

Presidential Communications Office

Presidential News Desk

SPEECH
OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE OATH TAKING OF NEWLY-APPOINTED OFFICIALS

[Delivered at Rizal Hall, Malacañan Palace | 13 February 2018]

Kindly... Senator Pimentel, good day to you, sir. Boy... Magagalit si Senator Pimentel sa akin, two pages.

And besides I would want to say something more than just what is written here.

I'd like to acknowledge the Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea and the members of the Cabinet; on newly-appointed government officials; ladies and gentlemen.

I have the option to make it short so... I think I also... There's no need for me to really expound any further in addition to what I have proclaimed publicly all these days in these so many weeks passed regarding government service and the degree of loyalty that we must nurture to be really a true Filipino.

I have fired several and I hope I would not have to do it again because I do not like it. But I have fired so many officials of government for one reason or another.

But the latest of those who really who were abusing the use of public funds. And I was referring to... I hope she doesn't mind it because it's true --- CHED, MARINA, the guys responsible for the moorings there of the ships and many others including the SSS.

I am not ready to say that they have sinned against the government. But maybe I'll just say that there's always a time to be in government and to be not in government. But what is very important today is that we have also with us the illustrious Filipinos who would be responsible in guiding this country into the future.

Let me just say that... In the matter of the commission that I have appointed to give us the advice, the wise experience that you have had to stir something that will guide us for the future.

Let me be really frank and these are the guys... They can tell you not because I am not sure of myself, but as an added information, you can ask all the military men who are here. Used to be my --- one time or another --- their sojourn in Davao in their career in the military. And most of them experienced Mindanao.

The sole singular reason why really I want a federal setup or at least a change in the reconfiguration it's because we want to avoid a fissure in Mindanao.

Sabihin ko sa inyo, 'pag hindi ito naayos, there will be trouble. I'm not saying it will be a war, I'm not saying it will be a battlefield but there will be trouble.

And at the stage of our national life, when you're supposed to be working to develop our country for the next generation. Taking into account the average age of us now here. And it falls on our -- - it behooves upon us, on our shoulders, the burden of trying to figure out what is good for the future.

Magkagulo talaga ito. I'm not saying that we will be overwhelmed. What I'm saying is that we are trying to avoid a fissure in Mindanao because we need peace to move forward.

Mindanao is below the typhoon belt and it is really conducive for farming and for manufacturing. The weakest link in our economy now is the agricultural sector. What we envision is really a manufacturing in the agricultural sector.

That's the only way to pull them up and if we can do that we shall have improved the average of the life of the Filipino in a comfortable level.

'Yan lang ho ang gusto ko. With the three years remaining, I am also in a hurry to go down.

But if they can have... If you guys want to have a system where you have a president like the French experience even a parliament, a prime minister and a president. If we can have that in 2020, I will commit to you now. You do not have to remind me.

If there can be a working federal setup by the year 2020, I am going to step down. I do not want any transition position.

I do not have any plans of perpetuating myself in power. It ain't in my system. And I have told the military time and again as good as any other time that if I overstay even for 24 hours here in Malacañan, you can arrest me and shoot me.

It is your duty to see to it if I go before this time to see to it that the rules of succession in our Constitution be followed. I could not be more clear on this and I would rather abbreviate my term rather than extend it.

Ang akin lang ngayon is... You know, remember I just made four basic promises. I had no... I'm not into politics anymore. But just --- let me remind you except for the Mindanaoans, a few leaders there. And even the official itself.

I could only remember with... Imee Marcos, Abet of Bataan, Zubiri, of course, Cagayan and Davao. That was... Ni isang barangay captain wala ako dito sa Maynila. But you know, I won.

So what does that indicate? I asked my wife right after. Na wala akong pera, wala akong leader, I won by 15 million, six of which was my margin over the next guy.

And so I said maybe I was carrying the message and what was that? I said, I will try --- I can only try to stop corruption. Then I will try to control drugs and then I said that I will talk to the enemies of the state which I'm doing now. And then I said I will allow the managers of this --- economic managers of this country to do their thing.

I am telling you now and on my oath as President, no contracts ever, ever arrives Malacañang. It's all for the decision of those who are there. If it's a DICT thing, kanya 'yan. If it's about international monetary agreements or loans, kay Dominguez 'yan.

I do not sign anything and there is no paper, MRT or what not, walang dumadating dito sa akin. And you can ask... You can look at the books. I purposely did it because I know that I'm --- I do not want my name to be linked anything at all with something like that.

Kaya 'yang mga 'yung frigate, frigate. That was signed before... Dito it was just a matter of a complaint. Iyong naka --- napanalo. Why is there no voucher or anything that would empower them to deliver?

I told everybody before, if you have a complaint especially about graft and corruption, you can come to Malacañan anytime. I will give you the space and I will listen to you. And that goes well... Maybe that's why they came here.

Pero sabihin mo na walang papel dito na... Absolutely. There can be no time that you'd have to call me to explain anything there because I do not hold the papers. I do not allow them inside my office.

So ganun na lang ako ka-istrikto. And this thing about destroying the cars, I was in Cebu last night and there's complaints about... We go into that rigmarole again.

The import, the consignee is fictitious. Then the corrupt office there in the Customs, the auction section and after a while, while they are being parked inside the warehouses, if the time comes for government to make the accounting, they would conduct the auction and sell it to the people who really, in the first place, were responsible of importing them. And this has --- this insanity has to stop.

So I said from now on, there will be no auction on smuggled goods. It will be destroyed once the period of redeeming it and I will take note of those people who are there.

I will no longer allow gangs of... Even in the matter of the lowest bid. I dare say 'yang lowest bid na 'yan is the source of all corruptions down to the barangay level.

There are group of idiots here going around, playing golf, just waiting for a word or two where is the bidding now. It's a group. So they go there and bid out each other. But they are a group.

So they would go into a dive and they will win and they will start to, you know, right at the start, the 30 percent is there.

Then the engineer gets it. And if you have a contact here, the Office of the President does it and a congressman.

So out of the 100 million projects, you get to start with maybe 85.

And that is why the projects cannot last because if you'll have to spend all for the project, all of it, the money, then he has no profit and the gang of Filipino idiots would make hay forever.

So ako ngayon, somebody said in Congress that it is not possible. So why is it not possible? If it will save money for the people, why can't it be possible?

So now, if there are projects, it's gonna be a turnkey. Make me this project according to my specific orders, and if it's good, I will pay you.

Now, if you make a mess out of the project, and you know, you abbreviate things there, affecting the quality and all, I will not pay you. So it's your gamble, not mine.

All the big projects henceforth in this --- until the end of my term will be on a turnkey basis. I will not listen to that COA there.

Sabi ko, you know very well that this has perpetrated the corruption in this country. Why would I stick to it? I will not obey you. If it is not in the interest of my country, I will not obey you. You can go to hell.

So that's the thing. I'm talking about corruption because I am not here to lecture on you.

I am just explaining the things that I have did --- what I did in the past.

There are a lot of terminations going on. And the first of that, what really started, what got my goat there was somebody whispered to me that, "Mayor..." I like to be called "Mayor." I do not want to be called "President."

It's a... You know, I never, there was never a paradigm shift of my persona from the mayorship to the presidency.

So if they say that I have a bad mouth, totoo 'yan. True. Sabihin nila na bastos ako, eh 'di talagang bastos ako. So no problem about it. I admit. Eh galing akong kanal eh.

So I started as... I would not want to be melodramatic here but galing rin ako doon.

"Duterte is not a statesman." I never took the subject of statesmanship. None of it, actually.

Pero kung sabihin mo na, “me and my big mouth,” well, you might want to call that. But in my time, as I said, not during my watch. Huwag sa panahon ko.

And I said it about last week when I was talking to the police and there was this donation by the JICA, Japanese government of 26 brand new.

Mabuti pa ang mga g***, may mga brand new Montero sila. Ako nga pickup lang eh. And all of you know that hanggang pickup lang ako.

Kasi I have a problem with the police. I’m okay with the military. But time to time, may sumusulpot itong problema sa pulis, really. So I’m more stricter with the police now.

But anyway, I will not take much of your time. I’m only saying that I would like to continue on my... Corruption, I am at it.

Drugs, na-demanda na nga ako. Do not worry about me. I can face the ICC. If they want to indict me and convict me, fine. I will gladly do it for my country.

Sabi ko nga sa kanila, find a place where they allow execution by firing squad. I would love to experience what Rizal experienced, too. And, of course, itong ano ko... [applause]

I’m just a simple man. I’m just an ordinary person, a worker of government.

At ang ano diyan is when I took my oath of office, in two sentences, I said, “I swear before God and country that I will protect my nation, that I will also have to protect the people.” That’s about it.

I did not say na, o sige, I will only kill the rich but not the poor. I do not have that luxury. What I’m saying, if it does really... It does really... It does result in a... I have to enforce the law or else I will compromise this country.

Mind you, there’s a new development. Cocaine has entered into the picture.

We have this PDEA, si Chairman ang nandito, si General Cuy. He was my chief of police.

Shabu is an article, an item, commodity for the poor. Sabihin nila, “Bakit pinapatay ni Duterte puro mahirap?” They do it openly, the peddling. It’s really a poor man’s cocaine.

Cocaine now has entered into the picture and you saw in the several days before plastic bins washed ashore with GPS.

They are cooked in the trawlers along the international waters then they throw it over board, jettison it and there’s a GPS for the Filipino criminals to get it and...

‘Yan ang --- lumalaki ang problema ko. But as I have said, to the very last day of my term, the drug campaign will last until the day of my term. And if I run into a gamut of problems then I’ll just have to say, so be it.

Gusto ko lang malaman na if I --- if I rein my horses, I would have compromised the next generation.

Remember, very poor country. And even the generals there, they retire at the age of 56. Soldiers, they retire at the age of 56.

It’s about the time that the weakened immune system and all weakens, papasok na lahat.

For the soldiers karamihan na dito puro kidney ang tama niyan. I don’t know, but it’s the prevalent disease, and all the others hypertension, diabetes, heart. Pati ako, pati sila, I don’t know about you, how much will you receive after this.

Me, when I retire? Maybe pegged to the last salary, on the average, four million.

I’m now 72. If I retire at the age of 56, I get about three, four, five? And I get to live for another six or seven years. Would... Can you really say that it can sustain my medications, my food, everything?

I do not want to depend on my children because they would have a problem of their own by that time. But who’s going to feed me? Who’s going to pay for my antibiotics? Who’s gonna buy the oxygen that I would need? And they’d pay for the hospitals, eventually, who would pay for the burial?

Well, that... Itong mga durugista, ang market nila ang mahirap, wala na ngang pension. Kami, ganun rin. It cannot sustain us.

Now, if you feed my children with drugs --- mamama --- who will spoon-feed for me?

One last item, itong nangyayari ngayon sa ano, hindi ko na talaga kaya, pati ako pumutok talaga nang...

Way back when I was a congressman, three Filipino women were arrested by the religious police in Kuwait for distributing rosaries.

And since two of them came from Davao City, sa Toril District, and so --- my --- they were --- they’re everyday crying, the family. So my wife told me, “Why don’t you do something to --- kawawa naman ito.” Early morning nandiyan na eh.

So I decided to go to Riyadh. I invited the Moro congressmen to help me plead the case, their case before the King. And so pumunta kami, nakiusap kami, they were released.

But the chief minister of the King told me straight, “Who’s in charge of law...?” Something like law and order? I said, “I am,” because I was a member of the law and order committee at that time, the 11th Congress.

Kami ‘yung nag-impeach kay Estrada. Eh ako ‘yung pinapunta, I went to Parliament.

