



PRESS RELEASE

Department of National Defense – Republic of the Philippines

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Reaction of the Secretary of National Defense to Joma Sison's recent pronouncements

Na naman? Ito talagang si Sison he never ceases to amaze me. He begs for peace talks and a ceasefire, and now he turns around to say that they will no longer negotiate with this government and threatens to destabilize the administration. Ano ba ang ginagawa nila for the past 49 years? Di ba since 1968 walang patid ang destabilization nila to weaken the government so that their armed struggle will succeed and they could take over the government? Ngayon litaw na litaw na ang kanilang strategy: Talk peace and then press for a ceasefire so that they can regain lost grounds. Yan ang ultimate objective ng peace talks sa CPP/NDF. Ang pakikipag usap nila ay isang paraan lamang para isulong ang kanilang tinatawag na armed struggle. During peace talks, peace is the furthest thing from their minds. They have already admitted that the peace talks is basically in support of their armed struggle. It was never their principal objective. Their term "just and lasting peace" is a situation when they have finally succeeded in their armed struggle, definitely not our idea of just and lasting peace.

Ngayong gustong himayin at intindihin ng ating mahal na Pangulo ang mga naging kasunduan na halos lahat pabor sa kanila ay nagmamaktol siya at nananakot. Palagi kasi siyang pinagbibigyan ng gobyerno. He is the quintessential spoiled brat.

Let us not be lulled or hoodwinked by Sison's glib tongue about reforms. They will institute reforms all right, but along communist lines when they have finally won. In fact, they don't even have to win because their socialistic CASER, which they are trying to ram down our throats, will ensure that they will have a foothold in governance.

The government, on the other hand, has been instituting reforms in accordance with our laws, our resources and our people's most pressing needs, such as land reform, job generation projects, infrastructure development, and other poverty alleviation initiatives. But Sison and his ilk do not want these projects to succeed. The anti-poor NPAs have been trying hard to sabotage these pro-people projects by burning equipment and intimidating contractors, which stalls development in the countryside.

Mr. Sison, yung mga boladas mo ay matagal nang kumita at laos na. Marami nang NPA ang hindi naniniwala sa iyo. Sino kaya ang paniniwalaan nila: ikaw na nagpapakasarp at komportable diyan sa Netherlands o ang Presidenteng ginagawa ang lahat para mapabuti ang buhay nila? They know that every time you order them to fight the government forces, you are sending them to their death while you are comfortably enjoying your safety in the Netherlands and freeloading off the Dutch Government. Dapat kang mahiya dahil inabandona mo ang iyong mga mandirigma. That's why they are coming down in droves to live peaceful and productive lives. Sawa na sila sa panloloko mo.

Mr. Sison, you know that the peace talks is the only thing that is keeping you in the

limelight. Without it you are irrelevant. You also know that the President can terminate the talks, and this is why you are desperately using reverse psychology and intimidation to save it.

Mr. Sison, in response to your childish tantrums we will vigorously pursue the ongoing localized peace talks. I am sure that once you are out of the picture, true peace will have a chance to become a reality and you will be consigned to the dustbin of history.####