

Presidential Communications Operations Office

Presidential News Desk

**MEDIA INTERVIEW OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
FOLLOWING THE OATH-TAKING CEREMONY OF THE NEWLY
APPOINTED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS**

[Rizal Hall, Malacañan Palace, Manila | 17 September 2019]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Yes?

Q: Can you give us your reasons for appointing this Mr. Bantag?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: He is a --- he's a member of BJMP --- the ones who take care of prisons. So what's the problem with the new BuCor?

Q: What made you decide to appoint him sir and lead the BuCor?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, he's a professional. He was accused of killing several, prisoners, granada daw. But I think there was a commotion there and he was charged with --- for the crime of --- for the crime of murder.

But it was downgraded to homicide and since there is no conviction yet, in obedience to the rule of the presumption of innocence, I gave him a new job.

Q: Sir, what are your marching directives for him?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Alam na niya 'yan. Siya man ang --- siya man ang taga-BJMP, so alam niya. Marching order is to guard and so that they will not escape. That's why it's a penitentiary.

Q: Sir, ano po 'yung magiging niyong instructions with regard to 'yun pong lumulutang na mga practices in the BuCor? Like for example, 'yung mga ---

mga "tilapia" na sinasabi nila. 'Yung prostitution inside and --- those kinds of things?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: He knows his business. 'Yung lahat na nangyari, huwag mong gawin, 'yun lang.

All the things that you have observed along the way, all the things that are being obnoxious or repugnant to the public, huwag mong gawin.

Q: Sir, you don't mind po 'yung record niya? 'Yun pong cases that he had faced before, 'yun pong pagpapasabog ng granada, that's not a negative on his part or strength ba 'yun?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, I think the case is in court. He's facing homicide charges. I don't think that he did it. If he did, then baka ma-convict siya.

But in the meantime, gusto ko siya kasi nagtatapon ng granada daw.

Kasi sinong ibigay mo pati si santo --- gusto ko ngang magkuha ng santo wala naman, ganun rin. Magkuha ng military, wala. O dito ka sa talagang may experience sa BJMP. That's a bureau under the DILG and you --- you take care of detention prisoners.

Q: Sir, just one last point. Would you like to comment on 'yun pong sinabi dati ni PDEA Director Aquino na may nire ---

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Totoo 'yan, totoo 'yan. I said it sa --- sabi ko, 'di ba sinabi ko sa iyo gusto ko ngang umalis na eh. Corruption is everywhere. Next week meron na namang bureau 'yan tignan mo.

I have been busy just not really solving but trying to protect government interest dito sa mga corruption na ito. Kaya pagsunod niyan meron na naman. Ang --- ang sakit ng ulo ko walang katapusan.

Q: Sir, paano 'yon? Anong orders dito with regard to that problem?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Saan? 'Yang...

Q: Recycling?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Alam mo --- you have to be a guy who has that uncanny ability to be a bilocation. Alam mo 'yung bilocation? You can be here at the same time you can be there. Your presence is felt at two --- at two different places at the same time.

Hindi mo --- lahat mag-operate, kung ganun talaga ang ginawa, matagal naman talagang ginagawa 'yan and I cannot fault Aquino for saying it. I think he is also no --- not only exasperated but I think he's really very disappointed with everybody.

Ang drugs talaga, ang drugs --- a fourth of the drug activity in Manila, Greater Manila, is being controlled by prisoners who are inside the national penitentiary sa BuCor, 'yan ang masiguro ninyo.

And everybody who has been there, who had had the chance to be the manager there hira na hira. So tignan ko. Inaabuso nila, I am sure that this guy from BJMP would know what to do.

Q: Sir Aaron Aquino said he informed you about the cops recycling illegal drugs. What actions did you take when he informed you?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, I have to have evidence. Kaya nga sabi ko sundan na lang muna ninyo.

'Yan ang --- hindi naman talagang outright. Pero 'yung mahuli nila, for example 20 kilos, ang i-report na lang niyan 10 kilos. Tapos may award pa 'yan sila. Tapos 'yung iba i-recycle, ipagbili nila. Marami 'yan.

And it's so prevalent. I'd --- with the present setup of government, hindi mo makuha 'to. You know, you just cannot fire him, for due process, right to be heard, investigation. Talo talaga ang gobyerno sa totoo lang.

With so many restrictions, under the Bill of Rights, since this is a democracy, hanggang diyan lang talaga tayo. You cannot be a superman here. But little by little, maybe towards the end, I promise you that by the end of my term at least maminus-minus ang sakit ng ulo.

You just have to look for the honest men na sinasabi ko sa inyo mahirap maghanap ngayon.

So sabi ko nga the --- there's that proverb, a Chinese man walking around, broad daylight with a lamp. And somebody asked him, "Why are you bringing a lighted lamp when it is high noon?" Eh sabi ng China man, "You know I'm looking for an honest man." Mahirap hanapin 'yan.

