



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

# Journal

**SESSION NO. 27**  
Wednesday, September 28, 2016

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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Wednesday, September 28, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:16 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

The Body observed a minute of silent prayer.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Lutgardo B. Barbo, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Aquino, P. B. IV B.	Lacson, P. M.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Legarda, L.
De Lima, L. M.	Pangilinan, F. N.
Drilon, F. M.	Pimentel III, A. K.
Ejercito, J. V. G.	Poe, G.
Gatchalian, W.	Recto, R. G.
Gordon, R. J.	Sotto III, V. C.
Honasan, G. B.	Trillanes, IV, A. F.
Hontiveros, R.	

With 17 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Angara, Pacquiao, Villanueva and Zubiri arrived after the roll call.

Senator Villar, who was on official mission “as guest speaker in the inauguration of the Breast Care Cancer at the East Avenue Medical Center in Quezon City,” also arrived after the roll call.

Senator Cayetano was on official mission abroad “as part of the official delegation to accompany President Duterte in a state visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.”

Senator Escudero was also on official mission as indicated in the letter of the Senator’s chief political officer dated September 28, 2016.

**APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 26 (September 27, 2016) and considered it approved.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests:

- New Generation International School – Grade 11 students headed by Dr. Emmanuel Ramos;

- Students of the Luis Aguado National High School headed by Mr. Ellen G. Lopez and Ms. Chona G. Reyes;
- Mayor Josh Edward Cobangbang and Councilor Jemaima Tan Yee of Cabugao, Ilocos Sur;
- The Technological University of the Philippines Manila – Bachelor of Science in Computer Science students headed by Mr. Niño Melchor;
- Mr. Nicholas Luyet, head of the Strengthening Movement Coordination and Cooperation (SMCC), International Committee of the Red Cross;
- Mr. Nelson Castaño, the Disaster Management head of the Asia Pacific International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;
- Pascal Porchet, head of delegation, International Red Cross;
- Kari Isomaa, head of delegation, International Federation of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Societies in the Philippines;
- Polytechnic University of the Philippines – Sto. Tomas, Batangas Branch Alumni Association; and
- Prof. Jovar Pantao, Al Jedidiah Panuncillo and Kenneth Garcia, the Philippine Representatives to the International Linguistic Conference in Indonesia.

Senate President Pimentel welcomed the guests to the Senate.

#### REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary of the Senate read the following matters and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

#### BILL ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 1172, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO INFORMATION HELD BY THE GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONALIZING OPEN DATA GOVERNANCE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

**To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; Civil Service, Government**

#### Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

#### RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 171, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “JUVENILE JUSTICE WELFARE ACT OF 2006” WITH THE END IN VIEW OF FURTHER STRENGTHENING CURRENT LEGISLATION PROVIDING INTERVENTIONS AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW AND ENSURE THAT LEGISLATIVE MEASURES ARE IN PLACE AGAINST PROPOSALS TO LOWER THE MINIMUM AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY (MACR) FROM FIFTEEN (15) TO NINE (9) YEARS OLD

Introduced by Senator Leila M. de Lima

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 172, entitled

RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM PERLAS PILIPINAS FOR CLINCHING THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE 2016 SEABA WOMEN’S CHAMPIONSHIP IN MALACCA CITY IN MALAYSIA

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committee on Rules**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 173, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COM-

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MITTEE ON EDUCATION, ARTS  
AND CULTURE TO CONDUCT AN  
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,  
ON THE PROPER EDUCATION AND  
DEVELOPMENT OF RESPONSIBLE  
SOCIAL MEDIA USE IN SCHOOLS

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam"  
Aquino IV

**To the Committee on Education, Arts and  
Culture**

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION**

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4, entitled

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION GRANT-  
ING CONSENT TO SENATOR  
FRANKLIN M. DRILON TO ACCEPT  
THE GRAND CORDON OF ORDER  
OF THE RISING SUN TO BE  
CONFERRED UPON HIM BY THE  
GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

Introduced by Senator Sotto III

**To the Committee on Rules**

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4**

With the permission of the Body, upon motion of  
Senator Sotto, the Body considered Senate Concurrent  
Resolution No. 4, entitled

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION GRANT-  
ING CONSENT TO SENATOR  
FRANKLIN M. DRILON TO ACCEPT  
THE GRAND CORDON OF ORDER  
OF THE RISING SUN TO BE  
CONFERRED UPON HIM BY THE  
GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules  
of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon  
motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the concurrent  
resolution was read without prejudice to the insertion  
of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

The Chair recognized Senator Sotto for the  
sponsorship.

**SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR SOTTO**

Senator Sotto stated that Senate Concurrent  
Resolution No. 4 seeks to grant consent to Senate  
President Pro Tempore Drilon to accept the Grand  
Cordon of Order of the Rising Sun, one of the  
highest awards conferred upon foreign nationals in  
the name of the Emperor of Japan, which shall be  
conferred upon him by the Government of Japan in  
recognition of his relentless efforts to strengthen  
the Filipino-Japanese relationship which helped the  
country obtain the relevant assistance from Japan  
and helped ease visa restrictions on Filipino nationals.

He explained that the grant of consent was in  
compliance with Section 8 of Article IX(B) of the  
Constitution, to wit:

"Sec. 8. No elective or appointive public  
officer or employee shall receive ... nor accept  
without the consent of Congress, any present,  
emolument, office or title of any kind from any  
foreign government."

**ADOPTION OF CONCURRENT  
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no  
objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4 was  
adopted by the Body.

**REMARKS OF SENATOR DRILON**

Senator Drilon expressed his heartfelt thanks and  
appreciation to the Body for granting consent to him,  
through Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4, to accept  
the Grand Cordon of Order of the Rising Sun which  
will be conferred upon him by the Emperor of Japan.

For his part, Senate President Pimentel congra-  
tulated Senator Drilon for the honor bestowed upon  
him by the Japanese Government.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Sotto acknowledged the  
presence in the gallery of Mayor Alfredo Batugas  
Coro, Jr. of the Municipality of Del Carmen, Siargao  
Island, Surigao Del Norte.

Senate President Pimentel welcomed the guests  
to the Senate.

*MS MK*



*At this juncture, Senate President Pimentel relinquished the Chair to Senate President Pro Tempore Drilon.*

#### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR GORDON**

Availing himself of the privilege hour, Senator Gordon in his speech, entitled "A Country of Missed Opportunities," talked about the opportunities that were wasted particularly in Subic Naval Base which he helped get back to its feet after being devastated by the eruption of Mount Pinatubo and helped salvage what were left of the facilities after the Americans vacated the naval base. He lamented that following the departure of the Americans, the naval base was neglected, grasses practically were allowed to grow.

Senator Gordon said that the rejection of the RP-US Bases Agreement created a time clock that allowed the Philippine government to provide the alternatives to what were left by the Americans. He pointed out that at that time there was a national responsibility and duty on the part of the Filipinos to ensure that no considerable embarrassment would happen again, especially with the debacle in Clark Field at the height of the Mount Pinatubo eruption where spoliation and robbery were committed by both the departing American soldiers and some Filipinos. To prevent another embarrassment in the US facility in Subic, he narrated that the people of Subic, some of whom came from as far as Mindanao, volunteered and made immediate preparations, and they worked to make sure that the dignity of the country would be maintained; they cut grass in homes that do not belong to them, guarded the airport, and ran the power system for a while, among other volunteer works. He stated that a lot was expected from the people of Olongapo, adding that he even learned that the Americans were upset after losing their premier base.

Senator Gordon informed the Body that Olongapo and Subic are about to celebrate the 24<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the turnover of the Subic Bay facility which shall culminate on November 24. He recalled that as then Mayor of Olongapo, President Ramos appointed him to handle the transition of the facilities and that Senator Drilon was there to witness the turnover which was also attended by US Ambassador Solomon.

Senator Gordon said that at that time, there were concerns that the country would miss another opportunity to do something about the Subic naval

facility during the transition to a commercial facility, as he recalled the missed opportunities in the past, including:

- neglect of a railroad built in 1896 spanning North all the way to Bicol in the South;
- the unfulfilled plan to convert Sangley Point, turned over in 1971, into a freeport, seaport or airport; and
- an air force that ceased to become a force when the Americans left.

Senator Gordon said that when he took the reigns of Subic in September 1992, they were perturbed, but with the firm vision and commitment of thousands of volunteers, they were able to protect and preserve the facility. It even prospered, he said.

Senator Gordon mentioned the Naval Air Station at Cubi Point, one of the American facilities left behind in Subic with US\$8 billion worth of infrastructure, which was then called Admiral Radford's folly because it was a folly on the part of the Americans to move more earth to create an airfield which was more cumbersome than how the Panama Canal was built; nevertheless, the base was made even more robust in terms of strategic interest to both the United States and the Philippines such that when the turnover occurred, it was like a house on fire as coastal petroleum came in right away and became a strategic reserve to the Philippines as it was equivalent to a supply of oil for 26 days.

He said that with the help of the volunteers, he also took over the power plant and gave it to Enron, and in less than a year, a power plant was built in Subic Bay, paving the creation of jobs. Shortly thereafter, he said, more companies from Taiwan and Japan came in. He mentioned that even Vincent Siew, the Minister of Economic Affairs of Taiwan who later became the vice president of Taiwan, committed 300 hectares which became the site of the biggest Acer Company outside Taiwan. He said that Hitachi and many other companies also followed and came in.

Acknowledging the crucial role of tourism in economic development, Senator Gordon said that domestic tourism was promoted first and later the airport was tested when, sometime in the '90s, then Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten asked him if the Subic airport can bring in a 747 aircraft and he



replied, "Governor, it is like Kai Tak." To his surprise, he said, a 747 plane landed, and in every few minutes, others came in until 14 airplanes of Boeing 747s and DC-10s landed. He said that he later discovered that the airplanes coming in from abroad were diverted to Subic due to a plane crash which occurred at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. He said that the Subic airport was not prepared as they had a very small airport terminal but again, volunteers came over to pick up suitcases, buses were borrowed from Victory Liner, and the passengers were brought to the barracks that were abandoned by the Americans.

He disclosed that he also tried talking to DHL and UPS but they were not listening, until he remembered Frederick W. Smith, owner of FedEx who previously served as shore patrol officer in Subic during the Vietnam War. Ultimately, he said, Fred Smith, a legend in business school in the US, saw the potential of the airport and FedEx Corporation was launched, and to accommodate FedEx heavy-laden aircraft, the runway had to be re-converged and refitted as it was built for fighter jets. Using money borrowed from World Bank, he said that in 29 weeks, the airport was finished, including the brand-new airport terminal which was made ready for the APEC Summit which President Fidel Ramos asked him to handle. He added that the jet plane hangar was transformed into a spanking, nice and shiny international airport terminal good for 70 passengers.

Also at that time, he said that more chartered flights from Taiwan, Malaysia and Hong Kong were brought in — Grand Air, Dragon Air and Air Asia — with 26 flights a week running at various times, and later Philippine Airlines and other US flights along with the FedEx planes also came in, totaling to 18 flights of 747s every night. He said that these achievements amazed the whole world and he was very proud of the volunteers.

Senator Gordon stated that the transformation of Subic was under way until, in a sudden twist of events, FedEx left. He disclosed that at the time FedEx came in, a first-class radar, ASR-9 was established, an instrument landing system (ILS) and a transponder landing system (TLS) were brought in. All told, he said, \$31 million and another \$12 million or a total of \$43 million from the World Bank was spent. He said that after several years, the World Bank loan was paid because the airport was making money.

Senator Gordon stated that he availed of the privilege hour to express his lament over the loss of everything that they worked hard for — nobody bothered anymore to promote Subic as an airport; chartered flights stopped; the FedEx logistics hub, number one outside of the United States, is gone. What a shame, he said, that the only aircraft landing in Subic today are the Cessna flights flown by Indian pilots for their training.

Setting aside the \$8-billion facility left by the Americans, the almost \$45 million sale, the sacrifices of the volunteers, Senator Gordon stated that what pained him was that despite the slew of infrastructure being built and would have created an economic boom — NLEX, Olongapo-Gapan Highway and now the TPLEX — the people never benefitted from them; worse, the ASR-9 was stolen, the ILS was cannibalized, no more aircraft landing in Subic.

He lamented that Subic and Clark add up to the highway of missed opportunities which the Philippines became famous for, notwithstanding the fact that when airline problems occur in Manila, planes were diverted to Clark airport. He mentioned a letter from his friends from Qatar who told him of an instance when they were made to stay inside the aircraft for nine hours and that even former tourism undersecretary Oscar Palabyab, whose flight was diverted to Clark International Airport instead of Subic airport, lamented that these situations have brought reputational damage to the country, big time.

Senator Gordon said that he was never taught the words "*sayang*," "*kasi*," or "*kung*," that was why he, along with the thousands of volunteers, did their best to transform Subic. But lamentably, he said, this was never sustained and Subic lost its glory. At least, he stated that Ayala Land, which is establishing a community in Porac, Pampanga, might be able to compete with the airports of Hong Kong and Singapore, a small city-state just the size of Subic, which has one of the best airports in the world.

Once again, Senator Gordon lamented that the Philippines is at the crossroads for letting grass grow underneath its feet which is embarrassing because the country is supposed to live by its God-given potential.

