

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



ARMY

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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS CLIPPINGS

07 February 2016

Sunday

Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land

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

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Deadly quake rocks Taiwan; 2 Pilipinos hurt

14 Pilipinos killed in Iraq hotel blaze

Colombia blames 3 deaths on Zika

Year of the Fire Monkey: Hartman, self-assured

39th TRUCK OF THE YEAR
The 2016 Hino 700

PHILIPPINE INQUIRER

Poe leads at starting gate
Grace back on top in Pulse Asia survey as race for Palace nears

Iraq hotel inferno kills 14 Filipinos

More waiting for Albay kids

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Year of the Fire Monkey: Hartman, self-assured

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The 2016 Hino 700

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Big quake hits Taiwan
6.4-magnitude tremor collapses buildings; 7 dead

14 Pilipinos killed in Iraq hotel fire

Chinese New Year and long stay live in the hearts of many Pilipinos

Malaysian court dismisses terror war charges vs 11 Shariah Muslim followers

US forces Marines to call snap polls

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Malaysian court dismisses terror war charges vs 11 Shariah Muslim followers

US forces Marines to call snap polls

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Lawyer vs FBI in 2004 sees Poe DQ certain

Coronel to delete Señeres from ballot

11 dead after powerful Taiwan earthquake jells buildings

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The Manila Times

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PANAHON TV

The Manila Times

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST FEBRUARY 7, 2016 | SUNDAY

NORTHEAST MONSOON
AFFECTING NORTHERN AND CENTRAL LUZON
(FEBRUARY 6, 5:00 AM)

TAIL-END OF A COLD FRONT
AFFECTING SOUTHERN LUZON
(FEBRUARY 6, 5:00 AM)

SUNRISE 6:23 AM
SUNSET 5:57 PM
MOONRISE 4:52 AM
MOONSET 4:42 PM
LAST QUARTER FEB 1 11:27 AM
NEW MOON FEB 6 10:36 PM
LOW TIDE 4:48 AM -0.19 Meter
HIGH TIDE 9:08 PM 1.04 Meter

Weather Conditions:
Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers
Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms
Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms
Light rains

Map of the Philippines showing weather stations:

- LAOAG CITY 22 - 29 °C
- QUEZON CITY 21 - 27 °C
- BAGUIO CITY 13 - 22 °C
- SBMA/CLARK 23 - 31 °C
- TAGAYTAY CITY 19 - 27 °C
- LEGAZPI CITY 24 - 29 °C
- ILOILO/BAKOLOD CITY 24 - 30 °C
- TACLOBAN CITY 24 - 30 °C
- PUERTO PRINCESA 25 - 30 °C
- METRO CEBU 24 - 31 °C
- CAGAYAN DE ORO 23 - 31 °C
- ZAMBOANGA CITY 24 - 33 °C
- METRO DAVAO 25 - 34 °C

	FEB 1 MONDAY	FEB 2 TUESDAY	FEB 3 WEDNESDAY	FEB 4 THURSDAY	FEB 5 FRIDAY	FEB 6 SATURDAY	FEB 7 SUNDAY
METRO MANILA	23 - 30 °C	24 - 31 °C	24 - 31 °C	13 - 22 °C	13 - 22 °C	14 - 23 °C	
METRO CEBU	24 - 30 °C	24 - 31 °C	25 - 31 °C	24 - 31 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 31 °C	
METRO DAVAO	24 - 34 °C	24 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C	24 - 34 °C	24 - 33 °C	
BAGUIO							
PUERTO PRINCESA							
BORACAY							

AIR21
SABOT KO, PADALA MOY

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/PanahonTV

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Comelec sets printing dry run; ballots to exclude Señeres

By SHEILA CRISOSTOMO

There is still time to remove other names from the official list of candidates – including that of OFW Family Club Part-list Rep. Roy Señeres – as actual printing of ballots will not push through tomorrow, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) said yesterday.

Comelec Chairman Andres Bau-

tista said yesterday they can still process Señeres' statement of withdrawal from the presidential race as tomorrow's procedure at the National Printing Office in Quezon City would only be a dry run.

"I think this is a blessing in disguise because we might be able

to remove more names from the lists, like that of the senators. I was told that when the ballot becomes shorter, printing will also be faster," Bautista said.

He could not say, however, when the actual printing would begin. The original target for ballot printing

was Jan. 25 but it was moved to Feb. 1 and then to Feb. 8 to allow more time for clearing the list of candidates.

"For me, I want the ballots to be clean. If we can remove more names, why not? We are still within the timeline for ballot printing. By

Turn to Page 10

Comelec From Page 1

April 25, we will finish printing the ballots," he added.

The Comelec loads the names of the candidates and other pertinent information about polling precincts on the Election Management System and then the printing system of the NPO.

Señeres' withdrawal has sparked concern that there

would be no more time to remove his name from the official list of candidates because he made the announcement on the last working day before the scheduled start of the printing of ballots.

"For me, if he really wants to withdraw, we cannot stop him. According to his daughter and lawyer, he is ill so the

plan is to accept his withdrawal," Bautista told reporters.

Only the names of five presidential aspirants are expected to be in the printed ballots. They are Sens. Grace Poe and Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Vice President Jejomar Binay, Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte and former Interior chief Manuel Roxas II.

Last Friday, Señeres' lawyer Candy Rivas and daughter Hannah went to the Comelec

Law Department to file his statement of withdrawal, citing his poor health.

The Comelec, however, did not accept his statement of withdrawal, saying the law requires that Señeres personally file the statement.

Rivas told Comelec reporters that they intended to file the statement, with a medical certificate indicating Señeres' condition, either tomorrow or on Tuesday.

Mock signages

To give voters a feel of what to expect in the May 9 elections, the Comelec set up mock signages and instruction displays at a polling center in Quezon City.

Bautista and election officer Eric Santos of Comelec District 3 showed voters and the media some guide signages that would be displayed at voting centers across the country. Yesterday's activity was held at the Pura

Kalaw Elementary School in Cubao, Quezon City. It was not clear if the same activity would be held in other precincts.

"We want voters to experience first hand what to expect on May 9, 2016. We are doing our best to improve the voting experience in public schools where the larger public will be trooping to vote, while we also continue to iron details of mall voting," Bautista said. – With Rhodina Villanueva

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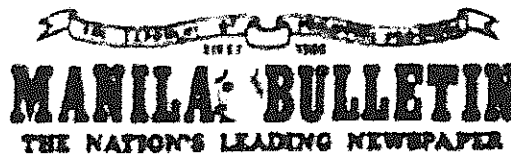
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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• **New commanders**

DAVAO CITY – Three battalions of the Philippine Army under the 10th Infantry (Agila) Division welcomed their new battalion commanders in series of turn-over ceremonies that were facilitated on February 3 and 4. Tenth ID commander Major General Rafael Valencia presided over the change of command ceremonies that were held in the provinces of South Cotabato, Cotabato and Davao del Norte. The 27th Infantry (Action) Battalion based in Barangay Katlon, Tupi, South Cotabato received its new commander in Lt. Col. Benjamin Leander, replacing Lt. Col. Roland Jess Alcudia. The 39th Infantry (Smash 'Em) Battalion in Poblacion, Makilala, Cotabato also welcomed Lt. Col. Harold Argamosa as their new commander replacing Lt. Col. Apollo Lamaton. (Alexander D. Lopez)

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BIFF attempt to blow Maguindanao bridge foiled

DATU SALIBO, Maguindanao (PNA) – The outlawed Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) on Friday tried but failed to blow up a vital bridge in Maguindanao, the military on Saturday said.

Col. Felicisimo Badiongan, commander of the First Mechanized Infantry Brigade based in Datu Saudi Ampatuan town, said vigilant civilians informed

the military about the presence of a suspected improvised bomb that planted on a bridge that was still undergoing construction in Barangay Butalo, Datu Salibo town in Maguindanao.

