**Presidential Communications Operations Office Presidential News Desk**

**SITUATION BRIEFING**

**PRESIDED OVER BY**

**PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE**

**ON THE AFTERMATH OF TYPHOON OMPONG IN THE PROVINCE OF**

**ISABELA**

[Provincial Capitol Guest House, Isabela | 18 September 2018]

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Kindly sit down. Salamat po.

**ISABELA GOVERNOR FAUSTINO DY III:** Magandang hapon po sa atinglahat. Bago po ako magpatuloy, hayaan niyo po muna akong magbigay pugay sa ating mahal na Pangulo ng ating Republika ng Pilipinas, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte; sa lahat ho ng mga miyembro ng Gabinete na nandito; ang ating mga regional directors; ganun din ang ating Philippine Army, Philippine National Police and Bureau of Fire Protection; Congressman Rodito Albano; Vice Governor Albano; at sa lahat po ng ating mga kasamahan dito, muli, isang mapagpalang hapon sa atin pong lahat.

Maligayang pagdating po sa lalawigan na nakilala bilang number one corn producer, number one surplus ng bigas at munggo capital ng bansang Pilipinas.

Dahil po sa Ompong, naapektuhan po nang marami ang atin pong mga farmers sa lalawigan ng Isabela.

Sa 1,041 --- 141,000 hectares ng sinasakop ng atin pong mga palayan, meron pong totally damaged na 2,866 hectares at partially damaged na 82,000 hectares.

Sa larangan naman po ng mais, out of 114,000 hectares, 104,000 ang affected areas po, 6,434 ang totally damaged at partially damaged ay 97,955.

Major industry po ng aming lalawigan ng Isabela ay agriculture. More than 200,000 po ang magbubukid dito sa lalawigan ng Isabela.

Mr. President, hindi lamang po sa langaran ng agrikultura nakilala ang aming lalawigan. Ang Isabela rin po ay tinaguriang bilang Most

Outstanding Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council for three consecutive years.

And I’m happy to report to you, Mr. President, zero casualty po ang idinulot ng Typhoon Ompong sa lalawigan ng Isabela. *[applause]*

Once again, welcome sa lalawigan po ng Isabela. Magandang hapon muli.

**PRESIDENTIAL POLITICAL ADVISER FRANCIS TOLENTINO:** Mr.President, tama po ‘yung inulat ni Governor Dy. Ito pong preparasyon ng Isabela, katulong po lahat ng ahensiyang naririto rito, PNP at Sandatahang Lakas, katulong po si Secretary Bello na nandito, Secretary Tugade, ay nagpapakita po nung naging kahandaan nung pagtama po ng bagyong Ompong.

Kaya, Mr. President, baka wala po kaming maiulat dito na iba dahil zero casualty.

Ang gusto ko pong --- kung mamarapatin niyo po --- ang gusto ko pong idagdag dito ‘yung sa kabilang region. Kagagaling ko lang po sa ground zero sa Itogon kung saan po ongoing pa ho ‘yung ating --- ang tinatawag ko pa hong rescue operations. Hindi pa ho ako nawawalan ng pag-asa roon dahil sa China po noong araw, two weeks may na-recover pang buhay.

So meron na po tayong 62 identified fatalities doon sa Barangay Ucab sa Itogon, Benguet at ongoing pa ho ito.

We are still looking for 40 plus at ang kailangan po ngayon, nasabi ko na kay General Galvez and Bautista ‘yung K9, kung madadagdagan and light equipment siguro kung makakapagpasok na po ang DPWH.

‘Yung announcement po kahapon ni Secretary Cimatu ng closure ng mines ay napag-usapan na ho ng iba’t ibang miyembro ng Gabinete para magkaroon ho ng alternatibong pagkakakitaan ‘yung mga madi-displace lalung-lalo na sa DSWD, DOLE, DPWH, and the National Greening Program of the DENR.

We continue to receive pledges. Although I’ve read this in the papers, 800,000 dollars came from the --- from the Australian government, and a lot of other pledges to help our rescuers.

So kanina po, Mr. President, pinag-usap ko si General Imbang of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and General Nana na joint operations na po sila. Alam po ito ni General Jalad. Para po ma-synchronize po ‘yung movement sa baba including ‘yung management of the dead, nakatulong po ‘yung Department of Health. So ongoing lahat po ito, Mr. President.

At dito po sa Isabela, bukod po sa damage lang sa agrikultura, ay halos wala po dahil nagpapakita po ito ng kanilang kahandaan.

Lahat po ng mayors dito binigyan nila Congressman Albano at Governor Dy ng satellite phone. Kaya ‘yung pinag --- kinakatakutan po natin na tama sa Palanan, Dinapigue, Maconacon, at Divilacan ay hindi po ganun ka grabe po ‘yung naging nangyari kahit isolated areas po sila.

So, Mr. President, ‘yun lang po ‘yung maiuulat natin dahil napaka-galing po ng disaster preparedness dito sa Isabela. *[applause]*

**PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE:** Well, I’d like to thank you forsharing this time with me. Not really a part of my itinerary. Kasi alam ko na na wala naman masyadong pinsala dito.

As a matter of fact, the zero casualty was a most welcome news to me.

Buhay talaga ang una.

And the early reports that I received from my conduit --- it was Attorney Tolentino who was in contact with me and he was --- I was posted from time to time.

So ‘yung dumating ‘yung inyo, I was almost exhilarated that at least ‘yung sakit ng loob itong bagyo na ito, hindi masyado masakit para sa mga taga-Isabela.

I’d like just to say about typhoons and related or allied headaches connected with climate radical changes.

Ganito ‘yan eh. We are facing --- you --- the Pacific Ocean. And the warm waters, they say one of the culprits of climate change, is boiling somewhere in the Pacific. And so from time to time, we will never be without typhoons.

They would come and go and according… Just today, I read the newspapers that there will be about six more coming our way.

In a sense that napakamalas ho natin because we face the Pacific Ocean, and the mixture of the temperature does not really create on the eastern front, sa right side natin, it’s the Pacific going westward from the United States. Pero ‘yung papunta na sa kanila doon, wala --- you have never heard…

Well, at times ‘yung waters from Guam, diyan lang banda, but never towards the continent of the North and South America.

Ang problema dito is tayo ‘yung window, not… And we can never avoid the typhoons and storms that would come our way.

I don’t know why we --- God placed us here, but the fact is that typhoons and storms will be a part of our lives forever. That must be pasok sa utak ng mga anak natin that they have somehow to improve on everything, whether infrastructure, build stronger bridges, more resilient shelters and everything.

Ang akin ho dito, I was talking first of the aberration that will be created by the transfer of people seeking sanctuary from the elements.

And so most of the time, the schools are always the only place where people I said can seek refuge.

And every time a typhoon comes, it becomes a problem of education, it becomes a problem of shelter, it becomes a problem of medical issues, it becomes a problem of infrastructure.

So ito, it will eat a large portion of our income. I don’t know how would I compute it sa in terms of sa ating GDP.

But we cannot --- we can only make projections. It may or it may not come at all. Kagaya dito, swerte na lang at hindi naman na-bypass. It was along the swath of the storm. But the least inflicted damage was done.

Iyan ang ano natin. Our generation, if we can do it, ako --- nasa ako na ako eh --- medyo sa last lap ako nalagay sa relay. So the younger ones, the young politicians, governor and ‘yung medyo bata-bata must come with certain extreme and urgent measures.

One is that you have to build storm refuge centers just like maybe gyms or a structure sort of looking like that.

Hindi ko naman pinagyayabang because it’s only one. But in Davao kasi as my experience with the local government, ganito ‘yan eh. Every time magkasakit ‘yung tatay sa bukid at magpa-ospital, mag-konsulta, wala ‘yang mga ibang mapuntahan ang pamilya, and everybody in the family would go down with him to the population centers.

There they seek help at ang ating government centers na ospital in key areas are working. They are good. I cannot say anything that is --- would appear to be inadequacy sa national government.

But nakita ko kasi and I’ve been there for quite a time diyan sa level na ‘yan na ang kawawa ‘yung mga pamilya because they stay along the periphery of the hospitals exposed to the open elements.

Tapos at the end of the treatment of the father or the mother or as the case maybe the son or daughter, may magkasakit nanaman.

So iyan ang purgatoryo talaga ng mahihirap. So one time I gathered four billionaires of Davao and after invited them for dinner and expressed my lamentation about the condition of the poor people of Davao. So they decided to parang gym- type, open. We cannot afford any…

Besides in a crowded place, it’s always good that the ventilation is open. As long as there is no rain or water that would come in. Iyon ang nagawa namin practically ‘yung high-rise ceiling, and then I --- there’s a kitchen for the Moro and a kitchen for the other tribes. Kasi hindi naman magkapareho ang menu natin, and I had about 10 banyo sa babae pati sa lalaki, magkahiwalay.

And it has been there and it has served its purpose. And it makes me happy every time I pass by kasi puno. Pero at least ‘yung mga anak ng mga taga-bukid na nandiyan sa kanila are there with beds and pagkain libre. Hindi naman makaubos isang milyon ‘yang mga tiyan niyan.

And the medicine in Davao used to be was only for… Mahirap kasi magtayo ng ano itong --- medicine store… *[Ano bang tawag sa Davao nakalimutan ko* *na?]* Sa mahirap? Ang problema kasi ‘yung mga tao nasa ibang probinsyafor example like Maguindanao, Cotabato, ‘yung kulang ‘yung mga facilities ng government hospitals.

Davao is almost a center and it’s about complete. And no wonder because most of the --- a series of the mayors who were there before were closed to the powers there be.

Mga brod ni Marcos noon ‘yon eh. And so Davao was able to build something very special sa facility. Ang gusto ko sanang mangyari na --- before I end my term, it’s going to be an urgent, immediate talaga na meron tayong mapaglagyan. I don’t know how it would be distributed demographic and all distribution na --- because we cannot place one every city and province, that will be too quite expensive.

So ang tingin ko every other five municipalities may isa wherever it is so that it can be put to good use during a typhoon unless it is really a massive one covering the whole area. That’s a different story.

But ang typhoon naman ay may --- daan-daan eh just like what happened dito. So that is one --- you have to… Because a typhoon spells problems of education, health, infrastructure, lahat na.

So there has to be a separate system for this kasi hindi natin maiwasan. I don’t know about earthquakes but except for the Ruby Tower, I was then an AB student, iyon lang ang nakita kong pinaka… I was around because ‘yung ulo ko itinulak sa headboard eh.

So at that time I thought that it was really very strong and indeed it was; and maraming namatay. But other than that, wala akong nakitang typhoon. But should a --- an intensity higher than 7, we are all in trouble.

So that thing must also be addressed but that is really a very complex problem. Ito lang ang sa typhoon hindi ko alam sa… We have to solve so many problems including mining.

Noon pa ako gusto ko na talagang pigilin. But were it not for the fact that it’s allowed by law. And if it’s allowed by law, little could I do anything about it.

I cannot stop mining because I’m not allowed to abrogate any law here. But I want to stop it because it has created a monster in this country.

And for those of you have been travelling Mindanao and the rest of the country, especially ‘yung onboard choppers or flying low, nakikita naman ninyo na parang cap ng soda, ‘yung… There are so many big open-pit minings that are already abandoned and taken over by the illegals.

Independently of their own endeavors na mag-create sila ng kanila. And since about a time when open-pit mining was allowed, it has really destroyed the country.

And the economic managers are very hesitant or at the very least they are… You know, we only earned lahat-lahat, about 70 billion in taxes. Seven ---

pittance lang. It cannot be --- cover the whole devastation of plants and palay and everything.

Not to mention the destruction of the marine life and the destruction of the tributaries along the way. You guys if you have time, you should go to Diwalwal. It’s a mining town, it’s so dirty, it is so ugly and there are so many makina nila along the river.

And they're putting up one from the source up to the --- near the cities. And the water that has spewed out of those plants are black, as in black.

So they not only destroy marine life, it puts in jeopardy, in peril, the stomach of Filipinos. I don't know how --- I do not hate mining.

It's allowed but I would say that the time has come when our motherland is overused and abused. And this cannot go on.

So whether it is really boring the hills and the mountains from the inside or carving out and it pit there as a --- it widens and widens until all the trees are... And contrary to what they say, magpasyal lang kayo diyan makikita ninyo 'yung mining areas, wala talagang reforestation.

And most of which is to me obnoxious, if not downright stupid, are these mining people occupying and mining watershed areas.

I don't know if I have to call a revolution just for mining. Revolution in the sense --- I'll not use the arms but I'll force them out. But you have to talk to the finance people because they will make them sad.

So I'd like to ask them how much 70 billion can do to the country if you compare it to the losses of the Philippines because of mining? Eh maraming butas 'yan eh. Iyong ganun ang waters niyan even on the side.

‘Pag napuno 'yan, it loosens the --- well, the soil has something... It has been fortified all throughout the century. It does not break easily. But if it is a vast --- in water for so long, it gets loose. And so when it's filled to the brim, it collapses.

Ang problema kasi itong miners, they mine --- they do it sa likod ng mga bahay, in the backyards, or just a few meters, or even in front of their houses.

So we will --- we'll ne... We will not be able really to worry about how many Filipinos will die. Every typhoon that comes our way... Hindi natin alam kung saan at maraming butas.

Philippines is like a --- just picture it as a round --- puro butas dito, butas doon. It screwed up almost anywhere.

Ang mining destroys the rivers where they used to fish maski na tilapia lang ang ano diyan meron basta may pang-ulam. But those were the days.

Ang marina natin dito are getting scarce. Now remember that if you have the tuna sashimi that you're eating here --- at baka sabihin niyo Mindanao -- - do not ever think that they are fished within our grounds, they are not.

They are those fishing boats sometimes they intervene other territories. Somebody else's pocket kaya nahuhuli 'yan sila. In Indonesia, it's blown up. Talagang sinisira 'yang barko and for a reason. I cannot blame them. It's national survival. It's a patrimony of the nation.

So doon naman sa ano, it would take them about two weeks, half the month. And even when during my time when I was --- estudyante pa ako, they were getting farther and farther. So sabi nila, they have to go between the islands --- the open sea between South America and the Philippines.

That is how far. Kasi itong iba naman na mga g\*\*\*\*\* scientists sinabi "There are so many fishes there. Some are even dying of boredom." Those an idiotic way of saying that you can fish forever.

And so dito, because of the dynamite fishing, good --- present time, it has lessened considerably and the issue now is the municipal waters. 'Yan ang ano na lang... They are not supposed to...

But I think, Art, there's some issue there which we can talk later. We can revise the whole thing or if not the --- introduce mitigating measures about the internal complaint of these fool fishermen or the big ones using --- intruding into the municipal waters.

'Yan ang... But typhoons muna, let's --- huwag lang mag-earthquake ngayon. Wala na makauwi sa atin. Let's just --- for the time being, let's talk about itong typhoons.

Now, I'm sure, I need not --- you did not bother me with the nitty-gritty, with the figures and all, the data because I was briefed from time to time by Attorney Tolentino. And I came here already with the figures in my mind.

Ang --- pumunta ako dito is to congratulate the officials, the governor, vice governor, and everybody of you who were ready at the forefront ready to face the onslaught. And I --- *[applause]* admire the preparation.

May desalination machine pa kayo. We have one also. And we even have a -

* ewan ko kung saan nakuha nila 'yung... There's a megaphone. ‘Pag nagsalita, it can reach one kilometer away. ‘Pag sabi, "Linda..." It travels one kilo --- very sharp, crisp. "Linda, mahal kita!" *[laughter]* "Roger, ayaw ko sa iyo. Pangit ka!" Rinig nang lahat 'yan.

I have also that. If you go to Davao, kindly --- I will accompany you there. Medyo kumpleto rin kami because ang Davao kasi is --- there are areas in Davao na below sea level. 'Yung galing ng Mount Apo slopes tapos nagpaganun, nagpalalim nang konti tapos umakyat.

So pumping, well you have to catch --- you have to have the catch basin first before you can pump it out because it would spread into a large area. So they have to build some sort of like a canals of the irrigation, collect them and then you pump them out.

But ewan ko kung kaya ni Inday ‘yan sa panahon niya. 'Yun ang nasa

Davao. And talagang ang problema sa Davao, sa totoo lang, kagaya rin dito.

Talagang mapundi ka sa...

You know, at one time, because Davao is so big, just in the city. So there was rain in one district. Talomo. Talagang buhos. But in another district, doon kay [Melyn?], walang ulan, sa second district.

But 'yung first district na Talomo District, binuhos 'yung… Kaya nagbaha, nag-overflow lahat, then slowly because of the topography, paganun-ganun nga eh. So there's no such thing as an open flat na including the houses that would obstruct the travel of water.

Matagal na ano --- we lost about 32 Filipinos there. Kaya 'yung panahon na 'yun si Inday was busy scratching earth. Talagang kinamay nila, pinapala nila kasi --- well, whether it is a pretended effort or whatever, it is part of your work. You have to work.

‘Yon ngang on your side may [Melyn?], eh 'yung g\*\*\*\*\* sheriff ni Judge Carpio, nag-implement naman ng demolition. Eh nanghingi 'yung ale ng three hours, hindi siya pinagbigyan. He just went to… Kaya pinuntahan, binugbog. *[laughter]*

Tama 'yan. Maski ako. Pero ako, hindi ganun sa ano. Ayaw ko ng ganun sa publiko. Somewhere there in the dark corners of --- hindi naman kailangan… Pero si Inday talaga kinitoy pa. Kitoy ang tawag niyan sa Bisaya. Kitoy nang kitoy parang ano. “Halika, sir. Halika dito, sir.” P\*\*\*\*\* i\*\* paglapit sinuntok. *[laughter]*

Ngayon lang ako nakakita babae na ‘yung magporma talaga ng ano… Naawa ako kay Mans, p\*\*\*\*\* i\*\*. *[laughter]*

Binugbog naman noon ni Carpio, baka ‘yung anak naman, ‘yung pamangkin --- binubuchokan ni Inday.

So those are the things that we have to worry. Ang second ano ko is, systems. That’s why they are here. Maybe ano ‘yung RDR --- ang disaster in conjunction with the military muna kay sila man ang ma… They will --- I will task the military to…

They have every report on every field eh, all over the country. So they will just… The system is simple, prepositioning. Prepositioning of disaster... Pagka dito sabihin na --- well, of course, Davao now is --- has some --- Davao is… We have so many Davaos now.

So kung saan ‘yung expected area, the other personnel of the other provinces, they would go there. And doon, in every city or province dapat may --- may stock na ng prepositioned food. You know, pagka-ganun alam mo ang kulang? Tubig pati huwag...

Huwag kayong maniwala diyan minsan sa… I will not mention it. But ‘yung mga prominent TV network. I’m giving you a testimony, personal.

‘Yung sabi mag-donate kayo, used clothes, ganun sa kanila, tapos they give you a bank account number where you can deposit your donation. You’re better off giving it to government or to the military and let them distribute it. Direct.

Alam mo ‘yung minsan, because I have a TV program, nakikita ko ‘yung mga matatanda doon sa opisina, they were sorting out the things that were usable or are usable for them. So sabi ko, alam ba nito ng sa taas na --- the exercise of office? Totoo ‘yan.

And if you go to them at tanungin ninyo prangkahan na, “sabihin mo nga sa akin ang totoo.” They will tell you. You’re better off giving it to Red Cross or to government, idiretso mo, sa military. Hindi naman kailangan ng military ‘yang mga damit kay uniporme man lang ‘yang kanila.

Or to the police, pero ang pulis limitado ang ano --- limitado ang mobility. They cannot call upon any vehicle or any means of transportation to transport it as fast as can be.

Pero maniwala kayo sa akin as your President, I’m giving you the --- what I have --- what I saw, and what I have learned.

So ‘yan lang muna, it’s really the preposition of… Eh kung saan ‘yung ano, itakbo na lahat doon. Eh mga --- tulungan nalang. I think every province now has greatly improved on the resources, assets. Well one, yeah eh itong Isabela is a --- when you have people who are really …

Sabi ko nga whether it is a pretended sentiment because I am just a politician so I have to do it, or it comes from the heart, ‘wag nalang ‘yan.

‘Yan kita mo sabihin ng iba, “Ah politician nandiyan naman ‘yan ‘pag baha.” Well, we cannot please forever. But once you are there and you have to work, you have to work. So ‘yung ganun.

Hindi namin mapilit ‘yung perception ng tao sa amin eh. So ano ba ang tingin nila? “Ah ganun ‘yang mga politiko, mabuti lang ‘yan kung malapit na ang election, ganun, magpakita when there’s TV.” Well, some. But most of

the officials who have sworn their duty to the people, nandiyan ‘yan nagtatrabaho.

Eh itong mga ‘to hindi naman ito kailangang magtrabaho sa akin. Si Bebot taga rito ‘yan eh. Gusto niya umuwi dito mag-retire na daw, wala naman siyang manukan ni isa. *[laughter]*

Nung tinanong ko siya, “O, may manukan ka?” “Wala.” “Paano ka mag-farming dito?”

Tugade is a classmate. Even when we were students, he was already in moneyed, and now he’s a billionaire. Kaya ‘wag kayong maniwala niyang transaction, transaction sa kuwan.

Totoo. He’s my classmate. He’s our valedictorian. He comes from Cagayan Valley. Mayaman ‘to. Karaming property niyan, diyan sa NIA. Baka nabili na nga niya ‘yang NAIA, NIA*. [laughter]* But he has a big holding there.

Marami ‘yan sila eh. Si Villar ah simple lang naman ‘yan. Housing–housing lang, pero buong Pilipinas. *[laughter]* Sa awa ng Diyos. You know, I’d like to just tell you a story, if we still have time.

During the graduation when I was a Speaker which is always the case because you are the President. Si ma’am, nanay niya, would give me ---

isang --- dalawa, dalawang bahay. Tapos sabi niya, “Sige, kung sinong bigyan mo?” So pag-graduation it goes to the valedictorian. Sa pulis bigyan ko, doon sa PMA, ibigay ko rin doon sa top --- top gun. ‘Yan ang kay Villar.

Ang dream niya is to provide everybody --- every Filipino with that kind of house, Camella. Pero matagal pa ‘yan. Dahan-dahan pa. ‘Yung mas mura, ‘yun ang…

Ang takot ako kung magtama ito along the coastal shores, kagaya ng Davao. From one province to the other, passing Davao City, nandiyan ‘yan sa coastal. And those were the people who migrated to Mindanao and never really found what they were looking for.

Sa Mindanao kasi, if you are not a Muslim, if you do not talk in Maguindanao, Maranao, Sama, Kagan, Iranun, Tausug, Yakan, tapos hindi ka Moro --- Muslim, hindi ka taga roon. Maybe kami, we were. Hindi ako but my mother is a Mindanaoan. Pero ang tatay ko Bisaya ‘yan so he...

