



ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

oacpa.army2012@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS CLIPPINGS

11 July 2016

Monday

Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.

NEWS HEADLINES

11 JULY 2016



INQUIRER
MANAGE YOUR FEARS & DREAMS

Probe of media slays given to superbody

Duterte to issue order creating task force before delivering Sona

Overprinting of BIR tax stamps probed

PH social enterprise awarded Apes prize

Hotcakes



MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

No congressional probe into spate of killings

Hague court decision that China tried to ignore expected this week


Duterte renews call for death penalty

Palace: 'DUSO' our plane use won't be condoned

4 Luzon regions to be Metro Manila's food basket - Pinol

The Manila Times

SC set to acquit Arroyo on plunder



Tribune

Police tolerating vigilantism — AI

Duterte mouth reaps more bad reviews

Lovemakers back DUSO on ODI, 2 federation fails

Hague court to rule in Sena S. China Sea row, China blasts Japanese judge's tribunal choices

3 Indonesians kidnapped near 'Abi Sayayal' waters

Lacson, De Lima reprise rivalry in narco probe

Tempo

'ALL I WANT IS TO SEE MY SON'

Grieving mother makes a scene at police station

Historic week for PH

Erab warns 'kotong' cops

11 drug suspects today

Duterte pushes death penalty

3 PH islands world's best



TABLE OF CONTENTS

11 JULY 2016

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1-2	Weather Forecast	-	www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph
NATIONAL NEWS			
3	Mayors: No one is above the law	Romina Cabrera	Phil Star p.1
4	Duterte renews call for death penalty	Genalyn Kabiling	Mla Bulletin p.1
ARMY RELATED NEWS			
5	Medals for wounded soldiers		Mla Bulletin p.15
6	Sundalo na may kasong muder timbog sa Zambo		Police Files p.3
7	Thousands flee as Basilan conflict escalates	Jaime Laude	Phil Star p.A23
AFP RELATED NEWS			
8	Three Indonesians kidnapped off Sabah	Victor Reyes	Malaya p.B1
9	AFP chief cites Rody orders: Rescue hostage, get Abus		
10-12	Rody urged to study UN ruling carefully	Marlon Ramos	PDI p.A1
13	Alarms not needed on sea dispute	Victor Reyes	Malaya p.B1
14	China handa na sa 'giyera' sa WPS	Ellen Fernando	Ngayon p.2
15	Photo: On Guard		Malaya p.B1
16	US air contingent ends training operations	Victor Reyes	Malaya p.B1
ONLINE NEWS			
17-18	135 Pinoy peacekeepers ipinadala sa Haiti	Anne Soberano	www.bomboradyo.com
	ARMED ENCOUNTER Army Troopers Recover 1 HPA in Surigao		www.dwdd.com.ph
	NPA, patay sa engkwentro sa Kalinga		www.bomboradyo.com
19-21	Sundalo, patay nang maagawan ng baril ng ASG na kanilang nadakip sa Basilan		www.bomboradyo.com
	AFP not expecting China to do anything violent should ITLOS ruling favor PHL	Priam F. Nepomuceno	www.pna.gov.ph
	Military looking for 145 units of assault rifles	BNB/PFN	www.pna.gov.ph

Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.

	Lt. Gen Visaya, nanindigan na wala pang nakapasok na ISIS sa Basilan at Sulu	Marilyn delos Santos	www.bomboradyo.com
	AFP chief tiniyak ang significant results sa kanilang operasyon vs ASG	Anne Soberano	www.bomboradyo.com
22	ARMM Gov. Hataman: No signs of hostages in Basilan	Teofilo P. Garcia	www.interaksyon.com



24-HOUR PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST

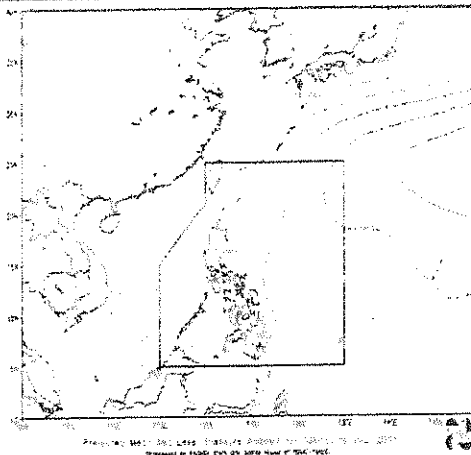
ISSUED AT: 5:00 PM 10 JULY 2016

VALID BEGINNING: 5:00 PM TODAY UNTIL 5:00 PM TOMORROW

SYNOPSIS: SOUTHWEST MONSOON AFFECTING THE WESTERN SECTION OF LUZON.

FORECAST: MONSOON RAINS WILL BE EXPERIENCED OVER THE PROVINCES OF ZAMBALES, BATAAN, PAMPANGA AND PANGASINAN. OCCASIONAL RAINS WILL PREVAIL OVER CALABARZON AND THE REST OF ILOCOS REGION AND CENTRAL LUZON. CLOUDY SKIES WITH LIGHT TO MODERATE RAINS AND THUNDERSTORMS WILL PREVAIL OVER METRO MANILA AND THE REST OF LUZON WHILE PARTLY CLOUDY TO CLOUDY SKIES WITH ISOLATED RAINSHOWERS OR THUNDERSTORMS WILL PREVAIL OVER THE REST OF THE COUNTRY.

MODERATE TO STRONG WINDS BLOWING FROM THE SOUTHWEST TO SOUTH WILL PREVAIL OVER LUZON AND THE COASTAL WATERS ALONG THESE AREAS WILL BE MODERATE TO ROUGH. ELSEWHERE, WINDS WILL BE LIGHT TO MODERATE COMING FROM THE SOUTHEAST TO SOUTH WITH SLIGHT TO MODERATE SEAS.



PAGTAYA: MGA PAG-ULAN DULOT NG HABAGAT ANG MARARANASAN SA MGA LALAWIGAN NG ZAMBALES, BATAAN, PAMPANGA AT PANGASINAN. PAMINSAN-MINSANG MGA PAG-ULAN ANG IIRAL SA CALABARZON AT ANG MGA NALALABING BAHAGI NG REHIYON NG ILOCOS AT GITNANG LUZON. MAULAP NA KALANGITAN NA MAY MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG MGA PAG-ULAN AT PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG ANG IIRAL SA KAMAYNILAAN AT NALALABING BAHAGI NG LUZON SAMANTALANG BAHAGYANG MAULAP HANGGANG SA MAULAP NA PAPAWIRIN NA MAY PULU-PULONG MGA PAG-ULAN O PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG ANG IIRAL SA NALALABING BAHAGI NG BANSÁ.

