

Senate Office of the Secretary

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
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SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1160



Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID  
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED EXPLOSION THAT KILLED ONE INMATE  
AND HURT 19 OTHERS IN THE NATIONAL BILIBID PRISON

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 provides, "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star* on 9 January 2015 reported that an inmate was killed while 19 others were wounded when a grenade exploded inside the maximum security compound of the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa on 8 January;

WHEREAS, prison authorities had just concluded a search inside the nine-hectare prison facility when an unidentified prisoner allegedly lobbed a fragmentation grenade at the dormitory of the Commando Gang;

WHEREAS, probers are pursuing reports that the target of the attack was Jaybee Sebastian, who was supposed to be among the prisoners transferred to the National Bureau of Investigation detention facility;

WHEREAS, at least 17 other prisoners were hurt and rushed to the NBP hospital while Lacdao and Cruz were brought to Mandaluyong hospital for treatment of their sharpnel wounds;

WHEREAS, Bureau of Corrections director Franklin Bucayu believes the incident had something to do with their intensified campaign against contraband and illegal activities inside the national penitentiary;

WHEREAS, the explosion comes amid other scandals hounding the NBP, including the lavish lifestyle of some inmates in the maximum security prison, the alleged proliferation of illegal drugs, and the sexual assault on a visiting minor;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for Congress to look into the problems in the jail system in order to properly address these issues through relevant legislation;

WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported explosion that killed one inmate and hurt 19 others in the National Bilibid Prison.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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