

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
DURING THE JOINT NATIONAL TASK FORCE-REGIONAL TASK FORCE  
TO END LOCAL COMMUNIST CONFLICT MIMAROPA MEETING IN  
ORIENTAL MINDORO**

[Delivered at the Bulwagang Panlalawigan Provincial Capitol Complex in  
Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro | 18 November 2021]

I --- please sit down, I'm sorry.

Nakatingin kaagad ako sa... Alam mo, ang speech ko tagda-dalawang ---  
persons to be acknowledged, dalawang page. Ang speech ko, dalawang page  
rin. Apat lahat. So you will just bear with me. Mahaba ito.

Nakalagay dito, "*Mr. President, we are live on TV. Huwag kang magmura,  
huwag kang mag...*" Eh epithets and curses are part of the normal of my  
persona.

RTF-ELCAC Cabinet Officer for Regional Development and Security and  
Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi; NTF-ELCAC Vice Chairman and Director  
General of the National Security Council Hermogenes Esperon; Senator Bong  
Go. I am not into politicking, but let me just state for the record and in no  
uncertain terms that ang kandidato ko pagka-presidente ay si Bong  
Go. [*cheers and applause*]

You know, Bong Go has been my aide for 23 years. Ang istorya nito ---  
nagta-Tagalog ako but you'll just have to give me the allowance. Hindi  
naman ako masyadong marunong magsalita ng Tagalog.

Ito si Bong Go, eh bata pa noon, younger than usual, naglalaro sila ng  
basketball. Ang aide ko talaga was a military guy, PC tapos naging sa  
national police. Naglalaro sila ni Bong ng basketball tapos `pag siya nagpasa  
sa --- [*Senator Go: Si Bato, si Bato*] --- si Bato ba `yun? Pinasa ni Bato ang  
bola doon sa security ko, si Jimboy Halili. Noong sinalo, natumba tapos dead  
on the spot. Nag-collapse, patay. So wala akong aide noon. Kabarkada sila  
sa basketball.

But Bong is a graduate sa La Salle. Hindi --- akala kasi nila pitsugin lang na tao, aide-aide-aide. They were not able really to correct Bong's talent actually.

You know, one thing ang sabi ko sa inyo, itong Bong na ito, magkuwenta ng whatever, magkuwenta ng pera o percentage or --- gagamitin lang ito, hindi ito nagsusulat. Ganoon kahusay ito sa... Well, bright tapos always wala... Anong buhay niya, basketball.

He offered to be the temporary aide-de-camp tapos --- that was many years ago. Kaya hanggang nagpermanente siya chief of staff of the office and became a senator. So 'yan ang istorya ni Bong Go.

Agrarian Reform Acting Secretary Bernie Cruz; TESDA Director General Isidro Lapeña, eh talagang general 'yan, he was my chief of police till the last day of my term sa Davao; Mindanao --- Oriental Mindoro Governor Humerlito Dolor, sir; Occidental Mindoro Governor Eduardo Gadiano, sir; Marinduque Governor Presbitero Velasco Jr., sir; Romblon Governor Jose Riano.

Naujan Municipal Mayor Mark Marcos; Municipal Mayor of Roxas Leo Cusi Jr.; Victoria Municipal Mayor Joselito Malabanan, sir, pleased to meet you; Victoria Municipal Mayor Joselito Mala --- I'm sorry --- Abra De Ilog Municipal Mayor Eric Constantino; Mamburao Municipal Mayor Angelina Tria, pleased to meet you; Magsaysay Municipal Mayor Cesar Tria Jr., pleased to meet you, sir; Rizal Municipal Mayor Ernesto Pablo Jr., I'm pleased to meet you.

Sablayan Municipal Mayor Andres Dangeros; Santa Cruz Municipal Mayor Meriam Quijano, pleased to meet you, ma'am; Boac Municipal Mayor Armi Carrion; Santa Cruz Municipal Mayor Antonio Uy Jr.; Baco Municipal Vice Mayor Brederick Castillo, pleased to meet you; Bulalacao Municipal Vice Mayor Ramon Magbanua, pleased to meet you; Gloria Municipal Mayor --- Vice Mayor Vic Ruskin Ong, adre, pleased to meet you.

Former Presidential Spokesperson Atty. Harry Roque Jr., ikaw ba 'yan, sir? Former Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Atty. Salvador Panelo, you know, part of his --- again, character, ano ito si Sal, tignan mo 'yung... Iyong nakita mo kani-kanina pati 'yung sapatos niya? Ikaw --- mahilig sa boots. Kaya kung may pabili kayo na kabayo dito, pakisabi kay --- i-regalo ko kay Sal Panelo para makumpleto na ang sartorial --- former Chief Presidential Legal Counsel; former Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission Chairman Greco Belgica, bata ito pero mahusay; fellow workers in government, mga kababayan.

Alam mo, bago ako mag --- to read my speech, dalawang pages lang 'to eh. May gusto na rin akong sabihin, ang sentimento ko diyan sa mga komunista. You know, they have been fighting government and in the process killing so many persons, and my soldiers, and my policemen, and mga barangay captains.

At in the far-flung areas kagaya ng Mindanao, it's a fertile land and it can really feed the entire country, hindi lang malasin. Wala kaming drought or anything but there's enough rainfall also to cause flooding.

Itong komunistang... Hindi ko talaga malaman kung anong gusto nila. You know, I was talking to Sison. I released from prison so many of their leaders as a sign of goodwill. Kumuha ako ng leftist, dalawa o tatlo: sila Liza Maza, nakalimutan ko na 'yung isa, pati si --- [*Sino 'yung pinalitan ni ano?*] --- si Mariano.

And nag-ano kami --- sinali ko lahat. Nag-release ako ng prisoners. Then we began talking, and we ended up at any --- every session, parang gusto nila a coalition government. Sabi ko we are friends, talagang magkaibigan man... Well, in Mindanao magkaibigan kami eh. I can go to the forest, nagha-hunting ako. We go up to the mountains. Pati ito si Bong, in and out 'yan --- kami sa gubat ng Mindanao.

Ang problema nito nila Sison is if you read all of their documents, ang gusto nila coalition government. Sabi ko, adre, magkaibigan tayo kaya nga nagrererespetuhan tayo each other. And I do not really care if you go down to Davao City and, you know, sinabi ko naman sa pulis hayaan na lang 'yan kaysa magkapatayan pa.

But during the talk, wala talagang ginawa idinidikit nila ang coalition government. Sabi ko ayaw ko. And while we were talking, they were killing policemen and soldiers ko kaya I had to terminate the talks.

Ngayon, ganito ang nangyayari, 54 years of fighting ginawa na natin ang lahat. You know, in my --- during my --- the last years of my term, I distributed more than 160,000 lands. I was trying to pull something to make them irrelevant. Kaya 'yang gusto nila lupa eh.

Kaya ako binilis ko lahat. Sabi ko kay Castriciones pati 'yung gobyerno, the idle lands of --- ibigay mo. Binigay ko lahat lupa halos --- pati 'yung na-land reform na hindi nalagay sa in possession ang mga tenants kasi binabara rin ng mga landlords, bribing, buying back the lands. Sinabi ko put them into

possession. Ibigay mo talaga sa ano. And if they don't want to --- you just call the police. Sabihin mo that's the law, it's not our rule. Batas 'yan.

Kaya lahat na. And you know what? Pati 'yang Boracay. Ang Boracay sa likod niyan may mga --- I don't know how they were able to do it, at one of them is Justice Carpio, iyong lalaki, 'yung nag-retire, 'yung Sambayanang Pilipino nila --- walang --- wala talagang --- walang maasahan. And I'll just cut it short, kaya naglalaban na naman tayo.

So sometimes may gulo. Sa awa ng Diyos dito wala naman masyado. But in Mindanao, the fact is no improvement in the landscape can occur if there is no law and order. *[applause]* Magulo ang lugar, kawawa talaga. Ang una 'yung mga barangay captains. Hirap sila at they are targets, marami na.

Next to soldiers, ang pinakamaraming namatay dito sa Pilipinas barangay captains, those who do not follow the communists. Iyan ang ayaw ko sa kanila. And yet itong mga human rights, kung magsalita at mag-ano... May namatay sa kanila kagaya ni Oris, eh talagang pinatay sa sundalo 'yun. Eh may encounter eh. Gusto pa ng mga buang i-autopsy kung saan ang tama.

Iyang mga ganoon na kalokohan nila if they are at the losing end. Pero 'pag sila ang nakaano, iyon. 'Pag sila ang nakapabor, ang gobyerno is pictured really as something of a killing machine. Iyon ang mag-ano ng human rights. Puro left rin 'yun talaga sila eh.

Walang human rights na democratic. They are all communists kaya nandiyan 'yan sila. Pati 'yang mga madre pati pari 'yung nandiyan. Eh si Oris, Oris is pari. Pari ng Surigao 'yun. He was killed about one week ago sa encounter. Iyan 'yan sila mga pari.

Iyong si Evasco, when Cory ordered the release of all political prisoners, iyan si Evasco --- because I was prosecuting him in court for rebellion --- when they were ordered released, sabi ko... But I placed it on the record sa court that the record would show that the trial has not been terminated and ongoing but because of the order of Corazon Aquino...

Eventually he came to me looking for a job. Bright eh, bright 'yang mga pari. Mahusay sa mobilization kasi hinahawakan tao. Pumunta doon --- iyan 'yan sila.

Calintaan Municipal Mayor Eric Labrador, I'm sorry to miss you; Buenavista Municipal Mayor Madrigal, Nancy, ma'am, sorry. I am pleased to meet you. Bago ka siguro.

So 'yan ang istorya ko sa komunista. Kaya itong ELCAC pinakamahusay na sana na program to date na binigay natin sa kanila, brainchild ito ni Esperon, eh 'yung --- 'yung budget nila na 28 billion? Ginawa na lang 4 billion ng mga senador.

Iyon sana ang --- is to give barang --- every barangay 20 million. Anong gawain nila diyan, bahala sila. Livelihood or they can repair the roads or whatever. Iyon ang itong purpose ng ELCAC. At marami na akong bahay all over the Philippines, I have about 2,000 houses. Talaga ginawa ko 'yan para sa kanila kung mag-surrender.

May bahay at bigyan kaagad ng trabaho or nagbibigay ako ng suweldo. Inutusan ko kung anong whatever is there to do for their cou --- their contribution to the country. That's the purpose of ELCAC. Iyan ang istorya diyan. Pero diyan rin ako galit sa komunista. Talagang galit ako hanggang ngayon.

A pleasant day to all.

I thank all the members of the Joint National Task Force and Regional Task Force to End Local Communist Conflict MIMAROPA for taking a stand against the pressing issue of insurgency in the Philippines.

'Pag hindi ninyo nakontrol ang NPA dito, magulo. Isa pa, let --- mag-segue ako, droga. Alam mo ang droga --- gusto mong sirain ang buhay ng kalaban mo, magbigay ka lang ng droga sa anak, maghigop lang 'yan. At hindi ninyo magtaka --- I will not make it clear now, there has been a presidential candidate na nag-cocaine. Iyong mga mayaman sa Davao, may-ari ng lahat ng banana --- ang distribution --- nag-suicide 'yung anak.

May --- may kandidato tayo na nagko-cocaine 'yan, iyang mga anak ng mga mayaman. Kaya ako nagtaka ako, anong nagawa ng --- anong nagawa 'yung tao na 'yun? I'm just asking. Ano, anong, anong --- what contribution has he made pala sa Pilipinas? Iyan lang, gusto ko lang tanungin ang ano. Hindi naman sa pang...

Ano? Bakit ang Pilipino parang lokong-loko na supporting...? Magtanong lang ako sa inyo. Ano ang ginawa niyan? Nagdodroga 'yan ng --- cocaine ang tirada niya. Itong anak ng mga mayayaman, lahat dito sa Maynila pati sa Davao isang grupo 'yan, tirada niyan cocaine.

I am not --- hindi ako nag-iintriga. Bahala kayo. Find out sino. Kayo magtanong kayo sa Davao kung may kilala kayo. Ang mga taga-Maynila, iyong mga mayayaman talaga. May-ari ng biggest banana plantation.

Nagtaka ako sa Pilipino bigla na lang nag... Hindi ako naiinggit. Eh pulitika naman may manalo, may matalo. Ganoon rin ako noon. Eh kung walang suwerte, 'di wala. Pero itong fascination nila sa itong kandidato na ito, baka hindi talaga nila alam pero alam ng...

