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SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. 363

Senator JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR,
EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN
INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MURDER OF
HACIENDA LUISITA LABOR LEADER RICARDO RAMOS

WHEREAS, Ricardo Ramos, 47, president of the Central Azucarera de
Tarlac Labor Union (Catlu), was gunned down on October 25, 2005 while he was
with his friends in a hut near his house in Barangay Mapalacsiao, Tarlac City;

WHEREAS, the village, which Ramos heads as barangay captain, is within
Hacienda Luisita, a 5,000-hectare estate owned by the family of former President
Corazon Cojuangco Aquino;

WHEREAS, around 700 mill workers of the Catlu and 5,000
cane/plantation workers belonging to the United Luisita Labor Union (UWLU)
went on simultaneous strike on November 6, 2004 which halted the operations of
Hacienda Luisita, the sugar plantation, and Central Azucarera de Tarlac (CAT),
the hacienda's sugar mill;

WHEREAS, this recent incident has only exacerbated an already tense
situation within the Hacienda Luisita area not to mention sporadic incidents of
violence related to the ongoing labor dispute;

WHEREAS, the media has disclosed that the Chief of the PNP Task Force investigating the incident has linked several members of the military to the killing;

WHEREAS, various groups including those from the labor sector and even a former Philippine President have demanded that an investigation be done in earnest in order to bring those responsible for the brutal murder to justice:
Now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, directing the Senate Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development and other appropriate Senate committees to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the murder of Hacienda Luisita labor leader Ricardo Ramos.

Adopted,


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator