

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**ZOOM CALL BETWEEN PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
AND OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST HIDILYN DIAZ**

[Held in Malacañang Golf (MALAGO) Clubhouse in Malacañang Park, Manila | 28 July 2021]

[Ms. Hidilyn Diaz salutes to President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.]

[applause]

PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE: *[You have a seat there? You sit down.]*

Well as expected, the nation is ecstatic about your achievement. Your achievement is the achievement of the Philippine nation.

So we are extremely proud. We cannot express even in the words of an athlete how we should really be shouting hallelujah.

Pero salamat naman sa pagtiis mo. I hope that the years of toil, the years of disappointments and the years na hindi maganda ang nangyari in the past, just forget them.

You already have the gold --- gold is gold. And it would be good for you to just let bygones be bygones and dwell solely on your victory together with your family and of course with the nation.

Now, Hidilyn, the following are what is due you --- kasi you are a member of the Armed Forces at alam mo naman may mga housing projects ako for soldiers.

So diyan sa Zamboanga mayroon akong projects para sa mga --- house and lot sa mga sundalo. So hindi mo na ito kailangan. Well, maybe someday may mga relatives ka, kapatid mo mag-sundalo rin, you might just keep it this time and think of what you should be doing.

I am going to give you one fully furnished --- furnished na. It's a house and lot in Zamboanga City.

HIDILYN DIAZ: Wow. Thank you po, sir. Thank you so much po, President. Thank you po.

[applause]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Then, you will have the one of the highest of the nation's Presidential medals --- the Presidential Medal of Merit. Sa iyo rin 'yan. It will be given to you I think here in appropriate ceremonies.

[applause]

MS. DIAZ: Thank you so much, President. Thank you so much, President.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: And in addition to what the law gives to you, batas 'to eh, that 'yung may gold by law will be given 3 million, plus 'yung gold mo plus 3 million ang ibigay ko sa iyo.

Ganito ba 'yan?

MS. DIAZ: Thank you so much po, President.

[applause]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Ay hindi, ah hindi pala 3 million galing sa akin. Ah 3 million galing sa akin, 10 million galing sa gobyerno talaga. Ito Office of the President lang.

MS. DIAZ: Thank you po, sir. Thank you so much po.

[applause]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: So ayusin mo mabuti ang buhay mo.

MS. DIAZ: Yes po.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: You have been blessed by God. And this --- hindi naman malaki, hindi naman maliit --- this would go a long way to help your family.

Alam mo the struggle of life is a long, long process. Maging political ano mo na 'to. You are already a celebrity --- it's a political stock so keep note of that. One day you would want to also to --- baka makatulong ka sa country in some other way other than being a soldier.

Ang delegation mo si Gao, weightlifting coach; Mr. Julius Irvin Naranjo, assistant weightlifting coach, boyfriend mo ito siya?

MS. DIAZ: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Nakalagay dito eh. I'm sorry but nakalagay dito. Dr. Karen Trinidad, sports psychologist.

So maybe one of these days, if you have the time, communicate with us para maibigay ko sa iyo 'yung aking 3 million, 'yung 10 million kunin mo siguro sa Treasury 'yan. I don't know how the processes are done.

But over and above all this monetary consideration, it is always the honor that you brought to the country that's what counts most.

So mabuhay ka at ako naman ang magsaludo sa iyo. Yes, ma'am.

[President Duterte gives his salute to Ms. Diaz.] [applause]

MS. DIAZ: Thank you so much po, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: *[Ano ito?]* Ah akala ko ako lang ang nandito, Hidilyn. Marami pala sila.

Present here is Senator Bong Go; *[Maupo ka lang, maupo ka lang.]* si Secretary Tugade sa Transportation; Secretary Roque sa Spokesman; si General Galvez; tapos si Dr. Duque is here. So mag-greet ka, Bong?

SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE “BONG” GO: Hidilyn, congratulations ha. We are very proud of you at bilang Chairman sa Senate Committee on Sports, gaya ng dati, nandidito lang ako sa likod na handang tumulong sa iyo. Bukas po ang aming opisina para sa iyo. Congratulations muli, Hidilyn.

[applause]

MS. DIAZ: Thank you so much po, Senator Bong Go. Salamat po sa tulong.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Can we have Secretary Tugade to say his piece?

DOTR SECRETARY ARTHUR TUGADE: *[off mic, inaudible]*

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: How about Secretary Roque?

PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESPERSON HARRY ROQUE: Hi, Hidilyn. Ang kuwento ng buhay mo ay kuwento ng bawat Pilipino. Mahirap, nagpursigi, may pangarap at nagwagi. Your victory is a victory of the entire Filipino people. Congratulations.

[applause]

MS. DIAZ: Thank you so much po.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Secretary Duque?

DOH SECRETARY FRANCISCO DUQUE III: Thank you, Mr. President. Hi, Hidilyn, congratulations to you ha. Isa kang tunay na --- you're the source of our nation's strength and inspiration. So please continue to be the model that the Filipino youth look up to. Congratulations.

MS. DIAZ: Sir, thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: The last person to greet you would be General Galvez.

NTF COVID-19 CHIEF IMPLEMENTER & VACCINE CZAR CARLITO GALVEZ JR.: Hi, Hidilyn. Bilang isang former Chief of Staff, talagang tuwang-tuwa ako kasi lalo na 'yung nire-represent 'yung Air Force at you're representing the glory of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Department of National Defense.

Continue your hard work. Alam ko galing tayo sa mahihirap and then your ano your contribution to the national pride will be forever remembered and cherished. Congratulations.

[applause]

MS. DIAZ: Thank you so much, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: See you sometime at your convenience. Okay?

MS. DIAZ: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Congratulations.

[applause]

[Ms. Diaz salutes to President Duterte.]

Sige na, Hidilyn, you can make your exit.

MS. DIAZ: Thank you, sir.

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