

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session

SENATE  
P.S. Res. No. 72

RECEIVED

Introduced by Senator Antonio F. Trillanes IV

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY TO INQUIRE AND INVESTIGATE IN AID OF LEGISLATION THE ALLEGED DIRECT KNOWLEDGE AND INVOLVEMENT OF RANKING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN THE RECENT AMBUSH AND MUTILATION BY EXTREMIST GROUPS OF FOURTEEN SOLDIERS BELONGING TO THE PHILIPPINE MARINE CORPS, WITH THE END VIEW OF DETERMINING THE CULPABILITY AND LIABILITY OF SAID OFFICIALS AS WELL AS TO DETERMINE THE TRUE NATIONAL POLICY AS REGARDS THE SECURITY SITUATION IN MINDANAO.

WHEREAS, last July 10, 2007, fifty (50) Marine soldiers, on its way back to their camp from a mission to search for then kidnapped Italian priest Giancarlo Bossi, were ambushed by extremist groups in Albarka Municipality formerly Tipo-tipo on Basilan island;

WHEREAS, the gun battle between the forces of the military and the Muslim rebels that lasted for ten hours, claimed the life of fourteen soldiers, ten of them beheaded, and nine others seriously injured in what could be considered as one of the most brutal acts ever committed in the war in Mindanao;

WHEREAS, the government is supposed to protect and serve the interests of the people, to include its own military forces, and definitely not to have them senselessly massacred on purpose;

WHEREAS, there have been serious insider information reaching this representation that ranking officials of the government had a direct hand in feeding our own military to the enemies of the State that led to the tragic death of the fourteen members of the Marine Corps;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Senate to determine the true national policy as regards the security situation in Mindanao that is being implemented by the Arroyo government.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved to direct the Committee on National Defense And Security to inquire and investigate in aid of legislation the alleged direct knowledge and involvement of ranking government officials in the recent ambush and mutilation by extremist groups of fourteen soldiers belonging to the Philippine Marine Corps, with the end view of determining the culpability and liability of said officials as well as to determine the true national policy as regards the security situation in Mindanao.

ADOPTED,

  
ANTONIO F. TRILLANES IV  
Senator