

**Presidential Communications Operations Office  
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE  
DURING THE 118th POLICE SERVICE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

[Delivered at PNP Multi-Purpose Center, Camp BGen Rafael T. Crame,  
Quezon City | 09 August 2019]

Thank you. Kindly sit down.

Excellencies of the diplomatic corps; Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año and the other members of the Cabinet; Senator Francis Tolentino; Senator Bong Go; Senator Ronald dela Rosa; PNP Chief Police General Oscar Albayalde; the officers and enlisted personnel of the Philippine National Police; fellow workers in government; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen.

I am pleased to join you on this special occasion as we mark the 118 years of Police Service in the Philippines.

Today, we commemorate the birth of the Philippine Constabulary on August 8 in 1901. Organized by the Second Philippine Commission to maintain law and order during the American Period, the PC chief --- the PC served as the chief law enforcement and is the predecessor of our current police organization.

The Philippine Constabulary was eventually replaced in the Philippines by the [Philippine] National Police on January 29, 1991 pursuant to Republic Act 6975. Almost three decades later, the [PNP] has evolved to become a highly capable and effective community [and] service-oriented agency.

Your strong campaign and operations against criminality, illegal drugs, illegal gambling and other forms of terrorism as well as the efforts of internal cleansing in the PNP are truly commendable.

The entire Filipino nation is truly grateful to your almost [193,000] PNP personnel who are currently deployed in the National

Headquarters, Police Regional Offices across the country, and the various [PNP National] Support Units.

As we mark this significant milestone, I enjoin the entire organization to control its efforts to enforce the rule of law, prevent and control corruption and maintain peace and order, and ensure public safety and internal security.

In all of these undertakings, I call upon you to keep your integrity intact as you uphold the highest ethical and professional standards in public service. Take inspiration from our awardees today for their exemplary work and selfless dedication to duty.

Now, more than ever, we need to rebuild and sustain the confidence of the Filipino people in our police force. Be assured of strong government support in strengthening the capabilities of the PNP in securing and ensuring the welfare and protection of your personnel.

With your undaunted commitment in the exercise of your duty, and with the active participation of our citizens in our shared task of nation-building, I am confident that we will achieve a safer, stronger, and more peaceful future for our people.

Before I give my salute to end this program, let me dwell on some of the burning issues of our country today. I remember when I was a member of Congress, most of the police directors of the previous years --- I don't know what --- what was eating the guys at that time. But they recommended the dismissal of 28, almost those --- a lot of them or almost all who passed the portals of being a chief of police and a city police director.

So when I got down from my car in Congress, I was a congressman at that time, a lot of these guys, the young who are now your officers, most of them were there and I was told that they were ordered dismissed by the Ombudsman, for reasons not really very clear to me until now.

But what is very glaring was that, the Committee on Public Order and Safety of which I was the chairman at that time, Roilo Golez was the chairman, summoned my police officers for operating a mining operation in Diwalwal. And there was this side issue of a mayor, son who was shot by the policemen because of a drug confrontation.

Since the father was a member of that committee, 'yung issue about the mining was combined with the issue about the shooting incident of the son of this politician who was clearly a drug pusher.

So I was talking to --- I don't know where's... [*Paalala mo nga Bong*] Time to visit Villaroman who was also there, si Acop and the rest of the guys in another charge sheet.

So when I was informed by the policemen about their being put to task for owning mining operations, I was kind of aghast and I raised my right hand to talk first and I said, "What is our business here today? What is the agenda?" Sabi ng committee secretary, "Sir, this issue --- the issue of policemen operating mining activities in Diwalwal."

"So what about it?" And he said --- listen very carefully because I will connect the --- the present. Sabi ko, "So what about?" "Sir, they are police officers and two army men." "So what's --- what's the beef?"

And I was told that simply for operating a mining. So my first question, statement to --- before the Golez committee was that: Your honor, I think all of our --- these policemen in front of us are all Filipinos and they should be entitled to partake of whatever planet Earth, inside the bowels of the Earth and it is open to exploitation and it does not limit to any --- a particular group of citizens. It is open to everybody, including the police. Why should we deprive them of --- maybe getting rich, having money?

