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OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 359

RECEIVED BY



Introduced by Senators Miriam Defensor Santiago and Rodolfo G. Biazon

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY
IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE ALLEGED EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES AND OF THE UNITED STATES
OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION ON SUSPECTED TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS
AND THEIR MEMBERS

WHEREAS, in a letter submitted to the members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the Senate Committee on National Defense and Security, B/Gen. Raymundo T. Jarque (Ret.), who served as a consultant of the National Democratic Front (NDF), reported that he and his wife were accosted by the officers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the US Immigration authorities upon their arrival at the airport in Dallas, Texas on 20 September 2005;

WHEREAS, B/Gen. Jarque (Ret.) said in his letter that he was subjected to several hours of interrogation, without benefit of any legal representation; that he and his wife were detained at the city jail in Euless City, Texas, where they were considered "inmates" and treated like common criminals;

WHEREAS, B/Gen. Jarque (Ret.) also said that they were deprived of their personal belongings; they were prohibited to communicate with their daughter, who lives in Texas, until the following day;

WHEREAS, in the course of the interrogation, B/Gen. Jarque (Ret.) was informed that the reason of their detention was the existence of intelligence reports linking him as a member of the NDF, which is linked with the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA), an organization reported to have been included in the "list of foreign terrorist organizations" by the US State Department;

WHEREAS, B/Gen. Jarque (Ret.) further alleged that the US authorities, particularly those under the Department of Homeland Security, are continuously in contact with the Philippine National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and other intelligence organizations for the purpose of exchanging information on suspected terrorist organizations and its members;

WHEREAS, there is a need to define the nature of the information which is allegedly being shared between the government of the Philippines and of the United States;

WHEREAS, there is also a need to define the criteria by which intelligence agencies draw up intelligence reports, recognizing the global concern against international terrorism while giving due respect to individual human rights;

WHEREAS, the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the Senate Committee on National Defense and Security should look into these allegations, not only to verify the illegal and inhuman treatment of a Filipino citizen by officials of a foreign country, but also to clarify certain national security concerns in relation to the alleged exchange of intelligence information between the two countries on the subject of terrorism.

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the Senate Committee on National Defense and Security to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the alleged exchange between the government of the Philippines and of the United States of intelligence information on suspected terrorist organizations and their members.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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RODOLFO G. BIAZON