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P.S. Res. No. 579

Introduced by HON. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

RESOLUTION
COMMENDING THE BRAVERY OF LT. COL. ANGEL M. BENITEZ
DURING THE MILF ATTACK IN KOLAMBUGAN, LANA DEL NORTE

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2008, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) guerillas made an attacked in several towns in Lanao del Norte after the Supreme Court's issuance of a temporary restraining order against the signing of a memorandum of agreement on ancestral land between the government and the MILF;

WHEREAS, Lt. Col. Angel M. Benitez, along with six soldiers, was among those "mercilessly executed" by Moro guerrillas in Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte;

WHEREAS, he demonstrated a heroic act despite under hostile situation and performed his duty, serving as an eye for reinforcement troops despite the harsh conditions he was in;

WHEREAS, Benitez, an executive officer of the 102nd Army Brigade and chief of operations of Task Force Tabak, was an alumnus of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class of 1990 (Bigkis Lahi);

WHEREAS, Benitez who hailed from Barangay Bato, Naguillan, La Union, topped almost all the military courses. This year, he finished at the head of his class at the General Staff College (GSC) after taking a course required for promotion to full colonel and to command of a battalion. The combat officer also won several Bronze Cross medals and Military Merit Medals;

WHEREAS, Benitez, along with the other soldiers, displayed their dedication to accomplish their mission to serve and protect the country, is indeed a heroic act and is truly commendable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate commends the bravery of Lt. Col.. Angel M. Benitez during the MILF attack in Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte.

Adopted.



RAMON BONG REVILLA JR.
Senator