And true enough, three of those who were originally there are multimillionaires and I'm happy. I said, you know, for as long as there is an application which is validly issued and there is no issue of corruption at all and that you do not oppress the other operators by the reason of your office as a peace officer, we should not be talking about this.

They are as much as we are, free to do any business as long as it is above board. I do not have any problem with that. Now, let me say this to you now. There are allegations that police generals, retired, are into the STL, Lotto, and whatnot.

I said you do not have any problem with me. If it's a bidding, you participate, as long as it is not rigged in your favor and you secure it, complying with the laws, no corruption. I will not begrudge you.

If you have friends who are millionaires and would finance a corporation and you're an incorporator, I don't see any reason why you should not be in that business.

Ang hinihingi ko lang naman is walang gapangan and no oppression or pressure. And if there's a bidding and you win it, by all means. But as a --

- you know, part of your honor, delicadeza, ask yourself to be assigned somewhere where you are not operating or a participant or an incorporator of a corporation doing business in your area.

Ayan lang naman delicadeza 'yan eh. Pangit kasi tingnan na ikaw ang chief of police diyan, it's operating. You --- you look for somewhere else. The Philippine is too big. And --- well of course, I never really like gambling. I don't gamble.

But the fact is, if I create a vacuum and [unclear] each one, there will always be another activity that would take advantage of that organized people. For example, in gambling, the betting stations and the runners and the sellers.

It is gambling. I said I do not gamble. But in the first place, I do not like it. But there's a law which allows it, then my only advice to you is lumayo ka muna or you invest in some other province.

Do not oppress your competitors, else they will shout foul and then you will drag me into the picture. Kung malinis lang ang negosyo ninyo, if it's clean, you don't deprive government of money due to the country and the people, okay sa akin.

And I'm addressing myself to all. As of now, I allowed Lotto because it is a clean --- it's really run by a machine and you know the combination is done electronically.

'Yung others, STL, I'm trying to figure out the best way. As long as there is, I said, no corruption in the awards and you do not use your public office to intimidate or to strike fear with the other competitors, I see no reason why you cannot be an incorporator of a... Ewan ko.

Pag-isipan ko muna 'yang STL but Lotto can --- I gave the green light. I said, sigé.

And that is my advice not only to you peace officers, but also the military and for that matter any government, citi --- any government employee who is a citizen of this country. We should not be deprived ourselves of that activity which can contribute to our general...

Gambling per se is not good. But if it is allowed by law then I cannot be more [popish?] than the pope. May batas eh. Ang hiningi ko lang --- huwag lang. Do not shortchange government. Talagang mawawala 'yan altogether.

Now, if I can have my way, meron akong plano. Hindi ko muna sabihin ngayon. But this will guarantee that the government will have its rightful share and we can always open your books and I can always ask the policemen and the military what's happening there.

Ganun lang. If it is a legit operation, according to the requirements of the law allowing that --- allowing that gambling activity and there's money circulating, even if it's gambling.

I know religion --- religious sectors and all, they do not like it. I do not like it too. But the problem, if it is allowed by law, you can only regulate and you can regulate clean. 'Yun lang hiningi ko, wala ng iba. Wala akong ano... 'Yang basta 'yang gambling-gambling na 'yan.

So there's the casino. In my place in Davao City, there was one or there is one and itong sabong. Ito namang mga Last Two, Last Two, huwag na ninyong pakialaman 'yan. It's a neighborhood activity. Tapos 'pag hulihin ninyo...

Kagaya ang experience sa Davao, the --- 'yung nagko-kolekta ng bets, ng pusta, eh mahihirap 'yan. Eh minsan hinuli ng pulis, may anak dala-dala, naka-breastfeed pa tapos may dala pang [unclear] umiiyak kasi nandyan 'yung pulis kasama kasi hinuli. Magpatay na lang kayo ng durugista diyan. Huwag mong pakialaman 'yang...

Kasi ako ang magbayad ng... It was Bong. Sabi ko, "Bong, bayaran mo 'yang piyansa." Sabi ko kay --- sabi ko sa pulis "'Pag naghuli kayo ulit, kayo ang bayad ng piyansa ha."

