


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

8 MAR 10 1955

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P. S. Res. No. 322

Introduced by Senator Biazon

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPACT OF THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF THE EAST AND NORTH TRIANGLE AREAS IN QUEZON CITY ON THE VETERANS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER.

Whereas, The Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) was constructed by virtue of US Public Law 865 of July 1, 1948 *"to assist the Republic of the Philippines in providing medical care and treatment for veterans ... who are in need of hospitalization for disabilities, determined by the Veterans Administration under laws which it administers to be connected with the service described in such section, the President is authorized, subject to the provisions of this Act, to furnish aid in the form of grants to the Republic of the Philippines (a) for the construction and equipping of hospitals in the Philippines to be used exclusively for such medical care and treatment and (b) for expenses incident to such medical care and treatment in either the hospital, so constructed and equipped or other hospitals in the Philippines..."*

Whereas, On June 7, 1949, the law was implemented by virtue of the *"Agreement Between The Government Of The United States Of America And The Government Of The Republic Of The Philippines On The Construction And Equipping Of Hospital For Veterans And The Provision Of Medical Care And Treatment Of Veterans By The Government Of The Philippines, And The Furnishing Of Grants-In-Aid Thereof By The Government Of The United States Of America;"*

Whereas, On February 22, 1950, then President Elpidio Quirino issued Proclamation No. 169 which withdrew *"from sale or settlement and reserve for Veterans Hospital site purposes under the administration of the Philippine Veterans Affairs, subject to private rights, if any there be, certain parcel of land belonging to the private domain of the Government, situated in the District of Diliman, Quezon City..."*

Whereas, Subject land is a part of a property owned by the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation (now the National Housing Authority);

Whereas, The construction of the hospital was started in 1952 at a cost of US\$9.4 Million and was inaugurated on November 20, 1955;

Whereas, On November 22, 1982, then President Marcos issued Proclamation No. 2244 entitled *"Amending Presidential Proclamation No. 169 Dated 22 February 1950, By Transferring And Vesting Ownership Over The Land On Which The Veterans Memorial Medical Center Is Situated From The National Housing Authority To The Veterans Memorial Medical Center At No Cost;"*

Whereas, On May 4, 2007, President Arroyo issued Executive Order No. 620 entitled *"Rationalizing And Speeding Up The Development Of The East And North Triangles And The Veterans Memorial Area Of Quezon City, As A Well-Planned, Integrated And Environmentally Balanced Mixed-Use Development Model,"* which created the Urban Triangle Development Commission (Tri Dev Commission)

Whereas, EO 620 was amended by Executive Order No. 620-A dated September 11, 2007 and entitled *"Expanding The Composition Of The Urban Triangle Development Commission And Clarifying Its Structure And Functions, Thereby Amending Executive Order No. 620, Series Of 2007;"*

Whereas, Under Executive Order No 620-A, The Tri Dev Commission was tasked to: *"(a) cause the preparation of the Master Development Plan for the 250 hectare area of the QC-CBD for the purpose of transforming this into a well-planned, integrated and environmentally-balanced, mixed-use development;"* and *"(b) manage, control and direct the implementation of the master development plan;"*

Whereas, While the area of development concerned covers the area where the VMMC is presently situated, neither the Department of National Defense nor a representative of veterans or veterans organizations, is represented in the Tri Dev Commission and thus are not being consulted on the matter;

Whereas, The Secretary of National Defense issued Department Order No. 31 on February 8, 2008 for the creation of a Technical Working Group (TWG) on the proposed Quezon City Central Business District as *"this proposed development can result to dislocation of the VMMC, its facilities and its veteran clients;"*

Whereas, According to reports, interested investors have already gone on an ocular inspection of the area creating anxiety among the hospital staff and patients as to the fate of the hospital;

Whereas, Several veterans organizations are alarmed over these developments as it affects their welfare, including those of their dependents and are asking: (1) Who owns the land where the VMMC is situated?; (2) What will happen to the VMMC?; (3) Will it be transferred?; (4) If yes, where will it be transferred?; (5) What is the time frame of such a transfer, if there is any?;

Whereas, Article XVI, Section 7 of the 1987 Constitution provides: *"The State shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans..."* Now therefore, Be It Resolved, As It Is hereby Resolved,

By The Senate, To Direct The Committee On National Defense And Security And Other Appropriate Committees To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation, On The Impact Of The Planned Development Of The East And North Triangle Areas In Quezon City On The Veterans Memorial Medical Center.

Adopted,



RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Senator