BI Agents nab Alleged US Pedophile in Pangasinan

MANILA, Philippines - The Bureau of Immigration (BI) announced the arrest of a suspected American pedophile wanted by US authorities for alleged sexual exploitation of a Filipino minor.

BI Commissioner Jaime Morente said 69-year-old Michael Kent Clapper was arrested Monday, July 06, in San Manuel, Pangasinan during a joint operation conducted by operatives from the Bureau's Fugitive Search Unit (FSU), Women and Children Protection Center (WCPC) and Philippine National Police (PNP) Region 1.

BI chief said he issued a mission order for Clapper's arrest at the request of the US Embassy in Manila.

In a letter to the Bureau last June 26, the embassy sought the BI's assistance in apprehending Clapper due to his "involvement in possible sexual exploitation of a minor in the Philippines."

Reports also alleged that the victim is a 12-year-old girl with whom Clapper has been in an "inappropriate relationship."

The Embassy also stated that Clapper's US passport already expired, thus he is now an undocumented alien who is subject to summary deportation.

"He will be deported for being an undocumented and undesirable alien," Morente said. "His continued presence here poses a serious risk to our Filipino children, anyone of whom could be his next victim."

It was learned that the alien is temporarily detained at the San Miguel police headquarters pending release of his swab test for COVID-19.

If tested negative for the virus, he will be committed to the BI Warden Facility in Bicutan, Taguig City where he will remain until he is deported.

He will then be placed in the immigration blacklist and banned from re-entering the country.

A check of the BI's travel database showed that Clapper last arrived in the country as a tourist on March 26 last year.