

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



# **ARMY**

**Serving the people. Securing the land.**

**[oacpa.army2012@gmail.com](mailto:oacpa.army2012@gmail.com)**

## **OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS CLIPPINGS**


**08 June 2016**

**Wednesday**

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

## NEWS HEADLINES

08 JUNE 2016





### It's Clinton vs Trump in November vote

Belmonte, LP join Duterte's coalition

## 17 senators back Koko for Senate presidency


LP, NPC align with majority led by PDP-Laban



US closely 'watching' Duterte, says expert

UN rights experts' criticism of Duterte wraps - Panel

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JUNE 10-12 70% OFF




### Metro anti-crime drive on

...they are looking to '2

...child was killed

...murder



### UN pummels DU30 over kill order

SC in rule on GRM plunder plea


Plea seeks SC order for poll body to probe servers' code correction

S. China Sea casts shadow over opening of US-China talks

Angoy appeals Sandigan ruling

Old politicians never die, just fade away - JPE

Binay purchase not imposed money stake



### 'Secret server used to rig polls'

Aquino's big crime vs nation: He defied Supreme Court ruling and allowed foreign dominance of PH telecom

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Duterte extremely irresponsible - UN experts

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## ONLINE NEWS

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	Army Commander assures presence in Leyte despite troops' deployment to Mindanao		<a href="http://www.pia.gov.ph">www.pia.gov.ph</a>
	PMA cadet dies of heat exhaustion		<a href="http://www.tempo.com.ph">www.tempo.com.ph</a>
	Tagalog News: Apat na rebeldeng NPA nahuli sa Butuan City, ilang firearms at ammunition nasabat din		<a href="http://www.pia.gov.ph">www.pia.gov.ph</a>

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## 24-HOUR PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST

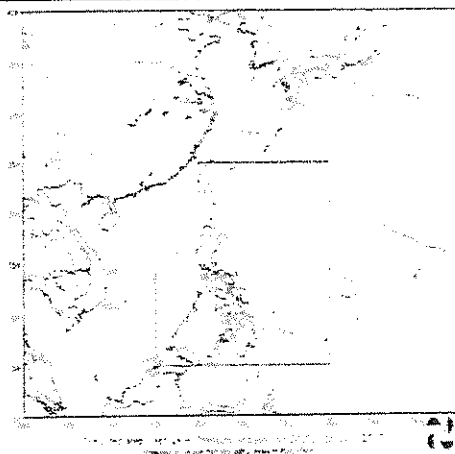
ISSUED AT: 5:00 AM 08 JUNE 2016

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

### SYNOPSIS: SOUTHWEST MONSOON AFFECTING LUZON.

**FORECAST:** CLOUDY SKIES WITH LIGHT TO MODERATE RAINS AND THUNDERSTORMS WILL BE EXPERIENCED OVER THE REGIONS OF ILOCOS, CORDILLERA AND THE PROVINCES OF ZAMBALES, BATAAN AND PALAWAN. PARTLY CLOUDY TO CLOUDY SKIES WITH RAINSHOWERS OR THUNDERSTORMS WILL PREVAIL OVER METRO MANILA AND THE REST OF THE COUNTRY.

LIGHT TO MODERATE WINDS BLOWING FROM THE SOUTHWEST WILL PREVAIL OVER LUZON AND VISAYAS AND COMING FROM THE SOUTH TO SOUTHWEST OVER MINDANAO. THE COASTAL WATERS THROUGHOUT THE ARCHIPELAGO WILL BE SLIGHT TO MODERATE.



**PAGTAYA:** MAULAP NA KALANGITAN NA MAY MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG MGA PAG-ULAN AT PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG ANG MARARANASAN SA MGA REHIYON NG ILOCOS AT CORDILLERA AT SA MGA LALAWIGAN NG ZAMBALES, BATAAN AT PALAWAN. BAHAGYANG MAULAP HANGGANG SA MAULAP NA KALANGITAN NA MAY MGA PAG-ULAN O PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG ANG IIRAL SA KAMAYNILAAN AT SA NALALABING BAHAGI NG BANSÀ.

MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG HANGIN MULA SA TIMOG-KANLURAN ANG IIRAL SA LUZON AT KABISAYAAN AT MULA NAMAN SA TIMOG HANGGANG SA TIMOG-KANLURAN SA MINDANAO. ANG MGA BAYBAYING-DAGAT SA BUONG KAPULUAN AY MAGIGING BANAYAD HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMAN ANG PAG-ALON.

EXTREMES OF TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY FOR THE 24-HR PERIOD ENDING AT 8:00 PM YESTERDAY AND RECORDED AT PAGASA WEATHER STATION, SCIENCE GARDEN, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY:

<b>MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE:</b> 1:50 PM YESTERDAY — 32.6°C	<b>MAXIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY:</b> 6:00 AM YESTERDAY — 94 %
<b>MINIMUM TEMPERATURE:</b> 6:00 AM YESTERDAY — 24.8°C	<b>MINIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY:</b> 1:50 PM YESTERDAY — 53 %
<b>TIDAL PREDICTIONS ALONG MANILA BAY</b> (Courtesy of NAMRIA)	
<b>HIGH TIDE TODAY:</b> 11:45 AM ..... 1.31 METER	<b>SUNRISE / SUNSET</b>
<b>LOW TIDE TODAY:</b> 8:07 PM ..... -0.12 METER	<b>SUNRISE TODAY:</b> 5:26 AM
	<b>SUNSET TODAY:</b> 6:24 PM
	<b>MOONRISE / MOONSET AND ILLUMINATION</b>
	<b>MOONRISE TODAY:</b> 8:21 AM
	<b>MOONSET TODAY:</b> 9:24 PM
	<b>ILLUMINATION TODAY:</b> 11 %

For more information and queries, please call at telephone numbers 927-1335 and 927-2877 or log on to [www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph](http://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph).

PREPARED BY: SEBJ

CHECKED BY: CFP

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
































































REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Department of Science and Technology  
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and  
Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)  
**Weather Division**  
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Rev. 1205-08-2016











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

ISSUED AT: 5:00 AM 08 JUNE 2016

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

CITIES	24-Hr Weather, Winds and Sea Condition Forecast <i>from 5AM today until 5AM tomorrow</i>		Extended Weather Outlook <i>Duration: 5AM until 5AM of the following day</i>				
	08 JUN		09 JUN	10 JUN	11 JUN	12 JUN	
Metro Manila	 25°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest Manila Bay: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 33°C	 24°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	 24°C 33°C	
Tuguegarao City	 24°C 34°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest	 25°C 35°C	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 35°C	
Laoag City	 24°C 32°C	Moderate: Southwest Coastal Waters: Moderate	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 33°C	
Baguio City	 16°C 25°C	Moderate: Southwest	 16°C 25°C	 16°C 25°C	 16°C 24°C	 16°C 24°C	
SBMA (Olongapo) / Clark Zone (Angeles City)	 25°C 32°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest Subic Bay: Slight to Moderate	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	
Tagaytay City	 22°C 29°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest	 22°C 29°C	 22°C 28°C	 22°C 29°C	 22°C 29°C	
Lipa City	 24°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest	 25°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	
Legazpi City	 26°C 34°C	Moderate: Southwest Coastal Waters: Moderate	 26°C 33°C	 25°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 32°C	
Puerto Princesa City	 25°C 32°C	Moderate: Southwest Coastal Waters: Moderate	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	
Iloilo City / Bacolod City	 26°C 33°C	Moderate: Southwest Coastal Waters: Moderate	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 32°C	
Metro Cebu	 25°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 32°C	 25°C 33°C	
Tacloban City	 24°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 24°C 34°C	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 34°C	
Cagayan de Oro City	 23°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: South-Southwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	 25°C 33°C	
Valencia City	 26°C 32°C	Light to Moderate: South-Southwest	 20°C 32°C	 19°C 31°C	 19°C 31°C	 19°C 31°C	
Metro Davao	 25°C 34°C	Light to Moderate: South-Southwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 33°C	 25°C 33°C	
Zamboanga City	 25°C 34°C	Light to Moderate: South-Southwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C	

### LEGEND:

	Clear skies		Partly Cloudy to at times Cloudy with Rainshowers and/or Thunderstorms		Occasional Rains		Rain 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: SEBJ

CHECKED BY: CFF

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08 June 2016

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
**INQUIRER**

Page: A1

# 17 senators back Koko for Senate presidency

## LP, NPC align with majority led by PDP-Laban

By Christine O. Avendaño

WITH the Liberal Party (LP) and the Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC) joining the emergent Partido Demokratiko Pilipino-Lakas ng Bayan (PDP-Laban), a "supermajority" has emerged in the Senate, giving President-elect Rodrigo Duterte control of Congress and assuring support for his legislative agenda that includes a shift toward federalism and the return of the death penalty.

Sen. Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III, president of the PDP-Laban that fielded Duterte as its standard-bearer in the May 9 elections, is likely to be voted Senate President in the 17th



**IN HIS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS** Sen. Koko Pimentel looks a cinch for the Senate presidency, a position once held by his father. NINO JESUS ORBETA

17 SENATORS/AB

Duterte, whose campaign promise was "radical change," snubbed a joint session of Congress last week that convened as the national board of can-



Others in the supermajority are Senators Ralph Recto, Bam Aquino, Francis Pangilinan, Leila de Lima, Joel Villanueva, Risa



**Minority of none**

He told the INQUIRER everyone was welcome to the group. "We want to experience a Senate mi-



Sotto said Senate Majority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano and Senators Cynthia Villar, JV



08 June 2016



Page: 1

# Metro anti-crime drive on

By NON ALQUITRAN

In Caloocan City, bodies of apparent victims of summary executions have turned up. Elsewhere, drug suspects are being rounded up, people drinking in the streets picked up and curfews on children enforced.

As police prepare to welcome a new president, a crime drive is sweeping Metro Manila, with men being apprehended for merely going shirtless outside their homes to cool down in the muggy weather.

Eight more drug suspects were arrested in separate sting operations in Parañaque and Quezon City on Monday night.

Three kilos of shabu, with an estimated street value of P18 million, were confiscated by members of the Criminal Investigation and Detection

*Cagayan drug suspect killed in ambush. Story on Page 12*

Group (CIDG) from suspected drug pushers Mustapha Madayao, Noroden Amatonding and Binnor Macabato.

The three were nabbed in a parking lot along Bradco Avenue, Macapagal Boulevard, Parañaque at around 11 p.m., Senior Supt. Joel Pernito, CIDG

Turn to Page 6

## Metro anti-crime From Page 1

Region 4-A chief, said.

Pernito said an informant tipped off police about the drug pushing activities of the suspects.

He said an undercover police officer arranged the sale of a kilo of shabu with the suspects for P5 million.

Pernito said the suspects earlier agreed to conduct the drug sale in Cavite but decided at the last minute to hold the payoff along Macapagal Avenue.

The suspects were arrested after handing over a kilo of shabu to the undercover officer in exchange for P5 million, Pernito said.

He said a search of the suspect's black sports bag yielded two more kilos of shabu.

The suspects are being held at the CIDG Region 4-A headquarters on drug charges.

In Quezon City, police arrested five people for alleged possession of marijuana bricks worth P63,000.

The suspects were nabbed after police received information of illegal drug trade in Barangay Old Balara at around 6:30 p.m. on Monday.

Operatives of the Batasan police station anti-illegal drugs

unit arrested Ronna de la Calzada, 25; Nelbert Villanueva, 33; Ian Pua, 42; John Adrian Balisi, 24 and a 16-year-old boy.

They will be charged with violation of Republic Act 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act, police said.

Prior to their arrest, police apprehended a group of men playing "cara y cruz" in the area. They were Alexander Enriquez, 24; Louie Matas, 20; Ricardo Tuliao, 30; Richard Lancebal, 33 and a minor.

Police also recovered a .38-caliber revolver from Enriquez.

The suspects will be charged with illegal gambling. A separate complaint for election gun ban will be filed against Enriquez.

### Summary executions

Meanwhile, a vigilante group is believed to be responsible for a spate of killings of suspected criminals in Caloocan City.

A source did not confirm or deny that the group was composed of active police officers, but admitted that the killings had "clearance from above."

The bodies of two men,

said to be victims of summary executions, were found in Barangay 171, Bagumbong, Caloocan last week.

One of the fatalities was identified as Ryan Vincent Modesto, 19. He bore bullet wounds, his mouth gagged with masking tape and his hands tied.

A cardboard with markings, "Huwag ninyo akong tutularan, holdupper ako!" was placed on his body.

The body of a man - burned beyond recognition - was discovered by a tricycle driver in front of St. Mary's Academy in Grace Park, Caloocan on Friday.

On Saturday, the bodies of a man and woman were dumped under the Sampaguita Bridge in Barangay 171, Bagumbong.

Scene of the crime operatives said the fatalities bore gunshots to the head and strangulation marks.

Police said Richard Guiab, a former member of the Bulacan police allegedly involved in illegal drugs and carjacking, was shot dead by two men on a motorcycle while he was walking along Jasmine street in Camarin.

In Valenzuela City, a tattooed man described as being between 19 and 25 years

old was found dead along Sto. Rosario street, Barangay Mapulang Lupa.

Last month, the mutilated bodies of a man and woman were found stuffed in sacks in Barangay Tugatog, Malabon.

"Maybe law enforcers have had enough of crime and illegal drugs in the Camanava (Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas, Valenzuela) area. But until such time that a group comes out and owns up to these killings, all we can do is to speculate," the source said.

### 'Shabu cop'

Meanwhile, the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) has asked the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) to look into the bank accounts of a policeman earlier caught with shabu and around P7 million in cash in a raid on his house in Sampaloc, Manila.

The NBI said Police Officer 2 Jolly Aliangan, whose home was described in television reports as fit for a general, allegedly has P30 million in bank deposits.

The NBI is considering filing money laundering charges against Aliangan, who was reportedly engaged in reselling drugs seized from previous raids on the New Bilibid

Prison.

