

Suspect in Papadom's widow slay gets 40-year jail term

MANILA -- A Makati court has convicted a man for the gruesome killing of the widow of the late reggae singer Papadom (Dominic Gamboa in real life).

In its 20-page decision released Thursday, Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 149 Judge Giovanni Vidal

sentenced Nitro Ison, alias Ricky/Zenki, to reclusion perpetua (up to 40 years imprisonment) after finding him guilty beyond reasonable doubt of robbery and homicide for the death of Ma. Amparo "Teng" Santaromana-Gamboa.

The lawyer of the victim's family, Marjorie

de Castro, said the family was thankful that justice had been served.

Ison, at the time of the incident, had been charged in a number of cases where he would steal taxicabs from their drivers at gunpoint and use them to victimize female passengers.

In February 2016, Gamboa was found dead at the corner of Kalayaan Avenue and Barrio Bisaya in Barangay Guadalupe Nuevo, with a single gunshot wound to the head, apparently the victim of a robbery.

The driver of the taxi that Ison used to pick

up the victim positively identified him as the man who stole his cab at gunpoint.

The widow's death came three years after her husband succumbed to kidney failure in 2013.

Papadom was a member of the band "Tropical Depression", which popularized the songs "Bilog na naman ang Buwan" and "Kapa-yapaan". (PNA)

cooked with heat above 70 degrees, thereby destroying harmful viruses, including ASF, it added.

"Regular surveillance for diseases through laboratory testing of blood and tissue samples are done to detect any incidence of disease and develop prevention and control measures before each instance develops into an outbreak situation.

Our slaughter plants are constantly monitored by the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS). Each hog is inspected before slaughter while each carcass is certified as disease-free before delivery to

the ASF virus.

This, as several provinces have started issuing total bans on the entry of live and processed pork products from various parts of Luzon.

The food and beverage firm said it follows the strictest animal health and biosecurity protocols. Its chilled, frozen, and processed pork are produced from company-controlled hog breeding, growing, slaughtering, and manufacturing facilities.

Its refrigerated and canned meats are

Duterte OKs release of P78-M emergency fund vs. ASF

MANILA -- President Rodrigo Duterte has approved the release of PHP78-million emergency fund, which will be used to effectively manage, control, and contain the threat of African swine fever (ASF).

In a statement, Agriculture Secretary William Dar said the fund will be utilized particularly for biosecurity and quarantine operations, disease monitoring and surveillance, upgrading of laboratories, capacity-building, and other disease control measures.

Dar said the National ASF Task Force (NATF) will also convene to flesh out inter-agency coordination, in partnership with concerned local government units (LGUs) and the private sector.

Chaired by the President and with the DA as vice-chair and lead agency, the NATF was initially composed of Secretaries Carlos Dominguez III (Department of Finance), Teodoro Locsin Jr. (Department of Foreign Affairs), Eduardo Año (Department of the Interior and Local Government), Francisco Duque (Department of Health), Roy Cimatu (DENR), Ramon Lopez (Department of Trade and Industry), Delfin Lorenzana (Department of National Defense), Wendel Avisado (De-

partment of Budget and Management), Arthur Tugade (Department of Transportation), and National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) Undersecretary Ricardo Jalad.

Dar directed other DA regional directors in Visayas and Mindanao to submit their respective disaster management plan to prevent the possible spread of ASF in their areas.

The DA chief plans to meet with concerned governors and their respective veterinary officers to align the local government units (LGUs) local issuances and corresponding actions vis-à-vis national guidelines by the expanded crisis management team, which includes the private sector, for a concerted effort with the NATF.

Dar said the DA during the meeting will present a geographic zoning plan to adjust government response to the developing situation on the ground and effectively prevent further spread of ASF in other parts of the country.

The DA also requested the NDRRMC to immediately operationalize and open a line of coordination between the DA and its relevant agencies with the LGU's respective DRRMCs for quick re-

sponse on the ground.

Meanwhile, the Philippine Association of Meat Processors Inc. (PAMPI) appealed to the government to issue unified national guidelines for the transport of processed meat products after their shipments were disallowed in some provinces due to the ASF scare.