KATAMTAMAN HANGGANG SA MALAKAS NA HANGIN MULA SA TIMOG-KANLURAN HANGGANG TIMOG ANG IIRAL SA LUZON AT ANG MGA BAYBAYING-DAGAT SA MGA LUGAR NITO AY MAGIGING KATAMTAMAN HANGGANG SA MAALON. SA IBANG DAKO, ANG HANGIN AY MAGIGING MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMAN MULA SA TIMOG-SILANGAN HANGGANG SA TIMOG NA MAY BANAYAD HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG PAG-ALON NG KARAGATAN.

EXTREMES OF TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY FOR THE 24-HR PERIOD ENDING AT 4:00 PM TODAY AND RECORDED AT PAGASA WEATHER STATION, SCIENCE GARDEN, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY:

PAGASA WEATHER STATION, CENSO DIVISION OFFICE		
MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE: 12:00 NN TODAY -- 32.0°C	MAXIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 2:00 AM TODAY -- 94 %	
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE: 5:00 AM TODAY -- 24.0°C	MINIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 12:00 NN TODAY -- 60 %	
TIDAL PREDICTIONS ALONG MANILA BAY (Courtesy of NAMRIA)	OVER METRO MANILA:	
LOW TIDE TODAY: 9:27 PM 0.24 METER	SUNRISE / SUNSET	MOONRISE / MOONSET AND ILLUMINATION
HIGH TIDE TOMORROW: 4:14 AM 0.65 METER	SUNSET TODAY: 6:29 PM	MOONSET TODAY: 10:54 PM
LOW TIDE TOMORROW: 7:15 AM 0.62 METER	SUNRISE TOMORROW: 5:33 AM	MOONRISE TOMORROW: 11:16 AM
HIGH TIDE TOMORROW: 2:22 PM 0.91 METER	SUNSET TOMORROW: 6:29 PM	ILLUMINATION TOMORROW: 40 %

For more information and queries please call at telephone numbers 927-1335 and 927-2677 or log on to www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph.

PREPARED BY: SFD

CHECKED BY: JJJ

"Tracking the sky ... helping the country"

WFS-02, Bldg. Raza Diliman, Quezon City

Tel. Fax: +6329373511



















































































REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Department of Science and Technology
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and
Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)
Weather Division
ISO 9001:2008 Certified
Registry No. 01 100 1534769

WFS-02
Rev 105-06-2016











24-Hour Weather Forecast and Extended Weather Outlook for Selected Cities:

ISSUED AT: 5:00 PM 10 JULY 2016

VALID BEGINNING: 5:00 PM TODAY UNTIL 5:00 PM TOMORROW

CITIES	24-Hr Weather, Winds and Sea Condition Forecast <i>from 5PM today until 5PM tomorrow</i>		Extended Weather Outlook <i>Duration: 5PM until 5PM of the following day</i>				
	10 JUL		11 JUL	12 JUL	13 JUL	14 JUL	
Metro Manila	 24°C 32°C	Mod. to Strong, Southwest – South Manila Bay, Moderate to Rough	 24°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 33°C	
Tuguegarao City	 25°C 33°C	Moderate to Strong, South	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 34°C	 24°C 35°C	 24°C 36°C	
Lapag City	 25°C 29°C	Moderate to Strong, South Coastal Waters, Moderate to Rough	 25°C 30°C	 25°C 31°C	 25°C 31°C	 25°C 32°C	
Baguio City	 15°C 19°C	Moderate to Strong, South	 15°C 20°C	 15°C 21°C	 16°C 23°C	 16°C 24°C	
SBMA (Diongapo) / Clark Zone (Angeles City)	 22°C 25°C	Mod. to Strong, Southwest – South Subic Bay, Moderate to Rough	 24°C 30°C	 24°C 31°C	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	
Tagaytay City	 22°C 27°C	Mod. to Strong, Southwest – South	 22°C 27°C	 23°C 28°C	 23°C 29°C	 22°C 30°C	
Lipa City	 24°C 30°C	Mod. to Strong, Southwest – South	 24°C 30°C	 25°C 31°C	 26°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	
Legazpi City	 25°C 30°C	Moderate, South Coastal Waters, Moderate	 25°C 30°C	 25°C 31°C	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 33°C	
Puerto Princesa City	 25°C 30°C	Moderate to Strong, South Coastal Waters, Moderate to Rough	 25°C 30°C	 25°C 31°C	 26°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	
Iloilo City / Bacolod City	 25°C 32°C	Moderate, South Coastal Waters, Moderate	 25°C 32°C	 24°C 33°C	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 34°C	
Metro Cebu	 25°C 30°C	Moderate, South Coastal Waters, Moderate	 25°C 31°C	 26°C 32°C	 24°C 33°C	 26°C 33°C	
Tacloban City	 26°C 32°C	Moderate, Southeast – South Coastal Waters, Moderate	 26°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	
Cagayan de Oro City	 25°C 32°C	Light to Moderate, Southeast – South Coastal Waters, Slight to Moderate	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 32°C	
Valencia City	 19°C 30°C	Light to Moderate, South	 19°C 30°C	 19°C 30°C	 20°C 30°C	 20°C 29°C	
Metro Davao	 25°C 33°C	Light to Mod. Southeast – South Coastal Waters, Slight to Moderate	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 34°C	 26°C 34°C	 26°C 34°C	
Zamboanga City	 25°C 31°C	Light to Moderate, South Coastal Waters, Slight to Moderate	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	

LEGEND:

	Clear skies		Partly Cloudy to at times Cloudy with Rainshowers and/or Thunderstorms		Occasional Rains		Rains with Gusty Winds
	Partly Cloudy Skies		Cloudy skies with Rainshowers and/or Thunderstorms		Monsoon Rains / Rains		Stormy
	Partly Cloudy to at times Cloudy with Rainshowers		Light Rains				

END OF FORECAST

PREPARED BY: SFO

CHECKED BY: JJC

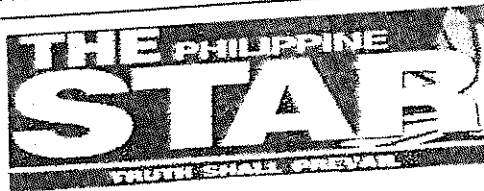
"Tracking the sky... helping the country"

WTC BIR Road Division, Quezon City

Tel/Fax: +6329271541

2

11 July 2016



Page: 1

Mayors: No one is above the law

By ROMINA CABRERA and LALAINA JIMENEZ

Go ahead, name the "narco mayors." The 23 mayors allegedly involved in the illegal drug trade will have to face the accusations against them because "no one is above the law," the national president of the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) said yesterday. The head of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines also said he did not see anything wrong with

Turn to Page 16

Mayors From Page 1

President Duterte's plan to name the mayors with alleged links to drugs.

Duterte is set to identify the mayors, according to Philippine National Police chief Director General Ronald de la Rosa, and might ask the Department of the Interior and Local Government to take action against them.

Quezon City Mayor Herbert Bautista, LCP national president, said the problem on illegal drugs was already widespread but stressed he was not privy to the identities of the 23 local executives.

Bautista expressed belief though that Duterte would not release the names without due investigation and validation coming from various intelligence sources.

Bautista added it would be up to the President to decide when the public should know about the list.

The Quezon City mayor said the move to reveal top government officials linked to the illegal drug trade helps reaffirm the boldness and determination of the President to put an end to the drug menace.

Members of the LCP will make recommendations on

what steps can be taken against mayors facing allegations related to drugs once they meet next week, Bautista said.

He said the problem of illegal drugs was ruining the youth, society and image of the country. He lamented that even the innocent, like the children of those being linked to drugs, were affected.

For his part, LMP national president, Javier, Leyte Mayor Leonardo "Sandy" Javier Jr. said the mayors suspected to have drug links comprised only a small percentage of their ranks.

Javier said it was very disappointing that they

were sully the good reputation of the mayors but conceded that as with any organization, "there are really scalawags."

Javier, who ran under the Liberal Party, was all praises for Duterte, saying he was doing a "fantastic thing."

"We are all behind him," Javier said, adding he himself was surprised that in their small town, at least 90 people had surrendered to the police because of drugs.

"I hate drugs because they destroy families, the very fiber of our nation," he said. – With Non Alquitran, Alexis Romero, Delon Porcalla, Edith Regalado

11 July 2016

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 1

Duterte renews call for death penalty

By GENALYN D. KABILING

President Duterte made a renewed pitch for the restoration of the death penalty as a means to boost his administration's campaign against drugs and criminality.

The President made the pitch

during a casual meeting with several lawmakers and other government officials at a bar in Davao City over the weekend.

"It was a casual gathering with some officials, mostly congressmen and a few governors and we discussed many things since it was only a casual gather-

ing with no set agenda," Senator Juan Edgardo Angara said in a text message to the Manila Bulletin yesterday.

"The President mentioned he thought we should bring back the death penalty especially for drug traffickers," Angara added.

Shortly after his victory ►16

Duterte renews call... ◀1

in the May elections, Duterte declared that he prefers to hang convicted criminals instead of killing them via lethal injection amid plans to suppress crimes during his first six months in office. To critics claiming it does not deter crimes, Duterte argued that the death penalty will be more of retribution against persons who committed crimes.

Angara, pressed for his position on capital punishment, said he is ready "to listen to the several proposals for the return of the death penalty."

The senator said the President also gave them a tour of the emergency center of Davao including the city's crime and traffic management system.

Apart from Angara, other lawmakers who reportedly met with the President were Senator Alan Peter Cayetano, Citizen's Battle Against Corruption (CIBAC) Partylist Rep. Sherwin Tugna, Palawan Rep. Franz Josef Alvarez, Masbate Rep. Scott Davies Lanete, and Marinduque Rep. Lord Allan Jay Velasco.

Duterte, a former mayor of Davao City, was back in his hometown last weekend for some personal time, a practice he apparently intends to keep during his term. The country's new

president took a commercial flight to Davao and opted for an economy seat last Friday, ditching his previous practice of riding a private plane. It was the first time Duterte took a commercial flight as president.

Earlier, the tough talking President Duterte has publicly accused five police generals for their alleged involvement in the country's illegal drugs operations. He has ordered them relieved from their posts and ordered the National Police Commission to probe their alleged wrongdoing.

A few days later, the President unmasked the alleged Chinese triad involved in the multi billion peso drug trade in the country. Baring the "level 5" or top tier of the drug hierarchy, Duterte named a retired police general for supposedly coddling two Chinese drug lords and a local drug dealer.

He also linked many local government executives mostly mayors in the drug network but declined to identify them last week. He said some of the mayors were from Mindanao, including a female local executive.

Duterte said he may release the names of the drug coddlers in government once he has reviewed their documents against them.

11 July 2016

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 15

• **Medals for wounded soldiers**

CAMP NAVARRO, Zamboanga City – The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) on Saturday awarded medals to the five soldiers who were wounded in the latest clash with the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) brigands in the province of Sulu. Gen. Ricardo Visaya, AFP chief-of-staff, personally pinned the medals to the wounded soldiers who were admitted at Camp Navarro General Hospital in this city. Lt. Gen. Mayoralgo Dela Cruz, Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) chief, assisted Visaya in the awarding of medals to the recipient-soldiers. Awarded the Wounded Personnel Medal (WPM) were Cpl. Ian Dexter Gavina, Cpl. Rambo Balnawi, PFC Radel Gumban, PFC Christian Naganag, and PFC Bernie Joe Nagoy. They were wounded in an intense fighting against 150 ASG brigands, led by ASG senior leader Radulan Sahiron and sub-leader Hadjan Sawajaan on Thursday in Patikul, Sulu. (PNA)

July 2016

POLICE FILES

Page.

3

**Sundalo na may kasong
murder timbog sa Zambo**

ZAMBOANGA CITY. Aréstado ng kapulisan ang isang aktibong kasapi ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) na wanted sa kasong murder sa Barangay Maasin sa Zamboanga City.

Kinilala ni C/Insp. Hingming Ladjali, hepe ng Zamboanga City police station 8, ang suspek na si Cpl. Gadjier Saedulla Sattar na kasapi ng 1st Infantry Division ng Philippine Army.

Nabatid na ang warrant of arrest ng suspek ay inilabas ng korte sa Zamboanga City matapos siyang isangkot sa pagpatay sa isang residente rito.

Walang inirekomendang piyansa ang korte para sa pansamantalang kalayaan ng sundalo na ngayon ay naka-detain sa selda ng pulisya at inaasahang i-commil sa korte bago naman siya dalhin sa Zamboanga City Reformatory Center.

Wala pang pahayag ang pamunuan ng 1st Infantry Division ng Philippine Army na nakabase sa bayan ng Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur, ukol sa kasong kinasangkutan ng isa sa kanilang tropa.

6

11 July 2016



Page: A 23

Thousands flee as Basilan conflict escalates

By JAIME LAUDE

Thousands have been displaced by the ongoing clash between government troopers and Abu Sayyaf bandits in Basilan, according to the humanitarian office of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

Myrna Jo Henry of the ARMM's humanitarian emergency action and response team said over the weekend that at least 1,312 families or 7,078 individuals from the municipalities of Tipo-Tipo, Al Barka and Unkaya Pukan have been affected by the firefight.

The off and on skirmish between the Army troops and around 200 bandits have been ongoing in these municipalities for almost a week now.

The firefight escalated when the bandits launched counter attacks on the headquarters of the 18th Infantry Battalion in

Tipo-Tipo and on several Army positions.

As of Saturday, the military has yet to release updates on the clash.

Armed Forces of the Philippines spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said on Friday night that the troops were still conducting operations against the bandits.

Henry said the affected individuals were sheltered in one of the evacuation centers in Tipo-Tipo.

The clash started on July 2 in Baragangay Magcawa, Al Barka and spread to the nearby villages of Bohe Piang and to Baguindan in Tipo-Tipo town.

Maj. Filemon Tan, spokesman for the Western Mindanao Command, said the troops have been fighting the group of Abu Sayyaf leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Furuji Indama since Wednesday night.

July 2016

Malaya
The National Newspaper

Page: B1

Three Indonesians kidnapped off Sabah

KUALA LUMPUR. — Gunmen kidnapped three Indonesian members of a tugboat crew off Malaysia's eastern state of Sabah, police said on Sunday, the latest in a string of abductions in a region noted for kidnappings by Islamist militants.

It was not immediately clear whether the men were seized by the Abu Sayyaf, a group linked to Islamic State that is responsible for recent beheadings of Western hostages and notorious for the extortion of millions of dollars in ransoms.

In Manila, Brig. Gen. Resituto Padilla, spokesman of the Philip-

pine military, said the report is undergoing verification.

The Abu Sayyaf is still holding about a dozen foreign and Filipino captives, including seven Indonesian tugboat crew members who were abducted last month in the Sulu Sea. In April and May, the Abu Sayyaf seized 14 Indonesian tugboat crew members between Sulu and Indonesian waters but they were later freed after reportedly paying ransom. The series of kidnappings prompted the Indonesian navy in April to instruct all commercial vessels to

See THREE > Page B7

THREE

avoid piracy-prone waters near the southern Philippines. Also in April, port authorities in some areas of Indonesia stopped issuing permits to ships taking coal to the southern Philippines.

In the latest incident, the tugboat with a crew of seven, was in waters off the east coast of Sabah on Borneo island, about 3.6 nautical miles

from a nearby Kampung Sinakut beach, Sabah police commissioner Abdul Rashid Harun said, when it was attacked by armed men in a white boat late on Saturday.

He said that based on early investigations, the three men kidnapped were 34-year-old Lorens Koten, 40-year-old Teo Dores Kopong, and a 46-year-old identified only as Emanuel.

Abdul Rashid said they are likely

to be in the southern Philippines now but did not elaborate. Four other crew members were left behind by the kidnappers who came in a speedboat.

"Victims released also said while the kidnappers were on their tugboat for nearly 30 minutes, no violence took place," he told reporters at a press conference in Lahad Datu.

The five abductors were armed

with rifles and also had a grenade launcher, the police added.

In Jakarta, the Indonesian foreign ministry said it had no information yet on the abductions.

The Abu Sayyaf militant group has beheaded two Canadian nationals recently after its ransom deadlines expired. It is still holding men from Japan, the Netherlands and Norway. — *Reuters and Victor Reyes*

July 2016

INQUIRER

Page: A3

AFP chief cites Rody order: Rescue hostages, get Abus

By Julie Alipala
Inquirer Mindanao

ZAMBOANGA CITY—President Duterte has ordered the military to rescue Norwegian Kjartan Sekkingstad and all other kidnap victims still held by the Abu Sayyaf—and then exterminate the group.

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff Gen. Ricardo Visaya said here on Saturday the President “asked us to exert all efforts to rescue the Norwegian and the other victims.”

Mr. Duterte, he said, ordered him to use all available resources, logistics and manpower to secure the hostages—numbering over a dozen including 10 foreigners—and eradicate the Abu Sayyaf.

“As much as possible, we will add more troops and more resources, more augmentation—meaning all resources will be poured here. This is what President Duterte wants. [Our forces] will be focused here, meaning logistics, personnel,” Visaya said.

On Friday, Mr. Duterte said he did not consider the Abu Sayyaf a criminal group, but a band of people who had been pushed to the wall by circumstances.

“That’s why I am not including Abu Sayyaf [activities] in criminality. You’ve never heard me say [they are] criminal(s). It is a different setup there because these are guys who were driven to desperation,” the President had said during the recent Eid al-Fitr celebration in Davao City.

Duterte said he knew all about the situation “from Nur to the ARMM.”

“There was no sufficient semblance of governance and that was why they were pushed to the wall,” he said. “Then they became radicalized.”

Visaya said the details of the rescue effort were confidential and no deadline had been set for the extermination of the Abu Sayyaf.

‘There’s no IS here’

As for fears the Islamic State (IS) international terror group had reached Mindanao, Visaya said this was not so.

He said the IS did not exist in Basilan or any part of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao and any claims were based on rumors and had not been validated.

“As far as we are concerned, this is raw information. We need to evaluate this information, but as of now there is no IS here,” he said.

He admitted, however, that what there were in the ARMM were groups claiming to support IS. Visaya once served as a Philippine Army brigade commander in Basilan.

Earlier, former Ungkaya Pukan (Basilan) Mayor Joel Maturan said IS existed in Basilan and its members had merged with the local Abu Sayyaf. He cited instances when black flags similar to the ones exhibited by IS in the Middle East had been seized in the province.

But like Visaya, ARMM Gov. Mujiv Hataman dismissed claims IS had arrived in Basilan.

“There may be IS-inspired groups. For example, Isnlon Hapilon was seen in a video pledging allegiance to IS,” Hataman, a native of Basilan, said.

11 July 2016

INQUIRER

Page: 41

Rody urged to study UN ruling carefully

By Christine O. Avendaño and Marlon Ramos

CONFIDENT that the Philippines would get a favorable ruling from an international tribunal on its dispute with China over the South China Sea, Sen. Leila de Lima on Sunday said she hoped the Duterte administration would study the decision carefully before deciding what action to take so that Manila's 20-year effort to resolve the conflict would not go to waste.