The bureau also asked the AMLC to forfeit Aliangan's properties.

Aliangan, who was assigned at the National Capital Region Police Office Regional Anti-Illegal Drug unit, reportedly owns three homes, including a three-story house on Palawan street in Sampaloc.

He also owns a Mitsubishi Montero and a Toyota Altis.

NBI agents recovered from Aliangan 300 grams of shabu and a vault containing P6.9 million in cash.

### 4 cops nabbed for drugs, extortion

Meanwhile, four policemen tagged in illegal drugs and extortion were arrested in separate operations in Davao Oriental and Bulacan on Monday.

Senior Police Officer 4 Nollo Barsaman and PO2 Jesus Mante Jr. tested positive for drug use, according to Chief Inspector Noel Asumen, officer-in-charge of the Mati City police. Asumen said Barsaman was found in possession of drug paraphernalia.

Supt. Harry Espela, Davao Provincial Police Office director, said Barsaman and Mante would be slapped with administrative charges.

In Bulacan, members of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) apprehended PO3 Winston de Leon Mariano and PO1 Benjamin Sauban for allegedly extorting money from a couple whom they nabbed during a shakedown.

CIDG chief Director Victor Deona said the two were caught along with police asse John Victor Vendano.

Deona said the suspect raided the couple's house in Sta. Maria town for alleged involvement in drugs on Saturday.

The police officers allegedly demanded P150,000 in exchange for the release of the couple.

The couple initially gave the suspects P40,000 inside the Obando police station then sought help from the CIDG which conducted an entrapment operation resulting in their arrest on Monday.

Duterte earlier sought the resignation of three police generals allegedly involved in corruption.

Incoming PNP director Chief Supt. Ronald de la Rosa vowed to run after police officers involved in illegal drug

- With Romina Cabre Rey Galupo, Ghio Ong, Cille Suerte Felipe

07 June 2016



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### Soldier hurt in bomb blast

MAGUINDANAO – A soldier was wounded when an improvised bomb went off along the road in Datu Unsay town yesterday.

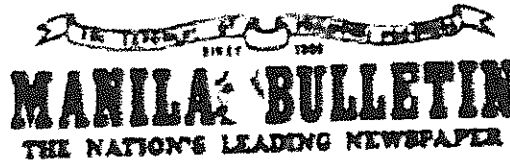
Capt. Joann Petinglay, spokesperson for the Army's 6th Infantry Division, said the unidentified soldier was brought to a hospital and declared out of danger.

Members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters were believed to be behind the explosion to prevent soldiers from going to a village, where the bandits extort money from residents.

"There are continuing patrols in the area to maintain tranquility there, particularly this time when peace is needed to ensure an undisrupted observance of the Ramadan," said Petinglay.

– John Unson

08 June 2016



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## Troops repulse attempt to attack construction site in Zambo del Norte

**ZAMBOANGA CITY (PNA) —** Military forces are now tracking down a group of lawless elements that harassed a construction firm undertaking a government project in a remote area of Zamboanga del Norte.

Supt. Rogelio Alabata, Police Regional Office-9 (PRO-9) spokesman, said the harassment occurred around 2:30 p.m. Monday in Sitio Nasal, Barangay Puliran, Sibuco, Zamboanga del Norte.

Alabata said the workers of a local construction firm were constructing a concrete bridge when a group of lawless elements opened fire.

Alabata said a brief firefight ensued as the squad of soldiers from the Army's 42nd Infantry Battalion

providing security to the workers returned fire.

He said the lawless elements led by Jamaruddin Alih alias Boy Taka fled towards northeast direction heading to Barangay Puliran, Sibuco, upon sensing the arrival of government reinforcements.

He said no one among the construction workers and the security forces were either killed or injured during the brief firefight.

He said the troops have uncovered an encampment of the lawless group around 500 meters away from the project site.

He said the troops have strengthened the security measures to ensure the completion of the government project.

08 June 2016

## The Manila Times

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### TROOPS CLASH WITH BANDITS, CAMP SEIZED IN ZAMBOANGA

**ZAMBOANGA CITY:** Government troops captured an encampment of suspected bandits following a firefight in the town of Sibuco in Zamboanga del Norte province in southern Philippines. Superintendent Rogelio Alabata, regional police spokesman, said they have alerted their forces in the town after

troops clashed with bandits who attacked soldiers guarding a government bridge project in Puliran village. Alabata said soldiers from the Army's 42nd Infantry Battalion seized the bandit's encampment about 500 meters from the construction site. Police said armed groups have been extorting money from construction companies in the province. It was not immediately known if the armed men were affiliated with other rebel groups actively operating in the Zamboanga Peninsula. **AL JACINTO**

## Army soldier hurt in Maguindanao blast

**COTABATO CITY, Maguindanao:** A soldier of the Army's 34th Infantry Battalion (34IB) sustained shrapnel wounds when members of the outlawed Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) set off an improvised explosive device (IED) along a road in Barangay Meta in Datu Unsay town, early Tuesday.

Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay, spokesperson of the Army's 6th Infantry Division (6ID), said the BIFF rebels were trying to prevent patrolling Army troops from getting close to a village whose residents they subject to rebels' taxation.

Datu Unsay is an impoverished town located in the second district of Maguindanao. Its for-

mer mayor, Datu Andal "Unsay" Ampatuan, Jr., is now detained as the principal suspect in the Maguindanao massacre.

Army officers of the 34IB said they were surprised with the bombing, something they never thought the BIFF would perpetrate at a time when its leaders and members are observing Ramadan.

"There are continuing community patrols by soldiers in the area to maintain tranquility there, particularly at this time when peace is needed to ensure an undisrupted observance of Ramadan by local folks," Capt. Petinglay said.

Muslims fast from dawn to dusk during Ramadan, which lasts for one lunar cycle.

They avoid creating trouble or hurting their fellowmen and instead focus on good deeds and charitable acts as atonement for sins and as a religious obligation.

Warfare is strictly prohibited during the Ramadan, regarded by Muslims as a "holy month," during which they reach out and reconcile even with their enemies.

But the recent explosion in Datu Unsay indicates the BIFF no longer respect or do not care to follow the spirit of the holy month.

Capt. Petinglay said the wounded combatant is now confined in a hospital here in this city and is now out of danger. **JULMUNIR JANNARAL**

04 June 2016

**Malaya**  
*The National Newspaper*

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## 2 soldiers wounded in Maguindanao blast

TWO soldiers were wounded yesterday when an improvised bomb exploded while they were on patrol in Datu Unsay town in Maguindanao.

Authorities were still determining the identities of the perpetrators and their motive, said Capt. Jo-ann Petinglay, public affairs officer of the Army's 6th Infantry Division.

Petinglay said authorities are still left with no suspects, noting armed lawless groups in Maguindanao have been "quiet" for some time now.

Several armed groups are known to operate in the province, including the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, a faction of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front which signed a peace accord with government in March 2014.

Petinglay said the incident occurred at 5:55 a.m. in Barangay Meta, involving troops from the Army's 34th Infantry Battalion.

Wounded were a sergeant and a private first class, Petinglay said but declined to name them.