PAMPI earlier submitted to the government their proposed guidelines to resolve the disruption in the local processed meat trade.

Under its proposal, processed meat products that do not contain pork as raw material or ingredient, should be allowed unrestricted movement and distribution in all provinces.

These products include corned beef, beef hot dogs, chicken nuggets, chicken hot dogs, among others.

Meat processors will also be asked to present pertinent documents, such as the veterinary health certificate of the exporting country, and the sanitary phytosanitary import clearance issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry to prove that raw materials used in meat processing are sourced from ASF-free countries.

San Miguel Food, for its part, assured the public that its products are absolutely safe to eat and not affected by

3 foreigners with bogus travel docs nabbed at NAIA

MANILA -- Three foreign nationals were recently arrested in separate occasions at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) for attempting to enter and leave the country with spurious travel documents, the Bureau of Immigration (BI) reported on Thursday.

Grifon Medina, BI Port Operations Division chief, said the apprehended passengers include two Chinese nationals -- one with a fraudulently acquired Philippine passport while the other one was using a fake Canadian visa -- and an African with a bogus Mali passport.

"They were all brought to our detention facility in Camp Bagong Diwa, Taguig City and are now undergoing deportation proceedings for using spurious immigration documents," Medina said in a statement.

our meat shops and distributors," San Miguel Foods further said in a statement. (PNA)

He identified the African as Mohamed Keita who claimed to be a citizen of Mali. He was arrested at NAIA 3 after he arrived aboard a Qatar Airways flight from Doha on September 12.

Upon questioning by BI-Travel Control and Enforcement Unit (TCEU) officers, Keita gave inconsistent answers and could not explain his purpose in traveling to the Philippines.

His Mali passport was confirmed to be counterfeit by BI anti-fraud personnel.

On the other hand, BI-TCEU at NAIA 3 apprehended Chinese passenger Wang Lei and was eventually barred from boarding his flight for Vancouver since he was using a fake Canadian visa last September 10.

"He arrived as a transit passenger from Shanghai, China and was about to board an ANA flight to Vancouver when he was intercepted," TCEU head Maria Timotea Barizo said.

The other Chinese national, who was identified as a certain Sonny Tamayo Liang, presented a Philippine passport upon his arrival from Bangkok at the NAIA 2 terminal last September 5.

It was learned that although his passport appeared to be genuine, the same registered a hit in the BI's Interpol database indicating that it is a stolen and lost travel document.

"We also received a copy of an urgent dispatch from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) identifying Liang as one of several Chinese nationals who managed to apply and acquire Philippine passports through fraudulent means to legitimize their stay in the country," BI-Interpol chief Erwin Ortañez said. (PNA)

Suspect in Papadom's widow slay gets 40-year jail term

MANILA -- A Makati court has convicted a man for the gruesome killing of the widow of the late reggae singer Papadom (Dominic Gamboa in real life).

In its 20-page decision released Thursday, Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 149 Judge Giovanni Vidal sentenced Nitro Ison, alias Ricky/Zenki, to reclusion perpetua (up to 40 years imprisonment) after finding him guilty beyond reasonable doubt of robbery and homicide for the death of Ma. Amparo "Teng" Santaromana-Gamboa.

The lawyer of the victim's family, Marjorie de Castro, said the family was thankful that justice had been served.

Ison, at the time of the incident, had been charged in a number of cases where he would steal taxi-

cabs from their drivers at gunpoint and use them to victimize female passengers.

In February 2016, Gamboa was found dead at the corner of Kalayaan Avenue and Barrio Bisaya in Barangay Guadalupe Nuevo, with a single gunshot wound to the head, apparently the victim of a robbery.

The driver of the taxi that Ison used to pick up the victim positively identified him as the man who stole his cab at gunpoint.

The widow's death came three years after her husband succumbed to kidney failure in 2013.

Papadom was a member of the band "Tropical Depression", which popularized the songs "Bilog na naman ang Buwan" and "Kapa-yapaan". (PNA)