Obviously ‘yung mother tongue namin is galing sa Bisaya and that’s what happened.

During the great migration, ‘yung proximity ng Mindanao pati Visayas… Alam mo kasi Mindanao was very fertile, there is no typhoon.

So the Americans and the Filipinos who got the homestead at that time, introduced the homestead, pati ‘yung Torrens title. It’s the Americans who introduced that.

Bigay sila nang bigay, but they never really thought of the originals there. Because they were hanging on to enclaves. Baryo-baryo lang sila eh. And they were ignorant of what was being done to Mindanao.

So most of the Tagalogs got the --- no offense intended. Kasi nandito ‘yung mapa noon eh. And you know communication was ever so slow. What they were planning for Mindanao, ang kanilang audience were all from Luzon.

And some the big ones itong mga taga-Iloilo, mga Ilonggo, which they have their residences in… So they were the ones who were granted ‘yung mga extensive land holdings. Iyan mga sugar, coconut.

And in Davao, the Spaniards and this ---itong mga Amerikano nagpa-iwan. All those early Americans who came here ‘yun --- they were expelled from Europe, which my wife is a descendant sa mga ‘yun. They were given land holdings na malaki.

Example [Wahlstrom?] was given 1,700. That land is now owned by Danding Cojuangco. So naibigay nang lahat. Nakalimutan itong ano… So the first insurgency in Mindanao was really territorial, about territory.

But itong ngayon napasukan ng alien, ang termite itong ISIS, it’s no longer territory. They want the whole world to become a caliphate. It’s a crazy… And they do know anything except to kill and destroy. When they say that, “we will kill all infidels,” they refer to people who are non-Muslims. If that is really your ambition, you must be crazy.

Itong mga NPA, they are losing very fast --- they are losing grounds sa Mindanao. I’m happy to report to you there are --- there are so many ---

many fronts na wala na or are in the throes of death. Kasi marami nang malaki nagsu-surrender at pinagtuturo-turo na sila.

And we are happy with this development kasi ‘yung pagka mga political officer na mataas na, they know everything. Itong soldier, wala ‘yan. Iyong nagdadala lang ng baril tapos pasunod-sunod ng…

Itong mga political officer tapos ‘yung mga front leaders, ‘yan they are valuable to us because we can get much about them. That’s what happening in Mindanao.

Maybe to their chagrin one day baka akalain nitong mga NPA sa western side. You have Mindanao there in front of you, the western side is Zamboanga, Norte, Sur. You have the Central Mindanao. Akala nila na they are waging a war and they will be joined by the Moro.

Alam mo pagkatapos ng giyera kung manalo ‘yan sila, sila na ang pagpatayin ng… That is the classic... After you, you’re next; after your neighbor, you are next.

They cannot mix ideologies diyan sa… The ideology of the modern and the old Moro is feudal. Feudal talaga ‘yan. Because it is centered on a book which they must obey and their Bible is the Quran. My mother is a Maranao, half. Kaya ‘yan. Feudal talaga ‘yan.

Look at Saudi maski saan, it’s all… Kaya ‘yung America na pumunta doon wanted to set up western style of governance, it’s going to fail. Just like… They wanted Assad. They wanted a government that’s popularly elected, that cannot happen.

Iraq is about to fall. Libya ganun din. Hindi pa nasauli ‘yung naka-kidnap na…

Now, so much of my lecture today. I think I have given you an idea of what to expect. I said I have to talk to the boys there outside. You have done well, I must admit it. And I would like to talk about it to the other provinces. And let us talk about money that will be needed to set up refugee centers.

Para ‘yung ano kasi bugbog ‘yung mga bata. We have to clean it and they have to --- it’s the sanitation. You know when habitation has been there, nandoon na lahat ‘yan. So you have to not only fumigate, you have to sanitize everything. Otherwise, I said, you place the people there in jeopardy.