A police report said four soldiers were wounded in the blast, and identified them as one Sgt. Felix Pisngot, Pfc. Marlon Bacnotan, Pfc. Sany Devalleres and Pfc. Danny Varon.

The report said the wounded soldiers were brought to the Maguindanao Integrated Provincial Health Office.

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**oot camp.** Members of the local media in Eastern Visayas undergo training with 801st Brigade Philippine Army in Barangay Fatima, nabangan, Samar. MEL CASPE

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## 'Duterte must honor EDCA commitment'

By JAIME LAUDE

The incoming Duterte administration must honor its commitment to implement the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) signed by the Philippines and the US, former foreign secretary Albert del Rosario said yesterday.

Speaking at a forum at the National Defense College of the Philippines, Del Rosario, chairman of the Albert del Rosario Institute (ADRI), said EDCA is a significant component for the Phil-US alliance to move forward.

Asked if the Philippines stands to lose face should it not implement EDCA, Del Rosario said the new administration has accepted the treaty.

"We're trying to move forward with it. It's a very im-

portant mechanism in terms of moving forward with our treaty alliance," he said.

President-elect Rodrigo Duterte, while saying that EDCA will be honored, wants to deepen ties with China. He has also expressed openness to dealing with China bilaterally to settle the country's maritime row with Beijing in the South China Sea and West Philippine Sea, but only if multilateral talks prove futile after four years.

Del Rosario said he is not opposed to bilateral talks. He said that timing is a factor if the new administration would enter into bilateral negotiations with China.

"We favor negotiations but the timing must be geared toward the conclusion of the

arbitration because of so many reasons, the most valid is the tribunal. We must await the decision before we can start talking to China. Otherwise the judges are going to think twice about what we're doing," Del Rosario said.

He was referring to the arbitration case the Philippines filed against Beijing before the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague, wherein the country questioned the legality and validity of China's nine-dash-line in the South China Sea.

Earnest Bower of the US-based think tank Center for Strategic and International Studies and one of the panelists at the ADRI EDCA forum, said China has to make

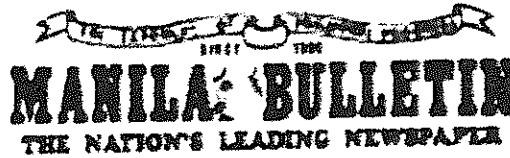
an assessment if it wants to ignore the court and oppose the legitimate international proceedings.

Bower said if the Philippines would pursue bilateral negotiations with China without considering key factors, Manila would be undercutting its commitment to its Southeast Asian partners.

"The Philippines will lose the respect of its ASEAN partners and certainly, the United States will be disappointed," Bower said.

But if the Philippines finds a way forward, including conditions that China will forgo its nine-dash line and commit to legally binding norms, bilateral negotiations would be a welcome development, he added.

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## US, PH urged to commit to EDCA

By ELENA L. ABEN

A Washington-based think tank said it is critical for both the Philippines and the United States to fulfill their commitments under the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA).

Gregory Poling, director, Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative (AMTI) and fellow with the chair for Southeast Asia Studies at Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), said this yesterday at a forum held at the National Defense College

of the Philippines (NDCP) in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

"I think it's critical for both countries to commit that EDCA be fulfilled. Washington has a responsibility here too," said Poling, noting that "(incoming President Rodrigo) Duterte seems legitimately skeptical of how the US is willing to go in its commitment."

"If that's his position then it makes sense for him to recognize our limits to the use of EDCA, that's... leverage for the Chinese, but I think in Washington there is a very broad consensus in government that they

will really go to... for the Philippines if China really uses force in the South China Sea," Poling told reporters.

"Clearly more work needs to be done by Washington to convince Duterte of that," he added.

The Philippines' next step under EDCA was among key points discussed at yesterday's forum, dubbed as "Asia-Pacific Perspectives on Implementing the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement."

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## France calls for EU patrols in Spratlys

France has called for more European naval patrols in the South China Sea to defuse the growing conflict between China and the United States and its allies in Asia, according to a report by *foreignpolicy.com*.

French Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, speaking at a three-day security conference in Singapore on Sunday, said European navies must have a "regular and visible" presence in the disputed area to uphold the law of the sea and freedom of navigation.

"If we want to contain the risk of conflict, we must defend this right and defend it ourselves," he said.

While Le Drian did not mention China, his remarks were apparently aimed at Beijing, which has constructed military facilities on artificial islands.

"If the law of the sea is not respected today in the China seas, it will be threatened tomorrow in the Arctic, in the Mediterranean, or elsewhere," Le Drian said during the Shangri-La Dialogue, hosted by the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

France's stance marked the latest international pushback against China's tough tactics in the strategic waterway, where more than \$5 trillion worth of goods pass through annually, *foreignpolicy.com* reported.

Le Drian said he would provide more details on his proposal.

Last year, Japan said it would consider conducting naval patrols in the South China Sea even if it and China have their own dispute in the East China Sea.

This year, India has been airing its concern over China's challenge to free navigation in the Western Pacific region, the website said.

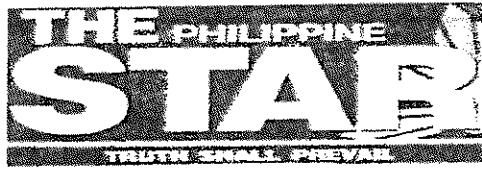
The Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague is set to rule this month on the sea row between China and the Philippines and Beijing said it will not recognize the tribunal's authority.

The international court is expected to rule against China, the website said, and the US has called on the Chinese government to abide by the decision.

Mira Rapp-Hooper, a senior fellow at the Center for a New American Security, says the timing of Le Drian's remarks may mean that European Union governments may "come out in vocal support of the Hague decision in a few weeks," *foreignpolicy.com* reported.

France has forged a \$40-billion deal to sell submarines to Australia, citing fears over the region's security, and called for greater French presence around its colonies in the Southern Pacific.

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## Groups want NDF peace talks held in Phl

PLARIDEL, Bulacan – A peace advocacy group has suggested to Jose Maria Sison, the Netherlands-based founding chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) to consider holding peace talks in the Philippines and not half-way across the globe.

Ernesto Alcanzare, lead organizer of the Yes for Peace-Bayanihan para sa Kapayapaan, Kaunlaran at Kasaganaan based here said they believe the peace negotiations between the communists and government can be done under the incoming administration of president-elect Rodrigo Duterte and at the same time help the country save millions in government funds.

By RAMON LAZARO

In an online open letter, Alcanzare thanked Sison "for being more open in making statements on the issues and proposals of the National Democratic Front (NDF) online."

He noted that "it shows you may now be ready to agree to the conduct of an open and participatory comprehensive peace process, even as you still hold on to the position that it be held outside the country primarily because of your deeply held concerns for your personal security and safety as well as those of your peace negotiators and consultants."

