

*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**

**11 June 2016**

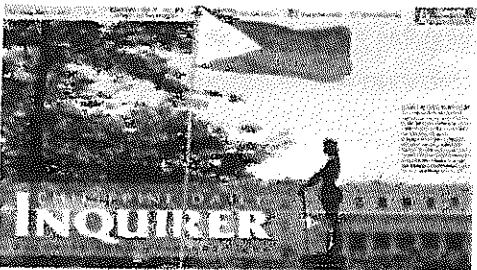
**Saturday**

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

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

## NEWS HEADLINES

11 JUNE 2016



### 3 senators to defy Duterte

**'You can't stop us from probing abuses'**

Obama endorses Clinton as successor

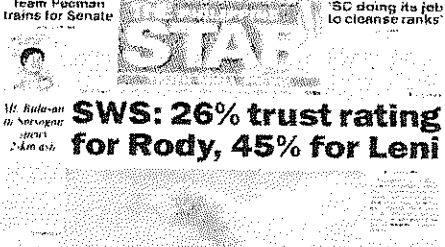
ABS-CBN to be head of the network

'Bane' says he'll resign if he fails to stop crime

Palace asks public to join Independence Day celebrations

Consumer optimism up on change in leaders

IS joined OFWs get reprieve from Qatar emir



### SWS: 26% trust rating for Rody, 45% for Leni

UN chief's comment vs Duterte premature - Cayetano


Team Poonan trains for Senate

SC doing its job to cleanse ranks

Palace asks public to join Independence Day celebrations

Consumer optimism up on change in leaders

IS joined OFWs get reprieve from Qatar emir



### 304 colleges to hike tuition, other fees

Duterte vows to protect Philippines against criminals

Defend West PH SEA

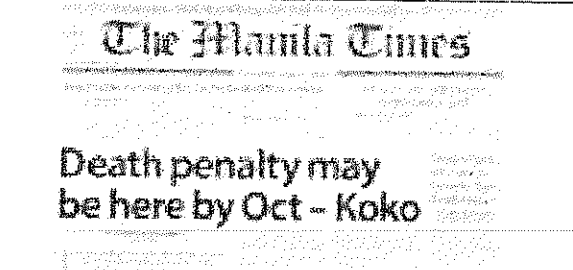


### Trouble looms as UN condemns DU30's ways

Senators to Duterte on death penalty. Not so fast, Dilog

Sereno looking forward to working with Duterte

GMA seeks dismissal of NBN-ZTE graft raps



### Death penalty may be here by Oct - Koko

No bilateral talks with China sans bilateral ruling says Tech

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

11 JUNE 2016

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1-2	Weather Forecast	-	The Phil Star p.9
<b>NATIONAL NEWS</b>			
3-4	3 senators to defy Duterte	Leila Salverria	PDI p.A1
<b>ARMY RELATED NEWS</b>			
5	Soldier killed in NPA attack	Jaime Laude	Phil Star p.9
6	2 soldiers ambush by NPA in Davao Oriental	Frances Mangosing	<a href="http://www.inquirer.net">www.inquirer.net</a>
7	Authorities checking reported release of woman abducted in samal	Julie Alipala	<a href="http://www.inquirer.net">www.inquirer.net</a>
8	Military outpost niratrat: sundalo todas	Joy Cantos	PM p.12
9	Kelot sugatan sa sundalo	-	Bulgar p.4
10	PHOTO: FREEDOM MARCH	Marianne Bermudez	PDI p.A18
11	PHOTO: Philippine Navy's new ship	Miguel de Guzman	The Phil Star p.8
12	PHOTO: New research vessel	Kevin dela Cruz	Manila Bulletin p.2
<b>AFP RELATED NEWS</b>			
13	Shun bilateral talks with China, Duterte urged	Estrella Torres	PDI p.A2
14	US terror tag spoiling Joma homecoming plan	Germelina Lacorte	PDI p.A9
15	'China committed to peacefully resolve territorial disputes'	Pia Brago	Phil Star p.14
16	P-Noy vows support for peace	Nikko Dizon	PDI p.A4
17	PNP: We have enough evidence to pin down Marcelino	Julie Aurelio	PDI p.A7
18	Dureza upbeat on trip to Oslo for talks with Reds, but won't negotiate with ASG	Jonathan Santes	Manila Bulletin p.2
19-20	Palace asks public to join Independence Day celebrations	Aurea Calica	The Phil Star p.1
21	Noy to continue to work for peace	Aurea Calica	The Phil Star p.14
22	New US program reunites Pinoy war vets with families	AP	PDI p.A4
23	Aquino to keep pushing BBL	Genalyn kabiling	Tempo p.4
24	Text Brigade: MILF dapat sumanib at makiisa na lang sa AFP	-	PoliceFiles p.3

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### ONLINE NEWS

25-26	Fenton succeeds Kilrain at Special Operations Command, Pacific	-	<a href="http://www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com">www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com</a>
27	Where did the ransom money go, ask donors	-	<a href="http://www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com">www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com</a>
28	Abu Sayyaf 'property manager' charged	-	<a href="http://www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com">www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com</a>
29	4 alleged top NPA members nabbed in Agusan del Norte raid	-	<a href="http://www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com">www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com</a>
30	MILF: Editorial -- Peace Panels to exist until Exit Agreement	-	<a href="http://www.luwaran.com">www.luwaran.com</a>
31-32	MILF: Junctures: A Book on Selected Speeches and Statements on Bangsamoro peace process under Aquino launched at Malacañang Palace	-	<a href="http://www.luwaran.com">www.luwaran.com</a>
33	Dureza flying to Norway to meet with Joma Sison	-	<a href="http://www.rappler.com">www.rappler.com</a>

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**THE PHILIPPINE  
STAR**  
TODAY'S GREAT NEWSPAPER

Page: 9



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THE PHILIPPINE

# STAR

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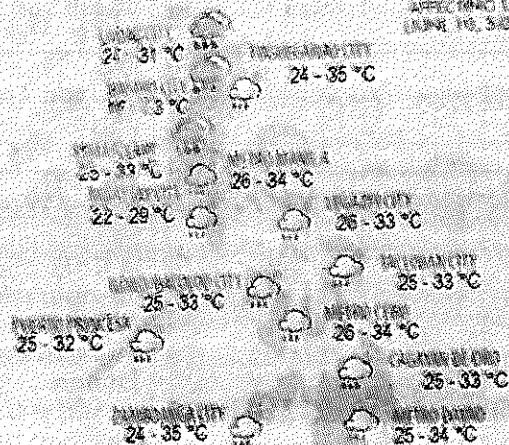
















SUNRISE	SUNSET	MOONRISE	MOONSET
 <b>5:26 AM</b> <small>100% Cloudy</small>	 <b>6:25 PM</b> <small>100% Cloudy</small>	 <b>11:02 AM</b> <small>100% Cloudy</small>	 <b>11:38 PM</b> <small>100% Cloudy</small>
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TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST JUNE 11, 2016 SATURDAY

1994年12月31日



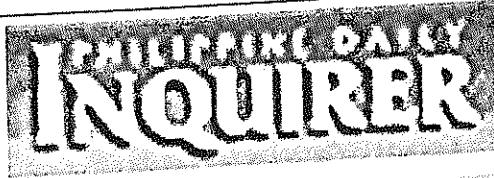
EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST	JUNE 12 SUN	JUNE 13 MON	JUNE 14 TUE	EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST	JUNE 12 SUN	JUNE 13 MON	JUNE 14 TUE
METRO MANILA	 25 °C 34 °C	 26 °C 34 °C	 24 °C 33 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	 20 °C 32 °C	 26 °C 33 °C	 28 °C 33 °C
TUGUEGARAO	 25 °C 35 °C	 25 °C 34 °C	 25 °C 35 °C	ILOILO/ BACOLOD	 25 °C 33 °C	 25 °C 32 °C	 25 °C 33 °C
LAOAG	 26 °C 33 °C	 25 °C 32 °C	 25 °C 33 °C	METRO CEBU	 25 °C 34 °C	 26 °C 34 °C	 26 °C 34 °C
BAGUIO	 16 °C 26 °C	 17 °C 25 °C	 16 °C 24 °C	TACLOBAN	 26 °C 33 °C	 25 °C 32 °C	 25 °C 34 °C
SBMA/ CLARK	 26 °C 33 °C	 25 °C 33 °C	 24 °C 33 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	 25 °C 32 °C	 25 °C 33 °C	 25 °C 33 °C
TAGAYTAY	 23 °C 29 °C	 23 °C 29 °C	 22 °C 29 °C	METRO DAVAO	 28 °C 34 °C	 26 °C 34 °C	 25 °C 34 °C
LEGAZPI	 26 °C 34 °C	 26 °C 34 °C	 24 °C 33 °C	ZAMBOANGA	 25 °C 34 °C	 25 °C 35 °C	 25 °C 35 °C

Partly cloudy to at  
times cloudy with  
rainshowers and/or

Cloudy skies  
with rain showers  
and thunderstorms



11 June 2016



Page: 71

# 3 senators to defy Duterte

## 'You can't stop us from probing abuses'

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE SENATE will investigate government abuses and nobody, not even the President, can stop it from doing its job, three incoming senators said yesterday.

Through separate text messages to the INQUIRER, Senators-elect Panfilo Lacson, Leila de Lima and Risa Hontiveros took an uncompromising stand after President-elect Rodrigo Duterte warned lawmakers not to stand in the way of his merciless fight against crime.

Speaking to supporters in Ce-

bu City who were celebrating his electoral victory on Wednesday, Duterte said that on Tuesday night he told some congressmen, including incoming House Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez, not to make the mistake of conducting congressional inquiries into his anticrime campaign.

3 SENATORS / A6

2

from page A1

“Don’t investigate me. The road ends with me. The buck stops here. We’re going to have a fight,” Duterte said. “I’m going to do what is right, as long as it is the truth.”

Duterte was pushing the tough guy image, fortified with profanity-laced language, that he used to win votes during the campaign, but yesterday’s response from Lacson, De Lima and Hontiveros indicated that he failed to chill spines in the Senate.

### ‘President can’t stop us’

Lacson, who is expected to head the committee on public order and dangerous drugs, said the Senate was not like a provincial, city, or municipal council that could be controlled by local executives.

“Having said that, we will conduct investigations in aid of legislation whenever necessary, and nobody, not even the President of the Republic, can dictate and stop us from doing our job,” Lacson said in his text message.

“The President should not and cannot stand in the way of

our mandated duty,” he added.

The Senate will use its powers when necessary, including the power to issue subpoenas and cite people who defy its authority for contempt, he said.

Lacson stressed the importance of respect for others.

“In a civilized society, respect deserves respect. On the other hand, unmannerliness deserves some rudeness,” he said.

### Intolerance

In her text message, De Lima said that if Duterte had not been misquoted, then his statements showed that people could expect from his administration “intolerance to any form or measure of checks to possible abuses.”

“The concept of checks and balances is seemingly lost on the President-elect,” said De Lima, who is expected to head the committee on justice and human rights.

Duterte’s statements were intended to have a “chilling effect [on] Congress,” she said.

But she said she believed lawmakers would not take his warnings sitting down and would investigate government



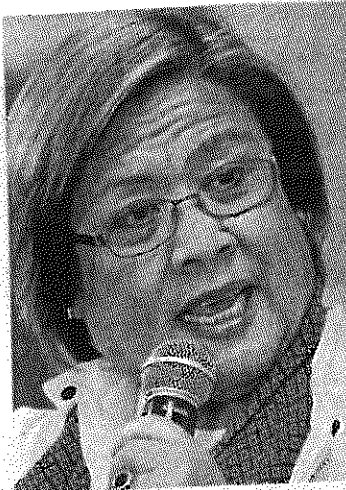
LACSON

abuses and “continue to fulfill their mandate as the people’s last guarantee against a possible tyranny of the executive branch.”

### Anticrime advocate

De Lima said, however, that she was a firm advocate of the fight against crime and corruption, and would not be a hindrance to any legitimate anticrime operation.

“I don’t think any of us who will be sitting in the Senate and the House will unnecessarily



**DE LIMA**

hamper law enforcement just for the sake of conducting investigations," she added.

But if the war against crime tramples on human rights and disregards the rule of law, the senators will not be blind, she said.

"When this so-called all-out war against crime is conducted without regard for the rule of law and human rights, then I think it would be an abdication of our mandate if we keep our eyes closed to abuses in the name of fighting



**HONTIVEROS**

criminality," she said.

"We were not elected by the people to be a rubber-stamp Congress," she added.

In her text message, Hontiveros said Senate investigations should not be seen as a hindrance to efforts to stamp out crime and corruption.

"Congressional inquiries could improve an anticrime campaign, as well as prevent or correct any possible excesses in its prosecution," Hontiveros said.

But the separate, coequal

branches of government must respect each other in carrying out their mandates, she said.

There has been no reaction from the House of Representatives since Tuesday.

Members of the chamber have been traveling to Davao in recent days to pledge allegiance to Duterte, seen as necessary to securing the leadership of major House committees.

Duterte, a longtime mayor of Davao City who has been linked to so-called death squads that have killed more than 1,000 suspected criminals in his municipality, was elected on an anticrime platform that included mass killings of lawbreakers.

During the campaign, he promised to kill tens of thousands of suspected criminals and after his election on May 9, he announced bounties in the millions of pesos for drug bosses.

He urged the public to help him fight criminals, offering medals to armed civilians who would kill drug dealers in their neighborhoods.

Duterte also vowed to restore the death penalty, with hanging as the preferred method of execution.



June 2016



Page: 9

## Soldier killed in NPA attack

A soldier was killed while another was wounded when suspected New People's Army (NPA) attacked an Army headquarters in Buenavista, Agusan del Norte yesterday.

Col. Benjamin Hao, Army spokesman, identified the fatality as Pvt. Plavin Jhon Ybanez, who suffered a gunshot wound in the stomach.

Pfc. Jerwin Mancugnahan suffered shrapnel wounds in the chin.

Hao said rebels belonging to the Guerrilla Front Committee 4A, swooped down on the headquarters of the 23rd Infantry Battalion in Purok 9, Barangay Rizal at around 6 a.m.

– Jaime Laude

[www.inquirer.net](http://www.inquirer.net)

## 2 soldiers ambushed by NPA in Davao Oriental

By: Frances Mangosing

@FMangosingINQ

INQUIRER.net

05:58 PM June 10th, 2016

DAVAO CITY—Two soldiers from the Army's 28th Infantry Battalion were ambushed by suspected members of the New People's Army (NPA) in Davao Oriental on Friday, the military said.

The two soldiers onboard a motorcycle were heading toward Barangay (village) Caiapagan in Lupon town when they were shot by communist rebels at about 6:45 a.m., said Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala, commanding officer of the 28th Infantry Battalion.

"They were not there for combat mission. What we see here is an act of treachery of attacking unarmed and in civilian clothes personnel. These are members of peace and development outreach program teams who are just there trying to build a community," he said.

The identities of the slain soldiers, with a rank of corporal and private first class, were withheld pending notification of their families.

Zagala said they would file murder charges against the perpetrators.

"We won't let this pass. We will continue our operations against them," he said. */rga*

with a report from

## Authorities checking reported release of woman abducted in Samal

By: Julie Alipala  
@JulietSAlipala  
Inquirer Mindanao

04:26 PM June 10th, 2016

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Police and military authorities on Friday said they were checking the reported release of Maritess Flor, who was among four persons kidnapped from a marina on Samal Island in September last year.

Among those who got the report on the Filipino woman's supposed freedom was Octavio Dinampo, executive director of Tulung Lupah Sug Inc.

Dinampo said based on what was told him by a "reliable source based in Canada," Flor was released after "some quarters" paid P30 million to the Abu Sayyaf. The same source, he said, also told him that "they are working hard for the release" of Flor's companions, Norwegian Kjartan Sekkingstad and Canadian Robert Hall.

Hall earlier said in a video that he would be the next to be beheaded after fellow Canadian John Ridsdel if ransom was not met.

"I'm told to tell you that on June the 13th at 3 p.m., I will be murdered if the demand is not met," Hall said in the video, which was posted by the Maryland-based Site Intelligence Group in mid-May.

Supt. Junpikar Sittin, the Jolo police chief, said he had not received any report on Flor's release.

"We will check if indeed it's true," Sittin said.

Major Filemon Tan Jr., the spokesperson of the Western Mindanao Command, also said the military had no report of Flor's liberty.

Flordeliza, Maritess' mother, said the family also had no information on her daughter's reported release.

"We are still clueless on her fate. No one has informed us about her status but if she was indeed released. That is the greatest news (for us)," Flordeliza told the Inquirer. ***With a report from Karlos Manlupig/rga***

11 June 2016



Pahina. 12

### **Military outpost niratrat: Sundalo todas**

Pinagbabaril ng mga rebeldeng New People's Army (NPA) ang isang military outpost na ikinasawi ng isang sundalo habang nasugatan ang isa nitong kasamahan naganap kamakalawa sa Brgy Rizal, Buenavista, Agusan del Norte

Kinilala ni Army Spokesman Lt. Col. Benjie Hao ang nasawing biktima na si Private Plavin John Ybanez, napuruhan ng tama ng bala sa kanang bahagi ng triyan.

Habang nasugatan si Pfc Jerwin Mancugnahan na nagtamo naman ng bahagyang sugat sa baba mula sa pagpapasabog ng M203 grenade launcher

Batay sa ulat, dakong alas-6:00 ng umaga nang paulanan ng bala at pasabugan ng M203 grenade ng mga rebelde mula sa Guerilla Front Committee 4 A ng himpilan ng Army's 23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Battalion sa Purok 9, Brgy. Rizal, Buenavista, Agusan del Norte

Sa kabila naman ng sorpresang pag-atake ay mabilis na pumosisyon ang tropa ng militar na na-kipagpalitan ng putok sa mga rebelde hanggang sa maitaboy ang mga kalaban. -Joy Cantos-

8

7 June 2016



Pahina. 4

### **KELOT SUGATAN SA SUNDALO**

**BUKIDNON**— Isang lalaki ang sugatan nang barilin ng sundalong nobyo ng kanyang kapatid na babae kamakalawa sa Bgy. Tawaw, Kitao-Kitao sa lalawigan ng Iloilo.

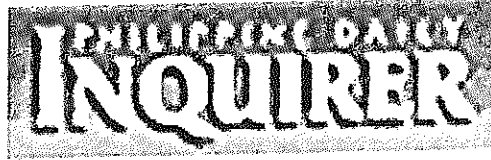
Kinilala ang biktima na si Noel Argante, samantalang, ang suspek ay si Pfc. Elmer Oca, sundalo ng Philippine Army (PA) na nakabase sa nasabing lalawigan.

Ayon sa ulat, habang nagkukuwentuhan si Oca at nobya nito ay biglang dumating si Argante na armado ng patalim at tinangkang saksakin ang kapatid na babae.

Dahil dito, napilitan si Oca na barilin sa hita si Argante, na ngayon ay ginagamot na sa ospital.



|| June 2016



Page: A18



### **FREEDOM MARCH**

**Soldiers rehearse on Friday in front of Rizal Monument in Manila for the June 12 rites marking the country's 118th Independence Day. They march at the center of a park that was once an execution site for patriots and revolutionaries fighting Spanish colonial rule. The 7 a.m. commemoration in Manila this Sunday is expected to be led by the city's reelected mayor, Joseph Estrada.**

MARIANNE BERMUDEZ

to

// June 2016



Page: 8



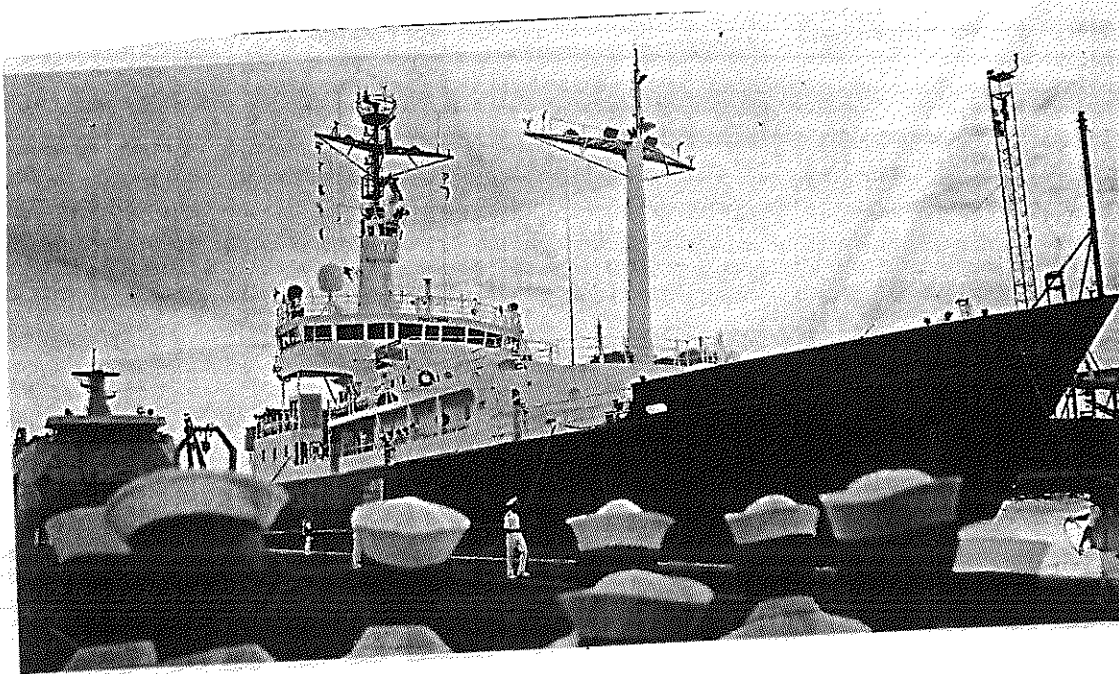
Philippine Navy's new ship **BRP Gregorio Velasquez** arrives at Pier 13 in Port Area, Manila yesterday from San Diego, California.

MIGUEL DE GUZMAN

11 June 2016

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER  
**MANILA BULLETIN**  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 2



**NEW RESEARCH VESSEL – The Philippine Navy's newly-acquired Auxiliary General Research (AGR) vessel, named 'BRP Gregorio Velasquez (AGR 702),' arrives at Pier 13 in South Harbor, Manila, yesterday. It will be used in oceanographic researches and surveys and gather marine scientific data useful to naval operations. (Kevin dela Cruz)**

12

June 2016

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
**INQUIRER**

Page: 12

# Shun bilateral talks with China, Duterte urged

By Estrella Torres

A YOUTH group on Friday called on President-elect Rodrigo Duterte to shun bilateral talks with China and abide by a future ruling on Manila's case against Beijing's claim to the South China Sea.

Chinese ambassador to the Philippines Zhao Jianhua has renewed Beijing's call for bilateral negotiations with Manila to settle the dispute in the international waterway.

Rafaela David, spokesperson of Akbayan Youth, said China's call for the Philippines to drop its arbitration case was "but the latest manifestation of its bullying against Philippine sovereignty."

The arbitration case, she said, was the country's "last remaining hope" to defend its territorial integrity over parts of South China Sea.

"Dropping the arbitration case is tantamount to recognizing we are not free to chart our own foreign policy," she said, reacting to an earlier pronouncement from the Chinese Foreign Ministry for the Philippines to drop the case.

Some 20 members of Akbayan Youth mounted a rally in front of

the Chinese Cultural Center in Makati, carrying placards with the messages: "Philippine Sovereignty: Non Negotiable" and "Bilateral Talks, Dangerous to Independence."

The Permanent Court of Arbitration is expected to issue its ruling in the next few weeks, prompting China to gather support from countries for its massive military build-up and activities in the disputed waters.

At last Thursday night's opening of the celebration of the 41st anniversary of China-Philippines bilateral relations at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, Zhao said the friendship between the two countries "goes back to ancient times."

Commenting on US charges that China was building a "superwall" in the disputed waters, Zhao said: "China does not have the Original Sin of Major Powers."

"China is committed to the path

of peaceful development and pursues a neighborhood diplomacy that treats neighbors as friends and partners," he added.

The Philippine case pending before the arbitration court in The Hague questions China's nine-dash line and massive military buildup and activities in the disputed waters.

Ambassador Zhao said that China has been successful in its talks with Vietnam over territorial disputes. "We have long been engaging in dialogues, consultations and negotiations to peacefully resolve relevant disputes."

He said China's role as a major economy in the region requires "preserving regional peace and stability."

He asserted that China "has never lost sight of the larger picture and has been dealing with the South China Sea issue in a constructive and responsible way."

"The door for negotiation and consultation is always open," he said.

China claims 90 percent of the 1.35-million-square-mile South China Sea, while the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan partly claim it.

June 2016

## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Page: 19

# US terror tag spoiling Joma homecoming plan

DAVAO CITY—The United States' tag on Philippine communist rebels as terrorists has jeopardized plans by communist party founder Jose Ma. Sison to come home for peace talks with the incoming Duterte administration, according to a member of the rebels' peace negotiating panel.

Fidel Agcaoili, also spokesperson of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP), said Sison, who has been in exile in The Netherlands for 30 years now, might be unable to return to the Philippines for the talks as a result of a recent US State Department report that classified the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and CPP's armed wing, New People's Army (NPA), as terrorist organizations.

"Joma (Sison) coming home is now a ticklish issue," said Agcaoili. The terror classification of CPP and NPA by the US government, he said, "poses a problem."

### No direct flight

Agcaoili said there was no direct flight between The Netherlands and Manila so it was possible that the United States could have Sison arrested as a terrorist in airports where connecting flights between The Netherlands and Manila landed.

Should Sison take a KLM (The Netherlands' flag carrier) flight, Agcaoili said the communist leader "has to pass by Taipei (capital of Taiwan)."

"If the US intercedes through the Interpol (International Police), then they might present a warrant of arrest against him (Sison) in Taipei," said Agcaoili. "So everything goes kaput."

Sison's homecoming, said Agcaoili, was

"an issue that should be discussed seriously."

"What if he's (Sison) taken in Taipei and brought straight to Guantanamo (a US camp in Cuba used as jail for terrorists)?"

Agcaoili said.

Agcaoili said there had to be a guarantee from the Dutch government, the Norwegian government and the US government to respect Sison's right to travel.

"But I don't know if the US will agree to that," said Agcaoili. "It has always been a bully."

At the height of the presidential campaign, President-elect Rodrigo Duterte invited Sison to come home for peace talks.

Duterte was Sison's student at the Lyceum and the incoming President admitted becoming a member of the leftist underground youth group Kabataang Makabayan during martial law.

### Revolutionary taxes

During his interview with reporters after meeting with Duterte, Agcaoili also defended the NPA practice of collecting so-called revolutionary taxes.

Taxation, he said, was a component of the revolutionary movement.

"You have to understand that the revolutionary movement has its revolutionary organs," he said.

"Any state has the right to enforce tax," he added.

Taxes collected by rebels, said Agcaoili, went directly to communities.

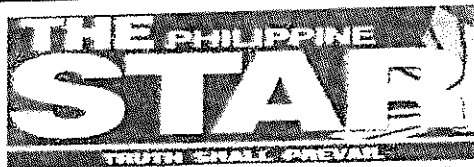
"It does not go to the pockets of a few people, like in government," he said. "It is used in establishing schools, cooperatives and (bringing) medical services." *Germelina Lacorte and Karlos Manlupig, Inquirer Mindanao*



SISON



June 2016



Page: 14

## 'China committed to peacefully resolve territorial disputes'

By PIA LEE-BRAGO

China is a "peace loving" country without the "original sin" of the major powers that have condemned its reclamation activities in the South China Sea, Chinese Ambassador Zhao Jianhua said on Thursday.

Zhao said China has long been engaging in dialogues, consultations and negotiations to peacefully resolve disputes with its neighbors, including the Philippines.

"This commitment is determined by the peace-loving genes flowing in the veins of the Chinese people," Zhao said at the celebration of the 41st anniversary of the establishment of Philippines-China diplomatic relations and the 15th China-Philippines Friendship Day.

"If we take history as a mirror, we can not only see the past, but also see the future. China has always been a peace-loving country. China does not have the Original Sin of major powers," he said. He was referring to the past colonial adventures of rich countries belonging to the Group of Seven (G7).

The G7 - which groups the United States, Japan, Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Canada - earlier aired concern over rising tensions in the South China and East China Sea.

While not mentioning China, the group criticized its building of artificial islands in the South China Sea.

The G7 also said freedom of navigation and overflight should be respected. The Philippines welcomed the G7 declaration.

China claims almost the entire South China Sea and a large part of the East China Sea.

Zhao emphasized that the door for negotiation and consultation with the Philippines is always open as "China has never lost sight of the larger picture and has been dealing with the South China Sea issue in a constructive and responsible way."

He stressed China adheres to "neighborhood" diplomacy and is committed to peaceful approach to development.

"We hope that the new government of the Philippines can work with us towards the same direction, properly deal with relevant disputes, put differences under effective management and control, and bring the bilateral relations back to the track of sound and comprehensive development to serve the interests of our two

peoples," he added.

Since the establishment of the new China, he said his country has surveyed and demarcated more than 20,000 kms boundary lines with 12 out of its 14 land neighbors, covering over 90 percent of China's entire land border.

The ambassador stressed such "survey and demarcation were done based on historical facts and basic norms of international law through bilateral consultation and negotiation."

He cited the maritime boundary of Beibu Bay clarified by Vietnam and China through negotiation and consultation.

"As a major country in the region, China knows full well the significance of preserving regional peace and stability and the responsibility on its shoulder," Zhao said.

With the Philippines as a close neighbor of China separated by sea, the ambassador said it is natural for the two countries to develop amicable and cooperative relations.

"As long as we treat each other with sincerity, follow the spirit of seeking common ground while shelving differences, there is no obstacle that we cannot surmount, nor dispute that we cannot resolve," Zhao said.

The Philippines is the first country to question China's nine-dash line claim over the South China Sea before an international court. China is believed to be bracing for an unfavorable ruling.

Beijing boycotted the proceedings at the Permanent Court of Arbitration based in The Hague.

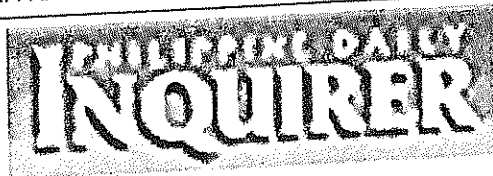
China has repeatedly stated it "will neither accept nor participate in the arbitration unilaterally initiated by the Philippines."

Yesterday, incoming foreign affairs chief Perfecto Yasay Jr made clear bilateral talks with China would not be pursued until the arbitral tribunal decides on the Philippine case.

"We should not pursue any bilateral talks at this time until we hear, or wait for, the outcome of the decision of the arbitral tribunal to come out," Yasay said in an interview with ABS-CBN news channel.

Yasay's remarks followed advice from a former foreign secretary and a US security expert for president-elect Rodrigo Duterte not to hold unconditional bilateral talks with China to try to resolve the dispute. - With Aurea Calica, Reuters

June 2016



Page: A4

AS PRIVATE CITIZEN

# P-Noy vows support for peace

By Nikko Dizon

PRESIDENT Aquino on Thursday pledged his continued support for the Mindanao peace process, saying he would be its "friend and ally" even as a private citizen.

Mr. Aquino, who made the peace in Mindanao a cornerstone of his six-year administration, made this promise at the launch of "Junctures," a compilation of selected speeches and statements made throughout the peace process between government and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

"In 21 days, I will be stepping down from office, but to all of you in attendance today, and to each person of goodwill who wishes to fulfill the promise of Mindanao, I will remain your

friend and ally. Tell me how I can help this process, even as an ordinary citizen, and I will be by your side," the President said at the Malacañang event.

The President also expressed hope that the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law, which the 15th Congress shelved, will be passed by the next Congress.

"The book we launch today tells of the journey we have taken these past six years. We launch it fully aware that the journey is still ongoing—that there are more challenges we must overcome and triumphs that await all of us. It instills in us the awareness that we are, once more, at a juncture, where we must choose between reverting to the status quo of the past or continuing our progress

far into the future," Mr. Aquino said.

In a statement, MILF chief-tain Al Haj Murad Ebrahim said the book is a "common pursuit" of the government and the MILF "to educate and spread the word of peace in the context of the Bangsamoro."

Murad was unable to attend the book launch as he was still recovering from an eye surgery. MILF chief negotiator Mohagher Iqbal read Murad's statement and extended the MILF head's apology to President Aquino and the audience for his absence.

Murad emphasized the power of words in his statement, giving as an example President Aquino's "affirmation and acceptance of the Bangsamoro" in his speech at the signing of the

Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro in 2012.

"Words, indeed, are the most powerful weapon. They can ignite a fire within the minds of those who hear them. They can move people to action. They can dictate the trajectory of events that follow. Words can fool or rule," Murad said.

President Aquino recalled that when he met with Murad in Tokyo in 2011 to break the impasse in the peace negotiations many called his move to meet with the rebels "un-presidential."

"For me, however, such concerns were eclipsed by the potential benefit for our nation—by the possibility that we may finally end a conflict that has brought suffering to far too many Filipinos," he said.

14

June 2016

## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Page: A7

# PNP: We have enough evidence to pin down Marcelino

By Julie M. Aurelio

THE PHILIPPINE National Police said on Friday it had enough evidence to pin down Lt. Col. Ferdinand Marcelino, even as it stressed it respected his recent pronouncements that he was not involved in illegal drugs.

The police Anti-Illegal Drugs Group (AIDG) said it was confident the public would not be swayed by the disgraced military official's claims of innocence after he charged that it was his arresting officers who

action to Marcelino's allegations that it was the arresting operatives of the AIDG and the PDEA who were involved in illegal drugs.

Rigor said it was within the Marine colonel's rights to air his side in whatever venue, but stressed that granting Marcelino bail did not affect the merits of the case.

The court, in allowing Marcelino provisional liberty, however, ruled that the strength of the evidence against him was weak, but not for his Chinese companion.

were instead involved in the trade.

"The evidence is the basis. We firmly believe that our case against him is strong. Whatever he says, you will hear nothing from us. Let the courts, the Department of Justice (DOJ) decide," Supt. Enrico Rigor of the AIDG's legal division said.

The decorated Marine officer walked out of jail early this month after he posted a P1 million peso bail for his provisional liberty. He was arrested along with a Chinese national during a raid at an apartment in Sta. Cruz

"It's sad why he chooses to air his defense through the media. During the petition for bail, they chose not to present any defense. They should have done it there, so that it is on record," Rigor said.

He pointed out that Marcelino's lawyers waived their client's right to present defense evidence during the hearing for the petition for bail.

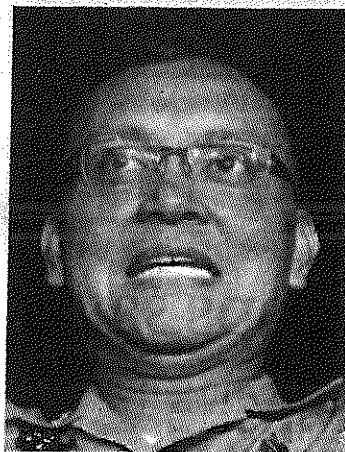
The AIDG maintained that the charges will be resolved based on the evidence, which may include Marcelino's confiscated mobile phone.

by joint AIDG and Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) operatives in January.

He has claimed innocence and promptly sought to turn the tables on his captors, saying he was on a legitimate operation. However he was unable to present documents backing his claim.

They were both charged with manufacturing and conspiring to manufacture illegal drugs and for violating the election gun ban before the DOJ, which has yet to issue a resolution.

He made the statement in re-



MARCELINO

17

June 2016



Page: 2

# Dureza upbeat on trip to Oslo for talks with Reds, but won't negotiate with ASG

By JONATHAN SANTES

**D**AVAO CITY — President-elect Rodrigo R. Duterte's adviser on the peace process, Jesus Dureza, who pushes off for Oslo, Norway today, is enthusiastic about initial informal talks with Communist Party of the Philippines/National Democratic Front (CPP/NDF) leaders there.

Dureza, however, said he was not inclined to negotiate peace with the bandit Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), while he admitted that he tried to negotiate for the release of Canadian hostage John Ridsel who was eventually beheaded.

"But negotiating with them in the context of what we are doing with the

Bangsamoro and the CPP/NPA/NDF is definitely not the way forward," he stressed.

"They have to face the full force of the law on their terrorism and criminal acts," Dureza added.

Speaking last Wednesday night, Dureza said the meeting was called by Norwegians with the NDF to discuss the peace talks' timelines, agenda, and who will be attending the formal negotiations.

"Kinumbida lang kami ng Norwegians, because there had been statement na pag-usapan yung cease fire and formal resumption of peace talks

(We were invited by the Norwegians because there had been a statements on discussing a cease fire and formal resumption of peace talks)," Dureza said.

Dureza said Silvestro Bello, III the chairman, former Congressman Hernani Braganza, and some technical persons from the Office of the Presidential Adviser of the Peace Process (OPAPP) will also be there to attend the meeting.

"The meeting will still be informal because they will still have to assume office on June 30," he said. "There are renewed enthusiasm that can be

gleaned from both the government and the rebel sides," he added.

He said he hopes the discussions will include how to address certain on-negotiable positions of the government and the CPP/NDF.

"Di pa ma kami nakaupo, merong meeting na, so it's something very exciting but let me caution everyone this is not easy because we have to deal with the old issues, Dureza said.

"I've been there before and I have I have watched how the talks have collapsed, stalled and I have also seen how gains were achieved, kaya mahirap at hindi madali," he said.

June 2016



Page: 1

## Palace asks public to join Independence Day celebrations

Malacañang urged Filipinos yesterday to participate in the 118th Independence Day activities tomorrow and "celebrate the freedom that our forefathers had fought

hard for."

Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr. said President Aquino would lead

By AUREA CALICA

the celebrations with the theme "Kalayaan 2016: Pagkakaisa, Pag-aambagan, Pagsulong."

Aquino will attend the flag-raising and wreath-laying

Simultaneous commemorative rites at the Rizal Monument in Manila at 8 a.m. before the traditional *vin d'honneur* for the diplomatic corps in Malacañang. Simultaneous commemorative rites will also be held in key cities nationwide, including Kawit in Cavite, Malolos in Bulacan, Angeles City in

Turn to Page 8



Pampanga, Davao City, Cebu City and several other parts of Metro Manila.

The National Historical Commission of the Philippines in partnership with other participating government agencies have lined up other commemorative activities leading to tomorrow's main celebration.

These include the Balik-Tanaw cultural heritage tour at the Pasig River, cultural performances at the Paco Park and Rizal Park, simultaneous job fairs nationwide, trade fairs and public exhibits.

### **Double pay for workers**

Meanwhile, double pay awaits workers choosing to work tomorrow, Independence Day, according to the Department of Labor and Employment.

Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz reminded employers to comply with rules on the payment of wages for regular holiday on June 12.

Under the rules, an employee shall get 200 percent for first eight hours of services rendered and additional 30

percent of hourly rate if the worker will perform more than eight working hours.

Baldoz said for work done during a regular holiday that falls on his or her day off, employee shall be paid an additional 30 percent or a total of 230 percent for eight hours of work.