So ito… The fruitful thing that I can say that --- I was able to talk to you tungkol dito. And maybe we’ll have a unison of ideas in the --- in the months to come.

Kung gusto ko kung maaari lang mayroon --- even on Samar, Leyte tapos dito sa Surigao. Meron naman in Central Mindanao, wala doon iba

ang refugee centers doon. But still it’s needed because it is put to use during crisis management.

We still need it pero ‘yan ang tingin ko. And a system that would work. We have a system but nakita ko it is not really a unified thing. And it could be put to action kung mayroon lang ganito.

So we help, if you think that you are not on the path of the typhoon, then you can send your people there to help. Tulung- tulungan nalang tayo.

One thing, alam mo kasi marami kasi akong narinig ‘yang defeatist theory ng Pilipino. Right after World War this ---itong mga mas marunong pa, way above their heads. Says that, the Philippines used to be second to Japan. Then it went down to being third, fourth, fifth. Now we are just one notch higher than in Myanmar or Bangladesh?

Ito ganito kasi 'yan ma'am eh. Right after the war, people knew that they have to rehabilitate and they would need natural resources particularly at that time the frantic search was oil.

Many countries discovered to their horror and happiness that meron sila.

Though they would produce ‘yung before that in little amount.

Dito sa Southeast Asia nabigyan ang Indonesia, Brunei pati Malaysia. So they have oil. And oil is everything inclu --- lahat dito oil 'yan. You need the machines to run it and make this thing... Put it into the boiler or what. Meron sila. Tayo, we had to import.

Ang pinakamalakas sa --- is the mobility of the Filipinos. Wala tayo eh. Naturally, hindi talaga tayo... Dahan-dahan tayo. They can jump maybe two steps ahead, but we have to go into the rigorous nation building.

Kaya sabi ko nga, do not be too harsh to the Filipinos. It's not our fault. Hindi tayo binigyan ng Diyos. Ang ibinigay sa atin 'yung mga pari pati obispo na u\*\*\*. That's why we are here.

Sa totoo lang, it’s oil. When I was in Alegria and I opened the gas pipe there that spewed the fire, tumalikod ako, umiyak ako, “sayang ang bayan ko, walang ganito na marami. Otherwise, we would be as competitive as them. Even with graft and corruption.

Ganito lang. But ideally meron naman talaga 'yan pero basta hindi lang... But you know, maski anong transaction dito sa gobyerno 'yan, bilhin mo, meron talaga ‘yan. De p\*\*\* itong gobyerno na ito.

Sabi ko nga, let me end it by saying, for as long as we do not have law and order, itong gulo na ito sa Mindanao pati itong mga p\*\*\*\*\*i\*\*\* NPA na 'to, wala talaga tayong... We can never have a progressive country.

If we cannot take care of corruption, mas lalo na talagang hindi --- ma-overtakan (overtake) na tuloy tayo ng Myanmar.

The… Wala naman tayong iba. We do not have the riches but we can always struggle, make our country safe so that they can come in, investors or tourists or what na, and cut the crap of corruption.

I will propose to Congress one of these days, I'm perfecting it. I'm suggesting a procurement. That’s what I announced diyan sa…

I don't want to repeat it because I had to refer to my father. But you know, every time I mention my father it leaves a bad taste in the mouth kasi tatay ko eh.

But that was what Marcos ordered him to do when he was a Cabinet member sa first term ni Marcos. My father was a Cabinet member of the first term of Marcos.

Eh si Marcos ganun pero wise 'yon. If we can have that, I'm just waiting for some guys from the military to retire.

Now why? Why my penchant for military people? I’ll tell you some other time. It's getting dark. Baka ma-ganun 'yung eroplano, hindi ko na masabi 'yung totoo bakit ang... *[laughter]*

So, thank you for inviting me. *[applause]*

**--- END ---**