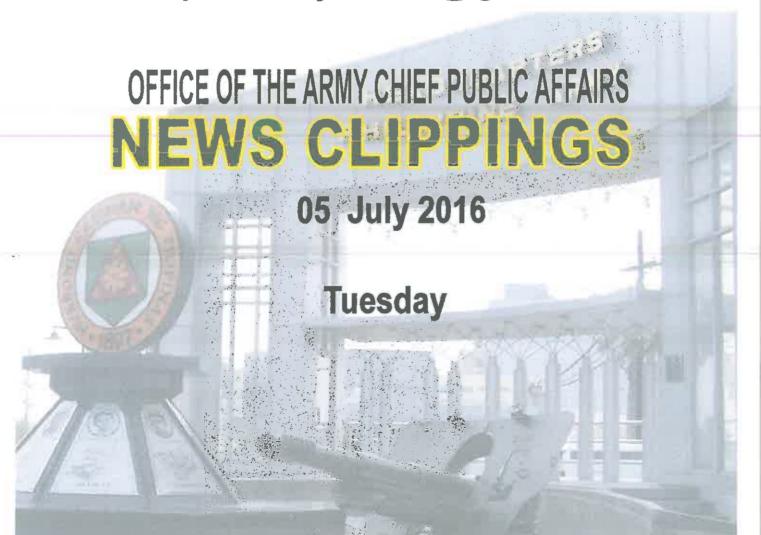




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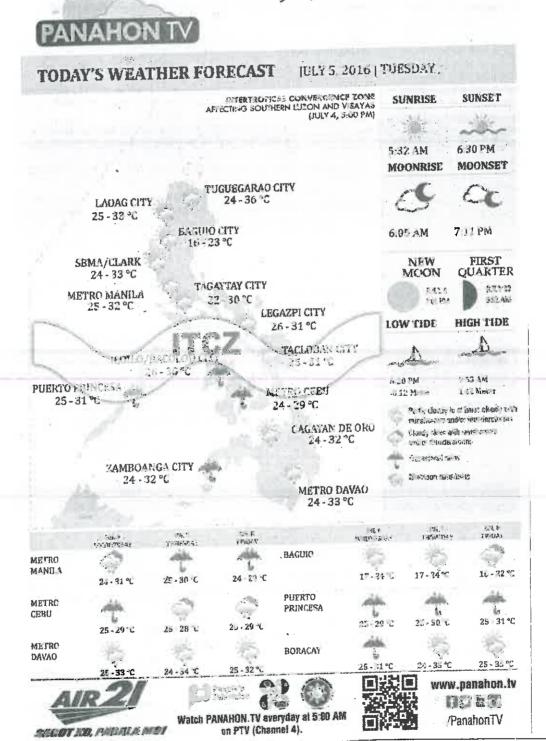
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05 July 2016

# ROURER

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# Drug killings alarm Palace

#### At least 23 drug suspects killed

#### **By Marlon Ramos**

BELIEVE it or not, the Duterte administration is also alarmed at the spike in drug killings in the country.

Speaking to reporters in Malacafiang yesterday, presidential spokesperson Ernesto Abella said President Duterte was aware of the spate of drug killings involving police and of what appeared to be summary executions of drug suspects.

Abella said the rising body count was a cause for "concern" in the administration, adding that it could be an indication of the "depth of the drug menace" in the country.

At least 23 drug suspects have been killed since the inauguration of Mr. Duterte on June 30.

Mr. Duterte was elected on an anticrime platform that included killing tens of thousands of criminals and reviving the death penalty for heinous crimes.

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#### From page A!

He told police not to wait for him to assume office and instead proceed with a determined campaign against drugs.

To inspire police, he offered millions of pesos in bounties to officers who could kill drug lords.

He also urged armed civilians to kill drug pushers and dealers in their neighborhoods, offering them medals and promising to protect them from prosecution.

On July 1, a day after Mr. Duterte's inauguration, a man tagged as one of the top drug peddlers in Caloocan City and a dismissed policeman who allegedly served as his bodyguard were killed in a gun battle with police.

On July 3, eight alleged drug dealers were killed in Manila. Five of them were killed in what police described as "follow-up antidrug operation" in the Golden Mosque area of Quiapo district.

On the same day, the bodies of two men were found on Palanca Street, also in Quiapo, with tags on them describing them as drug pushers.

Also on that day, an alleged drug dealer was shot dead by pelice on Route 10, in Manila's Tondo district.

From July 1 to 3, 13 suspected drug traders and pushers were killed in Quezon province.

According to the Philippine National Police, 25 drug suspects were killed in police operations across the country from June 16 to 20 alone. This means five drug suspects were killed in police operations every day even before Mr. Duterte assumed office.

At least 22 suspected drug-related killings outside police operations were also reported from May 14 to June 30.

The increasing drug killings have alarmed human rights advocates, who have called for an investigation.

Edre Olalia, secretary general of the National Union of People's Lawyers, said the killings must be halted.

"The drug menace must stop. . Yet the apparent serial summary executions of alleged street drug users or petty drug lords, which appear sudden, too contrived and predictable, must also stop," he said in a statement. "The two are not incompatible."

In Quezon province, Gov. David Suarez promised to look into the deaths of the 13 drug suspects, and asked the police to explain the "vigilante-style" killings"

But Senior Supt. Eugenio Paguirigan, provincial police director, said the suspects deserved to die.