Ito ang sinabi niya, “There --- not all, let me --- let me make that statement opening, not all, but there are Arabs, especially of the different tribes there, there are tribes, if you work for them as a slave, if you are bought from the slave markets of Africa or the Middle East, or if you work for them, may bayad, you are treated as a slave. And sexual abuse is really part of it.”

At that time, may nakikinig kasi camera, I kept that information to myself. Why? Because I would be creating so many cobwebs in the minds of the husbands who are here.

They will begin to think of the wild things that he has done to his wife in the past and he would think every night that is the wife is also enjoying there. When as a matter of fact, they are raped on a daily basis. Kaya malakas ‘yang pills doon.

You know, the first to take advantage of the slave would be the employer. Then the son and the son-in-law, tapos ‘yung mga barkada, ‘yung mga pinsan. So the human body and the mental state can only take so much.

Nakita mo, tumatalon ang --- they hang or tumatalon. And that was --- that was brought to life the other night. I was flying to Davao, meron akong mga pictures about the abuse. Nung pag-landing ko sa Davao, nakita ko ‘yung --- ‘yung paborito gani pinaplantsa nila ang tao. I’ll give you a copy.

That’s the usual case. They are raped, abused, used as animals. Hindi talaga makatao ‘yung plantsa.

Kaya pumutok ako. Sabi ko, “P***** i** mong --- mga l***** kayo.” Maybe I could not take it anymore. As I have said I have a very bad mouth. Ganun, “P***** i** mo.”

Tapos tinawagan ko siya. Sabi ko kay... Si Bebot naman --- and I can understand him because he’s the secretary of justice --- ay department of --- DOLE. He’s responsible also for the markets that we can go to, to...

Kaya sabi ko, “What would be the sin of this Filipina?” Sabi ko doon sa mga taga-Kuwait, and I’m repeating it, “What have we done to you to deserve this kind of treatment for my countrymen?”

The past administration, pagka ganun it’s treated as a sub rosa, then quietly ministerial --- ay, p*****.

Ako, hindi ko kaya ‘yan. Sabi ko, “No. Don’t give that s*** about just keeping silent. I will confront them.”

So Bebot said, we will just suspend, sabi ko, “No. I to --- I want it total ban.” And they can come here and we’ll have to support them.

Ubusin natin itong pera natin na ito. Hindi naman ito atin, it belongs to the people. O ‘di we will subsidize them. You come home and I will sell my soul to the devil to look for money so that you can come home and live comfortably here.

Mga --- t**** i**. Hindi na kaya ng katawan eh, abused then mentally... Pagdating dito it’s a mentally deranged.

And that is why I’m trying to come up with a peaceful solution for all. Drug has to go kasi alam mo bakit? Kagaya ng mga Tondo, Pandacan, these idiot criminals, alam nila kung sino ‘yung may pera diyan sa Tondo ‘yang street na ‘yan, nanay niya, tatay niya nagtatrabaho.

Maawa ka sa Pilipino because when a Filipino family loses the husband and go --- to go abroad to work, that family becomes dysfunctional already without a father, a husband.

When both husband and wife go out to earn livelihood to send their children to school and they endure abuses and pain and humiliation, degradation. Pagkapadala ng pera nila dito sa mga anak nila, itong mga durugista, ipapakain mo sa kanila.

Itong nag-sakripisyo doon, ganito ang nangyari. She will come home frustrated and terribly desperate na sa despite or in spite of being treated as an animal abroad, walang natapos ang mga anak niya kasi [inaudible.]

And that’s why I said when I was mayor, “I’m building a city. I am not a policeman or a soldier. Do not destroy this city because I will kill you. Do not destroy the young because I will kill you. Period.”

And so that human rights, for all of their shortsightedness, how... They keep on repeating that I said those words to embolden the...

Look, itong mga police na ito, it’s two years, four years diyan, PNP. Four years ‘yan. They are told to only to obey legal orders.

