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Press Statement

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Malacanang-masterminded “plot” for sham support for GMA’s Proclamation 1017: Cheap and shameless gimmickry will not fool overseas Filipinos

GMA and her sycophants are now desperately trying to legitimize the repressive Proclamation No. 1071 that placed the country in virtual Martial Law by spinning tales of support from overseas Filipino groups.

The “plot” to make it appear that OFWs back the proclamation was exposed when an e-mail message by Mr. Danny Consumido, Assistant Secretary of the Office of External Affairs (OEA) was accidentally received by the UNIFIL-Migrante-HK. The controversial OEA is an agency directly under the Office of the President.

Earlier, UNIFIL sent out a petition to migrant organizations for the repeal of Proclamation 1017. For whatever circumstances, it appeared that OEA received the said petition and afterwards drafted its own support statement for GMA.

Assistant Secretary Consumido then instructed an HK-based migrant group to send out the drafted statement under their name to solicit the support of OFW organizations in Hong Kong for GMA.

Mr. Consumido even had the gall to direct the said group to conduct solicitation to raise P170,000 for a full-page advertisement of the said statement. Obviously, he wishes to create the illusion of support for the fake president and drown the real sentiments overseas against GMA.

This “plot” means that any so-called support that will come from abroad for this corrupt, illegitimate and fascist government is Malacanang-directed, fake, dubious and only aimed for pure media hype. GMA and her minions will clearly stoop so low as to commit fraud by masterminding a scheme that will use OFWs in her bid to cling to power.

This is a cheap and shameless gimmick of a desperate tyrant.

It is of no coincidence that such a move by the OEA came out at the heel of the planned protest action by the UNIFIL, Migrante-HK and allies today to protest the disguised martial rule in the country, demand the lifting of Proclamation 1017, and the release of anti-GMA activists who were arrested such as Rep. Crispin Beltran of Anakpawis Partylist.

GMA clearly wants to counter actions abroad by OFWs that will expose her illegitimacy and fascism to the international community.

Filipinos abroad will never be fooled by Malacanang-ordered gimmickry. GMA has neither credibility nor moral and political ascendancy to continue her rule.

Proclamation 1071 should be scrapped. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo should step down. These are the sentiments of OFWs in Hong Kong.#

(Attached is the email as received by the UNIFIL, its translation, and the drafted statement of the OEA)