"Work done in excess of eight hours during a regular holiday that falls on rest day shall be paid an additional 30 percent," she said.

Baldoz said over 22,000 local and overseas jobs are up for grabs in the Kalayaan 2016 Job Fair to be mounted by the DOLE's National Capital Region.

The Independence Day celebration is a timely occasion for the DOLE to facilitate the employment of the jobless and further heighten its partnership with private industry in ensuring workers' employability and productivity, she added.

Labor Undersecretary Niccon Fameronag said the DOLE joins the nation in commemorating the 118th anniversary of Philippine Independence with nationwide job fairs, one

of which is the 2016 Kalayaan Job Fair at the Rizal Park.

DOLE-NCR is gathering 81 companies from the Metro Manila for the job fair, he added.

Most of the local job vacancies are for professional and technical-vocational workers, Fameronag said.

Nelson Hornilla, DOLE-NCR director, said a total of 110 employers are taking part in the job fair.

### **Rizal monument illuminated**

Today and tomorrow, a special light and sound display will illuminate the monument of Jose Rizal in Manila to mark the 118th Independence Day.

The National Parks Development Committee might also open the Contemplative Garden on 500 square meters of the Burnham Green section of Rizal Park.

A 15-minute light and sound show will be played at 30-minute intervals today, June 11 and tomorrow, June 12, according to Eduardo Villalon Jr., National Parks Development Committee Planning and Management Division head.

The artistic arrangement of the changing of lights and its different colors on the monument will run from 7 p.m. until

midnight this weekend.

During the rest of the days of June, the show will be on from 6:30 p.m. until 10 p.m.

The NPDC and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority conceptualized and implemented the light and sound project, implemented by Optimum Show.

Villalon told **The STAR** the project will highlight or give more emphasis on the Rizal Monument.

"From the drab lights, the interpretation of light and sound show would give (the monument) more life," he said.

"It will also stress on the historical significance of the monument. They would be playing patriotic songs such as 'Bayan Ko' and 'Handog ng Pilipino sa Mundo'."

Optimum Show managing director Richard Thomas, the lighting designer and artistic director, said the show's theme is "In The Light of Jose Rizal."

"There would be no images, no disco lights but the music would be synchronized to the (light) effects," he said.

The Frenchman said they have prepared two 15-minute shows that would be played alternately, along with special effects. – **With Mayen Jaymalin, Evelyn Macairan**

June 2016



Page: 4

## Noy to continue to work for peace

President Aquino has vowed to continue working for peace in Mindanao as an ordinary citizen.

"In 21 days, I will be stepping down from office. To all who wish to fulfill the promise of Mindanao, I will remain your friend and ally. Tell me how I can help this process, even as an ordinary citizen, and I will come to your aid," Aquino said during the launch of his book titled "Junctures: Selected Speeches and Statements" on Thursday.

The President said much remains to be done even as he reminded the people of the progress made by his administration.

Aside from working for peace, Aquino said his administration also strived to provide critical support to the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

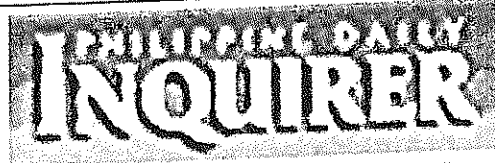
He cited the Basilan circumferential road, which began construction in 2000, as well as the improvement of eight ports and two airports to promote regional connectivity.

Aquino said investments in the region increased from P87.9 million in 2010 to P6.58 billion last year. "From 2010 to 2015, total investments amounted to P14.3 billion," he said.

"Not too many years ago, negotiations between the Philippine government and the MILF (Moro Islamic Liberation Front) had reached an impasse. While both sides recognized the importance of peace, the conflict had gone on for four decades, and there was an understandable lack of faith between the two sides," he added.

– Aurea Calica

June 2016



Page: A4

## New US program reunites Pinoy war vets with families

WASHINGTON—Rudolpho “Rudy” Panaglima was just 13 when he joined his father in a Filipino guerrilla unit that worked in secret with the US Army during World War II.

His youth helped Panaglima sneak past Japanese forces as a courier and scout, bringing back information, food and medicine to US soldiers in the mountains of the Philippines, near his

home in Cagayan. Panaglima was among more than 250,000 Filipinos who fought with the United States during World War II, including at least 60,000 who were killed. After the war

ended, President Harry Truman signed laws that stripped away promises of benefits and citizenship for Panaglima and other Filipino veterans.

Now 70 years later, Panaglima and other veterans are winning some of their benefits back. The veterans received lump-sum

payments as part of the 2009 economic stimulus law, and as this week are eligible to be reunited in the United States with relatives living in the Philippines.

Panaglima, now 86, says two of his four grown children have been waiting to come to the U.S. since 1995. Under a

program authorized by President Barack Obama, two sons living in the Philippines will soon move to suburban Washington to care for Panaglima and his wife, Pura, 83.

“That is what I am dreaming because of our age now,” said Panaglima, who was the featured speaker on

### Right a wrong

Retired Maj. Gen. Tony Taguba, a Philippines-native who served in the US Army for 34 years, said the reunification program begins to right a wrong “deeply rooted in American history.”

“Slowly but surely our country has taken leadership to correct this injustice,” Taguba said Thursday, noting that Filipino veterans who helped win World War II “paid a huge price.”

“Filipino World War II veterans have been waiting patiently for decades to be reunited with their families,” said Sen. Mazie Hirono, a Democrat from Hawaii, who worked with the Obama administration to create the program, which took effect Wednesday.

The veterans and their spouses—most of whom are in their eighties or nineties—“will finally be able to apply to bring their adult children to the United States,” Hirono said.

Thursday at a Capitol ceremony marking the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole program. The program will allow an estimated 2,000 to 6,000 Filipino-American World War II veterans living in the United States to be reunited with family members who live outside the United States, mostly in the Philippines.

For those who survived, “the humiliation and indignation they suffered still resonate,” Taguba said.

Under the new program, US Citizenship and Immigration Services will allow Filipino veterans and their spouses to apply for a grant of parole that allows family members to come to the United States as they wait for immigrant visas to be approved. In limited cases, some relatives will be able to seek parole on their own behalf if the World War II veteran or spouse is deceased. AP

|| June 2016



Page. 4

## Aquino to keep pushing BBL

Buoyed by the gains of the Mindanao peace process, President Aquino is not giving up the fight for the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law in Congress even after his term.

The President has promised to support efforts to advance peace and development in Mindanao even as private citizen during a gathering of stakeholders in Malacañang Thursday.

"We remain hopeful for the passage of the Bangsamoro Basic Law in the incoming Congress," Aquino said during the launching

of the book "Junctures: Selected Speeches and Statements" on the peace negotiations between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

"There is a long way to go, and many of us who worked so hard for peace are fearful, apprehensive, and unsure. It is true that the culmination of our efforts has been delayed. Today, however, I ask you to remember and take strength from the progress we have made," he added.

The Aquino government was able to seal a historic peace accord

with the MILF in March 2014 after years of negotiations.

The peace process, however, suffered a setback when the proposed BBL failed to get the nod of Congress. The bill seeks to implement provisions of the peace deal, particularly the establishment of Bangsamoro political entity with greater territory and fiscal autonomy.

