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**JOURNAL OF THE FIRST JOINT SESSION OF THE
17TH CONGRESS
1ST STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS
OF HIS EXCELLENCY RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES
Monday, July 25, 2016**

Prepared by the
JOURNAL SERVICE
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PROCESSIONAL

At 4:00 p.m., the processional took place with the entry of the President, His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte, in the Plenary Hall of the House of Representatives.

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Senate President Aquilino Martin “Koko” DL. Pimentel III, on behalf of the Senate, and Speaker Pantaleon D. Alvarez, on behalf of the House of Representatives, called the joint session to order.

**NATIONAL ANTHEM AND
THE NATION’S PRAYER**

Thereupon, Ms. Bayang Barrios led the singing of the National Anthem which was followed by the Nation’s Prayer led by various clergymen, to wit:

PANALANGIN SA SAMBAYANANG PILIPINO

Mapagmahal at makapangyarihang Ama, Ikaw ang pinagmumulan ng lakas, liwanag at karunungan. Ikaw ang Dakilang Amang karapatdapat sa lahat ng aming parangal, papuri at paglingap. Hinihiling namin na bigyan Ninyo kami ng habag at pang-unawa sa aming mga pagkukulang at pagpapabaya dahil batid namin na hindi kami karapat-dapat sa Iyong pagmamahal.

Panginoon, lubos kaming nagpapasalamat sa lahat ng biyaya na ibinigay Ninyo sa amin at sa lakas na ipinagkakaloob Ninyo upang malampasan namin ang lahat ng mga pagsubok. Nawa’y ang bawat pagpapala na ibinibigay Ninyo sa amin ay gamitin para sa kabutihan namin at ng aming kapwa, at higit sa lahat para sa Inyong kapurihan.

Ama naming Maykapal, pakinggan Ninyo nawa ang aming kahilingan. Tulungan Ninyo ang aming Pangulo, si Rodrigo Roa Duterte, at ang Pangalawang Pangulo, si Maria Leonor Robredo, upang sila ay patnubayan ng Banal na Espiritu sa bawat hakbang na kanilang tatahakin. Gabayan Ninyo ang lahat ng mga pinuno at naglilingkod sa pamahalaan upang ang mga puso nila ay magkaroon

ng kababaan ng loob at sila ay matutong magmalasakit para sa mga dukha at nasa laylayan ng lipunan.

Mahal naming Ama, nawa’y lahat ng lingkod ng bayan ay matuto na mamuhay ng payak, maging bukas-palad, at magtaglay ng katatagan ng loob. Dalangin namin na ang pagmamahal para sa bayan at pagsasakripisyo ay mamayani higit sa sariling adhikain. Habang ang laban sa karahasan na nagaganap, nawa’y ang mga tagapangasiwa ng ating batas ay mapangalagaan at mabigyan ng proteksyon.

Kalingain Mo kami, mapagmahal na Ama, upang ang pagkakaisa ay maghari sa kabila ng aming magkakaibang paniniwala. Nawa’y lubos na pagpalain Ninyo ang bayang Pilipinas ayon sa Inyong kagustuhan.

Idinadalangin namin, Panginoong Ama, na maghilom ang aming bayan, at ang kapayapaan at kaunlaran ay mamayani, ngayon at magpakailan man.

Amen.

**STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS
OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE**

Allow me a little bit of informality at the outset. You would realize that the three guys in the elevated portion of Congress are from Mindanao. So, wala talaga akong masabi. Senate President Aquilino Pimentel III, Members of the Senate, Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez and the Members of the House of Representatives, Vice President Maria Leonor Robredo, President Fidel V. Ramos, President Joseph Estrada, President Arroyo, Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno, Justices of the Supreme Court, His Excellency Papal Nuncio, and members of the diplomatic corps. We cannot—well, of course, I have also to greet Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, the members of the Cabinet, fellow workers in government, my countrymen.

We cannot move forward if we allow the past to pull us back. Finger-pointing is not the way. That is why I will not waste precious time dwelling on the sins

of the past, or blaming those who are perceived to be responsible for the mess that we are in and suffering from. Except maybe to extract a lesson or two from its errors, we will not tarry because it is the present that we are concerned with and the future that we should be prepared for.

Lest I be misunderstood, let me say clearly that those who betray the people's trust shall not go unpunished, and they will have their day in court. And if ever the evidence warrants, they will have their day of reckoning too.

When I decided to seek the presidency of this republic, I knew what the ills of our country were, I knew their causes and I was briefed on those who caused the causes. I heard the people on the streets complain that justice had become illusory, that equity and fairness and speedy disposition of cases had deteriorated into hollow concepts fit only for masteral dissertations. It was, and still is, very sad indeed.

As a former prosecutor, I know there are ways of knowing how fast or how slow cases go. What I did was to look into the number of postponements and the time difference between each postponement and the next setting. It was simple as that. I will appreciate it deeply if we all in government attend to this urgent need.

I was determined then as I am now determined and in better position to wage war against those who make a mockery of our laws including those who make life for us all miserable. I wish to assure everyone though that vindictiveness is not in my system. Just like you and I, equal protection is what I ask for our people.

But we must have the courage to fight for what we believe in, undeterred by the fear of failing or losing. Indeed, courage knows no limits, cowardice does.

At this point, there are a few concerns I wish to convey to all to the end that as I perorate facts and figures, plans, programs, and solutions, these concerns will not dissipate or get lost along our way. Thus to our religious bishops, leaders, priests, pastors, regents, imam, let me assure you that while I am a stickler for the principle of separation between Church and State, I believe quite strongly there should never be a separation between God and State.

During my inauguration last June 30, 2016, I said that the fight against criminality and illegal drugs and corruption will be relentless and sustained. I reiterate that commitment today and that is why I call on the Philippine National Police, the barangay chairmen, the mayors, the governors, and all those occupying

seats of power and authority not to lower their guard. There will be no letup in this campaign. Double your efforts. Triple them, if need be. We will not stop until the last drug lord, the last financier, and the last pusher have surrendered or put behind bars or below the ground, if they so wish.

To our police officers and other officials, do your job and you will have our unwavering support of the Office of the President. I will be with you all the way. Abuse your authority and there will be a hell to pay, for you will have become worse than criminality itself.

I order the National Police Commission to hasten the conduct of investigation and adjudication of administrative cases against police officers involved in criminal activity and illegal activities and prescribe policies on lifestyle check for PNP members. In this quest, I will put at stake my honor, my life and the presidency itself.

The DILG is also directed to strictly monitor how LGUs perform their supervision functions over the police and those found not performing will be sanctioned, including the loss of police deputation from the NAPOLCOM. Let me repeat my warning to all, I repeat— do not do drugs because you will be the solution to the drug crisis that has engulfed, “malawak” the nation.

We will create an interagency committee on illegal drugs that will integrate efforts and strengthen the participation of all stakeholders.

The reservists will be mobilized for information campaign against drug use and dissemination of information regarding drug rehabilitation programs being offered by the government. Let us also strengthen our ROTC program to instill love of country and good citizenship.

We will also prioritize the rehabilitation of drug abusers. We will increase the number of residential treatment and rehabilitation facilities in all regions of the country. The Armed Forces of the Philippines will facilitate the preparations for the use of military camps and facilities for drug rehabilitation.

There can never be no real, tangible and felt development without making our people feel secured. And it is our duty to uplift the people's welfare.

With this, my administration shall be sensitive to the State's obligations to promote and protect, and fulfill the human rights of our citizens, especially the poor, the marginalized and the vulnerable. Social justice will be pursued even as the rule of law shall, at all times, prevail.

My administration shall implement the human approach to development and governance as we improve our people's welfare in the areas of health, education, adequate food and housing, environmental preservation, and respect for culture.

Human rights must work to uplift human dignity. But human rights cannot be used as a shield or an excuse to destroy the country. Your country and my country.

Meantime, since our country continues to be confronted with internal security threats aggravated by the existence and activities of the terrorist group Abu Sanyaf, full force of the AFP will be applied to crush these criminals who operate under the guise of religious fervor. The AFP shall enhance its capability to search and engage these wrong and lawless elements.

We have to strengthen our coordination with Indonesia and Malaysia to suppress the kidnapping in the waters of our neighboring countries. We will strengthen our counterterrorism programs by amending various laws on human terrorism, terrorism-financing and cybercrime.

This is our answer to the challenges of global developments, nontraditional threats, transnational crimes, and fanatical terrorism.

Addressing global warming shall all be our top priority but upon a fair and equitable equation. It must not stymie our industrialization.

We also endeavor to develop our corporate partnership with nations ensuring common interests and concerns with the Philippines; maintain and sustain bilateral and multilateral consultations and dialogues.

We will continue to expand cooperation on human assistance and disaster response, maritime security and counter terrorism. We shall deepen security dialogues with other nations to build greater understanding and cooperation.

With regard to this West Philippine Sea, otherwise known as China Sea, we strongly affirm and respect the outcome of the case before the Permanent Court of Arbitration as an important contribution to the ongoing efforts to pursue the peaceful resolution and management of our disputes.

On the aspect of our peace processes relating to our engagement with the international community, the Philippines shall remain committed to continue thorough working with our international partners and stakeholders in achieving lasting peace and progress

in the country.

We will vigorously address the grievances that have been time and again expressed, not only by the Bangsamoro, indigenous peoples and other groups for security, development, fair access to decision-making and acceptance of identities.

Enduring peace can only be attained only if we meet these fundamental needs of every man, woman, and child.

To our Muslim brothers, the Moro country and the members of the CPP-NPA-NDF, let me say this: All of us want peace, not the peace of the dead but the peace of the living. We express our willingness and readiness to go to the negotiating table. And yet, we load our guns, fix our sights and pull the trigger. It is both ironic and tragic and it is endless. While we extol the bravery and heroism of our soldiers, kayo, the rebels, do the same for your members and fighters. What I see instead are the widows and the orphans and I feel their pain and grief, and no amount of cash assistance or the number of medals can compensate the loss of a human life. Sorrow cuts across every stratum of society. It cuts deeply and the pain lasts forever.

That is why, I reach out to you, to all of you today, to our Muslim brothers, let us end the centuries of this mistrust and warfare.

To the CCP-NPA-NDF, let us end these decades of ambushes and skirmishes. We are going nowhere and it is getting bloodier by the day.

To immediately stop violence on the ground, restore peace in the communities, and provide enabling environment conducive to the resumption of the peace talks, I am now announcing a unilateral ceasefire with the CCP-NPA-NDF effective immediately and call on our Filipinos in the National Democratic Front and its forces to respond accordingly.

Let me make this appeal to you. "If we cannot as yet love one another, then in God's name, let us not hate each other too much." So, it was said, I say the same to you today. We will strive to have a permanent and lasting peace before my term ends. That is my goal - that is my dream.

On the macroeconomic management, my administration will continue and maintain current macroeconomic policies and even do better. We will achieve this through prudent fiscal and monetary policies that can help translate high growth into more and better job creation and poverty reduction. By the end of my term, I hope and pray to hand over an economy that is

much stronger; characterized by a solid growth, low and stable inflation dollar reserves and robust fiscal position.

On taxation, my administration will pursue tax reforms towards a simpler and more equitable, and more efficient tax system that can foster investment and job creation. We will lower personal and corporate income tax and relax the bank secrecy law. Eh naging Presidente ako, ayaw ko sanang makialam dito sa mga ito. Alam mo na. Well, anyway, may I continue?

At the household level, there must be sufficient income for all Filipinos to make the basic food a non-food needs for the families. We shall continue track investments that will generate thousands of jobs each year, jobs that are suitable for the poor and less skilled members of the work force.

Reforms to ensure competitiveness and promote ease of doing business will be mandatory and in reacting to these needs, the restrictions on the economy will be needed to make more investments to come and to develop labor-intensive industries such as manufacturing, agriculture, and tourism shall be pursued. We must also invest on human capital and ensure equal access to economic opportunities.

The implementation of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law must also be put into full force and effect so that couples, especially the poor, would have freedom of informed choice on the number and spacing of children they can adequately care and provide for, eventually making them more productive members of the labor force.

When employment is not an option for instance in extremely rural neighborhoods, entrepreneurship will be advocated. We shall also enhance local business environment by addressing bottlenecks in business registration and processing, streamlining investment applications process and integration, in the services of various government offices.

Government financial institutions (GFIs) shall come up with the out-of-the box financing packages to capacitate our small and medium entrepreneurs.

In the field of tourism, we shall construct more access roads and tourism gateways to service centers and tourist sites.

Road development projects shall complement with our thrust to modern agricultural infrastructure by expanding and improving the construction and rehabilitation of roads and irrigation facilities and establishing modern harvest and post-harvest facilities to minimize losses.