But when I express myself, “I will kill you,” I am expressing a personal outrage. I never ordered anybody, not a single security guard even, na patayin mo ‘yan si si Mr. Santos, patayin mo si Mr. Cruz, patayin mo dito si Mr...

Kasi galit ako. And besides, that warning will serve maybe as a deterrent. Or would you rather go ahead without a warning and kill all these idiots? Kaya when I became President, I made the same pronouncement, that is to protect...

I said my job is to protect the people and unite this country. Eh itong mga komunista, isa rin. At the end of the day, it turns out that they want a coalition government.

You know, sovereignty belongs to the people. It is delegated to a certain set of officers but they must be elected. Itong... t***...

Itong komunista wants to join government, participate in a governance and a coalition, wala lang man gastos sa election maski piso. Tapos ako pa ang takutin ngayon na, “kill one Filipino soldier a day.” Kwenta-kwenta ko, ‘pag it will last for four years, I’ll be spending about billions.

Then I made a counter offer. If you’re a CAFGU or anybody here, you kill one NPA and I will pay you 25,000. Kwenta-kwenta ko, mas makamura ako. [laughter] Bilhin ko na lang itong mga y*** na ito. T*** i**. Bwisit.

Bakit ako matakot sa kanila? May Navy ako, may Air Force ako, may sundalo ako, may CAFGU ako, may Army ako.

Pakatapos you want a coalition of forcing us? Kita mo, maglilinya pa diyan, “Rebolusyon! Rebolusyon!” “Duterte, US! Duterte....!” P***** i**. Kailan pa ba ako naging bata ng Amerikano? [laughter]

T*** i**. I don’t even talk to them. Nandiyan si Ambassador. [applause]

Itong mga Amerikano, sarhento lang, kung magsalita, akala mo mga koronel. Get out, I do not want to talk to you. “Reboluyon, rebolusyon.”

Sabi ko minsan, nagsawa ako in a Cabinet meeting, “Ah gusto niyo rebolusyon? Okay, I will declare a revolutionary government.” “Ah, Duterte!” pati mga Yellow, “Ah, Duterte, diktador!”

Kung kayo ang mag-revolution, okay. Ako, hindi. [laughter] Ako ‘yung may makinarya tapos ako pa ‘yung...

T***** talaga itong mga komunista. Itong mga Yellow, Trillanes, ano, nandoon sa America nagka-campaign. Have you seen the footage?

They arranged there a certain meeting. Inaway siya ng mga tao doon, mga babae. Pinagsisigawan sila. Ayan.

Well, ano, these are all allowed in politics. All in a day’s work. But ‘yung mga outrage ko sa... Biro mo ‘yang iniligay sa freezer for one year. Sabi ni... “Dahan-dahan ka lang, Rod, kasi...”

You know, thousands are there working. Pauwiin mo na ‘yan sila. Appeal to their patriotism.

Ngayon, nandiyan ‘yang tatlong Arabo, gusto akong makausap. Kay ‘pag umuuwi ‘yang mga doctor, engineers, lahat bagsak ‘yang ekonomiya nila. Really.

And the problem is... Ang masakit ngayon is, you know that, alam ninyo ‘yan. ‘Yung mga construction workers, nag-slow down. Walang master plumber, walang master electricians, walang master...

Hindi ka naman pwedeng magpulot diyan sa Mendiola tapos, “Sige, punta ka dito. Gawain mo ‘yan.” That’s why I said I’m strengthening TESDA for the eventual returns, including the rebels.

I’m paying the rebels na nag-surrender 2,000 daily just to learn livelihood skills sa TESDA. That’s the only way also to...

I cannot fight forever. And surely, government cannot really wage a war against its own people. So ano-ano lang tayo.

Now, I have enlisted you in the service. Kindly help me. Tatal, hindi man rin kayo magtagal after this maybe --- except for the Constitutional Commission.

Ako, sir, ayaw kong magsalita. As much as possible, I want to give you the enough leeway na hindi, “Ah baka gusto ni Presidente...” I do not want you to spill it there. I have no --- except that if we can produce a working document that will ensure something like for good for even just about 7 generations. Beyond that, we’ll leave to them the final decision of what will also happen to their...

But we are now caught in a --- sa Korea, itong atin. It is a very --- a troubled nation and a world.

So we’re here to just make a happy, balanced, if not a compromise, so that para naman aangat ang Pilipinas.

But the economy is working. It’s good. Crime has lowered considerably. Drugs is on the wane, but cocaine is... Madali kasing hulihin ito, sabihin mga pobre sila ang nahuli.

Because the rich, they have their yacht. They have their resorts in the mountains. They have the airplanes and the... And nobody would just mess up with them.

Ang kawawa itong mga... At hindi naman ito na sabihin mo na... Because they are really ignorant with the ways of how to destroy.

If you destroy my country, ‘di talaga kita papalusutin. I will really kill you. Sinabi ko, “I.” Wala akong sinabing the Army, I will order the Army to kill you. It is a personal outrage actually. “I will kill you, I will destroy you.”

But ang order ko sa kanila is destroy the apparatus and organization. Kasi ang drugs cannot work without an organization.

So may tiga-luto, may tiga-lieutenants to make the distribution to the basurero. Ang basurero ‘yang peddlers nandoon sa streets.

So in law, if it is an organized crime, the act of one is the act of all. The liability of one is the same for the liability of all. Kaya ang sabihin, “Bakit si Duterte, ‘yung mga mahirap?”

Eh 'yun lang kasi ang nakikita ninyo kasi 'yun lang naman ang nahuhuli, 'yon lang ang lumalaban.

But, of course, in agony, matagal akong mayor, maraming t***** talaga na pulis. Pero not as much as they do so are dedicated to the service of the nation.

But meron talaga mga... pati 'yang maghingi. Eh ilang beses na ako nambugbog ng pulis. Kung sipa-sipain ko 'yan diyan sa istasyon nila noon.

But there's always a time to be decent, time to be --- hanggang salita ka na lang. I cannot go out there and maul all those idiots there. Bugbugin mo sila.

There's a time that I'm... I'm always alone here. Kaya pala pag si... Kaya pala 'yung plate number.

By the way, wala akong plate number. I do not use it. And no Cabinet member is allowed to use the '6,' kasi '6' --- '1' is the President. If you use '1,' you deserve it. You're a very lonely man and you will die of boredom there. [laughter] T*** i**. Nobody is allowed.

'Yung number '2,' hayaan ko lang. I just said it in a --- parang passing remark but I like the quotation which I just... I did utter.

Pinakopya ko kayo --- Bong, 'yung aide ko. Ang problema, nilagyan niya ng litrato ko 'yung sa Marawi ako. Pahingi nga ng isa. Putulin lang nila itong ano, mukha ko.

Binibi... Hindi ko 'to ibinibigay sa public, only a few. Sabi ko kasi sa mga pulis doon sa Davao, t*** i** kayo: "Not during my watch. Huwag sa panahon ko."

Then I said I like it. Ang problema, nilagyan nila ng litrato. Kung ganun lang sana 'yun, nagpagawa ako nito tapos bigyan ko kayo.

"Not during my watch. Huwag sa panahon ko." Mag-aaway tayo.

So... Bigyan ko 'yang si Boy kay walking advertise --- 'yan ibigay ko --- 'yan ibigay mo 'yan kay Boy. Siya 'yung daldalero eh. Siya 'yung magpaano sa iyo.

So thank you for listening. A very combative speech but I have to make it to make my...

'Yun lang ang guide ko. But total it will be reviewed. But at this time, I am not ready to inject anything there. I do not want you to have second thoughts about this --- baka hindi gusto.

Wa... I'll leave it up to you kung ano 'yung gusto ninyo para sa bayan natin. And I know that you would not do anything harmful to the country. [applause]

So thank you for appoint --- for the appointment this time and for the appointments to the different offices of the government.

Maraming salamat po. [applause]

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Source: PCOO-PND (Presidential News Desk)