

52E expands its AOC

The 52nd Engineer Brigade, Phil. Army is the oldest Engineer unit of the Army in Southern Philippines. It had accomplished considerable numbers of development projects in this part of the country to express the government's concern and ardent desire to pacify the ever volatile and explosive political, social, economic problems in Mindanao.

Presently, the 52nd Engineer Brigade, Philippine Army have an expanded Area of Coverage after the 54th Engineer Brigade, Philippine Army and its subordinate units redeployed back to its former area in Luzon on 01 August 2008 following the AFPNDSC's one Engineer Brigade to one area command support concept.

The 52nd EBde, PA thus assumed the former area of coverage of 54th Engineer Brigade, Philippine Army which covers the provinces of North and South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, and Maguindanao. At the same time however, it relinquished the Lanao provinces area to the 55th EBde, PA. These developments consequently resulted to the redeployment of the Engineer Battalions of the Brigade and the absorption of one (1) Engineer Battalion from the 54th EBde, PA the 512ECB, PA

Before the realignment of engineer units in Mindanao, the 52nd Engineer Brigade Headquarters is located at Camp Natividad, Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon; the Engineer Support Battalion is located at Camp Kibaritan, Malinao, Kalilangan, Bukidnon; the 524ECB is based at Brgy Maria Cristina, Balo-I, Lanao del Norte; 534ECB is in Monkayo, Compostela Valley Province, while 544ECB is stationed at Camp Democrito Plaza, Patin-ay, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur.

The assumption of the Brigade of engineer support to the whole AOR of EASTMINCOM prompted the Command to redeploy its line battalions to be strategically positioned in performing their respective missions. Thus, the 524ECB was redeployed to Awang Dos, Maguindanao leaving behind numerous infrastructure projects that were turned over to the 55th EBde, PA. The 524ECB, during their stay in Lanao Sur from the late '80s made a substantial contribution to the national development program of the government through the

completion of civil works and civic action projects such as the construction of several portions of the Marawi-Malabang circumferential Road, the Malaig River Irrigation Project in Butig, Lanao del Sur, construction of two (2) units water system in Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Lanao del Norte, construction of four (4) Kalayaan School building projects in Sultan Naga Dimaporo and two (2) PGMA School building projects at Munai and Butig all of Lanao del Norte. It was also an active participant in the “ RP-US BALIKATAN EXERCISES 2008”.

The newly absorbed 512ECB was redeployed from Carmen, Cotabato to Brgy Bawing, General Santos City to occupy the former Headquarters of 548ECB, 54EBde, PA. This battalion is set to undertake the construction of 215 units Core Shelter and 6 units shallow well with hand pump in Datu Unsay Ampatuan and Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao. With the transfer of the 534ECB to its new Headquarters in New Visayas, Sto. Tomas, COMVAL Province, the 52EBde, PA is now better attuned to the engineer support requirements of the infantry units in the area and in conducting the incoming KBP projects and base development projects of the AFP units in the Bde's AOC.

At present, the Brigade is organized with one (1) Headquarters and Headquarters Company, one (1) Engineer Support Battalion and four (4) Engineer Construction Battalions strategically located in Northeastern and Southern Mindanao. The current AOC of 52EBde, PA covers Region 10 (except Misamis Occidental), Region 11, and Region 13 (CARAGA Region) and ARMM except for the Lanao provinces. With the expanded coverage of the brigade, it is expected that it will continue to perform its mandated mission of performing its mandated mission of supporting the national development program of the government in addition to providing general engineering support to the AFP units in its AOC..



