

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE TALK TO TROOPS**

[Delivered at Camp Teodulfo Bautista Headquarters, Brgy. Bus-bus, Jolo, Sulu | 25 August 2018]

Troop Commander, kindly give the troop the tikas pahinga.

Interior and Local Government Officer-in-Charge Undersecretary Eduardo Año who will be a regular Secretary of the Department after one year. *[applause]* Alam mo kasi hindi siya ma-appoint kaagad Secretary. I don't know but that is the only law available na nakita ko na military members have to wait for one year before they can be appointed as regulars in the other branches of government. Pero kita mo naman lahat ng military, nagta-trabaho uli after their active service.

Presidential Adviser on Military Affairs Undersecretary Arthur Tabaquero *[applause]*; AFP Chief of Staff General Carlito Galvez *[applause]*; Brigadier General Divino Rey Pabayo, Commander Joint Task Force Sulu *[applause]*; the officers and enlisted personnel of the Joint Task Force of Sulu.

Basahin ko na lang. I'm not into reading speeches but it's sunset time. Para maka-save ako ng oras. Nagpunta lang ako dito dahil maraming nasugatan. And alam mo na, Commander-in-Chief ka, hindi mo minsan matiis na masama ang loob mo, kaya pumunta na lang ako dito pa-consuelo para ma --- sarili ko na masabi ko na nagampanan ko ang trabaho ko to be with my soldiers and policemen during their hour of pain and grief.

I stand here today as your Commander-in-Chief to remind you of your sworn duty to defend this nation and protect the people. You are here today for one reason only: Because you have answered the call to maintain peace and to ensure safe communities for every Filipino.

The growth of the Philippines, especially Mindanao, has always been hindered by insurgency and terrorism. I therefore commend the Joint Task Force Sulu for your relentless efforts against various threat groups in your area of operations, especially the Abu Sayyaf.

Alam mo, ang Mindanao holds the promise kasi dito walang bagyo. Kung meron man, 'yung mga baha, but because of the heavy precipitation, tubig. [But?] tulad itong bagyo in the sense na maraming nasisira na bahay, hangin and everything.

And Mindanao promises to be our food supplier. Dito sa Mindanao. Napunta na ako, napunta rin kayo ng Luzon. Paglabas mo ng Cabanatuan, nag-motor lang ako, umikot ako ng --- sa itaas and I saw Pagudpud. Alam mo, every three minutes or four ang kasalubong mo. Dito sa Mindanao, everywhere movement dito because of the development.

Sana lang para sa ating mga kababayan, kapatid, pinsan na makapagtrabaho kung nandito sa Mindanao. If they are outside, they can benefit in the economy because that is the only reason where we can be really say na nagawa natin ang trabaho natin.

Kaya trabaho ninyo, pusta --- huwag na tayo mag-bolahan. Ang trabaho ng sundalo pusta buhay talaga 'yan. But the country remembers you. I personally would like to --- I said to give my fullest attention and lahat ng kailangan ninyo, from the time you enter the service up to the time --- may plano na ako.

As a matter of fact, huwag na nating taguin but just ponder on it tonight. Tulugan mo. Lahat ng mga asawa na military o police na alam mo na, hindi umabot sa panahon, 'yung mga asawa ninyo may trabaho and I take care of your education sa mga anak, wala kayong problema diyan.

And as a matter of fact, post-Marawi, I left to Lorenzana and General Macario, 500 million for your intervention.

Karamihan ng sun --- mga generals ninyo nandiyan sa akin nagtatrabaho. As a matter of fact, the Cabinet, 'yung Gabinete ko dalawa, tatlo na lang kaming Bisaya naiwan diyan. Puro Ilocano 'yan. Puro kaibigan ko. Puro dumaan ng Mindanao at mga kilala ko. Sila --- sila 'yung... Cimat, Año.

At alam mo kung bakit? Wala akong ano sa mga sibilyan. Ang mga sibilyan tamad, takot, at 'yan 'yung transaction.

Si Eduardo del Rosario, tingnan mo ang Lanao. Sinabi ko, "Bigyan mo ako bahay na 100 houses in two months." O nandiyan, tsaka maganda. Kaya wala akong ano except that ang gusto ko kasi sa inyo 'pag inutusan na gawain mo 'yan at gagawin at walang sindikato.

Kaya kaming mga Presidente, si Gloria pati --- umaasa sa military kasi sa military kasi isang salita, isang honor. Walang lokohan 'yan.

I assure you that you have my full support as you conduct intensive military operations against these terrorist groups, particularly those who subscribe to the extremist ideologies of the Islamic State and Al-Qaeda.

That's just a bankrupt --- inutil na ideology. Ang alam lang nito magpatay pati magsira. Destroy and kill. So my order to you: Destroy and kill also. Bakit ka magpalugi?

[Bong, 'yung...]

Lahat ba kayo may ano na?

[Ilan na sila?]

Kasi si Bong... 'Di ako nagbibiro ha. Hindi ako nagpapatawa. Pagbalik ko na sunod dito, hindi pa nakumpleto ito sila. Iyong baril mo ibigay mo sa kanila. Huwag na kayo magtawatawa diyan. Ibigay mo diyan sa kanila.

