Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
2nd Regular Session

House Resolution No. 1330

Introduced by Representatives ERIC GO YAP,
SANDRO L. GONZALEZ, and CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ALLEGED FAILURE OF PDEA AND BOC OFFICERS TO DETECT THE EXISTENCE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS IN THE ALUMINUM PALLETS, DECLARED TO BE CONTAINING TAPIOCA STARCH AND CONSIGNED TO GOROYAM TRADING

WHEREAS, in January 2019, three 20-footer shipping containers supposedly consisting of tapioca starch consigned to GOROYAM RICE TRADING (Goroyam), arrived at the Manila International Container Port (MICP);

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2019, a request for amendment of the consignee's name from GOROYAM RICE TRADING to RICHESEGOLD ENTERPRISE (Richesegold) which was made and submitted to the MICP through the District Collector was approved;

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2019, the shipment was forfeited in favor of the government after the consignee's failure to file an import entry pass with Customs;

WHEREAS, an information from Customs Intelligence Investigation Service, Manila International Container Port (CIIS-MICP) was received about a derogatory report from Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) concerning illegal drugs concealed inside the tapioca starch consigned to Goroyam;

WHEREAS, acting on the derogatory information received, the Customs Anti-Illegal Drugs Task Force (CAIDTF) coordinated the matter to the Seaport Interdiction Unit of PDEA assigned at the MICP;

WHEREAS, on the afternoon of March 5, 2019, the examination took place as directed by the customs examiner and the agents from PDEA, which revealed that the specimens collected and submitted "do not contain any dangerous drugs, controlled precursors and essential chemicals";

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2019, there being no drugs found, MICP issued a Notice of Auction Sale for April 2019 which placed and included the subject shipment classified as highly perishable in nature;
WHEREAS, on April 22, 2019, a public auction on the subject shipment was held, wherein GOLDWIN COMMERCIAL (Goldwin) was declared the highest bidder;

WHEREAS, in May 2019, three tranches of delivery (20 sacks of the tapioca starch with 10 aluminum pallets each tranche) was received by Goldwin at Goldwin Commercial Warehouse in Brgy. Santolan, Malabon City;

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2019, Goldwin immediately reported to Customs after the discovery of white crystalline substance which came out from the aluminum bar of the pallet;

WHEREAS, immediately thereafter, MICP directed the Port’s personnel to conduct an operation, which reported that the substance found inside the bar wrapped and sealed with a sheet of lead was methamphetamine hydrochloride, a dangerous drug;

WHEREAS, the inventory made by PDEA resulted in the seizure of thirty (30) aluminum pallets containing illegal drugs with each pallet having three (3) to four (4) of its hallow bars containing shabu;

WHEREAS, a total of one hundred fourteen (114) bars with shabu were found, each weighing an average of 1.5 kg with a total weight of 171 kg with an estimated street value of PHP 1,162,800,000;

WHEREAS, on September 10, 2020, National Bureau of Investigation - Task Force Against Illegal Drugs (TFAID) subpoenaed the PDEA operatives who conducted the examination at the Designated Examination Area (DEA) of MICP on the 3x20 container vans on March 5-6, 2019;

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2020, verification with the District Tactical Operation Center - Northern Police District, PNP (DTOC-NPD) revealed that the PDEA did not coordinate any controlled delivery activity on the dates of May 2019 where the tapioca starch with aluminum pallets were delivered to Goldwin warehouse;

WHEREAS, the reports are based on the Executive Briefer and Progress Reports from the National Bureau of Investigation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Philippines, to direct the House Committee on Dangerous Drugs to further investigate, in aid of legislation, the alleged failure of PDEA and BOC Officer to detect the existence of illegal drugs in the aluminum pallets, declared to be containing tapioca starch and consigned to Goroyam Rice Trading.

Approved,

ERIC GO YAP

SANDRO L. GONZALEZ

CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA

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