

MEDIA INTERVIEW IN VILLAMOR AIR BASE, PASAY CITY

October 8, 2024

[00:00:01]

PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.: ...Little we had left to do. We had very few options left. We tried everything and for many, many years.

And the Saudi government really tried to look and to be sure that the judgment — the — of hanging was actually deserved. And nonetheless, we appealed to the better [unclear] again of our friends in Saudi Arabia to perhaps have another look and they did. And unfortunately, the law there is very strict. And apparently the conviction has stood and one of ours has been taken away.

But — yes, very unfortunate.

REPORTER: Sir, may message kayo for the bereaved family?

PRESIDENT MARCOS JR.: Well, of course, our thoughts and prayers are with them. And we will... There is nothing that one can do to make it whole, but we will do our best.

REPORTER: What legal assistance...?

PRESIDENT MARCOS JR.: I'm sorry?

REPORTER: What legal assistance...?

PRESIDENT MARCOS JR.: We'll see what they need. We'll see what they need. But for someone who dies abroad, an OFW, there are many — we have many procedures for that to bring them back home. So, I don't think that will be a problem.

Q: But we've exhausted all remedies?

PRESIDENT MARCOS JR.: We have, my God. This has been going on for how many years?

OFFICIAL: It's around 5, 6 years, sir.

PRESIDENT MARCOS JR.: Yeah, I remember, mga 5, 6 years na ito. I came upon it when I came into office and they told me it's an old... And as I said, I guess Saudi tried to exhaust all possibilities. So, did we, but to no avail.

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BAGONG PILIPINAS