

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE
Res. No. 36

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Introduced by **Senators Gordon and Arroyo**

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE HUMANITARIAN CONTINGENT
IN IRAQ FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY SERVICE**

Whereas, the Philippines responded to the call of rebuilding war-torn Iraq and sent its first Philippine humanitarian contingent of ninety-six (96) brave men and women composed of fifteen (15) personnel from the Department of Health, twenty-six (26) personnel from the Philippine National Police and fifty-five (55) personnel from the Armed Forces of the Philippines to Iraq on the 20th of August 2003;

Whereas, these heroic Filipinos were uprooted from their homes and separated from their families to provide humanitarian service to the people of Iraq;

Whereas, the Philippine humanitarian contingent sacrificed their own welfare, risked their lives and took part in some of the most difficult operations such as the survey of provinces in South Central Iraq, the construction of facilities for water treatment, the reconstruction of school buildings, the construction of village roads, foot bridges and public health centers, and the conduct of various medical and civic action programs benefiting sixteen thousand (16,000) needy people in Iraq;

Whereas, the Philippine humanitarian contingent also served as a distribution arm of relief goods provided by international organizations and the US-led coalition members;

Whereas, the Philippine National Police component of the Philippine humanitarian contingent trained two thousand two hundred sixty-six (2,266) personnel of the new Iraqi police force to serve as border police, law enforcers and national guards once the Iraqi government is instituted;

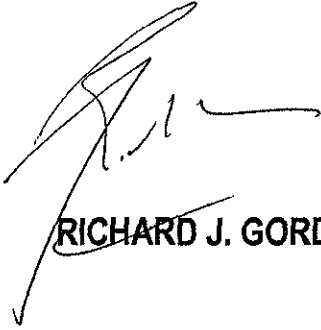
Whereas, the Philippine humanitarian contingent were later reduced from ninety-six (96) to fifty-one (51) personnel and notwithstanding their reduction, they further undertook the task of looking after the welfare of Overseas Filipino Workers in Iraq in addition to their mission;

Whereas, in obedience to a command from the Executive prompted by the taking of Angelo dela Cruz as hostage by terrorists in Iraq, the Philippine humanitarian contingent finally left Iraq on the 19th of July 2004 not because of lack of skill or lack of courage, but only to abide by a lawful order;

Whereas, the Philippine humanitarian contingent served well in Iraq and did our country proud, due recognition must be given them;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved, to commend the Philippine humanitarian contingent in Iraq for their significant contributions to the people of Iraq and their exemplary service to humanity.

Adopted.



RICHARD J. GORDON



JOKER P. ARROYO