create more jobs, and boost economic activity in other regions.

This airport, also dubbed as the "Most Scenic Gateway" in the country, promises to provide an unforgettable travel experience not only to visitors but also to many Bicolanos.

On this note, I urge the management and staff of the Bicol International Airport to ensure that your passengers will get the best quality of service they deserve.

I am confident that, once fully operational, this airport will be able to serve the needs of those which expected two million passengers annually, and provide the efficiency, reliability, and safety standards to ensure a modern airport.

Let us look forward to a stronger and more vibrant future of the entire Bicol region and its surrounding provinces.

Mabuhay at congratulations para sa inyong taga-Bicol! [*applause*]

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