Alam mo, sa droga it is the sad experience of America, Mexico, South America, and Brazil, lahat. It's a contagion worldwide. Terrorism and drugs.

Q: Mayor, on another note. Nakipag-meeting po kayo sa BARMM officials kanina? Pwede niyo po bang i-share 'yung mga problema na nakikita niyo ngayon?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, una is the prompt remittance of their money because they have to offer it also. Just like any government office, you have to have money to buy supplies, to pay the employees, and everything.

So isa 'yan. At pangalawa, 'yung additional officials for liaisoning. And third, I formed a committee of just a few members of the Cabinet to assist them in building the structure of a BARMM government.

Q: Deadlines... Sir, two days na lang po 'yung deadline niyo na 15. Kasi parang 6,000 --- eh no, 600 plus lang 'yung sumuko under GCTA. Meron pa tayong hinahanap na maybe two thirds.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Basta ako sinabi ko, I will just set the timeline and then the one million prize is available to those who can capture them dead or alive. But maybe dead would be a better option. I will pay you smiling. Ibalik ko 'yan preso, makakain pa 'yang p***** i***** 'yan. Gagastos pa ako.

Q: Mayor, 'yun pong mga matatanda at sakitin na po sa Bilibid, umaapela po sa inyo at sa ating pamahalaan. Ano po ang inyong plano sa kanila 'yung matatanda at sakitin na po sa Bilibid?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: I will have to confer with the guy. Hindi ako mahilig diyang committee-committee, walang mangyari niyan. You cannot even attend a meeting that there's a quorum. Wala.

Pagpunta mo diyan, you just --- you just dismiss after saying that there is a quorum.

Ako gusto ko tao lang, isang tao lang. Itong si ano, si --- [*Sinong pangalan nito?*] Si Bantag. Bantag. I'll just talk to him. Sabihin ko kung hindi mo kaya, ikaw ang ipako ko sa krus diyan sa gitna ng compound.

Q: 'Yun pong matatanda at mga sakitin na po sa Bilibid. 'Yung matatanda na po, 'yung mga may sakit, matatanda, ano po ang pu-pwedeng...?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Ako I'll ask the administration, whoever will take over or the Secretary of Justice to fast-track 'yung mga may sakit na at talagang matatanda na.

Ako mag-set ako, 70 years old or 75, 70. Hindi na marunong mag-holdup 'yan. Hindi na makatakbo 'yan. O kung takot ka pa kay serial rapist, ipaputol na lang muna mo diyan sa founder nila bago palabasin.

Q: Opo. So 'yun pong mga 70 years old pataas malaki na po ang tsansa na makapalaya na po sila?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Wala na 'yan eh. Lalo na 'yung mga 80s. What's the --- what's the use of keeping them there?

Alam mo, ganito ha. Alam mo bang... Makinig kayong mabuti, for your learning process. Alam mo ba 'yang nasa kulungan na umabot na ng 15, 20 years? Ayaw nang lumabas 'yan.

'Yang sa penal colony, 'pag ini-release mo, maghanap 'yan ng problema. Mag-holdup ng one time 'yan, mag-enjoy, tapos gustong bumalik ng

presohan. Kasi ang buhay nila for the last 20 years, nandiyan na sa kulungan. Kuntento na 'yan sa kanila.

At alam mo kung ano? O ito, I'll reveal to you a deep-seated ano --- but it's a little bit a... I hope kayong mga --- viewers discretion. Karamihan nila 'yan ayaw nang umalis kasi may mga lovers na 'yan sila sa loob.

At saka 'yan, 'yang naka --- 'yang lumabas na 30, 25 years, hindi na maghanap ng babae 'yan.

They have acquired latent homosexuality. Wala na 'yan silang desire makipaghalikan ng babae. Ang gusto niya 'yung iniwan niya and that is I said, they have acquired latent homosexuality.

Hindi 'yan sila bakla pero 'yun na ang buhay nila doon. Nandoon 'yung mga lovers nila kaya ayaw na 'yang lumabas. Kasi sa labas, wala na rin silang pag-asa sa buhay.

Wala nang tumatanggap sa kanila at verily they are considered, whether we like it or not, the truth is they are considered outcasts.

Kaya 'yan ang come-on nila. May mga mahal na 'yan sila sa buhay. Totoo 'yan. At maghanap nang paraan 'yan para bumalik doon.

Lalaking-lalaki pumasok 'yan. Paglabas niyan after 30 years, 25 years, lalaki ang itsura pero they have, I said, acquired latent homosexuality.

Bilib kayo ano? Alam ko.

Q: Sir, thank you for your time, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Ako because of so many... Pati 'yung isa doon. I have acquired uncontrollable... Ewan ko.

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