We shall also conduct a nationwide soil analysis to determine areas most suitable for rice farming to optimize production with the use of effective soil rehabilitation and fertilization.

We shall strictly enforce fisheries laws, particularly on illegal fishing, and promote aquaculture along riverbanks and in backyards.

On the other hand, we will accelerate infrastructure spending, improving national roads and bridges and implementing the Mindanao Logistics Infrastructure Network and other road network masterplans. We shall pursue interisland linkage projects.

We shall be implementing structural mitigation measures to address the perennial flooding in Metro Manila and neighboring areas. We shall put up new pumping stations in strategic places.

The revival of the operation of the Pasig River Ferry Service System is a viable option for the severe traffic congestion in Metro Manila. This serves as an alternative mode of transportation for passengers particularly those coming from the east side of Metro to reach specific destinations within the cities of Manila, Mandaluyong, Pasig, Taguig, Marikina and Quezon City.

Our anticorruption campaign and out-of-line apprehension including the removal of terminals will be intensified. And my God, it will be done immediately.

To address lack of road infrastructure in Metro Manila, usage of existing roads will be maximized. Thus, there is a need to cooperate and coordinate with LGUs to map out secondary routes and to consult various stakeholders, including public transport operators.

Many in government realistically opined, strictly I would have to agree, that the worsening traffic situation could be logically addressed if Congress would also accord emergency powers to the agencies concerned. Ayaw mo? Okay lang din. Pero pakita namin kung gusto ninyong madalian. Alam naman talaga ninyo sagad na. Nasa inyo iyon, if you give it, fine. If you don't give it, we take the longer route, slowly and tanggapin ko iyong pagmumura ninyo, huwag naman sa malapit. Eh, ganoon talaga eh. It is an urgent and immediate situation that we find a solution. Gusto ninyo madalian, okay. Pag ayaw naman ninyo because baka sabihin naman ninyo graft and corruption naman, 'di okay. But I assure you – wala ito sa script. I assure you this – this will be a clean government. If that is the only worry that you have—and I can understand your mixed feelings.

You know, ako ang maggagarantiya, 101% it will be clean. Problem is, I can only act through agencies and departments. That is why I urge you na maski konting mali lang, wala akong ano diyan, wala na akong pulitika, wala na. I am through after this. I just pass on to you the information that I get from the Secretaries. I cannot guarantee their honesty and competence at all times. Cabinet members, yes. Pero iyong sa ibaba – procurement, iyong bidding diyan. But as far as I can relate it is malinis talaga ito.

Napagusapan namin sa likod about the Federal system. You know, my advice to you is, maintain a Federal system, a Parliament, but be sure to have a President. Well, hindi na ako niyan, I am disqualified and by that time I would no longer be here. But, I can commit today, to the Republic of the Philippines and its people, if you hurry up the Federal system of government, and you can submit it to the Filipino people by the fourth, fifth year – kasi proseso ‘yan eh – you call for a referendum and after that call for a presidential election, I will go. Sibat na ako. But you must have a President. You copy the France system. Huwag mong hayaan ‘yang puro na Parliament, delikado. It takes time even for the –iyong kagaya ng England – there was this bomb on a double-deck, that it took them time really. There is no one apparatus for the Commander-in-Chief down.

You can have the President, you can elect. Maybe Tito Sotto will be the lucky guy at that time. Oh, di limitahan mo lang. Ceremonial power, power to resolve, power to offset the resolution or whatever. Mandating you this, do that or ceremonial power, except in times of need. If there is a demand for action, you must have a President. Wala na ako niyan. I said if you can give me that document, I will urge you to conduct or call for an election the following day, following week. And even if there still two years, three years, I will go. Okay na ako. Do not worry about me, I am not that much ambitious. Eh, nanalo ko e, hindi ko nga alam kung bakit nandito ako ngayon eh. Noon nandoon lang ako. Totoo man., Sino ba sa inyo ang nagsuporta sa akin dito? Wala man. Not a single Congressman, except for two provinces, governor, iyon lang. Wala akong barangay captain. Wala lahat, pero ngayon.

Processing time in issuing permits and licenses shall be reduced to the barest minimum. In my city, it is always three days for local governments. That will bind the Office of the President down to the last barangay. Three days, three days, local governments. Business permit, clearances, no follow up. Bigyan mo ng stub, be back next week. Tingnan mo iyong workload and I will require every department to have a logbook. Huwag sa computer, itong ganito na, nai-erase iyan. Ilagay mo day, time, I accept the documents of Rodrigo Duterte then you go to your computer, you

must have an actuarial projection there. Look at the workload, napakabobo mo naman...ilan ang workload ninyo? Tapos, oh, bumalik ka dito, August 3, three o'clock, iyan three o'clock, ibigay mo.

Ngayon, I will be establishing 8888 only dedicated to corruption. ‘Pag may marinig ako, sa Executive Department, even a whisper, hiwalay-hiwalay na tayo. Marami dyan sa gallery, marami dyan walang trabaho nag-aapply hanggang ngayon. Hindi naman lahat, kasi mayayaman iyan, eh, mga asawa ninyo yata iyan.

While the issuance and distribution of motor vehicle plates at point of sale or through motor vehicle dealers shall be considered. Huwag na sa LTO kasi hanggang ngayon, panahon pa ni Hesukristo iyong first plate nila, hanggang ngayon wala pa. Bayad na iyon, until now, sa awa ng Diyos.

For the driver’s licenses, their effectiveness will be extended from the current three-year period to five years.

To reduce queuing time at ticketing stations, tickets sa mga train will be made readily available and easily accessible to the riding public. Kung bilihin mo iyan sa malls, stalls, and stores, ipinagbibili mo yan sa... dyan mo na ibigay, accredited. Huwag doon banda sa Recto kasi sigurado pekein iyan ng mga ulol.

May I address, again, to the Filipinos. Ako po ay doble ang pagod para sa inyo, para sa kapakanan ng bayan. Seryoso po ako. Kayong mga ganoon, piket-piket at magkaroon ng gulo, huwag po ninyong gawain iyan. Ito na iyong warning ko, you know last, wala ng iba, hindi ko na gagawin. Huwag ninyong sirain iyong mga bagay-bagay na ginagawa namin para sa kapakanan ng tao. Mabuti ang magkaintindihan tayo. Kaya, huwag ninyong gawin. Simple lang iyan eh. Para walang away sa gobyerno, iyong mga bagay na illegal at masama at hindi tama, huwag mong gawin at hindi kami mag-aaway dito. Pati iyong pari, pati si Pope tinamaan.

Let us be clear with each other. I am for the comfort and the welfare of the Filipinos. Kayo namang hindi pa bungog diyan, hindi pa pumasok yang mga droga, eh kung ayaw ninyong mamatay, ayaw ninyong masaknan, huwag kayong umasa diyan sa mga pari pati human rights, hindi nakakapigil yan ng kamatayan. So, huwag ninyong gawin. Eh tapos nandyan ka nakabulagta and you are portrayed in a broadsheet na parang Mother Mary cradling the dead cadaver of Jesus Christ.

Ayan na ang mga yan eh. Magdadramahan pa tayo dito. Dito ako nakatingin kasi nandito ang public

eh. Alam mo ilang beses ko na sinasabi, sa Davao, "Huwag mong gawin kasi magkakaproblema tayo." He who is the cause of the cause is the cause of them all. Ikaw iyong nag umpisa, you swallow.

Ulitin ko ha, he who is the cause of the cause is the cause of them all. Kami nagta-trabaho lang. We have a nation to guard. We have millions of people to see that they are healthy. It's a question of drug, it's a question of public interest, public order. Kita mo, lesser crime. Wala na kasing magnanakaw, wala nang manghoholdap. Kasi para yan ---bakit itatapon sabi nila eh maliliit lang iyan. Gamitin mo utak mo.

If you are able to contaminate, kagaya ng negosyo ng mga Chinese, wholesale iyan sila. Maski konti-konti kung the whole of Tondo contaminated, pera iyan. I am not saying in Chinese the practice of nitong wholesale, retail. They go for wholesale. Maski na kumita lang ng isang piso diyan sa isang dyan—okay na iyan, kasi paramihan eh. Iyan ang ibig kong sabihin.

I hope the military and the police will not react on this. It is a part of the deep intelligence that we have gathered. I am forced to come in public, kasi pati yung mga pari nag-aano. Alam mo kayong mga media, naghahanap kayo ng, Where's the big fish?" Saan yung bilyonaryo na mayaman, yung may kotse, yung may mga Mercedes?" Ma'am, nandoon sila sa labas, wala dito. Maghanap ka ng isang batalyon na pulis para hulihin natin doon, kung kaya natin. They direct the traffic of drugs sa kanila. Mayroon silang ganito, malaki. Real time, nakikinig sila ngayon dito. I am very 101 percent, nakikinig iyan. "Saan doon?" "Doon lang." Isosoli nila sa pondo, "O itapon mo diyan, tapos umalis ka kunin mo doon sa tindahan yung bag o package." Nasaan yung mga nakikita ng media na--kayo lang ang naba-brand niyan na "drug lord" eh. Those are not the drug lords. Mga lieutenant, delivery boy yan. Kumbaga LBC lang iyan pati DHL, Federal.

Pati yung tawag nilang basura, "yun yung threat ano – huwag kayong maghahanap. Gusto ninyo, sabihin po ninyo, puntahan natin, I'll give you the names. I'll show you the intelligence paper pero give me the guarantee na may magawan ka. Because I'll give you the name, I'll give you the country, kung wala ka ring magagawa, mag-shut up ka. Kaya hindi lang kami... we do not get too personal about our work here. I am saying that, ay dito—balik na tayo kasi iyong hindi nakakaintindi ng Tagalog ano na iyong, ang tagal naman nito—passenger capacity congestion shall be addressed by increasing the number of running trains from the current 16 trains with a total of 48 cars per hour to 20 trains, with a total of 60 cars per hour. You increase the train speed from 40 (kph) to 60 (kph).

Ang problema nito, iyong mga railway na ito-- hindi na ito kasali diyan. Huwag kayong maniwala dito. Two-thirds of these are mine, the other third is — correct iyong grammar ko. Ayaw lang nila. Sixty kilometers per hour, problema nito and you must agree with me that the rails are quite aged. Most of the rails, maybe. Noon pa iyan sa panahon ni Marcos, Imelda, nandiyan pa. Ngayon, sabi ni Tugade, kay magbigay sakin, sabi ko, 40 to 60 kilometers per hour, "Naku Art, sigurado kang maka-hold ang rail iyan, baka maputol iyan, magdiretso iyong train sa Cavite, diretso ng Cavite, maglipad doon kay Tolentino, bakit may train dito sa Tagaytay?" It is quite fast, quite fast, 60 kilometers per hour, and you are pulling something that is heavy, when it really moves—kung wala ng ano, it moves with the speed at a heavy thing, at a great speed, mahirap mo, sumasadsad kasi mabigat. And reduce headway time from five minutes to three minutes, mahina lang tayo ng—plano ni Tugade, mahina lang tayo ng one minute sa Hong Kong. Two minutes, sa kanya, three minutes. Art ambisyoso ka, kaya mo kaya ito?

Specifically for the LRT, the operating hours shall be extended from 9:30 to 10:30 p.m., kasi marami pang bata na uuwi niyan. And, to absorb more passengers, delays in the procurement of additional train shall be addressed soonest.

Now, iyan ang sinasabi ko, if you want to know me, fine Wala akong problema, sabihin ninyo na doon ang we go the normal way, if you are able to make 46. Ang maganda nito, I have signed the Executive Order, sa amin ang FOI. Naunahan ko kayo. Nandoon na sa akin. Tapos na ako. Ilabas ko na, it can be out today. Alam mo ang sabi ko uunahan ko lahat kayo, puro mayayabang iyang nandiyan. We grab the stealing one's thunder, ika nga. Unahan na natin. So, we shall also pursue rail projects in Metro Manila and the major key points in the country including the Mindanao Rail Project.

Hindi ako nagyayabang, pero totoo talaga ito. We're in the—depende sa Federal, but six years, lalabas talaga ito, I assure you because it is going to materialize. Rail projects, Davao Transit System, the Cebu Transit System, the North and South Luzon Railways and the Panay Railways project, tingnan mo, Panay! Eh taga saan si ano, Panay. Panay ang bigay natin para – sabihin naman ni Senador Drilon, bina-backbite ka dito. Lalagyan daw ang island mo ng train. May tawa pa. Bina-backbite ka dito. Isumbong man yan. Tingnan mo, tan-awa diha.

Different approaches are also being considered to decongest NAIA including the possible transfer of general aviation. Ang style ko kasi ganito, hindi naman ako, I am not stick into formalities. Itong transfer

of general aviation, alam mo kung sino ang tinatamaan niyan? Kayong mayayaman. Kayong may mga helicopter pati eroplano, ilipat ko kayo. Alam mo iyang general aviation, iyang mga Lear jets, iyong sa mga kumpanya, ilagay ko kayo sa Batanes para wala masyadong air traffic. I am offering Sangley Point. Kasi kailangan ko isang runway. I can make a new runway there, sabi ng mga aviation experts, but tum-bok niyan is the Merville Subdivision. Maka-isa pa akong runway dito sa Metro Manila. But if not there, it's going to be Clark but on a condition that you have a fast train. Sabi ko kay Art, it is not acceptable. May rail there, bago, marami pa. The bow of the day is bullet train. Ilagay mo iyan sa Pilipino drayber, sa point ko, hilo. Maglampas kayo dito. The Clark Airport can be utilized to shift some operations of our domestic and international airlines.

Moreover, a one-stop shop will be established within the Civil Aviation Complex for the benefit of the overseas Filipinos. Ito mangyari na ito. To utilize the Clark Airport, it is necessary to establish yong mga, you have the rail to connect.

In the area of environment, the military is directed to intensify its post—making kayo, sige kayong tawa dyan—against illegal logging, illegal mining, nand'yan pa naman si Gina Lopez -- and other destructive practices that aggregate the devastation of our natural resources. I have to protect the country. Many are complaining against the appointment of Gina Lopez. But si Gina pati ako, we have the same paradigm: the interest of the country must come first. But hindi ko naman sinasabi, there is a law allowing mining. Gina Lopez and I are just telling you, follow government's standards. Do not destroy the environment, follow it correctly, wala tayong problema. Just pay the correct taxes; follow the standards. Gina Lopez is just doing her job. You know, she is really a crusader. That is how I describe her persona: Crusader. Kaya sabi ko tama iyan. Bakit? Nandyan ba si Ma'am Gina Lopez, Secretary Lopez. Ganito iyan. Pumunta siya sa Davao. Gabi na mga one o'clock because on the early days of my when I won pero hindi pa ako nag-oath. Marami na ang nagpuntahan -- solicitations, congratulations. Si Ma'am, pumunta, twice. Every time, she showed me the degradation of—ito na nga. Tapos, dalawang oras naman, mukhang hindi na matapos. Sabi ko Ma'am, do not be offended, totoo naman, huwag kang magalit kay it is the truth. So, mag-a-alas tres na—“Rody, this one 'no.” Tapos extemporaneous na para ngang Congressman. Sabi ko, “Ma'am, alas kwatro na, Ma'am. Ano kaya kung ikaw na lang ang DENR Secretary?” Bigla na lang siyang nagsagot na ‘totoo ka?’ Sabi ko, ‘Ummm.’ Hindi “oo”, “ummm, ummm”. Sabi niya, “I will ask, I will consult my family and ask my...” The following

day, tawag siya kay Bong. Sabi niya, “Bong, okay na tinanggap na. Sabi ng pamilya ko, okay na.”

But you know, I will not be appointing somebody who is alien to my thinking. I would like somebody who shows my horizons in life especially iyong degradation nang—tama iyan, she is a crusader and she will continue. At dito naman talaga ay—the DENR is likewise directed to review all permits granted to the mining, logging and other environmental sensitive activities to ensure compliance with government standards and, if warranted -- ito na iyong pinakamaganda -- amend, suspend or revoke permits. Go ahead.

I would like to thank God that I had this opportunity, really. I never thought na umabot ako dito. I have always that crank sa isip ko, mahirap ito.

Itong Laguna Lake, naubos ng mga—wala na ang fishermen. Iyon na lang, the difference of one big fish-pen to the other; iyon na lang ang sa mga tao. Ipakita mo, every time they go to Davao and pass by that lake there, every time na makita ko talagang wala nang—and the fishermen are complaining about the loss. Talagang wala na sila, kasi ang maliit na lugar iyan lang ang kanila. So dito, ipinadaan ko lang in a diplomatic way that the Laguna Lake shall be transformed into a vibrant economy soon showcasing ecotourism by addressing the negative impact of watershed structures, land conversion and pollution. Ito ang inilagay ko, this is what I am telling you, the poor fishermen will have priority and its entitlements.

In order to—“Gina, ayusin mo, Ma'am, huwag mo namang ipitin.” But, they have to reduce the areas of occupation. They cannot have their cake and eat it too. Sila na iyong may pera sila pa iyong—this must stop. Gusto ko nga sanang itanong kung sino ang mga may-ari niyan. Simple lang, mga General, mga Mayors, Governors, baka Congressmen. Well, this is not personal, this is something which I feel that I must do because it is the right thing to do.

To have adequate disposal facilities for the Metro Manila garbage, a final closure and rehabilitation of the Carmona sanitary landfill shall be pursued while the adoption of appropriate waste to energy facilities will be explored. Marami iyan, the technology is coming very fast. In the area of governance, there is a need to strengthen our efforts along this line.

To better manage public information, a law should be passed. I am addressing to Congress to create the People's Broadcasting Corporation replacing PTV 4, the government-run TV station which now aims to replicate international government broadcasting networks. Teams from these international news agencies, I would like to mention that, to those interested, BBC

is set to visit the country soon to train people from government-run channels to observe—ito ang gusto ko tatal pera naman ng tao—to observe editorial independence through innovative programs and intelligent treatment, analysis of news reports as well as developments of national and international significance.

The government's Bureau of Broadcast Services, better known as the Radyo ng Bayan, shall undergo upgrading to make it financially viable and dependable for accurate and independent, and enlightening news and commentary. Radyo ng Bayan will be integrated with the PBC.

As we are presently setting up a Presidential Communications Satellite Office in Davao City, PBC will also put up broadcast hubs in the Visayas and Mindanao. Davao City will also be the site of the first Muslim channel, called as Salaam Television, and the first Lumad channel.

The PCO shall coordinate with the Office of the Executive Secretary and the Presidential Legal Counsel in implementing the recently approved EO on the Freedom of Information—there's an Executive Order. As an example, on the part of our Executive Branch to make transparency and integrity as yardsticks in government performance, savings and expenses while engaging the public to a vigilant and to participate in government programs and projects.

The PCO, in coordination with the Office of the Executive Secretary, is drafting the Administrative Order on the Presidential Task Force on media killings.

This government does not condone violence and repression against media. The bona fide media, bona fide media, sometimes they call it bona fid, but whatever that thing is, the bona fide media has always been our partner for change. Di medyo klaro iyan. Hindi, anong gawin mo sa hindi bona fide media? Yan ang problema.

To address backlogs and low prosecutorial effectiveness and efficiency, the investigation and case management processes shall be streamlined, including those for illegal drugs and heinous crimes.

To eradicate the prevalent cultures of fear and silence that we have encountered, I ask Congress, you, to enact the Whistleblower Protection Law while the present Witness Protection Program shall be strengthened.

The number of lawyers and support staff in the PAO—that is the Public Assistance Office, regional and districts shall be increased to provide indigents more access to counsels.

At this stage, I also have directed the DILG to undertake nationwide information and campaign on federalism in partnerships with various alliances and with LGUs, civil society, grassroots and faith-based organizations. Hinto muna ako dito, itong federalism.

Ewan ko kung tama, alam mo itong bayan natin, if I may just repeat, I know that you know it. If you think 1521 or 1526, Magellan landed in Leyte, Mindanao was already Islam by 100 years. So, ano ito, it's an imperialism thing. This is a historical injustice committed against the Moro people. We have to correct it, but it is well na, impossible now. Kaya kayong mga kapatid kong Moro, alam naman ninyo, I am mixed, migrant ang tatay ko doon so, mixed blood ako, Moro pati Christian. But you know, intindihin na lang natin ito na we cannot return to you all iyong mga nakuha ng mga Amerikano, Espanyol, pati mga Filipino, mga kapitalista. Those who exploited Mindanao with that thing, sloganeering, "go to Mindanao because it's a land of promise." With the vast entry of so many people, basically coming from the Visayas, we cannot solve it the way you want it to be. We have to understand each other, then we have to live with each other, but we'll try.

Ang sinasabi ko na babalik ako sa federalism, both Misuari, Sema and all, at least, the politico leaders ng Mindanao will agree to it. We do not, remember that ako--hindi ko idinidikdik iyong masyadong Abu Sanyaf because it is really connected with the first talks between Misuari, the Presidents--subsequently from President Marcos, until now. The only way that we can have this, iyong BBL ibigay na natin minus the things that you do not want, iyong mga Constitutional issues, tanggalin muna natin. Ibigay ko iyong area—nandiyan na iyan e. So I ask you, pass it minus the Constitutional issues that are contentious. Ibigay na natin at, when the federal system comes, isali mo na sa package together with Misuari. That is the solution for Mindanao, nothing else, believe me, nothing else will do. Please sleep on it, ponder on it because that is the only way to proceed.

On the clamor of our citizens for timely issuance of Philippine passports, the government shall work towards amendment of the 1996 Passport Law to lengthen the validity of the passports from the current five years to 10 years. Tatal, kayo naman ang gagawa ng batas, you are the ones who will pass the law, even if you make it good for 30 years, okay ako. Bahala ka. Basta stretch a little bit because five years is just really simply on a regular basis. Matagal pa naman itong passport, mag-apply ako mga 10 days din. Alam mo, I would like to call the attention of Secretary Yasay, you should go to Davao. Look at the back, likod ng mall. Sige pangalanan na natin, SM. Doon, iyong mga tao nandyang sa pavement natutulog. For the many

times na nadaan ako na walang ulan, doon lang sila. Because first come, first served and the only outlet there, the outlet of your department is useless. So, iyong mga—naawa ako dito sa side ng Cotabato, lahat ng Cotabato, doon sa Davao. Karamihan niyan, unang-una, mga bahay. If you are an applicant in Davao City, fine.

But you know kung unang-una mahirap pa siya, karamihan diyan mga more on naghihiga lang diyan sa pavement. Nasasaktan talaga ako. Masakit eh. Buong gabi maghintay lang hanggang magbukas iyong SM kasi first come, first served. Kaya sabi ko, addressing to all the Cabinet members, make use of the computer. I do not want to see people lining up under the heat of the sun. I do not want people lining up under the rain. But I want itong Labor—wala na ito sa script. Iyong prompter natutulog na siguro ‘to, pindot-pindot diyan. Alam mo, andiyan naman iyan. Sabi ko, what I want is a journal. When the applicant presents the documents, give them a shopping list, do not add or get anything away from it, iyon lang yan, final. And when he complies with that, that is good. Huwag mo na siyang pabalikin. Kasi kung magtawag iyan ng 888, my God puntahan ko talaga kayo. Iyan ang bisyo ko noong mayor ako. Making a difference, mayor o Presidente, puntahan talaga kita at hiyain kita sa maraming tao. And I would publicly ask you what the hell happened to the procedure.

Pupuntahan ko talaga kayo, local, barangay, pulis, military, lahat. Bigyan mo ng shopping list, huwag mo nang pabalikin. Because kapag magtawag ng 888 iyan, tapos makita ko na the grievance is valid, bahala ka. Anong walang panahon, pupuntahan kita sa opisina mo and I would ask you. “Bakit?” Bigyan mo ng stub. You have to employ actuarial ability that is easy. Pero pagtanggap mo ng tao, I am addressing myself, under me-- journal, papirmahin mo siya. Lagyan mo doon, tingnan mo sa computer. Kung mag-connect ka doon sa actuarial, hindi mo kailangan ang bobo diyan eh. Let us say, matatapos siguro iyan mga next month, tapos. Projections lang naman. Balik ka dito, August 15, three o’clock. Now, if he goes to Malacañang, and open it up--for those who have valid reasons to complain about graft and corruption, the gates of Malacañang will be open. Doon ka magsumbong at, I will be briefed by my military, itong nagbigay ng tubig. “Sir, dito marami kang...

And the reason why I do not accept invitations, hindi ako tumatanggap, because every time I travel around Manila, it causes a huge congestion. Kasi, pati itong pag-uwi ko, it is also my projection. Paglabas ni Presidente, picture taking, ganoon. And they start to block the..., iyong roads access to the...ganoon iyan. Every time the President goes out, ganoon iyan. So paparahin nila iyan, sasabihin nila dadaan iyan by this

time and in the meantime sarado iyan. Di paglabas ko akala mo Biyernes Santo, walang sasakyan diyan. Yun pala, exponentially ang traffic, the tail-end of the traffic is somewhere by--and it would take about two to three hours to normalize. Kaya hindi ako tumatanggap nang--and I hate to travel. Kasi, talagang lalinisin eh, ito namang, kasi ang taas kasi ng entourage ng Presidente sa lahat, dulo sa dulo may ambulansiya and then ang entourage parang cortege na—sabi ko dalawa, tatlo, tama na, sa gitna lang ako. Pero ang totoo mag taksi lang ako dito sa likod, sunod lang ako. Eh takot, anuhan mo ako, papatayin mo ako. May ambulansiya roon. Dagdagan mo doon ng punerarya.

