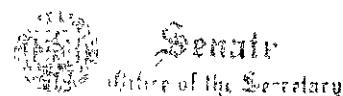
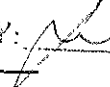


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



11 JAN 18 P5:21

SENATE  
P. S. Res. No. 307

RECEIVED BY: 

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "Compañero" S. CAYETANO

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND INVESTIGATION ("BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE") AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE PLEA BARGAINING AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN GOVERNMENT PROSECUTORS AND GENERAL CARLOS GARCIA WHO IS CHARGED WITH PLUNDER WITH THE END IN VIEW OF CRAFTING LEGISLATIVE MEASURES TO CURTAIL CORRUPTION AND PROMOTE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE GOVERNMENT**

*WHEREAS*, the Philippines was rated as "highly corrupt", ranked 134<sup>th</sup> out of 178 countries surveyed in the 2010 report of the Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index;

*WHEREAS*, corruption in the military is a main cause of military unrest, grievance and adventurism. Among the recommendations contained in the Report of the Feliciano Commission which was released after the Oakwood mutiny was for the Government and the Armed Forces of the Philippines to address the legitimate grievances of the military against corrupt officers, officials, bureaucrats, and practices;

*WHEREAS*, the fight against corruption strongly rests on the ability and honest commitment of the State to prosecute and make accountable erring public officials for crimes involving graft and corruption;

*WHEREAS*, it was reported recently that Major General Carlos Garcia, who was charged with plunder before the Sandiganbayan for allegedly stealing more than P300 million from government coffers, while serving as a military comptroller of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, entered into a plea bargaining agreement with the Office of the Ombudsman and the Special Prosecutors;

*WHEREAS*, it was further reported that the plea bargaining agreement will allow General Garcia to plead guilty to lesser offenses of direct bribery and violation of the Anti Money Laundering Act. He was allegedly able to post bail in the amount of P60,000 before the Sandiganbayan;

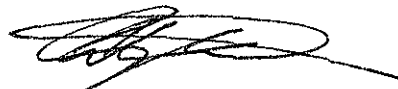
*WHEREAS*, the plea bargaining deal has been perceived as 'illegal' and 'highly suspicious' by the Office of the President because it was allegedly made without the consent of the Armed Forces of the Philippines which stands as the offended party in the case;

*WHEREAS*, a plea bargaining deal of this nature if left unchecked and unabated would promote corrupt practices by public officials and render futile the government's crusade against graft and corruption;

*WHEREAS*, there is a need to look into the circumstances surrounding the plea bargaining agreement entered into by and between the government prosecutors and General Garcia which was not in accordance with the established rules on plea bargaining;

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED*, to direct the Senate Committees on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigation ("Blue Ribbon") and other appropriate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the circumstances surrounding the plea bargaining agreement by and between government prosecutors and General Carlos Garcia who is charged with Plunder with the end in view of crafting legislative measures to curb corruption and promote transparency and accountability in the government.

Adopted,



**ALAN PETER "Compañero" S. CAYETANO**  
Senator