Thereupon, he asked everyone to exercise their free will to do what is right, saying that apparently, people are guilty of complacency. He said that the



people's mindset must be to do something. "We must wake up and shake ourselves to reality," he stated.

At this juncture, Senator Gordon expressed his intention to investigate not only the people who committed malfeasance, misfeasance or non-feasance; but to ensure that the people would be given a choice. While poverty is the absence of choice, leaders and legislators should create choices for the people—to give them better education and provide jobs, he emphasized.

He enjoined his fellow senators from Central and Northern Luzon—Senators Villanueva, Angara, Aquino and Pangilinan, to create a bright future for the region and for the country which is better than investigating extrajudicial killings. He reminded the Chamber to focus on employment generation, investment generation and opportunity-building.

Senator Gordon believed that people, like the volunteers, can be active participants in improving the freeport. Rather than spend time on scandalous issues that pander to the media, he called on his colleagues to be watchful and analytical and to focus on opportunity-building and on positive efforts. As an example, he said that before ending his stint as SBMA chairperson, he had put up a marble monument in recognition of the 28,000 SBMA volunteers who worked to keep the vision of their forefathers alive and to bring public attention to people who do the right things.

He urged his colleagues to help make a brighter future for the country by looking into these missed economic opportunities, not coming out with just negativism but finding a way to address the issues through the national budget.

Moreover, Senator Gordon underscored the need for government to generate well-paying jobs and stop contractualization or "endo" which many job seekers take on due to lack of opportunities.

In closing, he urged the Senate to put country before self lest there be more missed opportunities for the country. He ended with a quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson:

*Not gold but only men can make  
A people great and strong;  
Men who for truth and honor's sake  
Stand fast and suffer long.*

*Brave men who work while others sleep,  
Who dare while others fly...  
They build a nation's pillars deep  
And lift them to the sky.*

#### MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto associated himself with the intent and content of the privilege speech of Senator Gordon.

#### MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR GORDON

Senator Gordon informed the Body that aside from the Red Cross delegates who were present at the day's session, four officials of the organization are also senators, namely, Senator Zubiri as the vice chairperson of the Philippine Red Cross, Senator Gatchalian as board member, and Senator Villar as Las Piñas Red Cross member.

#### INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR ZUBIRI

Preliminarily, Senator Zubiri pointed out that Subic is one of the crown jewels of the government's infrastructure program for Central Luzon and that, in fact, he had supported Senator Gordon in his efforts to develop the area through the Subic-Clark-NAIA corridor. He acknowledged that Subic grew because of visionary leadership, one who has passion and vision which is personified by Senator Gordon.

Asked how important to have the right people to manage government-owned and controlled corporations like the SBMA, Senator Gordon replied that visionary leadership is vital to these institutions because it is better to know where one is going and not know how, than to know how one is going and not know where he is headed. He believed that the solution to the problem is to stop appointing to these positions, people who merely want the title but not the responsibility that goes with it. He stressed that what are needed are people who have a shared vision, values, sacrifices and triumphs which would serve as a driving force for positive change and have the integrity to do what is right.

At this juncture, Senate President Pro Tempore Drilon asked on the identity of the new chairperson of the SBMA. Senator Gordon confirmed hearing the name of Martin Diño, a member of the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption.

Asked what credentials Mr. Diño has, Senator Gordon replied that the President would know better

*Not MS*



than to choose someone who cannot promote the SBMA to the economic and business capitals of the world. He said that he would advise President Duterte to appoint someone who is a resident of the area or had volunteered at the freeport because it would be risky doing otherwise.

For his part, Senator Zubiri said that Mr. Diño is a friend. However, he said that he would like to see a professional at the helm of the SBMA because it is one of the four freeports in the country which could be marketed like Macau, Singapore or Hong Kong. He believed that the SBMA needs a manager who is also a tourism expert that can market the freeport around the world and persuade businessmen to relocate their companies to the area.

Senator Gordon clarified that while he considers Mr. Diño a friend, more important to consider is that the chairman of the SBMA should have the qualities described by Senator Zubiri. He pointed out that an active Subic airport would need a good airport manager, and that the freeport head should follow the master plan and take the necessary steps to make the SBMA attractive to tourists and investors. He stressed that his speech on learning from the lessons of Subic and from missed opportunities was applicable to the Clark economic zone as well. He believed that it was important for the Senate to influence and support these areas so that they could provide investment opportunities for everyone.

Recalling his own visits to the freeport when Senator Gordon was the chairman, Senator Zubiri said that Subic was then the hottest spot in Luzon as a tourist and shopping destination as it had many duty free outlets, dining establishments, recreational facilities, including the Subic Bay Yacht Club. However, he lamented that the area is now known only for its quarterly auction of trucks, buses and other vehicles. He expressed hope that the new administration would act to achieve inclusive growth by making more centers of progress outside of Metro Manila which is beset with a mammoth traffic problem. He added that even several friends who purchased homes in Subic expecting to put up businesses there eventually moved back to Manila.

Senator Zubiri emphasized that what Subic needs is visionary leadership – a man who can run the freeport like a tight ship and ensure that there is no smuggling since freeports like Subic are a gateway for smuggling of various products. Senator Gordon agreed.

On another matter, Senator Gordon told an anecdote about what transpired when the Americans took out the bowling lanes at the freeport because they were bitter at having to leave Subic. He recalled the time when he spoke to an official at the US State Department in Washington asking if it was possible for the US to leave the bowling lanes in Subic, only to be told that the Philippines was no longer among the top performing economies in the region. He said that he nonetheless was able to build a state-of-the-art bowling lane in Subic through private sector investments.

On the matter of smuggling, Senator Gordon stressed the importance of hiring someone with integrity. He said that the President should tarry a little and be very careful with the appointments.

Senator Gordon said that in Central Luzon, specifically in Subic and Clark, there are two seaports and three airports, in fact, four seaports including Mariveles and Batangas, servicing the area. In addition, he mentioned the plan of businessman Manny Pangilinan to come up with a shortcut from the NLEX to the SLEX, all the way to Batangas. He said that if all the plans would be put together, it would be easy to attract employment and investments into the area, noting that development was swift in Calabarzon because of the availability of land.

Senator Gordon also pointed out the need to come up with a sound infrastructure in Central and Northern Luzon. In this regard, he disclosed that he would be filing a bill to establish a railway system in Pampanga instead of Manila because there are no-right-of-way problems with Subic to Clark. He said that the railroads could provide employment to the people and that the project could be replicated in other areas of the country like Cebu where there is a lot of traffic.

Senator Gordon noted that there are some local government executives like Mayor Pidiong Zayco of Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental who has taken the initiative to construct a runway in his province. He also cited Senator Drilon who spearheaded the Iloilo airport project that paved the way for the establishment of a highway and a convention center in the province. He underscored that infrastructure with investments would provide jobs, opportunities and sustainability to a particular area.

Senator Gordon said that he would no longer discuss the matter of tourism, or of its failure because



of the reputational damage that has already been done. He said that he would rather fix the problem than put the blame on anyone.

Senator Zubiri expressed hope that the administration of President Duterte would choose wisely the people who would manage the operation of Subic SBMA and Clark because these are the crown jewels of the development of Central Luzon and could potentially decongest Manila. He lamented that it would be such a waste of opportunity if these offices are mismanaged.

Senator Gordon cited the Bataan Economic Zone in Mariveles as another example of a dying economic enterprise because of mismanagement until it was converted into a freeport. He recalled debating with former President Aquino when he was still senator and how Senator Enrile opposed it initially. He said presently, the Bataan freeport hosts a *Coach* bag factory, with about 6,000 employees, and the people of Bataan are happy about it.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR VILLANUEVA**

At the outset, Senator Villanueva congratulated Senator Drilon for the distinguished Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun that would be conferred upon him by the Japanese government.

Senator Villanueva recalled that when he was still a student of economics in the University of Santo Tomas in the '90s, he wrote then SBMA Chairman Gordon to be a guest of the UST Economic Society which the latter gladly accepted. He said that he could not forget that day because Senator Gordon decided to go to UST by helicopter and he and the other officers of the EcoSoc had to get a permit from the Manila city hall. He said that apart from that incident, he would never forget how Chairman Gordon talked about the opportunities being enjoyed by the Philippines, particularly in Central Luzon. He pointed out that Subic was such a great testimony of what the country has accomplished through the leadership of then Chairman Gordon. He said that he had fond memories of Subic as a young man and hearing Senator Gordon talk about Subic made him remember the pleasant experiences. He added that visiting Subic was the "in" thing at that time.

Asked by Senator Villanueva whether leadership problems, the Asian financial crisis or the

Mount Pinatubo eruption caused Subic's deterioration, Senator Gordon said that the change in leadership contributed to the failure of Subic. He compared it to a game of basketball where the players should know when a "play" is good and it should not be changed for the sake of change. He opined that change has to be dedicated, consistent and sustainable. He lamented that the people who ran the place lost a shared vision, shared value, shared sacrifices and shared triumphs.

