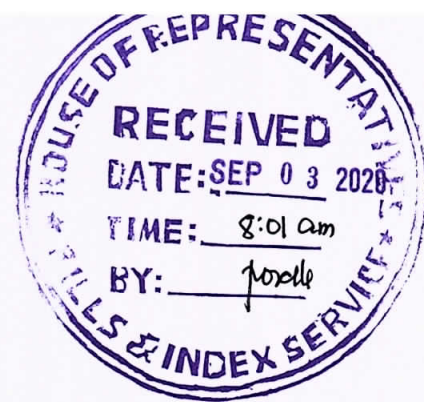


1 Republic of the Philippines
2 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
3 Quezon City

4
5 EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
6 Second Regular Session

7
8 HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1185
9



10 Introduced by

11 BAYAN MUNA Representatives EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,
12 CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE and FERDINAND R. GAITE,
13 GABRIELA Women's Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS,
14 ACT TEACHERS Party-List Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO,
15 and KABATAAN Party-List Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO

16
17 RESOLUTION

18 URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE
19 ON HUMAN RIGHTS, CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON
20 ALLEGED RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY MILITARY PERSONNEL OF
21 THE 7TH IDPA INCLUDING FORCING AETA COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO EAT
22 HUMAN FECES IN SAN MARCELINO, ZAMBALES.

23
24 WHEREAS, on 21 August 2020, a member of the Aeta tribe, Nalin Ramos, was allegedly forced
25 to eat human feces by soldiers of the 7th Infantry Division of the Philippine Army during military
26 operations in San Marcelino, Zambales Province according to reports by Umahon Para sa Tunay
27 na Repormang Agraryo (Umahon) and the Sandugo-Movement of Moro and Indigenous Peoples
28 for Self-Determination (Sandugo);

29
30 WHEREAS, according to the groups' reports, Ramos was reportedly among three (3) Aeta
31 residents, including his relatives Witi Ramos and Jepoy Ramos, who were physically assaulted,
32 tortured, and detained. The three were hospitalized and upon release, were too afraid to go home
33 due to the trauma leading them to stay in the evacuation center in Brgy. Aglao, San Marcelino;

34
35 WHEREAS, on 21 August 2020, 659 families evacuated from Sitio Lumibao, San Marcelino
36 allegedly due to repeated bombings in Aeta communities. According to Mayor Elvis Soria in an
37 interview with Police Regional Director PBGen. Rhodel Sermonia, Aeta communities were
38 evacuated to a covered court in Barangay Aglao when fighting erupted in their communities on
39 August 21 between the military and the New People's Army (NPA);

40
41 WHEREAS, Major Amado Gutierrez, 7th ID's public affairs office chief has denied the incident,
42 stating that they arrested NPA suspects who were brought to a medical facility to be checked;

43
44 WHEREAS, advocate groups point to mining explorations of Dizon Copper-Silver Mines, Inc.
45 (DCSMI) as the reason behind the bombings and harassment against the Aeta community in San
46 Marcelino, Zambales. In 2017, DSCMI was embroiled in controversy when former Department
47 of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Gina Lopez inspected its abandoned
48 open pit mining site in Zambales. Findings showed that highly acidic water stored in the open pit
49 overflows during heavy rains which ruins local farms and disrupts fishing activities in nearby

1 communities. The inspection also revealed that all environmental infrastructure including waste
2 dump, tailings storage facility and silt dams were not properly maintained by DSCMI;

3
4 **WHEREAS**, indigenous communities who reside on resource-rich ancestral lands are highly
5 vulnerable to harassment, displacement, and a host of other rights violations. Reports of rights
6 violations against indigenous people, especially reports of inhumane treatment, should be
7 subjected to thorough and impartial investigation to ensure the protection of indigenous people
8 and to exact accountability from violators especially when committed by state forces;

9
10 **WHEREAS**, it is imperative for members of Congress, as representatives of our people, to defend
11 the rights of our people and check on excesses and violations committed against them, especially
12 in this time of crisis. Laws and rules should serve the interest of our people and should not be
13 weaponized to suppress their rights and oppress them;


14
15 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the
16 House of Representatives, through the Committee on Human Rights, conduct an inquiry, in aid
17 of legislation, on alleged rights violations committed by military personnel of the 7th IDPA
18 including forcing Aeta community members to eat human feces in San Marcelino, Zambales.


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21 *Adopted,*

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27 **REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**
28 *Bayan Muna Partylist*

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32 **REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**
33 *Bayan Muna Partylist*

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37 **REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE**
38 *Bayan Muna Partylist*

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42 **REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS**
43 *GABRIELA Women's Party*

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46 
REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Partylist


REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist