

ON THE PRESIDENT'S ORDERS

1 x 60 HD



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In May 2016, Rodrigo Duterte won a landslide presidential victory in the Philippines, promising to eradicate the country's drug problem by whatever means necessary. Police shot more than 3,000 suspects in the first year alone in a bloody state-sponsored war against dealers and users alike. Acclaimed investigative filmmakers James Jones and Olivier Sarbil seek out the police Duterte emboldened and the people they targeted. When a new chief, Jemar Modequillo, is brought in to clean up the infamous Caloocan district of Manila, cameras embed with the officers of his Specials Operations Unit. His aim is to curb the bloodshed by boosting actual arrests of suspected traffickers and addicts. But as the cops and vigilantes alike scour the slums, civil rights give way to impunity and the city's poor pay the highest price. Combining the pacing of a thriller with masterful journalism, this investigative doc reveals the human cost of a populist agenda.

On the President's Orders is the searing story of President Duterte's bloody campaign against drug dealers and addicts in the Philippines, told with unprecedented and intimate access to both sides of the war—the Manila police and an ordinary family from the slum.

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CREDITS

Producer and Director: James Jones

Cinematographer and Director: Olivier Sarbil

Producer: Dan Edge

Executive Producer of FRONTLINE: Raney Aronson-Rath

Image: Olivier Sarbil/FRONTLINE



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