13th Congress of the Republic) of the Philippines) Third Regular Session)

7 JAN 29 P7:48

SENATE S. Res. No. **614**

NECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE SINCE DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE TO INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES BARRING IRISH MISSIONARY FR. FRANK NALLY FROM ENTERING THE PHILIPPINES

Whereas, Section 1, Article III of the 1987 Constitution provides that "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws;"

Whereas, on 05 January 2007, Fr. Frank Nally, head of the Solidarity Desk of the Columban Fathers in the United Kingdom was deported from the Philippines hours after arriving at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA);

Whereas, without any explanation, he was held at the airport security office overnight, where immigration officials confiscated his passport, interrogated him and prevented him from making any phone calls. The next day, he was compelled to board a plane bound for Hongkong;

Whereas, prior to this incident, Fr. Nally took part in a British funded fact-finding commission that looked into extrajudicial killings and harmful mining activities in Mindanao led by Member of the British Parliament Clare Short, who once served as Secretary of State for International Development under the Cabinet of Prime Minister Tony Blair, in July 2006;

Whereas, Fr. Nally also wrote to Prime Minister Tony Blair, requesting the government of the United Kingdom to protest the escalating rate of extra-judicial murders currently plaguing the country;

Whereas, as a former parish priest of Midsalip, Zamboanga del Sur, he continues to protect the interests of the parishioners against the harmful effects of extensive mining and logging on their ancestral domain;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Appropriate Senate Committee to inquire, in aid of legislation, into the circumstances barring Irish missionary Fr. Frank Nally from entering the Philippines;

Adopted,

AOUILINO Q. PIMENTEL, JR.