By being here, you are also honoring the sacrifices made by your comrades, particularly the 22 soldiers who have been wounded during the recent encounter in Patikul. We are grateful for your heroism and I will personally ensure that you will be taken care of as you recover from your injuries.

Our progress as a nation *[applause]* can never be realized until there are elements that continue to prevent us from achieving lasting peace. I offer you only two choices: Return to the fold of the law or face the full force of our government.

To our troops, I know that you have worked hard throughout your careers and there have been moments when the fight seemed difficult. Yet, in the spirit of selfless service, you remain determined to carry on with your mission despite the challenges you face in the field.

Well the least that I can do, kay Presidente ninyo, pupunta ako dito. Iyan na lang ang magawa ko. Hindi naman ako maka-stand by nang matagal kasi napaka-busy ko.

But every time that you need me and everything that you need to survive, ibibigay ko. Wala kayong hiningi, 'yung mga higher command, na hindi ko binigay.

Ako lang naman. I don't know baka bastos pakinggan ninyo. Ako lang 'yung Presidente na nagbibigay ng sidearm kasi lalo na dito, giyera dito babuyan eh. Do not surrender. Kaya ako, binigyan ko kayo ng --- that's one magazine deployed, another two.

Pag naubos 'yung dalawa, 'yang last magazine, iyo 'yan. Huwag kang --- huwag kang pumayag na kunin sa'yo buhay 'yang baril mo. At kung ma-corner ka, wala ka ng bala, huwag kang magpahuli. Dadalhin ka ng kampo, gawain kang aso doon at pagkatapos, iharap ka sa camera, luglugin (slit/cut) ka.

Kaya Bong, 'yung sabi ko, 'pag wala pa 'yan sunod balik ko dito, 'yung baril mo pati 'yung baril lahat ng secretary, eh kunin mo 'yung kuwan --- kolektahin mo. Hindi naman nila kailangan 'yan.

Pero 'yang sabi ko, huwag kayo magpababoy. Ang sundalo ko, matapang at handang mamatay. Kaya 'pag wala ka ng bala, 'yung last magazine, kainin mo na lang.

Kasi kung ako, for one reason or another, mag-aberya 'yung eroplano mag-landing ako, hindi nila ako mahuling buhay. Pasabugin ko itong mukha ko sa harap nila. Ito, ah. T*** j** mo. Totoo.

Please know that I am very humbled by your dedication, inspired by your resilience and thankful for the continued support. With your bravery, selflessness and patriotism, I am optimistic that we will one day defeat all threats to our democratic institutions and secure a brighter future for our beloved country.

All I can say with pride: You are not alone in this fight. The Filipino people stands besides you, and I stand with you every step of the way as we advance the common good and promote the safety of our nation.

As we move forward, I ask all of you to remain committed to being a soldier and as we pursue our shared task of building stronger and more peaceful Philippines.

Mabuhay ang sundalong Pilipino! *[applause]* Ah, hindi man sila sumali. Kayo mag-pakpak diyan mga sibilyan. Mabuhay ang sundalo! Kayo diyan, mabuhay ang sundalo --- Pilipinas! Ayan, medyo...

Again, te-take off ako. Baka matamaan pa tayo ng .50 caliber diyan. Wala na. No more. Kaya sabi ko, hindi mo ako mahuhuli na... Kakainin ko itong .9 millimeter ko.

Ah, I pray that you --- for your safety. I ask God that bigyan kayo ng proteksyon makauwi sa pamilya ninyo every now and then.

Let me just --- give me time to completely deliver these all the... Nauna 'yung ano. Pati may award lahat. Ako 'yung nag-insist na lahat ng sundalo basta matamaan ng bala o shrapnel, bigyan talaga medalya.

So I created the Order of Lapu-Lapu. Kanang matunok ka la'g lansang, kasakit anang y***, bala pa. (If stepping on a nail can hurt, how much more for a gunshot wound) So dapat talaga may ano --- may award.

Sige at ingat lang. Hanggang kaya, ingat lang. Do not play extraordinary hero. Cover nang cover. Huwag naman 'yang magwala ka ng... Sa sine lang 'yan. Dito, every step of the way, ensure that --- your safety first then you kill para wala na. Pabalik-balik rin eh.

Just with the NPAs, puro mayabang. Akala mo naman. Pati ako, tinatakot ng ulol. Itong Sison na ito, comatose daw ako. *[laughter]* Ulol. Wala namang Navy. Walang Army, walang helicopter. Wala ngang CAFGU. Walang Air Force. Tapos kung magsalita, akala mo sino. Maniwala ka niyan. Iyang ambush-ambush lang.

But next time around, we will raise the bar higher. Sabi ko `pag magdating ang *[garbled]* wala ng surrender-surrender. P***** i**. Fight ka diyan hanggang mamatay ka. Hindi na mag-accept ng surrender. Pabalik-balik kayo.

Well anyway, I hope that you --- you would be well and I intend to come back here --- ngayon lang kasi marami akong sundalong tinamaan. I have to go because I have to go back to... Maabutan ako ng dilim, sunset limitation.

Thank you and mabuhay ang sundalong Pilipino! *[applause]*

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