

Presidential Communications Operations Office

Presidential News Desk

SPEECH OF

PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE

DURING THE COMMISSIONING OF THE BARKO NG REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS (BRP) MELCHORA AQUINO

[Delivered at the Pier 15, South Harbor in Manila | 12 June 2022]

Let me --- mag-segue ako sandali, iyong commanders ng --- lahat ito sabihin mo na basa na. Give the orders for them to seek shelter. Eh basa na rin ako sa Luneta ako galing eh. Tell them to... Kindly retire. Do not allow yourselves to be soaked in the rain. Matatanda na tayo.

So my being here is very limited. But just to say a few words, I have a one page to read this commissioning. But let me thank the Department of Transportation for a job well done. *[applause]*

And I am... You should clap your hands kay Secretary Tugade. *[applause]* As you will know he was my classmate sa law school, valedictorian rin 'yan. And well four years we have known each other. Kay noong naghanap ako ng tao na maasahan ko, lalo na you know, alam mo na, there are so --- thousands of transactions everyday. You have to keep up your vigilance. But if the head of an agency or a squad leader can be depended upon because he has integrity, mas maganda ang ating bayan. I hope that it will blossom some more.

We have gone a long way to improve. Pasalamat ako kay Arthur, including the railways. In our own humble way, sabi nga niya, we delivered. And that is all. We do not need any adoration. We do not need any excessive inordinate thanksgiving kasi lahat tayo sa gobyerno at bayad tayo.

So we are really expected to do our respective duties. So far, the Coast Guard has an excellent record and participation even *[applause]* sa struggle

sa Mindanao. You have helped government a lot maintaining its independence and integrity as a republic. So bilib ako sa inyo.

And I said at no other time na ang Coast Guard binigyan ng importansiya. At I can only thank my classmate, Arthur Tugade, for being --- husbanding the entire agency sa Coast Guard. I am very much impressed. Kaya lang spoiler lang itong ulan.

But anyway, someday I could maybe ride with the Coast Guard to see. Maski na civilian na ako, sana bigyan ninyo akong kaunting ano lang --- I do not expect more --- 'yung kaunting --- that you can invite me to ride with you and hindi naman ako. It does not have any ramifications because civilian na ako. And I could maybe ride with you diyan sa West Philippine Sea. It is a gamble.

But you know you have at one time in our national life that we have to assert the --- what is ours. Wala man akong ano --- kaibigan ko si President Xi Jinping. And we have talked a lot in the so many visits that I did in the past years. Pero I made it clear to him, giklaro ko lang sa kanya na we cannot give up sovereignty over the waters sa Philippine Sea, including the exclusive economic zone because it's vital for our national life.

The population is growing and we have to keep pace. You know even in the food security in the coming years mahirapan tayo. And the longer that this ruckus in Europe between Russia and Ukraine continues, mag-spiral talaga 'yan. That's what I've been warning the Filipinos two months ago.

Sabi ko there is a fighting over there. But 'yung flow ng oil will be disrupted. And so 'yung hindi nag-ano sa... Maraming pera sila eh. Makakuha sila ng priority 'yung --- the nations that are rich.

Tayo, we'll have to be very careful to navigate and maybe there are countries will look kindly upon us to give us the fuel of the economy.

Alam mo hindi gumana, itong ito, lahat 'to nakita mo, this is oil. Lahat ng sahig 'yan, that is oil, because galing 'yan sa makina. Even the construction, 'yung metal or whatever is being used there it's produced by machines. And those machines get their power from the government. 'Pag 'yan ang naputol, we are really in a bind.

Now the reason why I choose to talk to you, kaunti lang naman sana, I have to go to Valenzuela pero basa na kaming lahat kasi I could not ano sa Luneta may mga tao doon sa across the --- in front of Rizal.

So hindi ko naman puwedeng talikuran. Eh pumunta ako doon, doon nag-umpisa 'yung ulan. Bwisit itong yawa na ito.

So I choose, ninakaw ko na lang 'yung opportunity although it's not in the program is because I've been warning that the longer... Well, aside from the fact that there is really danger to the world if Russia decides to use nuclear arms, 'pag naipit siguro sila. And I hope the Ukrainians would have the common sense na hanggang boundary lang sila because they are using the arms of the United States and of the West.

Pagka mag-intrude sila sa territory, you know that would really put the entire population in this planet in jeopardy. Tutuyo talaga ito. So we are praying that it would not happen and somehow sinabi ko nga I never criticized Xi Jinping. But at one time in the early stages nakita ko 'yung mga civilian na...

Tayo pumapatay, walang problema 'yan, lalo na law enforcement, NBI, pumapatay tayo. Pero ang pinapatay natin kriminal. Eh ibang istorya 'yan kung magbomba ka, it's a different story. If you start to bomb civilian population, that is not the behavior that we would like to see in this 21st century. At this late day and age of our civilization, I cannot really find a very cogent reason why a war should break out.

That is why tayo sa Pilipinas vis-à-vis with China --- I'm glad that they have also adopted the same behavior --- we continue to talk. If there is any --- huwag lang gray ships --- Coast Guard, well Coast Guard to Coast Guard lang kayo. We do not send gray ships there because 'yung mga barko na ano panggiyera 'yan. It would project a different picture for everybody.

But we cannot afford fighting with China. We cannot win and we will lose and the population will suffer. The Filipino nation would be in a very tight situation, a quandary of how to go about I said navigating the geopolitical issues in Europe and here, Taiwan.

Ako I am praying that this can be sorted out by just talking. There's really no need to kill a human being. Ako dito I've been criticized, extrajudicial killing and all, wala sa akin 'yan. Ang order ko talaga sa inyo noon pa: go out and destroy the apparatus of the drug syndicates in the Philippines. And if you have to kill because you have to protect yourself from being killed, do it. And ako ang nagbigay ng order and I said for this, I will assume full legal responsibility, akin 'yan, akin lang 'yan. Sinasalo ko lahat.

Basta ikaw nagtrabaho ka diyan drug or something and the --- they interfere itong International Criminal Court, huwag kayong matakot. Sabihin mo, "*utos 'yan ni Duterte.*" Pagdating sa akin, "*oo, utos ko.*" Why? I am mandated by the Constitution to protect my country and that it is a country that is safe and everybody is comfortable.

You go to drugs, nag-warning na ako, when I was mayor I said, "*Do not destroy my city because I will kill you.*" When I became President, I gave the same warning, wala akong pretensions, I told the police and everybody, kayong lahat, do your duty in accordance with law. In the performance, if it is lawful, and you run into trouble, I will be there even if I'm no longer President to protect you. Ako, ako ang magsagot. Kung wala kang abugado, abugado ako, I will appear in court for you. Iyan ang guarantee ko sa inyo.

Just remember the major problems of our country and the entire --- protection of the people. Do not allow drugs to overrun this country. And if you have to do something, you are --- we are all Filipinos. Drugs will destroy our country, tandaan ninyo 'yan.

Just like in [Sinaloa], in Mexico, it is the drug lords, the cartel who decides who would be mayor for a city or a pri --- governor for that province. Ang drug syndicate na, hindi na nila kaya because na --- na pari --- it has come to a parity in power and influence. Tinabla na nila 'yung influence ng gobyerno pati 'yung armas. That's why they can do nothing.

But dito, huwag ninyong payagan 'yan. Sabi ko nga kung hulihin mo my --- the orders are very clear: destroy the apparatus, the organization. And if you --- you know, you --- you encounter... Alam mo ganito 'yan eh --- give me about five minutes.

Ang human rights, sabihin niyan dito, "*O si Duterte pinatay niya ito.*" Maybe true, maybe not true sa karami niyan. I never gave an order to kill a particular person, I just told you.

Ito 'yung human rights, ito 'yung listahan pinatay ni Duterte. P*****. Baliktarin mo, ito 'yung listahan, the social order that is disrupting my country.

Maglagay ka lang ng isang drug addict diyan sa pamilya mo, wala na. And ang masakit sa akin 'pag maghiwalay ang mga anak at 'yung karamihan ng

Pilipino walang mapuntahan kay walang trabaho, we cannot provide employment for all at this time. The economy cannot absorb them.

So may --- 'yang mag-hanapbuhay, 'yung iba magpunta ng Middle East. There are about 3 million Filipinos there. At 'yung nandoon sila kasi maghiwalay 'yung asawa, iniwan 'yung mga anak sa kapatid, 'yung iba doon sa kapitbahay nila. And these Filipinas work their a** to death. Makita mo sa report, three hours of sleep, four hours.

Kaya kita mo ang suicide nila, ang rate ng Pilipinang mamatay, tatakbo tapos tatalon. Why? They cannot go out because the door is locked.

So kung kontrata mo three years, three years nandiyan ka hindi ka makalabas. Day in, day out, maglinis ka ng bahay ng amo mo tapos maglinis ka pa ng bahay sa daughter-in-law tapos kapatid ng... Kaya makita ninyo, lahat ng publication, three hours of sleep. Tinitii 'yan nila kasi magtrabaho kasi para makapadala ng pera hoping na sa pinsan, i-enroll mo itong anak ko.

They suffer the human derogation, nawala 'yung dignity nila sa pagkatao nila. As if they are just a merchandize. You know there are --- not all, not all, but there are certain tribes in the Middle East na Arab, that if you are bought a slave, bought from the slave markets of Africa or you work there to --- to work and may pera... Sinabihan talaga ako ng --- congressman ako noon, may pinuntahan ako, may tatlong Pilipina nahuli kasi nagbibigay ng rosaryohan.

So we were lucky kasi sinabi ko sa mga Moro na congressmen, "*Samahan ninyo ako. Sabay-sabay tayo, tulungan natin ito.*" Kay 'yung isa taga-Kidapawan. Pumunta kami doon. Tapos sinabi sa akin, 'yung adviser ni King Fahd nagbubulong, pumayag. Pero sabi niya, "*You talk to your counterpart.*" When I was in Congress, I was a member of the powerful Law and Order Committee ni Golez, 'yung namatay.

So ako ang pumunta doon, nakiusap. And I was bluntly, harap-harapan sa mga --- sabihin mo sa mga kababayan mo that there are certain tribes na -- - lalo na pagpunta nila sa Riyadh or Saudi Arabia or whatever, anong country, and they are assigned to work in the rural areas, sa bukid, rape is part of the territory.

Iyang masakit sa akin ang Pilipina. Tiisin nila ang pagkatao nila para lang makadala ng pera, pagdating dito makita niya puro drug addict na. Hindi mo makita 'yung p***** j***** listahan na mga kriminal. Baliktarin mo 'yung cost ng ating society. Many families are --- ganoon eh. Lahat 'yan 'pag tinamaan 'yang pamilya. Ilang pamilya tinamaan? How many families are there that are dysfunctional already?

'Yung nakita ninyo dito sa Maynila, 'yung nag-surrender na mga payat na mga... Maynila lang 'yun. Hindi nila sinali ang Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Zamboanga. Ang count ni Bato was 2 million plus. You now go around the country and count how many more. Kaya para sa akin, huwag ka talagang pumasok.

Kita mo dito pagdating ko, sabi ko kay Bato buksan mo 'yung record. Sinong nandiyan? Six generals --- or seven, dito sa Maynila involved in drug trafficking. Lahat ng mga barangay captains. Ilang mayors? Sa Ozamiz, Parojinog. Nandiyan 'yung criminal gang niya na "Kuratong Baleleng", hindi na 'yan mga sundalo. Wala 'yang sundalo, matanda na 'yun. 'Yung ginamit nila sa anti-communist, okay lang but they graduated into warlords. Maraming armas eh, and drugs.

Marawi and Ozamiz. Espinosa dito, 'yung Odicka couple 'yung pinatay sa pantalan. Parojinog, patay na. Espinosa, patay na rin. And my policemen are facing charges. And so sabi ko I will help you. Buti na lang hindi natapos, kay kung natapos 'yung Presidente ako, automatic i-pardon ko 'yung mga pulis ko pati sundalo. Wala akong pakialam sa iyo.

So 'yan. Ako paalis na. Mabuti 'yung na --- I unburdened myself to you. In a few days, I will no longer be President. Pero itong mga droga 'wag talaga silang --- baka maglukso sila sa kaligayahan. I will continue to operate. Bahala na kung papaano basta I will continue to operate against the drug menace.

Ngayon, 'yung gustong pumasok, I'm warning you. Buhay-buhay lang tayo. Either you kill me or I will kill you. Simple as that. Hindi ko papayagan. And even as an ex or former President, hindi ko payagan iyang society, iyong mga anak natin sisirain mo. P***** j**, papatayin talaga kita, wala akong pakialam.

Kasi nakita ko, I've been mayor for 23 years. I was a prosecutor. How corruption? I was trying a court case of drugs. Alam mo ang binigay sa akin pagpresenta ko sa court? That is --- that --- I had an inkling na ganoon ang mangyari. Pagpresenta ko sa court, they moved for a review, re-examine, ang labas ang hawak-hawak ko tawas.

Here in Manila, sabi ko doon sa Supreme Court may isang judge diyan 1,000 cases dito sa city, wala man lang isang conviction or filed charges. Wala. Kaya sabi ko sa Supreme Court, p***** i** 'yan. Masasali talaga 'yan sa --- either paalisin ninyo or prangkahan ninyo. Wala akong pakialam kung general ka o judge ka or congressman ka. Nandiyan ka sa droga. I said, it will destroy my country. And I hope that message is very important to me na ma-convey sa lahat na ganoon talaga. Ganoon ang gusto ninyo, 'di sige.

So dito na tayo sa commissioning. Ito lang ang trabaho ko.

By the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of the Philippines, I hereby commission BRP Melchora Aquino also known as MRRV-9702 in the service of the Department of [Transportation], Philippine Coast Guard, effective today. *[applause]*

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