I have also ordered the DFA to streamline documentary requirements for passport applications and open additional Consular Offices in strategic places to decongest Metro Manila sites and avoid queues that have caused hardships and suffering to passport applicants.

I have also ordered the newly created DICT, Department of Information and Communications Technology, to develop a national broadband plan to accelerate the deployment of fiber optics, cables, and wireless technologies to improve Internet speed. Para ito sa, alam ko mahal kong mga kababayan maligayahan kayo nito. Pag-paano mo lang iyong Tagalog ko kasi, eh kayo hindi din kayo marunong mag-Bisaya.

WiFi access shall be provided at no charge in selected public places including parks, plazas, public libraries, schools, government hospitals, train stations, airports and seaports, di ba, happy lahat.

All government agencies are instructed to enable their clients to submit applications for coordination, other agencies combined--itaas mo, wala na iyan, ayaw ko ng magsalita, in the national portal. Yes, because it’s our, parang website.

We shall intensify—mainit talaga ako dito, I place it in parity, along the side--we shall intensify our war against human traffickers and illegal recruiters that prey on our people. To help ensure that the hard-earned money of the Filipinos overseas are put into productive use, a mandatory financial education for all migrants and their communities shall be pursued along with incentives to encourage entrepreneurship among them.

And may I now also ask Congress to consider drafting a bill consolidating and merging all agencies and offices having to do with the Overseas Filipinos to have a department that shall focus on and quickly respond to their problems and concerns.

Kailangan mo nang isa. And I have asked—I do not know whether Secretary Bello is here, Bebot? Wala? Absinero talaga iyan. Maski sa--Cabinet meetings, absinero talaga iyan. Gusto ko he will rent, he will lease some buildings very near, for Overseas only. Lagyan mo na--if they will direct all, BIR, lahat na, not just something to do with the clearances of the police in one building, may booth lang. I said, “my God make use of the computer.” So doon lang siya mag-ikot sa isang building, ang Filipino. Hindi na siya pupunta doon sa Statistics, then magpunta diyan sa ano, diyan sa Statistics. Gamitin ninyo ang computer and you can get the results right after. Why do we have to travel to Malate, cope with the traffic, then accomplish only one document at one time.

NBI clearances—doon na ninyo ibigay, lahat na doon na. Kung dapat, kung may awa si Secretary Bello, pakainin iyong mga tao doon, lalo na sa probinsiya. ‘Pag tingin ninyo taga-probinsiya, finish it right away. Make use of the computer. ‘Pag hindi ninyo ginamit iyan, itapon na lang ninyo. Throw away your computers and I understand that. It would take you years to do it. Do the computers. Taas mo na iyan, wala na iyan.

To help avoid squatter-like conditions in relocation sites, they urge utilities like Meralco and electric cooperatives to exercise their corporate social responsibility by making direct connections to relocation camp sites and depressed areas.

Alam mo kung bakit? Hindi na nila nilalagyan diyan, eh. That is why I have to talk to you. Kung bakit ganito, it’s because walang kuryente kapag mahirap ka. You do not own the land. The City Engineer will not—that is my experience 20 years as mayor. Hindi iyan magbibigay ng direct connection, kasi hindi ikaw ang may-ari ng lupa. But that squatters have been there for 20 years. So, mag-connect, connect sila. Pagka connect-connect nila ang gamitin nila iyong wire na pinakamura. So, it overheats because, connect-connect na lang sila kung sinong...minsan magnakaw. You know we have to make the adjustments. It is not for these people to make the corrections because they are not in a position to do it. We have to adjust to the needs of our people. Tatal iyan namang mga nasa iskwaters na iyan, as long as I sit here as President, there will be no demolitions without relocations, letter of affiant. Hindi naman aso iyan na—just like in Davao, I’d like to make a dialogue with the businessmen. “Sir, how much are you investing in this land you have bought with the squatters?” So I bought it at about P60 million. Dagdagan mo ng P20 million, ako na ang bahala. Sabihin ko doon sa mga tao, bili tayo ng relocation site or I will provide”, the government will expropriate. I will make use of its provision power. Ako ganoon ako sa Davao. I have 20 hectares there. I will

expropriate some land there. Iyong malapit lang. Then sabihin ko, “this P20 million will help your journey to a new land.” And I will urge everybody, iyong mga bagong mga factories, doon sila magtayo.

Magtiis-tiis lang muna kayo in the meantime, to mitigate the hardships of these people. That is the only way to do it. Pero instead of demolition, walang matirahan ang tao. Tatal, you sat on your rights for many years, e bakit ngayon pipilitin mo akong magkaproblema ng ganoon? May iba kasi hinahayaan nila for 10, 20 years, they do nothing. And when the time comes na... ipagbili din nila, eh tayo ngayon ang disturbohin. O, di gumastos ka para mas madali, just add a little bit more and there will be at least peace. Pag hindi, wala iyan...fight na naman iyan between government and the...tawag nila, squatters. Squatters naman talaga iyan. Masasaktan lang, mamatay for no reason at all. Eh kung mayaman ka, bigyan mo naman ng konting ano, provide a relocation and I will be glad to talk to the people and say, “go, it is not yours.”

I have directed the concerned regulatory agencies to prioritize the issuance of required permits for power development, okay iyan sa akin. Ang problema, sandali lang ito. Para ka diyan. Iyong mga environmentalist, mayroon tayong ano kasi, marami iyong coal, pati iyong—ito nga, itong energy emissions, wala naman akong problema diyan. But do not tell me na if you—Ambassador ka tapos sabihin mo sa akin na medyo hanggang diyan lang kayo kasi kami hanggang dito din lang kami. Ano? Kayo umabot diyan, you are now in the apex of your industrial might, but along the way, you were the first—America, China, Europe. Kayo bonggang-bongga, until now, it contributes only something point zero.