Despite the setback, the President said the nation must continue along the road to true and lasting peace in Mindanao. (Genalyn D. Kabiling)

June 2016

**POLICE FILES**

Page. 3

**Text  
BRIGADE**

*Mga reporter ng bayan*

**I-text sa 09201309296**

*Kung ikaw ay may alam na katiwalian sa gobyerno, nakitang krimen sa inyong lugar at puna sa administrasyon, i-text agad para malaman ng publiko bilang reporter ng bayan. Ang inyong cellphone number at seguridad ay aming pangangalagaan. Salamat po sa pagtiwala. - Editor*

### **MILF dapat sumanib at makiisa na lang sa AFP**

- Sana pag pinalitan na ni president elect Digong Duterte si president Aquino ay kausapin niya ang mga MILF na sumanib na ang lahat nilang tauhan sa AFP at ikalat sa iba't ibang unit sa buong Pilipinas ang kanilang mga kasapi. Kung ayaw nilang pumayag sa ganoong kondisyon ay ipa-surrender na lang sa gobyerno ang lahat ng kanilang mga armas at mamuhay sila ng payapa sa Mindanao. Kung ayaw nila sa dalawang kondisyon na yon ay mag-utos si president elect Duterte ng all-out-war sa MILF at durugin ang lahat ng kampo doon. Ubusin lahat at patayin ng mga sundalo ang lahat ng rebelde sa Mindanao. Hindi katulad ng ginawa ni president Aquino na pinatay na ng mga MILF ang mga SAF 44 ay hindi pa siya nag-utos ng all-out-war sa lahat ng rebelde sa Mindanao, ang ginawa niya ay pinamamadali pa niya sa kongreso ang pagpasa ng batas sa BBL. Napakawalang kwentang presidente ni Benigno Aquino. - Concerned citizen

24



## ONLINE NEWS

### 11 JUNE 2016

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## Fenton succeeds Kilrain at Special Operations Command, Pacific

From the Stars and Stripes (Jun 9): Fenton succeeds Kilrain at Special Operations Command, Pacific



*Maj. Gen. Bryan P. Fenton talks with a guest after a ceremony at Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii, Thursday, June 9, 2016, where he took command of Special Operations Command, Pacific.*

Maj. Gen. Bryan P. Fenton took charge of Special Operations Command, Pacific during a rain-drenched ceremony Thursday, just minutes after receiving his second star.

He takes the reins from Rear Adm. Colin J. Kilrain, who has been nominated as commander of NATO Special Operations Headquarters in Belgium.

Fenton is the former deputy commanding general of operations for the 25th Infantry Division and the assistant chief of staff of G-3 for U.S. Army Pacific.

Adm. Harry Harris, commander of U.S. Pacific Command, praised Kilrain for leading the transition of Operation Enduring Freedom in the Philippines into a counter-terrorism partnership.

Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines was created in the early 2000s to assist the Philippine government with training and surveillance to defeat al-Qaida-linked groups in the southern part of the country. The special task force was officially deactivated last year after 13 years.

"You've ensured a well-synchronized effort to build the capacity of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to combat radical extremists inside their borders," Harris said.

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

Harris also credited Kilrain for his role in coordinating a campaign named Red Phoenix, which is being used against transnational terrorist networks operating in South Asia.

"This campaign plan involved multiple joint and combined operations, activities and actions in conjunction with host nation counterparts," Harris said while offering no further details about the sensitive operation.

SOCAPAC serves as PACOM's functional component for all special operations missions throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. It commands the 353d Special Operations Group and 1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) on Okinawa, Japan; Naval Special Warfare Task Unit-Pacific and SEAL platoon at Apra Harbor Naval Station, Guam; and E Company, 160th Special Operations Regiment (Airborne), based in Taegu, South Korea.

Kilrain closed his remarks by talking about humility.

"We're proud of our contributions, but despite popular folklore, movies and video games, we didn't do it alone," Kilrain said. "We learned early on that we couldn't do our missions without integrating our operations with the joint force.

"SOC has received too much attention and a bit too much credit. Special operations doesn't mean we're better, smarter, braver or more valuable — because we're not. We have specialized training and we're encouraged to think differently, but in the end — and when we're at our best — we recognize we represent a small part of a much bigger effort."

Harris described incoming commander Fenton as "a combat-tested snake-eater" whose "tough jobs" in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa prove he "has what it takes to do this job."

"PACOM and the nation depends on their special operations forces to provide unique capabilities and sustain presence in the most challenging areas throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific — and against the most challenging of adversaries," Fenton said.

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26

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

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## **Where did the ransom money go, ask donors**

From Free Malaysia Today (Jun 10): Where did the ransom money go, ask donors

*Families of released hostages bombarded by calls from those wanting to know what happened to the funds they helped raised to free the victims.*

PETALING JAYA: The families of four Malaysians abducted and subsequently released by Abu Sayyaf militants are now under pressure to reveal what they did with the money others gave them to help pay for the men's ransom.

The sister-in-law of one of the victims, Johnny Lau Jung Hien, 21, said the family had been bombarded with calls from people demanding to know what they had used the money for, after the police denied that a ransom had been paid to secure the release of the four.

According to the China Press, the woman, who only wanted to be known as Lim, said they understood the feelings of the well wishers who donated, and the family would provide an explanation as soon as possible.

According to her, the donors were from all over the country, with some even being foreigners.

Lau is the cousin of brothers Wong Teck Kang, 31, and Wong Teck Chi, 29, who were also abducted along with 34-year-old Wong Hung Sing, on April 1 by Abu Sayyaf militants. The four were released without harm on Tuesday.

The families had turned to the public to raise the RM30 million ransom (which was subsequently lowered to RM18 m). The families even went on a drive to collect funds during campaigning for the Sarawak election last month.

Lim and the grandparents of Lau were previously quoted saying they had surrendered the funds collected to the police for their further action.

However, Inspector-General of Police Khalid Abu Bakar yesterday announced that no ransom had been paid for the release of the four. He also denied knowing the whereabouts of the money raised by the kin of the victims.

<http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2016/06/10/where-did-the-ransom-money-go-ask-donors/>

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[www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com](http://www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com)

## **Abu Sayyaf 'property manager' charged**

From The Star Online (Jun 10). Abu Sayyaf 'property manager' charged

KUALA LUMPUR: A car painter was charged in a magistrate's court here Friday for managing the property of an Abu Sayaf terrorist group member.

Muhammad Aizam Mat Zin, 39, was accused of knowingly handling the property of Muhammad Joraimie Awang Raimie, 41, by way of giving RM700 cash for the latter's use and benefit.

He was charged under Section 130Q(1) of the Penal Code.

He faces a maximum 20-year jail sentence, a fine and forfeiture of the property if found guilty.

No bail was offered and no plea was recorded.

The charge was read to him in Bahasa Malaysia before magistrate Siti Radziah Kamarudin Friday. The court later fixed Aug 1 for mention.

Mohd Nordin Ismail was the deputy public prosecutor while the accused was unrepresented.

On Wednesday, Muhammad Aizam was charged at the Petaling Jaya magistrate's court with possessing 65 pieces of A3-sized paper and three stickers related to the Islamic State.

He was found with the items at 6.20am on March 22 at a house in Taman Puncak Jalil, Seri Kembangan and was charged under Section 130JB(1)(a) of the same Code.

<http://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2016/06/10/abu-sayyaf-property-manager-charged/>

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[www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com](http://www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com)

## **4 alleged top NPA members nabbed in Agusan del Norte raid**

From GMA News (Jun 10): 4 alleged top NPA members nabbed in Agusan del Norte raid

[Video report]

Four alleged high-ranking members of the New People's Army were arrested in Butuan, Agusan del Norte on Thursday, a television report said Friday.

GMA's Unang Balita reported that the four rebels were trapped during a joint police and military operation on a targeted NPA safe-house in Butuan.

Government forces said they recovered from the scene of the operation assorted firearms, ammunition, explosives, and subversive documents.

The four suspects are facing multiple charges, including frustrated murder, robbery, attempted murder, frustrated homicide, homicide, and violation of the Comelec gun ban for the May polls.

<http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/569453/news/regions/4-alleged-top-npa-members-nabbed-in-agusan-del-norte-raid>

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29

[www.luwaran.com](http://www.luwaran.com)

## **MILF: Editorial -- Peace Panels to exist until Exit Agreement**

Editorial posted to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front Website (Jun 9): Editorial -- Peace Panels to exist until Exit Agreement

The peace panels, among other mechanisms of the GPH-MILF peace process, will continue to stay until the Exit Agreement is signed. This Agreement will only be signed, signaling that negotiations are over and terminated, after the Third Party Monitoring Team (TPMT), the GPH and MILF Peace Panels, and the third party facilitator shall have validated and agreed that both Parties have implemented all agreements; meaning, both have complied with all their bilateral or unilateral obligations.

