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Presidential Communications Office
NEWS AND INFORMATION BUREAU
PCOO-NIB Building, Malacañang Compound, Malacañang, Manila
Telephone Number: 734-3829

INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS OFFICE SECRETARY MARTIN ANDANAR
BY ERWIN TULFO / ERWIN TULFO LIVE - RADYO PILIPINAS
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ERWIN: Nagbabalik po si Secretary Martin Andanar. Sec., papaano po ba ito, medyo nagalit ilang senador, eh na… reminding na gawin daw ng PCOO ang trabaho nila. Sec., what can you say about this?

SEC. ANDANAR: Well, ginagawa naman ng PCOO ang trabaho namin… ginagawa naman natin, Partner. I would like to remind everyone and all the listening and all the viewing public that the PCOO is not limited to social media – mayroon po tayong Radyo Pilipinas, ito po iyong napapakinggan ninyong radyo ngayon. Mayroon tayong Radyo Pilipinas 1, Radyo Pilipinas 2, and they are doing an excellent fine job of broadcasting the news sa buong publiko po, and we have done everything all efforts para ma-reprogram lahat – at ganoon din mo iyong FM 1—ah FM 2… at soon FM 1.

Ang PCOO din po ang nagpapatakbo ng PIA, na PIA is doing an excellent job going to the grassroots at ipaliwanag sa mga kababayan kung ano ang mga programa ng gobyerno na dapat nilang malaman. Nandiyan din po ang PTV4, ang PTV4 po ay ang broadcast station ng gobyerno and that's also under PCOO. Ang Philippine News Agency will soon have an online newscast. So lahat ng ito under PCOO. Isama na rin po natin ang pinapatakbo nating Presidential Communications Facebook page, Radio Television Malacañang, and all of these agencies are doing a fantastic job.

Now ang… palagay ko naman ang naging issue lang po kasi sa PCOO are the personalities who are occupying the positions in PCOO, and I don't want to mince words, pero ang kanilang issue ay si Asec. Mocha Uson. Sapagka't si Asec. Mocha Uson ay malaki ang kaniyang followers, and of course alam naman natin na she is very vocal when it comes to politics.

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ERWIN: Oho. So ito pong si Asec. Uson ngayon ang target po ng Senado, pero maganda po iyong kaniyang mga kasagutan. Ito po ay hahayaan lang ng PCOO na magbigay siya ng comment? Besides ang pagkaalam ko sir, 'di ho ba ginawa ninyo siyang Asec. for Social Media, talaga ito iyong kaniyang trabaho?

SEC. ANDANAR: Opo. Share ko lang Partner 'no, let us put this way – Asec. Mocha Uson enjoys the trust and confidence of the President. That is exactly why sinasama si Asec. Mocha Uson sa halos lahat ng mga lakad ng Presidente, lalong-lalo na sa mga delikadong lugar tulad ng Marawi. You've seen it Partner, I mean, nagkasama rin kayo sa coverage and hindi naman ganoon basta-basta nakakasama iyong isang tao kung walang tiwala ang Pangulo.

Asec. Mocha Uson has a huge following on social media and also in the real world. As a matter of fact, hinahanap siya parati. So as far as entertaining, as far as representing, communicating the message of the President to the target audience of Mocha Uson, I think she has been very effective.

Now pagdating naman sa kaniyang pulitika, sa skill ni Mocha Uson ay… I guess she had the right to do that and I gave her a leeway to say what she wants to say, and to express her beliefs. Because after all, we still have freedom of expression, freedom of speech, at lahat naman tayo - kahit tayo'y taong-gobyerno o hindi - we all reserve the right to say what we want to say if we feel necessary that we have to say it.

ERWIN: Sir, panghuling katanungan na lamang. Sec. Kayo po, tanungin ko kayo… eh dati ho, eh iyong kayo nasa civilian pa, kayo nga ang gumawa ng mga, ika nga ng mga website at mga kung anu-ano ng isang television network. Kayo sir sa palagay ninyo ba, dapat nang i-regulate ha, itong ika nga mga post ng mga tao, appearance ng mga tao sa social media or hayaan lang because it is an ex—their own expression of their own opinion, sir? O kailangan—eh kagaya sabi noong isang senador, nakalimot yata… kailangan daw kunin iyong side 'pag naglabas ng ika nga pahayag iyong blogger, kunin niya iyong side ng… pareha ng side din noong isa, noong binabanatan niya. Sang-ayon ho ba kayo sir na kailangang i-regulate na ito?

SEC. ANDANAR: Oo. Sa palagay ko kasi Partner, pagdating naman sa freedom of expression, freedom of speech, Article 4, Section 4 of the Constitution and the freedom of the press, ito po ay basic freedom natin. It's part of our Bill of Rights that we can say what we want to say, we can peaceably assembly where we want assemble to protest.

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Now the growth of technology has given us more freedom, this is freedom on the internet. And I think every Filipino, every citizen of the world should have this freedom and should enjoy that right to be able to express himself or herself. And this is just a… actually a development in our society that we all must embrace. At kailangan lang natin ito ay maging prudent siguro minsan, pero depende 'yan sa gusto rin ng tao – kung siya'y pulitiko, siya'y hindi. Well, it's all in our right, Partner, so I guess we should just embrace what the technology can give us.

ERWIN: Secretary Martin Andanar, maraming salamat sir. Magandang hapon, mabuhay po kayo Sec.

SEC. ANDANAR: Salamat po.

ERWIN: 'Yan po si Secretary Martin Andanar ng Presidential Communications Operations Office.

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