

**Presidential Communications Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE 116TH LABOR DAY CELEBRATION**

[Delivered at IEC Convention Center of Cebu, Pope John Paul II Avenue,
Mabolo, Cebu City | 01 May 2018]

Paglingkod lang, sige mo pakpak diha. (Please take your seat. You keep on clapping there.) *[laughter]*

I'd like to acknowledge the presence of President Gloria Arroyo --- Macapagal-Arroyo; Labor and Employment Secretary Silvestre Bello III; Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano and the other members of the Cabinet; the honorable members of Congress, the House of Representatives; the officers and employees of the Department of Labor and Employment; akong mga igsoon sa labor sector; mga kauban sa gobyerno; ug akong mga kababayan (my brothers and sisters in the labor sector; my fellow workers in the government; and my fellow countrymen).

Can I have the copy again of the executive order? I'd like to repeat the provision of Section 2.

Prohibition against illegal contracting or subtracting. Wala'y multiplication og division diri ha. Contracting and sub-contracting when undertaken to circumvent the workers' right to security of tenure.

Self-organization and collective bargaining is hereby made pursuant to the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

Mao na ni. Mao ra ni akong pinaka kaya gyud. (This is it. This is all that I am capable of doing.) Isinagad ko na. Security of tenure refers to the right of employees not to be dismissed or removed without just and authorized cause in observance of procedural due process consistent with the Constitution and Labor Code as amended, and prevailing jurisprudence.

So pirmahan na nako sa inyong atubangan. (So I will sign this in front of you.) *[applause]*

Wala nako papirmahi ganina kay gusto nako ako'y mupirma sa inyong atubangan. *[applause]* Tan-awa mag --- Mayagaw ko basta naay gwapa. Sige ko'g tan-aw diri sa wala. Mao diay na siya. *[laughter]*

(TRANSLATION: I didn't sign it earlier because I wanted to sign it in front of you. Look at how --- I lose my focus when there are beautiful women. I keep on looking to my left here. So that's her.)

Well I hope that with all that I can do legally, there could be an impact sa inyong reklamong non-security of tenure.

Basahon ko nang ako. (I will read my speech). More than a century has passed since the very first Labor Day was celebrated and yet the struggle for a better life for our beloved workers continues.

I assure you that this government will never cease in its efforts to provide every Filipino worker with full, dignified and meaningful employment. They deserve no less than decent and comfortable lives.

For this year's Labor Day, we are pushing for better protection of migrant workers especially those in the vulnerable groups such as the domestic helpers or workers or household service workers in the Middle East.

All avenues to boost the level of protection for our kababayans abroad will be pursued, particularly those who are in Kuwait. We must also make sure that the necessary protection for the OFWs leaving for Kuwait are in place before they are allowed to be deployed.

In our own backyard, we will bring jobseekers and entrepreneurs closer together with wide range of employment and business opportunities. We will provide various Trabaho, Negosyo at Kabuhayan Job and Business Fair sites nationwide, where more than 140,000 job vacancies from private employers will be made available.

Close to 18,000 --- 8,000 rather --- vacancies in government agencies are also open to all qualified applicants.

Aside from that, DOLE will also award livelihood projects worth P93 million to more than 10,000 informal sector workers. The DTI will also give training and other assistance through Negosyo Centers. There [will also be] Diskwento Caravans for our workers so that they can purchase basic commodities [at discounted] prices.

We continue to strengthen efforts to provide our beloved overseas Filipino workers with decent work, humane treatment, better working conditions and social protection.

We shall ensure the reintegration of repatriated overseas Filipino workers by helping them and their families through grant of loans, livelihood packages, scholarships, skills training and employment opportunities.

I remain firm in my commitment to put an end to “ENDO” and illegal contractualization. However, I believe that in order to implement an effective and lasting solution to the problems brought about by contractualization, Congress needs to enact a law amending the Labor Code.

Alam mo dugay na ni --- it's outdated. I think Congress should come up with a new Labor Code to keep it attuned to the realities of our time. *[applause]*

I could only do so much and a mere Executive Order is not enough because you have to change or modify or entirely abrogate some of the provisions diri sa atong balaod (in our law). I cannot be a legislator. It is not allowed. But I can only implement --- tig-implementar lang ko og unsay balaod (I only implement what's in the law).

But because there are laws already, kaning akong Executive Order na gipirmahan karon (the Executive Order that I have just signed now) would help a lot in alleviating the problem.

A mere Executive Order is not enough. To this end, I have certified as urgent [the passage] of the bill on security of tenure to once and for all address the issue and provide long-term solutions that would further strengthen the workers' right to security of tenure.

Kahibaw ka og ngano? Do you know why? Ako, I can only implement but if there are things that need to be corrected or things which have to be modified to suit the needs or the demand of time.

Kaning large --- daghang gawas sa Pilipinas --- naa tay gap. Kana nahitabo na ang Labor Code (The large --- there are many who are outside the Philippines --- we have a gap. The Labor Code already existing) existing na. So you have to amend or correct or i-recommend the entire revision or revisit the previous laws.

I also directed DOLE to submit to my office a list of all the companies engaged in or suspected to be engaged in labor-only contracting. To all non-compliant and abusive employers, and their so-called '*cabo*,' who are engaged in [labor-only] contracting, your days are numbered.

I have warned you before and I warn you again --- putlan tamo'g ulo di uy, di diay, di diay. Di diay mao (I will cut your head off. Ah, no, that's not what I will do) ---stop ENDO and illegal contractualization.

I will see to it that our laws are strictly enforced. The government will not rest until we end this shameful labor practice.

Bag-o man lang gud ni? Og --- of just recent memory. Ang kaning nakadaot pareho sa kaning ginareklamo sa komunista. Parehas ani, Maglunsod. Komunista man na.

(TRANSLATION: This is still new. And --- of just recent memory. What made it sour, though, like the usual complaints of the communists. Just like Maglunsod. He's a communist.)

Labor leader na didto sa Mayo Uno. Pag saka nako sa bukid, nagbitbit pud og pusil, unya naka-fatigue, nakaboos na.

(TRANSLATION: He's a labor leader of Mayo Uno. When I went up there in the mountains, he was carrying a gun, wearing a fatigue and boots.)

"Unsa imong ginabuhay ngari? Makig-patay ka? Uli ngadto sa..." Nag-kadre na gyud na siya, tinuod lang. Giingnan nako siya nga... Amigo man gud mi sa mga komunista. Karon, away mi, unya amigo na pud ron kay mag-

istorya na pud mi. Ambot ning mga y*** kanus-a muundang ning *[laughter]* --- bwisit.

(TRANSLATION: What are you doing here? Are you here to fight and kill? Go home there in..." He has become a kadre, truthfully. I told him that... I am friends with the communist. Now we're fighting and then later we'll make up again so we could talk. I don't know when these fools will decide to stop fighting.)

Pero siya man na si Kim Chiu? *[laughter]* Ikaw 'yan, ma'am? Di, niingon ko gwapa ka. *[laughter]* Asa na? Iyo to? *[laughter]*

(TRANSLATION: Isn't that Kim Chiu? Ikaw 'yan, ma'am? I said, you are beautiful. Where is that? Is that yours?)

Recently, I have put the entire Boracay Island under a state of calamity, and temporarily closed it to tourists. I know that with this necessary course of action, residents and workers will [be greatly hit] and affected.

Ani man gud ni. (It's like this.) You know, Boracay is almost the crown jewel of the country. It is the favorite melting pot of all Filipinos and foreigners. Bakit sisirain mo? And you know, it has the largest kagaw (bacteria/germs).

Unya ang algae --- you know ang algae parehas anang kanang water lilies. (And then the algae --- you know the algae are like water lilies.) Those are really the defense of nature.

Hugaw na gani kaayo ang dagat og ang kanang suba, river. Musugot ka'g sa dili, they will just appear suddenly. It is a sub --- tu-a na sa ilawom sa yuta -- - sa river.

(TRANSLATION: When the beach and the river are already too dirty. They will just appear suddenly even if you don't want them to. It is a sub --- they are under the soil --- the river.)

Unya kalit lang mudaghan na sila. It's because the water is really polluted. Og kanang mga water lilies giingon nila, ug kanang algae daghan kaayo, бага. Abi nimo'g mga sagbot na diha sa ilawom, actually it is a defense mechanism of nature.

(TRANSLATION: And all of a sudden there will be plenty of them. It's because the water is really polluted. And the water lilies and algae will be so thick that you'd mistake them for weeds, actually it is a defense mechanism of nature.)

Basta бага na gani kaayo na, buot pasabot, daghan na ang kagaw. And nature fights by --- mao nang manggawas sila.

(TRANSLATION: When it's very thick already, it means that there are plenty of bacteria. And nature fights by --- that's why they start to come out.)

Ang water lily, maski unsaon nimo og guyod, kung imong hipuson tanan (no matter how much effort you put into removing them) --- once there is an excessive intoxication sa kagaw (bacteria), mugawas gyud na sila (they will really appear) naturally and that is what's happening in Boracay.

Naga... sa ilawom, naga-harvest sila og mga algae. It's because it is heavily contaminated. Ako, kamong mga taga-Boracay, nag-Binisaya lang ko. Ayaw mo'g dali-dali. Ang Boracay, ang category ana is forestal and agriculture.

(TRANSLATION: Underneath, they are harvesting algae. It's because it is heavily contaminated. Ako, those who are from Boracay, I'm speaking in Bisaya. Don't be in a rush. The Boracay, its category is forestal and agriculture.)

There was never a proclamation either by President Arroyo, me, or the rest converting it or some portion of it, of the island, into commercial.

And therefore, naay mga pamilya, ang uban ana, taga-Davao, mga nakakuha og mga lote. How? Og kanang mga Shangri-La diha, multi-billion.

(TRANSLATION: And therefore, there are families, some are from Davao, who have acquired lands there. How? And the Shangri-La there, multi-billion.)

Ngano nakapatindog sila nga ingon ana ang estado? 'Di commercial unta. But I never signed anything and si Ma'am, unya wa daw siya ka kuan. It can

only be done by Presidential Proclamation or maybe by Congress. But either of the two, wala.

(TRANSLATION: Why were they able to put up infrastructures under the circumstances? It should've been commercial then, but I never signed anything and Ma'am never did as well. It can only be done by Presidential Proclamation or maybe by Congress. But either of the two, wala.)

So ayaw ko ninyo'g surang-surana niana kay ginalimpyohan lang nako. But after that, iuli nako ninyo. Wala'y naghangol anang island ninyo. *[laughter and applause]*

(TRANSLATION: So don't pester me about that because I am just cleaning it up. But after that, I'll return it to you. Nobody is salivating for that island of yours.)

Kanang inyong mga... Og muanha man ko ana, dili kay mo tay-ang ko sa island, di pud ko maligo. Magsuroy-suroy lang ko sa baybayon, kay kanang mga babaeng naa diha... *[laughter]* Halos maghubo na lang. *[laughter]*

(TRANSLATION: And your... If I do go there, I won't even take a dip in the beach. I will just roam around there by the bay because there are women there... They're almost naked.)

Pareho ni Secretary Cimitu, gisugo nako muadto ngadto. Unya pagka-ugma, ang nigawas sa newspaper, nagsuroy-suroy diha daplin sa dagat, nag sigeg tan-aw atong mga babaeng Amerik --- puti ah. *[laughter]*

(TRANSLATION: Just like Secretary Cimitu, I ordered him to go there. And the next day, the story that went out in the newspaper was he was roaming by the bay, looking at American woman.)

Nakit-an ang picture. Ingon ko, "unsa ka man? Gisugo tika ngadto magpanglimpyo. Nganong nagsuroy-suroy ka man diha?" *[laughter]* Pero Roy Cimitu is a former general assigned sa Davao niadto.

(TRANSLATION: There was a picture of him. I said, "what's up with you? I asked you to clean it up. Why were you roaming around there?" But Roy Cimitu is a former general assigned in Davao back then.)

Ed Del Rosario sa NHA, na-assign na Task Force Davao. Kaila nako na sila tanan. Masaligan gyud nako. Año, recently retired as the Chief of Staff, istrikto kaayo na. Saan ang mga pulis?

(TRANSLATION: Ed Del Rosario from NHA was assigned in Task Force Davao. I know all of them personally. I trust them. Año, recently retired as the Chief of Staff, he is very strict.)

Katong sige ko'g ingon, "kinsa man inyo gustong iilis?" So I rattled off three or four names. Ingon dayon sila pag-abot kang Albayalde, "Ayaw na, sir. Porbidang istriktoha na. Manipa pa na. Ang ako, sir, ba wa gyud na siya'y lami. Ngil-ad og batasan." "Ah, mao ba? Ana diay na siya? Hala kangil-ad diay niya no?"

(TRANSLATION: At the time when I was always asking, "who do you want to fill the position?" So I rattled off three or four names. When it came to Albayalde, they immediately said, "don't choose him, sir. He's very strict, he would even kick us. For me, sir, he really doesn't have a nice attitude." "Oh, is that so? Is that the way he is? How rude of him.")

"Oo sir. Matulog mi, pukawon mi'g kasaba. Patiran." Ingon ko, "Ah, ana na siya ha? O sige."

(TRANSLATION: "Yes, sir. When we fall asleep, he'll wake us up with a lecture. And then he'd kick us." I said, "Oh, is that the way he is? O sige.")

Pagkahuman og storya, tawagan nako si Bong. "Bong, ingna si Año si Albayalde maong ibutang." *[laughter]* Ah, nakaigit-igit karon ang mga buang. *[laughter]*

(TRANSLATION: After we talked, I called Bong. "Bong, tell Año I'll appoint Albayalde." Ah, they must have s*** their pants now.)

So hindi gusto nga og istrikto. Ang gobyerno, kinahanglan istrikto ta kay dili ni ato. Dili man ingnon nga imong propiedad nga imo lang duwa-duwaan.

(TRANSLATION: So they don't want a strict leader. But in the government, we need to be strict because this is not ours. This isn't our personal property that we can just play with.)

You know, there is only a time to be maybe soft and a time to be hard. But if it is something that could destroy...

Dili man na inyo. (That is not yours.) I'd like to say I --- more or less, para mag advertisement usa ka watch --- that you just take care of it for the next generation. Para 'yung mga anak ninyo naa pay pakigkikitaan.

But you have to maintain a certain level of sanitation and the environment at least tolerable.

Ang akong katingad-an, nganong nisugot mo diha, kamo sa mga residente, why did you agree nga ang kanang mga kanal diha gihimo og sewer ug sewerage? Unya padulong pa gyud ngadto sa dagat. Maayo lang unta'g tubol og gwapa. Eh og tubol og tiguwang? *[laughter]* Bitaw.

(TRANSLATION: What baffles me is why the residents just tolerated it. Why did you agree to use the canals there as sewer and sewerage? And they all led to the beach. It would've been okay if it were feces of the beautiful women. But what if it belonged to an old man? Really.)

That is why, I have instructed the immediate release of P448 million to DOLE to provide financial support to all affected workers under the Adjustment Measures Program. The financial support will start this May and shall be linked to active labor market programs such as employment facilitation services, training and livelihood.

Before I conclude, let me reiterate that I do not and will not tolerate corruption.

Bisag ani lang ko, mag-kinto gyud tang tanan sa gobyerno, kay wala gyud ko'y pasensya niana. Daghan mong masulti nako. I've had my faults. Plenty. Pero kanang corruption wala gyud ko and I will continue to fire and fire.

(TRANSLATION: I might be just like this, but I would make all those in the government tiptoe around because I really have no patience for that. You will have plenty to say about me. I've had my faults. Plenty. But not with corruption.)

Iya ganing undersecretary ni Bebot, wa siya kahibaw akong gi... (even the undersecretary of Bebot, he himself was not aware that I had...) When the complainant signed the affidavit in my presence. Sabi ko, "you call her." So I would call Bebot, siya gihapon, to revamp the entire kanang recruitment.

Kanang mga recruitment maoy naka-y*** diha eh, oo. Sobra gani ang pangwarta. (It's the recruitment business that brought damage there. They tried to earn so much money.) It's always... It's ruled by greed already.

Ako unta, maski half half na lang. Tabang sa imong isig katao, unya mo kita ka. Pero og didto sa iyang --- ay p***, puro kurakot ra nang y***. Ay binuang ra na. Unya daghang napasubo.

(TRANSLATION: As for me, maybe at least just half half of it so you can help others and at the same time earn from it. But if you just stick to the --- ay p***. It's pure corruption. That's crazy. And many delved into that.)

And this is not the first time. May I remind you that it has become historical na ingon gyud ani. Dili nalang ko mu-atake kay naa tay istoryang going on. (I'm not going to attack because we have ongoing talks.)

Pero ang minimum nako nga kanang gusto muhawa, paulion gyud. Ako'y mangita'g kwarta. Paulion tanan, libre na.

(TRANSLATION: But for those who want to leave, I will really let them go home. I would personally look for the money to send everyone home for free.)

We will mobilize continuously until everyone who wants out there would come home. Di nalang ko makig-kuan kay naa sila ngadto eh. So soft landing lang gyud ko, soft landing lang. Dili ko maka pataka og yawyaw because so much is at stake.

(TRANSLATION: We will mobilize continuously until everyone who wants out there would come home. I've decided not to add to anything because they are still there. So it's just soft landing for me, soft landing lang. I'm not going to carelessly give remarks because so much is at stake.)

Pero og problema lang sa pamasaha. Akong pangayuon na. Paulia nalang na. Pasaluy-a nalang na ilang mga sala ug bayran nako ang ilang mga utang.

(TRANSLATION: The problem is with the fare. I'll find the money for you. Just let them go home. Forgive them for their faults and I myself would settle their debts.)

But let them come home. And ug naa na tanan ngari, there will be a new set of rules. Ako na'y magbuot mismo.

(TRANSLATION: But let them come home. And when they are all here, there will be a new set of rules. I'll be the one to decide for everything.)

For example, any other contract signed by any agency of the government, tanang (all) deployment of workers.

One is that they must be treated decently as a human being and they will be allowed or they must be allowed to sleep at least seven hours. Then they can cook their own food.

Unya no more confiscation of passport. Ibutang... Pag-abot nimo, there will be a table maybe in the airport sa depar --- o pag gawas nimo, and you can deposit your... And they should be allowed to own a phone so that they can immediately ask for assistance if they are in trouble.

(TRANSLATION: Then there will be no more confiscation of passport. Place it in... When you arrive there, there will be a table maybe in the airport in the depar --- or when you get out, and you can deposit your... And they should be able to own a phone so that they can immediately ask for assistance if they are in trouble.)

Unya naa silay day off. (And they will have a day off). And they should be allowed to go out and visit our embassy for anything at all.

Short of these things, I would direct the Labor department to... Bahala na'g magkalisod ta. Ang among balay ---- Naa man koy balay. Kamong taga-Davao... Naa taga-Davao? Gamay man lang na.

(TRANSLATION: Short of these things, I would direct the Labor department to... Even if it'll be difficult. Our house --- I have a house. Those who are from Davao... Are there Davaoeños here? It's just small.)

Pero og gusto mo mupuyo didto, matulog mo ngadto, dawaton ta mo. Pero tungod sa kagamay, basig muabot ta'g dosentos, pagtulog nato, mutindog lang ta. *[laughter]* Di man kaya. Di man pud ka matumba kay naa may imong kasandigan.

(TRANSLATION: But if you want to live there, stay the night there, I'll take you all in. But because it's so small, we might reach 200. So when we sleep, we sleep while standing. You won't fall anyway because you can just lean on the person next to you.)

Thus, I call on the labor and employment sectors to play an active role in getting rid of corruption in government so that we can bring about inclusive economic growth and build a truly peaceful and orderly Philippines.

Hibaw nimo, this is a one trip. Usa ra --- kausa ra ta muagi ngari. Ako ngaron muadto ko sa Baguio kay kaslon tong akong aide, iyang counterpart. Sa Air Force mani si... Katong usa, katong sa Navy.

(TRANSLATION: You know, this is a one trip. It's just one --- we only pass through this once. Later I will go to Baguio because my aide is getting married. One is from the Air Force and the other is from the Navy.)

Kaslon unya ako'y ninong. So mudiretso ko ngadto ron. Pero og kamong tanan --- Wala'y binuang ha I'm...

(TRANSLATION: They're getting married and I'm the godfather. So after this, I'll go there right away. But for all of you --- I'm not joking, okay, I'm...)

Kamong tanan, og gusto mong dad-on ninyong pamilya sa Malacañan (All of you, if you want to bring your families to the Malacañan), although we cannot accommodate a big crowd at one time, but groups, you are free to visit your Palace.

Tua tong mga kwarto nila ni President Marcos. Si ma'am, didto man pud puyo. Pero ambot ug naka sustenar man pud ni si ma'am. Di man ni mahadlok.

(TRANSLATION: It's where President Marcos' room is. Ma'am also lived there. But I don't know if she survived there. She's not easily scared.)

P***** i** nang multo sa Malacañan. Maski'g adlaw, mulingkod sa imong atubangan. *[laughter]* Di ko nagatulog didto. Tua ra ko sa atbang. Naay payag-payag ngadto.

(TRANSLATION: P***** i** that ghost in Malacañan. Even if it's daytime, she'd sit in front of you. I don't sleep there. I sleep on the house across from it. There's a small cottage there.)

Mutuo ka'g sa dili ha, ang akong kwarto, kanang gikan sa tunga, kani. Adto mo ngadto, ipakita nako. Mao ra man puy naa sa gobyerno. Alang-alang... Ang akong kwarto. Pero ang sala murag dako kay murag conference room pud sa mga Cabinet members.

(TRANSLATION: Believe it or not, my room is just as big as... Go there, I'll show you. It's all that the government has. My room... But the living room is large because it's like a conference room for Cabinet members.)

But my room is really very small. It was not intended actually to be a house. But tua ko gapuyo ngadto. Kay og mag gabii, mugawas ko, papresko. Mag-atubang ka sa Malacañan didto sa pikas, kay musakay man ko'g barge. (But I live there. At night I step outside for fresh air. I'll face the other side of Malacañan. I have to ride on a barge.)

Mukuan ka'g hangin ba. Presko ang... Ang suyop sa hangin kusog. Pero pag ingun-ana, tanang kagaw sa Pasig suyop nimo. *[laughter]* Sige kog ingon haaa... Basi'g na bad breath na ko ani. *[laughter]*

(TRANSLATION: To inhale fresh air. When you inhale sharply, you'll also inhale all the bacteria in Pasig. I keep on doing haaa... Maybe I'll have bad breath from this.)

No, Pasig... Pasig... Kanang murag Pasig sa Singapore (a river in Singapore that's similar to Pasig), it took them 10 years under Lee Kuan Yew. Ten years to make it what is it now.

So dugay pa kaayo na. It will take generation ana, another two or three presidents. Wala na mi ana ni ma'am. Tua na mi sa langit, ga sige'g ampo. *[laughter]*

(TRANSLATION: So that'll take a very long time. It will take a generation, another two or three presidents. Ma'am and I will no longer be here then. We'll be there in heaven, praying fervently.)
Pero ako mulantaw ko kung kita mo --- Hain man to si kuan, general...?

(TRANSLATION: But I will envision a... Where's general...?)

So mao ra na'y akong ikabilin ninyo. Giklaro na nako. Ang panawagan atong... Asa na ba tong gabutang og lansang sa ilang kamot? Katong mga labor leader nagbutang og lansang kay napako daw. Di... Hain na man mong y***? Ilansang ta mo.

(TRANSLATION: So that's all that I can leave you. I'm just making it clear. Where's the person who put nails in his hands? The labor leaders who put nails on their hands because "napako" or broken promises. Where are you? I'll nail you.)

I will do it my own time. I time it during the Labor Day so that it will have an impact and a memorable one. Wa pa ganing --- layo pa gani ang y***, sige na'g yawyaw, sige na'g yawyaw. Pamatyon ta nuon mo, mao ra'y inyo. *[laughter]* (Even if it's still so far away, they already keep on ranting and rambling on. I'll kill all of you instead. That's all for you.)

You know, it's a timing. All timing in life. Para may impact pud ba. Ako man tong gituyo. You'd recall hindi ko nagatubag. "Duterte, pasista. Pasista, bata ng Kano." P***** i**, kanus-a pako na bata ng Kano? Di ko gusto makig istorya ana nila.

(TRANSLATION: You know, it's a timing. All timing in life. Para may impact rin. That was intentional. You'd recall I don't really respond to, "Duterte, pasista. Pasista, bata ng Kano." P***** i**, when have I ever been a puppet of the Americans? I don't even want to talk to them.)

There's always a time for everything. A time to be mad and a time to be sober; a time to kill and a time for --- ana na. So panahon-panahon ang kalibutan. (That's how it is. Life is really all about timing.)

As I said, this is a one trip. So I'm reminded of... Kami ni Bebot sa dormitoryo namo, sa law school pa mi. Naa to nakabutang, naa gyud sa kuan, lobby (Our dormitory before in law school had this sign hung up in the

lobby): "I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do to my fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

Kinsa gu'y di gusto mutabang? Mahad --- Mag-pabor ko'g kapitalista. No. Without the kapitalista, wala man pud mo. Og wala pud mo muapil kapitalista, it's always a balancing thing. Ana na.

(TRANSLATION: Who wouldn't want to help? It's not that I'm favoring the capitalists. No. But without the capitalists, you wouldn't be here as well. If you did not join the capitalists, it's always a balancing thing. That's how it is.)

Without the capitalist money, unsa man pu'y atong i-generate og trabaho? Ug wa pay --- maski unsaon nimo'g utang og kwarta, og wa pu'y...

(TRANSLATION: Without the capitalist money, how will we generate jobs? If there is no --- no matter how much money you borrow, if there is no...)

But you know, there's somebody sa Bicol. Ingon niya para Bicolano lang. I forgot the... He wrote a letter and said, tanang taga-Bicol nga mauuli sa inyo, he will absorb everybody, the young ones, kay sige na ma'g construction.

(TRANSLATION: But you know, there's somebody in Bicol. He said it's just for the Bicolanos. I forgot the... He wrote me a letter and said, all Bicolanos who will go back home to Bicol, he will absorb everybody, the young ones, because there are many constructions going on.)

Kana lang railroad, Manila to Bicol, pwerteng daghana na ang trabaho ana. Dili mana ingong duha, tulo lang. Kada portion ana, naa gyu'y employment.

(TRANSLATION: Just the railroad alone, the one from Manila to Bicol, it will generate so many jobs. You can't say it's just for two or three only. For every portion, there is always employment.)

So we're getting maybe good results sa atong negotiation. But next year, maluoy ang Ginoo, in the fullness of God's time, maybe we'll have a better Philippines. (With God's mercy, in the fullness of God's time, maybe we'll have a better Philippines.)

Kana gud tanan, dili madala'g revolution. Kana sila Joel Maglunsod, kana sila mga komunista, amigo ko gud na sila. And I used to --- Tanang mga army, police nga ilang madakpan, ma bihag, ako gyu'y mangunay. Anywhere in Mindanao. Ako'y mulupad ug helicopter, mu-landing ko diha sa lasang. So ana ko.

(TRANSLATION: All of that will not be solved with just a revolution. Joel Maglunsod, the communists, I'm friends with them. And I used to --- All the members of the army and the police that they held hostage, I'm the one who personally rescues them. Anywhere in Mindanao. I would fly the helicopter and land it in the forest. That was what I would do.)

Amigo man mi ana nila. Nagkasugod lang mi... Give and take gyud mi. The problem when I became President, lain na ang istorya. So nagsulti sila pag ana, talk? Okay, we talk again. (I am friends with them. We started with... It's a give and take. The problem when I became President, their demands changed. So when they said we should talk, okay, we talk again.) Pero no coalition government because the Constitution says that the power of sovereignty resides in the people and all authority emanates from them.

So if we cannot exercise all of the power, sovereignty, kay daghan man, million gud. We elect officials and leaders and members of Congress. Sila'y gitagaan. Ako, gitagaan, gipagunit lang for and in behalf of the Filipino people. We do not own it.

(TRANSLATION: So if we cannot exercise all of the power, sovereignty, because there are so many of us, millions. We elect officials and leaders and members of the Congress. They are the ones who are given the power. Me, I was given, rather, I was lent this power for and in behalf of the Filipino people.)

So og kanang komunista gusto musulod, ah payag ako. Nagpasulod na gani ko'g mga... Sila, mga komunista. Sila Taguiwalo. Kani, komunista man ni. Undersecretary man ni siya ron.

(TRANSLATION: So if there are communists who want to enter the government, I allow them to. I even allowed the... The communists, Taguiwalo. This one here is a communist. He's an Undersecretary now.)

So ako man silang gi-accommodate. Pero kanang butang nga di nako mahatag, because it simply says that officials must be elected. So how can I? It's not mine to give.

(TRANSLATION: So I accommodated them. But there is one thing that cannot give, because it simply says that officials must be elected.)

Maybe if we join government unya... Giingnan ko bitaw sila niadto --- ang original members sa Partido ng Bayan, ako pati si Bebot.

(TRANSLATION: Maybe if we join government and then... I told them then --- the original members of the Partido ng Bayan, Bebot and I.

Adto mi'g Manila (We went to Manila), post-Cory revolt. Pero 'yung sige na mi'g meeting, pumasok na 'yung hardcore pati ang NPA, sabi ko kay Bebot, "I will not and I cannot fight my own countrymen. Lisod. Lisod ni, Bebot. Mauna ko'g uli nimo. (This is difficult, Bebot. I'll go home ahead of you.) Ayaw ko. "

But I am fighting for the granting of --- basta kaya lang. But you know, in a communist regime, I don't think I will survive. Basi'g ako na pud hinuo'y mag-rebelde. (I might rebel against that.)

Mao na. But kitang tanan, wala kaming hangarin. Ingon madala mi'g og mga regalo nga kwarta sa dato? Kita lang nag-unsay... Pila ka tuig nga wa'y bayad-bayad?

(TRANSLATION: So that's it. But all of us here, we have no other intentions. Some would say that we would be swayed by the gifts and money of the rich? You yourselves saw just how... How many years have they failed to pay their debts?)

Pag-abot nako, ana ko, "10 days." Kolekta. Ang kanang prikense, gihurot. Sabi ko, "i-uli na. Tagaan tika'g tulo ka adlaw." Uli.

(TRANSLATION: When I became President, I said, "10 days." Collect. I said, "give that back. I'll give you three days.")

Ayaw ko ninyo'g binuangi. Wala ko'y ginapaboran. (Don't mess with me because I don't favor anyone.) Ang akong oath of office, Filipino people. I am sworn to protect the people and preserve the Filipino nation.

Daghang salamat. (Thank you very much.)

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