"While our troops were conducting clearing operations and bomb disruption, the BIFF were firing at us," Badiongan said in a phone interview.

An Army official sustained a wound

on his head during the sporadic attacks, according to Capt. Joan Petinglay, 6th Infantry Division spokesperson.

"He is safe now, he only sustained minor injuries," Petinglay said in a phone interview.

Using Barret Cal. 50 sniper rifles, the bandits were sniping at government forces at about 4 p.m. forcing a sporadic firefight.

According to Badiongan, the BIFF has been trying to disrupt the construction of the bridge because they fear the infrastructure would make it easier for military hardware to reach their hideouts in Datu Salibo.

The bridge project is funded under the priority development fund of Maguindanao Second District Rep. Zajid Mangudadatu.

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The
Standard
DEFENDING THE PEACE

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MORO REBELS ATTACK GOVT PROJECT

By Francisco Tuyay

THE Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters resumed attacks on military installations in Central Mindanao and attacked a government project in Maguindanao, wounding an Army officer, the military reported Saturday.

Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay, spokesperson of the Army's Sixth Infantry Division,

identified the wounded officer as Capt. Jimmy Amoloy, who was grazed by bullet in the forehead.

Amoloy, one of the officers of the 22nd Mechanized Company of the Second Mechanized Battalion, was deployed to secure a government project at Sitio Dagading, Barangay Tee in Datu Salibo, Maguindanao when his unit was fired upon by BIFF rebels at

about 4:30 p.m. Friday.

In the initial exchange of fire, Amoloy was hit prompting his men to extract him and send him to the headquarters of the First Mechanized Brigade for medical treatment.

"The BIFF rebels fired at the army troopers because they are preventing the entry of development in the area," Petinglay said in a text message. *Next page*

Moro...

From A1

Reports said the BIFF rebels that figured in the clashes were under BIFF commanders known as Bungos, Abusaiden, Kagui Tatang and Uztadz Roman.

A back hoe and excavator owned by the project contractor was damaged due to intense gunfire from the BIFF rebels.

Additional forces from the 1st Mechanized Brigade were dispatched to the construction site to augment the troops securing the

development project.

The fighting sparked a day after military authorities enforced strict security measures in Sulu amid intelligence reports that the Abu Sayyaf had recruited jihadists to stage test bombings in the island of Jolo.

Brig. Gen. Alan Arrojado, commander of the Joint Task Group Sulu, said this prompted high-level security measures after six reported recruits of ASG bandits were sighted in Jolo to conduct the test missions.

Arrojado said Abu Sayyaf recruits belonging to the group of Majan Sajidjuan, alias Apo Mike,

were monitored roaming in Jolo.

"Apparently, the recruits were instructed by Apo Mike to conduct bombings in Jolo," Arrojado said.

Reports said the targets of bombings by the ASG were commercial establishments, Jolo Cathedral, Jolo market, ports, naval vessels, entertainment centers frequented by military and police, Coast Guard Stations and business sites.

Parallel to bombings of government vital entities and private enterprises, the ASG were also ordered to initiate roadside bombings, specifically along the Jolo-Tagbak routes, aimed at military convoys.

The report said the homemade bombs to be used by the recruits were made by ASG bomb experts Muamar and Abu Jihad.

Arrojado said that while they are still verifying the authenticity of the reports, security has been fortified at the supposed targets and other establishments to deter the bomb attacks.

He said the bombing threat may be meant to be a diversionary move by the extremists to impair the ongoing operations against them in the province.

On Friday, elements of the Army's 32nd Infantry Battalion discovered an unexploded fragmen-

tation grenade at a nearby military post in Patikul, Sulu. The explosive device was found at about 5:45 a.m. a few meters away from the Tagbili Detachment.

"It was believed that the grenade was hurled at around 5:45 a.m. when the sentinel heard something drop, falling from the rooftop, but when he searched the area at that time found nothing until its discovery at daybreak," Arrojado said.

On Tuesday, an additional Marine battalion was mobilized in Sulu as part of the government's security preparations after the Bangsamoro Basic Law failed to pass in Congress.

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The Manila Times

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Army, BIFF clash anew in Maguindanao

COTABATO CITY, Maguindanao: An Army captain was wounded as the military clashed on Friday with fighters of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) in Datu Salibon town in Maguindanao.

Col. Felicisimo Budiongan, commanding officer of the Army's 1st Mechanized Brigade based in Datu Saudi Ampatuan town, said the firefight started at past 4 p.m. in Barangay Butalo.

An Army unit had been dispatched to the area to defuse an improvised explosive device

planted found in a bridge under construction.

"Our bomb experts were dismantling the explosive when the bandits noticed us, then fired at our troops and we responded with artillery fires," Budiongan said.

The attackers reportedly used .50 caliber sniper rifles. The Army had to retaliate with several rounds of mortars after armed men - reportedly from nearby Shariff Aguak - reinforced the BIFF.

Army bomb experts later safely defused the bomb, Bu-

diongan said.

The spokesperson of the 6th Infantry Division Captain Jo-Ann Petinglay blamed rebel leaders Ustadz Roman, Bungos, Abusaiden and Kagui Tatang for the attack.

BIFF spokesman Abu Misri Mama said they fired at government forces because they came too close to their location.

The BIFF, which earlier pledged allegiance to the Islamic State (IS), said the IED was meant to prevent the government security forces from entering their area.

The clash between the Army and the BIFF came amid fears that war may erupt in Mindanao anew after Congress failed to pass the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL).

The BBL is a component of the signed peace agreements between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

The BIFF, which broke away from the MILF in 2008, is opposing the current peace process and is insisting on an independent state.

**JULMUNIR I. JANNARAL
AND MOH SAADUDDIN**

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Lumbia airport to be converted into US military depot – Gazmin

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY (PNA) – The Lumbia airport will be converted into a military depot of the United States, a government official said here.

Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin made the disclosure during his visit here on the occasion of the Philippine Army's 46th founding anniversary earlier this week.

According to Gazmin, the US and Philippine governments are now also reviewing the reactivation of eight former US military bases in the country.

The two-week anniversary celebra-

tion that started last January 23 ended Friday.

Gazmin said the US and the Philippine government, under the Enhance Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA), have already agreed to utilize the Lumbia airport as a military depot for the US servicemen.

"As a depot, the airport would be utilized for military equipment necessary for rescue operations during emergencies," he said.

Gazmin said the presence of the military facility would make it easier to deploy US servicemen in times of emergency.

The Lumbia airport, about five

kilometers southwest of the city, is no longer being used for commercial aviation purposes after the opening of the new airport in Laguindingan, Misamis Oriental in 2013.

At present, the 500-hectare airport complex is home to the 10th Tactical Operations Group of the Philippine Air Force (PAF) in Northern Mindanao.

The Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) owns the Lumbia airport complex.

A House bill is pending in Congress urging the national government to return the lot to the city government of Cagayan De Oro.

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AFP to reconfigure armored personnel carriers from US

By JAIME LAUDE

The military will reconfigure some of the 114 armored personnel carriers (APC) recently acquired from the US into armored infantry fighting vehicles for territorial defense.

This was according to Brig. Gen. Edgar Gonzales, commander of the Army's Mechanized Infantry, who said the changes would be made as soon as funds become available. Gonzales' command is based in Camp O'Donnell in Capas, Tarlac.

The US officially turned over M113A2 tanks to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) last Thursday.

Gonzales did not say how many of the APCs would be retrofitted for combat purposes. The reconfigured vehicles would be armed with 25mm automatic cannons.

The US has been helping the Philippines build a credible defense system.

The country has long neglected territorial defense as its military had focused on quelling communist insurgency and the Muslim separatist movement in Mindanao. China's growing aggressiveness in asserting its claims over almost the entire South China Sea

and West Philippine Sea has prompted the Philippines to rethink its military focus.

Currently, the Army only has five mechanized infantry battalions and two cavalry battalions with less than 400 armored assets.

Gonzales said Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin has

given him the green light to proceed with the reconfiguration plan for the APCs.

Part of the reconfiguration plan is the replacement of the APCs' engines with more powerful 265 horsepower engines. The units would have anti-aircraft guns and well as hi-tech communication systems.

ONLINE NEWS

07 FEBRUARY 2016

www.pna.gov.ph

News Feature MID plans to convert additional APCs into RCWS platforms

By Priam F. Nepomuceno

MANILA, Feb. 6 (PNA) -- Plans are afoot to convert some of the refurbished 114 M-113A2 armored personnel carriers (APCs), acquired through the US Excess Defense Articles Program, into remote-controlled weapon systems (RCWS) platform.

"We already have APCs converted into remote-controlled weapon systems (platforms). We can upgrade some of these APCs into such and further boost our capabilities," Mechanized Infantry Division (MID) commander Major Gen. Edgar Gonzales said in a press briefing Saturday.

Gonzales was referring to the 28 Israeli-supplied APCs, of which 14 will be configured as fire support vehicles, four as infantry fighting vehicles, six as armored personnel carriers, another four as armored recovery units.

Upgrades include installation of 25 mm unmanned turrets, 12.7 mm (.50 caliber machineguns) RCWS and fire control systems (FCS) for 90 mm turrets.

The first six RCWS units, armed with .50 caliber machineguns, were delivered last year.

The EDA Program grants excess US military equipment, without cost, to qualified allied countries.

The transfer is a result of a formal request made by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to assist in their defense modernization efforts.

The M-113A2 was developed to provide a survivable and reliable light tracked vehicle that allows for troops to be brought forward under armor for dismounted operations.

Commissioning of these vehicles will greatly boost the numbers of the 343 armored vehicle-strong MID.

The AFP virtually got these additional armored assets for free saved for the shipping costs which amounted to Php 67.5 million and refitting of .50 caliber machine guns to the APCs. (PNA)

RMA/PFN

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Granada, hinagis sa military detachment sa Sulu

By Bombo Marilyn delos Santos Posted in [Latest News](#) Sunday, 06 February 2016 04:17

ZAMBOANGA CITY- Isa na namang granada ang inihagis ng hinihinalang kasapi ng Abu Sayyaf group (ASG) sa military detachment sa Barangay Taglibi, Patikul, Sulu.

Inihayag ni B/Gen. Alan Arrojado, ang commander ng Joint Task Group-Sulu, kanina ay napansin ng mga kasapi ng 32nd Infantry Battalion ng Philippine Army na may isang matigas na bagay na nahulog sa bubong ng Taglibi detachment.

Nang hinanap nila kung ano ang nahulog sa lugar ay dito na nakita ang isang unexploded ordnance na isang MK2 grenade.

Paniniwala ng militar na plano talagang pasabugin ang hinagis na granada pero masuwerteng hindi ito sumabog.

Una rito ay isa ring improvised explosive device (IED) na gawa sa dalawang bala ng 81mm mortar ang nadiskubre ng militar malapit din lamang sa inabandonang military detachment sa Sitio Bulabog, Barangay Bonbon sa naturang munisipyo.

Kung maaalala, pitong mga sundalong Marino ang nasugatan sa nangyaring roadside bombing kahapon matapos sumabog ang nakatanim na IED habang dumadaan ang convoy ng Marine Battalion Landing Team.

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Mga sundalo binalaan muli vs pag-'share, like, comment' sa social media post ng mga kandidato

By Bombo Kalibo Posted in [Latest News](#) Saturday, 06 February 2016 02:44

KALIBO, Aklan - Pinagbawalan ang mga sundalo na mag-share, mag-like at mag-comment sa mga post sa social networking sites ng mga kandidatong nangangampanya kaugnay sa nalalapit na local at national election sa Mayo 9.

