


SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. 354

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by: Sen. Ralph G. Recto

**A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND
SECURITY, ON PUBLIC ORDER AND ILLEGAL DRUGS AND ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON
THE AUGMENTATION OF POLICE WITH MILITARY PERSONNEL WITH
THE END IN VIEW OF ESTABLISHING A UNIFIED SECURITY APPARATUS**

WHEREAS, the killing of car dealers Venzon Evangelista, Emerson Lozano and his driver Ernane Sensil, the murder of Palawan radio broadcaster Gerardo Ortega and the bombing of a passenger bus in Makati that claimed the lives of at least five people has exposed the latest breakdown in peace and order;

WHEREAS, Section 5, Article II of the Constitution states that: "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential in the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;"

WHEREAS, there are around 130,545 uniformed personnel of the Philippine National Police and about 180,000 officers and men of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP);

WHEREAS, the ideal police-population ratio should be one policeman for every 500 people from the current ratio of 1: 697 and with 10,000 more new recruits needed this year;

WHEREAS, the PNP was created by virtue of Republic Act (R.A.) 6975 as amended by R.A. 8551 and the AFP through Commonwealth Act No. 1;

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Article XVI of the Constitution states that "the AFP shall be composed of a citizen armed force which shall undergo military training and serve, as may be provided by law and shall keep a regular force necessary for the security of the State;"

WHEREAS, Section 6 of Article XVI provides that the "State shall establish and maintain one police force, which shall be national in scope and civilian in character, to be administered and controlled by a national police commission;"

WHEREAS, the shortage of security forces deployed on the streets and in crime 'hotspots' has resulted to acute police visibility that emboldened criminal elements to carry out their nefarious activities with impunity;

WHEREAS, during the incumbency of former President Joseph Estrada, military forces were called to assist the police in quelling violent crimes in Metro Manila like robberies, kidnappings and carnappings, which was legally questioned but sustained by the Supreme Court as "permissible use of military assets for civilian law enforcement."

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree (PD) 76 was issued in 1975, otherwise known as the Police Integration Law, that established the Integrated National Police (INP) with the Philippine Constabulary (PC), which was then the fourth armed service of the AFP, to become the PC-INP.

WHEREAS, the latest crime wave has inevitably revived proposals to institutionalize the physical cooperation of the AFP and PNP, with the PC-INP as template, to address the deteriorating peace and order and the growing sophistication of the enemies of the state;

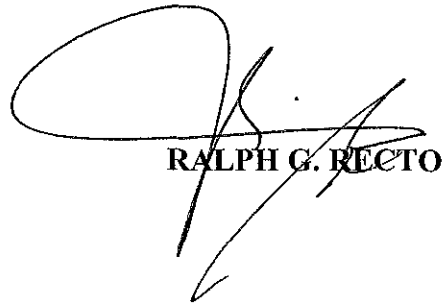
WHEREAS, Article VII Section 18 of the Constitution states that "the President is the Commander-In-Chief of all armed forces of the Philippines and whenever it becomes necessary, he may call out such armed groups to prevent or suppress lawless violence, invasion or rebellion;"

WHEREAS, Section 2 of R.A. 7898 or the AFP Modernization Act cites as one of the thrusts of the upgrading program was (e) "to enhance its capability to assist the PNP in law enforcement and internal security operations;"

WHEREAS, as threats to national security and peace and order become increasingly real and fatal like terrorist attacks, it becomes imperative to institutionalize the augmentation of police forces by AFP personnel;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Committees on National Defense and Security, on Public Order and Illegal Drugs and on Local Government to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the augmentation of police with military personnel with the end in view of establishing a unified national security apparatus

Adopted,


RALPH G. RECTO