

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1194

RECEIVED BY: *J.*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RECENT COMMISSION ON AUDIT (COA) REPORT
QUESTIONING THE REGISTRATION AND OWNERSHIP OF VEHICLES USED BY THE
PHILIPPINE ARMY IN 2013

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27, provides: "The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption";

WHEREAS, the Constitution also states in Article 2, Section 28: "Subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest";

WHEREAS, the Commission on Audit (COA) in its recently released report for 2013 questioned the registration and ownership of hundreds of vehicles used by the Philippine Army;

WHEREAS, state auditors claimed that 484 motor vehicles with total value of ₱95.58 million used by the Army Headquarters and six field units for its operations were registered under the name of private persons, Army personnel and a private company;

WHEREAS, the COA said this led to uncertainty about the ownership of the vehicles, and may result in the risk of loss of government resources;

WHEREAS, state auditors also found irregular ₱9.47 million out of the ₱10.21 million expenses for the registration of 567 military trucks in 2012 and 2013;

WHEREAS, the COA said these were supported with official receipts and certificates of registration that are considered spurious because they were not among the official forms printed for the exclusive use of the Land Transportation Office (LTO);

WHEREAS, the Army, a key agency for national security, should be rid of corruption;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, must improve transparency and accountability in the Armed Forces;

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 recent Commission on Audit (COA) report questioning the registration and ownership of vehicles used by the Philippine Army in 2013.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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