## NOTES FOR THE EXTEMPORANEOUS STATEMENT BEFORE THE RAADKAMER OF THE HAGUE DISTRICT COURT

## By Prof. Jose Maria Sison

Palace of Justice The Hague, The Netherlands 7 September 2007

## Your Honors:

- 1. I wish to reiterate what I declared last week to the Rechter-Commissaris (examining judge): that I am innocent of the charge of inciting or ordering the murder of anyone. It is against my moral and political principles to have anything to do with murder. I am a teacher by profession and a political scientist. I love and enjoy the free exchange of ideas. It is absurd for anyone to claim that I engage in murder to settle ideological and political differences.
- 2. I have no authority whatsoever to order the killing of anyone by the New People's Army (NPA) in the Philippines. I am neither the Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines nor operational head of the NPA. Article V of the CPP Constitution requires that the Chairman of the CC of the CPP must reside in the Philippines in order to perform daily political leadership over the CPP and the people and to preside over the meetings and work of the Executive Committee, Political Bureau and the Central Committee. I have been out of the field for 30 years since my arrest and detention in 1977 by the Marcos dictatorship. I have been out of the Philippines for more than 20 years since my departure for a global lecture tour in 1986.
- 3. I have always denied that I am the Chairman of the CC of the CPP since I lost this position in 1977. But the Philippine authorities, especially the psywar and intelligence officers, have always insisted that I have continued to hold such position. They have done so in order to ridicule the revolutionary forces and people as being dependent on someone that is several thousands of miles and several decades away from the Philippines. I have thus become a victim of sheer propaganda and speculation, which have been aggravated by the US-instigated hysteria in the name of anti-terrorism against national liberation movements and communist parties.
- 4. I have never committed any crime in The Netherlands, not even any minor felony and not even jaywalking in the streets. The Dutch police authorities never made any original discovery or finding of criminal wrongdoing by me. Until now, there is no direct and sufficient evidence that I incited and ordered any killing in the Philippines. It was after the lobbying and urging by the Philippine authorities in 2005 and 2006 that the Dutch authorities dispatched Dutch police investigators to take the testimonies of unreliable and blatantly polluted witnesses provided by the Philippine authorities, despite the absence of an extradition treaty between the Netherlands and the Philippines. The testimonies were taken in the US embassy, Dutch embassy and the Clark Air Base. They consist of uncorroborated multiple hearsay, speculations, conjectures, innuendoes and rumors.
- 5. No less than the Philippine authorities have categorized the killing of their security consultants and military agents Kintanar and Tabara in 2003 and 2004 as specific acts of rebellion committed by the New People's Army (NPA) in the charge of rebellion against me and 50 others. This was filed before the Makati regional trial court in 2006 and nullified, together with all the specifications and supposed evidence, by the Supreme Court in 2007 as prostituting the process of prosecution.
- 6. It is anomalous that the Kintanar and Tabara incidents are being recycled in The Netherlands as common crimes of murder, contrary to the position of the Philippine authorities that these are specific acts rebellion. On their own account, the revolutionary authorities of the CPP and NPA have asserted that these are acts of revolution. They have

publicly admitted that Kintanar and Tabara were enemy combatants who were armed and dangerous and who resisted arrest by NPA arresting teams that sought to serve on them a warrant of arrest issued by the people's court.

- 7. I wish to complain against the way certain past events are being twisted and distorted to appear as supposed proofs of motive that I ordered or incited the killing of Kintanar and Tabara. I openly spoke out more than ten years ago against the bloody crimes committed by these two and other individuals who claimed to have acted in the name of the NPA and the revolution. In good faith, with the assistance of then Colonel Berroya of the Philippine National Police who was loyal to the Arroyo regime, I also complained in 2001 to the Utrecht police about an assassination plot against me that had been allegedly instigated by the Estrada regime. It is preposterous for the police and prosecution to link these past two events as manifesting a motive for murder on my part.
- 8. Immediately after Kintanar was killed in 2003, I was interviewed by Manila broadcasters by phone and was asked who could have killed him. I said clearly that I did not know. But as a political observer, I offered three theories on the basis of the well-known enmities of Kintanar. I was subsequently ridiculed by some commentators that I did not know what was happening in the Philippines. Then, some two days afterwards, Ka Roger as information officer of the CPP announced that an NPA arresting team had given battle to Kintanar as an armed enemy combatant and as a criminal suspect resisting arrest. When Rey Langit interviewed me, I referred him to the website of the Philippine revolutionary forces. For this referral to a website, I am accused of some culpability for the Kintanar killing.
- 9. As a political scientist and as chief political consultant of the Negotiating Panel of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) in peace negotiations with the Manila governments, I collect at home and study books, documents and all kinds of reading materials in hard copies or digital files pertaining to the leaders and forces of the NDFP, the Manila government, various governments affecting the Philippines, the revolutionary parties and national liberation movements throughout the world. The office of the Stichting NDF Informatie Bureau and homes of the panelists, consultants and staffers carry a wide range of reading materials because these are necessary for peace negotiations and international solidarity work. For more than two decades the aforesaid NDF foundation and personnel had strictly adhered to the rule that they should conduct themselves legally in The Netherlands.
- 10. For every moment that I am detained incommunicado, I suffer a grave act of injustice. In a certain sense, this is worse than what I suffered in solitary confinement under the Marcos dictatorship. At that time I could understand why the Marcos fascist regime inflicted on me physical and psychological torture because I had indeed engaged in armed opposition to the regime. But it is totally outrageous that I am now being subjected to a false and politically motivated charge that has obviously been fabricated by the Manila government.
- 11. The police and prosecution have an extremely long head start in trying to build a case against me, whether we start counting the time from 2005 or 2006. It is a matter of justice and fair play that I be a given a chance now to start building my defense. Despite their long head start, my accusers have no direct and sufficient evidence. It is a matter of gross injustice to me if they are allowed all the pretexts and all the time to keep me in solitary confinement and jeopardize my health.###