Iyang Boracay na 'yan... You know when I --- when I ordered the cleanup of Boracay, sabi ko linisin mo, sabi ko kay General Cimat, "*Kaya mo ba?*" Sabi niya, "*Sir, kaya ko.*" Sabi ko, "*linisin ninyo.*" Nilinis nila. After that, iyong Boracay, 'yung beach, sa likod niyan may lupa. Sabi ko nga nakuha ng mga --- a few na mga mayaman.

Well you know that piece of property at the back of Boracay is still forestal. So you cannot build a residential because you need a conversion from agricultural to residential. Kaya maraming nag-agawan, ang ginawa ko, I ordered ito --- itong DAR a land --- i-declare it a land reform area. Ibigay mo sa mga Mangyans. Kanila 'yan. Sila 'yung pinaka...

So, iyan ang --- that's the story of Boracay. I have not been there kasi noong magpunta sana ako, 'yung mga buntings pati mga streamers, "*Salamat, Duterte.*" Nako-corny-han ako. Sabi ko hindi ko naman pera 'yan, pera ng tao 'yan. Bakit kayo magpasalamat sa akin? Magpasalamat kayo sa mga taong nagtatrabaho, especially those working...

Iyan --- that's a --- that's one story. Ang i-connect ko lang, iyan diyan sila 'yung mga mayaman at nang hindi mahuli-huli. Minsan kung gusto nila magsakay sila sa eroplano nila, sinong maghuli sa kanila? But I am just --- not really a warning --- bahala kayo. Bahala kayo kung anong gusto ninyo na tao. Inyo 'yan.

Ang akin lang, pagdating ng panahon, basta sinabi ko sa inyo. And he is a very weak leader ang character niya, except for the name. Pero ang tatay, pero siya, anong ginawa niya? He might win hands down, okay. If that is what the Filipino wants, go ahead. Basta alam ninyo 'yang droga na 'yan... Pero 'pag ako ang umabot diyan sa iyo, pasensiya tayo.

You know, I have always declared when I was mayor of Davao, I'm going to build a city comfortable enough for you, without fear na makalabas kayo. And I will return the streets to you and the parks kasi doon sa ano, doon sila mag... Do not destroy my country because I will kill you. Do not destroy the youth of the land kasi sila 'yung tatay pati mga nanay in a few years, at ang mga anak nila.

Kaya sabi ko --- sabi nila nagpapatay ako ng tao? Sinong pina --- pinatay

ko? I said to the police, and it's very clear, go out and hunt the drug lords, primarily, pati mga --- 'yung lieutenants. Iyong tawag nila diyan sa peddlers, street peddlers ng shabu, 'yun ang mga basurero. Iyong magkuha doon sa mga ano, mga tinyente, 'yun ang mag-distribute. Iyan ang ano...

So huwag --- huwag kayong talaga... Alam mo ganito 'yan eh, if the mayor or governor ayaw niya at ang pulis sumusunod rin, walang droga. Iyan ang tandaan ninyo. 'Pag ginusto ninyo na wala, wala talaga.

Nandiyan 'yang pulis, sabihin mo sa kanila go out and destroy the apparatus. But if there is a resistance, violent resistance, kagaya may mga baril, may baril man talaga, patayin ninyo or else kayo ang mamamatay. Iyan ang guidance ko sa ano... Eh ang pulis trabaho nila 'yan.

But you know, when I became mayor --- mayor kasi tawag ko sa akin, hindi naman Presidente --- when I won the election, tinawag ko 'yan sila lahat. Tapos si Bato bitbit ko from Davao. Noong na-install siya ng PNP, sabi ko *"open the records and tell me who are the guys, the big son of a..."*

Alam mo, seven generals were involved. Pagtingin ko sa Customs, ganoon rin. Pagtingin ko sa airport, ganoon rin. Kaya sabi ko, I did not realize, sabi ko I will finish it... Madali naman talaga. Eh patayin mo lang lahat 'yan, tapos 'yan. Ipa-assassinate mo lang 'yan, pero you know there is the law. But sabi ko destroy the apparatus.

And I... Kagaya ng mayor ng Ozamiz, he has been peddling drugs. He was a drug lord. Alam namin sa Mindanao. When I became President, ganoon. Sinabi ko sa kanila, winarungan (warning) ko sila, eh hindi mag... Mahirap kasi kung ang mga opisyal na pati 'yung pulis nasa corruption. Talagang ma...

Kaya kung may pulis ka na nasa droga, eh tawagin mo kaagad si Carlos, 'yung Chief PNP now, at sabihin mo itong pulis na ito, itong opisyal na ito.... Marami 'yan --- marami 'yan nasa... You won't believe it, marami 'yan.

Kaya kung may suspetsa ka... I may --- I will not be mayor for all time, lalabas din ako. Pero between now and at the end of my term, sabihin mo lang kung sino. At saka 'wag kang --- 'wag kayong magpatalo diyan. Sabi ko, 'pag ayaw ninyo, wala sabi --- sabihin mo sa pulis, *"Ayaw ko ng droga."* So unless ikaw nagdodroga ka, you are a protector, we are in trouble. Eh sa --- either dispatch him or do not wait for the... *[Anong tawag nito?]* I have a term for that, itong droga na ano, it's a vicious cycle.

Ang human rights magpakita ng listahan, *"Ito 'yung pinatay ni Duterte."* Ang

sa likod, hindi nila pinakita, ano `yung namatay dahil sa droga at pinatay dahil bungog na sa droga. They are only considering `yung mga sabi nila so-called drug lords. Eh...

Kaya kung mayroon diyan, eh dispatsahin --- dispatch mo na sa ibang lugar. And I'm sure the new PNP chief general would be --- or just go to my office and let us talk. Sabihin mo, "*Mayor, I need about 30 minutes with you. Mag-usap lang tayo.*" I will entertain you. And I said, magsabi ako, "*what about?*" "*Mayor, droga.*" I'll give you all the time and tell me.

Do not allow these gangsters to destroy --- pati `yung mga anak ninyo. Kasi `pag naghigop na `yan, problema mo na talaga sa pamilya. Sigurado `yan maghiwalay ang mag-asawa dahil diyan. It destroys the foundation of a family --- basic family unit.

Ito namang... Tulungan na lang ninyo ang Armed Forces. Medyo may isa pa raw front dito so you have to do it somehow.

To our local chief executives and community leaders, you play a crucial role not only in addressing insurgency but also in fighting crimes and illegal drugs in your respective localities.

Your cooperation will likewise advance the government's larger goal of securing and safeguarding the nation.

I thus urge our local [chief] executives in MIMAROPA to synergize your efforts with the NTF- and RTF-ELCAC in fighting against lawlessness and insurgency.

I also ask you to support this administration's programs in achieving sustainable peace and security.

Today, we also inspected the construction of the Sentrong Pangkabataan Complex, which will be a venue for young leaders in Mindoro to converge and conduct seminars and trainings that will empower them and improve their leadership.

I commend the joint efforts of the local government and other government and non-government agencies for pursuing programs and projects that cater to the development of the youth who are the future leaders of our nation.

This administration is committed to supporting the endeavors of local governments that empower different sectors of society such as the youth.



It is my hope that the local government of Oriental Mindoro and its people will continue to enhance the youth's civic efficiency, moral character and nation building.

May I likewise take this chance to urge all concerned agencies in this region to undertake all the necessary actions to address the decades-long power crisis in Mindoro.

Wala naman, sir? Wala nang...? May --- may crisis pa ba? Parang wala naman, okay na.

May you work together to ensure a reliable and efficient power source for the continued growth of the local economy and improved quality of life to the Filipino Mindoreños.

Indeed, if we address these key issues [among] our people, they will not turn towards extremism and, instead, they will contribute significantly to nation building.

As President, I assure you that the government will provide unrelenting support to your respective initiatives in securing lasting peace in the country.

Join me in this fight so that we can build a stronger and safer future for the next generation.

Eh ako magtapos na, in six months I'll be out. I really do not know... I'm worried about two things: crime and drugs ang number one, pati `yung NPA. Because maraming gustong pumasok doon sa area ng Davao because of the fertile --- gustong magtanim ng saging. Pagdating doon, `yung equipment sinusunog ng NPA. So no meaningful progress can occur, I said, in your city or province kung nandiyan `yan sila.

Gawain mo lahat, lahat, lahat kaya mong gawain to suppress itong dalawa: drugs and terrorism perpetrated by the communist.

Iyan lang ang problema natin. If we can hurdle it maybe, just maybe, we will have a prosperous and beautiful country again. Salamat. *[applause]*

**--- END ---**