"These drug pushers should be killed. [They] were on our



BIG 'SHABU' HAUL National police Chief Ronald "Bato" de la Rosa and other police officials present the 180 kilograms of methamphetamine, or "shabu," worth about P900 million, at a press conference in Camp Crame, Quezon City, on Monday. The drugs were seized in Claveria town, Cagayan. The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency said the drug haul was 300 kilograms.

list of illegal drug traders, anyway, Paguirigan said.

#### Legal operations

Abella said that while Mr. Duterte had openly expressed his disgust for drugs, the President is "very well aware" that the campaign against drugs must be carried out within the bounds of the law.

"And so whatever needs to be done will be done." Abella said.

He said the President also knew that hundreds of people who had admitted to using or selling illegal drugs had surrendered to authori-

ties for fear of ending up dead.

"I'm sure his ear is on the ground and he's listening," Abella said, adding that regional rehabilitation centers would be established to help the drug users who had turned themselves in.

In the Visayas, 1,019 drug peddlers, runners and users have surrendered to the authorities since Friday. Two hundred-four of them are from Bohol and 160 are from Cebu, who turned themselves in at different police stations yesterday.

Narcotics police have also been busy since Mr. Duterte assumed office.

On Sunday, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) agents seized up to 300 kilos of methamphetamine during a raid on a farm in Claveria, Cagayan.

The Philippine National Police reported that the haul was 180 kg, worth P900 million, in a news conference at Camp Crame, Quezon City, yesterday

No one was arrested during the raid, but PDEA agents said the farm in Culao village belonged to a certain Rene Dimaya.

In Cavite province, simultaneous police raids in the towns of Silang, Gen. Mariano Alvarez, Naic, Noveleta, Amadeo, General Trias, Rosario, Kawit and Maragondon and Imus City resulted in the arrest of 23 drug suspects on July 1.

In Camarines Sur province, police arrested 12 drug suspects in a raid in Naga City on Saturday.

#### Firm pressure

Asked if the President was condoning the attacks on drug suspects, Abella said: "I don't know if the term should be 'condoning,' but definitely he has a position regarding [illegal] drugs. He's out to exert firm pressure, firm hand in order to deter the spread of drugs."

As for the possibility that the President will name in public people involved in illegal drugs, like what he did when he was the mayor of Davao City, Abella said: "If it does happen, and it may, it will not be without precedent."

Abella clarified the President's call for the communist New People's Army (NPA) to help the government in hunting down drug traffickers.

"What he was saying is that he's also recognizing that they (the NPA) have the right in order to be able to combat the whole [drug problem]. What I'm saying is, whatever happens, it will still go to a process," Abella said.

"This is not a free for all. There's a process. In other words, we're just expanding the ways of curbing illegal drugs," he said.

Asked if the communist rebels would be allowed to openly run after drug traffickers, Abella said: "They will follow the right process. They have their own process." With reports from Almi Ilagan-Atienza, Inquirer Research; Villamor Visaya Jr. and Gabriel Cardinoza, Inquirer Armand Northern Luzon; Galang and Carmela Reves-Estrope. Inquirer Central Luzon; Delfin T. Mallari, Juan Escandor Jr. and Maricar Cinco, Inquirer Southern Luzon; Nestor P. Burgos Jr., Doris C. Bongcac. Leo Udtohan, Inquirer Visayas: and Reuters

**5 July 2016** 



Page: 1

# Leni calls on Rody

# No Cabinet post offered to VP

By HELEN FLORES

Vice President Leni Robredo called on President Duterte at Malacañang yesterday, telling him that his success is the country's success and committing her full support.

Presidential Communications Office chief Secretary Martin Andanar said last night that Duterte did not offer a Cabinet position to Robredo, who ran under the Liberal Party.

Further details of the first formal meeting between Duterte and Robredo were not made available to the public They briefly met during last Friday's turnover of command of the Armed Forces of the Philippines at Camp Aguinaldo.

Robredo described yesterday's meeting as "very cordial" and Duterte "warm and accommodating."

She did not say whether the President offered her a Cabinet post or if they even discussed the matter.

Duterte was heard offering Robredo a snack, which she declined.

Andanar and presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella were mum on the details of the meeting, which was seen to further thaw relations between the country's top officials.

Robredo said she told the President that she was there to personally convey to him her full support for his government.

"I told him that his success is also our country's success," she said. "From the start, we are open to the idea of working closely with the new administration and my meeting this afternoon with the President attests to that."

A short clip of Robredo's arrival at the Palace was posted on the Facebook page of the Presidential Broadcast Staff.

Turn to Page 7

#### Leni calls From Page 1

She was wearing a light blue dress with a beige blazer while Duterte was in a beige shirt with sleeves rolled up and khaki pants matched with a pair of brown boots.

Special assistant to the President Christopher Go welcomed Robredo to the Palace

and brought her to the study room where the closed-door meeting was held.

After the meeting, the President accompanied Robredo back to her vehicle.

When she bowed to shake hands with him, he said to her: "Do not bow to me. I get embarrassed. Do not put too much into it."

The two are expected to meet again today at the anniversary celebraton of the Philippine Air Force in Pampanga.

Hours before the meeting, Robredo urged Filipinos to support the Duterte administration for the good of the country.

"As Vice President, I believe my top responsibility is

to help rally everyone behind the new government. This administration deserves our support," Robredo said in her speech at the Tapatan sa Aristocrat media forum in Manila.