Sa interview ng Bombo Radyo Kalibo, sinabi ni Lt. Col. Ray Tiongson, hepe ng 3rd Infantry Division public affairs office ng Armed Forces of the Philippines sa Jamindan, Capiz, batay sa direktiba na kanilang natanggap mula sa higher headquarters, mahigpit na ipinagbabawal ang anumang uri ng paglabag sa Omnibus Election Code.

Nangangahulugan aniya ito na bawal ang partisan political activity o pakikisawsaw sa pulitika ng mga sundalo.

Papatawan aniya ng kaukulang parusa ang sinumang lalabag dito.

Samantala, sinabi pa ni Tiongson na tinututukan nila kung paanong maging mapayapa at maayos ang eleksyon sa isla ng Panay.

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Maliban aniya sa pagbibigay ng seguridad sa eleksyon, ang pagboto lamang ang magiging partisipasyon ng mga sundalo.

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5 AFP at PNP generals bibigyan nang retirement honors sa PMA

By Bombo BaguioPosted in [Latest News](#)Saturday, 06 February 2016 16:12

BAGUIO CITY - Kumpirmadong dadalo bukas ang limang matataas na opisyal ng Philippine Military Academy (PMA) para tanggapin ang kanilang retirement honors sa gaganaping testimonial parade and review sa naturang akademya.

Ayon kay PMA Public Information Officer Lt. Col. Reynaldo Balido Jr., ang mga pararangalan na opisyal ay kinabibilangan ni Vice Admiral Alexander Lopez, Police Deputy Director General Danilo Constantino, Major Gen. Ivan Samarita na pawang mula sa PMA Class 1982; si Brig Gen. Joselito Kakilala, PMA Class 1984, at Police Chief Supt. Francisco Santiago, PMA Class 1988.

Aniya, magsisimula ang arrival honors ng alas-8:00 ng umaga habang ang testimonial parade and review ay alas-10:30 trenta sa Borromeo Field.

Pagkatapos nito ay makikisalo ang mga opisyal ng pananghalian sa mga kadete.

Ang mga opisyal ay inaasahang magreretiro ngayong taon.

Ang testimonial parade and review ay karaniwang isinasagawa ng PMA bilang pagkilala sa mga magreretiro na alumnus ng akademya na nagpakita nang magandang serbisyo sa publiko.

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Uniformed personnel, dapat sa GSIS na lang ang contribution -

DBM

By Bombo IloiloPosted in [Latest News](#)Saturday, 06 February

ILOILO CITY - May panukala ngayon ang Department of Budget and Management (DBM) na maghulog ng kontribusyon ang military and uniformed personnel sa Government Service Insurance System (GSIS).

Ito'y upang hindi na mamroblema pa ang gobyerno sa gagawing pagpopondo ng mga retirement benefits ng mga kasapi ng Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police at ibang uniformed personnel.

Sa interview ng Bombo Radyo kayDBM Secretary Florencio Abad, sa ngayon base sa report ni GSIS General Manager Robert "Bernie" Vergara, ay umaabot na sa P5.87 trillion ang kabuuang babayaran sa mga pension ng mga sundalo at kapulisan, na mas mataas kaysa sa naipasang pondo ng bansa na nasa P3 trillion lamang.

Labas pa aniya rito ang indexation cost sa apat na taon na aabot sa P126 billion.

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Aniya, sagot ito sa nakikitang problema ng pamahalaan sa pension system ng bansa kung saan hindi madaling magtaas sa mga pension ng mga retirado dahil sa limitadong pondo.

Dagdag ni Abad, imumungkahi niya ito sa pangulo upang mapag-aralan ng mabuti at maaaring maipatupad na sa mga bagong batch ng papasok sa military at police service.

Samantala sa isyu naman ng pagOveto ng presidente sa P2,000 increase sa SSS pension ng mga retirees, ayon sa kalihim ay walang karampatang pagkukunan para sa dagdag sa pension kaya't kung kukunin ito sa contribution ng mga members, iikli ang buhay ng pension system at posibleng maapektuhan din ang kanilang retirement benefits.

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