

By Ado Paglinawan

A Dissenting Opinion on the Suicide of Gen. Angelo Reyes: Not an Act of “Delicadeza”

It seems for the first time I am seeing a point of convergence between Bobby Reyes and Perry Diaz, as both of them gave Angelo “Angie” T. Reyes, a quick bye.

I have always regarded Gen. Angelo Tomas Reyes with high esteem but when Retired Colonel Rabusa started spilling the beans, I could only shake my head, silently saying "what a waste of honor!"

I met Angie for the first time in the late 1980s in New York while he was visiting his father Angelo, Sr., who was a good friend of then-Ambassador Emmanuel Pelaez whom I served both in Washington, DC, and New York.

That started a friendship and that is why I am deeply sorry for this loss.

But I cannot agree with the positions of Bobby Reyes and Perry Diaz. (**Editor's Note:** Mr. Diaz's commentary is reproduced in the User's Comments after this article.)

Angelo Reyes already fell on his sword a long time ago. The minute he succumbed to corruption.

The monies he is being accused of pocketing is a lot more than the minimum of P30-million required for an indictment for plunder. It could very well exceed P100-million – how many of our poor could have benefited from that bounty? How many of our poorest of the poor could have eaten another meal or survived another day with that sum?

Worse, he was one of our finest career military officers and, therefore, he should have known better.

Having, or leaving, a good name cannot exonerate betrayal of public trust.

Maybe I should gift him the benefit of the doubt, after all as Raissa says there is thin line that the good crosses to become evil. Maybe we can grant he was just conned by Gloria Arroyo as he served as her protector. But that was precisely poor judgment. Nobody goes to bed even proverbially with La Gloria and escapes her venom.

His suicide fortifies the Arroyo cover-up further and makes it harder for the whole truth to surface.

I could have agreed with you if Angie first spilled the beans and then executed himself. That way his being a rogue would have been mitigated. But his permanent silence now is useless to the nation and worthless to the search for the truth.

He killed himself to save himself, not the country that he swore to serve or the Constitution he was mandated to uphold and protect. This is why, unlike Bobby Reyes, I cannot accept his act as an exercise of *delicadeza*. I call it cowardice.

{xtypo_quote} **Editor's Note:** Mr. Paglinawan was referring to an obituary that Bobby Reyes wrote, [By Dying, Angelo Reyes Revives the Art of the "Delicadeza"](#) {/xtypo_quote}

He was so yellow, he could not even wait for formal charges to be filed against him.

Again I'm sorry, but I beg to disagree.

I disagree on behalf of the majority in the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police, and all those teachers, healthcare workers and other ordinary employees in government service who earn a pittance but retain their honor. They suffer loss of public support because of the few who are greedy and corrupt.

Angie's only hope now from eternal damnation, is the mercy of our loving God, whose forgiveness I equally beg for this dissenting opinion. # # #

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