"This is not just for President Duterte, this is for the entire nation," she said. Robredo has expressed full support for Duterte even as the President had repeatedly

said he would not give her any Cabinet post so as not to offend his friend, Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

Robredo defeated Marcos by a slim margin in the last elections.

Marcos has filed an election protest, questioning Robredo's

The Vice President, who belongs to the Liberal Party, said the country could not afford to lose time bickering, as the new administration needs to address a number of social issues.

"This is the right time to bring everyone together and rally behind the new administration," she said.

"There's a lot to be done. Six years is a long time, but because there's so much to do, that's a brief period," she said.

- With Christina Mendez

**5** July 2016



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#### 20 Magdalo members to join BOC

At least 20 members of the Magdalo group are expected to join the Bureau of Customs, newly appointed BOC Commissioner Nicanor Faeldon said yesterday.

According to Faeldon, the former soldiers are "willing to join the BOC in a subordinate

capacity."

Among those being eyed for BOC positions are former Army members Gerardo Gambala, Milo Maestrecampo and Alvin Ebreo, and Navy Lt. Senior Grade James Lavug.

"I have worked with these people I know how sincere they are in their efforts to help the government. I asked them to volunteer," Faeldon said.

Faeldon said some of them would be assigned to the bureau's collection districts.

The Customs chief is also planning to reactivate the agency's water patrol unit to help curb smuggling.

Since the BOC has no sea assets, Faeldon said he would seek the help of the Philippine Coast Guard and Navy.

Meanwhile, BOC Deputy Commissioner for Enforcement Group Ariel Nepomuceno has submitted his resignation to President Duterte.

- Evelyn Macairan

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# AFP girds for shock-and-awe tactics against Abu Sayyaf

THE Armed Forces of the Philippines will employ a "shock-and-awe" strategy in defeating the Abu Sayyaf Group in Basilan and Sulu, AFP Chief Ricardo Visaya said on Monday

"There will be 'shock and awe' [in the campaign against the ASG] but I won't go into specifics because this will [reveal our] strategy and tactics," he added

"Shock and awe" is a military doctrine based on the use of overwhelming power and spectacular display of force to paralyze the enemy's perception of the battlefield and destroy its will to fight.

Visaya earlier said the AFP will direct unrelenting pressure against the ASG and its allied terrorist cells. "We will be unrelenting in our focused military operations against terrorist groups like the ASG and all its allied terrorist cells. We will realign military resources to their identified bailiwicks and sanctuaries and apply our military strength to suppress them, hunt them down and finish them." Visaya stressed.

"We will continue to apply the full force of the law 24/7 to go after these criminals and profit-seeking elements who operate under the guise of religious fervor and holy war," he added.

To ensure this, Visaya said the AFP will have to boost its armament acquisition program to further beef up its capacity and capability to search and engage these rogue and lawless elements. PNA

Uh July 2016

#### The Manila Times

#### NPA rebels can't arrest drug suspects

BY JEFFERSON ANTIPORDA REPORTER

SENATORS on Monday maintained that New People's Army (NPA) rebels can't arrest or kill drug personalities because only members of lav: enforcement agencies have the authority to enforce the law.

Senator Panfilo Lacson said while there is a provision in the law that allows citizen's arrest, it does not apply to the communist rebels who are not even allowed to

possess firearms legally.

The government, he noted, is the only one that should enforce the law. Allowing anyone to carry out law enforcement duties may lead to anarchy, Lacson warned.

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#### **ARREST FROM A1**

#### NPA rebels can't arrest

"I will not allow such kind of system to go on. Not only does it not look good, it is also unconstitutional," he explained.

President Rodrigo Duterte, in his speech during turnover ceremony at the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) on Friday, sought the cooperation of communist rebels in the fight against illegal drugs.

He said the rebels can try suspected drug dealers in their own court.

The President also suggested that the NPA finish off known drug dealers in their area.

But Lacson maintained that the Philippines only has one government, one law enforcement agency, one judiciary.

Senate President Franklin Drilon agreed.

The NPA, he said, has no authority to enforce the law because they are not the government.

A military official who declined to be identified also wondered why Duterte had to tap the NPA in the fight against illegal drugs when the government has enough resources to combat the menace.

"The Philippine National Police, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the National Bureau of Investigation combined would be one hell of a force to fight illegal drugs. Why include the outlaws?" the official asked.

#### Not serious

But incoming Senate President Aquilino Pimentel 3rd said Duterte was most likely not talking seriously when he asked for the NPA's help.

Pimentel added that Duterte was likely exaggerating or could have given the warning for those involved in the illegal drug trade to turn a new leaf.

The senator said only the police have the authority to arrest and jail drug lords.

But serious or not, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) already responded to Duterte's call and ordered the NPA, its armed component, to "disarm and arrest the chieftains of the biggest drug syndicates, as well as other criminal syndicates involved in human rights violations and destruction of the environment."

In a statement released over the weekend, the CPP said the NPA is ready to give battle to those who will resist arrest.

**WITH FERNAN MARASIGAN** 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

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()5 July 2016

#### The Manila Times

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# Govt will not negotiate with Abu Sayyaf – Palace

BY CATHERINE S. VALENTE REPORTER

MALACANANG on Monday reiterated that the Duterte administration will never negotiate with the extremist Abu Sayyaf

Group (ASG).

"We are not negotiating [with the Abu Sayyat]," presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella told reporters in a news conference. Abella issued the statement after an alleged

> PalacaA2

#### **PALACE** FROM A1

#### Govt not

member of the Abu Sayyaf Group reached out to the government to talk about the last of four captives taken from Samal Island last year.

When asked however if the Duterte administration is open to holding talks with the terrorist group, he said. "It's part of a process."

Over the weekend, Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Jesus Dureza said he is willing to negotiate with the Abu Sayyaf about Norwegian hostage Kjartan Sekkingstad.

In a statement, Dureza confirmed that he got word from someone in Zamboanga City that an Abu Rami, one of those holding Sakkingstad and other captives, wanted to talk to him.

Previous reports identified Abu Rami as the spokesman for the Abu Sayyaf.

"I told the person that I was ready and willing to talk with anyone for the release of the hostages and save lives provided that it would not be about ransom. I gave a secure phone number for him to contact me. I am still waiting," Dureza said.

Sekkingstad was among four persons abducted by the Abu Sayyaf from a Samal Island resort in September 2015

The Abu Sayyaf recently beheaded Canadian captives Robert Hall and John Ridsel after its ransom demand was ignored.

Last month, the rebels released Hall's partner, Marites Flor, after negotiations with Sulu Vice Gov Abdusakur Tan. OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS - Email add | cacpalarmy 3012@gmail.com - Telino (02, 845-9555 Local) 5295, 52955, 52950, 5295, 52

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#### Duterte at PAF 69th anniversary today

By FRANCO G. REGALA and FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

CLARK FREEPORT, Pampanga — President Duterte will keynote today the 69th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Air Force (PAF) at Haribon Hangar, Clark Air Base, here.

Colonel Robert Araus Musico, PAF spokesman, a highlight of the event is an opener pass with a figure "69" formation of 11 T-41 primary trainer aircraft and nine SF-260 basic trainer aircraft.

Awards will also be conferred on outstanding individuals and units of the PAF under the theme of this year's anniversary, "PAF@69. Breaking Barriers, Realizing Aspirations Towards a Jointly Engaged Transforming Force for Greater Peace and Security."

PAF was founded on July 1 1947two years after the end of World War II. It traces its lineage to the Philippine Army Air Corp, which was established in 1941

Musico said the PAF will also present to the new Commander in Chief its capabilities through a parade of its ground equipment.

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## No fly-by of fighter jets during PAF anniversary

BY VICTOR REYES

THE Air Force has scrapped a planned high-speed opener pass of FA-50 fighter jets during the celebration today of its 69th foundation anniversary, to be graced by President Duterte who earlier said the acquisition of the aircraft as "waste of money."

Fly-bys of low-flying aircraft, some of them newly-acquired, will push through. The planes will be flying in a 69 formation during the fly-by, representing the number of years of the Air Force's existence.

The aircraft to be involved in the fly-by are T-41 and SF-260 trainer planes; AW-109, UH-1D or Huey, and Bell 412 helicopters; and C-130 and C-295 transport planes.

Air Force spokesman Col. Araus Robert Musico said the cancellation of the high-speed opener pass, which signals the opening of anniversary ceremonies, was due to the inclement weather.

"There will no longer be a high-speed opener pass because of the typhoon threat. The cloud seeding is low so they will no longer fly," said Musico, referring to the two FA-50s which were acquired last year.

AFP spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla, an Air Force officer himself, said the opener pass of the FA-50s was cancelled due to safety concerns.

"They will be trapped inside the clouds... They fly on what we call visual fight rules, meaning you're looking outside. If you are covered with clouds, you won't see anything and it's going to be unsafe," said Padilla. Musico sought to downplay insinuations that the cancellation of the high-speed opener pass is related to Duterte's negative comment on the acquisition of the FA-50s.

Duterte has said the past administration should have acquired helicopters with night-fighting system and fast craft to go after the internal security threats, including the Abu Sayyaf.

The two FA-50s are part of the 12 fighter jets acquired from the Korea Aerospace Industries for P18.9 billion as part of the ongoing modernization program of the Armed Forces. The 10 others are due for delivery this year and next year.

Tropical storm "Butchoy" is due to enter the Philippine area of responsibility today, according to weather bureau officials. 05July 2016



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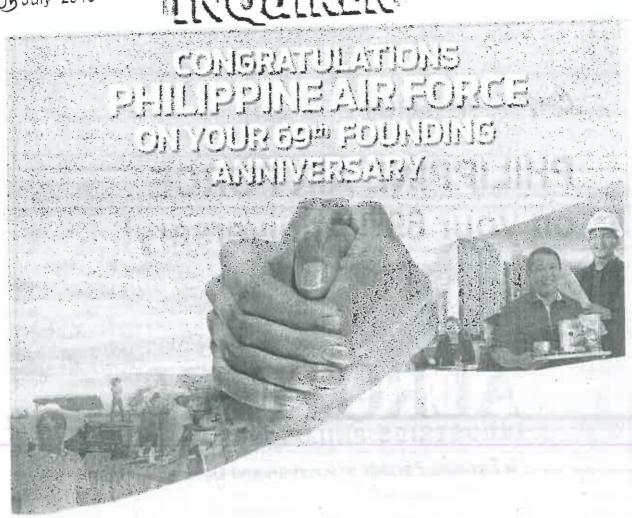
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# By Theodore

Games on July 13 (Philsports Arena) 1 p.m. - IEM vs Sta. Elena (Spikers' Turf) 4 p.m. - PAF vs Cignal (Spikers' Turf)

PHILIPPINE Air Force looked unfazed despite the last-minute change of the Spikers' Turf Open Conference championship schedule as the Jet Spikers beat fancied Cignal, 25-19, 25-16, 25-19, in the opener last night at the Philsports Arena.

"Nabigla rin kami doon, Saturday midnight na lang namin natanggap. Kaya we have to practice Sunday and on Monday morning. Grabe sakripisyo namin," said Air Force coach Rhovyl Verayo.

"Hindi ko alam kung advantage namin ito. Dinaan sa pakondisyunan na

lang," he added. Originally to start on July 13, Game 1 of the best-of-three title series was played yesterday due to a need of a 4 p.m. filler on the Shakey's V-League's television sched-

But that did not matter, OFFICE OF THE ARMY CH as the Jet Spikers looked sharp, while the HD Spikers played uninspired in the rematch of last year's Reinforced Conference Finals.

Air Force's straight set win halted Cignal's perfect run of six consecutive victories in the seasonopening conference.

The Jet Spikers go for the jugular in Game 2 slated at 4 p.m. on July 13 at the Pasig venue.

Sta. Elena defeated Instituto Estetico Manila, 25-17, 22-25, 25-22, 25-19, to move closer to nabbing the bronze medal.

Fauzi Ismail had five blocks to finish with 21 points while Howard Mojica scored all of his 11 points from spikes for Air Force, which is a major power in the country's men's volleyball scene.

The Jet Spikers thus avenged their four-set defeat to the HD Spikers in the eliminations.

"Nag-focus kami na maglaro as a team, at nag-improve kami sa blocking at receive. Sa unang laban namin, doon

kami nagkaproblema." said

"They played tactical volleyball sa unang laban namin. Kung saan yung libero, hindi nila dinadaan yung bola doon," he add-

Jet Spikers playmaker Jessie Lopez was superb in orchestrating the offense with 37 excellent sets.

Raymark Woo led the way for Cignal with 13 points while Herschel Ramos added eight markers.

Joven Camaganakan and Berlin Paglinawan came through with 20 points apiece as the Wrecking Balls bucked a second set loss to clinch the 1-0 advantage in the bestof-three series.

Greg Dolor and Jason Canlas led the way for the Volley Masters with 15 hits apiece.

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#### Air Force raps Cignal, nears crown

Air Force leaned on its pair of rookies in Fauzi Ismail and Howard Mojica as it pulled the rug from under erstwhile unbeaten Cignai, 25-19, 25-16, 25-19, yesterday in Game One of the Spikers' Turi Season 2 Open Conference Finals at the Philsports Arena in Pasig

The power-spiking Ismail, a third year student at National University, unloaded a match-high 21 hits, including 16 on kills, while the heavy-hitting Mojica, a former back-to-back NCAA MVP, scattered 11 points to steer the Jet Spikers past the HD Spikers and closer to a dream championship.

"They're a big addition to our team because (Ran) Abdilla and (Edwin) Tolenting are injured," said Air Force coach Rhovyl Verayo, referring to the Ismail-Mojica tandem.

Air Force, however, will have to wait a little longer with Game 2 set on July 13 as the league takes a break to give way to the International Basketball Federation Olympic Qualifying Tournament beginning today at the MoA Arena.

A deciding Game Three, if necessary, will be played on July 16, also at the Philsports Arena.

Verayo said they hope toughen up during the long break.

"We'll resume practice tomorrow (today) until July 13. Whatever happens in Game Two, at least we did our best to prepare for it," he said.

Verayo said they were not bothered by the league's last minute re-scheduling from Game 13 to yesterday.

"I received the text at midnight so I quickly texted the players that we have a practice Sunday and Monday morning and sacrifice their family," he said.

During the emergency practices, Verayo said they worked on their blocking and reception.

"When we lost to them in the elimination round, we focused on improving our defense and I'm glad we did," in said.

Earlier, Sta. Elena Construction defeated Instituto Estetico Manila, 25-17, 22-25, 25-22, 25-19, to likewise move within a win from clinching third place honors in the league organized by Sports Vision and backed by Mikasa and Accel.

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#### AFP to use 'shock and awe' vs Abu Sayyaf

Updated July 4, 2016 - 1:45pm



Army Scout Rangers march during ceremonies at the 119th founding anniversary of the Philippine Army in suburban Taquiq, south of Manila, Philippines on March 22, 2016. AP/Aaron Favila, file

MANILA, Philippines (Philippines News Agency) — The Armed Forces of the Philippines will employ a "shock and awe" strategy in defeating the Abu Sayyaf Group menace in Basilan and Sulu.

This was stressed by newly-appointed AFP chief-of-staff Lt. Gen. Ricardo Visaya on Monday.

"There will be 'shock and awe' (in the campaign against the ASG) but I won't go into specifics because this will (disclose our) strategy and tactics," he added.

"Shock and awe" is a military doctrine based on the use of overwhelming power and spectacular displays of force to paralyze the enemy's perception of the battlefield and destroy its will to fight.

Visaya earlier said the AFP will direct unrelenting pressure against the ASG and its allied terrorist cells. "We will be unrelenting in our focused military operations against terrorist groups like the ASG and all its allied terrorist cells. We will realign military resources to their identified bailiwicks and sanctuaries and apply our military strength to suppress them, hunt them down and finish them," Visaya stressed.

"We will continue to apply the full force of the law 24/7 to go after these criminals and profit-seeking elements who operate under the guise of religious fervor and holy war," he added.

To ensure this, Visaya said the AFP will have to boost its armament acquisition program to further beef up its capacity and capability to search and engage these rogue and lawless elements.

"Over and above our role to run after the terrorists, we will also intensify our support to law enforcement agencies, particularly the Philippine National Police and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency in their mission to eliminate widespread criminality and the wanton destruction of lives brought about by the spread and use of illegal drugs," he added.

"We will star the same advocacy with our ranks by continuously weeding out those scalawags who use drugs, who have links with illegal groups and activities, then we will proceed to build alliances with our counterparts to bring down syndicates and other organized crime groups," the AFP chief pointed out.

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#### K-JAM | AFP's modernization will continue – Lt Col Guzman

Marycel Necio Batara

CAMP CRAME, Quezon City- Lt. Col. Angelo Guzman guested in DWDD Katropa Radio's program "K Jam Profile Monday" hosted by Lt. Col Mike Aquino together with Lt. Col. Edgardo Talaroc on Monday morning to discuss some information in the recently concluded Command Conference with the new AFP Chief of Staff LtGen. Ricardo Visaya.

Lt. Col. Guzman said that the new Chief of Staff Visaya called to eliminate and pin down the presence of the international terrorist group Abu Sayyaf in the Philippine islands who ever since created distress and terror against the government and the civilians.

"Nakakasira sila [Abu Sayyaf] sa ating ekonomiya, sa ating turismo... at mismong Presidente [Duterte] nga ay nagsabi na dapat nang tapusin ang problemang ito sa kanila [Abu Sayyaf causes problems on our economy and tourism... and our President has also said that our problem in Abu Sayyaf terrorism should stop]," Lt. Col. Guzman said. He also stated that "the AFP will have a 24/7 campaign versus the Abu Sayyaf."

According to Lt. Col. Guzman, the chief of staff also supports the President's campaign on anti-illegal drugs, saying that the AFP will give its full efforts to eliminate drug syndicates in the country.

Meanwhile, the program host, Lt Col. Aquino asked about the future plans of the recent administration on AFP Modernization.

"Kasama diyan Katropang Mike 'yung issue ng modernization. 'Yung lumabas kasi sa diyaryo... a few days ago na hindi raw ipu-pushed through ng ating Presidente [Duterte]. Gusto nating i-correct 'yan, I was there during the Command Conference, nandiyan 'yung Presidente natin na talagang sinabi niya na he will push through the modernization ng ating armed forces [We wanted to correct the recent media reports on the administration's stand on AFP Modernization. I was there during the Command Conference and our President has really imparted that he will push through the modernization of AFP]," Lt. Col. Guzman reiterated, clarifying earlier reports on AFP Modernization.

During the second half of discussion, Lt. Col. Guzman also pointed out about the President Duterte's order to create an office that will be specialized to cater the needs of the families left by the combatants who gave their lives in the public service.

"Kasi nagbuwis na sila ng buhay tapos magpapakahirap pa ang mga pamilya upang ma-claim 'yung benefits [They already gave up their lives and then it is their families who will be burdened to claim the benefits]," Lt. Col. stated, saying that the families must not be stressed-out in claiming the said benefits.

As a synthesis, PAO Deputy Officer Lt. Col Buzman reminded the AFP officers on Chief of Staff's pronouncements that any officer is not allowed to be engaged in any form of gambling such as casinos. He also said that the new admin will pursue a smoke-free community among all camps of AFP.

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www. retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

#### Armed Forces names anti-coup force head

From the Manila Times (Jul 3)

COL. Vicente Gregorio Tomas has been named acting commander of the government's anti-coup force.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines' (AFP) Joint Task Force-National Capital Region (JTF-NCR) will honor its outgoing commander, Brig. Gen. Apolinario Alobba on Monday at the General Headquarters parade grounds in Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City a day before his retirement on July 5.

A member of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class of 1982, Alobba spent most of his time in Mindanao through numerous tours of duty, particularly in the 1st Infantry Tabak Division (ITD).

Prior to his leadership of the JTF-NCR, he served as the commander of the 101st Infantry Brigade based in Zamboanga del Norte.

Alobba was also the chief of staff of the 1st ITD and before that, the deputy brigade commander of the 403rd Infantry Brigade in Bukidnon.

He earned various awards including the prestigious Philippine Legion of Honor, three Distinguished Service Stars, Bronze Cross Medals and numerous military merit and commendation medals.

Meanwhile, Tomas, a member of the PMA Sandiwa Class of 1985, was previously assigned as chief of staff of the 2nd Infantry Division in Tanay, Rizal.

He is a cavalry officer who served as commander of the 5th Light Armor Battalion and contingent commander of the 12th Philippine Contingent to Liberia.

Besides being the government's anti-coup force, the JTF-NCR is also involved in conventional and unconventional warfare, anti-guerrilla operations and crowd control management.

It also functions as a support unit of the National Capital Regional Police Office of the Philippine National Police in maintaining peace and order in Metro Manila.

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# SHOCK AND AWE STRATEGY |AFP will direct unrelenting pressure vs. ASG

Marycel Necio Batara



MANILA — The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) will employ a "shock and awe" strategy in defeating the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) menace in Basilan and Sulu.

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# COST-CUTTING? | PAF drops '69' lead-in jet pass for anniversary

By: Jaime Sinapit, InterAksyon.com July 4, 2016 6:44 PM



Then-President Benigno Aquino III holds a champagne bottle near the nose of an FA50 lead-in jet fighter in this December 2015 file photo.

MANILA - The Philippine Air Force (PAF) anniversary on Tuesday (July 5) will not see any high-speed opener pass of the two lead-in jet fighters (FA50 Golden Eagle) as planned earlier, spokesman Colonel Araus Robert Musico said Monday.

"No more high-speed opener because of the typhoon and due to the low cloud seeding at that time," Musico said. The "69 performance" by the supersonic aircraft needs a high altitude, he explained.

But he said the flybys of other low-flying aircraft such as the SF260 and choppers will be done as planned.

Musico declined to comment on whether the dropping of the '69' performance of the jets arose from the earlier criticism by President Rodrigo Duterte that the acquisition of the FA50 jets was a "waste of money".

Musico said, "I don't want to comment on that. But the real reason was partly because of the weather considerations."

During the presidential campaign, Duterte said the jets have little use in terms of addressing the internal security problem. They are also no match to China's challenge in the West Philippine Sea (WPS).

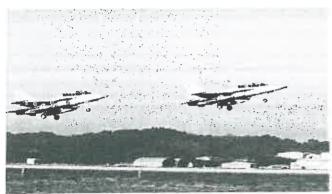
Manufacturer Korean Aerospace Incorporation (KAI) had delivered in December 2015 the first pair of the FA50s to the PAF.

The Air Force has ordered a squadron of the jets, worth P18.9 billion, to boost its airspace patrol capability, especially in the WPS.

China had converted reefs there into artificial islands for military purposes.

# No speed pass for FA-50 jets on Air Force anniversary

By: Frances Mangosing



Philippine Air Force's new fighter jets: FA-50PH Nr 001 and 002. PHOTO FROM PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE'S FACEBOOK ACCOUNT.

The FA-50 fighter jets won't make an appearance on Tuesday's Air Force anniversary in Clark, which will be graced by President Rodrigo Duterte, a critic of the acquisition of the air assets.

Air Force spokesperson Col. Robert Musico cited inclement weather as the reason for scrapping the highspeed pass.

Last month, he said that two FA-50s would make a high-speed opener pass for the Air Force's 69th anniversary as part of its highlights.

The first two of 12 FA-50s from South Korea worth P18.9 billion arrived in the country last November. It signaled the return of the Philippine Air Force to supersonic age.

Duterte, who wants to deal first with insurgency problems, earlier said that the jets were "a waste of money." "You cannot use them for anti-insurgency, which is the problem at the moment. You can only use these for ceremonial fly-by," he said.

AFP spokesperson Col. Restituto Padilla said that Duterte's criticism has nothing to do with the cancellation of the speed pass.

"So in the event that there is a weather bulletin saying they are expecting inclement weather, for purposes of safety, it is better to hold it off kasi high-value assets 'yan," he said.

FA-50s used with high-performance flight and visual flight rules would have difficulty in operating low-visibility and heavy-cloud conditions unlike turbo propeller-powered aircraft, he explained.

Tropical Storm Nepartak, which will be locally named "Butchoy," is expected to enter the Philippine area of responsibility on Tuesday. As of 10 a.m., it was located 1,855 kilometers east of Visayas.

A showcase and capability of different units of the Air Force would still continue, however.

A figure "69" formation of eleven T-41 primary trainer aircraft and nine SF-260 basic trainer aircraft will conduct an opener pass.

A fly-by of Agusta Westland 109 helicopters from 15th Srike Wing, UH1-D and Bell 412 combat ulitility helicopters, C-130 and C-295 transport planes is also scheduled. *JE* 

http://retiredanalyst.blogspot.com/

#### 'Gazmin boys' keep Defense posts

From The Standard (Jul 4)

National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana has retained several appointees of his predecessor, Voltaire Gazmin, but he said their appointments would only be temporary while he is looking for their replacements. "Their stay is only temporary, from two to six months. It depends," Lorenzana said.

Lorenzana denied allegation that Gazmin had requested the retention of his men at the DND.

"No, it's my decision to retain them," Lorenzana said.

On June 30, Malacañang issued Memorandum Circular No. 1 directing all government officials to continue serving in a hold-over capacity until the end of July, unless their appointments are sooner revoked, resignations accepted, replacements appointed or reappointments issued.

"Pursuant to relevant laws and regulations, all coterminus positions in excess of or not covered by an agency's plantilla are hereby considered functus officio by 12:00 noon of 30 June 2016, unless their occupants are otherwise directed by the head of agency/entity concerned to continue serving in hold-over capacity until 31 July 2016," it stated.

One of the so-called "Gazmin boys" is Ernesto Boac, former Assistant Secretary for Financial Management, who has a new post as Asec for Acquisition, Installation and Logistics, formerly held by former Asec Efren Fernandez.

Roy Devaraturda, Assistant Secretary for Plans and Program, could be assigned chairman of the DND Bids and Awards Committee, formerly concurrently held by Boac.

Lorenzana has retained Raymund Jose Quilop, Assistant Secretary for Assessment and International Affairs. Ernesto Carolina, Acting Administrator of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office also retained his post.

Lorenzana retained Fermin de Leon Jr., president of the National Defense College of the Philippines.

Jonathan Martir, director of the Government Arsenal, kept his old post, while Peter Paul Reuben Galvez, fprmer spokesman of Gazmin, was named acting Chief of Staff to SND.

Galvez has come under fire from the media for his selective and inimical treatment of reporters covering the Defense beat.

All these positions, Lorenzana reiterated, were "not dictated" to him by Gazmin who was his senior officer at the Presidential Security Group during the time of the late President Corazon Aquino, mother of former President Benigno Aquino III.