Alcanzare suggested to Sison that "maybe it is about time...

to seriously rethink the NDF position on the venue of talks. Perhaps, it is time for you to listen to the sentiments of 98.3 percent – based on results of the peace education and advocacy phase of Yes for Peace Bayanihan para sa KKK – of the Filipino people that peace negotiations be held here instead of abroad. You may want to consider UP as venue and mediating institution in peace negotiations as resolved by its Board of Regents in 1992."

He added Sison "may want to livestream and post in real-time the formal proceedings of the peace talks and joint statements to show the Fili-

pino people that, indeed, you represent our interests and not only your own."

Meanwhile, peace advocates affiliated with the Church-led Pilgrims for Peace in Baguio City consider the June 2016 US "terrorist" listing of the CPP and the New People's Army (NPA) as counter-productive to Duterte's peace efforts.

While Duterte continues to pursue peace by resuming talks with the NDF, "we are tired of US interests being peddled as priority over the interests of our people, most especially when we are gearing up for reinvigorated peace negotiations," said Rev. Rex Reyes Jr., convenor of the group. – **With Artemio Dumlao, Janvic Mateo**

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THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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# NOLCOM gets replica of 1743 Murillo Map

By **FRANCO G. REGALA**  
and **JOJO RINOZA**

**C**AMP AQUINO, Tarlac City — The framed replica of the 1743 Murillo Map of the Philippine Archipelago which depicts the Panacot Island (Scarborough Shoal), was received Monday by the Northern Luzon Command (NOLCOM), here.

Mr. Mel Velarde, President and CEO of Now Corporation and Chairman of the Board, Asian Institute of Journalism & Corporation, handed over the framed replica of the 282-year-old document to Lieutenant General Romeo T. Tanalgo, NOLCOM commander.

Velarde also donated copies of the map to other NOLCOM Field Units, which were all received in bulk by Tanalgo.

Known as the Fr. Pedro Murillo Velarde Map, the centuries-old document originally called "Carta Hydrographica y Chorographica de las Islas Filipinas" was first published in 1734 in Manila by Fr. Pedro Murillo Velarde, a Jesuit priest.

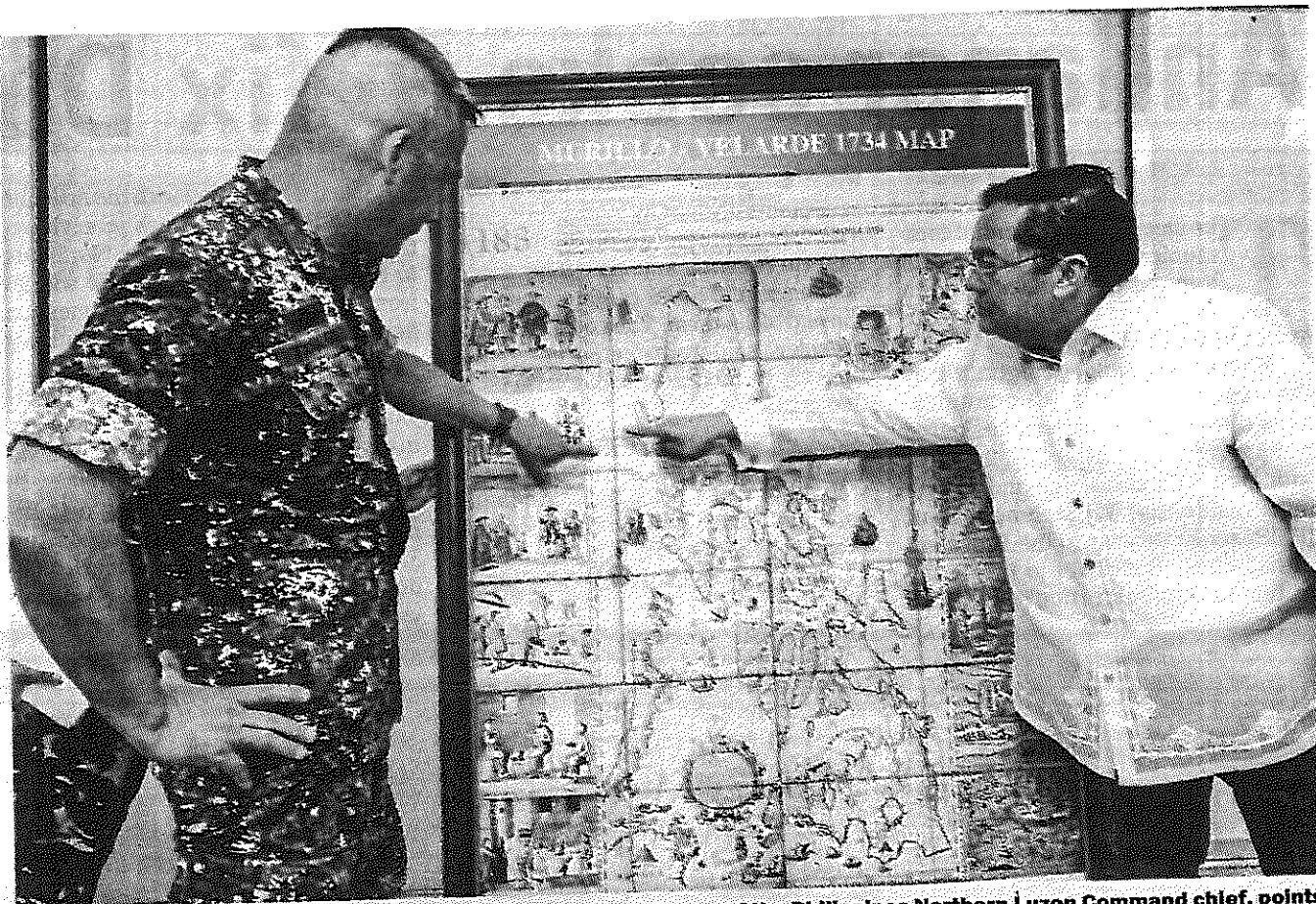
The map shows islands that are now known as Scarborough Shoals or Bajo de Masinloc, marked (in the Murillo Map) as Panacot Island, as part of Philippine's territory. They are shown around 120 miles off the west coast of the main Philippine island of Luzon.

Acquired at Sotheby's auction in London for P12 million, Velarde said he was very eager to buy the map because

this could be the solid evidence that constitute the veracity and accuracy of our claim to the (disputed) islands.

"Why is the replica of the Murillo Map being donated at Northern Luzon Command? The Northern Luzon Command is the protector, watcher, caretaker, defender of Bajo De Masinloc under Northern Luzon Command's direct jurisdiction," Velarde said.

The Philippine government has been using this map as proof of its claim over the South China Sea. It also locates Scarborough Shoal, then known as "Panacot," also called "Panatag" by Filipinos, off the shores of Luzon, then known as Nueva Castilla. Scarborough Shoal has been a National issue between the Philippines and China that needs to be addressed.



