

**Presidential Communications Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH
OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE INAUGURATION OF THE
DAVAO RIVER BRIDGE WIDENING
PROJECT**

[Delivered at Carlos P. Garcia Highway, Maa, Davao City | 24 May 2018]

Daghang salamat. Kindly sit down. Thank you for your courtesy.

Ah, Mylene, lumipat ka dito. Nganong naa ka man diha?

You know let me --- just a few words before we --- I read my speech. Tatal duha ra ma ni ka-pages, wala na.

I purposely asked for a late, late afternoon opening, inauguration or whatever. Naa man gud ko'y hyperhidrosis. It's a --- excessive sweating. And it can exacerbate the whole...

Mura gyud kog... Basta basa na mura kog nakaihi hasta ang tanan basa. So og imo kong paanhi-on og alas dos, ala una para mag-open og bridge, bungkaga na lang na kay di gyud ko muabot.

I kind of... This is an abnormal thing. It has something to do with... It's a long story actually. Pero basta 'yon ana. So if you... Kung gusto ko ninyong imbitahon, my day starts at 1, 2.

Tulog ako niyan hanggang alas dose kasi ang trabaho ko sa opisina ko buntal-buntal 'yung papel. Lahat ng papel ng bayan except mga itong mga ganito, I do not allow papers na 'yung contracts, transactions they do not bear my signature at all.

Wala akong 'yung mga highways o mga bridges ganun. I do not sign any government contract at all. That's been my rule since day one. Kaya para walang masabi ang tao.

And I just fired one employee of... Sa iyo ba 'yon Mark? Tolentino? Ah kay Tugade? Tolentino? Ah si...

Sinabi ko naman sa inyo noon and people --- baka hindi nila ako kilala, hindi taga-Davao, sinabi ko na do not talk to anybody especially my family, my wife, my daughter, my sons or any relatives of mine, kapatid, huwag kang pumayag na makiusap sa inyo.

And even the discussion of that Mindanao railway, it's still in the blueprint. But the fact that itong assistant secretary talked it over with my sister even if just a conversation. Lumayo talaga kayo because sabi ko 'pag nalaman ko, tapos. Alis ka talaga.

That has always been my warning and so sali lahat. I might fire another one pagbalik ko sa Malacañan. And sadly lahat 'yung halos karamihan were my appointees and my friends and who were with me during the mayorship days.

Sinabi ko lang kanila makikiusap ako huwag, do not, kasi ayaw ko talaga. And even a whisper. Eh 'yung mali kasi nung assistant secretary mo Secretary is he mentioned that he was talking to a member of the First Family. Alam mo sa totoo lang that is passé, bahaw na man ang first family.

You do not use it in a democratic country. Huwag mong gamitin 'yang "first family, first family." There is no such thing as a first family. Lahat Pilipino first family 'yan. And it is in utter bad taste to use it.

You have never heard me say Malacañan Palace, lalo na 'yung palace. I just "my office." See me at my office. Go to my office.

Hindi ako nag-aano ng... At saka 'yung opisyal, opisyal. If you have noticed I use it government worker. I always say "mga kasama ko sa gobyerno," government worker.

It's not that I am trying to be corny about it. But I think that at this time, eh demokrasya ito, it's a Republican form of government. Everybody is important here.

Mabuti 'yung iba because and even those who criticized me in human sa --- human rights. You know there are members there who are not even elected by the people and what b*** s**** me.

Ito 'yung mga... Ito 'yung mga may fiefdom na mga king, mga prince. What do you know about human rights when you run a kingdom? You have citizens there who can vote? Can they remove you? Can they place you in prison if you starts to f*** with the people?

Kaya ganun na lang ang galit ko diyan sa kanila. A commission is represented by people who are not democratically elected. That's the problem with this United Nations pati itong mga human rights, human rights.

Sabi ko nga ayaw ko ng babae. Nandyan naman "kami ay mga babae." Mga babae nga kayo, so anong problema? Pagsabi ko ayaw ko ng babae --- pati may mga military man dito.

Kaya ang mga babae kong sundalo pati pulis ayaw ko 'yan sa bukid. You know kagaya ng --- unlike men, kami, maliit pa lang suntukan, bakbakan, barilan diyan. And we grew up with a sort of a mindset na sometimes prone to violence.

Eh itong mga babae, mga prim and proper man 'yan. 'Pag isang tingin lang sa nanay niya wala na, matunaw na 'yan. Tapos gawain mo pulis ipaaway mo doon sa --- nako.

'Yung sa Paquibato, pinaalis ko doon... Hindi sa wala akong bilib. I believe in the woman. The competence and capability pero hindi lahat sa buhay dapat... Hindi ka --- hindi, hindi. Dapat lang. It's not appropriate.

When you cannot stand threats and intimidation... Kagaya ngayon, o ikaw you operate sa drug, you're assigned with PDEA. Eh galit 'yung mga taga-PDEA diyan. Tapos they would send you a picture of your son or daughter coming out from the school.

Ano? Kaya kayong mga durugista huwag ninyong gawain 'yan kasi talagang 'pag tinakot mo 'yung pulis ko na ganun ang tero --- para kang terorista, you are an open game. Talagang hinihingi mo.

Kayo pa ang magloko-loko diyan, sisirain mo pa ang bayan ko, kayo pa ang matapang. Tumatapang ka diyan dahil sa human rights na 'yan, sus.

Basahin ko lang ito kasi ang nagsulat nito baka sumama dito sa PMS. Base gapangagot ang ngipon sinayang 'yung pagod niya. Minsan binibira lang nila 'yan sa eroplano eh.

Today's inauguration of the new and improved Davao River Bridge symbolizes this administration's commitment to usher in an era of rapid infrastructure development.

Aside from this bridge being widened from four to six lanes, it is now made a much better and more durable --- made of durable materials as well as equipped with various installations and markers for the safety and convenience of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

With the new Davao River Bridge, travel time along the Davao City Diversion Road will be greatly reduced, thereby contributing to substantial savings for motorists --- in terms of fuel. 'Yung stop go, stop go maggastos masyado 'yan. Thereby contributing to substantial savings providing more convenience to the traveling public.

It will also improve the movement of much needed goods and services, which will help in bringing prices down and encourage greater economic activity.

You know let me cut my speech. 'Yang six lane na 'yan, it can only be good if it is really allowed to work, to provide the space that's needed for traffic.

Oras 'yan na may parking sa highway lalo na sa gabi, ah inutil 'yan. It becomes two o sometimes one if it's a big truck. And therefore logic says that it must be kept open.

And to this end... May highway patrol ba diyan? Kapoy sige'g balik-balik og sugo. Traffic meron? Highway patrol? Papuntahin mo nga dito.

Exasperated kausahay. Kung alam lang ninyo ang problema ko. Itong leeg ko hindi naman ito 'to --- pinutol ko na --- kkkrrrrkkkk. Gitahi na lang ni balik. Kkrrrk.

Well anyway just pass it on kung sino nandito. De Castro, halika ka nga dito, bumalik ka na, ikaw na lang utusan ko. Puntahan mo ang highway patrol to keep this lane. It starts in Ulas, itong no parking. Kasi this is a vital artery that moves the traffic outside of the city.

Wala pa naman tayong bago eh. And we need another one. Contemporary times, we would need another one to make it really easy for the Davaoeños. Kaya kailangan bukas 'yan and it behooves upon one entity to enforce that, and that is the highway patrol.

Kaya sabihin mo sa kanya sabi ko no parking lalo na sa gabi. Kasi 'pag ano huli talaga, tanggalin 'yung --- tanggalin 'yung truck. Pakahoya na lang sa sundalo para ibaligya sa bakalan.

T*** i**. At saka 'yung madisgrasya. Ano may mga u*** pa diyan 'yung masiraan sila. They don't really bother to run it in a --- if ever so a few meters, dili magpadaplin, anha gud sa tunga, anha magilis og tire. In the height of stupidity. Tapos magbutang og early warning device, ang ibutang kanang bato.

Ang mga g*** pagkahuman ana mudiretso without even removing the stones that they have installed there to signal that there is something wrong ahead.

Daghan nang nadisgrasya ngari mukaligis og kanang bato. Diha labin na sa kurbada kay di man makit-an. Eh siguro dito mga six na including isang pamilya, patay lahat. Four members of the family died. It's about three years ago.

Walang... Kailangan ng... Pagka inabot ng highway patrol o police for that matter patrolling the area, 'pag nakakita sila ng ganun, huli kaagad. That is a traffic violation of placing an obstruction on the highway. They're supposed to use the warning device. And that is why everybody is required to have one.

I thank all the stakeholders and everyone involved for your efforts in ensuring the completion of the project. Your contributions will greatly benefit the people of Davao City and its surrounding areas. The successful implementation of this project gives me confidence that we can achieve even greater feats in the years ahead.

Ang mata ni Mayor medyo... pero kita man ko guapa. Tulad nito o. Pero magbasa ng... doble na. I am 72 pero hindi ako nagagamit ng.. pero pagka nag tan-ao ako... guapa makakita ako. Ayun, 'yung doon o. *[laughter]*

I encourage the DPWH and other government agencies and local government units to continue contributing to the "Build, Build, Build" program, to fast track the implementation and execution of other crucial infrastructure projects that will improve the well-being and connectivity and mobility of the Filipino people.

As we set ourselves to the task of building our nation, I invite everyone to become agents of hope and catalysts for progress. Your participation will be crucial in effecting meaningful and lasting changes in our country. So let us all work together to realize our dream of a more peaceful, orderly and prosperous Philippines.

You know, I'd like to talk about geopolitics but ma-kuwan kasi, kulang ang panahon. I'd like you to understand the impact of ang ginagawa ko because others are eternally crying about our... 'yung China Sea vis-à-vis 'yung... but it's kind of, I'm looking for another venue. It's all geopolitics actually. It's the interplay of...

Kaya dahan-dahan akong pumasok. We cannot afford a war. We cannot win a battle against China and I would only lose maybe thousands of my troops and policemen.

It's not time to be braggadocio ng... pinipilit nila ako... Nandoon naman 'yung problema noon. America was there when it was America's --- the Chinese rather were starting to --- they were trying to build some sandbars there, reclamations.

At that time it was only America and until now, who can really confront the China militarily but they did nothing.

They allowed it to blossom from one of a camp to a garrison, now with all its armaments. Bakit nila hinintay? Bakit hindi sila pumunta doon? When you know all along that now and then --- then and now, wala talaga tayong kakayahan makipag-giyera. And we should not because there's a bigger problem which I cannot --- gusto mo but... over dinner I'll explain to you why.

Because of the threat here in Mindanao, you must have an option of where to go. Is America ready to die for us? Are they ready to send their troops here? Or can I call China for more arms because we do not have it?

So where is the battleground? If ISIS decides to come to the Southeast Asia, where would it base its... they are being pushed out of the Middle East. Now they're planning to establish a caliphate here in Southeast Asia.

What country would be the most ideal to set up a camp? Indonesia? Indonesia is all Muslim. Where can they find a country where they can mix with the crowd? Kung mga NPA, water people. It could not be *Malaysia*, it's all Muslim. It could not be Brunei. At itong g***** ISIS na ito, they do not know anything except to kill and destroy.

And sometimes in their crazy notion that they are the disciples of God, they say that they will kill all infidels and infidels is --- are the non-Muslims. Ayun ang mahirap. So where would they set up camp? What's the logical place? Mindanao.

Where would they find the infidels to kill? They are not found aplenty in Indonesia, Malaysia, or Brunei. It's right here. Wala man ako.

Kayong mga Moro nakikinig sa akin, you should not have any qualms about what I'm saying tatal pareho tayo ng beginning Maranao. Nanay ko Maranao. So stop yakking there about what I'm saying here because mine is... I have to have the options.

Kung makipag-away pa ako dito tapos papasok pa ang ISIS dito, mag-giyera pa ako ng China, saan ako pupunta? Where do you think would we end up? Eh kung mag --- kunin mo 'yang ano and the prodding, you be aggressive.

When I first went to China, there was the bilateral. Kami lahat. [Secretary] Villar was there and with the military --- Esperon, the National Security Adviser, Delfin Lorenzana, the Defense Secretary, and si Año, he was the Chief of Staff at that time.

Noon pa on the first meeting, sinabi ko, "I will go inside the China Sea, which if we claim to be the Philippine --- West Philippine Sea to dig oil." Unang birada ko pa lang sinabi ko na wala ng prodding prodding about bilateral. Sabi ko, "amin 'yan." Nandiyan 'yan sila.

Now, Xi Jinping said, "you know, we just re-established our good relations. I think we are friends now and we can cooperate with each other. So why spoil it? We can talk about it."

Sabi ko, "yes, definitely. During my time, I'll push for the arbitral ruling. I want to go there now. Besides, to get the oil that's ours."

Sabi niya, "do not do it because it will result in a trouble."

If you are a Chinese, what does that mean? Sabi ko, "I came here, by the way, to buy arms." Kasi 'yung armas natin, maluma na 'yan. Tumatalsik na 'yang bolt na 'yan tapos wala ng... With the so many thousands of rounds passing the... Wala na 'yang trajectory na sarili niya. There's a riffling inside eh.

Pagputok niyan pumapasok 'yun, umiikot diyan so it has its own trajectory kaya maski hangin, tumatama ka sa target mo because it has its own momentum. So many thousands of turns per minute.

Wala na, Cotabato pa 'yung iba so I needed new guns because I was already aware of... Sabi ko, "I wanted to buy new guns." Sabi niya, "no problem. Do not buy, I will give you."

Nagpunta ako ng Russia. Same. Sabi ni Putin --- and to this day, both Russia and China never humingi ni maski isang ballpen kabayaran.

It was in, it was --- I was in Moscow, Russia pumutok 'yung Marawi. See. Just about time. There was a time [garbled] because I got the sniper. Kita mo. So if you start to quarrel with a big... Gamitin mo utak mo, leader ka. Now China is offering exploration, joint exploitation.

Last week I was in Alegria, Cebu. For the first time nakita ko 'yung apoy na... When I turned on the valve para lumabas 'yung and pag-uwi ko sa chopper kunyari nag-wipe ako ng face ko but I cried. At least for the first time nakita ko oil.

You now, do not take it so much about other people na pati 'yung tayong Pilipino bine-berate nila. Those --- 'yang self-flagellation. Sabi nila ang Pilipinas, second lang sa Japan, noon ngayon, ngayon, ngayon.

Look, before the war, we were under the Americans and they had the money so Manila at that time was quite like a [commonwealth?]. But after the war we were given our freedom.

While we were working a lot hard really building our country, merong isang bagay na wala tayo na nandiyan sa kanila and what is it? It's oil.

Lahat ng mahawakan mo, ito lahat, puro oil 'yan. Lahat pati 'yung stage, pati ito. Because what? They're made of machines.

But what powers the machines? What brings you here to the inauguration now? 'Yung sakyanan mo mismo. Huwag na 'yung fuel. They're made of machines. What runs those machines to make the cars and make these --- everything. Camera, aircon diha. It's oil. Wala tayo niyan eh.

Ngayon lang sa Malampaya binastos pa, kinurap (corrupt) pa. But I can assure you that I will get into it. Hindi ako papayag na... You know me, I've been your mayor 23 years. I've been quite strict with money.

Malaki lang ang gastos natin kasi malaki ang siyudad pero you have to understand that... It's not because we are lazy that the Japanese are better off than us. We do not have the --- they do not have the monopoly of industry.

Problema wala tayong oil. And oil builds the roads. Oil man 'yang aspalto. Airport, airport cannot be concrete. It has to be concrete but you have --- there's an overlay of... Kasi kung puro semento tadtad 'yang [ligid?] ng ano.

Tanungin mo si Secretary Villar. Ideally, 'yung semento pinapatungan 'yan ng aspalto. Aspalto is oil. So that might really also solve a part of your problem why we are not progressing that much.

So to maximize the use because we're spending millions to build that, it now behooves on the military and the police to... I'd like to congratulate the military for --- Nahuli man daw nila si Jinggoy. Jinggoy was the successor of Parago.

He has six wounds. May anting-anting gyud ang y***. [*speaks Bisaya*] But he was captured because he was wounded. So the military is quite good in --- we're winning the war actually.

I have invited Sison to come home. He has agreed. I gave him a window of two months, very small. Make or break tayo dito. [*speaks Bisaya*] I will see to it and will personally maybe escort him to the airport 'pag walang nangyari sa two months. I will allow him to go out. I will not arrest him because word of honor 'yan eh.

But sabihin ko talaga sa kanya, "p***** i** mo 'wag ka nang bumalik dito. Papatayin talaga kita." 'Pag walang mangyari, sabihin ko talaga sa kanya, "do not ever, ever return again to this country. I will kill you. You've killed so much of my soldiers and policemen. Dapat lang."

So with that, you can use the highway now. Kasi ganun 'yun 'di ba tapos ma-constrict ka sa bridge dadalawa lang. So but they were widening all the time. Ngayon, three, three each.

'Pag wala lang mag-parking diyan, tutal marami namang parkingan (parking). May mga subdivisions naman. They can always go to the homeowners and ask for a space there. It's not being used anyway for traffic. Diyan sila. Huwag nilang gamitin 'yang highway. It's really illegal. It's not mine, it's the law. You are not supposed to park a car there. Unless nasiraan.

But 'yung nasiraan, pagputok ng ano niyan hanggang diyan lang. They don't bother really to just slowly to go to the shoulder or inside the shoulder of the highway para you do not impede traffic passing by.

'Yun ang turo ko. Alam naman siguro niyo 'yan. So with that, I'd like to thank your presence. I am sorry I'm late. Pero sinabi ko, next time do not be surprised. If you invite me, especially... Hawakan ninyo likod ko, pati pantalon. Basa na. That's hyperhidrosis, excessive sweating. Something to do with a procedure that I underwent many years ago.

It's all because of smoking. Kaya galit talaga ako sa sigarilyo. Kaya sinabay kong wala 'yung --- walang putok pati sigarilyo. Sabi nila hindi daw kaya kasi si kapitan daw hindi magsunod. *[speaks Bisaya]*

Ayaw magsunod, pinakain ko 'yung sigarilyo nila. Just about 11 guys in the city. Kainin mo 'yung sigarilyo, 'pag hindi pasabugin ko 'yang b**** mo. Who would ever want to lose his b****? Ganun lang 'yan.

Bakit nakaya natin? Inom. Ngayon, ala-una. Kasi ako magdating dito ng ala-una wala na, purnada na rin ako. Wala na ako mapasyalan. Sarado lahat.

So 'yan ang nangyari. I don't know. They say that si Inday mas stricter than me. I really do not know. Baka si Inday ano... Sinabi ko naman rin 'yan sa inyo. I have this daughter, I'm asking her to run for vice mayor, eventually mag-mayor ito kung buhayin ng Diyos. Ito maldita ito. *[speaks Bisaya]* Maganda raw sa panahon ko pa. Sige lang, baka sakali mawalan ako ng trabaho magbalik ako mayor dito.

I'm near, very near the end of the road. So I'd like to thank you again for supporting me for helping me. Most of you are really my supporters. Wala akong problema. *[applause]* You can... There's a vacancy there that --- in the national, gusto ninyo and if you're qualified, I'd be happy to appoint you.

Ito lang talaga tandaan ninyo, huwag kayong pumasok sa corruption. Huwag talaga kayong pumasok sa corru --- unforgiving ako diyan. Unforgiving ako because wala naman siguro akong nagawang mabuti sa buhay na ito, puro kalokohan.

At least once bago ako mamatay, may ginawa akong --- para naman 'yung tatay pati nanay ko mag-smile.

Kayong mga Davao, alam ninyo, it took me seven years. Kaya nga itong Veronica na ito. Sabi niya, "Pa, 'yan bang matanda diyan na ano, Secretary of Education mo. Matapang ba 'yan?" Sabi ko, "matapang 'yan si Briones. National Treasurer natin 'yan." "Bakit man siya mag-buot-buot na --- bakit pahabain niya ang aming graduation? Sabihin mo nga sa kanya ibalik 'yung kuwan."

Sabi ko, "Vero --- Kitty," si Kitty ba. Sabi ko, "Kitts 'yan talaga ang hindi ko ma --- I would be incongruity." "Bakit ka pa mag-incongruity? Why?" Sabi ko, "ako 'yung original na K-12." 'Di ba sa Digos ko graduate nung high school. 'Di ba? Seven years ako.

Kaya nagkita kami ni Dureza. I'm older than Dureza actually. Nag-abot...Valedictorian 'yan. Sonny Dominguez 'yung Secretary of Finance, valedictorian sa --- nung hindi pa ako napaalis sa Ateneo. Valedictorian. Melchor Quitain, valedictorian 'yan. Tugade, valedictorian. Ito...

Ako, 75. Pero siya ang tiga-gawa ng daan ko. 'Yung 75 speech-speech lang diyan. *[laughter]*

Maraming salamat po.

Mauna ako I have to go to the hospital. Marami akong sundalo na samdan. I have to visit my soldiers.

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