

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Senate

Manila City

Sixteenth Congress

First Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 22

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ARMED FORCES OF
THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL
POLICE FOR THE HEROIC PERFORMANCE OF THEIR
SWORN CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY AS PROTECTORS
OF THE PEOPLE AND THE STATE, AND AS
SENTINELS OF PEACE AND ORDER IN THE
ZAMBOANGA CRISIS

WHEREAS, the Armed Forces of the Philippines is the protector of the people and the State, and that its goal is to secure the sovereignty of the State and the integrity of the national territory:

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Police is responsible for maintaining peace and order, and taking all necessary steps to ensure public safety;

WHEREAS, on 09 September 2013, a crisis erupted in Zamboanga City where a faction of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), reportedly led by Nur Misuari, attempted to raise the flag of the self-proclaimed Bangsamoro Republic at the Zamboanga City Hall, which on 12 August 2013, had declared its independence in Talipao, Sulu;

WHEREAS, this apparent armed incursion resulted into a crisis prompting the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) to face it squarely with the primary objective of freeing the hostages and expelling the MNLF from Zamboanga City;

WHEREAS, sensing that the standoff had degenerated into an urban warfare, placing the entire Zamboanga City into a standstill for days, the AFP and the PNP, especially those military and police personnel deployed in the forefronts bravely and gallantly, battled the MNLF without any reservations despite the imminent loss of life and limb, leading to the freeing of 194 hostages, the death and capture of at least 100 and 223 MNLF fighters, respectively, and the surrender of 52 MNLF combatants;

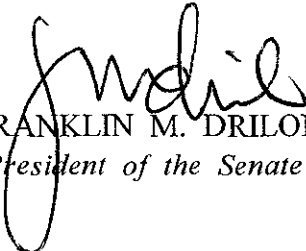
WHEREAS, on 28 September 2013, the Philippine government declared the end of military operations in Zamboanga City albeit the AFP and the PNP still continue with their designated tour of duty to run after the remaining combatants of the MNLF faction and to maintain the gains of peace and order that they have accomplished;

WHEREAS, such display of dedication and commitment to subdue the enemies of the State and to restore peace and order shown by the AFP and the PNP cannot be overstated; it is an accomplishment characterized by the performance of a sworn duty not by its mere utterance or through press statement but by standing by it in an actual battle for country and people, verily, these elements of the AFP and the PNP, the soldiers and the policemen in the Zamboanga crisis, deserve the Senate's commendation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, as it is hereby resolved, To commend the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police for the heroic performance of their sworn constitutional duty as protectors of the people and the State and as sentinels of peace and order in the Zamboanga crisis.


Resolved, further, That a copy of this resolution be given to the concerned officers and men of the AFP and the PNP, and to the bereaved families of those who fought and died in resolving the Zamboanga crisis.

Adopted,



FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate

This Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Senate on January 22, 2014.



OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate