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NEWS CLIPPINGS

10 December 2016

Saturday

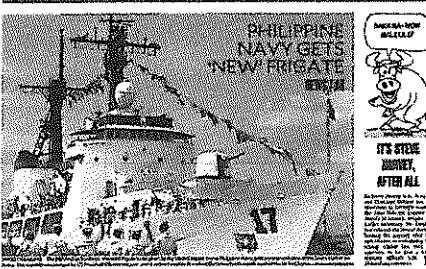
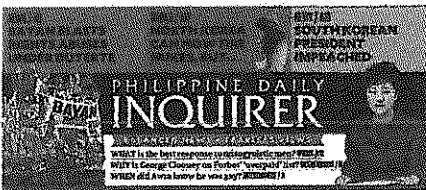
Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land

NEWS HEADLINES

10 DECEMBER 2016

DU30 FACES SLAY PROBE

By JAMES L. STANLEY
 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
 10 DECEMBER 2016



PHILIPPINE NAVY GETS NEW FRIGATE
 The Philippine Navy has received a new frigate, the BRP Gregorio del Pilar (PF-15), from the United States Navy. The ship is the first of a new class of frigates to be built for the Philippine Navy. It is a 1,500-ton, multi-mission frigate with a variety of weapons and sensors. The ship is expected to be commissioned in 2017.

Matobato files murder, crimes vs humanity raps vs Rody



Matobato files murder, crimes vs humanity raps vs Rody
 A complaint has been filed with the Department of Justice (DOJ) against President Rodrigo Duterte for alleged human rights violations. The complaint was filed by a group of human rights activists and is part of a larger effort to hold the president accountable for his actions.

Rody will finish term - Leni

Rody will finish term - Leni
 President Rodrigo Duterte's daughter, Leni, has stated that her father will complete his term as president. She said that she believes in his leadership and that she will support him throughout his term.

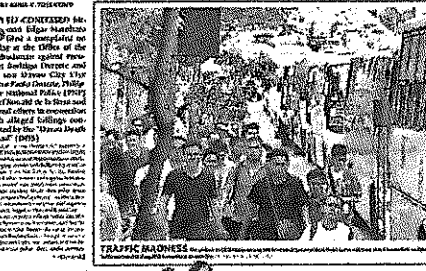


Senate report clearing Rody on EJK not conclusive
 A report from the Senate has cleared President Duterte of charges of extrajudicial killings (EJK). However, the report also noted that there were some irregularities in the process and that further investigation is needed.

The Manila Times

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 10 DECEMBER 2016

Davao hitman files case vs Duterte



Davao hitman files case vs Duterte
 A complaint has been filed with the Department of Justice (DOJ) against President Duterte for alleged human rights violations. The complaint was filed by a group of human rights activists and is part of a larger effort to hold the president accountable for his actions.



Hitman sues Du30 for EJK

Hitman sues Du30 for EJK
 A man who was allegedly involved in an extrajudicial killing (EJK) has filed a lawsuit against President Duterte. The man claims that he was forced to participate in the killing and that he is now seeking justice.

GRANDLOTTO 6/55 SATURDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2016 JACKPOT PRIZE
P45,000,000.00

7 shortlisted for SC post, Carandang tops JBC list
 The Supreme Court (SC) has shortlisted seven candidates for the position of Chief Justice. The Judicial Branch Committee (JBC) has also shortlisted seven candidates for the position of Justice.

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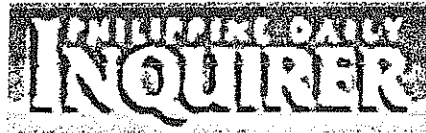
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Army vision: By 2028, a world-class Army that is a source of national pride.

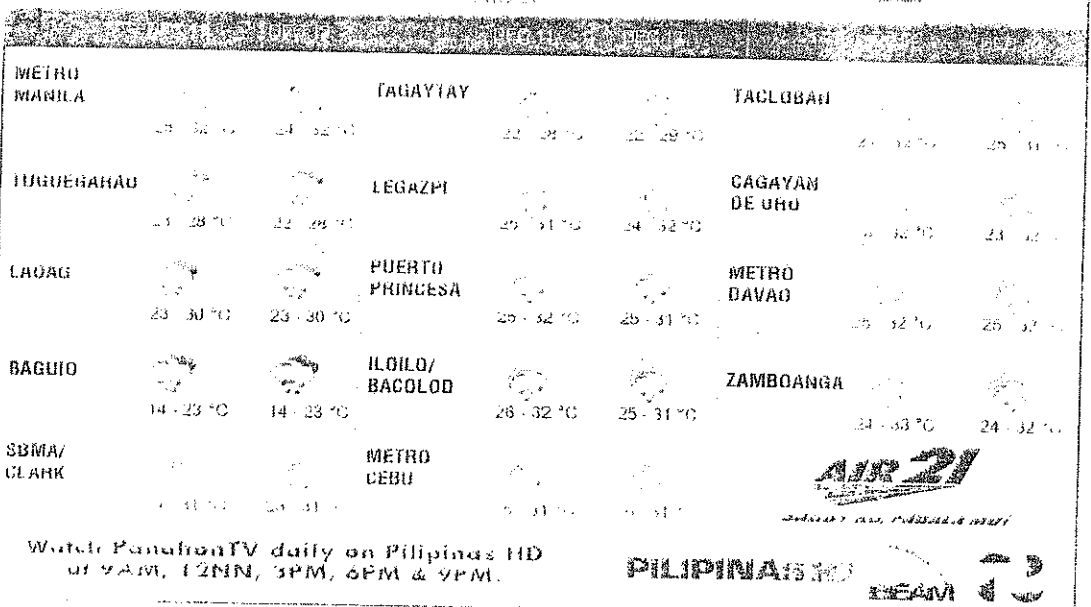
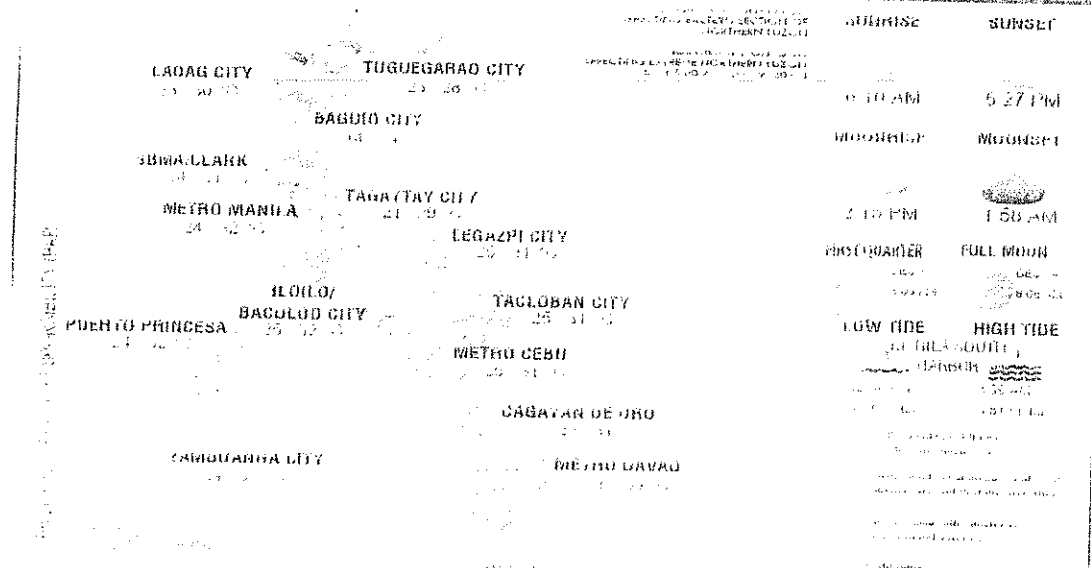
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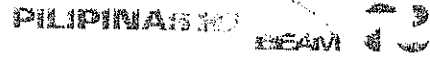
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Matobato files murder raps vs Duterte, Bato

By Vince F. Nonato
@VinceNonatoINQ

Confessed hit man Edgar Matobato on Friday asked the Ombudsman to investigate President Duterte for alleged involvement in extrajudicial killings in Davao when he was mayor of the city.

Matobato filed the criminal and administrative complaint through his lawyer, Jude Sabio, accusing Mr. Duterte and 27 others of murder, kidnapping, torture and crimes against humanity.

Also named respondents in the complaint were the Philippine National Police chief, Director General Ronald dela Rosa, and Mr. Duterte's son, Davao City Vice Mayor Paolo Duterte, as well as 20 Davao City police officers and the five alleged original members of the so-called Davao Death Squad.

'Harassment'

Malacañang called Matobato's action "harassment."

Assistant Communications Secretary Marie Banaag said the Office of the Ombudsman had already terminated an earlier investigation of the Davao killings.

"The complaint is nothing but harassment aimed at distracting the Chief Executive from performing his duty," Banaag said in a statement.

She also said the President was immune from suit and could not be punished by the Ombudsman.

"It is noteworthy to mention that the Ombudsman cannot discipline or remove impeachable officials, which include the President. He enjoys immunity while in office," she said.

Banaag said, however, that Malacañang acknowledges the Ombudsman's constitutional mandate to act on and investigate complaints against government officials.

Rethink immunity

In a talk with the Inquirer, Sabio said it was high time to rethink the presidential immunity from suit.

"What if the President is a serial killer, mass murderer, or psychopath?" he said.

Sought for comment, Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales said she needed to see the complaint first.

"I will see. I will look at the case," she told reporters on the sidelines of an event in Pasig City.

Morales reiterated her vow to inhibit herself and "take no part in cases against Duterte and his family."

Morales is the aunt of Mr. Duterte's son-in-law, Manases Carpio.

On the termination of the Ombudsman investigation of the Davao killings, Morales said she was not the signatory to the January 2016 document, which was approved by Overall Deputy Ombudsman Melchor

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Matobato

Arthur Carandang.

"I'm not a signatory to that. I understand it's the Overall Deputy Ombudsman [Carandang] who came up with it, and it was based on a regional director of the [Commission on Human Rights] who said that it was just *tsismis* [gossip]," Morales said.

Sabio said the killings were "not just rumors."

Matobato's affidavit

In his four-page affidavit written in Filipino, Matobato said Mr. Duterte, when still mayor of Davao City, "created and led" the Davao Death Squad, originally called the Lambda Boys, in March 1988.

He claimed the group consisted of Davao City police officers and some civilians.

"This group commits extrajudicial killings, or the killing of suspected criminals, such as holdup men, rapists, snatchers, drug pushers, drug addicts, and other individuals as ordered by Mayor Rodrigo Duterte," he said.

Matobato claimed that from 1988 to 2013, the group killed "more than 1,000 people."

He claimed that he was tortured when he quit the group in September 2013.

Matobato said he brought the complaint so that the Ombudsman could investigate and call to account the members of the group.

His 47-page judicial affidavit elaborated on his allegations. He said Mr. Duterte was the leader of the group, while SPO3 Arthur Lascañas was Mr. Duterte's second in command.

Matobato said Mr. Duterte went to see the killing and quartering of "big-time" victims at a quarry in Laud district. He said Mr. Duterte wanted to "confirm the identity of the victim."

"Sometimes, he also takes part in the killing," Matobato said, recalling how Mr. Duterte "emptied two magazines of his Uzi machine pistol" on a National Bureau of Investigation agent whose vehicle had blocked the path of the killers who were on their way to an operation.

Matobato said victims were mostly abducted and then killed inside a vehicle by strangling with wire. Lascañas, he said, gave strict orders for the bodies to be chopped up.

He said "almost all" operations were cleared by Mr. Duterte, although Lascañas, whom he described as the "most powerful cop in Davao

City," acted as team leader.

Matobato claimed that he was Lascañas' right-hand man.

He said he was paid P6,000 a month as a "ghost" contractual employee at City Hall, and his pay did not increase during 25 years that he worked with the group.

Assassins also got P3,000-P6,000 incentive for every hit, he said.

Matobato also claimed that Mr. Duterte's son Paolo, now vice mayor of Davao, ordered the killing of a man with whom he had a traffic altercation.

The vice mayor issued a statement on Friday denying Matobato's allegations and calling them "product of the imagination of a madman."

"A closer look at what was filed at the Ombudsman will easily allow us to see the only thing consistent in the Matobato tales—lies. What he filed at the Ombudsman was just a piece of garbage," Vice Mayor Duterte said.

Senate testimony

Matobato's claims were a repeat of his testimony at the Senate investigation of the extrajudicial killings in Mr. Duterte's war on drugs.

Sen. Leila de Lima, the first chair of the Senate committee on justice and human rights, tried to show similarities between the drug killings in Metro Manila and the Davao murders, as a way of showing that Mr. Duterte was delivering on his campaign promise to roll out on a national scale his mailed-fist policy on crime in Davao.

But Mr. Duterte's allies in the Senate stripped De Lima of her committee leadership before she could proceed and the panel, now headed by Sen. Richard Gordon, set aside Matobato's testimony.

The committee returned a report earlier this week, stating that the investigation had found no clear proof that the killings were state-sponsored.

Gordon also recommended that Matobato be prosecuted for perjury and murder, after the hit man testified to killing a Pakistani who was suspected to be a terrorist.

Drug war pattern

In his complaint, Matobato said he believed the Davao killers were connected to the vigilante killings in Metro Manila in Mr. Duterte's war on drugs, noting that the murders in the metropolis were carried out in a similar fashion as the ones in Davao City.

"I recognize our style of wrapping the victims in packing tape or making it appear that the victim resisted and they plant a [caliber] .38 revolver beside the body," Matobato said.

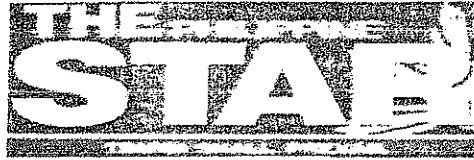
"It's always a .38 revolver because it would be a waste to plant a more expensive gun on the victim. Then, we fire the gun so the victim will have powder burns on his hand," he said.

—WITH REPORTS FROM LEILA B. SALAVERRIA IN MANILA AND ALLAN NAWAL, INQUIRER MINDANAO INQ

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Rody will finish term – Leni

By HELEN FLORES

As far as Vice President Leni Robredo is concerned, President Duterte will remain in office until the end of his term in 2022 as the Liberal Party, which she chairs, has no plan to unseat him, contrary to the scenario raised by his supporters.

Robredo's assurance came a day after the President gave her the same assurance – that she would finish her term amid an electoral protest filed by former senator Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr.

"Kung totoong may 'oust Duterte' plot, ngayon pa lang bubuwelo na ako (If there is really an 'oust Duterte' plot, this early I would be gearing up)," the Vice President told reporters.

She said she renewed her appeal to her partymates that they support the administration's good policies and oppose those that are detrimental to public interest, such as the deadly war on drugs and the moves to reinstate the death penalty.

"I even asked my partymates to be supportive of the government policies that we agreed with," she pointed out.

Robredo said Duterte has only been in office for less than six months, yet some

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Rody From Page 1

are already trying to create a destabilizing situation.

"I don't think it's good that we're here again talking about ousting a leader," she said.

Two Philippine presidents were ousted through people power – the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos in 1986 and Joseph Estrada in 2001.

Robredo has repeatedly denied allegations by Duterte's allies that the LP is working to unseat him so she can take over his position, being the second highest official in the land.

"I always say before, until now, I don't have that dream (to become president). I just want this administration to succeed," she said.

"But for this administration to succeed, it should listen to dissenting voices. When you dissent, it doesn't mean that you want to become the president," she stressed.

Robredo said Duterte has the mandate of

Cabinet Secretary Leoncio Evasco Jr., told her to "desist" from attending Cabinet meetings.

Duterte's spokespersons had said the President had lost his trust in the Vice President.

But in an interview in Albay, Duterte stressed there was no plot to unseat Robredo and that he had no quarrel with her despite his decision to exclude her from Cabinet meetings.

'Stop campaigning'

While Duterte sounded rather conciliatory, his ally Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano had harsher words for the Vice President, whom he asked to "stop campaigning" and instead focus on helping the administration create jobs and reduce poverty.

He also asked Robredo to speak out against the failures of the Aquino administration, and the alleged involvement of some LP members in corruption and drugs.

"There's much more, but in a nutshell I challenge you to stop campaigning and thinking of the presidency and help attract investments, build infrastructure, create jobs and redistribute wealth in our country. Let's do it together," Cayetano said.

Cayetano shot back at Robredo in a post on his Facebook account after the Vice President challenged him to speak up against the Marcoses and the burial of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos at the Libingan ng mga Bayani.

the Filipino people and she has the obligation to support him.

"But we will be encouraged more to support the government if our voices are being heard," she emphasized.

While grateful to Duterte for his assurance, Robredo said she hopes the President would also reassure the public that there would be no clandestine political moves that could spark further uncertainties.

"I heard that, and I thank him for that. But I hope the reassurance will be given as the days, months and years go by," she said, noting that the camp of former senator Ferdinand Marcos Jr., whom she defeated by a slim margin, is making noises of his coming to higher office in 2017.

On the administration's proposed federal form of government that has no position for vice president, Robredo said it does not matter to her as long as it would be beneficial to Filipinos.

Robredo last Monday resigned as chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council after the President, through

"Thank you for the challenge. Let me assure you I am doing what I can in the manner that I believe I can be most effective," Cayetano's post read.

The senator pointed out Robredo herself remained quiet on several issues hounding her LP allies and the Aquino administration.

Cayetano particularly called on Robredo to scrutinize the past administration over its failure to suppress the country's drug problem, which he said "got so bad and out of control."

He also urged Robredo to demand the resignation of her partymates involved in the illegal drug trade, as well as expose and condemn other LP personalities' involvement in graft and corruption, particularly in the previous administration, and "help the government ensure that those who broke the law, regardless of their political color, will be put in jail."

"Let me return the favor and also challenge you with the following... Ask for justice for the SAF 44. Ask for justice for 'tanim-bala' victims. Ask for an investigation and justice on MRT anomalies... Ask for an investigation why, despite expensive fees in the airport in the past administration, no CCTVs were purchased and installed," Cayetano said.

He also asked Robredo to allow the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism and other news outlets to look into her list of donors and undeclared expenses during her campaign for the vice presidency.

– With Paolo Romero

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF

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Miranda appointed acting Army chief

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Vice Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Glorioso Miranda has been appointed by President Duterte as the acting Philippine Army (PA) chief.

Army spokesman Col. Benjamin Hao said the Chief Executive appointed

Miranda as acting PA chief, replacing Lt. Gen. Eduardo Año, who was named last Wednesday as the new AFP Chief of Staff.

Hao said although Miranda is only appointed as chief of the 85,000-strong Army in an acting capacity, his powers are still the same with that of the normal or permanent commanding general of the Philippine

Army.

"If you are appointed in an acting capacity, you can still sign documents, directives, you can change positions, you can sign salaries, attend budget hearings," Hao said.

Miranda, he said, was appointed only in an acting capacity because his tenure as Army chief will only last 10 months as he will retire on October 2017.

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Miranda installed as new commanding general of Army

By Mario J. Mallari

Armed Forces of the Philippines' vice chief of staff Lt. Gen. Glorioso Miranda was installed yesterday as new commanding general of the 85,000-strong Philippine Army, replacing Lt. Gen. Eduardo Ano who was promoted last Wednesday as AFP chief of staff.

Miranda's assumption as Army chief is considered as a lateral move as the position also calls for a three-star general and would trigger top-level reshuffle of senior military officials.

A bemedalled and well-rounded officer, Miranda was among the top contenders for the AFP top post which was bagged by Ano. Both Miranda and Ano are members of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) "Matikas" Class of 1983 which has produced three military chiefs so far.

In fact, Miranda served as acting AFP chief of staff from April 2016 to July 1, 2016.

Prior to his designation as AFP vice chief of staff, Miranda served as commander of Northern Luzon Command. As a battalion commander,

he was instrumental in the capture of dozens of Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) camps in Central Mindanao during the 2000 all-out war.

This is not the first time that an incumbent AFP No. 2 man was laterally moved as Army chief.

In 2000, Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling Jr. was reassigned as Army chief from being the AFP vice chief of staff.

Informed sources said AFP's No. 3 man deputy chief of staff Lt. Gen. Melchor Salvador Mison Jr. will move up as vice chief while Navy Rear Admiral Narciso Vingson, the incumbent commander of the Naval Education and Training Command (NETC).

Mison is a member of the PMA "Maharlika" Class of 1984 while Vingson belonged to PMA "Sandiwa" Class of 1985.

The rise of Ano as AFP chief of staff and the appointment of Miranda as Army cemented the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) "Matikas"

Class of 1983 as the ruling class in the 125,000-strong AFP.

Aside from Ano and Miranda, other *Matikas* occupying key positions are Air Force chief Lt. Gen. Edgar Fallorina; Navy Flag Officer in Command Vice Admiral Ronald Joseph Mercado; Western Mindanao Command chief Lt. Gen. Mayoralgo de la Cruz; Northern Luzon Command Lt. Gen. Romeo Tanalgo and Southern Luzon Command Lt. Gen. Ferdinand Quidilla.

With the incumbent AFP chief of staff and the three service commanders belonged to PMA Class of 1983, they are considered as the majority in the Board of Generals (BoG) which also includes the vice chief of staff and the deputy chief of staff.

President Duterte has reiterated his preference for seniority and that he will not interfere in the BoG deliberations and even in the military promotion.

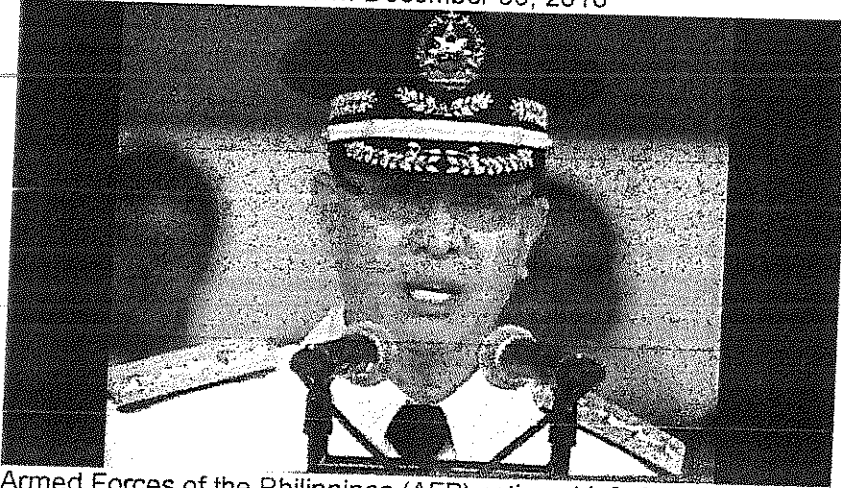
The PMA *Matikas* Class of 1983 has so far produced three AFP chiefs of staff, namely, retired Gen. Hernando Iriberri, Ano and his immediate predecessor Ricardo Visaya.

Army vision: By 2028, a world-class Army that is a source of national pride.

www.inquirer.net

Miranda named as acting Army chief

By: Frances Mangosing - Reporter / @FMangosingINQ
INQUIRER.net / 02:28 PM December 09, 2016



Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) acting chief of staff Lt. Gen. Glorioso Miranda INQUIRER FILE
PHOTO/JOAN BONDOC

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) vice chief of staff Lt. Gen. Glorioso Miranda will assume the post of acting commanding general of the Philippine Army on Friday.

Miranda, a member of the Philippine Military Academy "Matikas" Class of 1983, will serve in an acting capacity with only about 10 months of active service until his mandatory retirement. Republic Act of 8186 states that except for the AFP chief of staff, no officer shall be assigned to key positions or promoted to the rank of Brigadier General/Commodore or higher if he has less than one year of active service remaining prior to compulsory retirement.

The Philippine Army, the largest branch of service in the AFP with 85,000 members, is a key position that demands the full trust and confidence of the President.

Miranda will reach the mandatory retirement age of 56 on Oct. 8, 2017.

His predecessors in the Army leadership, newly-installed AFP chief of staff Lt. Gen. Eduardo Año, retired AFP chief Gen. Hernando Iriberry, are also members of PMA Class of 1983.

Miranda was named as vice chief of staff of the AFP last April, after he swapped positions with his classmate Lt. Gen. Romeo Tanalgo, as commanding officer of the Northern Luzon Command.

The incoming acting Army chief was also once a commanding officer of the Army's 25th Infantry Battalion, Dean of Academic of the AFP Command and General Staff College and camp commander of the General Headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo. **CDG/rga**

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16 December 2016

Standard
PHILIPPINE NEWSPAPER

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1-star general to get Army division

By Florante S. Solmerin

BRIG. Gen. Melquiades Feliciano, Armed Forces of the Philippines Deputy Chief of Staff for Civil-Military Operations (J7), is being eyed to get an Army division command based in Mindanao.

Feliciano was also implicated in the abduction in 2007 of still missing activist Jonas Burgos, son of former *Malaya* publisher and officer-in-charge Ilocos Sur Gov. Jose Burgos.

A reliable source said Feliciano's marching orders to lead the 4th Infantry Division based in Cagayan de Oro City was already "up for signature" by President Rodrigo Duterte.

Last Wednesday, Lt. Gen. Eduardo Año, also implicated in the Burgos case, was installed chief of staff of the Armed Forces.

The high tribunal eventually cleared Año and other officers. Año dismissed allegations by leftists and Burgos' mother Editha, that he was involved in the abduction.

If Duterte signed his designation order, Feliciano would be replacing Maj. Gen. Benjamin Madrigal Jr. who was reported to be promoted for a unified area command position.

Both Madrigal and Feliciano are classmates at the Philippine Military Academy "Sandiwa" Class 1985.

7 December 2016

POLICE FILES

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Lt. Gen. Miranda bagong Army chief

ITINALAGA si Lt. Gen. Glorioso Miranda bilang bagong pinuno ng Philippine Army sa isinagawang turn over of command kahapon.

Ayon kay Philippine Army spokesperson Col. Benjamin Hao, si Miranda ang hahalili sa pwesto na liwan ni AFP chief of staff Lt. Gen. Eduardo Ano na kamakailan lamang itinalagang pinuno ng sandatahang lakas ng Pilipinas makaraang magretiro sa serbisyo si retired General Ricardo Visaya.

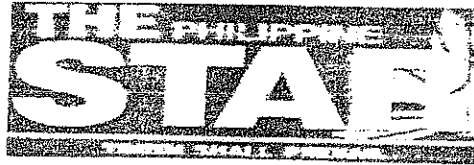
Si Miranda ay miyembro ng PMA class 1983 na mistah ni Ano at nang nagretiro na si retired general Ricardo Visaya.

Ito rin ang naging acting AFP chief makaraang nagretiro sa serbisyo si dating AFP chief retired gen. Hernando Iriberry.

Siya ang naging pinuno ng AFP nuong panahon ng halalan.

Dati siyang commander ng 7th Infantry Division at naging Commander ng Northern Luzon Command.

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2 Abus, soldier killed in Sulu clash

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Two Abu Sayyaf bandits and a soldier were killed while six other militants were wounded in an encounter in Patikul, Sulu on Thursday.

Maj. Filemon Tan Jr., spokesman for the Western Mindanao Command, identified the slain soldier as Sgt. Allan Caliguiran.

Tan said soldiers belonging to the 21st Infantry Battalion encountered around 150 bandits led by Radullari Sahiron, Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan and Mujer Yadah in Sitio Datag, Barangay Panglayahan at around 9:35 a.m. The firefight lasted for 30 minutes.

Government troops recovered a rifle and ammunition from the fleeing bandits.

Meanwhile, Tan said two Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) members and an undetermined number of Maute group members were wounded in an encounter yesterday.

He said MILF fighters led

by Jimmy Balitor encountered the group of Abdullah Maute in the boundary of Buldon and Barira in Maguindanao and Butig, Lanao del Norte.

The MILF is helping the military in its pursuit operations against Maute militants after driving the group out of Butig two weeks ago.

At least 63 militants were killed and 17 others were wounded in the clashes. Two soldiers were killed and 39 other government troopers were wounded.

In a related development, Ahmad Magatus Adil, with aliases of Abu Umbra and Abdulrakman Zacaria, was colared at his safehouse in Barangay Mampang on Thursday.

Adil's arrest was based on a warrant issued by Basilan Regional Trial Court 1 Judge Leo Jay Principe.

The suspect was tagged in the kidnapping of eight plantation workers in Barangay Tairan in Lantawan, Basilan in 2001. Five of the victims were beheaded.

– Roel Pareño

December 2016

The Manila Times

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AÑO UNFAZED BY ATTACKS FROM LEFT

OLD and recycled issues.

This was how newly-installed Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eduardo Año described the alleged human rights violations hurled against him by several leftist groups opposing his appointment to the top military post.

"Those are recycled issues. They were resolved in 2012 and I just want to move on and work silently so I can give the best service to the Armed Forces and to our people," the AFP chief said on Friday.

Leftist groups have asked President Rodrigo Duterte to take a second look at Año's alleged long record of human rights violations and reconsider the appointment.

"The Army under Año's command was responsible for various human rights violations, including the Paquibato massacre in June 2014 which killed three indigenous peoples

and the pouring in of battalions into Mindanao which caused widespread displacement of IPs. When he signed Año's appointment papers, the President might as well have signed the death warrant for the search for justice and accountability for these human rights violations," party-list Rep. Antonio Tinio of ACT said.

Año is also linked to the forced disappearance of farmer-activist Jonas Burgos, son of the late press freedom icon Joe Burgos who was taken by armed men under his command, among them then-Army Lt. Harry Baliaga.

Año was exonerated from the charges filed in connection with the disappearance of Burgos, which Karapatan believed is "a form of whitewash" of the case.

Bayan Muna party-list Rep. Carlos Zarate also urged Duterte to reconsider his decision to stop Año and

the military "from further wreaking havoc in the countryside."

"The continued violation of our people's human rights will certainly jeopardize the progress of the peace process," he said.

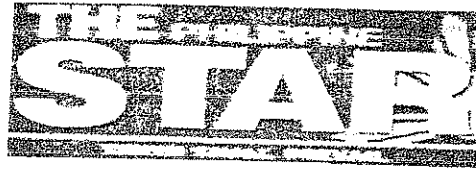
A seasoned combat and intelligence officer, Año is a known "rebel hunter."

He was credited with the neutralization of top communist leaders notably the capture of Benito Tiamzon and his wife Wilma and Andrea Rosal, alleged New People's Army commander and daughter of the late NPA spokesman Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal.

Año was also responsible for the killing of Leonardo Pitao, a top NPA leader who used the nom de guerre Kumander Parago, during an armed clash with government forces in Davao City in June 2015.

FERNAN MARASIGAN

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Duterte to NPA: Stay away from power plants

President Duterte yesterday urged New People's Army (NPA) rebels to stay away from power plants and stop demanding revolutionary taxes from the power companies.

"Do not ask because it will be the consumers who will bear the burden of higher power rates," the President said yesterday afternoon as he led the groundbreaking ceremony for the 10.6-megawatt Pulanai hydroelectric power plant in Zone 11, Hangaron, Barangay Lumbayao in Valencia City, Bukidnon.

The Pulanai plant, owned and operated by Repower Energy Development Corp., is one of the power-generation facilities that will be constructed with the approval of the Department of Energy.

The President told the communist rebels that aside from power plants, they should also keep away from other vital utilities such as communication.

The President joked that he could instead invite the NPA guerrillas to go with him to Manila where he will bring them to the rich citizens from whom they could demand revolutionary taxes.

The President stressed the importance of new power plants such as the Pulanai hydroelectric power generation facility.

'Release of prisoners will have to wait'

Meanwhile, the release of about 130 communist detainees cannot be done until the government makes major headway in the peace talks with the NDF.

President Duterte said yesterday he would have to delay the release of the prisoners, mostly members of the NPA.

"This is how it is: I have conceded to the communists too much too soon.

As yet, I have to see a substantive progress of the talks. They're asking for 130 detainees to be released, all NPAs. Sorry, I cannot do that," he said on Thursday.

The President said he would use the detainees as leverage in the negotiations for peace. Like in a poker game, Duterte said the political detainees are his "ace" in the talks.

"I cannot do it, because *yubusin nila ang baraha ko. Iyong alas ko nga eh, sabihin ko sa inyo, ang alas ko iyong nasa kulungan* (my cards would be used up. My aces, I tell you, my aces are those in jail)," Duterte said.

"Every time that you make, you ask for so many additional... playing a poker game here. *Maubos ang baraha ko, i-release ko lahat iyan. Anopang pag-usapan namin* (I will have no more cards if I release them all. What else will we discuss)," the President said.

Duterte remains optimistic that presidential peace adviser Jesus Dureza and Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III would be able to come back with a formal peace agreement.

"I want a document that will be honored. Because it would be under the good offices of Norway and with the participation of the Norwegians,

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By EDITH REGALADO

they would sign a document – it's a signed document that there is an agreement for a ceasefire, for a definite period until such time that we can sort out things," he said.

Duterte said it has been his aspiration to attain peace with the Communist Party of the Philippines, which is why he earlier opted for a unilateral ceasefire.

As a sign of goodwill, Duterte also ordered the release of NPA top leaders Benito and Wilma Tiamzon.

"I do not want a war with anybody. I'm tired of killing, *tapos na ako niyan. Gusto ko istorya na lang* (I'm tired of that. I just want to tell stories)," he said.

The leftist group Karapatan in Metro Manila launched last Dec. 3 a weeklong fast to demand the release of political prisoners.

Dianne Maries Solmayor, Karapatan Metro Manila coordinator, said that "in the spirit of love and the Christmas

season, we hope that the President will have a change of mind and heart over his pronouncements that releases of political prisoners will be his last card in the peace negotiations with the NDF"

Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate of Bayan Muna party-list group said that the release of political detainees should not be compared to a game of cards.

"They are unjustly charged, so their fate must not be treated as mere toys," Zarate said.

He said the release of the detainees "is not a political game, but an issue of justice. "Revolutionaries were charged, but some of them are farmers, workers, students and leaders of progressive groups."

Zarate said the government and communist rebels should soon lay down their terms on the ceasefire agreement between the two parties and on the release of politi-

cal prisoners.

Meanwhile, the government panel negotiating with the National Democratic Front (NDF) upheld its commitment to facilitate the issuance of an amnesty proclamation and the release of detained communist rebels during the congressional hearing on the proposed amnesty measure last Wednesday.

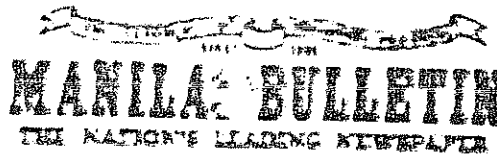
Panel members Rene Sarmiento and Angela Librado-Trinidad highlighted the efforts being exerted by the government in fulfilling its obligation to the peace process to the members of the House special committee on peace, reconciliation and unity.

Trinidad said that both parties agreed in their joint statements last Aug. 26 and Oct. 9 that the government panel will recommend to President Duterte the release of detainees based on humanitarian grounds and the promulgation of an amnesty proclamation. – With Ghio Ong, Jose Rodel Clapano, Christina Mendez

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Abu Sayyaf arrested in Zamboanga City

By **NONOY E. LACSON**

ZAMBOANGA CITY — Authorities in this city arrested Thursday an Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) member, who is facing charges of kidnapping and serious illegal detention in connection with the Tairan kidnapping of 15 farm workers in Basilan in 2001.

Chief Insp. Elmer Solon identified the

ASG member as Ahmad Adil y Magatus, who is also known by his aliases Abu Umbra and Abdulrakman Zacaria, and a resident of Barangay Mampang in this city.

Solon said Adil, who is wanted for kidnapping and serious illegal detention, was arrested about 12:20 p.m. at his residence in Mampang.

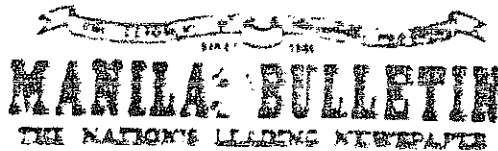
The arrest warrant for Adil was issued by Judge Leo Jay T. Principe of Regional

Trial Court in Isabela City, Basilan on July 10, 2009.

Adil was tagged as among those responsible for kidnapping of 15 farm workers of the Golden Harvest Plantation, in the village of Tairan in Lantawan town Basilan province in 2001.

Adil is now detained at the Culianan Police Station here prior to his turnover to the court.

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Maute Group not behind Iligan grenade attack

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY (PNA) — Local police have ruled out terrorism as the motive for a grenade explosion that rocked the city plaza in Iligan City on Wednesday night.

Iligan City police chief Supt. Leony Roy Ga has said that the explosion at the city plaza was not the handiwork of the terrorist Maute Group.

He said that the traces of the explosive did not bear the mark of the Maute group because the explosion was triggered by a fragmentation grenade.

Ga said the Maute group was known to use improvised explosive device (IED) fashioned out from mortar projectiles with an electronic triggering device and activated with the use of a mobile phone.

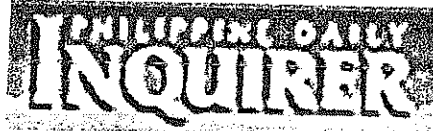
He said police probers recovered the lever of the fragmentation grenade at the site of the explosion, which slightly injured three bystanders.

Ga said police were looking into drugs and personal grudge as possible motives for the grenade attack.

“There were also suspicions that the suspect could just be trying to intimidate the police because the grenade was lobbed a few meters away from the city police station,” he said.

Ga said that the city government of Iligan has raised a P100,000-reward for anyone who could help authorities in identifying the suspect. Investigators have also started to examine footages of the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras around the city plaza.

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PH won't help US patrol disputed sea

It is highly unlikely that the Philippines will allow the US military to use it as a springboard for freedom of navigation patrols in the disputed South China Sea to avoid antagonizing China, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said.

Lorenzana said on Thursday that US ships and aircraft could use bases in Guam, Okinawa, or fly from aircraft carriers to patrol the disputed waters.

Under Mr. Duterte's predecessor, Benigno Aquino III, some US aircraft and ships

stopped in the Philippines on the way to patrolling the disputed waters to challenge China's territorial claims.

Mr. Duterte, who took office in June, has taken steps to mend ties with China and became hostile toward the Obama administration after it raised concerns over Mr. Duterte's deadly crackdown on illegal drugs.

Asked if the Philippines will continue to host US ships and aircraft patrolling the disputed waters, Lorenzana said Mr. Duterte would not likely allow

that to happen "to avoid any provocative actions that can escalate tensions in the South China Sea. It's unlikely."

"We'll avoid that for the meantime," Lorenzana said. "Anyway, the US can fly over there coming from other bases."

In Washington, state department spokesperson Elizabeth Trudeau said on Thursday she could not comment on Lorenzana's remarks as she hadn't seen them, but added: "Our adherence to freedom of naviga-

tion is well known. You know, we will fly, we will sail anywhere within international waters and we will continue that."

The commander of US forces in the Pacific, Adm. Harry Harris, said last month that despite Mr. Duterte's rhetoric, military cooperation with Manila has not changed.

Mr. Duterte has publicly threatened to scale back the Philippines' military engagements with the United States, including scuttling a plan to carry out joint patrols with the US

Navy in the disputed waters, which he said China opposes.

US-Philippine annual combat exercises have been reduced and will be redesigned to focus on disaster response and humanitarian missions. Among the maneuvers to be dropped starting next year are amphibious landing exercises and beach raids aimed at enhancing the country's territorial defense, military officials said.

Mr. Duterte's actions have become a hindrance to US efforts to reassert its presence in

Asia, although the US military has vowed to continue patrolling one of the world's busiest commercial waterways.

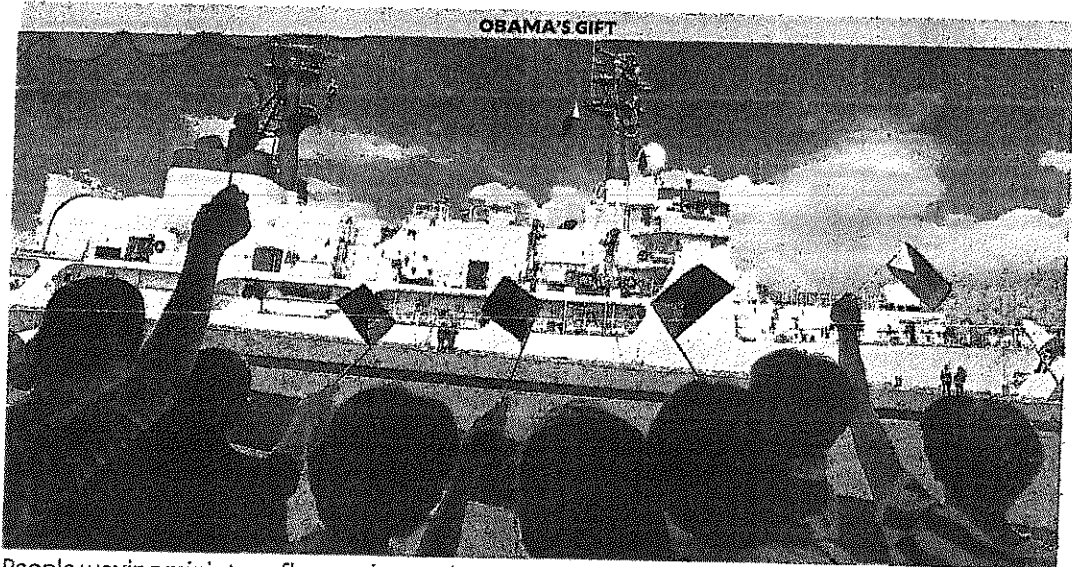
After Mr. Duterte met Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing in October, China allowed Filipinos to fish at disputed Scarborough Shoal. China took control of the rich fishing area in 2012 after a tense standoff with Philippine government ships.

Philippine Coast Guard ships have also resumed patrols at the shoal. —AP

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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People waving miniature flags welcome the arrival of BRP Andres Bonifacio. —MARIANNE BERMUDEZ

PHILIPPINE NAVY GETS 'NEW' FRIGATE

By **Jerome Aning**
@JeromeAningINQ

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana thanked the United States on Friday for supporting efforts to improve the capabilities of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, particularly the Philippine Navy.

Lorenzana spoke at ceremonies attended also by new US Ambassador Sung Kim to welcome the arrival of the Navy's newest ship, BRP Andres Bonifacio, at Manila's South Harbor.

Lorenzana said the former

US Coast Guard cutter was "proof" of the military's resolve and determination to upgrade its capabilities "courtesy of the United States of America."

Kim said the transfer of the ship demonstrated the strong security partnership between the two longtime allies.

The ship, a decommissioned USCG Hamilton-class frigate, will strengthen the "protection of our territorial integrity, and maritime interest," Lorenzana said.

"Our maritime territory is 20 times bigger than our land mass so it's just right that we

go into a program to upgrade our Navy," he added.

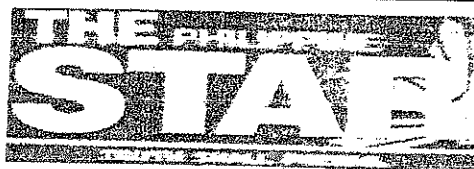
He said the ship would be deployed to the Sulu Sea to fight terrorism, piracy and the illegal drug trade.

New AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Eduardo Año and Navy flag officer in command Vice Adm. Ronald Joseph Mercado joined the welcoming rites.

The ship, which was skippered by Capt. Brendo Casaclan, left the USCG base in Alameda, California, on Nov. 1.

It used to be the USCG's high endurance cutter Boutwell. INQ

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Warships from US, Japan to arrive in Phil

By JAIME LAUDE

Warships and aircraft on patrol in the South China Sea are arriving in the Philippines from US bases in Guam and Japan, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said yesterday.

Lorenzana clarified the US is not allowed to use the Philippines as a staging point to patrol the South China Sea.

He added the US aircraft, including the P3 Orion surveillance planes often seen at Clark Air Base in Pampanga, were on administration stop.

The US warships and aircraft only dock in the Philippines for the needed refueling and resupply, he said.

"What is allowed and what the US has been doing was to send their aircraft and ships

from Guam and Japan to patrol the South China Sea," Lorenzana said.

Lorenzana though conceded the Philippines is benefiting from the freedom of overflight and navigation conducted by the US in the region.

"After loitering in the South China Sea, they pass by Clark or Manila or Subic to refuel and resupply and go back to where they come from in what is called admin (administrative) stopover," he said.

However, in several instances, especially during the term of former president Benigno Aquino, the US surveillance planes were also moni-

tored in Palawan.

Lorenzana, however, gave assurance the Philippines-US alliance remains the cornerstone of the country's security posture.

But he said it is unlikely that the Philippines, under the Duterte administration, will allow the US to make the country its springboard in the freedom overflights and freedom of navigation patrols over the South China Sea.

As this developed, the Philippine Navy's third frigate, *BRP Andres Bonifacio*, arrived Thursday at Pier 13, South Harbor in Manila after more than a month of voyage.

"The Philippine Navy tendered a traditional welcome ceremony for its newly acquired Del Pilar Class Frigate upon her arrival here," Navy spokesman Capt. Lued Lincuna said.

The Philippine government acquired the former US Coast Guard cutter last year through the US Excess Defense Articles program.

Navy Capt. Brendo Casalang brought home Bonifacio to join sister ships *BRP Ramon Alcaraz* and *BRP Gregorio del Pilar* that the Navy has been using in territorial and maritime patrol.

Lorenzana and US Ambassador Sung Kim led officials in the welcome ceremonies yesterday. – With Rainier Allan Ronda

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The Standard

DEFINING THE NEWS

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Reds, govt see truce in January

By John Paolo Bencito

A BILATERAL ceasefire agreement will be signed by the third week of January, National Democratic Front chief negotiator Fidel Agcaoili said Friday as he scored President Rodrigo Duterte's "inhumane" decision

Next page

Reds,...

From A1

treating political prisoners as mere "trump cards."

"The NDF has already announced its willingness to sit down with the GRP peace panel and work on a bilateral ceasefire accord and have it

ready for signing by the third week of January by the parties' respective principals," Agcaoili said in a statement sent to the Manila Standard.

"The bilateral ceasefire can take effect in 48 hours, the time frame within which the President said he would order the release of all the political prisoners."

Agcaoili made his statement

even as the government peace panel negotiating with the NDF upheld its commitment to facilitate the issuance of an amnesty proclamation and the release of detained communist rebels.

Panel members Rene Sarmiento and Angela Librado-Trinidad highlighted the efforts being exerted by the government in fulfilling its obligation to the

peace process to the members of the Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity of the House of Representatives.

Agcaoili said the NDF's willingness to engage in a bilateral ceasefire would depend on Duterte keeping his "word of releasing all of the close to 400 political prisoners soon after a bilateral ceasefire agreement is signed."

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The Manila Times

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3 ASG men slain in Sabah clash

ZAMBOANGA CITY: Malaysian police forces clashed with suspected Abu Sayyaf rebels killing three of them off Semporna City in Sabah after they attacked at least two sea trawlers.

The Malaysian media said police captured two more gunmen and rescued a fishing boat captain, believed to be a Filipino holding a special identity card.

Another skipper, however, was abducted by the two gunmen who escaped at the height of the firefight.

A policeman was wounded in the Thursday attack.

At least seven gunmen onboard a speedboat entered Sabah from Tawi-Tawi and seized the two skippers.

Unknown to the gunmen, a boat operated by General Operations

Force Tiger Platoon in the area to protect the fishing boats engaged the raiders in a sea battle.

The identities of those killed in the clash were not immediately known but police were interrogating those captured.

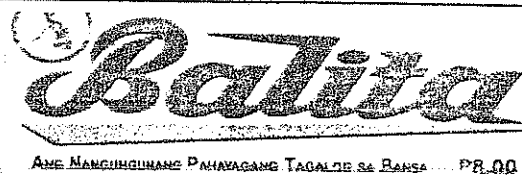
The Philippine military did not give any statement on the cross-border raid.

It was not known how the gunmen managed to sneak into Sabah without being detected by the Philippine Navy, Marines and the Coast Guard deployed near the border.

President Rodrigo Duterte earlier said he gave permission to Malaysian authorities to pursue and destroy Abu Sayyaf kidnappers inside Philippine territory.

AL JACINTO

December 2016



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NAGBAYAD NG RANSOM

Negosyante pinalaya ng Sayyaf

Pinalaya ng Abu Sayyaf ang isang babaeng negosyante makaraang magbayad ng ransom money tatlong buwan matapos itong dukutin sa Lanao del Norte, kahapon ng umaga.

Kinilala ang biktima si Clarita Belisario, may-aring gasolinahan, na dinukot nitong Setyembre 11, 2016.

Ayon sa Lanao Del Norte Police Provincial Office (LNPPPO), pinalaya si Belisario dakong 5:45 ng umaga malapit sa Mercy Hospital sa Barangay Camagui, Iligan City.

Sinamahan umano ang biktima ng isang hindi kilalang babae, isang Maranao, matapos pakawalan ng mga bandido.

Ayon sa pulisya, napalaya si Belisario sa pamamagitan ni Atty. Jam Dimaporo, ng National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)-Lanao del

Norte, at rina Manai Mayor Casan Maquiling at Linamon Sangguniang Bayan Member Renato Pestolante.

Dumanas umano ng trauma ang biktima sa kamay ng Abu

Sayyaf.

Sinasabing nagbayad ang pamilya ni Belisario ng P750,000 para mapakawalan ito.

Fer Taboy

Abu Sayyaf member nakorner

ZAMBOANGA CITY - Inaresto ng magkakasanib na puwersa ng awtoridad sa siyudad na ito ang isang miyembro ng Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) na wanted sa kidnapping at serious illegal detention sa pagdukot sa mga manggagawa sa isang plantasyon sa Basilan noong 2001.

Kinilala ni Chief Insp. Elmer Solon ang nadakip na si Ahmad Adil y Magatus, alyas "Abu Umbra" at "Abdulrakman Zacaria", nasa hustong gulang,

may asawa, at taga-Barangay Mampang, Zamboanga City.

Sinabi ni Solon na naaresto si Adil dakong 12:20 ng tanghali nitong Huwebes sa bahay nito sa Bgy. Mampang.

Sangkot si Adil sa pagdukot sa 15 manggagawa sa Golden Harvest Plantation sa Bgy. Tairan sa Lantawan, Basilan noong 2001.

Nakapiit na ngayon si Adil sa himpilan ng Culianan Police bago iharap sa korte.

Nonoy E. Lacson

December 2016

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EDITORIAL

New AFP chief

A UNITED States-educated army general with an extensive background in military intelligence has been named new chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

With highly-decorated Lt. General Eduardo Año at the helm of the powerful AFP, there should be happy reasons to expect the best in the days, weeks and months ahead.

Año, who will serve for 10 months before reaching the compulsory retirement age of 56, replaced retired Gen. Ricardo Visaya.

A member of Class 1983 of the Philippine Military Academy, the new military chief studied at the US Army Intelligence Center and School in 1993 and the Israel Counter Terrorism Center in 2002.

Visaya and Año are both members of Class 1983 of the PMA, country's premier military school.

We believe that Año would continue the national government's modernization of internal security and territorial defense capabilities.

Año is expected to exert his efforts to end the decades-old insurgency in this impoverished but manpower-exporting Southeast Asian nation of more than 100 million people.

Although trained to fight in war, the country's military officers and men should also support government initiatives to address the armed conflict through peaceful means.

In the view of many, Año's appointment to the top AFP post comes at a critical time in the country's history.

The Duterte administration is pursuing peace with rebel groups, including the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its military arm New People's Army (NPA).

Likewise, the new AFP chief is supportive of the national government's all-out war against illegal drugs not only in the Metropolitan Manila area but also in the countryside.

We hope our soldiers continue to serve the people and country -- after all, AFP officers and men are paid by the taxpayers' money.

AUGUSTO B.
VILLANUEVA
Editor-in-Chief

PEOPLES
Tonight

MA. TERESA L.
LARDIZABAL
Managing Editor

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ONLINE NEWS

10 DECEMBER 2016

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

Philippines: 2 Abu Sayyaf, army soldier die in clashes

From the World Bulletin (Dec 9): **Philippines: 2 Abu Sayyaf, army soldier die in clashes**

At least two ISIL-linked militants and a soldier have been killed, while six others have been injured in clashes in the majority Muslim province of Sulu, the military said Friday.

Maj. Filemon Tan Jr., spokesman for the military's Western Mindanao Command, said in a statement that a 30-minute firefight occurred in Sitio Datag, Barangay Panglayahan in Patikul at 9.30 a.m. (0130GMT) Thursday.

"Members of the 21st Infantry Battalion were conducting a focused military operation when they encountered about 150 Abu Sayyaf members led by Abu Sayyaf leader Radullan Sarhiron," Tan said.

Sahiron, the one-armed most senior Abu Sayyaf leader, has a \$1 million bounty on his head for alleged involvement in the kidnapping of U.S. tourists in 2001.

"The number of casualties on the Abu Sayyaf's side was based on an intelligence report," Tan said adding that the troops recovered an M14 rifle magazine and an empty M14 cartridge from the site of the encounter.

"Soldiers also found a newly-abandoned harbor position believed to have been occupied by the Abu Sayyaf members."

Tan added that authorities are currently verifying reports with Malaysian counterparts of an armed confrontation between Malaysian forces and suspected Filipino gunmen involved in cross-border kidnappings.

The Star online reported Friday that three suspected kidnappers were shot dead and three others captured in a 20-minute gunfight between the police's Tiger Platoon and eight gunmen in waters off Pulau Bodgaya in Semporna at 9.40 p.m. Thursday.

According to Tan, the military is still verifying a report that three Filipinos suspected of involvement in kidnappings in Sabah and nearby areas were killed.

The report claimed that the whereabouts of the two other suspects could not be immediately ascertained as security personnel continue to comb the area.

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Kidnap-for-ransom gangs frequently operate in the seas between the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia.

They are known to hand over their captives to the Abu Sayyaf and negotiate for a ransom that, if paid, is shared with the group.

Earlier this year, the Abu Sayyaf beheaded two Canadian hostages after million-dollar ransoms failed to be paid.

Since 1991, the group -- armed with mostly improvised explosive devices, mortars and automatic rifles -- has carried out bombings, kidnappings, assassinations and extortion in a self-determined fight for an independent province in the Philippines.

It is one of two militant groups in the south to have pledged allegiance to ISIL, prompting fears during the stalling of a peace process between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front that it could make inroads in a region torn by decades of armed conflict.

<http://www.worldbulletin.net/todays-news/181442/philippines-2-abu-sayyaf-army-soldier-die-in-clashes>

Posted by Retired Analyst at 5:12 AM No comments:

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www.dwdd.com.ph

CMO | NOLCOM Conducts Coordinating Conference

Posted by Alvin Santiago on December 9, 2016 at 8:08 AM

CAMP SERVILLANO AQUINO, Tarlac (DWDD) – During the two-day Unified Civil Military Operations Coordinating Conference held at Headquarters Northern Luzon Command (NOLCOM) AFP from December 6-7, 2016 led by LTC Rey T Alvarado (INF) PA, Assistant Chief Unified Command Staff for Civil-Military Operation (U7) which was participated by all CMO staffs under the NOLCOM Area of Operation. **PIO NOLCOM / MCAG**



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www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

Sabah maritime kidnapping, looting ends in bloody shootout; Three dead, two missing

From the New Straits Times Online (Dec 9): **Sabah maritime kidnapping, looting ends in bloody shootout; Three dead, two missing**

The most beautiful waters in the world were the unlikely setting for an orgy of violence, and a deadly confrontation between bloodthirsty, modern-day pirates and fearless law enforcement personnel here last night.

Seven armed bandits in a speedboat took to the waters of Lahad Datu and Semporna and engaged in wanton hijacking, theft, kidnapping and murder on a scale never before seen here, with the crew of fishing trawlers taking the brunt of their brutality.

And although much of it occurred in the pitch blackness of night, the tension and terror were palpable for everyone involved.

The bandits began their rampage in the Bakapit waters of Lahad Datu, where they stormed and commandeered a fishing trawler at around 9pm. The vessel was ransacked and several items, including a mobile phone, were looted; and one member of the crew was abducted, and taken with the men on their continuing spree of violence.

The gang then cruised into Semporna waters, where they encountered a second hapless fishing boat near Pulau Gaya, which they also boarded, taking with them food items and an outboard engine – and leaving the crew stranded.

Several nautical miles later, the bandits came across another defenceless fishing trawler, which they summarily stripped of valuable items, and from which they plucked a second hostage.

As far as the bandits were concerned, the night was far from over, as they were intent on pilfering from many more boats – but when they approached a fourth vessel not long after, little did they know that they had unwittingly led themselves to the boat of the not-to-be-messed-with GOF Battalion 14's Tiger Platoon.

When they realised too late what they were facing, the bandits opened fire, which led to a minute-long shootout – in complete darkness.

"The kidnap group intended to find other boats to steal from, until their vessel (unwittingly) approached the boat of the GOF Battalion 14's Tiger Platoon.

Army vision: By 2028, a world-class Army that is a source of national pride.

"As they drew closer, the Platoon leader saw clearly that one of the kidnappers was holding a long firearm, and another was carrying what looked like a heavy weapon, while a third was laden with chains of bullets around his body," said Sabah Police Commissioner Datuk Abd Rashid Harun.

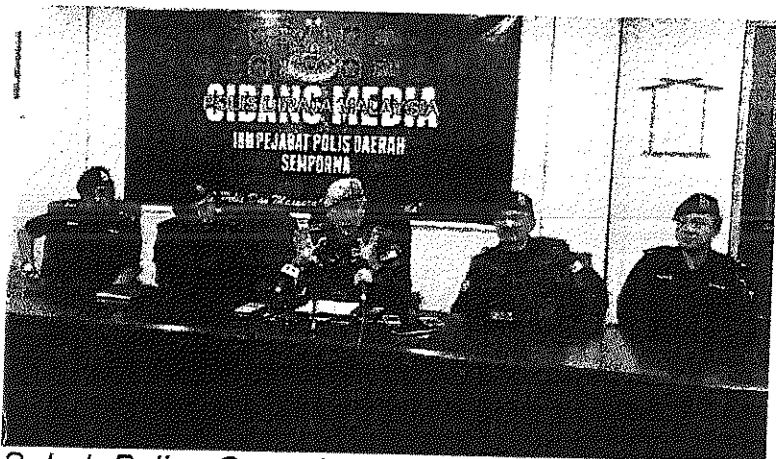
Realising the threat, the officers shouted "Police!" to force the group to identify themselves. However, upon hearing the word, shots were fired from the kidnappers' boat.

"The security team returned fire to defend themselves, and I was told the exchange lasted about one minute," Rashid added at a press conference at the district police station here.

When the skirmish ended, the kidnappers' bullet-riddled boat began to sink, and upon closer examination, three of the criminals were found dead, floating on the water, while two were still alive, and another had disappeared, specifically, the member with the chains of bullets, he added.

Rashid said one kidnap victim from the Lahad Datu incident was rescued, while the second is still missing and the search and rescue operation continues.

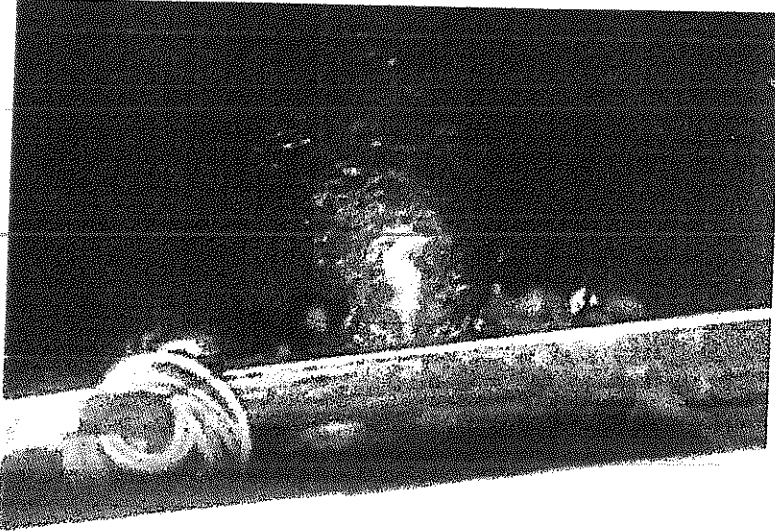
He said at the time, the GOF members involved were conducting an Ops Coral stint to ensure safety in zones under the Eastern Sabah Security Command (Esscom), which was initiated in Sept.



Sabah Police Commissioner Datuk Abd Rashid Harun said that the group opened fire once they heard the officers shouting "police" Pix by Abdul Rahemang Taiming

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Two of the suspects hanging by the boat. Pix courtesy of NST reader.

<http://www.nst.com.my/news/2016/12/195714/sabah-maritime-kidnapping-looting-ends-bloody-shootout-three-dead-two-missing>

Posted by Retired Analyst at 5:06 AM No comments:

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Ex-soldier on drug watch list killed in Ecija

By: Armand Galang - @inquirerdotnet

Inquirer Central Luzon / 05:36 PM December 09, 2016

STA. ROSA, Nueve Ecija — A former soldier who was included on a drug watch list was shot dead by three unidentified suspects in Barangay (village) Mapalad here on Wednesday night (Dec. 7).

Police have not disclosed the rank and former unit of Fernando Magno, 51, who was walking with a female friend when he was attacked and killed at 7:15 p.m. The woman was unhurt.

PO3 Ryan de Castro, the investigator, said the gunmen were riding in a white car which did not have a license plate. Magno previously submitted himself to drug authorities. SFM/rga

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