This is to correct impression that there is no more need for the peace panels, as well as the other mechanisms, because the peace process is already on the implementation stage. This is not only a misconception but altogether a misreading of the agreements of the Parties.

Seriously, until the Exit Agreement is signed, the two peace panels will continue to steer the direction of the peace process and supervise the works and responsibilities of the various mechanisms. If necessary they will also meet to thresh out and decide on new issues including unresolved ones coming from the various bodies especially related to the normalization process.

In concrete terms, if for instance, a serious breach of the ceasefire agreement cannot be resolved in the level of the Coordinating Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH), where do they elevate the problem? Naturally, they will have to elevate it to the two peace panels for resolution. Similarly, if the two peace panels cannot resolve the same issue, where do they bring the matter? The answer is, they would have to meet under third party facilitation. This situation can be true to all the other mechanisms including those with international participation or players.

Even the passage of the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL), which is a unilateral responsibility of government, its accountability will still be engaged or asserted through its peace panel. The MILF, which is a revolutionary organization, cannot participate directly in the normal legal process of government, hence, the creation of the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC). The BTC was constituted mainly through an executive order signed by the President. This is the personality and authority carried by those MILF leaders who engaged Congress and other government entities.

Of course, the informal track or what we usually referred to as back-channeling is part of the dynamics of peace-making. In fact, in many instances, they are very effective in breaking impasses or disagreements, but in no way this will replace the formal track. In back-channeling there is no official accountability. Only in the formal track that accountability of the parties are clear and established, because they are written and signed by the parties.

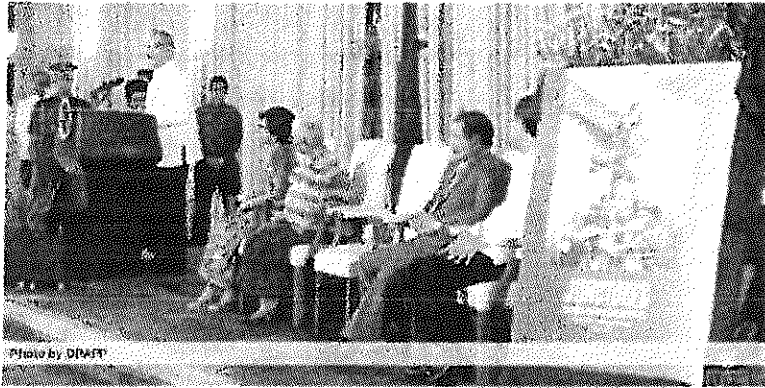
It is on this established protocol of the GPH-MILF peace process that we wish for the early composition of the GPH Peace Panel under the incoming Duterte administration.

<http://www.luwaran.com/home/index.php/editorial/24-january-8-15-2016/766-peace-panels-to-exist-until-exit-agreement>

[www.luwaran.com](http://www.luwaran.com)

## **MILF: Junctures: A Book on Selected Speeches and Statements on Bangsamoro peace process under Aquino launched at Malacañang Palace**

Posted to the Moro Islamic Liberation Front Website (Jun 10): Junctures: A Book on Selected Speeches and Statements on Bangsamoro peace process under Aquino launched at Malacañang Palace



A book entitled: "Junctures: Selected Speeches and Statements", a collection of selected speeches and statements made in the course of the peace process between the Government of the Philippines (GPH) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) was launched on Thursday, June 9 at Malacañang Palace, in celebration of the achievements of the administration of President Benigno S. Aquino III in advancing peace in Mindanao.

The book features the speeches made by the President in key junctures of the process, and those delivered by GPH chief negotiator Professor Miriam Coronel-Ferrer and MILF panel chair Mohagher Iqbal in several forums and discussions on the Bangsamoro peace negotiations held under the Aquino administration. Produced by the Government Peace Panel Secretariat, the book is published by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process.

Also included are speeches delivered by Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Secretary Teresita Quintos Deles, MILF Chair Al Haj Murad Ebrahim, GPH peace panel member Senen Bacani, MILF panel member Professor Abhoud Syed Lingga, and National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF) Secretary Yasmin Busran-Lao in landmark events. Major statements issued during the same period make up the second part of the book.

"The book is a tangible record of the thinking and sentiments of the main actors in the negotiations and implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB) through the good times and the bad. Junctures will provide readers with an insider's look of our journey the past few years from the signing of the Framework Agreement that preceded the CAB in October 2013 up to May 2016, with the signing of the Declaration of Continuity of the partnership between the government and the MILF," said Ferrer of the publication.

Ferrer underscored the important role played by the President and the Executive Secretary in steering the direction of the peace negotiations. "Kaya naging matagumpay ang peace process natin sa ilalim ni President Aquino ay dahil naging bukas ang linya sa pagitan niya't ng kanyang opisina at ng MILF, at maraming napag-

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usapang tuwiran at diretso na may tiwala sa isa't isa (The peace process succeeded under President Aquino because of the openness between him and his office and the MILF, which allowed matters to be discussed directly, with trust in each other)," she said.

MILF Chair Al Haj Murad Ebrahim in his message read for him by MILF Peace Panel Chair Mohagher Iqbal said "The Significance of this effort is more so emphasized as we actively engage the Bangsamoro people, especially the youth, to know more and learn about the intensity, acrimony, and triumphs of the peace talks which took 17 years in the making. Realistically, it is the next generation that will benefit from this undertaking, with all the more makes it imperative that we internalize the history of the Bangsamoro struggle and the political objectives that we are fighting for".

Presidential Adviser on the Peace process Sec. Teresita Quintos-Deles delivered the Opening Remarks.

<http://www.luwaran.com/home/index.php/news/19-national/768-junctures-a-book-on-selected-speeches-and-statements-on-bangsamoro-peace-process-under-aguino-launched-at-malacanang-palace>

[www.rappler.com](http://www.rappler.com)

## Dureza flying to Norway to meet with Joma Sison

From Rappler (Jun 10): Dureza flying to Norway to meet with Joma Sison

*(UPDATED) Dureza says he will be accompanied by incoming Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III and former congressman Hernani Braganza*

Jesus Dureza, President-elect Rodrigo Duterte's appointed Secretary of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) is flying to Oslo, Norway Friday night, June 10, to meet with Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front of the Philippines (CPP-NPA-NDF) head Jose Maria Sison.

Dureza made the announcement on his Facebook page.

Duterte had made peace talks with the communist rebels part of his platform during the presidential campaign.

Dureza, a veteran in the peace negotiating table, said that he is flying upon the instructions of Duterte. Dureza was appointed presidential adviser on the peace process from 2005 until 2008 under the government of Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

"I will be accompanied by incoming Sec. Silvestre Bello III and former congressman Hernani Braganza. We will look forward to a fruitful meeting under the auspices of the Norwegian government in the sidelines of the 'Oslo Forum'." Dureza said in his post.

The Royal Norwegian government is the third-party broker of the stalled peace talks. Bello is incoming labor secretary under the Duterte Cabinet.

Earlier, Duterte said he planned to send Bello and Dureza to Norway to initiate talks with the CPP and Sison.

NDF spokesperson Fidel Agcaoili told a press conference on Wednesday, June 8, Sison's coming home for peace talks was a "very ticklish issue" because the United States had put the CPP and the NPA in its terrorist list. This means it could have Sison intercepted and arrested during one of his stopovers en route to Manila from the Netherlands, where he is based.

Abu Sayyaf

Dureza also said he wanted to correct the rumor reported by some media outlets that he is open to negotiation with the Abu Sayyaf Group and the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), a breakaway group from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

"True, I have even directly negotiated with the ASG just recently to seek the release of my friend John Ridsdel whom they nevertheless beheaded as the families could not raise the demanded ransom amount," Dureza said.

Dureza said negotiating with the ASG and BIFF is not the way forward and that they would have to face the full force of the law. "But negotiating with them in the context of what are we doing with the Bangsamoro and the CPP/NPA/NDF is definitely not the way forward. They have to face the full force of the law for their terrorism and criminal acts," Dureza said.