**THE MURILLO MAP** — Lt. Gen. Romeo T. Tanalgo (left), Armed Forces of the Philippines Northern Luzon Command chief, points out to Mel Velarde the location of Scarborough Shoal through the official replica of the Fr. Pedro Murillo Velarde Map or Murillo Map, the centuries-old document originally called 'Carta Hydrographica y Chorographica de las Islas Filipinas' during the map hand-over at Camp Sevillano Aquino in Tarlac City last Monday. (Jojo Riñoza)

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# '3 PACTS WILL BE SIGNED IN OSLO'

## *CPP's Sison expects immediate truce, prisoners freed*

By Joyce Pangco Pañares

**COMMUNIST Party of the Philippines** founding chairman Jose Ma. Sison said he expects to conclude three agreements—including one paving the way for an immediate ceasefire—during the two-day exploratory talks in Oslo on June 15 and 16 with incoming peace adviser Jesus Dureza and incoming government chief negotiator Silvestre Bello III.

"There will be agreements on the release of the political prisoners, an interim ceasefire and a plan to accelerate the peace negotiations," Sison told **The Standard** in an interview from Utrecht.

"The interim ceasefire will take effect with the release of all political prisoners through a general amnesty until the successful conclusion of the peace negotiations. The formal peace talks will include a comprehensive and detailed agreement on the permanent end of hostilities," he added.

Sison will be joined by National Democratic Front chief negotiator Luis Jalandoni and Fidel Agcaoili, while Dureza and Bello will bring with them incoming government peace panel member Hernani Braganza.

"We will discuss confidence-building measures during the exploratory meeting," Bello said. "The ceasefire proposal from the CPP-NDF is already a major step forward."

Bello said he will retain current government peace panel member Efrén Moncupa for the negotiations with the communists. *Next page*

### '3 pacts...

From A1

Formal peace talks between the Aquino administration and the CPP-NDF-NPA bogged down in February 2011.

Talks could not resume because the communist group has been demanding the reactivation of the Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees (Jasig), which will give safe conduct passes to communist negotiators and political consultants.

The government earlier rejected the NDF's proposal to draft a new Jasig list after the original one, stored in a very old floppy disk, got corrupted and could no longer be retrieved.

Bello said things will change under a Duterte administration, starting with the reconstitution of the Jasig.

"We will recommend to him [President-elect Rodrigo Duterte] that we honor

the Jasig and other previously signed agreements," Bello said.

Duterte has expressed his desire to end the nearly five-decade-long insurgency through a comprehensive peace agreement with the CPP-NDF-New People's Army.

Known to be close to the left, Duterte even announced his choice of progressives to join his Cabinet, including Judy Taguiwalo to head the Department of Social Welfare and Development and Rafael Mariano to head the Department of Agrarian Reform.

Earlier, Sison said he will return to the Philippines as soon as a final peace pact is signed even as he acknowledged rumors that he will be assassinated once he arrives in the country.

"Assassination? I will not return to the Philippines without any guarantee on my personal security. And in case I am killed, Duterte will be responsible for that," he added.

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## Introspective

By TONY KATIGBAK

### Libingan ng mga Bayani is for heroes only

Many of us are surprised that President-elect Rodrigo Duterte plans to bury the late dictator Ferdinand E. Marcos in the Libingan ng mga Bayani, the place where the heroes of the country are laid to rest. This news was met with much resistance because to bury Marcos alongside other national heroes would be an insult to the thousands who suffered under martial law and are still awaiting justice.



In fact, Duterte's close ties with the Marcos family are one of the most controversial topics that continue to crop up when the President-elect is asked questions or faces the media. The fact that he is quite close with them is not an issue; the issue is the favor the Marcos family seems to get thanks to their relationship with Duterte. One of the many questionable statements the President-elect gave was that he did not want to give Vice President-elect Leni Robredo a role in the Cabinet because he did not want to offend his friend Bongbong Marcos. While this alone may not seem like a big deal, it begs the question, how much will his friendship with the Marcos family affect his decisions as the president of the country?

That is what many people are wondering. After all, President-elect Duterte doesn't seem to have issues offending women's rights groups, other countries, or even the United Nations, yet he worries about offending his friend Bongbong. It's worrisome to say the least, because the last thing we all want is a president that feels in any way indebted to anyone or any institution, because these feelings can cause a bias in his decisions.

I believe that we all want to support our incoming president and believe that he will make the right decisions to bring the much-awaited change to the country. However, it is hard to turn a blind eye to questionable decisions. He said before that he was not the type

to change who he was even if elected, and while having a strong character and backbone is a good thing, it is also important for the president to take into consideration the millions of Filipinos he now represents. He needs the country to be united and not divided.

If I look at his claim that it is important to let go of the pains of the past and move forward so that we can heal, I would admit that it sounds good, but it can't be something we do just for the sake of doing it. Letting go of the past just because we are left without a choice is not healing it is simply ignoring history. And you know what they say about history – those who don't learn from it are doomed to repeat it.

I admire the President-elect's desire to heal a nation divided, but I don't think burying former dictator Marcos in Libingan ng mga Bayani is the way to take a first step. That is just ignoring history and especially ignoring the voices of all the victims of human rights violations during the martial law era. Plus being a politician that is heavily against corruption like President-elect Duterte claims he is, isn't it a bit hypocritical of him to ignore some of the biggest corruptions in our history?

I don't think we can move on from our past simply by choosing to ignore it. Only if we really deal with what happened and those at fault make amends can we truly begin to reach the healing the president is looking for. Until then, he is just choosing to ignore what a large portion of the population feels, including those who supported him.

Admittedly, though many of us did not vote for President-elect Duterte during the recently concluded May elections, I know we appreciate his vow to life simply and honestly and his promise to wipe out crime and drugs in the upcoming six months. It's going to be hard, but I admire his drive to see it done. His supporters say that if you have done nothing wrong

then you have nothing to fear. However, I would be lying if I said I worried about killing criminals without due process. Without the proper provisions in place, how can we be sure that it will only be criminals who will be killed? What is there in place to prevent collateral damage?

I don't pretend that we don't have a massive crime, drug, and rape problems. When I see news of people dying because of drugs or rapists roaming free and hurting others, I admit I get mad and want "an eye for an eye" justice. However, where does one draw the line? If I have the freedom to buy a gun and kill someone as a vigilante, what's to stop someone from doing the same to me or to others?

I wrote in previous columns that I supported the death penalty and that has not changed. After all, crime is so rampant in the country and it seems as if those who would break the law really have nothing to fear. I still think reinstating the death penalty will go a long way in addressing crime in the Philippines, but I do think this must be coupled with fair justice and due process. I can't say I am onboard with the buying of guns and the gunning down of "drug dealers" without due process. Giving people that much power can easily corrupt them and it won't be long before these types of extrajudicial killings can easily get out of hand.

To be honest, I don't envy the task ahead for our President-elect. There is just so much to be done and he is most definitely going to face adversity along the way. As early as now, he is already facing problems with the way his statements and his actions are construed. While, again, it is admirable that he is not putting on a "face" for the press or being something he is not, he must also understand that all of his actions and words will now be put under the magnifying glass. As a representative of the Philippines I truly hope he puts careful consideration into the things he says and does.

★

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## CenterLaw voices alarm over Duterte's acceptance of NPA kangaroo court

**C**ENTERLAW, a non-government organization dedicated to the promotion of the Rule of Law in the Philippines and Asia, reminded President-Elect Rodrigo Duterte that as president of the Philippines, which he will be in 23 days, he is legally bound to ensure that every one within Philippine sovereignty is accorded due process of law.

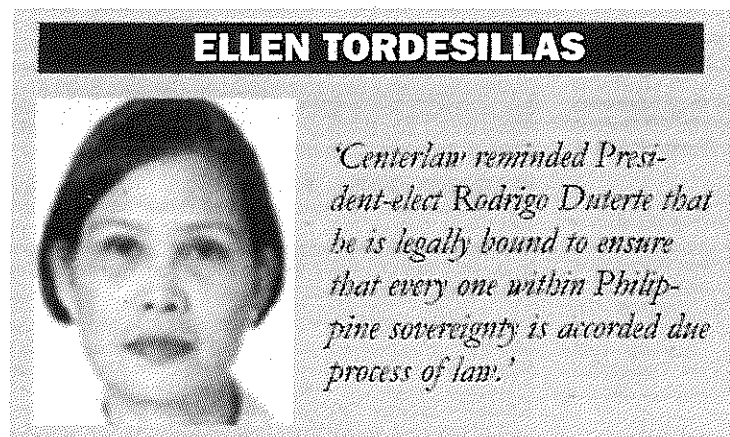
CenterLaw expressed grave concern over the statement of Duterte that he is leaving the fate of police Chief Inspector Arnold Ognachen of the General Gen-eroso, Davao Oriental to his captors, the New People's Army.

Duterte, which has included the Communist Party of the Philippines in his government, had worked for the release of policemen captured by the CPP's armed group before the May elections. He had also called for the release of Ognachen, who was captured when the NPA recently raided the Davao Oriental police station.

But in his press conference last Thursday, he said an NPA commander told him that they seized drugs from Ognachen adding the rebel leaders would not lie to him.

Duterte is waging war against illegal drugs. "I said I'd be harsh. I'm sorry for that guy," he said.

He said he told the NPA commander, "You have a kangaroo court.... Sentence him to 20 years



of hard labor."

Romel R. Bagares, Centerlaw executive director, noted the double irony of Duterte referring to the NPA's justice system as "kangaroo courts."

"Because that is exactly what they are – tribunals that make a mockery of even just a modicum of justice," he said.

Bagares said, Duterte, who is a lawyer and a former prosecutor, "should know that we now have Republic Act 9184, the International Humanitarian Law Act, which penalizes as a war crime all executions without a judgment of a regularly constituted court that afforded all judicial guarantees generally recognized as indispensable."

The International Humanitarian Law Act, passed in 2010, embodies the country's commitment to

the Geneva Conventions and the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court.

Bagares recalled that in a series of official reports on summary executions and extrajudicial killings in the Philippines from 2007 to 2010, then UN special rapporteur Philip Alston called on the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the National Democratic Front to put an end to the NPA's so-called 'people's courts', because these violate fair trial standards set by international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Bagares said "Common article 3 of the 1949 Geneva Conventions, which applies to all combatants in the Philippines, prohibits the passing sentences without a judgment by a regularly constituted court, 'affording all the judicial

guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples."

"Moreover, the 1977 Additional Protocol provides that the court must be independent and impartial, and the accused shall have the right to be at the trial and present a defense, among other guarantees."

Bagares further said: "In fact, the Bill of Rights of our 1987 Charter – under which he will swear his oath of office as President – likewise prohibits the deprivation of life without due process of law."

The NDF, of which the CPP and the NPA are members, is a coalition of 16 groups waging a so-called protracted people's war for national democracy in the Philippines for more than four decades now.

News reports said when the NPA got Ognachen, they also captured two other persons and seized seven shotguns, 12 rifles, two 9mm pistols and three undetermined types of firearms.

Outgoing PNP chief Ricardo Marquez said they respect the president-elect's pronouncements but they will have to rescue Ognachen.

"It is our responsibility to rescue our people if they are kidnapped," Marquez said.

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# Command and control in the West Philippine Sea



**Sen. Edgardo J. Angara**

**L**AST Friday Dr. Aileen Baviera of the University of the Philippines Asian Center delivered a public lecture on the impact of the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea) maritime dispute on domestic stakeholders.

Hers was the first presentation from this year's batch of UP President Edgardo J. Angara fellows—UP scholars and researchers awarded individual grants to study some key policy issues. Her lecture primarily centered on how the ongoing maritime disputes have affected defense and law-enforcement agencies, including the Philippine Navy, Philippine Air Force, Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), PNP Maritime Group and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

Through interviews and focus

group discussions, Baviera found that many of the frontline agencies' concerns relate to their capability to deal with issues, given the mismatch between their respective mandates and resources placed at their disposal.

These frontline agencies also are faced with a lack of clarity on the nature and geographic scope of their missions, as well as unclear rules of engagement and "gray zones" created by the activities of foreign forces. For instance, there is uncertainty on whether the PCG or the BFAR should intervene if Chinese

These frontline agencies are faced with a lack of clarity on the nature and geographic scope of their missions, as well as unclear rules of engagement and "gray zones" created by the activities of foreign forces. For instance, there is uncertainty on whether the PCG or the BFAR should intervene if Chinese fishermen are the ones encroaching on the Philippines's exclusive economic zone.

fishermen are the ones encroaching on the Philippines's exclusive economic zone. The confusion is compounded by what Baviera described as the "immaturity" of our maritime governance bureaucracy, demonstrated by lack of central guidance on policy and strategy.

Alarming, a deeper ambiguity is felt by local government units (LGUs)—particularly in Palawan, Zambales and Pangasinan. Some LGUs, Baviera said, appear to be disinterested and disengaged from

the country's broader foreign-policy goals, preferring to toss the maritime disputes to the national government—even though they are in the best position to address the negative effects of the disputes on the ground.

The most seriously affected appears to be fisherfolk. For instance, one National Coast Watch Center study estimated that up to 50 percent of the local fishermen in Masinloc, Zambales—which is very close to Bajo de Masinloc—lost their livelihood, with many having to rely on food rations provided by the municipal government, some even placing the blame on the Philippine government.

This stakeholder analysis points up to the need for a clearer command-and-control setup. As Beijing has openly expressed it will disregard whatever ruling of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the next administration must urgently prepare the domestic constituency to tackle the eventuality.

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# ONLINE NEWS

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## Army division chief honors 'best and brightest' officers, personnel

From the Philippine News Agency (Jun 7):

The "best and the brightest" officers and enlisted personnel of the Army's 6th Infantry "Kampilan" Division on Tuesday received the **Army Personnel Readiness Badge (PRB)**, more known as the "Gold Badge."

Major Gen. Edmundo Pangilinan, 6th ID chief, pinned the badge after the recipients successfully completed various measures while in active duty.

Capt. Joan Petinglay, 6th ID spokesperson, identified the awardees as Colonel Bernie S. Langub, the newly assigned division chief of staff; Lt. Colonel Donald M. Gumiran; Lt. Colonel Markton G. Abo; Lt. Colonel Christopher A. Morales; Maj. Emmanuel C. Laroa; Captain Frank Milton C. Tobias; Master Sergeant Pepito A. Villena; Staff Sergeant Martin B. Fajutar; SSgt Marlou L. Lancita; SSgt Nick C. Dumandan; Sgt. Ernesto V. Sarmiento; and PFC Eric A. Jamin.

Petinglay explained that the PRB is awarded to Army personnel who complied and passed the five performance measures as specified in the directive of the Philippine Army, to wit: Physical Fitness Test (PFT), Marksmanship, Net Take Home Pay, Latest Career Course, and Officer's Appraisal Report/Enlisted Personnel Evaluation Mark.

The personnel awarded with gold category have the highest average score for the five categories and obtained a score between 93 percent to 100 percent.

She added PRB intends to recognize the readiness status and capabilities of the Army Personnel, which is one of the transformations in the Philippine Army to further empower the officers and enlisted personnel.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/>

## Troops clash with bandits, camp seized in Zamboanga town

From the Mindanao Examiner (Jun 7):

Government troops captured an encampment of suspected bandits following a fire fight in the town of Sibuco in Zamboanga del Norte province in southern Philippines, police said Tuesday.

Superintendent Rogelio Alabata, a regional police spokesman, said they have alerted their forces in the town after troops clashed with bandits who attacked soldiers guarding a government bridge project in Puliran village.

Alabata said there were no reports of casualties in the Monday's fighting, but soldiers from the army had seized the bandit's encampment about 500 meters from the construction site.

He said soldiers from the 42<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Battalion recovered bullet shells from the camp, which was quickly abandoned by bandits led by Jamaruddin Alih.

Police said armed groups have been extorting money from construction companies in the province. It was not immediately known if the armed men were affiliated with other rebel groups actively operating in the Zamboanga Peninsula.

## Army commander assures presence in Leyte despite troops' deployment to Mindanao

From the Philippine News Agency (Jun 7):

**A top military official in Eastern Visayas assured the continuing Army presence in Leyte province despite the recent transfer of the 19th Infantry Battalion (IB) to North Cotabato.**

**Maj. Gen Velarmino, commander of the Army's 8th Infantry Division based in Catbalogan City in Samar, said that the pull out of troops was in response to the order from higher officials to augment troops in conflict-stricken Mindanao provinces.**

**"Although we transferred them to Mindanao, that doesn't mean that we will leave the northern part of Leyte. I assigned two units of reconnaissance team from Samar and Division Headquarters to occupy the vacated area of 19th IB," Velarmino told reporters.**

**Velarmino assured insurgency situation in Leyte is manageable considering that most of the towns covered have been declared as rebel-free.**

**The absence of 19th IB will not also affect the on-going activity of the government to declare areas in Leyte as insurgency-free, according to the commander.**

**"It was only stopped due to election, but we will continue it again with the assessment of Leyte province," he added.**

**Prior to the transfer, the Army has declared 17 towns under the jurisdiction of the unit as insurgency-free. These are the towns of Matag-ob, Merida, Palompon, Tabango, Barugo, Babatngon, San Miguel, Leyte, Pastrana, Tolosa, Dagami, Calubian, Sta. Fe, Alangalang, Tunga, Carigara and Palo.**

**The 19th IB based in Kananga town with 400 soldiers, including their officials left the province on May 29, 2016.**

**Sending the unit to Mindanao shows that Leyte insurgency situation is more manageable than in Samar provinces, according to Velarmino.**

**The battalion covers the northern part of Leyte and Biliran province. The southern part of Leyte is under the 78th Infantry Battalion stationed in Burauen, Leyte.**

**Velarmino added that sending troops to Mindanao is also part of their battalion retraining.**

**"If they were not pulled out they would be non-operational by August 1. They are currently undergoing battalion re-training in Carmen, North Cotabato before their assignment to the 6th Infantry Division," Velarmino added.**

**The official is still unsure when the 19th IB will be re-assigned to Leyte again.**

**The battalion is the second unit of the 8th Infantry Division moved to Mindanao to help in the peacekeeping effort.**

**In 2009, top Army officials deployed the 46th Infantry Battalion from Samar province to Mindanao after the Maguindanao massacre. The battalion is now in Pantukan, Compostela Valley after its assignment in Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao.**

This is not the first time that the 19th IB was deployed in Mindanao. From 1974 to 1979, the unit was sent to Maguindanao and Lanao del Sur. In 2001 to 2002, the battalion was assigned in Sulu and Zamboanga City.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph>

## PMA cadet dies of heat exhaustion

From Tempo (Jun 7):

**A 19-year-old Philippine Military Academy (PMA) cadet died of heat exhaustion while on road run inside Marine Base Gregorio Lim in Ternate, Cavite last week, the military said Monday.**

**A military statement identified the victim as Cadet Fourth Class John Benedict C. Margin, from Binangonan, Rizal.**

**Members of the Cadet Corps of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (CCAFP) were at the Marine Base Gregorio Lim for the annual Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX) as a culmination of their military summer class that started May 29 until June 6.**

On May 30, members of the Cadet Corps who went on road run were already heading back to their bivouac area when Margin collapsed at around 4:45 p.m., the military statement said.

"He was immediately attended to by the medical team following the road run and was brought to the medical dispensary of the Marine base," it added.

<http://tempo.com.ph>

## Tagalog News: Apat na rebeldeng NPA nahuli sa Butuan City, ilang firearms at ammunitions nasabat din

From the Philippine Information Agency (Jun 7):

Ipre-sinta ng Police Regional Office 13 sa media ang apat na mga high profile members ng New People's Army (NPA) matapos ang matagumpay na operasyon nang pinagsanib na pwersa ng Philippine National Police (PNP) at Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) sa Barangay Tungao dito sa lungsod.

Kinilala ni PNP-13 regional director C/Supt Rolando Felix ang mga nahuli na sina Roldan Bbungolto, commanding officer ng Militia ng Bayan at team leader ng Guerilla Front Committee 4A sparrow unit; Danilo Acaña, department secretary ng Guerilla Front Committee 4A na may warrant of arrest sa kasong multiple murder at frustrated murder. Kasama pa sa mga naaresto sina Rolando Borja at Anatalio Pison na parehong miyembro ng militia ng Bayan.

Nakuha naman sa posisyon ng mga suspek ang isang M16 Armalite Rifle, isang AK47, apat na kalibre .22 na pistola, tatlo pang short firearms, dalawang revolver, improvised explosive device, dalawang hand grenades, ammunition at mga subersibong dokumento.

Binigyang-diin ni director Felix na patuloy ang kanilang operasyon sa pagdakip ng iba pang mga miyembro ng NPA na may search warrants at warrants of arrest sa Caraga region. Sinigugurado din ng PNP kasama ng iba pang law enforcement agencies ang kaayusan at kapayapaan sa rehiyon.

Nasa kostudiya na sa ngayon ng Regional Public Safety Battalion (RPSB) ang mga nakuhang mga armas, eksplosibo, mga bala at iba pa kasama na ang nahuling mga rebelde habang pinoproseso pa sa korte ang kanilang haharapang kaso.

<http://news.pia.gov.ph>