

Republic of the Philippines
City of Davao
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____
Series of 2008

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, THROUGH
SECRETARY LEANDRO R. MENDOZA, TO PRIORITIZE THE BUDGET
ALLOCATION FOR RADAR TO OUTFIT THE AIR TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE DAVAO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

WHEREAS, as our City continues to languish over the fate of those who have gone down with the ill-fated C-130, we turn to more realistic and practical matters on hand;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) has reported that the search and retrieval operation for the crashed C-130 is hampered and made more difficult by the lack of equipment;

WHEREAS, there is no radar . . . no sonar equipment being used to search for the missing C130 Hercules aircraft which plunged into the waters of Davao Gulf last Monday (Aug. 25) evening;

WHEREAS, it has also been reported that the Air Transportation Office (ATO) control tower of the Davao International Airport has no radar to track down incoming and outgoing aircraft and has relied mainly on radio communications for air traffic control;

WHEREAS, this is not an oversight but simply a case of neglect – in the fast pace age of computer and digital technology we can only imagine the myriads of problems emanating from one single lack of equipment – the radar; and until now despite requests and appeals in the past, the Air Transportation Office still has no radar to track down outgoing and incoming planes in the airport;

WHEREAS, Philippine Air Force Tactical Operations Group (TOG) XI chief Colonel Isagani Silva has been quoted as saying that a radar would have been helpful in pinpointing the location where the C-130 Hercules aircraft would have gone down. He was also reported to have said that the Philippine Air Force Tactical Operations Group Region XI has no radars;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Information Agency also reported that aside from radar, the Philippine Navy and Coast Guard also lacked sonar equipment to probe deep into the waters of Davao Gulf. Presently the Task Force Hercules is relying on the sonar equipment of a private scuba diver;

WHEREAS, the dismaying reality also points to that fact that even Philippine Navy ships are also lacking in sonar capability because they are outfitted with fathometers and not sonars;

WHEREAS, the task of retrieving whatever is left of the C-130 is slow and painful. In the meantime, our International airport is still without the radar. In the event that another such tragedy occurs, God forbid, we would still have the same problems all over again confronting us;

WHEREAS, must we wait again for another tragedy before the government outfit the Air Transportation Office (ATO) control tower of the Davao International Airport with a radar;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that this Body request the Department of Transportation and Communications, through Secretary Leandro R. Mendoza, to prioritize the budget allocation for radar to outfit the Air Transportation Office (ATO) of the Davao International Airport;

RESOLVED FURTHER that copies of this resolution be furnished the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communication and the Air Transportation Office Speaker Prospero Nograles, Congressman Isidro Ungab and Congressman Vincent Garcia.

PILAR C. BRAGA, PhD
Proponent

September ____, 2008 Regular Session (Suspended Rules)