He thanked Gazmin for extending his term as head of the Office of Veteran Affairs in Washington D.C., USA. "In effect I'm Gazmin's appointee back then when President Pnoy Aquino won in 2010. But I want to clarify that the situation is different now and I thank Pres. Duterte for giving me his trust and confidence to lead DND."I really appreciate that," Lorenzana said.

Lorenzana also belied allegations that his retaining the "Gazmin boys" is somehow a means to cover up corruption issues plaguing the DND.

Gazmin, Boac and several other defense officials were facing plunder charges filed by whistleblower Rhodora Alvarez, an employee of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), before the Office of the Ombudsman over the botched P1.2 billion chopper deal.

"Such allegation, I think, is misplaced. There will be no cover up on all these issues We will look into this and all other issues," Lorenzana said.

Lorenzana denied that Gazmin allegedly asked him to retain the manager of the General Headquarters Golf Club who has been in the position for more than 10 years.

"That's not true. But I know the manager and he is a good manager," he said.

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Asked about the alleged meddling of Gazmin into the affairs of the Board of Generals of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Lorenzana said he will not dip a finger into the affairs of the BOG.

"My job is to submit to the President the short list of senior officers recommended for promotion and designation. If the President would ask me later to comment on the short list that's the only time I will give my opinion. I have no business in the BOG affairs," Lorenzana said. The GHQ Golf Club is under the jurisdiction of AFP Chief of Staff, now being held by Lieutenant General Ricardo Visaya, not under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of National Defense.

Meanwhile, Lorenzana disclosed the composition of his new team who are also former military officers.

He tapped Cardozo Luna as his Undersecretary of National Defense (USND).

He also enslisted the services of Cesar Yano as Undersecretary for Defense Operations. Yano is the brother of former AFP chief Gen. Alexander Yano.

Eduardo del Rosario has also been tapped as Undersecretary for Civil, Veterans and Retiree Affairs. Del Rosario was former head of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and concurrent executive director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) led by the SND.

The OCD/NDRRMC is now headed by Ricardo Jalad.

Lorenzana said former AFP chief Gen. Ricardo David will be Assistant Secretary for Plans and Programs. Aquino had appointed David commissioner of the Bureau of Immigration but only to be sacked for alleged corruption issues.

Lorenzana appointed Col. Arnel Duco as his Senior Military Adviser and Col. Estrelieto Romero as commander of the Department Intelligence Service Group.

"My manta to my defense team is just do your job properly and be transparent," he said.

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# JTF-NCR | AFP to Use MM Elite Unit Vs Illegal Drugs

Alvin Santiago



CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD) – The Armed Force of the Philippines (AFP) will be utilizing its elite Joint Task Group-National Capital Region (JTF-NCR) in the anti-drug campaign of the Duterte administration. According to AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Ricardo Visaya, the JTF-NCR will be one of the units to be utilized by the AFP to assist the Philippine National Police (PNP) in Metro Manil in its anti-drug campaign, particular in intelligence gathering and as augmentation force.



Gen Visaya earlier vowed to support to law enforcement agencies in a bid to eliminate criminality, most especially the illegal drugs trade, together with the PNP and Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) as ordered by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, aside from the fact that they will also launch a "24/7 fight" against the bandit/terror group Abu Sayyaf.

Aside from this, they will also continue weeding out scalawags in uniform, particularly this who uses drugs or are supporters/protectors of criminal syndicates. AES / MCAG

http://dwdd.com.ph/

# 69th ANNIVERSARY | PAF Celebrate at Clark Air Base

Alvin Santiago



CLARK AIR BASE, Pampanga (DWDD) – The Philippine Air Force (PAF) is celebrating its 69th founding anniversary, July 5, 2016 at Clark Air Base in Pampanga.

The theme for this year celebration is "Breaking Barriers, Realizing Aspirations Towards a Jointly Engaged Transforming Force for Greater Peace and Security".

According to PAF Spokesperson Col. Araus Robert Musico, the President and AFP Commander-in-Chief Rodrigo Roa Duterte will grace the activity as Guest of Honor and Speaker, together with Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Ricardo Visaya



A parade and review will be given President Duterte and a glimpse of the state of morale and fitness of Air Force airmen and airwomen.

Meanwhile, the PAF has scrapped the FA-50PH "Fighting Eagle" light-interim fighter aircraft high-speed opener pass together with other air assets like eleven Cessna T-41 "Mescalero" primary trainer planes and nine SIAI Marchetti SF-260 basic trainer aircraft whoe were supposed to form a figure "69" formation due to poor weather conditions, brought about by the impending arrival of tropical storm 'Butchoy' and low cloud ceiling over Clark Air Base.

Nonetheless, air assets of other units including 15 T-41s, 10 SF-260s, AgustaWestland-109 helicopters from 15th Strike Wing, UH-1D and Bell 412 Combat Utility helicopter from 205th Tactical Helicopter Wing, C-130T aircraft and CASA C-295 from 220th Airlift Wing will still be seen.

Also forming part of the parade is a capability showcase of ground mobility assets which includes PAF communication vans, combat vehicles of 710SPOW, Scuba and Reverine teams, PAF ground base defense weapons, Explosive and Ordnance disposal personnel and equipment, K9 teams, 505 Search and Rescue Group capabilities, and first responder vehicles.

The Air Force will also give due recognition to its outstanding officer, enlistwd personnel, units, and civilian personnel for their individual and unit achievements for the past year. AES / PAF PIO