Asked by Senator Villanueva whether the failure could also be blamed on the Filipinos' penchant for disregarding any successful practice or accomplishment done by a previous leader or administration whenever there is a change in leadership because the new leader would prefer to leave his or her own mark or legacy, Senator Gordon replied that there are still people who would want to continue what has been started by the previous management and build on its success, but he stressed the need to study and look into which plans or programs work and which does not work. He said that it might not always be a good idea to change what has already been put in place but the new leader must find ways or alternatives to put his or her mark. He said that this does not happen only in the Philippines; it happens everywhere.

Saying that he was no longer connected with Subic, Senator Gordon informed the Body that Subic now hosts the fourth biggest shipbuilder in the world. He recalled that when the airport was being built through the assistance of World Bank, half of the project was handled by FF Cruz and the other half by Hanjin. He said that while the project was being constructed, he was able to instill upon the Hanjin workers that they were not merely building an airport but they were helping build a country.

Senator Villanueva recalled that when he was TESDA chair, he would look for 5,000 welders every year for the Hanjin shipyard in Subic. He said that it would have been a great idea if TESDA at that time talked with SBMA officials and entered into a memorandum of agreement with the industries in Subic like Acer and Hanjin.

Senator Villanueva observed that it has been 25 years since Senator Gordon was chairman of SBMA. Asked what changes have taken place in Subic since he left the SBMA, Senator Gordon said that during his stint in Subic, he was guided by his five Fs principles: 1) focus: he focused on the task ahead; 2) fast: he was fast in inviting investors to



invest in Subic and deadlines were ensured to avoid delays; 3) friendly: no corruption; 4) flexible: so that it was easy to adjust; and finally, 5) forward-looking: he had a vision. He also mentioned his success in attracting investors on fiber cable optics, satellite communications and Acer, and that during that time Subic also had a lot of factories ran by Taiwanese and Japanese firms, and brands like Reebok, Hitachi, and Fedex.

Senator Villanueva asked on the magnitude of job creation in SBMA as he recalled his partnership with the different industries in Subic Bay. Senator Gordon replied that 200,000 jobs were generated in and out of the SBMA, and they created a multiplier effect, like the markets which started to boom again.

Senator Gordon recalled the Taiwanese Deputy Minister of Trade, when he came over to Subic, saying how he could never forget the Philippines which was once famous while Taiwan was poor but became rich and he wished the same for the Philippines. That statement, Senator Gordon said, tore his heart.

Senator Gordon narrated how he convinced business companies to locate in Subic and even visited the manufacturer of Reebok shoes where he advised the workers to be good at their work and get an education so that they could become managers. He said that some heeded his advice and that translated into the development of the labor force in Subic. He also cited the times when he utilized FedEx to transport cut flowers and tuna from Davao to Japan or the Airfreight 21 from Davao to Subic. He suggested to keep on supporting places like Cagayan de Oro, Negros, Cebu, Batangas or Laguna to promote business development because that is the best way to do it.

Senator Villanueva agreed with Senator Gordon. He commended the SBMA for the jobs created, especially in the tourism sector, during the chairmanship of Senator Gordon. He said that it is important to focus on creating decent jobs and to look back and see how Subic became the darling, not only of the Philippines, but of Southeast Asia as well. He then wondered how the country could go back to that status especially now that the machineries in Subic were missing.

Relative to the infrastructure project, Senator Villanueva stated that during the committee hearing,

he discovered that the budget for Region III was slashed by P3 billion or P4 billion, which again would affect job creation. Thus, he said that it is imperative for them to discuss issues concerning job creation.

Senator Gordon stated that sometimes people think that things happen because it is easy. He said that realizing he was not a very good player, he chose to become a cheerleader who cheered for his team. He said that in the same manner, the Filipino people should always support the Philippines all the time. He cited the time when he took over Subic where he had slogans like "Protect and Preserve to Prosper" – for the people to protect Subic and to preserve the forest; then "Preparation, Hardwork, Opportunity" — when he taught the people in Subic to learn how to speak and read English; and to copy from other countries, like Japan which copied their army from Germany, their navy from Britain, and some cars from other countries.

Senator Gordon disclosed that he idolizes Hong Kong, which, during the Opium war, was dominated by the British Empire and following its conversion into a freeport, Kowloon emerged, ferries were developed, development expanded to Shenzhen, then Macau, airports were built until the development reached the whole China.

He informed the Body of his plan for Subic at that time, which was called 1-4-3, meaning from one highway or one railroad, to four seaports and three airports – which is from Olongapo, to Bataan, to Zambales, to Clark or to Pampanga; from Tarlac, to Nueva Ecija and to Bulacan, all of which were aimed at decongesting Manila and dispersing the industries. Like the Iglesia ni Cristo and Ayala, he suggested giving incentives to people who would relocate away from Manila to decongest the metropolitan area. He said that people should live where they work, or where they go to school. He stated that he has never given up on the idea of bringing opportunity to the people and that he is beginning to fight for it again.

As regards Martin Diño, Senator Villanueva said that although he has nothing against him, he felt that with so many positions in the government, appointments to these positions need to be double-checked or reevaluated especially in terms of competencies because not all of them would go through the Commission on Appointments. He underscored the need to appoint the right people to head government agencies, like the SBMA, Clark, Freeport Area of



Bataan, Mactan-Cebu International Airport, Manila International Airport Authority because these are very important positions which should not be filled up by just anybody. He said that the Senate should do something to look into such very important positions as he had heard enough of the opportunities missed because some people do not care. He expressed the belief that the Philippines has a great destiny as a nation and the Senate should do something about the matter.

Senator Gordon said that people have to define themselves and if one cares for his fellowmen, one should not take the position and stay in place, but act because leadership is action.

Senator Villanueva said that he would like to associate himself with the issues raised by Senator Gordon and would actively participate and cooperate with the latter's leadership.

#### **MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR PACQUIAO**

Senator Pacquiao suggested that a dialogue between a Senate representative and President Duterte be initiated in order to help the latter in choosing the chairman of the SBMA who can move the action plan of the government to maximize the facilities of the economic zone.

Agreeing with Senator Pacquiao, Senator Gordon likewise suggested that the government also put up team players from Central Luzon, Northern Luzon and Southern Luzon, led by leaders who have the ability to make people move and do what must be done.

#### **REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEE**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the privilege speech of Senator Gordon and the interpellations thereon were referred to the Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations, and to the Committee on Trade and Commerce.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests of Senator Pacquiao:

- Mr. Abdurrahman Canacan, chancellor of the Mindanao State University (MSU)-General Santos

City Campus, together with his wife, Mrs. Laila Canacan;

- Dr. Mary Lyn Abiera, the vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, MSU;
- Mrs. Fanny Quimosing, budget officer of the MSU; and
- Ms. Emma Cordero, Mrs. Universe 2016, together with the EMCOR Voice of an Angel Foundation.

#### **PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 165**

With the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 165, entitled

RESOLUTION REGULATING THE USE, INTEGRATION INTO THE RECORDS OF THE SENATE AND PROPER ARCHIVAL OF FILM, VIDEO CLIPS, MULTIMEDIA OR SIMILAR DEVICES USED BY ANY SENATOR TO WHOM THE FLOOR HAS BEEN ASSIGNED BY THE CHAIR IN PLENARY SESSION.

With the permission of the Body, only the title of the resolution was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

#### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR SOTTO**

Senator Sotto stated that Proposed Senate Resolution No. 165, the brainchild of Senate President Pimentel, has three main objectives, as follows:

1. To limit to 30 minutes the showing of videos or similar materials during the delivery of privileges speeches, making motions, arguments and debates or every time a senator takes the floor for that matter.

Senator Sotto explained that the idea behind the proposal was to regulate the use of various technology-based visual aids employed by the senators every time they took the floor which were, otherwise, not covered by the Rules of the Senate, and to make efficient the time of Senate sessions.

2. That the visual aids would form part of the Records of the Senate.



He noted that during a speech, the slide presentation is being explained by a senator, the contents of which are not reflected in the transcript and that the spoken words in the video clips are not incorporated in the record. The transcripts and Journal would only reflect the phrase "At this juncture, the video was played," he said.

He stated the resolution puts in place a system by which the Power Point and video presentations can be made accessible at any time, preferably through digital means, for the Body's perusal.

3. That the video or multimedia materials will be kept for proper archiving and safekeeping at the Legislative Records and Archives Service.

#### **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS**

There being no interpellation, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

#### **SOTTO AMENDMENTS**

As proposed by Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the following amendments were approved by the Body, one after the other:

1. On the fourth "Whereas" clause, delete the entire paragraph and in lieu thereof, replace it with the following paragraph:  
  
WHEREAS, THE AFORESAID VIDEO CLIPS, MULTIMEDIA OR OTHER SIMILAR DEVICES USED DURING A SPEECH, MOTION OR QUESTIONS SHALL BE SENT TO AND MADE ACCESSIBLE AT ANY TIME AT THE LEGISLATIVE AND ARCHIVES SERVICE;
2. On the fifth paragraph, on the third line, delete the word "privilege" between the words "per" and "speech";
3. On the same paragraph, after the word "speech," replace the semicolon (;) with a comma (,) and insert the words MOTION OR QUESTION;
4. As amended by Senator Drilon, revise the last "resolved" clause to read as follows:

RESOLVED, FINALLY, THAT THE CONTENTS OF ALL THE FILMS, VIDEO CLIPS, MULTIMEDIA OR OTHER

SIMILAR DEVICES SHOWN OR PLAYED BEFORE THE PLENARY SHALL BE SUMMARIZED AND INTEGRATED INTO THE RECORDS OF THE SENATE BEFORE SAID DEVICES ARE SENT TO THE LEGISLATIVE RECORDS AND ARCHIVES SERVICE FOR SAFEKEEPING.

#### **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

There being no further amendment, the Body closed the period of amendments.

#### **ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 165**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 165 was adopted by the Body, subject to style.

#### **MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO**

Senator Sotto recalled that during his speech on September 26, 2016, Senator Trillanes moved for the referral of his speech to the Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations so that an inquiry could be conducted to look into the alleged direct involvement of then mayor, now President Duterte on the extrajudicial killings in Davao City. He said that the Body, however, decided to refer the speech to the Committee on Rules for further study, review and proper referral.

Senator Sotto informed the Body that upon consultation with the members the Committee on Rules, including Senators De Lima and Lacson, it was decided that the speech be referred to the Committee on Justice and Human Rights. He noted that the speech was mainly focused, but not solely, on the establishment of the reliability and truthfulness of the testimonies made by the witness, Mr. Edgar Matobato, during the hearing by the Committee on Justice and Human Rights on the extrajudicial killings by the Davao Death Squad on September 22.

He said that while respect must be accorded to the right of any senator to take the floor and propound on the issue of grave national concern such as what Senator Trillanes did, the Committee on Rules believed that the plenary was not the right forum to raise the issues, but in the Committee on Justice and Human Rights which is conducting series



of hearings from which the proponent’s statement originated.

**REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEES**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair referred the privilege speech of Senator Trillanes (and the interpellations thereon) delivered on September 26, 2016, to the Committee on Justice and Human Rights as the primary committee and the Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs as the secondary committee.

**PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 166**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 166, entitled

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING DONNIE NIETES, MARK MAGSAYO AND ARTHUR VILLANUEVA FOR WINNING IN THE PINOY PRIDE 38 HELD ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2016 AT THE STUBHUB CENTER IN CARSON, CALIFORNIA.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII, of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the resolution was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

**MOTION OF SENATOR SOTTO**

At this juncture, Senator Sotto moved that the sponsorship speech of Senator Pacquiao be inserted into the record.

Senate President Pro Tempore Drilon stated that he has no objection to the motion of Senator Sotto. However, he recalled that in the past Congress, the Majority Leader had imposed the rule that whoever would want to sponsor a resolution, at the very least the author of the said resolution should be present.

**WITHDRAWAL OF MOTION**

Senator Sotto withdrew his motion to insert into the record the sponsorship speech of Senator Pacquiao.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 166**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the resolution.

**OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Upon nomination by Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the following senators were elected to represent the Senate in the joint congressional oversight committees hereunder indicated:

*Congressional Oversight Committee on Cooperatives (pursuant to Section 20 of Republic Act No. 9520, the Philippine Cooperative Code)*

Chairperson : Zubiri  
 Members :  
 Hontiveros Villanueva  
 Gordon Escudero

*Congressional Oversight Committee on Quality Affordable Medicines (pursuant to Section 45 of Republic Act No. 9502, the Universally Accessible and Quality Medicines Act of 2008)*

Chairperson : Zubiri  
 Members :  
 Hontiveros Aquino  
 Gatchalian Trillanes

*Congressional Oversight Committee on Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (pursuant to Section 91 of Republic Act No. 9497, the the Civil Aviation Authority Act)*

Chairperson : Poe  
 Members :  
 Sotto Lacson  
 Aquino Escudero




**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, October 3, 2016.

*It was 5:05 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

  
**ATTY. LUTGARDO B. BARBO**  
*Chief Secretary of the Senate*

Approved on October 3, 2016