So 'yung mga ganon na... Those are pastime neighborhood activities. Huwag lang pumasok ang sindikato. 'Pag ang Last Two hawakan with people who are known to be gamblers and professional manipulators, you have to intervene. 'Yang mga --- mga 'yang... Mga machines diyan, hayaan na ninyo. Wala tayong --- maka-ibigay ng trabaho eh.

And besides, sabi ko dito sa STL, Lotto, there is already an existing organization. You create a vacuum, drugs will come in. 'Yan ang mahirap. So I am... I --- I cannot be a hambog and say, "I will do it. I will kill the STL or the jueteng that goes with it or..."

So ang sabi ko sa inyo ganito na lang. I will allow everybody, every Filipino. Walang --- basta... Maybe I will put that agency under the Office of the President. Tapos 'yung nag-a-award ng bidding, Justice Secretary, Wendel Avisado sa --- he's the budget officer. 'Yung alam ko talaga na mga tao na... Eh si Wendel hindi man ito nagsusugal. Pastor 'to. Secretary Avisado is a pastor.

Si... [*Sino gani 'yung mga pari mo?*] Hindi naman siguro nagdada. Okay 'yung... Wala akong narinig. I will give it to a committee na tingnan ko na hindi nako-corrupt. Pero basta wala lang corruption, no under the table deal.

And to the citizens listening now. You can help me stomp out corruption by being just --- just assertive. So kung may hingiin sa iyo 'yang bureau of whatever, Land Registration, LTO, kung ano diyan, mga clearances, pati sa inyo 'yang police clearances, better come up with a --- an electronic thing there.

I do not want people --- I do not want to see people coming back and forth queuing there and sometimes it is not there.

Ibigay ninyo 'yang mga clearances ng mga tao, mga Pilipino mag... Sino mang kumukuha ng clearance? 'Yun man 'yung pupunta ng abroad, pupunta ng ano. Those are on the --- 'yung... No offense intended, 'yan 'yung mga nasa baba. Huwag ninyo galawin 'yun.

Kagaya ng Customs. You don't have to open all the bags there, especially if it's OFW. Ano man lang mabili niyan? Mga regalo-regalo nila, mga konting perfume. Hayaan ninyo 'yan. That's too small. The corruption? It is up high in government. It's where --- it is where they cheat government by the billions.

O kita mo ito si Mighty King. Alam mo kung bakit naniniwala ako si Faeldon malinis? Because it was Faeldon ang nagbulong sa akin na may tatlong bodega ng sigarilyo, peke ang stamps. Sabi ko, "Sige birahin mo."

So our offer was okay. Sabi ko, whatever the Finance people would say, you just pay. And Dominguez, eh talagang strikto 'yan pero gusto rin ng pera because he's responsible for looking for the money. "You pay us 40 billion." Hindi daw kaya. Sabi ko, you can do it by installments and you pay us 38 billion. 'Yan it's one stroke, we earned billions by just raiding a warehouse using fake stamps sa cigarettes.

Nandito ang laro. Customs. Kaya ang Customs they will lose about 64 of them. They were there --- they have been there for 39 years, 38. I am sorry. You are there in the list of corrupt. You have so many cases there in...

You better go or I will really pursue the case criminally. You'll not only lose your pants, but you will lose everything including being a dishonorable employee of this government.

'Yun ang ano ko. Ganun --- ganito 'yan eh. Kung 'yung mga --- may mga negosyo and they think that they are feeling generous, I might give something to you --- Christmas. Ako wala akong ano.

'Yang... Tawag nitong y\*\*\* na ito? 'Yung... *[Unsay tawag ana kanang sa... Inyo 'yan binigay ko sa inyo 'yan, hindi ninyo alam ano 'yan y\*\*\*. Unsay tawag ana, Bong? No, not the peryahan. 'Yung sa barangay, 'yung parang... No, 'yung machine. 'Di ba 'yung karera na sa inyong AOR, inyo naman 'yan. Wala man... T\*\*\*... Wala akong pakialam. Sige, ibigay mo sa police]*

Eh hindi mo rin talaga mapigilan. So alam mo 'yung police even sa pamilya nila hrap 'yan. I know because I have been mayor for 23 years. I was a prosecutor for eight years. Stenographer ko noon ang asawa ni Wendel. She became a judge but she passed away about four, three years ago.

So alam ko 'yung laro. So basta wala lang lokohan. If you are just content of maybe you want 50,000 and you are able to get something like 25 or 20, be content. Be --- do not allow your greed to run away with all the --- alam mo na, kalokohan. So 'yan lang akin. Hindi ko kayo iipitin.

Well, basta kung bigyan kayo, eh tanggapin ninyo. It is not bribery because --- it cannot be bribery because it is allowed by law. What I mean if there is

generosity in them, sabi ng anti-graft you cannot accept gifts. Kalokohan 'yan.

I know that, especially the police, if you are able to solve a crime and you guys from Davao alam man ninyo 'yan. If you are able to solve a crime and the family would like to be generous to you or would nurture a feeling of gratitude for what you accomplish, then by all means, accept it. Wala akong ano.

But to us, that is something else. Mahirapan tayo diyan. I am not addre --- I'm telling you to relay this message sa mga tao na ganun, just... Rendahan mo 'yung --- you [rein?] in the --- 'yung walang katapusan.

Look at the police officers who are involved in drugs. You, a police officer of the Philippine National Police, general kayo tapos papasok kayo niyan. 'Yan ang mahirap.

Do not --- do not ever commit the mistake. It's a worldwide problem. There's a global war there. Huwag kayong pumasok diyan kasi sinabi ko na. I have said it before in every forum and I've said it --- I'll say it now again for the nth time. Do not destroy my country during my watch. Do not destroy the young Filipinos of our tomorrow 'cause they will be the ones running the show when we are gone.

We are not rich and that is why I said I'll give you a leeway. You retire at the age of 56. Most of your children are still in college and that is why I'm doing everything to give you.

Actually, I'm selling. Know what I'm selling? I will give to you itong grounds. You better look for another kampo. You are there you --- 'yung bagong ano ninyo. Tatal, police kayo, military. You go out of the urban areas. It's not profitable.

Then you have the land. Gusto kong ibigay sa inyo pero ayaw ni Dominguez. Dominguez wants it done just like the GSIS. The Government Insurance System. So inyo 'yan. Ibigay ko sa police pati sa Armed Forces.



Then, just like Taguig, you can lease the land. It's all prime lands. 'Yun ang ano ninyo. So that an ordinary police can send his children. And if that child would become a lawyer, which is 10 years in the waiting; doctor 10 years rin. Makapag-aral ka ng anak mo.

You will be earning billions there. And Sonny Dominguez does not want to give it to you. I do not --- he might not have the enough trust but I trust him because he's a banker and it's a good one. May sarili kayong GSIS. So just wait. And that will come before I leave the office.

Kagaya ng kampo ninyo, maghanap ako ng pera. You have been receiving a lot of assistance, kayong mga police. Tama 'yung sinabi ni General Albayalde. Billion ang binitawan ko sa inyo just to --- to acquire the intelligence capabilities and everything.

So I'll leave that message in your heart that... I'm not trying to be --- I do not play God. I am not God.

But there are things in this world connected with your performance of duty. You just strike a happy balance there and you will not have a problem again. But 'yang drugs, I made a promise. If you destroy my country...

Alam mo, alam ninyo 'yan eh. Itong pamilya, husband, wife, three children. If this guy falls down, the entire family becomes dysfunctional. So the wife with no income, no nothing, children have stopped schooling, they go to Malaysia to seek employment, to the Middle East. They go to this fly-by-night recruitment and they find hell there.

Kaya you know, from a simple drug... Not --- not to mention the family, the victims, there is no count.

Now I'd like to ask. Nandito naman lahat. We're all here. I'm being heard, I suppose, by the entire Philippines. I really do not know what's the f\*\*\*\*\* thing about the numbers, where they get it.

Everyday, there's a --- in a government channel, 8888. My briefer for that day includes --- or it is even in the first page --- of the drug cases all throughout the country, at least those that were investigated by the police. And I will have to assume that you --- due performance of duty.

And everyday you can see there "A, A, A, A, A." Those "A, A, A" closed in parentheses, "Arrested, Rodrigo Duterte, A." Then the number or quantity of shabu.

That "A, A" is arrested. The "N" is neutralized. We do not even know if he was killed or he was neutralized in the sense that he was rendered inutile. I could no longer play the game.

'Yan ang ano ko, kasi nagtataka ako why is this stupid human rights... Where do --- all of the killings are charged to us. We are bound by our oath of office. I go by government records of what you report to me and I publish it. Everyday it's there and they can make a count. In one day to... There's not even one death.

They just said all the crime incidents involving drugs. Puro arrest, arrest, arrest, arrest, arrest, then none neutralized. Then arrest, arrest. Look at the...

I am bound by the reports of the Philippine National Police and the military. I cannot get my facts from the security agencies, from private persons. Worse, from the... So we have said we have killed about five.

Well, I'm sorry. That is how it is because they are really armed to kill. How many policemen have I lost? [Okay?] In Marawi, it was not a revolution outright or a rebellion. It --- the fighting or the ruckus started when the police went to --- with a warrant of arrest to --- sa isang Maute leader.

Then they refused to surrender even with the warrant. So the police retreated because of the superior firepower. So the next day, when the Marines went in, all of them who were crossing the Pandi River were all... They all --- they all died.

So there was fighting. What started? What was the reason? Was it because they wanted to remove a portion of our territory to be their own? No. I've been telling you since I became mayor, Marawi is the laboratory of the Philippines by...

The seizure there, the confiscation by --- by tons. Tons. They do not --- not pounds. So we had to act and in the process, we had to go to war. It was a drug war. I lost so many soldiers and policemen there. Kaya the...

You know, human rights, you parley that kind of lies worldwide. And you are Filipinos. Give us something which we can start to work on, where and how, by what means. You start with those questions.

And I said if you see a person, a dead carcass there and say it's killed by... You just assume na droga 'yan. We go by the official records investigated by the police. Those cases who are investigated.

It's there published everyday. And you can hardly find a confrontation or an arrest while in the process of arresting. It's about only two, three percent everyday. The rest are really neutralized, arrested.

So I am not defending you. I'm just telling the truth. And I said go ahead, perform your duty in accordance with law. For the basic course of the ordinary police officer, he has two years of lecture.

When I was mayor of Davao City, I married early. And so there was not enough to go around with money. I had to teach criminal law, criminal evidence, criminal procedure in the academy, since 1973.

I used to give... I'm still giving special lectures now. I have --- if you just listened, I have a matrix and that will --- that is all that you would need in your entire life as a peace officer.

Find some time. You assemble here and I will present a PowerPoint. If you will listen very carefully, that is what police work is all about. I'll take about an hour, 30 minutes. Do not...

Never mind the books, for even the lawyers and judges do not agree with the interpretation of the prohibitions there. Just listen to me. I'll give you a lecture at the --- in the eyes of a public prosecutor.

'Yun lang. Pagbigyan lang ninyo ako ng panahon ninyo. I'm sorry, I overshot my... I didn't even realize that I failed to bring my watch. So congratulations on your anniversary. Happy birthday.

I said, stay clean. And if you have to go to business to improve your lives, go ahead. Every Filipino is entitled to it. It is not limited to the already rich and the guys who were there historically in the beginning and it was all illegal.

Now, there's an illegal, then the --- another one they put in tandem the illegal. If you can assure me that there will be no corruption, maybe I will consider.

But if I am not satisfied, and if the --- the big guys are still there to manipulate the game, I will not allow it. I'm sorry.

Lahat naman 'to. All of us. The order is to protect government interest. Nothing follows. We are stuck to that oath. What is the oath? To protect the people and to preserve the Republic.

You cannot preserve a nation by allowing the drugs to swallow our children. As I said if you do that, I will kill you. I'm sorry but I'm telling you the truth. Do not do it. If you want to stop, just drop it.

Just like the communist guys. If you want to surrender, just drop it. Drop your gun and go to the nearest police or military camp. And I will give you a house, provide you with the skills. TESDA is there.

During the time that you are learning the skill, I will pay you. Libre pagkain. I'll take care of your food until such time that you are able to make it on your own.

But to the police, you are all handsome. Do not be ugly. It is not good.

Maraming salamat po. *[applause]*

**--- END ---**