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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS CLIPPINGS

11 May 2016

Wednesday

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

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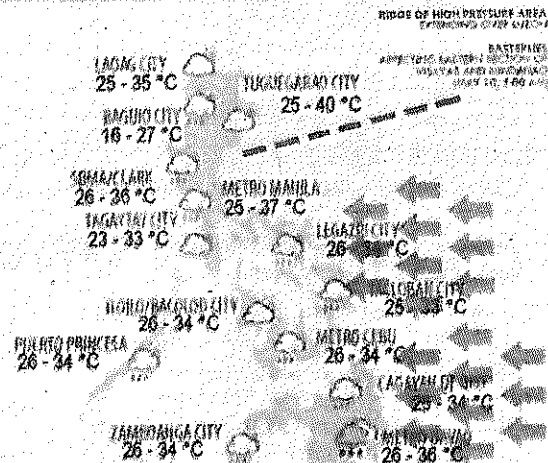
AIR 21
BAGYONG KID, PANDA KID

5:00 AM - 5:30 AM
Monday to Sunday

SUNRISE 5:30 AM
SUNSET 6:15 PM
MIDNIGHT 8:42 AM
MORNING 9:51 PM

2:35 AM MAY 11
1:02 AM MAY 16
6:09 PM MAY 16
12:35 PM MAY 16

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST MAY 11, 2016 | WEDNESDAY



| WEATHER FORECAST | MAY 12 THU | MAY 13 FRI | MAY 14 SAT | EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST | MAY 12 THU | MAY 13 FRI | MAY 14 SAT |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| METRO MANILA | 25°C 36°C | 26°C 36°C | 25°C 36°C | PUERTO PRINCESA | 26°C 34°C | 26°C 34°C | 26°C 33°C |
| TUGUEGARAO | 25°C 39°C | 25°C 40°C | 25°C 39°C | ILOILO/BACOLOD | 25°C 33°C | 25°C 34°C | 25°C 33°C |
| LAOAG | 25°C 34°C | 26°C 34°C | 25°C 34°C | METRO CEBU | 26°C 33°C | 25°C 34°C | 26°C 33°C |
| BAGUIO | 17°C 26°C | 16°C 26°C | 17°C 26°C | TACLOBAN | 26°C 32°C | 25°C 33°C | 25°C 33°C |
| SAMA/CLARK | 26°C 35°C | 27°C 35°C | 26°C 36°C | CAGAYAN DE ORO | 25°C 34°C | 24°C 33°C | 25°C 33°C |
| TAGAYTAY | 23°C 32°C | 22°C 32°C | 23°C 32°C | METRO DAVAO | 25°C 35°C | 24°C 34°C | 25°C 32°C |
| LEGAZPI | 27°C 34°C | 27°C 33°C | 26°C 33°C | ZAMBOANGA | 27°C 32°C | 26°C 31°C | 25°C 30°C |

Partly cloudy skies

Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms

Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms

11 May 2016

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER

Page: A1

Palace: We accept the people's verdict

By Inquirer Staff

"OUR PEOPLE have spoken and their verdict is accepted and respected."

President Aquino, who has said that this election is a referendum on his *daang matuwid*, or straight path, governance, issued this statement yesterday through his spokesperson, Herminio Coloma Jr., as unofficial returns from Monday's elections showed Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte was inexorably heading toward a landslide presidential mandate.

"The path of good governance ... is already established as all presidential candidates spoke out against corruption," Coloma said.

There was no soaring rhetoric, but plenty of tears, in the concession statements issued by Duterte's presidential rivals.

"I will not be a party pooper at this time of festive mood," said Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, Duterte's harshest critic.

"I will step back, listen to his policy pronouncements. This time I don't expect a stand-up comedy act but a President who will address the nation," Trillanes said.

A tailender in the vice presidential race, Trillanes threw everything but the kitchen

sink against Duterte in the final days of the campaign and filed plunder charges against the mayor for his alleged unexplained wealth.

Roxas concedes

In a news conference yesterday, Mr. Aquino's chosen successor, Mar Roxas, said, using the mayor's nickname, "Digong, I wish you success."

"Your victory is the victory of our people and our country," Roxas, who emerged second in the contest behind Duterte, said to cheers from his supporters chanting his name as though he had won.

"There are many tears in the room. Let me tell you: This is not a time for tears," Roxas said, his voice cracking.

"For our country, we have had a peaceful (and) successful transfer of power. It's not about me ... It's about how we love our country and how we'll do all that we can for her. She's the only one," he said.

His wife, Korina Sanchez, stood beside Roxas as he delivered his 10-minute speech and uttered one line thanking Mr. Aquino for his support. He was presidential front-runner in the 2010 elections but gave way to Mr. Aquino and instead run as Vice President, and lost.

"I read somewhere that it is not the battle or the conquest that we remember, but the soldier who stood beside us, who stayed true to us, who we treasure the most. To all of you, thank you so much. I will never forget you."

Clean conscience

Sen. Grace Poe was the first to concede defeat on Monday night.

In her campaign headquarters in Quezon City, Poe looked all of the grueling 90-day campaign that she went through to pursue her dream which had eluded her adoptive father, the late movie action king Fernando Poe Jr.

"I congratulate Mayor Rodrigo Duterte and I promise to cooperate in healing the country and unite with our countrymen to push for the continued progress of the country," said Poe, who was accompanied by her American husband, Neil Llamanzares, and her son, Brian, in the hastily called press conference.

"I will sleep this night with a clean conscience, calm in the knowledge that me and my supporters have done everything we could," said Poe, a foundling allowed by the

Supreme Court to run for President despite "misrepresentations" in her certificate of candidacy. She will return to the Senate to complete the rest of her six-year term.

Duterte said Poe called him an hour before to congratulate him.

"I have repeatedly called for respecting institutions and the democratic process. Once the process is completed, we should always respect the outcome," Vice President Jejomar Binay said in a statement before Monday midnight.

Heal divided land

"We should all move toward healing and unity for our divided land," said Binay, who ended up in fourth place.

He stayed home after casting his ballot, appearing only in the public after her daughter, Abigail Binay, claimed victory in the Makati mayoralty race before dawn yesterday, continuing the decadeslong Binay dynasty in the country's premier city.

Binay held a closed-door meeting with his supporters at New Horizons Hotel in Mandaluyong City on Monday night, where he met with his APO fraternity brothers at the vanguard of his political campaign.

He was the first to announce his quest for the presidency and paid dearly with a year-long bashing in the Senate led by Trillanes for his alleged unexplained wealth.

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No 'Plan B'

Coloma said Mr. Aquino watched on TV at the presidential security room the election results coming in Monday night "with equanimity and objectivity."

Mr. Aquino was silent while Duterte discussed the treason complaint the mayor had filed against the President and Trillanes for allegedly losing in backdoor talks with China the Scarborough Shoal. Chinese gunboats have prevented poor Filipino fishermen from their traditional fishing waters.

In a press briefing, Coloma said that the administration was "ready and willing" to work with Duterte. "Our people have spoken and their verdict is accepted and respected," Coloma said.

Coloma dismissed as "irresponsible" allegations that the Aquino administration was already gearing up for a "Plan B" to have Duterte impeached so that Rep. Leni Robredo, who is leading in the tight vice presidential race, would be installed as President.

With reports from Leila B. Salaverria, Marlon Ramos, Nikko Dizon, Gil C. Cabacungan, Christine O. Avendaño and AP

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Page: A1

I will be a dictator vs bad guys—Duterte

By Niña P. Calleja
and Doris Dumlao-Abadilla
Business

DAVAO City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, the presumptive winner of the presidential election, declared on Monday night that his presidency would be a dictatorship, but one that was against society's bad elements.

"Dictatorship? I will be a dictator against all bad guys, evil people, criminals, drug lords. It will be a harsh condition for them," Duterte said in Davao City on Monday midnight.

The Davao mayor has earned an international reputation as "punisher" and "mass murder advocate" for his strong pro-

nouncements against criminals, and for his pledge to kill criminals and ignore due process.

Duterte called the anticrime drive that he planned to complete in three to six months as a "solemn commitment." He said not even the United Nations could stop him from doing what he wanted.

"I have to take care of the country. Of course, I will listen to human rights... but you cannot deter me, not even the United Nations," he said.

Cabinet members

Duterte is now drawing up a list of potential Cabinet members from his core team as well as soliciting suggestions for new names.

The goal is to build a "powerhouse of experienced and competent" leaders to run the next administration, INQUIRER sources said.

Duterte said Jesus Dureza, who once served as press secretary and spokesperson of then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, was capable of handling the peace process in Mindanao.

"(Dureza) has been involved in the peace process since the time of President Ramos. He knows everything about it," he told reporters.

Dureza, a classmate of Duterte at Ateneo de Davao, has been the butt of jokes in his campaign sorties, describing him as his studious classmate in high school, his exact opposite.

He also named another former classmate as a possible member of his Cabinet.

Finance, transportation

Duterte said Carlos Domiguez, an owner of Marco Polo Hotels and a former agriculture secretary, would either go to the Department of Finance or Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC).

"We grew up together," the mayor said of Domiguez, noting that the DOTC is the most corrupt agency in the government. Domiguez is the head of Alcantara & Sons.

Businessman Tomas Alcantara of the Alsons Group, a former trade undersecretary, had likewise been mentioned.

Budget secretary

For the position of budget secretary, one potential contender is Rep. Isidro Ungab, who is finishing his third term as representative of Davao City's third district.

Ungab chaired the House committee on appropriations and timely passed the national budget during his term. A farmer and businessman, he was a former banker (Northern Mindanao Development Bank) and consultant at the Asian Development Bank.

"Do not be surprised if others are military people," Duterte said, giving a hint that someone is from the Philippine Navy. "The other one is outside (the government) working."

Insiders in the Duterte camp are floating the names of former Armed Forces Chief of Staff Hermogenes Esperon Jr. and former Defense Secretary Gilbert "Gibo" Teodoro, who both served during the Arroyo administration.

Esperon, a Philippine Military Academy graduate (Class 1974), headed the Army's 602nd Infantry Brigade in 2000-2001 and led the all-out war against the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in Mindanao.

Teodoro, who had an unsuccessful presidential run in 2010, was not part of the Duterte campaign group but has been recommended to join the Cabinet, sources said.

A cousin of outgoing President Aquino, Teodoro was mentored by business tycoon Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. but the two had a falling out. He was a lawmaker representing Tarlac's first district.

He topped the Philippine bar exams in 1989. He went to Harvard Law School for his Master of Laws and completed it in 1997. He was admitted to the State Bar of New York during the same year.

"Duterte always had great respect for Gibo and had wanted to support Gibo2010," said one source, who noted that Gibo and Duterte met last week.

The mayor likewise dropped the name of a retired general, Isidro Lapeña, who headed the Davao City Public Safety Command Center.

Other possible members of his Cabinet include those who were visible in his presidential campaign in the past three months.

Executive secretary

Leoncio Evasco Jr., outgoing mayor of Maribojoc in Bohol province, will be "beside him" in Malacañang, Duterte said.

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Sources in the camp said Duterte might name him executive secretary.

Evasco, Duterte's national campaign manager, is a highly trusted ally of the mayor and is described as an excellent manager, one who has the potential to be an executive secretary.

Evasco is a former priest. After a raid on his convent in Catigbian by soldiers in 1974, he joined the underground Communist Party of the Philippines and its armed wing, the New People's Army.

Peter Laviña, spokesperson of Duterte and head of his media team, and the mayor's legal counsel Salvador Panelo will be his press secretaries.

Duterte also mentioned Butch Ramirez, a former chief of the Philippine Sports Commission.

Post for Cayetano

Duterte said in media interviews that he intended to give the Department of Foreign Affairs or the Department of Justice portfolio to his running mate, Alan Peter Cayetano, after the one-year ban on losing candidates from holding posts elapsed.

In a separate interview, Cayetano said he wanted to be part of the team that would work on Duterte's legislative agenda.

"I will follow him. If he wants me to take a leadership role, I will accede. But if he wants me to spend time in his transition team and in his presumptive Cabinet, I will accept it," Cayetano said.

Duterte's aide de camp, Christopher Go, is also expected to be part of, if not influential, in building the Duterte Cabinet, other sources said.

Transition team

A transition team will be formed to help Duterte select the members of his Cabinet before he holds office in Malacañang, according to Laviña.

Subcommittees that will work on Duterte's inauguration, policy agenda and overall transition will work in the remaining month before the Davao mayor takes his oath as President on June 30.

"Part of the team's role is to review policy statements made by the mayor. These will be incorporated in the policies to be implemented in the first 100 days of his [administration]," Laviña told a news briefing.

Before June 30, Duterte's personal envoys will visit embassies and consular offices in the country to express the mayor's readiness to cooperate with their respective countries.

Everything remains fluid as Duterte wants more candidates for his Cabinet.

The mayor had been advised to finalize his prospective Cabinet early on when he started leading preelection surveys, but he refused to do so until victory appeared imminent.

"Since Duterte is not renowned for his policy expertise, he will be heavily reliant on his Cabinet appointees for policy choices and decisions. The official proclamation of the new President and Vice President may be a few weeks away, but near-term election risks have been successfully hurdled," said Citi Philippines economist Jun Trinidad. "Continuity risk now depends on Duterte's Cabinet appointees."

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2 soldiers hurt in landmine attack

CAMP GUILLERMO NAKAR, Lucena City – An Army officer and a member of the Quick Reaction Force (QRF) of the 203rd Infantry Brigade were hurt in a landmine attack by suspected New People's Army rebels in Matnog, Sorsogon on Monday.

Second Lt. Ariel Cayton and Sgt. Joventico Cerafica were providing security for board of election inspectors when a landmine exploded as their vehicles passed by Barangay Pangi around 4 p.m. They were brought to the Sorsogon Doctors Hospital for treatment.

Pursuit operations have been launched for the rebels.

– Michelle Zoleta

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2 soldiers wounded in NPA attack in Sorsogon

By Mario J. Mallari

Communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels ambushed soldiers deployed for election duty on Monday in Sorsogon, resulting in two Army men, one of them an officer, wounded.

Col. Noel Detoyato, public affairs office chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), said that members of the Army's 9th Infantry Division (ID), were aboard KM450 and V150 armored vehicle conducting security patrol along Barangay Salvacion, Matnog town at around 3:35 p.m. when waylaid.

Wounded were Lt. Ariel Cayton and Sgt. Jovintino Cerafic. They were rushed to Irosin Municipal Hospital for treatment.

Detoyato said that the troops managed to engaged the attacking NPA rebels in a four-minute firefight.

The NPA ambushers, numbering about 10 fully-armed men, subsequently withdrew.

"The military is already conducting pursuit operations to hunt down the perpetrators," said Detoyato.

Meanwhile, one civilian was killed while another was wounded in separate shooting incidents in Maguindanao and Zamboanga Sibugay, adding into the list of election-related violence for Monday's presidential polls.

A shooting incident transpired in Barangay Pageda, Talitay, Maguindanao at 8:34 p.m. on Sunday, that resulted in the death of a certain Bayan Buisan, 29. The unidentified perpetrator fled towards unknown direction immediately after the incident.

A certain Serafin Crisostomo, 63, also sustained a gunshot wound on the same day as unidentified armed men shot at the house of Barangay Chairman Amenardo Malinao of Barangay Sta. Maria in the town of Alicia, Zamboanga Sibugay.

Crisostomo and Malinao along with five others were conversing at a waiting shed when the shooting occurred Sunday. Four men on board two motorcycles stopped near them and fired their guns several times before fleeing.

Detoyato said that troops of the Army's 44th Infantry Battalion (IB) responded to the incident and assisted the Alicia police in their investigations.

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POLICE FILES

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**Brgy. sa Northern Samar
nagsagawa ng special election**

TACLOBAN CITY – Nagsagawa ng special election kahapon ang Bangay Lope De Vega sa Northern Samar matapos hindi pumunta sa kanilang mga polling precincts ang mga residente. Ito ay dahil sa nangyaring pagpaslang sa isang sundalo noong araw ng Linggo.

Ayon kay Lope de Vega municipal election officer Vivien Bido, umalis ang mga residente mula sa Barangay Roxas at lumipat sa poblacion matapos barilin ng pinaniniwalaang New People's Army si Sgt. Gilbert Toledo ng 82nd Division Reconnaissance Company ng Philippine Army habang nagsasagawa ng security operations sa nasabing barangay.

Dagdag pa nito, natakot ang mga residente sa posibleng pagkaroon ng panibagong engkwentro sa kanilang lugar.

Napag-alaman na aabot pa sa 169 registered voters ang Barangay Roxas.

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Pahina. 3

2 sundalo sugatan sa pananambang ng NPA

Sugatan ang dalawang sundalo sa pag-ambush ng 10 New People's Army (NPA) sa Barangay Pangi, Matnog, Sorsogon sa araw mismo ng halalan.

Kinilala ang dalawang sugatan na sina 2Lt. Ariel

Cayton at Sgt. Joventico Cerafica. Ang mga ito ay bahagi ng Quick Reaction Force na nagsasagawa ng routine route security para sa Board of Election Inspectors (BEI) na nakatoka sa pagbyahe ng mga

election paraphernalia.

Nagtamo ng mga tama ng punglo ang mga biktima at ngayon ay ginagamot sa Sorsogon Doctors Hospital.

Sa nasabing pangyayari, agad iniutos ni Col. Fernando Trinidad,

commander ng 903rd Infantry Brigade, ang pagsasagawa ng pursuit operations kasabay ng paalalang pag-ibayuhin pa ang pagiging vigilant. (Betchai Julian/Edwin Balasa)

11 May 2016



Pahina. 3

Obrero niratrat ng sundalo, dedo

HINDI na umabot nang buhay sa pagamutan ang isang construction worker matapos pagbabarilin ng opisyal umano ng militar sa tapat mismo ng himpilan ng local police station ng Albueva sa Leyte.

Kinilala ang biktima na si Roberto Morales y Tulin, 39 taong gulang, may asawa at residente ng Brgy. Binolho, Albueva, Leyte.

Tinukoy ang suspek na si 2Lt Jay P. Latoza, ng "A" Coy 78th Infantry Battalion, 8ID, PA, na nakabase sa Brgy. Damula-an, Albueva.

Sa imbestigasyon ng pulisya, lumitaw na alas-6 ng gabi nang tangkain umanong agawin ng nasawi ang baril ng sundalo, dahilan para paputukan siya nito at tinamaan sa ulo at iba pang bahagi ng katawan.

Natagpuan sa lugar ng krimen ang isang cal. 45 pistol "Colt", tatlong basyo ng bala at cartridges para sa cal. 45; isang magazine na puno ng bala at pitong nakahiwalay rin na bala.

Patuloy ang imbestigasyon ng Albueva Municipal Police Station at Leyte Provincial Police Office upang mabigyang linaw ang kaso at kung may alitan ang dalawa.

Samantala, bandang 2:30 ng hapon, isang pamamari din ang naganap sa Brgy. Dapdap, Las Navas, Northern Samar.

Kinilala ang biktima na si Raffy Yrma y Aurel, 36, driver habang ang suspek ay si Amol Piga y Bulao, 47, isang laborer at residente rin ng nasabing lugar.

Sa imbestigasyon ng Las Navas PNP, umihi ang biktima sa barangay auditorium nang lapitan ng suspek at agad pinagbabaril.

Napuruhan ng tama ng bala sa ulo ang biktima na nagresulta ng kanyang agarang pagkamatay. Nakatakas naman ang suspek na pinaghanap na ng mga awtoridad.

Hinala ng pulisya, posibleng may alitan ang dalawa kaya nang makatiyempo ang suspek ay ginantihan ito.

MEL CASPE

11 May 2016

The Manila Times

Page: A3

AFP and PNP: We are at Duterte's command

BY ANTHONY VARGAS
CORRESPONDENT

THE Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) on Tuesday announced their readiness to cooperate and help the incoming Commander-in-Chief.

Chief Supt. Wilben Mayor, PNP spokesman, said in a joint police and military news briefing in Camp Crame in Quezon City that it is "within the powers of the newly elected President to give directives to the police and the military in fulfilling their mandated tasks."

The PNP spokesman made the statement in the face of a huge margin enjoyed by Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte against

his rivals in the presidential race in the recently concluded local and national elections on Monday.

At present, it would be highly improbable for Duterte's opponent to narrow down his lead based on the partial unofficial tally coming from the Commission on Elections (Comelec) transparent server and the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV).

Mayor said the PNP would immediately obey whatever orders

will be issued to them by the newly elected President.

The AFP, through its spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla, said they are more than ready to cooperate and serve under whoever will eventually be the new Commander-in-Chief.

Just like in past elections, according to Padilla, the military aims to "protect the sanctity of the electoral process in the country to ensure that the people will elect the leader of their choice."

At the same time, he enjoined the public to move on after the voting process will have been completed.

"Although we cannot avoid negative news, they are not even one percent of the whole of good information and actual events happening in the country," Padilla told the joint police and military news briefing.

The AFP spokesman was referring to threats, bombings, shootings and harassments that were reported during Monday's balloting.

Padilla said the "delightful" information being noted by the public in the past few days was the very fast-paced canvassing of votes in which 90 percent of votes from polling precincts had been counted as of Tuesday based on the PPCRV count.

The AFP spokesman added that the whole world is now watching the Philippines and waiting for the outcome of the democratic process participated in by 100 million Filipinos.

"In fact, there are foreign observers in the country watching and monitoring the electoral process and it's a clear proof to them that we have just concluded peaceful elections in the country," Padilla said.

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The Manila Times

Page: A2

Duterte to free communist rebels

PRESIDENT-ELECT Rodrigo Duterte may release jailed communist rebels in an effort to restart peace talks aimed at ending a decades-old insurgency that has claimed tens of thousands of lives, an aide said Tuesday.

The aide said Duterte, set to be sworn into office on June 30 after a landslide election victory on Monday, signaled his readiness to discuss the release of a number of imprisoned rebels, a key factor in the breakdown of peace negotiations three years ago.

President Benigno Aquino 3rd ended talks with the Communist Party of the Philippines in 2013 over the rebels' demand for the unconditional release of their detained comrades that his government was unwilling to grant.

Duterte's spokesman Peter Lavina said the president-elect will consider

allowing exiled communist leaders to return for the talks, and review the status of "political prisoners."

Lavina suggested the new government will not be averse to releasing detained rebels so they could take part in the talks, and allow ailing ones get treatment outside of prison.

"It is important to release political prisoners suffering from ailments," he said.

Duterte, a hardline mayor accused of running vigilante death squads that have killed more than a thousand crime suspects in Davao, is a friend of Netherlands-based Jose Maria Sison, who set up the communist party in 1968.

Last month during the election campaign, Duterte won the release of five Davao policemen and a civilian taken hostage by the New People's Army guerrillas. **AFP**

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Pahina. 6

PNP, AFP hindi pa magbababa ng alerto

Mananatiling nakaalerto at puspusan ang pagbantay ng tropa ng militar at pulisya hanggang sa matapos ang election period sa Hunyo 8 sa sandaling maideklara na ang lahat ng mga nagwagi sa katatapos na halalan sa bansa.

Ayon kay Philippine National Police (PNP) Chief P/ Director General Ricardo Marquez, hindi muna magbababa ng alerto at mananatili ang kanilang full alert status hanggang sa Hunyo 8 ng taong ito.

"We shall continue to be in a state of full preparedness until this electoral exercise is over," pahayag ni Marquez sa PNP Press Corps.

"We are not lowering our

guards yet and all election security measures will be similarly implemented in the succeeding days and weeks until the official culmination of the election period on June 8," ayon pa sa PNP Chief.

Sa panig naman ng AFP, sinabi ni AFP Public Affairs Office Chief Col. Noel Detoyato na nakaalerto ang 125,000 malakas na puwersa ng AFP na mananatili hanggang hindi bumababa ang tensiyon sa panig ng kampo ng mga magkakalabang kandidato.

"We are still on alert because there might still be tension among the local candidates that needs our security personnel support," ani Detoyato. *(Joy Cantos)*

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POLICE FILES

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AFP, PNP handa makipagtulungan sa bagong commander-in-chief

NAKAHANDA na ang AFP at PNP na makipagtulungan sa magiging bagong commander-in-chief para mamuno sa bansa.

Nasa kapangyarihan ng magiging bagong pinuno ng bansa sa itatim ng batas na atasan ang PNP sa pagtupad sa kanilang mandato.

Ito ang tugon ni PNP spokesperson C/Supt. Wilben Mayor sa harap ng malaking lamang na ngayon sa bilangan ng boto sa pagka-pangulo ni Mayor Rodrigo Duterte.

Sinabi ni Mayor na anuman ang ipag-uutos ng magiging bagong presidente ng bansa, bilang

commander-in-chief at chief executive ng gobyerno ay malugod itong susundin ng PNP.

Sa panig naman ng AFP, handa na rin silang makipagtulungan at maglingkod sa sino mang mailuluklók na bagong commander-in-chief.

Ayon kay AFP spokesperson BGen. Restituto Padilla na tulad ng mga nakaraang halalan, buo ang hangarin ng AFP na pangalagaan ang sanctity ng electoral process ng bansa nang sa ganon ay mahalal ng taong bayan ang gugustuhin nitong mamuno sa local at national level ng gobyerno.

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Guarding the vote.

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No summary killings seen under Duterte admin

By CECILLE SUERTE FELIPE

With the imminent proclamation of Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte as the next president, Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Director General Ricardo Marquez does not see rampant summary killings under the new administration.

Dubbed as "The Punisher," Duterte is accused of running death squads in Davao City that carry out summary executions of suspected criminals.

Among his campaign promises is to put an end to criminality and illegal drugs in the first six months of his presidency.

Marquez said it would be premature to assume that Duterte would carry out extrajudicial killings under his administration.

"He is a lawyer, he used to be a prosecutor so I would like to believe that he will, as president, (ensure) there will be nothing like rampant killings. It will not happen," he said.

Marquez said the PNP would cooperate with Duterte, once he assumes power as the next president, to see his plans and programs in maintaining peace and order in the country.

Marquez stressed the PNP is the lead government agency to handle the peace and order program of the government.

According to Marquez, he will file his courtesy resignation to the next president even before his mandatory retirement.

Marquez, an appointee of outgoing President Aquino, is set to retire on Aug. 18, his 56th birthday.

"As a matter of courtesy, I will submit my courtesy resignation to the president that should be not later than July 1. Also, (to give) the (next) president... a free hand to select and appoint the new PNP chief," he said.

When asked if he is willing to stay in his post until his retirement to work with the next president, Marquez said he is amenable to continue working under the

new administration.

"(It's) okay. I have been a loyal soldier. I have been in the service for 38 years and two months," Marquez said.

Based on partial and unofficial results of last Monday's elections, Duterte has been leading in the presidential race with administration presidential bet Manuel Roxas II a far second.

"As President Aquino said, we should respect the will of the people. We have also articulated many days ago that we will safeguard the ballot. We will be an instrument for the safe, peaceful transfer of power. We are ready. We will follow the law. We will respect the will of the people," Marquez added.

Standing down

Malacañang said President Aquino praised the security forces for maintaining the integrity of the elections that was generally peaceful and orderly.

Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr. said that aside from election day itself, huge campaign rallies in various areas were held on Saturday for the candidates' final push and no untoward incidents were reported.

Coloma said the President personally checked on the preparations of the security forces amid calls for honest and credible elections, aside from ensuring the safety of the public.

Aquino vowed earlier that he would not allow cheating to occur even if he was pitching for certain candidates.

"We saw how the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces (of the Philippines) worked for peace and order to prevail," Coloma said.

Coloma said acting AFP chief Lt. Gen. Glorioso Miranda reported various incidents but these did not have any effect on the conduct of the elections in general.

He also noted the statement of Commission on Elections (Comelec) Chairman Andres Bautista that the voter turnout reached 81 percent, the highest since automated elections began in 2010.

Despite technical glitches, the Comelec's quick count of votes allowed for a fast determination and proclamation of winners in the elections.

Marquez added the PNP is set to lower the alert level starting today as the situation has started to normalize a day after the elections.

Marquez said policemen were deployed to secure 92,000 polling precincts to ensure honest, orderly and peaceful elections.

"We deployed people to secure polling precincts. By now we believe that there are still some isolated incidents. I think it's okay for me to commend my officers and men on the ground for performing their jobs properly, risking their lives and limbs," Marquez said.

At least 32 election-related incidents, involving individuals seeking elective posts and their supporters, took place in different parts of the country during election day. — With

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Kalayaan Island residents boot out mayor

By a margin of 83 votes, two-term Mayor Eugenio Bito-onon Jr. of the municipality of Kalayaan Island Group (KIG) in the Spratlys lost his bid for re-election in a three-cornered fight in the May 9 elections.

"I lost to my opponent by a wide margin," Bito-onon, a candidate of the ruling Lib-

eral Party, told The STAR by telephone.

He said he is now preparing to turn over the reins of the island town to winner Roberto del Mundo of the United Nationalist Alliance (UNA).

Del Mundo is a former chairman of Barangay Pag-Asa, the biggest island in the

By JAIME LAUDE

KIG, the Philippine-occupied islands in the Spratlys

Del Mundo, a retired Air Force sergeant, garnered 142 votes against Bito-onon's 59 and retired Navy commander Rodrigo Jaca's 28.

KIG only has 229 registered voters that included two thirds of the people who no longer

reside in the island town, often staying in mainland Palawan and in other parts of the country.

A KIG resident recently filed before the Aborlan Municipal Circuit Court an expulsion case against more than 100 registered voters that are no longer residing in the KIG.

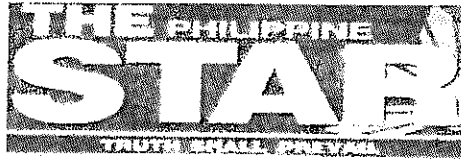
However, the case was dismissed by the court, paving the way for wealthy candidates seeking an elective post in the island town to transport voters from Palawan back to Pag-Asa Island for free, with provisions and allowances.

One candidate reportedly paid P5,000 to convince vot-

ers still registered in the KIG to cast their votes in the island town.

"I heard about this but I don't want to engage in this kind of illegal election activities," Bito-onon said. Bito-onon said he intends to retire from public service and devote his time to his family.

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China plans floating nuke reactor for disputed isles

To energize its man-made islands in the West Philippine Sea, China is planning to build a nuclear reactor on board a barge that can be easily towed to the remote locations.

The ambitious 2016 nuclear plan was formalized in China's 13th five-year plan last March, a *CNN International* report said.

The plan included the com-

pletion of 58 power reactors by 2020 and building another 100 gigawatt-sized reactors by 2030, when China is expected to become the largest nuclear power producer in the world.

According to the plan, small power plants will be built in Chinese shipyards, mounted on large sea-going barges, towed to remote places where power is needed and

connected to the local power grid or oil rig.

The idea was tested in 1966 when the US sent its Liberty ship *Sturgis* to power the Panama Canal Zone from 1968 to 1975. Russia also had a similar floating nuclear plant concept for its icebreaker program.

But according to the *CNN* report, China's plans are more ambitious, as it aims

to build 20 floating nuclear plants starting next year.

It also reported that the first of these plants might be destined for a site on Hainan Island as the oil and gas company China National Offshore Oil Corp. (CNOOC) wanted to use it for offshore exploration in the South China Sea.

The report added that the floating nuclear plants are

also considered for use in remote locations in the South China Sea, where China has been building man-made islands that have been objected to by the Philippines.

The small modular reactors of 50 to 100MW output are designed for alternative nuclear applications like industrial steam supply, desalination, district heating and remote power supplies.

It is thought to be safer because it can reduce or eliminate one of the key safety risks: a loss of coolant accident.

However, while the Chinese regulators may use the same safety standards as elsewhere in the world, the process is not very clear to outsiders, who question whether the floating plants are as safe as modern land-based reactors.

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US sails warship near Chinese-claimed reef in disputed seas

Sensitive area

BEIJING/HONG KONG – A US Navy warship sailed close to a disputed reef in the South China Sea yesterday, a US Department of Defense official said, prompting anger in Beijing, which denounced the patrol as illegal and a threat to peace and stability.

The guided missile destroyer *USS William P. Lawrence* traveled within 12 nautical miles of Chinese-occupied Kagitingan (Fiery Cross) Reef, Defense Department spokesman Bill Urban said.

The so-called freedom of navigation operation was undertaken to “challenge excessive maritime claims” by China, Taiwan and Vietnam which were seeking to restrict navigation rights in the South China Sea, he said.

“These excessive maritime claims are inconsistent with international law as reflected in the Law of the Sea Convention in that they purport to restrict the navigation rights that the United States and all states are entitled to exercise,” Urban said in an emailed statement.

Beijing and Washington have traded accusations that the other is militarizing the South China Sea as China undertakes large-scale land reclamations and construction on disputed features, while the United States has increased its patrols and exercises in the region.

Facilities on Fiery Cross Reef include a 3,000-meter (10,000-foot) runway and Washington is concerned China will use it to press its extensive territorial claims at the expense of weaker rivals.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said the US ship illegally entered Chinese waters and was tracked and warned.

“This action by the US side threatened China’s sovereignty and security interests, endangered the staff and facilities on the reef, and damaged regional peace and stability,” he told a daily news briefing.

China claims most of the South China Sea, through which \$5 trillion in ship-borne trade passes every year. The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei also have overlapping claims.

The Pentagon last month called on China to reaffirm it has no plans to deploy military aircraft in the disputed Spratly Islands after Beijing used a military plane to evacuate sick workers from Fiery Cross.

“Fiery Cross is sensitive because it is presumed to be the future hub of Chinese military operations in the South China Sea, given its already extensive infrastructure, including its large and deep port and 3,000-meter runway,” said Ian Storey, a South China Sea ex-

pert at Singapore’s ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute.

“The timing is interesting, too. It is a show of US determination ahead of President Obama’s trip to Vietnam later this month,” Storey added.

Speaking in Hanoi ahead of Obama’s visit, Daniel Russel, the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific, said freedom of navigation operations were important for smaller nations.

“If the world’s most powerful Navy cannot sail where international law permits, then what happens to the ships of navy of smaller countries?” Russel told reporters before news of the operation was made public.

“If our warships can’t exercise its legitimate rights under international law at sea, then what about the fishermen, what about the cargo ships? How will they prevent themselves from being blocked by stronger nations?”

China has reacted with anger to previous US freedom of navigation operations, including the overflight of fighter planes near the disputed Panatag (Scarborough) Shoal last month, and when long-range US bombers flew near

Chinese facilities under construction on Calderon (Cuarteron) Reef in the Spratlys last November.

US naval officials believe China has plans to start reclamation and construction activities on Scarborough Shoal, which sits further north of the Spratlys within the Philippines claimed 200-nautical mile (370 km) exclusive economic zone.

The move also comes as tough-talking city Mayor Rodrigo Duterte looks set to take the Philippines’ presidency.

He has proposed multilateral talks on the South China Sea.

Criticism of China over the South China Sea will rebound like a coiled spring, a Chinese diplomat said on Friday, as a US warship visited Shanghai against a backdrop of rising tension in the region. – Reuters

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US patrols disputed sea anew

By Vito Barcelo

THE United States sent a guided missile destroyer on a freedom of navigation operation near Kagitingan Reef in the South China Sea even as a Taiwanese group of lawyers filed a motion for intervention involving the country's arbitration case against China.

The US defense department spokesman Bill Urban said Tuesday the Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS William P. Lawrence sailed within 12 nautical miles of Chinese-occupied Fiery Cross Reef to "challenge excessive maritime claims of some claimants in the South China Sea."

"These excessive maritime claims are inconsistent with international law as reflected in the Law of the Sea Convention in that they pur-

port to restrict the navigation rights that the United States and all states are entitled to exercise," Voice of America quoted Urban as saying.

China responded with anger Tuesday morning, with foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang telling a daily news briefing that the ship entered Chinese waters illegally and that the move threatened peace and stability in the region.

China has built a 10,000-foot runway and other military facilities

on the disputed island.

This operation marks the third time in less than a year that the US has conducted what it calls a freedom of navigation operation to challenge controversial territorial claims that China has made over islands in the South China Sea.

Beijing rejects the operations and claims that the disputes have been exaggerated.

Meanwhile, the Department of Foreign Affairs on Tuesday said it has yet to see a copy of the plea of the Taiwan government-linked Chinese Society of International Law submitted to the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague.

"I have to check this with our concerned office," DFA spokesperson Charles Jose said in a text message, when asked for comment.

The unusual submission emerged just as judges at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague are poised to rule on the Philippines' landmark case, brought under the United Nations' Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The move could delay the judges' ruling, now expected within two months, and potentially complicates worsening territorial disputes roiling across the vital trade route.

The UN tribunal decision will have a significant impact on China and its ties with other claimant states in the South China Sea.

The case has been before the arbitration tribunal since January 2013, when the Philippines unilaterally initiated arbitration against China, with regard to the latter's claims over much of South China Sea.

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Duterte willing to talk to China on maritime row

By Benjamin B. Pulta

Philippine president-elect Rodrigo Duterte is willing to talk with China over a highly sensitive territorial dispute in the South China Sea, his spokesman said

Tuesday, in a significant reversal of the incumbent's stance.

Duterte, who won Monday's election in a landslide, is also willing to form partnerships with China to extract gas and oil deposits that are believed to be

in the sea, as well as explore joint fishing management systems, Peter Laviña, his spokesman, said.

"This is the difference between the current and the Duterte administrations, the mayor is open to bilateral talks with China," Laviña told reporters in Davao, the major southern city that Duterte has ruled as mayor for most of the past two decades.

China and the Philippines, under President Aquino, have endured steadily worsening relations in recent years as they sparred over joint claims to parts of the South China Sea, one of the world's most strategically important waterways.

Earlier, however, Duterte said he wants multilateral talks with China, with the USA and Japan involved. He also seeks to mend ties with the US, Singapore and Australia and will seek a state visit to the Vatican to apologize to Pope Francis for calling the Pope's mother a whore.

Laviña is known to correct what Duterte himself tells the media.

China claims nearly all of the sea, even waters approaching the coasts of the Philippines, Vietnam and other Southeast Asian nations.

To enforce its claims, China has built contested reefs into artificial islands, some topped with military-capable airstrips.

China also in 2012 took control of Scarborough Shoal, a rich fishing area within the Philippines' economic exclusive zone.

The Philippines, with a tiny military compared with China, has responded by signing a new defense pact with the United States and filing a legal challenge with a United Nations tribunal asking it to rule the Chinese claims to most of the sea are invalid.

It has also sought to raise the issue at multilateral events such as summits of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

China has reacted furiously to Aquino's tactics, demanding that the Philippines negotiate directly but also insisting that it will never give up any of the territory.

Aquino has refused to hold direct talks, fearing the better resourced and more powerful China would have an advantage. He has also said there is no point in talking with China if it insists there is nothing to negotiate.

Laviña said Duterte would continue with the UN case. A verdict is expected soon after Duterte is sworn into office on June 30.

He also sought to downplay a Duterte comment on the campaign trail that he would use a jet ski to reach a disputed island occupied by China to stake the Philippine claim.

"He jokingly said that if we win that case and China will not respect, he will use a jet ski," Laviña said.

Why Du30 won the race

Tough-talking Duterte owed his stunning victory in the presidential election to five key factors, according to analysts interviewed by *Agence France Presse* on Tuesday.

Strongman: Many Filipinos were clamoring for a strong ruler to start fixing a wide range of deep-rooted problems. With cuss-filled vows to kill criminals and challenge the elite's grip on the economy, Duterte shrewdly portrayed himself as their savior.

Populism: In another counter to the elite that have long ruled the economy, Duterte offered himself as

a man of the people who was equally enraged by the problems and injustices faced by the masses.

A charismatic politician, his boasts of womanizing and constant swearing infuriated critics but added to his anti-establishment credentials. A natural storyteller, he captivated his audience with tales about their troubles while his jokes made them laugh.

Law and order: Successfully reading the mood of the electorate, Duterte made restoring law and order the central plank of his campaign platform. Duterte promised to end crime within the first six months of his presidency.

His vows to kill tens of thousands of criminals were embraced by voters who felt extreme measures were needed to tame rampant crime and corruption.

The anti-Aquino: President Aquino had overseen six years of high economic growth. But many voters felt they had not experienced the benefits and blamed Aquino's style of leadership that his critics perceived as weak and cumbersome. Duterte promised to be the opposite.

Divided rivals: In the Philippines, a presidential election is decided simply by whoever gets the most votes. Duterte was expected to finish with about 39 percent of the total. His two main rivals, administration pick Mar Roxas and independent candidate Grace Poe, were to secure a combined 45 percent. President Aquino tried to get Roxas and Poe to combine forces before the election as a president and vice-president tandem. Poe refused. If they had not split the vote, one of them may have won.

Duterte wins protest vote—Counsel

Duterte's personal lawyer is standing by his man after the elections and says he would welcome any appointment to a position in the Cabinet.

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"This really is an expression of protest against the present government," lawyer Vitaliano Aguirre, told reporters when sought for a reaction on Duterte's overwhelming victory during last Monday's polls.

Aguirre, who is Duterte's legal team chief said in the meantime he is busy forming a national canvassing team to be headquartered in an office provided by Pastor Quiboloy in a Makati building.

"I will help in whatever capacity if he will ask me," Aguirre said adding that he would opt for the Department of Justice if Duterte lets him choose between an appointment to the DoJ or the Supreme Court (SC).

"If that position (DoJ) may be offered to me, I'll be glad to accept," he said.

Aguirre has been handling cases in Davao for Duterte since 2008 and traced the rift between the controversial mayor and former Justice secretary Leila de Lima to a 2009 investigation on the Davao Death Squad.

"I was his lawyer on those cases in Davao in 2009. That's when his rift with De Lima started when she was still DoJ secretary. They found nothing that's why there's no case. There was no evidence found, just baseless allegations," he said.

With Alvin Murcia and AFP

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

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An election of images, a collection of tribes



■ Duterte's inner circle? Clockwise, the brothers Carlos and Paul, former AFP chief of staff Esperon, former NFA head Banayo, former Press secretary Dureza, and former broadcaster and North Cotabato governor Piñol.

BY RIGOBERTO D. TIGLAO
COLUMNIST

C'MON, just a day after the elections: Who remembers the platforms of the five presidential candidates, the topics they discussed in three presidential debates, or even their campaign slogans?

The more than 15 million Filipinos who voted for Duterte were not really voting for this 71-year old man, who for 22 years has been Davao City mayor, who even boasted he was the patron of – or the brains? – behind the Davao Death Squads. Indeed, even reporters and editors scrambled to Google or ask their sources for some background about this mayor.

► TiglaoA6

They voted for an *image* in their minds—to which they projected idealized qualities of goodness and courage of a man of the masses, the antithesis of the uncaring *hacendero* Benigno S. Aquino 3rd. The image etched in their minds was of this tough-looking guy in the kind of polo shirt and rubber sandals you could buy from a cheap store, with his fist raised up in the air, and saying: "I will fight for you." Duterte was their avenging angel against a hated Aquino of the rich, who has made life difficult for them the past six years.

The image was so powerful that even values held dear by modern civilization and Christianity such as reverence for human life and due process – which Duterte disregards openly in his public speeches – have been tossed away like garbage.

Elections in this country are no longer a contest of the best and the brightest or who can most successfully portray himself as the best candidate.

Due to the tremendous power of media, including Facebook and other forms of social media – and especially because of their capability to disseminate photos and videos that form memes in people's minds – Philippine presidential elections have become a contest of *images*.

While there is cause for considering that Leni Robredo's tight race with Bongbong Marcos has been Aquino's Plan B for recapturing power, her image as a comely widow with a captivating smile, even as one waiting alone for a bus to take her home to her province, pushed her candidacy forward. If



RIGOBERTO
TIGLAO

another candidate such as former Justice Secretary Leila de Lima had, instead, been fielded by Aquino for the vice presidency, even Antonio Trillanes would have trounced her.

If there's one thing the elections on Monday also proved, it is that political machinery is no longer important in presidential and vice presidential elections, because we have moved almost totally into the age of images. This might also be due to the fact that more voters are young, with little ties to community ward leaders.

Gripping image

Duterte has stumbled upon a means of creating the most gripping image of himself that resonated with the masses – as a leader of and from the masses (though he came from the upper class), who would kill for them, who is as angry as them at the Establishment. His strength was that he did not need to artificially create an image: his world has always been in Davao City, where even the elite dress like the ordinary man on the street. In metropolitan Manila, the elite speak Filipino only to their drivers and domestic help. In Davao and other areas in Mindanao and the Visayas, the elite speak the language of the common man, *Bisaya*.

Grace Poe Llamanzares, who

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contrived to project an image of herself as a virgin princess of sorts – which played on the masses' confusion over movies and reality – still managed, of course, to fool a lot of people, but was no match to Duterte's image.

I rooted for and voted for Vice President Jejomar Binay, as my reason told me he was the most qualified. But Philippine elections have never been a rational exercise.

Because of the two-year campaign by Aquino and Roxas to vilify Binay, the Makati city mayor had been unable to really shed his corruption-tainted image. Binay was also too decent to spit verbally at people, and he wanted to be a "healing President." But the masses wanted somebody very angry, who spits at the Yellow Throne.

After all, how could a staunch defender of human rights, when he started out his law career, say that due process is an obstacle to fighting crime?

I'm sure if Aquino and Roxas had undertaken a similar two-year vilification campaign against Duterte, a huge sector of the masses' image of him would also be of a corrupt mayor of a frontier town.

Duterte's *masa* image siphoned off Binay's political support, as he was the candidate who had projected himself as the *masa* candidate.

Roxas tried to project an image of a technocrat untainted by corruption. But the masses haven't been looking for a technocrat. Their gut feel has been that, having been screwed alternatively by the rich and criminals all these years, therefore they need somebody able to fight for them.

As troubling, though, as the

supremacy of images in determining who would lead us is that the recent elections have laid bare the fact that more than a century since we were established as a nation of "Filipinos," we have remained a collection of tribes, with each individual member behaving as a blind loyal subject to his tribal leader.

If Duterte's image was dominant in his popularity in metropolitan Manila, it was tribalism that won for him the presidency. I don't remember any instance of a province such as Davao del Sur (of which Davao City had been provincial capital in the 1950s) voting 96 percent for their province-mate. Mindanao, it seems, had voted 60 percent for Duterte.

Bisaya for Duterte, Ilonggos for Roxas

Those who speak *Bisaya* actually constitute one big tribe, and Visayan-speaking provinces and cities (such as Cebu City) overwhelmingly voted for Duterte. Was it because reason told them he was the best candidate?

Similarly, the *Ilonggo* speakers voted overwhelmingly for Manuel Roxas, and seemed to have forgotten he stands for the hated *status quo*. Also similarly, the *Ilocano* speakers went overwhelmingly for Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. and the *Bicolanos* for Leni Robredo. Unfortunately for Binay, he does not really have a "home" region or a province (except, of course, for the tiny Makati) to call on his tribesmen to rally behind him.

We are stuck with Duterte, though, and we really can't afford another People Power uprising

similar to that which toppled a previous President who had also won the elections because the image he created had drawn the masses so strongly to him – *Erap "para sa mahirap."*

I hope that his fiery rhetoric such as, among them, that he would fill Manila Bay with the corpses of 100,000 criminals and fatten the fish there, that due process only lets criminals get away with their evil deeds, are just that – rhetoric that helped him create the image the masses love, and not serious beliefs he adheres to. Or he won't last two years in his new post.

Duterte's inner circle

One thing going for Duterte is that his advisers (or backers), whom I presume would be his inner circle in Malacañang, have had extensive experience in the country's labyrinthine corridors of powers. For the sake of the country, I hope that old adage isn't always true – "You can't teach an old dog new tricks."

One of his close allies, Davao businessman and corporate executive Carlos Dominguez, had served Corazon Aquino's government as agriculture secretary for two years, as PAL chairman from 1992 to 1995 (until Lucio Tan fired him, after taking over the firm), and an informal but close adviser of Fidel Ramos.

Carlos' younger brother, Paul Dominguez, was officially Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's presidential adviser for Mindanao, but was also her trusted adviser, being a member of Arroyo's core team of advisers who reported for meetings with her almost every morning during her first two years in office. Jesus Dureza, also from Davao, was a trusted Arroyo official during her nine years in office in various capacities, from being head of the talks with the

Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) to press secretary. He would, therefore, have a keen grasp of how Malacañang works.

Former Armed Forces Chief of Staff (2006 to 2008), Hermogenes Esperon, was also Arroyo's 2009 to 2010 head of the Presidential Management Staff, a low-key but powerful unit in Malacañang. I bet Esperon would be Duterte's defense secretary.

Angelito Banayo, said to have been Duterte's campaign manager, seems to have a knack for correctly betting on who the next President would be before they get into power. He worked under three Presidents: as postmaster general under Cory Aquino, as Philippine tourism authority head and presidential political adviser under Joseph Estrada, and National Food Authority administrator under President Aquino. In the 1990s he was with Nationalist People's Coalition big boss Eduardo Cojuangco, and after that, with Senator Orlando Mercado.

Manny Piñol, a former radio broadcaster and North Cotabato governor, has been a *de facto* spokesman for Duterte, and with his background, could be his press secretary.

I don't think these Davao guys would be able to work with the Senator from Taguig, Alan Cayetano, and I bet they'd lobby for him to be as far away from Malacañang as possible, perhaps as foreign affairs secretary, as Duterte has once mentioned.

I do hope, though, that these very competent and experienced people won't hear from Duterte what Estrada told his inner circle, when after a year in office, he got tired with their unsolicited advice: "*Mag presidente muna kaya kayo?*" (Why don't you become President first?)

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NGAYON

Pahina. 2



Editorial

Mapayapa ang election pero may mga namatay

SABI ng Philippine National Police (PNP) at Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), naging mapayapa at nasa kaayusan ang election noong Lunes. Sabi ni AFP spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla, ang mahalaga raw ay nakarating nang ligtas ang mga botante sa kanilang presinto at nakaboto. Mahigit 54 na milyong registered voters ang bumoto noong Lunes.

Ang sinabi ng PNP at AFP na mapayapa ang election ay naging taliwas naman nang 14 katao ang namatay sa mismong araw ng botohan. Nabulabog ang araw ng election nang pitong supporters ni incumbent mayor Jose Recafrente ng Rosario, Cavite ang inambus. Ayon sa report, patungo ang pito sa isang lugar na hinihinalang may vote-buying incident nang sila ay ambusin. Hanggang sa kasalukuyan, blanko ang pulisya kung sino ang mga suspect. Nangangapa pa sila kung paano mahuhuli ang mga suspect.

Sa San Jorge, Samar, isang mayoralty candidate at bodyguard niya ang inambus dakong alas kuwatro ng madaling araw noong Lunes. Tinamaan sa binti ang dalawa pero nagawang makalayo sa ambush site at nagpapagaling sa isang ospital. Wala pa ring suspect ang mga pulis at hindi rin alam kung paano magsisimula kung paano madadakip ang mga suspek.

May mga naghagis naman ng tatlong granada sa Sultan Mastura at Mamasapano sa Maguindanao na ikinasugat ng anim na katao. Nagkaroon din ng shooting sa Lagayan, Abra na ikinamatay ng isang barangay tanod at pagkakasugat sa dalawang iba pa. Naganap ang pamamaril ilang oras bago idaos ang election.

Mapayapa ang election pero may mga namatay. Tuwing election ay may nangyayaring kaguluhan at maitatanong kung kailan magkakaroon ng eleksiyon sa bansa na zero casualty. Kailan mag-eeleksiyon na walang aagos na dugo at magbubuwis ng buhay? Ang sagot ay nasa PNP at AFP. Dapat maipakita nila na kaya nilang pigilan ang karahasan.

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Deprived coco farmers as target of NPA extortion an 'open secret'

I CAME across a letter in a back issue of the INQUIRER. Titled "Chance for NPA to prove propoor concern" (Opinion, 12/9/15), the letter highlighted the New People's Army's extortion activities targeting coconut farmers in Camalig, Albay, causing them to live in deeper poverty and fear for years.

This wrongful, unlawful act of the NPA is an open secret in Masbate and it is not an isolated case. There have been a number of commentaries and news items in national broadsheets, local dailies and broadcast media

about NPA extortion.

I hail from the province of Masbate, considered one of the poorest provinces in the country. Aside from too much politics, the unresolved insurgency problem is stunting the province's economic growth. Just like the coconut farmers, some residents of Barangay Mabini, San Jacinto, Masbate, though not direct victims are adversely affected by the NPA's harassment.

Last March 22, 12 NPA rebels forcibly stopped the ongoing dam and irrigation project in my place. If in-

deed they are propeople as they proclaim themselves to be, why then are they doing such barbaric acts that push more Masbateños deeper into the pit of misery?

Coupled with Masbate's violent politics, the farmers-victimizing extortion activities of the NPA make me pity my place, my province, the beautiful island of Masbate. Worse, the impact on the Masbateños who are going to benefit from the project is not one-time but long-term.

—ANDREA BUSTAMANTE,
Baleno, Masbate

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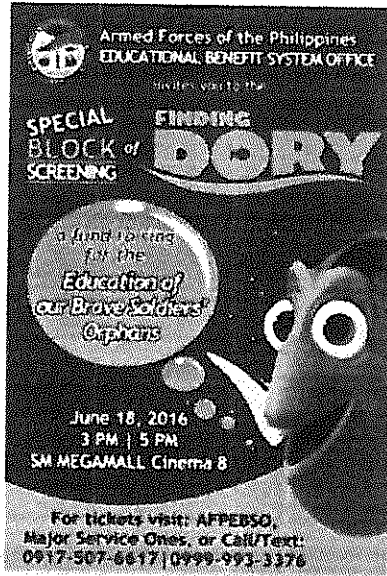
ONLINE NEWS

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Finding Dory block screening to raise funds for soldiers' orphans

By: Lui



Camp Aguinaldo, DWDD — The AFP Educational Benefit System Office is inviting everyone to join its Special Block Screening of Finding Dory, June 18, 2016 (Saturday) 2:30pm and 4:30pm at the SM Megamall Cinema 8.

Limited tickets priced at PhP 500.00 are available at the AFPEBSO in Camp Aguinaldo, and Major Service Ones. Exciting prizes will be given away before the screening.

Proceeds of the activity will contribute to the sustainability of the different educational benefit programs for our brave soldiers' orphans.

Donations and event sponsorship are also welcome! For more information on the sponsorship packages, AFPEBSO can be reached at the following contact details:

Telephone: 912-96-06 | 911-6001 loc 6009

Cell Nr.: 0917-507-6617, 0999-993-3376

Email: afpebso@gmail.com

Facebook: AFP Educational Benefit System Office.

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UNITED SOLCOM | Working as One for the New Commander-in-Chief

By: Alvin Santiago

MANILA (DWDD) – Despite the differences of every member of Team SOLCOM in their preference for the next President of the Republic of the Philippines, at the end of the day, the AFP Southern Luzon Command (SOLCOM) remains strong and united in respecting the voice of the majority.

SOLCOM will and at all times follow the Chain-of-Command, and will recognize, respect and follow whoever emerges as the choice of the majority.

Every soldier, airman, sailor and marine will salute the next President as our leader and Commander-in-Chief. PAO SOLCOM / MCAG

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BANTAY HALALAN 2016 | AFP Monitoring on Election-Related Incidents

By: Alvin Santiago

CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD) – As part of our mission to provide security support and assistance to the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) in the implementation of election laws, rules, and regulations, we are now presenting you updates on our efforts to ensure free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible 2016 National and Local Elections. For the period from 12midnight to 1400H today, 09 May 2016, the AFP National Election Monitoring Center monitored 22 Election Related Violent Incidents (ERVI) which further result to 10 fatalities (killed), and three (3) wounded. This report emanates from our Area Commands stationed all throughout the country.

Among the Area Commands, the AFP Western Mindanao Command (WESMINCOM) who has jurisdiction over western Mindanao area recorded the most number of Election Related Violent Incidents (ERVI) with one (1) ambush, three (3) indiscriminate firing/shooting, one (1) mauling, three (3) shooting incident, three (3) arson, three (3) explosion, and one (1) apprehension. The AFP Central Command (CENTCOM) who has jurisdiction over the Visayas group of islands also reported various incidents which include one (1) harassment, and one (1) apprehension. The AFP Southern Luzon Command (SOLCOM) who has jurisdiction of the Southern Luzon provinces also reported two (2) indiscriminate firing, and one (1) shooting incident. The AFP Northern Luzon Command (NOLCOM)

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who has jurisdiction of Northern Luzon provinces reported one (1) gun fight between two parties vying Mayoralty position, and one (1) apprehension of eight (8) individuals with assorted pistols. As of press time, no monitored Election Related Violent Incidents (ERVI) from three of our Area Commands which are the AFP Western Command (WESCOM), Eastern Mindanao Command (EASTMINCOM) and the Joint Task Force – National Capital Region (JTF NCR). **AES / MCAG / PAO AFP**

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