The United Nations Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague will hand down a ruling at 11 a.m. (5 p.m. in Manila) tomorrow in the increasingly bitter dispute between the Philippines and China, in a closely watched case that risks ratcheting up

RODY/A21

From page A1

tensions in Southeast Asia.

Most legal experts expect the ruling to go in favor of the Philippines, but the Duterte administration is not aflutter about that prospect.

It is up to Solicitor General Jose Calida to decide what the government should do if the ruling comes out in favor of the Philippines, Malacañang said yesterday.

President Duterte said last week his administration was willing to talk with China about sharing natural resources in the West Philippine Sea—South China Sea waters within the Philippines' 360-kilometer exclusive economic zone (EEZ)—if the arbitral tribunal found for the Philippines.

Unclos case

Invoking the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos), Manila lodged the suit against Beijing in January 2013, saying after 17 years of negotiations it had exhausted all other political and diplomatic avenues.

Angered by the Philippine move, China refused to participate, saying it would not comply with the ruling by a tribunal with "no jurisdiction" over the dispute.

The Philippines asked the court to void China's claims to almost all of the South China

Sea, including waters within Manila's EEZ and those close to the shores of other claimants in the strategic waterway—Brunei, Malaysia, Vietnam and Taiwan.

Manila also demanded respect for its right to fish and explore resources within its EEZ.

The case does not involve questions of sovereignty, an issue handled only by the International Court of Justice.

Speaking in a radio interview, De Lima said she was confident the Philippines would get a favorable decision from the court.

"We have international law as support for our position and recognition of the rule of international law, which was pointed out by the previous administration," said De Lima, who served as justice secretary to then President Benigno Aquino III and who supervised the Office of the Solicitor General, which represented the Philippines in the case against China.

Aware of Mr. Duterte's openness to bilateral talks with China, De Lima said the administration should first wait for the ruling to come down then study it well "before determining its next actions."

"The ruling will be put to waste if we just surrender what is supposed to be ours," she said, adding that joint explo-

ration means both the Philippines and China have the same rights to resources in the West Philippine Sea.

National interest

"The primordial consideration should always be national interest," De Lima said.

Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay on Friday said the administration hoped to quickly begin direct talks with China after tomorrow's ruling.

The President and Chinese Ambassador to the Philippines Zhou Jinhua met last week in Malacañang and discussed joint exploration.

Malacañang reiterated yesterday that it would wait for the ruling before making any move toward talks with China.

"Once we have the decision, what we will do is to study [it]. Then that's the time that we shall explore our next move," Presidential Communications Secretary Martin Andanar told public broadcaster dzRB.

Andanar said the government would take all matters pertaining to the dispute with China "legally."

Legal experts agree that after three years of deliberations, two hearings and nearly 4,000 pages of evidence, the arbitral court is likely to find in Manila's favor—in a decision with far-reaching ramifications.

"An award from the tribunal

that rejects some of China's more dubious claims would provide support for the mainstream views of other states in the region," Cecily Rose, assistant law professor of public international law at Leiden University, told Agence France-Presse (AFP).

"China is bound to comply with the award. But should it refuse to do so, the tribunal has no enforcement mechanism to which it can turn," Rose said.

Regional tensions

The ruling comes against a backdrop of frequent military brushes between China and its rival claimants, whose EEZs ring the waters believed to hold untapped oil and gas reserves.

The tensions have also drawn in the United States, which has defense treaties with the Philippines and other regional allies.

In a show of strength last week, the US Navy sent warships to patrol close to some of the artificial islands that China built in the Spratly archipelago to bolster its claims to nearly all of the 3.5-million-square-kilometer South China Sea.

The US destroyers Stethem, Spruance and Momsen have been patrolling near Panatag Shoal (Scarborough Shoal), a rich fishing ground in the West Philippine Sea near the coast of Zambales province, which China seized in 2012 after a two-

11 July 2016

Malaya
The National Newspaper

Page: B1

Alarms not needed on sea dispute

BY VICTOR REYES

SECURITY officials yesterday said there is no need to raise the level of alert of forces in connection with Tuesday's anticipated ruling that will be issued by a United Nations arbitral court on the South China Sea or West Philippine Sea dispute.

"There is no need to raise the alert. We don't think China will take violent actions," said Gen. Ricardo Visaya, AFP chief of the Armed Forces whose personnel are assigned in nine Philippine-occupied islands, shoals and reefs

in the disputed waters.

National security adviser Hermogenes Esperon Jr., former Armed Forces chief, he is hopeful that China would not do violent actions if the Philippines gets a favorable ruling from the tribunal.

Esperon said security officials will meet "about the ruling once it comes out and come up with courses of action."

Nevertheless, he said the Duterte administration has come up with scenarios once the Hague-based court issues the ruling. However,

he declined to discuss the scenarios for security reasons.

A military official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the AFP "will not raise its alert, we will be on normal alert."

"We know that we are going to win and hopefully they (China) will not do violent activities because that will work against them. They will be on the losing end if they do that," the source said.

The source also dismissed that China will harass Filipino troops in the Philippine-occupied areas in the South China Sea. "What

for, why would they do that? As of now, international opinion is already against them," the source said.

Many countries have criticized China's excessive nine-dash-line claims and its effect on freedom of navigation.

The Philippines lodged the complaint against China's claim before the UN tribunal in January 2013, several months after the Chinese gained control of the Scarborough Shoal or Panatag Shoal – about 124 nautical miles from Iba, Zambales.

11 July 2016



Pahina. 2

'Pag pabor sa PH ang ruling ng UN tribunal China handa na sa 'giyera' sa WPS!

Nagpahayag ng kahandaan ang China sa paggamit ng kanilang puwersa upang ipagtanggol ang inaangking teritoryo sa pinag-aagawang West Philippine Sea o South China Sea kapag pumabor sa Pilipinas ang magiging desisyon ng international tribunal sa isinampang maritime case nito laban sa China.

Ang ruling ng arbitral tribunal sa ilalim ng United Nations on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) sa Hague na isinampang kaso ng Pilipinas laban sa China noong 2013 ay inaasahang ipalalabas bukas, Hulyo 12.

Base sa report, nagsagawa ng live-fire war games ang Chinese Navy sa South China Sea, kung saan tinesting ang kanilang warships, fighter jets at submarines. Nagpakawala sila ng mga missile at torpedo bilang paghahanda ng kanilang open-siba sa anumang banta na

agawin ang kanilang teritoryo bago ang paglabas ng desisyon ng tribunal. Tatlong fleets ng People's Liberation Army Navy ang nagsagawa ng military drill sa Paracel islands na sakop ng Pilipinas at inaangkin din ng Vietnam.

Iginiglit ng China na sakop sa kanilang 9-dash line claim ang halos buong South China Sea kung saan tinamaan ang 200 nautical miles ng EEZ ng Pilipinas.

Nilinaw naman ni Foreign Affairs Secretary Perfecto Yasay na layunin ng pagsasampa sa arbitral tribunal na alamin lamang kung hanggang saan ang saklaw ng exclusive economic zone (EEZ) ng Pilipinas na siyang pagbabatayan nito sa pakikipag-usap sa China at hindi ang usapin sa kung kaninong teritoryo ang pinag-aagawang mga isla sa WPS. Ipinaglalaman rin aniya ng Pilipinas, at international community ang "freedom

of navigation" matapos ang ginagawang panggigipit ng China sa mga mangingisda at mga dumaraang barko sa karagatan kasunod ng pagtatayo ng Chinese military base at paliparan sa itinayong artipisyal na isla sa WPS.

Sa kabila nito, umaasa ang Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) na hindi gagawa ng anumang bayolenteng aksyon ang China sa sandaling pumabor sa Pilipinas ang ruling ng UN tribunal.

Ayon kay AFP chief-of-staff Gen. Ricardo Visaya, wala siyang nakikitang anumang rason para magtaas ng alerto ang militar sa WPS.

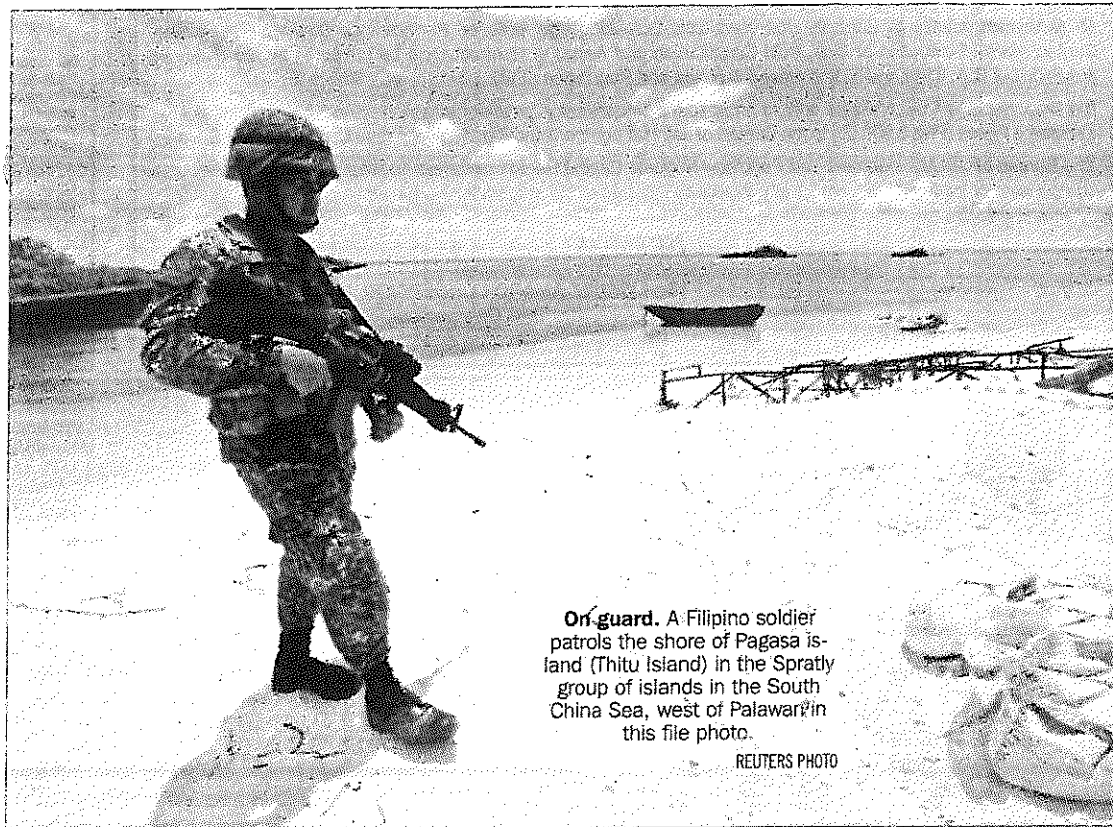
Sinabi naman ni Presidential Communications Office Sec. Martin Andanar, magiging makasaysayan ang linggong ito para sa Pilipinas dahil sa inaasahang paglabas ng ruling ng UN tribunal. (Ellen Fernando/Ricky Tulipat/Rudy Andanar)

11 July 2016

Malaya

The National Newspaper

Page: B4



11 July 2016

Malaya
The National Newspaper

Page: B1

US air contingent ends training operations

BY VICTOR REYES

A SECOND contingent of United States aircraft has completed security and training missions in the Philippines and has been redeployed to Misawa Air Base in Japan “to resume a previously-scheduled deployment to the western Pacific,” according to the US military which implied that similar missions are about to take place.

The first air contingent was part of the Balikatan exercises conducted last April. It completed its mission last April 28. It was composed five A-10 Thunderbolt II jet aircraft, three HH-60Gs Pave Hawk helicopters, an MC-130H transport plane and 200 personnel.

The second contingent, the US Navy Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 138, is composed of four electronic warfare EA-18G Growler aircraft and 20 personnel. It arrived in Clark Air Base in Pampanga last June 15 for training with Filipino counterparts and regional maritime domain awareness operations.

“Routine operations such as these air contingents and exercises like Balikatan will continue to be scheduled in order to promote

See US AIR ➤ Page B7

US AIR

regional security and foster the historically strong relationship between the US and the Philip-

pines,” the US military said in a statement.

The contingent had subject matter exchanges (SME) with their Filipino counterparts “to

provide insight for our Filipino partners into how the US military conducts operations at home and downrange,” said US Navy Cdr. Aaron Tabor, the VAQ 138 com-

manding officer.

“This allows them to see what has worked for us and potentially apply it to their existing military procedures,” he said.

ONLINE NEWS

11 JULY 2016

www.bomboradyo.com

135 Pinoy peacekeepers ipinadala sa Haiti

By Bombo Anne SoberanoPosted in Latest News on July 11, 2016 10:17

Umalis noong Biyernes ang nasa 135 Filipino peacekeepers na pawang mga miyembro ng Philippine Army patungong Haitic na bahagi ng commitment ng bansa sa United Nations (UN).

Mismong si AFP Chief of Staff General Ricardo Visaya ang nanguna sa isinagawang send-off ceremony kung sumakay ang mga sundalo sa isang UN-chartered flight sa Villamor Air Base sa Pasay City.

Ayon kay AFP spokesperson BGen. Restituto Padilla na ang Haiti peacekeeping operations ay isa sa pinakamalaking UN deployment ng AFP.

Ito'y matapos magdesisyon ang Pilipinas na i-pull out na ang mga Pinoy peacekeepers sa Liberia bunsod na sa outbreak ng Ebola virus at maging sa Golan Heights sa Syria dahil sa mataas na banta ng kaguluhan.

Sinabi ni Padilla na ayaw na ng pamahalaan na maulit ang insidente noong 2014 kung saan binihag ng mga Syrian rebels ang mga Pinoy peacekeepers.

Ayon kay Padilla ang Haiti-bound Philippine Army contingent at binubuo ng 15 officers at 119 enlisted personnel sa ilalim ng pamumuno ni Col. Rosalio Pompa.

"This is the 20th deployment of the Philippines by far. The contingent they will replace will next week July 11, 2016," pahayag ni Padilla.

www.dwdd.com.ph

ARMED ENCOUNTER | Army Troopers Recover 1 HPA in Surigao

Surigao, July 11 (DWDD) – Government Forces responding to complaints on the

presence of armed men in Brgy Amontay, San Francisco, SDN encountered Lawless Armed Group (LAG) this morning. The 10 minute firefight resulted to recovery of One M16 rifle and paraphernalia from the LAG; there was no casualty on the government side.

According to reports, the LAG had been in the area since last weekend. "Local residents had been texting my troops not to pass by Amontay as the LAG will conduct ambushes to policemen and soldiers plying the area" said 1LT Ferdinand Tutanés, Commanding Officer, Charlie Company based in San Francisco, SDN. "The locals have become paranoid out of fear to be caught on a crossfire, the LAG have stopped residents from going to their farm for almost a week now prompting them to complain to us." Tutanés added.

Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.



Lt Col Rico Amaro 30IB Commander said "There were traces of bloodstains, we are calling this group to turn over their wounded to be given medical treatment. The wounded have his/her right to live.

We are calling our brothers bearing firearms to give peace a chance, our President have already called for peace talk". "Let Surigaonons live a peaceful life, let our communities be serviced by the government" Amaro added. 30IB in coordination with PNP conducts pursuit operation as of press time. **CMO 30IB / MCAG**

www.bomboradyo.com

NPA, patay sa engkwentro sa Kalinga

By Bombo Tuguegarao Posted in [Latest News](#) Sunday, January 15, 2017 11:46 AM

TUGUEGARAO, Cagayan - Patay ang isang hinihinalang kasapi ng New People's Army (NPA) sa naganap na engkwentro sa bayan ng Tanudan, Kalinga.

Sa panayam ng Bombo Radyo, sinabi ni Lt. Col. Emanuel Crusada, Executive Officer ng 503rd Infantry Brigade na nagpapatrolya ang tropa ng 50 Infantry Battalion sa pangunguna nina 1st Lt. Julius Ian Maestrado at 2nd Lt. Cherry Ted Arcilla sa Sitio Viga, Brgy. Siit, Tanudan pasado alas-2:00 kaninang madaling araw nang paputukan sila ng hindi mabatid na bilang ng rebeldeng grupo.

Dahil dito, gumanti ang mga sundalo na nagresulta sa pagkamatay ng umano'y miyembro ng NPA na kinilalang si Nardy Gunnawa, 36-anyos at residente ng Brgy. Mabacca, Tanudan.

Ayon pa kay Crusada, narekober din ang armas ni Gunnawa na M14 rifle na mayroong 11 bala.

Tumagal ng tatlong minuto ang putukan bago umatras ang mga rebeldeng grupo.

Wala namang namatay o nasugatan sa panig ng militar.

Sa ngayon ay nagpapatuloy ang hot pursuit operation ng tropa ng pamahalaan sa mga nakatakas na rebeldeng grupo.

www.bomboradyo.com

Sundalo, patay nang maagawan ng baril ng ASG na kanilang nadakip sa Basilan

By Bombo Mars deSanPosted in [Latest News](#) on July 10, 2015 4:51

ZAMBOANGA CITY - Nakaburol na sa isang punerarya sa Zamboanga City ang labi ng isang sundalo na namatay matapos umanong barilin ng miyembro ng Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) sa nagpapatuloy na operasyon ng militar sa munisipyo ng Tipo-Tipo, Basilan.

Kinilala ang biktima na si Sgt. Carlito Macotocruz, kasapi ng 18th Infantry Battalion (IB) ng Philippine Army (PA)

Napag-alaman na kahapon pa nangyari ang insidente pero hanggang ngayon ay nananatiling tahimik ang Western Mindanao Command (WestMinCom) at tila pilit itong itinatago ng militar.

Base sa naging panayam ng *Bombo Radyo* sa pamangkin ng biktima, ayon daw sa mga kasamahan ng nasawing sundalo ay naagawan ng caliber .45 pistol ang biktima ng hinuling bandido at ito mismo ang ginamit sa pamamail sa kanya.

Nadala pa umano sa pagamutan ang sundalo na tinamaan sa kanyang hita pero binawian din ito ng buhay.

Labis na ikinalungkot ng pamilya at mga kaanak ng sundalo ang sinapit nito dahil malapit na rin sana itong magretiro sa kanyang serbisyo.

Nabatid na si Sgt. Macotocruz ay may isang anak habang ang kanyang misis ay nagtatrabaho naman sa Hong Kong.

Sinabi ng pamangkin ng biktima na inasaahang uuwi ngayong darating na Lunes ang misis ng sundalo para asikasuhin ang libing ng kanyang asawa.

www.pna.gov.ph

AFP not expecting China to do anything violent should ITLOS ruling favor PHL

By Priam F. Nepomuceno

MANILA, July 10 (PNA) -- The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) is not expecting China to do anything violent should the ruling of the Hague-based United Nations International Tribunal on the Laws of the Seas (ITLOS) to be released Tuesday, favors the country.

For this reason, AFP chief-of-staff Gen. Ricardo Visaya sees no reason to raise the alert status of the military.

"There's no need to raise alert. We don't think China will take violent actions," he added.

Earlier, a ranking Department of National Defense (DND) official said the Philippines comply with whatever the ruling of ITLOS will come out on July 12 regarding its maritime dispute with China.

"Whatever the outcome, the stand of the DND (Department of National Defense), is of course, we will follow what the international laws says, whatever (ITLOS's) decisions, whether it is in favor of or against us, we will follow and we hope China will do the same," DND public affairs service head Arsenio Andolong said.

Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.

"(And whatever the ruling), the President announced that he is willing to start to restart bilateral talks so we take our cue from there," Andolong stressed.

The Philippines on 2013 filed charges against China at the ITLOS over its overlapping Nine-Dash-Line claims.
(PNA)
BNB/PFN

www.pna.gov.ph

Military looking for 145 units of assault rifles

MANILA, July 10 (PNA) -- The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has allocated the sum of PHP13,152,550 for the acquisition of 145 units of assault rifles.
These weapons must have a 14.5 inch barrel.

Winning bidders are required to deliver the weapons within 140 calendar days, the bid bulletin posted at the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System said.

Pre-bid conference is on Thursday, 9:00 a.m. at the GHQ Bids and Awards Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Bulwagang Syquoio, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Meanwhile, opening and submission of bids is on July 21, at the same venue. (PNA)
BNB/PFN

www.bomboradyo.com

Lt. Gen Visaya, nanindigan na wala pang nakapasok na ISIS sa Basilan at Sulu

By Bombo Marilyn delos SantosPosted in [Latest News](#)Sunday, 10 July 2016 04:05

ZAMBOANGA CITY - Nanindigan pa rin si Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Ricardo Visayan na walang katotohanan ang mga lumalabas na impormasyon na may presensya na ng mga kasapi ng teroristang ISIS sa lalawigan ng Sulu at Basilan.

Ito ang muling paglilinaw ni Visaya sa isinagawang command visit nito sa Western Mindanao Command sa Zamboanag City.

Inihayag ng opisyal patuloy na inaalang ng militar simula nang lumabas ang mga impormasyon na nakapasok na sa bansa ang mga kasapi ng teroristang ISIS pero hanggang sa kasalukuyan ay wala silang nakukuhang pruwera para patunayan ang naturang mga impormasyon.

Naniniwala pa rin si Visaya na mga sympathizer lamang ang Abu Sayyaf ng teroristang ISIS at wala namang direktang kaugnayan.

"As far as we are concern ito po ay mga raw impormation pa. We have really to evaluate now these impormation, as of now there are no ISIS here, only those group have publicly said that are supporting ISIS. Its really sad to know that Abu Sayyaf is supporting the ISIS," paliwnag ni Visaya.

Ganito rin ang paniniwala ni Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) Governor Mujiv Hataman na walang direktang kaugnayan ang Abu Sayyaf sa teroristang ISIS at base rin sa kanilang mga impormasyon ay wala namang nakapasok na miyembor ng ISIS sa anumang lugar sa ARMM.

"Ang tingin ko ISIS inspired at sympathizer kasi kung titingnan natin lahat ay Abu Sayyaf the only thing is they pledge ng support sa ISIS," pahayga ni Hataman.

Matatandaan na naglunsad ng serye ng pag-atake ang maraing mga armadong Abu Sayyad sa tatlong munisiyopyo ng Basilan at plano umanong itaas ang kinikilala nilang bandila ng teroristang ISIS.

Sinabi ni Hataman na hindi sapat na basehan ang mga nasabing bandila para sabihing nag-uugnay na ang bandidong Abu Sayyaf sa ISIS dahil puwede lamang itong ipagawa kahit sinong tao.

www.bomboradyo.com

AFP chief tiniyak ang significant results sa kanilang operasyon vs

ASG

By Bombo Anne Soberano Posted in Latest News Sunday, 10 July 2016 11:24

Tiniyak ni Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff General Ricardo Visaya na magkakaroon ng significant results sa kanilang operasyon laban sa mga teroristang Abu Sayyaf.

Sinabi ni Visaya na naka-alerto ngayon ang buong pwersa ng militar sa Mindanao partikular sa mga lugar na nag-ooperate ang mga bandidong grupo.

Pinatitiyak ni Visaya sa mga tropa ng pamahalaan na nananatiling nasa defensive mode ang mga ito para hindi na maulit ang insidenteng pag-atake ng mga ASG sa kuta ng militar sa Tipo-Tipo, Basilan.

Ayon kay Gen. Visaya na kaniya ng inaasahan na gagawa talaga ng hakbang ang bandidong grupo para makaganti sa militar dahil sa walang tigil na operasyon ng mga ito laban sa teroristang grupo.

Kahapon, Sabado binisita ni AFP chief ang Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom) sa Zamboanga City para personal na alamin ang isinasagawang operasyon ng militar sa probinsiya ng Basilan at Sulu.

Pinulong din ni Visaya ang mga military commanders sa western Mindanao.

www.interaksyon.com

ARMM Gov. Hataman: No signs of hostages in Basilan

By: Teofilo P. Garcia, Philippines News Agency

July 10, 2016 11:23 AM

InterAksyon.com

The online news portal of TV5

ISABELA CITY, Basilan -- Governor Mujiv Hataman of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) said there are no signs that the Sulu-based Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) has transferred their hostages to this province.

Hataman issued the statement after he disclosed that there were Sulu-based ASG brigands who had fled to this province to escape from the continuous military offensive in the province of Sulu.

"I'm sure there are no hostages, we have information there are no hostages here. They (ASG brigands) transferred here due to (the military) pressure in nearby Sulu," Hataman said.

The ASG brigands are still holding captives nine foreigners and three Filipinos in the province of Sulu.

The foreigners included a Dutchman birdwatcher, a Norwegian, and seven Indonesian sailors.

Maj. Filemon Tan Jr., Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) spokesman, said the Joint Task Force Sulu continued to conduct focused military operations.

Westmincom received intelligence report that nine ASG brigands were killed while 13 wounded when the troops pounded on Thursday the ASG position in Barangay Kabuntakas, Patikul, Sulu.

Hataman said based on reports he received, there were about 200 ASG brigands operating in this province.

"*Ang nagparami sa kanila ay yon taga Sulu, Zamboanga Sibugay, and Marangan, Zamboanga City,*" Hataman said.

Marangan is a sitio in Barangay Muti, Zamboanga City, which Hataman said around 30 ASG brigands came from the area and joined their comrades in this province.

He disclosed they learned there were some ASG brigands from Zamboanga Sibugay here since one of them was arrested by the military in the nearby town of Al-Barka.

He said the ASG brigands staged the attack on Wednesday in Tipo-Tipo as they wanted to instill fear among the residents in the area.

"*Hindi namin papayagan at hindi namin hahayaan na gagawin nila yon,*" he said.

Hataman met with the provincial, city, and municipal officials of this province and discussed measures to address the problem on peace and order of this province.