So if you put so much restrictions doon sa treaty na iyan, the treaty which we are trying to...it’s still here in the Senate. Let us be very clear on this. We need to industrialize. We need the power, and therefore, the emissions would also be considered. I can’t just say it. I established five economic zones here and you start to say that – you have spoken so much, carbon footprints, mahirap iyan. I mean, it’s hard.

I cannot just agree on anything that will delay. I’m only good for six years. I intend to do something during my term. Now, I’m sure that the heavy machineries would come in and even the power. Cheapest is coal. So ito naman locally, you get into trouble with Gina. So, we’ll just talk sa Cabinet na lang. Si Gina naman is a very fine lady, huwag ka lang magsimangot sa harapan niya. Bigyan ka niya ng permit, maski lima. Magsimangot ka, zero. All that she wants is just be gracious to her, that’s all. It’s a matter of talking and explaining with her. But if it is the—you are using

the state-of-the-art technology, and I've seen it several times in the other power plants in this country, if it is really a good one, then we will consider; I said, because we need the energy to power our industrialization.

To strengthen the delivery of social services, the government will intensify its protection programs so it can use its resources and expertise to make a dent in the country's poverty levels.

What we want is genuinely to reduce vulnerabilities of our people, build resiliency and empower individuals, families, and communities.

The beneficiaries of 4Ps shall be made to become independent and self-reliant after they have graduated from the program. We aim to present them with other forms of assistance so that they can stand on their own feet. But now, I have directed the DSWD to provide rice subsidies to the poorest of the families -- at least para makakain lang every month. Iyong sako na ano...

We are planning to increase spending for basic education and incorporate mandatory education about the evils of drugs.

We will also intensify and expand the Alternative Learning System programs. The government will also provide universal health insurance for all Filipinos, benefits...sali na lang natin sa PhilHealth. The professional competence and operational capabilities of government hospitals and health facilities shall be strengthened.

Consistent with our international obligations and in keeping with national mandates, this administration vows to protect women's rights as human rights. Abuses against our women because it is unacceptable...mambubugbog ka ng babae. Thus, I order all agencies, oversight bodies and local government units down to the barangay level to fully implement the Magna Carta for Women. By doing so, we will ensure that man and woman will truly be partners in the pursuit of the country's economic, social, cultural and political development.

To our Lumad brothers -- and they are here, maybe outside...outside, I am sure. I told the security to let them come in if they want. Sa kanila man 'to. To our brothers, I have this to say: The government has issued to you Certificates of Ancestral Domain Title covering vast tracts of land especially in the island of Mindanao. You have the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act, and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples to protect you and to assist you. Government has given you the legal tool to improve yourselves financially, economically and socially. Make use of your

ancestral domain. Do not let it remain idle. While the government is always ready to help you, you must first help yourself. We cannot legislate financial and economic progress for you. It is you and you alone who can do that. You can chart your fate, but do it within constitutional and legal limits.

After being devastated by natural and man-made calamities these past few years, we are still to recover emotionally from the loss of our loved ones, and materially from the loss of our homes and our income sources. There are many among us whose emotional wounds are still fresh and painful to the touch. We cannot erase the images of death and destruction from our minds. We cannot wash away the stench of rotting flesh from our noses. And there are many of us who are still waiting for the help that was promised.

The enormity of the problem of drug addiction has been made manifest by the number of surrenderees which grows by the hundreds each day that passes. Since July 1, we have already made 3,600 drug-related drug arrests. One hundred twenty thousand (120,000) drug dependents have already surrendered and 70,000 of them are pushers. You think this is just a ... it would take the entire resources of this government to fight this war. I have nothing but the interest of my country. But in its wake --because the PDEA says is that -- it's about -- the was a statement made by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

Two years ago, PDEA came out with a statement that there are three million drug addicts in this country. That was two or three years ago. How do you think would the number be incrementally, if we count now? Give it a liberal addition, maybe, gawin mo ng 700,000. So, 3,700,000. The number is quite staggering and scary. The drug lords that you desperately want to strangle are not here. Walang mga bilyonaryo dito. The ones that you catch or are running after, are just the lieutenants. They do it with technology, they're cooking it in the international waters. Tinatapon nila iyan bulto, by the drums, dikitan nila ng GPS, so makikita agad.

We are hard put sa intelligence because they have invented this direct satellite. Hindi na magdadaan yan ng--all they have to do is to triangulate where the--pag-ikot noon. And there's so many--and they are in codes. If we do not get help from our friends here in Asia and America, and Europe--the sheer number and problem, believe me, will drown us as a Republic.

Kayo tingnan ninyo ito. How can I solve the problem now by arresting? Hinahanap--kung matagal na akong Presidente, gusto kong patayin. Ang problema,

pupunta pa ako doon and I'll ask the permission from this country that I will go because I have to slaughter these idiots who are destroying my country. Ganoon iyon eh, hindi lang kasi naintin..., ayaw ko namang bitawan kasi ayaw naman kasi ng military, pati pulis.

But you know, I said, I'll be talking in front of the Republic through its representatives, for the people." So I have to ask you: "How do we solve this problem?," tell me. Ako naman okay lang eh. Make it public, fine. Make it confidential, if you go to me or I go to you, to your house, okay. But that is really the enormity of the problem. It's so enormous that you are intimidated even just to make a move. Because you cannot stop it anyway. Mabunggo mo isa dito, hinulog sa dagat, eh marami namang nagluluto doon.

It's a free for all enterprise for the criminals at this time. Kung ako, if I had just the plan, sabi ko, sabi ko sa military, "kapag nakita ninyo, pasabugin mo na." Maski nag-surrender iyan, may white...white flag, pang-giyera lang yan, hindi yan pang-kriminal, pasabugin mo. Show no mercy to them because they are not doing any mercy to us anyway. Bakit ako mag...iyan ang problema.

But we should not despair. Like someone wrote, "It is when the night is darkest, that dawn breaks."

We are imbued with resiliency that has been tested and proven during more difficult times. As in the past, we have to bond and act together. We have to help each other. For then and only then can we truly prevail.

And the Filipino, disciplined, informed and involved, shall rise from the rubbles of sorrow and pain so much so that all the mirrors of the world will reflect the face of a passion that has changed this land.

Daghang Salamat.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE JOINT SESSION

Thereafter, Senate President Pimentel, on the part of the Senate, and Speaker Alvarez, on the part of the House, declared the joint session adjourned.

It was 5:40 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. CESAR S. PAREJA**
Secretary General