

SENATE

P.S. Resolution No. 1389

11/11/09



---

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

---

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND HONORING THE LIVES OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS VENANCIO ANCHETA AND CORPORAL ADRIANO REGUA OF THE PHILIPPINE ARMY, AND THEIR COMRADES, FOR THEIR HEROIC PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES IN RESCUING THE VICTIMS OF TYPHOON ONDOY IN LAGUNA, SACRIFICING THEIR OWN LIVES IN THE COURSE, THUS BRINGING HONOR TO MILITARY SERVICE AND PRIDE OF HEROISM OF FILIPINOS

**WHEREAS**, Private First Class Venancio Ancheta, a 27-year old native of Upper Calarian, Zamboanga City, is a member of the Alpha Company of the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, Philippine Army;

**WHEREAS**, during the onslaught of Typhoon Ondoy last September 26, 2009, PFC Ancheta was among those who were tasked to rescue trapped residents in Barangay Tunhac, Famy, Laguna;

**WHEREAS**, PFC Ancheta braved the rampaging floodwater and returned several times to the flooded grounds to bring stranded residents to safer area;

**WHEREAS**, as he was carrying a man on his back to cross the floodwater, a log struck him, making him struggle through the waters with more difficulty;

**WHEREAS**, he managed to bring the man down to a safe area just before he was swept away by the current;

**WHEREAS**, his body was recovered last the following morning in Famy, Laguna;

**WHEREAS**, PFC Ancheta was able to rescue twenty (20) people in all;

**WHEREAS**, PFC Ancheta's team was able to save more than 600 individuals during the said rescue mission;

**WHEREAS**, for his ultimate sacrifice of offering his life for the sake of others, the Armed Forces of the Philippines bestowed to PFC Ancheta the Bronze Cross Medal Award (posthumous) along with his posthumous promotion to corporal;

**WHEREAS**, in another area in Laguna that morning of September 26, 2009, a team of Citizens' Armed Forces Geographical Unit led by Corporal Adriano Regua, a member of the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion's Alpha Company and detachment commander of the Philippine Army response team, went on a rescue operation in Mabitac, Laguna at the height of Typhoon Ondoy;

**WHEREAS**, CPL Regua's team is composed of Artemio Descotido and Civilian Active Auxiliary members Joel Hernalin, Ireneo Olaguer, Florencio Dequinio and Pedro Monte Falcon;

**WHEREAS**, the team was traversing the 700 kilometers stretch of waist-deep flood to rescue trapped residents when the water suddenly rose and a sudden surge of flashflood swept them away;

**WHEREAS**, CPL Regua attempted to rescue one of his men but both were swept away by the current;

**WHEREAS**, the remains of CPL Regua and the four militiamen were recovered in Barangay Nanguma in Mabitac the following morning;

**WHEREAS**, the team successfully saved 200 residents in the area;

**WHEREAS**, CPL Regua was awarded the Bronze Cross Medal and was posthumously promoted to Sergeant during his interment at the Haven of Rest in Tanay, Rizal;

**WHEREAS**, PFC Ancheta and CPL Regua, well aware of the dangers they were facing when they went on their mission to rescue victims of Typhoon Ondoy, selflessly and effectively fulfilled their duties, to the extent of sacrificing their own lives to save the people they pledged to serve;

**WHEREAS**, together with PFC Ancheta and CPL Regua, the other members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines who may have died or survived, but who all risked their lives to save their fellowmen deserve the accolades of the Filipino nation;

**WHEREAS**, their heroic feat embodies their love of their country and love of their people, their noble expression of gallantry and valour, thus serving as an inspiration to their comrades;

**WHEREAS**, the ultimate sacrifice of PFC Ancheta and CPL Regua to the service of their people merited the admiration, respect and gratitude not only of the persons they saved but of the entire country and the international community, as well;

**RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to commend and honor the lives of Private First Class Venancio Ancheta and Corporal Adriano Regua of the Philippine Army for their heroic performance of their duties in rescuing the victims of Typhoon Ondoy in Laguna, sacrificing their own lives in the course, thus bringing honor to military service and pride of heroism of Filipinos.

*Adopted,*

  
JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator