



# **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**

**25 May 2016**

**Wednesday**

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

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

	<b>Lt. Col. Almagro installed as new 55th IB Commander</b>	Alfonso T. Ruda	<a href="http://www.news.pia.gov.ph">www.news.pia.gov.ph</a>
	<b>Army colonel named Duterte's senior military adviser</b>	Jaime Sinapit	<a href="http://www.interaksyon.com">www.interaksyon.com</a>
29-31	<b>Incoming PSG chief, tiniyak ang seguridad ni Duterte</b>	Analy Soberano	<a href="http://www.bomboradyo.com">www.bomboradyo.com</a>
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	<b>AFP needs public support to thwart Abu Sayyaf, terror threats</b>	ALT/DIS/PIA9	<a href="http://www.news.pia.gov.ph">www.news.pia.gov.ph</a>
	<b>Militar ikinatuwa ang bagong video ng 3 Samal kidnap victims, proof of life</b>	Analy Soberano	<a href="http://www.bomboradyo.com">www.bomboradyo.com</a>
32-33	<b>Names for 3 PN LCHs now ready, waiting for approval</b>	BNB/PFN	<a href="http://www.pna.gov.ph">www.pna.gov.ph</a>
	<b>(Feature) 3 oldest living WWII Filipino veterans to celebrate Veterans Week</b>	Ben Cal	<a href="http://www.pna.gov.ph">www.pna.gov.ph</a>



## 24-HOUR PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST

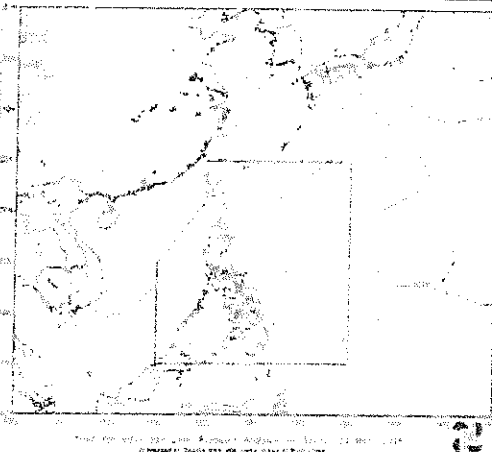
ISSUED AT: 5:00 PM 24 MAY 2016

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

**SYNOPSIS: SOUTHWEST MONSOON AFFECTING THE WESTERN SECTION OF LUZON. TAIL-END OF A COLD FRONT AFFECTING THE EASTERN SECTION OF NORTHERN LUZON.**

**FORECAST:** CLOUDY SKIES WITH LIGHT TO MODERATE RAINS AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS WILL BE EXPERIENCED OVER METRO MANILA, ILOCOS REGION, CENTRAL LUZON, CALABARZON AND THE PROVINCES OF BATANES, CAGAYAN AND MINDORO. PARTLY CLOUDY TO CLOUDY SKIES WITH ISOLATED RAINSHOWERS OR THUNDERSTORMS WILL PREVAIL OVER THE REST OF THE COUNTRY.

LIGHT TO MODERATE WINDS BLOWING FROM THE SOUTH TO SOUTHWEST WILL PREVAIL OVER LUZON AND COMING FROM THE SOUTHEAST TO SOUTH OVER THE REST OF THE COUNTRY. THE COASTAL WATERS THROUGHOUT THE ARCHIPELAGO WILL BE SLIGHT TO MODERATE.



**PAGTAYA:** MAULAP NA KALANGITAN NA MAY MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG MGA PAG-ULAN AT PULU-PULONG PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG ANG MARARANASAN SA KAMAYNILAAN, REHIYON NG ILOCOS, GITNANG LUZON, CALABARZON AT SA MGA LALAWIGAN NG BATANES, CAGAYAN AT MINDORO. BAHAGYANG MAULAP HANGGANG SA MAULAP NA PAPAIRIN NA MAY PULU-PULONG MGA PAG-ULAN O PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG ANG IIRAL SA NALALABING BAHAGI NG BANSA.

MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG HANGIN MULA SA TIMOG HANGGANG SA TIMOG-KANLURAN ANG IIRAL SA LUZON AT MULA NAMAN SA TIMOG-SILANGAN HANGGANG SA TIMOG SA NATITIRANG BAHAGI NG BANSA. ANG MGA BAYBAYING DAGAT SA BUONG KAPULUAN AY MAGIGING BANAYAD HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMAN ANG PAG-ALON.

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

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE: 12:20 PM TODAY --- 33.4°C		MAXIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 6:00 AM TODAY --- 94 %	
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE: 6:00 AM TODAY --- 26.0°C		MINIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 1:00 PM TODAY --- 55 %	
TIDAL PREDICTIONS ALONG MANILA BAY (Courtesy of NAMRIA)		OVER METRO MANILA:	
LOW TIDE TODAY: 7:11 PM ..... -0.10 METER		SUNRISE / SUNSET	MOONRISE / MOONSET AND ILLUMINATION
HIGH TIDE TOMORROW: 2:07 AM ..... 0.38 METER		SUNSET TODAY: 6:19 PM	MOONRISE TODAY: 8:21 PM
LOW TIDE TOMORROW: 3:03 AM ..... 0.38 METER		SUNRISE TOMORROW: 5:26 AM	MOONSET TOMORROW: 8:04 AM
HIGH TIDE TOMORROW: 11:33 AM ..... 1.13 METERS		SUNSET TOMORROW: 6:20 PM	ILLUMINATION TODAY: 96 %

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

PREPARED BY: **BUNE**

CHECKED BY: **MPM**



















































































REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Department of Science and Technology  
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and  
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Weather Division  
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Rev. 1/05-06-2010











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

ISSUED AT: 5:00 PM 24 MAY 2016

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

CITIES	24-Hr Weather, Winds and Sea Condition Forecast <i>from 5PM today until 5PM tomorrow</i>		Extended Weather Outlook <i>Duration: 5PM until 5PM of the following day</i>			
	24 MAY		25 MAY	26 MAY	27 MAY	28 MAY
Metro Manila	 26°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: South - Southwest Manila Bay: Slight to Moderate	 26°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C	 26°C 34°C	 26°C 34°C
Tuguegarao City	 24°C 35°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest	 25°C 36°C	 25°C 36°C	 25°C 35°C	 25°C 35°C
Laoag City	 25°C 32°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 33°C	 24°C 34°C	 24°C 34°C
Baguio City	 17°C 24°C	Light to Moderate: Southwest	 17°C 24°C	 16°C 24°C	 17°C 24°C	 17°C 24°C
SBMA (Olongapo) / Clark Zone (Angeles City)	 25°C 32°C	Light to Moderate: South - Southwest Subic Bay: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 32°C	 25°C 33°C	 24°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C
Tagaytay City	 23°C 30°C	Light to Moderate: South - Southwest	 23°C 31°C	 23°C 31°C	 23°C 31°C	 24°C 31°C
Lipa City	 24°C 32°C	Light to Moderate: South - Southwest	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	 24°C 33°C	 23°C 33°C
Legazpi City	 26°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: South Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 26°C 33°C	 26°C 32°C	 26°C 33°C	 27°C 33°C
Puerto Princesa City	 27°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: South Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 27°C 32°C	 26°C 33°C	 26°C 33°C	 26°C 34°C
Iloilo City / Bacolod City	 26°C 34°C	Light to Moderate: South Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 26°C 34°C	 26°C 34°C	 25°C 35°C	 25°C 34°C
Metro Cebu	 26°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: South Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 34°C	 26°C 34°C	 26°C 33°C	 26°C 33°C
Tacloban City	 25°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: South Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 31°C	 25°C 33°C	 26°C 33°C	 26°C 32°C
Cagayan de Oro City	 24°C 32°C	Light to Moderate: South Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 24°C 31°C	 24°C 32°C	 24°C 32°C	 24°C 33°C
Valencia City	 20°C 32°C	Light to Moderate: South	 21°C 30°C	 21°C 32°C	 21°C 33°C	 22°C 32°C
Metro Davao	 26°C 33°C	Light to Moderate: Southeast - South Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 26°C 33°C	 26°C 33°C	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C
Zamboanga City	 25°C 34°C	Light to Moderate: Southeast - South Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 35°C	 25°C 34°C	 25°C 34°C

**LEGEND:**

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

END OF FORECAST

PREPARED BY: BJNE

CHECKED BY: MPM

"Tracking the sky... helping the country"

WTFC BIR Road Dikman, Quezon City

Tel/Fax: +6329271541

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25 May 2016



Page: 1

## Pagasa declares onset of rainy season

By HELEN FLORES

It's official: the rainy season is here. nouncing the onset of the wet season.

Unlike in previous years, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) did not wait for its criteria to be met before an-

"Yes, the rainy season is here," Anthony Lucero, PAGASA assistant weather services chief, said in a press conference yesterday.

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## Pagasa From Page 1

"We don't need to finish all the observations before we announce it. We are doing this because we are estimating that in the next two to three days, there will be more rains," he said.

Lucero also noted that the wind is now blowing from the southwest.

PAGASA's criteria in declaring the onset of the rainy season include the prevalence of the southwest monsoon and rainfall of 25 millimeters in at least five out of eight PAGASA stations for five consecutive days.

The PAGASA officials clarified that the onset of the rainy season applies only for areas under the Type 1 climate. These include the National Capital Region, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Bulacan, Bataan, Pampanga, Zambales, Tarlac, Palawan, Mindoro, Cavite and Batangas.

Esperanza Cayanan, PAGASA weather division chief, noted that rains in the past days have triggered flooding in several areas, including Metro Manila.

"Before, we would wait for five days to meet the required 25 mm of rain, but because we have seen the impact of the rains in past few days, we decided to announce it in advance," Cayanan said.

### Excessive rain

Lucero also reiterated the possible development of a La Niña condition during the monsoon season.

"We are still under El Niño but we expect this will end at the end of July. From then, there will be a neutral condition. By the end of August, that is the time La Niña is expected to develop," he said.

Lucero warned of possible landslide and flooding as La Niña is expected to bring above normal rainfall over the eastern section of the country by the last quarter of the year until early 2017.

He said these areas include Isabela, Quirino, Quezon, Bicol region, Samar, Leyte, Surigao, Agusan, Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental.

25 May 2016



Page: 1

## ***Duterte harangue: Bishops pray for healing, peace***

By EVELYN MACAIRAN

The Catholic Church has sinners, but it also has saints, and it will take more than a Rodrigo Duterte to bring down the faith.

This was the response

of several prelates to tirades by incoming president Rodrigo Duterte against the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP).

Turn to Page 8

## **Duterte** From Page 1

which had warned the nation against voting for "morally reprehensible" candidates.

While no candidate was identified, Duterte felt alluded to and described the Church as a "hypocritical institution."

Amid Duterte's continuing harangue, Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Socrates Villegas yesterday led the CBCP in praying for healing and reconciliation.

Villegas, president of the CBCP, led 47 other bishops in prayer during the ordination of Fr. Enrique Macaraeg, incoming bishop of the Diocese

of Tarlac.

Villegas offered prayers for reconciliation and healing but there was no mention of Duterte.

A ranking official of the Diocese of Legazpi City in the Bicol region, meanwhile, agreed with the statements of Duterte branding the Catholic Church as a "hypocritical institution."

"There are also leaders who are hypocrites as there are sinners and upright members inside this Church," Fr. Rex Arjuna said.

Arjuna, however, argued the Catholic Church as a mystical body of Jesus Christ is not a

hypocritical organization.

"The Catholic Church is not teeming with hypocrites that he is even welcome inside as one of the hypocrites," Arjuna said.

Former Lingayen-Dagupan archbishop Oscar Cruz agrees with Duterte and he said he is not the first person to challenge the stability of the Catholic Church.

"The Church has undergone many trials and difficulties in 2,000 years. But don't worry, the Church will continue, on and on and on. So, it may be good for the good mayor and incoming president to know these things," Cruz said.

He said Duterte alone would not be able to topple down the Catholic Church that has existed

for more than 2,000 years.

"The Church will remain unmoved. The churchmen will be there... that is with or without him (Duterte) being relevant in this issue. Since the Church has been founded 2,000 years ago, it has undergone a lot of challenges. It will take much more than him (to bring the Church down)," he said.

Duterte over the weekend said Catholic Church leaders should not hold themselves morally superior because their "hypocritical institution" has a long history of wrongdoing.

Cruz, however, said the Church and the clergy have never claimed that its members are "saints" and incapable of

misbehavior. He even admitted that some of its members are known to have erred by having sired children or have lovers.

"Some of us are really not only sinful, but we also fall from a lot of mistakes and even excesses... There are bad priests, there are bad bishops," he added.

He also suggested to the incoming chief executive that instead of debating over the "sins of the Catholic Church," Duterte should bring the matter before the CBCP.

"There is a built-in mechanism to see to it that churchmen keep their promises and, wherefore, if they violate them, the Church will also impose penalty according to Church

laws," he said.

Cruz also suggested to Duterte to widen his perspectives, instead of limiting his concerns on a particular issue.

He hopes that once the Davao City mayor assumes his post as president of the Philippines "he would already put in his concerns the welfare of the entire country, not just about the Church and priests who committed mistakes.

"He really needs to widen his thinking so that the welfare of the entire country would be looked into and given, at the very least, good socio-economic development," Cruz said. - **With Celso Amo, Eva Visperas, Alexis Romero**

25 May 2016

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

Page: 14

# Army takes over Zambo security from MBLT-9

By **NONOY E. LACSON**

**ZAMBOANGA CITY** — Task Force Zamboanga (TFZ) Commander Col. Juvymax Uy yesterday confirmed the transfer of the Marine Battalion Landing Team – 9 (MBLT 9) from Zamboanga City to Task Force Tawi-Tawi, which guards the country's southern borders with Malaysia and Indonesia.

Uy said the Marine battalion in Zamboanga City has been pulled out and deployed to Tawi-Tawi.

Uy explained that the "MBLT 9 was pulled out because the Marines are a national maneuver force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) so their capabilities are needed to join Task Force Tawi-Tawi to guard borders with Malaysia and Indonesia."

The MBLT 9 has been replaced by the Army's 21st Infantry Battalion

whose forces have now occupied all positions vacated by the Marines in this city, Uy said.

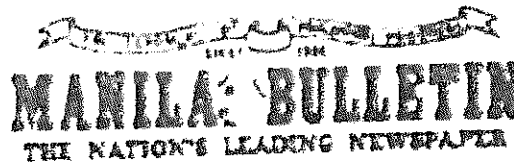
The Marine troops were deployed to Zamboanga City during the September 2013 siege.

First to be deployed was the Marine Battalion Landing Team 1 (MBLT 1), and was later replaced by the MBLT 9.

The TFZ Commander also assured the people in this city of the capability of the Army troops in securing Zamboanga City against lawless elements.

"I'd like to assure the people of Zamboanga City, don't worry. The armed forces, the Marines has its own capability, the army battalion has its own capability. There are some security concerns that the army battalion could be fully utilized in Zamboanga City," Uy emphasized.

15 May 2016



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## Army gets new military trucks from South Korea

By RUEL Saldico

NAGA CITY, Camarines Sur — The Philippine Army (PA) in Bicol acquired an additional 35 brand-new KM450 military trucks and a KM451 field ambulance, which will be distributed in Infantry Brigades and Battalions in the region.

Major General Ferdinand F. Quidilla, commander of the 9th Infantry Division, said the acquisition of military trucks amounting to ₱2.7 million each is part of the Capability Development Upgrade Program of the PA.

Quidilla said, the new acquired military trucks purchased by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) from South Korea is also part of the Aquino administration's Army Transformation Roadmap which envisions to have a respected, professional and fully-equipped soldiers in Southeast Asia that can address both internal and external threats.

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 645-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

**NEW TRUCKS**

— Major General Ferdinand F. Quidilla, commander of the 9th Infantry Division, and other army soldiers join the blessing of the 35 brand-new KM450 military trucks acquired by the Armed Forces of the Philippines from South Korea at Camp Elias Angeles in Pili, Camarines Sur, yesterday. (Ruel Saldico)



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Army Core Purpose: Serving the people, Securing the land

26 May 2016



Pahina. 7

## **4 sundalo sugatan sa BIFF**

Apat na sundalo ng Peace Development Team ang nasugatan makaraang ratratin ng mga kalalakihang miyembro ng Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) sa Barangay Datal Blao, bayan ng Columbio, Sultan Kudarat noong Lunes ng gabi.

Sa inisyal na ulat, kinilala ang mga nasugatang sundalo sa mga apelyido lamang na Pfc. Besande, Sgt. Sarmiento, Pfc. Martel at si Pfc. Bocala.

Bandang alas-10 ng gabi

nang pagbabarilin ng mga BIFF fighters ang mga sundalo ng Peace Development Team 4 at Team 5 sa nasabing lugar.

Sa kabila ng sorpresang pag-atake ay mabilis namang nagdependa ang mga sundalong bantay sa nasabing himpilan na nakipagpalitan ng putok sa umaataakeng kalaban.

Ang palitan ng putok ay tumagal ng hanggang alas-3:30 ng madaling araw ng Martes bago nagsitakas ang

mga kalaban tangay ang mga nalagas sa kabaro.

Nagsasagawa na ng clearing operations ang militar at pulisya kaugnay ng posibleng nakatanim na landmine sa nasabing lugar.

**Joy Cantos**

25 May 2016

# The Standard

Page 43

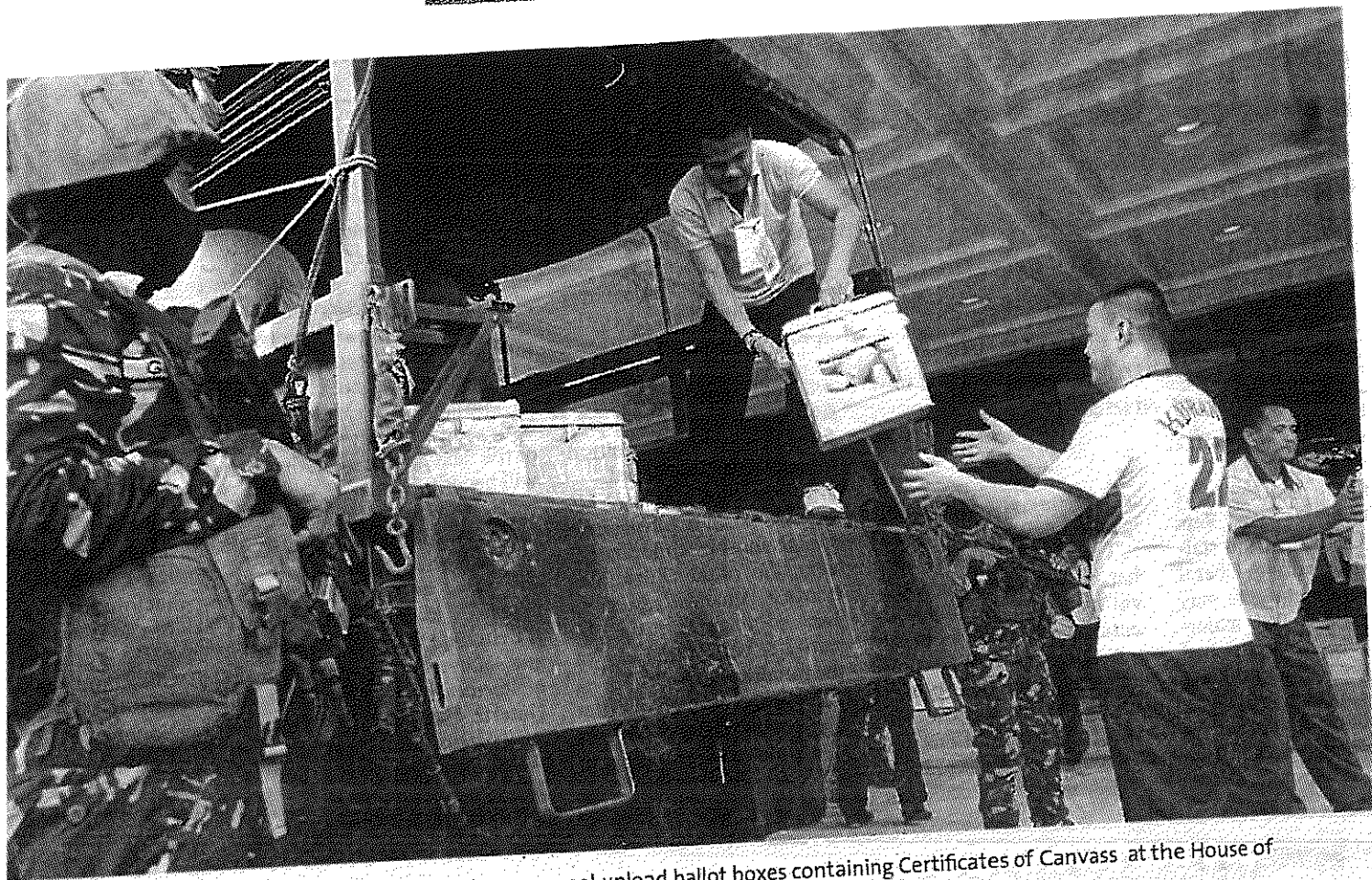


**House-bound.** A convoy of trucks from the Philippine Army carrying Certificates of Canvass traverse Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City on Tuesday on the way to the House of Representatives for the start of the bicameral vote counting today. **DANNY PATA**

26 May 2016

# The Standard

Page 15

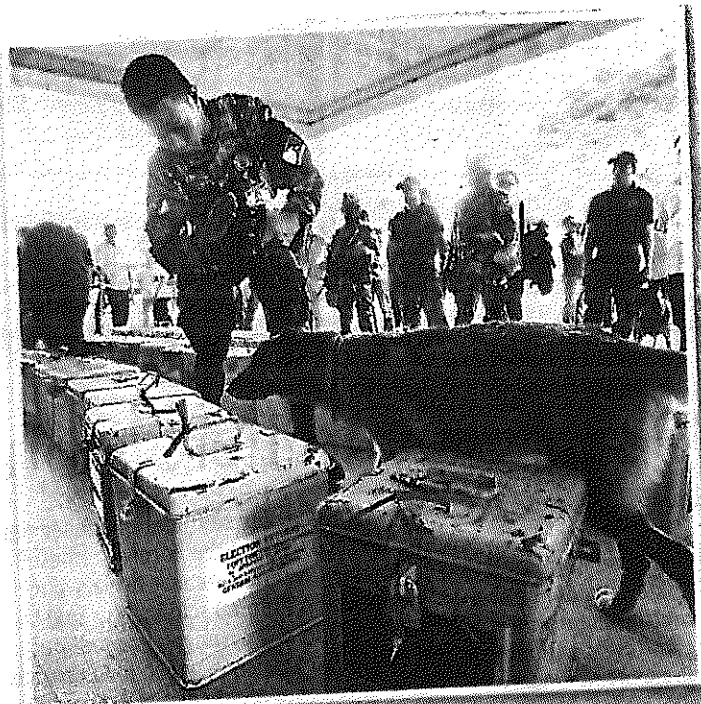


**nal count.** With soldiers keeping watch, Comelec personnel unload ballot boxes containing Certificates of Canvass at the House of representatives for the final canvassing. **MANNY PALMERO**

25 May 2016

THE TIMES 1945 1946  
**MANILA BULLETIN**  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 1

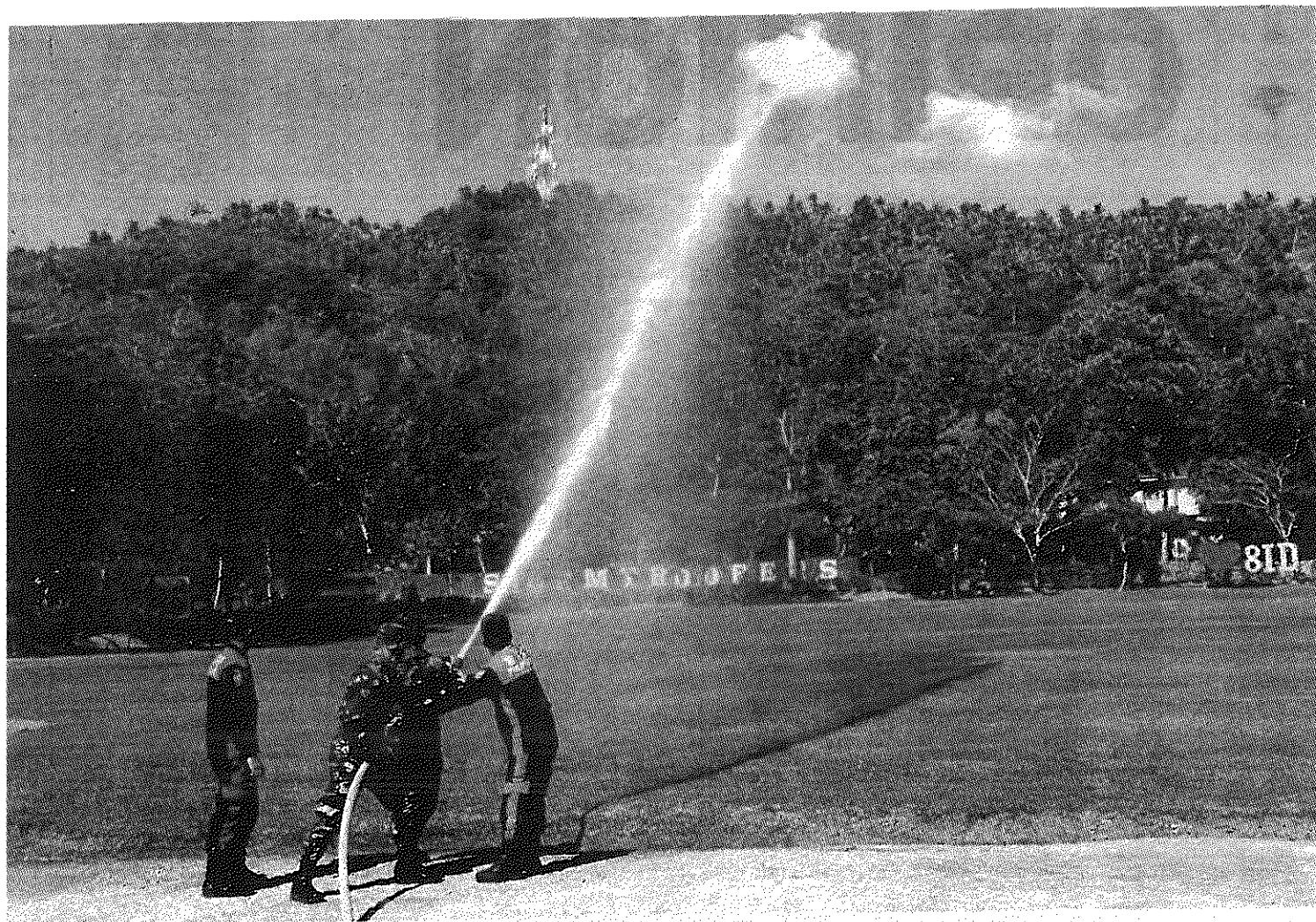


**HIGH-RISK MISSION**— Even before dawn breaks, armored personnel carriers escort eight military trucks delivering the ballot boxes to the Batasan Pambansa in Quezon City for the start of the national canvassing of votes for president and vice president, yesterday. Inset, a bomb-sniffing dog makes the standard security check before the boxes are brought in to the plenary session hall. (Jun Ryan Arañas and Federico Cruz)

24 May 2016

# The Standard

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I. Officers of the 8th Infantry Division of the Philippine Army in Camp Maulong, Catbalogan City, undergo a fire drill and rescue training. MEL CASPE

25 May 2016

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

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# Incoming PSG chief, Davao police meet on Duterte security plan

DAVAO CITY - The incoming head of the Presidential Security Group (PSG) met with members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) here yesterday to craft a security plan for the incoming President Rodrigo Duterte.

Col. Rolando Bautista held a closed-door meeting with Police Regional Office (PRO) 11 Director Manuel Gaerlan to discuss the security measures while Duterte stays in the city before the official oath-taking in Malacañang on June 30.

Bautista is currently the commander of the 104th Brigade based in Basilan. He said the security measures will be presented to Duterte first for adjustment.

He also pointed out that the implementation of the security measures is

important considering that Duterte will soon assume as the next highest leader of the country.

Bautista said the PSG follows protocol for the president although Duterte is known to many as "hands-on" on his safety as he despises security tailing him every time he is out of the house.

Bautista said he expects changes but what is important is "we have to secure the President." He is also aware that Duterte visits rebel areas and this is part of their adjustment.

Asked if Duterte needs to adjust with the protocols of the PSG, Bautista said they should be the one who should adjust, as long as the security of the President is not at stake. (PNA)

96 May 2016

# The Standard

Page A3

## Duterte discusses more plans

DAVAO CITY—Incoming President Rodrigo Duterte on Monday admitted thinking twice about appointing long-time confidante Salvador Panelo as his “temporary” press secretary following the negative reactions to it.

Duterte also warned he would disband the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Bureau of Customs and Land Transportation Office, the “most corrupt” government agencies.

He also bared his plan to place former military men in “sensitive” government agencies that are prone to corruption.

Meanwhile, Duterte has picked Army Col. Louie Dagoy, a member of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1987, as his senior military adviser.

Dagoy told **The Standard** he had been informed about

his appointment.

“Higher headquarters has already informed me about it. It’s an honor to serve President-elect Duterte,” Dagoy said.

He is the chief of staff of Eastern Mindanao Command chief Lt. Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero.

Duterte, who admitted he solely relies on “gut feel” in choosing Cabinet appointees, told reporters he would introduce someone who could be press secretary if the members of the media wanted him to get another.

“I’ll introduce to you one if he has the qualifications,” Duterte said in a press briefing at the Legazpi Suites here.

“I’ll introduce him to you if [Salvador] Panelo doesn’t want the position.”

The National Union of Journalists of the Philip-

pines and the National Press Club on Thursday expressed “serious misgivings” about the appointment of Panelo, the former legal counsel of the Ampatuans, the main suspects in the 2009 Maguindanao Massacre case, as Duterte’s spokesman.

Earlier, Duterte had defended Panelo because he trusted him and knew him well.

He then joked he would appoint Panelo as ambassador to the Port of St. James in England, but “Panelo is not fit to be an ambassador.”

The negative perception against Panelo began when he was counsel for the Ampatuan clan and he was quoted as saying in 2014 that the charges against his clients were “fabricated.” **John Paolo Bencito and Florante S. Solmerin**

25 May 2016

# INQUIRER

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## Abu hostages beg Duterte to save them

By Julie M. Aurelio

THE FOREIGNERS taken by the Abu Sayyaf off Samal Island last year asked presumptive President-elect Rodrigo Duterte to save them from beheading on June 13.

In the latest video uploaded on the Internet by the bandit group, the two foreigners made the appeal to Duterte, as their governments seemed to have abandoned them to their fate.

A Filipino woman was also taken by the Abu Sayyaf along with the foreigners.

Canadian Robert Hall asked the tough-talking Davao City mayor to work for their release, "the sooner, the better" as they were "three-quarters dead."

"I'm going to address my remarks to you (Duterte). I'd appreciate it if you can do what you can to get us out of here," an emaciated Hall said, adding that the Canadian government had apparently left him to his fate.

The video, uploaded on May 22, was the latest in a series of videos by the Abu Sayyaf demanding P300 million each for the release of the two foreigners.

The spokesperson of the Armed Forces of the Philippines had no comment on the video.

"We will issue a statement (later), as we prefer to work on this. Hopefully, we will get results soon once a decisive engagement has been made in the area," said Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla.

AFP public affairs office chief Col. Noel Detoyato said the video could be taken as an update on the status of the victims.

"The AFP's operations will continue and we will not stop until ... normalcy is restored. We will not stop until they (victims) are rescued and the kidnappers are brought to justice," Detoyato said.

Detoyato said the military would never negotiate with the suspects or pay the ransom as it would only embolden the bandits to carry out more kidnappings.

"We will endeavor to make this kidnapping business unprofitable to them (suspects)," he said.

In the past, the military would appeal to the public not to share videos of the Abu Sayyaf beheading or threatening hostages, as it would only dignify the terrorist group's actions.

The AFP has repeatedly assured the public that it is doing all it can to rescue the hostages, through continuing focused military operations in Western Mindanao that started last year.

May 2016

**Malaya**  
The National Newspaper

Page: 36

# Abu Sayyaf captives ask for Duterte's help

BY VICTOR REYES

THE Armed Forces yesterday said government forces are exerting efforts to rescue the remaining Samal kidnap victims being held by the Abu Sayyaf Group in the island-province of Sulu.

Col. Noel Detoyato, chief of the military's public information office, made the pronouncement after the Abu Sayyaf released last Sunday another video of the victims, this time appealing to incoming president Duterte to secure their freedom.

"We will not stop until they are rescued and the kidnappers are brought to justice," said Detoyato of the three victims – Canadian Robert Hall, Norwegian Kjartan Sekkingstad and Filipina Marites Flor.

They were abducted from a posh resort in Samal Island in Davao del Norte in September last year. Their companion, Canadian John Ridsdel, was beheaded by the Abu Sayyaf last

April 25 after authorities failed to pay P300 million for each of the victims.

In an earlier video, the Abu Sayyaf threatened to execute Hall at 3 p.m. of June 13 if the ransom is not paid.

Detoyato said the government will not negotiate and pay ransom to secure the freedom of the kidnap victims "because every time they (Abu Sayyaf) get money, it emboldens them to do more kidnapping."

In the latest video, Hall is shown telling Duterte he would "appreciate if you can do what you can to get us out of here," adding "it appears that my government has abandoned me and my family in this endeavor."

"I came to your beautiful country in good faith and in peace, and here I am," said Hall.

He said Duterte can communicate with the Abu Sayyaf, through one June who he said can be reached at the Canadian embassy.

Hall said they are guarded by about 100 heavily-armed men that "dictate to us and talk to us like children." He said he and his fellow kidnap victims are "humiliated in every way possible."

"One of us has already been murdered," Hall said, referring to Ridsdel. "We hope that you can work on our behalf as soon as possible to get us out of here. Please, the sooner the better. We're three-quarters dead right now," he also said.

For his part, Sekkingstad said: "I'd like to appeal to the Norwegian government, the Canadian government, the Filipino government and President Duterte, please try to help us."

"Contact this group, through June, at the Canadian Embassy and try to negotiate with this group. We will be executed on June 13 at three o'clock unless there is an agreement made with this group," added Sekkingstad.

– With Raymond Africa

25 May 2016

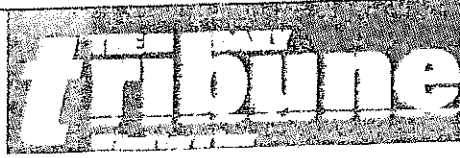
MANILA BULLETIN  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 4

• **ASG linked to 27 kidnappings falls**

Police arrested a 44-year-old Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) member linked to the kidnapping of up to 27 people in an operation launched by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) in Taguig City. Director Victor Deona, who heads the CIDG, said the arrest of Sakur Mustakim who uses the aliases Junior Mustakim and Junio Asarani Sawadjaan, materialized after his office received an intelligence report on the suspect's whereabouts. Mustakim carries a reward of ₱900,000, said Deona. Yesterday, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) assured that all efforts are being exerted to rescue the remaining kidnap victims in the clutches of the ASG. The AFP statement was released after the bandit group put out a "final" video message of Norwegian national Kjartan Sekkingstad, Canadian national Robert Hall and Filipina Marites Flor who were seized from a posh resort in Samal Island last year. (Aaron B. Recuenco and Elena L. Aben)

25 May 2016



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## Wescom saddened by arrest of Filipino fishermen in WPS

By Mario J. Mallari

Instead of protecting Filipinos venturing into West Philippine Sea, the military's Western Command (Wescom) could only expressed sadness on the ordeal suffered by local fishermen from Malaysian authorities after being caught fishing near Rizal Reef.

This, after Filipino fishermen were reportedly physically harmed by Malaysian authorities after being arrested while fishing near Philippine-occupied Rizal Reef in the disputed West Philippine Sea.

The Filipinos, aboard *F/B Justin Lloyd*, were initially ordered by Malaysian Navy to move away from the area at gun point. However, the local fishermen tried to show the Malaysians their documents only to be arrested, handcuffed and physically harmed.

The Filipinos were subsequently turned over to Philippine authorities stationed on Rizal Reef by the Malaysians.

In a statement, Capt. Cherryll Tindog, spokesman for Wescom, confirmed the turnover of the Filipinos.

"The Western Command is saddened by the incident involving

our fellow Filipinos, that happened about 18NM (nautical miles) southwest of Rizal Reef in West Philippine Sea," Tindog said.

"Upon arrival at the Rizal Reef Detachment on May 9, 2016, our troops stationed thereat, received the fishermen from Malaysian nationals, and immediately provided the necessary assistance, support, means of transportation and medical attention," she added.

According to Tindog, the Wescom made the necessary report and communicated same to the concerned government agencies to immediately address the situation.

"While this situation is being dealt with by the concerned government agencies, Wescom shall continue to perform its mandated tasks at the frontlines in support to our national government's action on the prevailing situation in the West Philippine Sea involving other claimant countries," Tindog said.

Tindog said that diplomatic and policy-related concerns should be directed to the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

"For diplomatic and policy-related actions of our government about this incident, we refer you to DFA," Tindog said.

24 May 2016

BusinessMirror

Page. 44

# Mandatory military training: Is it time?

By Fil V. ELEFANTE @elefantefil

## Conclusion

**I**N 2001 a murder turned the system of maintaining a trained pool of manpower for the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) upside down.

The victim was Mark Welson Chua Jr., a cadet sergeant from the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Reserved Officers' Training Corps (ROTC).

His corpse was recovered from the Pa-

sig River on March 18, 2001. Nine months later, then-President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed a law removing the completion of military training as a prerequisite to obtaining a college degree.

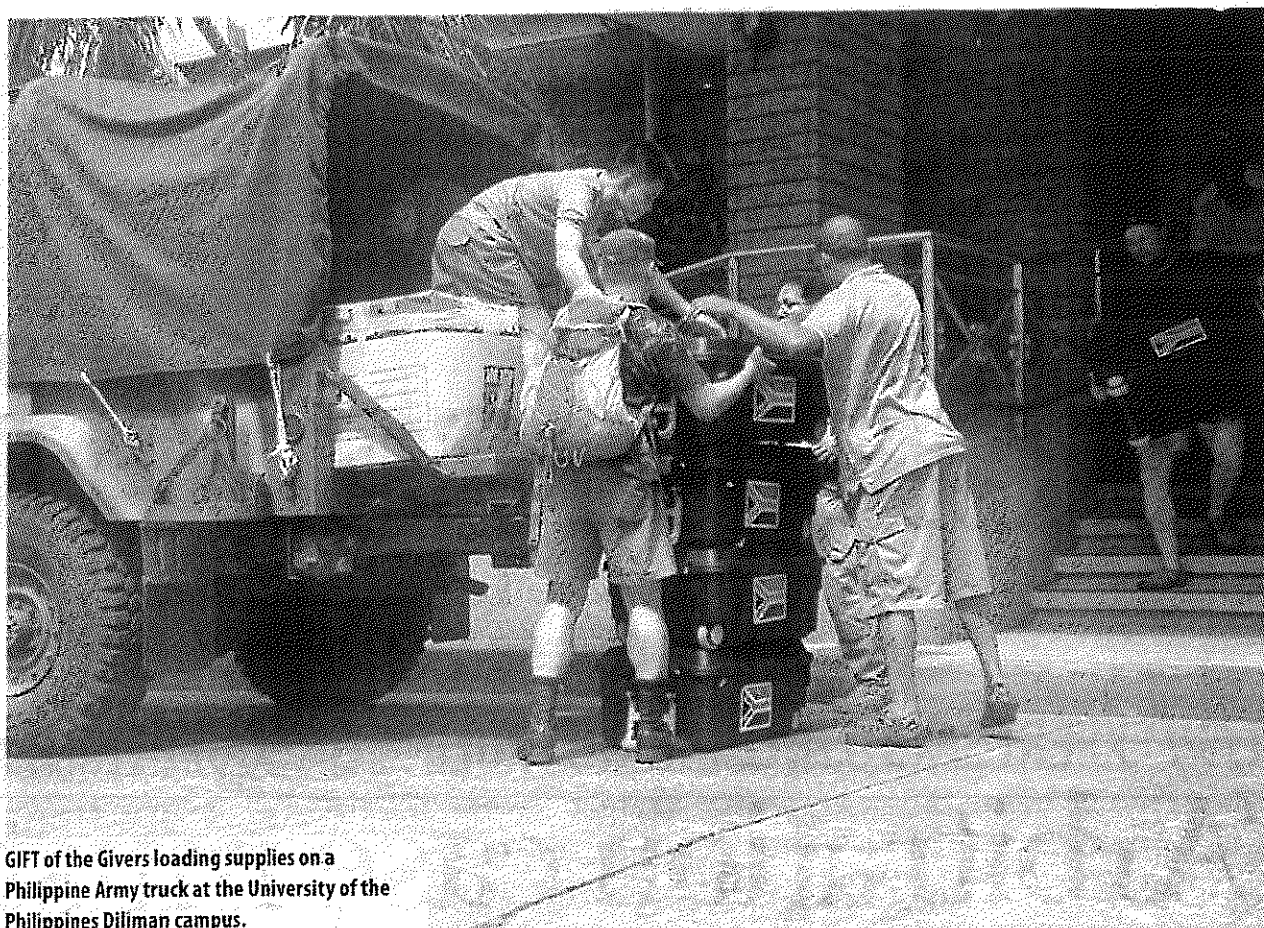
## Aftermath of a murder

ACCORDING to records, two UST engineering students took the extraordinary step of actually filing a formal report alleging instances of corruption within the university's ROTC system in

December 2000. The report filed by the two students, Chua and Romulo Yumol, was accepted and investigated by the National Capital Region-Regional Community Defense Group.

The school organ *The Varsitarian* also obtained a copy of the report filed by Chua and Yumol and published an article on the alleged bribery, extortion and hazing occurring with the UST ROTC system.

CONTINUED ON A2



**GIFT of the Givers loading supplies on a Philippine Army truck at the University of the Philippines Diliman campus.**

CONTINUED FROM A1

Because of the complaint, the commandant of the said ROTC unit, then-Maj. Demy Tejares and his staff, were relieved of their duties, pending investigation. As a result of the controversy in UST, Tejares's promotion was delayed. Eventually, he was given "command clearance."

Today, Tejares is a major general in the AFP and is currently assigned as deputy commander of the military's Task Force Zambasulta (Zamboanga, Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi).

Another officer, Capt. Rodolfo Batang, was assigned as commandant for the UST ROTC system in January. Batang is now a Lt. Colonel. *The Varsitarian* promptly published a chronicle of these events.

On March 16 Chua's family reported that he was missing. His decomposing corpse was recovered two days later from the murky waters of the Pasig River.

Investigation showed shoelaces were used to bind Chua's hands, while duct tape was used to cover his face and restrain his feet. Police said he was murdered.

Because of the articles published in *The Varsitarian*, certain groups blamed the UST ROTC as responsible for Chua's murder.

The outcry resulted in an agreement between then-AFP chief of staff Gen. Diomedio Villanueva and Education, Culture and Sports Secretary Raul Roco to work together to scrap compulsory mili-

tary training in schools on April 30, 2001.

Chua later posthumously received the Outstanding Achievement Medal in June. It is the sixth-highest ranked medal in the country. According to *The Varsitarian*, the award was given in recognition of Chua's "public service as a cadet sergeant major of the UST Golden Corps of cadets and as a member of the School Intelligence Network of the ROTC, where he performed with dedication and commitment and, at times, without regard to his personal safety."

### National Service Training Program

ROCO'S recommendation was acted upon in Congress a month after Chua's murder, when Rep. Plaridel M. Abaya filed the National Service Training Program (NSTP) bill. Essentially, this was a rehash of Presidential Decree (PD) 1706 issued by then-President Ferdinand E. Marcos in August 8, 1980.

Under the Marcos decree, which was also called the national-service law, the term "national service" replaced the phrase "military training" used under the National Defense Act of 1935. Students can opt to fulfill their national-service requirements through either of three programs—military training, law enforcement service or civil-welfare service.

PD 1706 was later superseded

by Republic Act (RA) 7077, or the Citizens Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservist Act of 1991.

The law on compulsory military training for students in colleges in universities prevailing at the time of Chua's murder was RA 7077.

By October of 2001, investigators have narrowed down the suspects behind Chua's murder. They were identified as Arnulfo Aparri, Michael von Rainard



### **The number of suspects in the murder of Mark Welson Chua Jr., a cadet sergeant from the University of the Santo Tomas Reserved Officers Training Corps**

Manangbao, Paul Joseph Tan, Eduardo Tabrilla, Francisco Suelto and Jeremy Dunuan. All were cadet officers of the UST ROTC.

Eventually, Suelto and Dunuan became state witnesses, while Appari was later convicted of murder. Appari is currently serving a life sentence.

Tabrilla was arrested and convicted of homicide in 2006. He is due to complete his prison term in 2020. The other two suspects, Manangbao and Tan, are still at large.

As the orchestrated outcry against ROTC continued, it was announced in November 2001 that the counterpart Senate bill for the NSTP was about to be passed.

Two months later, on January 23, 2002, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed RA 9163. The NSTP was now the law of the land. The NSTP law amended Section 35 of Commonwealth Act 1, Executive Order 207 of 1939, Sections 2 and 3 of PD 1706, and Sections 38 and 39 of RA 7077.

### **NSTP: Since 2002**

THE NSTP has been existence for the past 14 years.

Was it successful in the providing the country with a ready pool of trained Filipinos that the government can mobilize in case of dire emergency?

Under Section 11 of RA 9163, the NSTP was supposed to provide for the creation of a "National Service Reserve Corps [NSRC], to be composed of the graduates of the non-ROTC components. Members of this Corps may be tapped by the state for literacy and civic-welfare activities, through the joint effort of the Department of National Defense, the Commission on Higher Education [CHED], and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority."

For at least 8 years since the NSTP was enacted, no concrete steps were taken to turn the NSRC into reality. This NSRC existed only in the pages of the NSTP law and its implementing rules and regulation, which was issued in 2006.

It took the advocates of the "abolish mandatory ROTC" just 10 months to have the NSTP law enacted. There was a sense of ur-

gency to remove mandatory military training and emasculate the reserve force that relied upon this training program.

But there was no accompanying sense of urgency when it took nearly a decade before any steps were taken to shore up the lack of organized reserves that the government can tap in the event of an emergency.

The proponents of the NSTP did succeed in removing the impetus that was behind the corruption that occurred in the ROTC program.

However, another problem was created. The creation of the NSTP caused a “catastrophic drop” in ROTC enrollment, which resulted in a critical lack of reservists and reservist officers in the Reserve Force components of the AFP.

Five years after the NSTP was enacted, the available organized reserve manpower pool for Metro Manila fell from over a hundred thousand to just a few thousands.

The NSRC, which was supposed to create a new organized pool of trained personnel that can be mobilized for the state, was nonexistent. It was only after the passage of RA 10121, or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, when actual steps were taken to form the NSRC.

Under the RA 10121, the NSRC found an actual purpose. The members of the NSRC could now supposedly be tapped and mobilized as part of the disaster relief, mitigation and reduction activities.

In the University of the Philippines (UP), it was only in June 20, 2013, when an NSTP office for the Diliman campus was formally created, 11 years since the NSTP was created. UP is credited with pioneering the mandatory training of college students in the Philippines when the Department of Military Science and Tactics was created in 1922.

As for the CHED, it was only in August 15 last year when the CHED finally got around to issuing the guidelines for issuing serial numbers to the graduates of the nonmilitary component of the NSTP. This would be part of setting up and maintaining a centralized NSRC Reservist database, which will be maintained by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. This database is supposed to be updated regularly by the NSTP offices throughout the country.

### Operation Mercy Trident

THIS failure in following through with the provisions for creating the NSRC can be clearly be seen when Super typhoon Yolanda [international code name Haiyan] rampaged across the country in 2013. Yolanda's rampage affected more than half of the country's regions, crippling early attempts

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

to mount a national disaster-relief effort. There was no pool of NSRC personnel to draw upon.

As for the third, much criticized program of the NSTP, the various ROTC units mobilized on its own and mounted their own synchronized disaster-relief efforts for the survivors of Yolanda.

Among them was the UP ROTC, which teamed up with the 161st Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary (PCGA) Squadron and the South African volunteer group Gift of the Givers.

The UP ROTC and the 161st PCGA Squadron mounted Operation Mercy Trident, which brought food, medicine and medical personnel to Leyte. The operation used three modes—land, sea and air—to ensure the arrival of supplies and personnel to Leyte.

The air aspect involved the air transport of the South African physicians and nurses along with their equipment to Cebu. From Cebu, the movement was by sea to bypass the bottleneck existing, at that time, at the Tacloban airport. Further follow-on supplies were brought by land convoy and ferry from Luzon to Leyte via the Batangas port. Elements of the Philippine Army supported this movement by providing trucks for transport and personnel for security.

### Other developments

ACCORDING to publicly available records, there were four ROTC bills pending in the House of Representatives under the Aquino administration. These were House Bill 144, which was filed by Liberal Party Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya of Cavite City. This bill has been pending with the House Committee on National Defense and Security since July 23, 2013.

Another bill was filed by then-Rep. Eduardo R. Gullas of Cebu City in 2010 in the Committee on Higher and Technical Education. Two similar bills were filed by then-Party-list Rep. Pastor M. Alcover Jr. of ANAD and Rep. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentador of the Second District of Bohol in the same House committee a year later.

None of the bills passed. However, it is likely new bills of a similar nature will be filed in Congress under the Duterte administration.

One proponent of restoring mandatory military training in campuses is Mark Javier, who was UP ROTC Corps Commander in 1967. Javier reminded this writer that Duterte has gone on record before the campaign that he wants ROTC in the college curriculum.

“Strike while the iron is hot,” he said, adding that he believed that once mandatory military training is restored, a proper program to implement can be made.

He said there was a window of opportunity for stakeholders to create a viable mandatory training course for college students. This opportunity was provided by the implementation of the K to 12 Program.

Regina Sevilla Sibál, an educator, agreed with Javier’s view. She said that, because of the implementation of the K to 12 Program, stakeholders of in the ROTC system have about two years to come up with a viable idea.

“There will be about two years when there will be no one graduating from high school because of the K to 12 Program,” Sibál explained. “That’s a two-year window for those involved to create a new and viable mandatory ROTC program for colleges.”

Kenneth Tirado, a tactical officer in the UP ROTC and former Department of Education spokesman, said “there is a need to shore up the numbers of the AFP’s reserve force.” “One way of doing so is to restore mandatory ROTC in campuses,” Tirado said. “However, if such a program is to be undertaken, it should be fully funded and supported. Otherwise, it would not succeed.”

2i May 2016



Pahina. 4

## EDITORIAL

# Keep everybody happy!

Ang sikreto raw ng isang gobyerno para mapanatiling matatag ito ay gawing "masaya ang lahat". Sa wikang Ingles, "keep everybody happy!"

Ano ba ang nagpapasaya sa karamihan ng tao?

Sa isang sistema kung saan malakas ang tawag ng pera at mahina ang moralidad, isa lang ang ibig sabihin ng salitang "saya" syempre lyong merong "extra income" kada linggo o buwan.

Noong kasagsagan ng garapal na katiwalian ng nagdaang administrasyon ni dating Pangulong Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, ang usap-usapan, kaya raw naging napakahirap para maalis sa puwesto ang mga tauhan nito na nasasangkot sa iba't ibang alingasngas ay sa dahilan "hindi naman daw sinosolo ang biyaya".

Isa sa nakakatulig na rebelasyon ng katiwalian noon ay ang milyun-milyong pisong "pasalubong" at "pabaon" sa mga nataalaga at nagreretirong chief of staff ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Bagama't hindi masyadong napagtuunan ng pansin ay may ganito rin daw na kalakaran sa Philippine National Police (PNP).

E, kaya naman wala kahit isang kudeta noon laban kay dating Pangulong Arroyo.

Pati ang Simbahang Katolika ay hindi rin nakaligtas sa matinding corruption ng naturang administrasyon. Nakalad-

kad din sa diumano'y mga "pakimkim" ng naturang lider ang ilang obispo ng Simbahang Katolika. Pumutok ang istorya tungkol sa walong "Pajero bishops" na syempre ay maring itinanggi ng mga inakusahan.

Pero ang malinaw, wala ring imik noon ang Simbahang matinding katiwalian ng naturang administrasyon.

"Keep everybody happy," sabi nga. Maliban sa "pasalubong" at "pabaon" sa mga heneral na talagang pinag-ukulan ng malalim na pagbusisi at pagkalkal ng Commission on

Audit (COA) sa pangunguna ni Commissioner Haydee Mendoza, hindi halos umusad ang iba pang alegasyon ng corruption sa administrasyong Arroyo.

Naging napaka-epektibo raw ng pagkakabusog ng bulsa ng "lahat" para kahit ang mga asunto ay malusaw nang ganu'n na lamang.

Sa ilalim ng administrasyong PNoy, marami raw ang nagutom na mga matatakaw na opisyal at empleyado na nasanay sa masaganang "extra income". Kaya sa lahat daw ay itong administrasyong ito ang walang ka-appeal-appeal sa mga nasanay na sa "easy money".

Sana lang, itong papasok na administrasyon ni presumptive President

Rodrigo Duterte ay mag-iwan din ng latay sa mga kurakot at mga humihigop sa kaban ng bayan.

Itong planong pagtatalaga ni Duterte ng mga militar sa pinaka-corrupt daw na mga ahensya (BIR, LTO at Customs) ay lubhang nakakabahala, lalo pa't sariwa pa ang sugat ng "pasalubong at pabaon" sa AFP at ang kaliwa't kanang mga kickback sa mga kontrata at bilihan ng ghost supplies at deliveries.

Sana ay huwag na tayong bumalik sa "keep everybody happy" na lengguwahe ng mga kawatan sa gobyerno.



## ONLINE NEWS

25 MAY 2016

[www.pna.gov.ph](http://www.pna.gov.ph)

### Army in the market for KM-250 spares

MANILA, May 24 (PNA) -- The Philippine Army (PA) is now looking for interested parties capable of supplying it with spare parts needed for the maintenance of its KIA KM-250 cargo truck fleet. The budget for the acquisition program is PHP30,158,825.

The PA's KM-250 weighs two and half tons and is capable of hauling 5,000 kilograms of cargo load.

It is primarily used by the PA for troop transports and humanitarian assistance missions.

Receipt and opening of bids is on Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. at the Philippine Army Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. (PNA)  
BNB/PFN

[www.news.pia.gov.ph](http://www.news.pia.gov.ph)

### Lt. Col. Almagro installed as new 55th IB Commander

May 24, 2016

By Alfonso T. Ruda

PIÑAN, Zamboanga del Norte, May 24 (PIA) – Lieutenant Colonel (Lt.Col.)Pompeyo Jason M. Almagro has been installed as the new commanding officer of the 55th Infantry Batallion (IB) in a recent change of command ceremony held at the 101st Infantry Brigade, Philippine Army in Barangay Del Pilar here.

Almagro replaced Lt. Col. Vener Y. Morga whose accomplishments during his stint as 55th IB commander were given due recognition by Major General (MGen.)Felix F. Barrientos Jr., commanding officer of 1st Infantry (Tabak) Division based in Camp Major Sang-an, Pulacan, Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur.

Among his significant accomplishments include the neutralization of several threat group personalities within the province of Misamis Occidental, and the battalion's recovery of enemy's firearms, ammunitions, and subversive documents.

Morga did not only focus on combat operations but he also conducted numerous Civil-Military Operations (CMOs) such as medical and dental missions, cleanliness drives, and tree planting activities within his areas of responsibility.

During Morga's watch, the 55th IB was able to help several barangays through the continuous conduct of Bayanihan Team Activities (BTA), benefiting the people in the area.

For his part, Lt. Col. Almagro, vowed to continue the unit's mission of winning the peace and helping the people create an environment conducive for sustainable development to attain just and lasting peace.

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

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

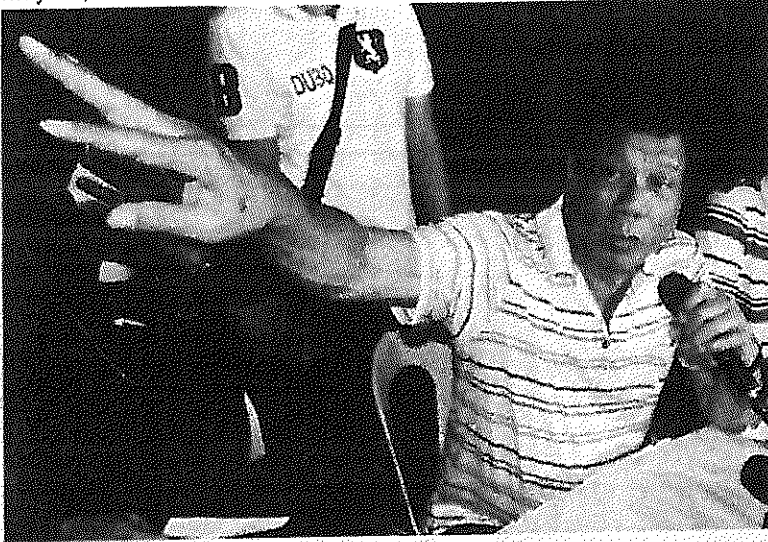
The changing of the guard is part of the military's colorful tradition wherein the outgoing commander formally relinquishes his command to the incoming commander with the troops and stakeholders as their witness. (FPG/ATR/PIA9-Zamboanga del Nortewith report from Ceferino Logronio)

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

## Army colonel named Duterte's senior military adviser

By: Jaime Sinapit, [InterAksyon.com](http://InterAksyon.com)

May 24, 2016 9:46 AM



*Presumptive president Rodrigo Duterte gestures during a press conference. (photo by Erwin Mascarinas, [InterAksyon.com](http://InterAksyon.com))*

[InterAksyon.com](http://InterAksyon.com)

### The online news portal of TV5

MANILA, Philippines -- An Army colonel currently assigned to the Davao City-based Eastern Mindanao Command confirmed he has been chosen to be senior military adviser to presumptive president Rodrigo Duterte.

"Higher headquarters have already informed me about it (appointment). It's an honor to serve ... Duterte," Colonel Louie Dagoy told [InterAksyon.com](http://InterAksyon.com) by phone.

Dagoy, a member of the Philippine Military Academy "*Hinirang*" Class 1987, is chief of staff to Eastmincom head Lieutenant General Rey Leonardo Guerrero.

Earlier, Duterte named retired Armed Forces chief Hermogenes Esperon Jr. to be national security adviser and 104th Infantry Brigade commander Colonel Rolando Bautista (PMA "*Sinagtala*" Class '85) to head the Presidential Security Group.

Duterte has offered the Department of National Defense portfolio to Gilberto Teodoro, who held the post under former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

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## Incoming PSG chief, tiniyak ang seguridad ni Duterte

By Bombo Analy SobéranoPosted in [Latest News](#)Tuesday, 24 May 2016 00:47

Nakahandang ipatupad ni incoming Presidential Security Group (PSG) commander at Joint Task Group Basilan commander Col. Rolando Bautista ang mahigpit na seguridad para kay President-elect Rodrigo Duterte.

Ito ang tugon ni Bautista na kaniyang ipinarating kay AFP Public Affairs Office chief Col. Noel Detoyato nang tanungin kung malaking challenge sa kaniya ang pagbibigay seguridad sa susunod na pangulo ng bansa.

Ito ay bunsod ng inaasahang magiging problema ng PSG sa pagbabantay kay Duterte dahil na rin sa pagiging malapit nito sa tao at ayaw nito na napakaraming security escort.

Tiniyak ni Bautista na hindi magiging problema ang pagbabantay kay Duterte dahil may security protocols na sinusunod ang PSG.

Positibo naman si Bautista na susunod si incoming President Duterte sa nasabing security protocols.

Si Bautista ang kasalukuyang brigade commander ng 104th Brigade na nakabase sa Basilan.

Kabilang sa mga major accomplishment ng opisyal ay ang pagkaka-neutralize kay Abu Anas na isang foreign bomb making instructor at kay Mohammad Al Khatab na isang Moroccan terrorist sa probinsiya ng Basilan.

Nagawa ni Bautista na bawasan ang fighting capabilities ng bandidong Abu Sayyaf.

Nagkakilala sina Bautista at Duterte noong siya ang battalion commander ng 73rd Infantry Battalion na sakop ang Davao City at Davao del Norte.

[www.pna.gov.ph](http://www.pna.gov.ph)

## AFP remains mum on latest ASG video; hopes ongoing operations will bring decisive results

By Priam F. Nepomuceno & Tammy Cattleya Delos Reyes (OJT)

MANILA, May 24 (PNA) -- The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has declined to issue a definite statement regarding the latest Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) video which had the remaining Samal Island foreign hostages pleading for help to President-elect Rodrigo Duterte.

In line with this, AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said the military is focusing its efforts on operations which can help free the victims from the clutches of the bandit group hiding in their enclaves in Sulu.

"Hopefully, we get results once a decisive engagement occurs in the area," he added.

As this developed, AFP public affairs office chief Col. Noel Detoyato said that videos released by the ASG regarding their victims are an effective way of determining the latter's status.

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"We always view videos released on kidnap victims as an update of their latest status. Rest assured the AFP's operations will continue and we will not stop until the situation is rectified and normalcy is restored," he added.

"We will not stop until they are rescued and the kidnappers are brought to justice. We will never negotiate with them nor pay ransom because every time they get money, it emboldens them to do more kidnapping. We will endeavor to make this kidnapping business unprofitable to them," the AFP public affairs office chief stressed.

In the latest ASG video, the victims, especially Canadian Robert Hall, are requesting Duterte to do everything he can to free them from their captors.

"We have a hundred people heavily armed around us all the time that dictate to us and talk to us like children. We've been humiliated in every way possible. One of us has already been murdered. We hope that you can work on our behalf as soon as possible to get us out of here. Please, the sooner the better. We're three-quarters dead right now. Thank you," he added.

Canadian John Ridsel was beheaded last April 25 after the Canadian and Philippine governments declined to pay the Php300 million demanded by the bandit group for his release.

The ASG earlier threatened to behead one of the remaining Samal Island hostages if their ransom demands for the four, amounting to Php600 million, are not paid by 3 p.m. on June 13.

Hall, Norwegian Kjartan Sekkingstad and Filipina Marites Flor, Hall's girlfriend, were snatched by the ASG at a posh resort on Samal Island last Sept. 21. (PNA) SCS/PFN/Tammy Cattleya Delos Reyes (OJT)

[www.news.pia.gov.ph](http://www.news.pia.gov.ph)

## **AFP needs public support to thwart Abu Sayyaf, terror threats**

May 24, 2016

ZAMBOANGA CITY, May 24 (PIA) – The military here shared its difficulty in relying on intelligence alone with regards to conducting operations against the ISIS-linked Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), all the while urging the public to support them with much-needed information on this terror group.

"Intelligence work is not always 100 percent (accurate)," said Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom) spokesperson Major Filemon Tan Jr.

"Even inside of this room, if there is an ASG, we cannot easily identify him without information. But if there is enough information, wherever he is we can find him," he said.

Major Tan emphasized that "the populace should be active in its role to address the problem as well as the local government unit."

Intelligence reports must be thoroughly validated, Tan said. "We cannot just rush into an operation without first validating the information," he said.

Meanwhile, the military has always been on alert. "Although we do not necessarily display it, intelligence work has always been intensive. We do our best to pre-empt any threats, we do not want to be only reactionary."

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The armed forces, in its anti-terrorism operations particularly in the southern part of the country is delivering "focused military operations," meaning, their operations are intelligence-driven, and done in certain areas to "preserve resources," contrary to a "shotgun approach."

"We really have to study the situation first thoroughly," he emphasized.

Meanwhile, military operations against the Abu Sayyaf bandits have been relentless.

It can be recalled that the ASG has set a deadline to decapitate their remaining hostages, among them a Canadian and a Filipina, if a ransom is not made. Earlier this year, the head of Canadian John Risdell was discovered inside a bag in Jolo, Sulu, after the deadline for a ransom was not made.

"The AFP is continuous in its operations, deadline or no deadline," Tan said.

But Tan said that that they cannot give assurance that the ASG will not continue to commit atrocities such as beheading hostages. "We cannot give that assurance because these are in their hands. What we have control of is our operations, and we are doing our part, day and night," he said. (ALT/DIS/PIA9-Zamboanga City)

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## **Militar ikinatuwa ang bagong video ng 3 Samal kidnap victims, proof of life**

By Analyn Soberano Posted in Latest News Tuesday, 24 May 2016 12:08  
Ikinatuwa ng militar ang paglabas ng panibagong video ng tatlong bihag na dinukot sa Samal Island sa Davao.

Sa nasabing video umapela ang tatlong bihag kay incoming President Rodrigo Duterte na tulungan sila mula sa kamay ng kanilang mga kidnappers.

Ayon sa pamunuan ng Western Mindanao Command na masaya sila sa paglutang ng nasabing video dahil nagpapatunay lamang ito na buhay pa ang tatlong bihag na kinabibilangan ng Canadian na si Robert Hall, Norwegian na si Kjartan Sekkingstad at Filipina na si Maritess Flor.

Ayon kay Wesmincom spokesperson Maj. Felimon Tan na ongoing pa rin ang kanilang operasyon laban sa mga bandidong Sbu Sayyaf lalo na ang may hawak na kidnap victims.

Muling nagtakda ng panibagong deadline ang ASG para maibigay ang kanilang hinihinging ransom.

Nagbanta ang mga ito na kanilang pupugutan ang isa sa tatlong bihag.

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[www.pna.gov.ph](http://www.pna.gov.ph)

## **Names for 3 PN LCHs now ready, waiting for approval**

MANILA, May 24 (PNA) -- Names for the three newly-acquired landing craft heavies (LCHs), which are slated for commissioning on June 1 has already been forwarded to the appropriate Philippine Navy (PN) and are now waiting for approval.

This was stressed by PN spokesperson Capt. Lued Lincuna in a message to the PNA Tuesday.

"The LCH names have already been (forwarded) to the board and we are awaiting approval for these names," he added.

As per PN naming conventions, landing craft are named after indigenous people.

These three LCHs were sold to the PN for friendship prices of PHP270 million.

The LCHs are former ships of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and identified as the HMAS Balikpapan (L-126), HMAS Wewak (L-130) and HMAS Betano (L-133).

They were offloaded to Liloan, Cebu last March 26.

The three are sisters to BRP Ivatan (formerly HMAS Tarakan) and BRP Batak (ex-HMAS Brunei) which were commissioned into PN service last Aug. 10.

The first two LCHs were donated by the Australian government to the Philippines in November 2014.

(PNA)

BNB/PFN

[www.pna.gov.ph](http://www.pna.gov.ph)

## **(Feature) 3 oldest living WWII Filipino veterans to celebrate Veterans Week**

By Ben Cal

MANILA, May 24 (PNA) -- The three oldest living World War II Filipino veterans -- the eldest at 106, the second at 101 and the youngest at 99 years old -- continue enjoying life to the fullest in their waning years and always look forward for their monthly pension from the government.

Retired Col. Jose P. Javier, the oldest at 106 and a doctor by profession, survived the infamous Death March in Bataan in 1942 to tell the tale of his harrowing experience at the hands of the Japanese during World War II as if it was only yesterday.

Dr. Javier, who lives in Quezon City, is thankful to God for his long life full of action, especially during the war, during his captivity as a prisoner of war, during the liberation to date, content of serving the country in his younger years.

For Col. Javier, he attributed his survival during the war to prayers and faith in God.

The second oldest living war veteran is retired Sgt. Jose S. Quilatan, 101, who was formerly a member of the famed Hunter's ROTC Guerrillas as a rifle man from 1942 until 1945.

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Quilatan showed his combat capability, fighting the Japanese in various gun battles, eluding from being captured.

His Tiger Unit operated in Manila and nearby areas before moving to Southern Luzon where he saw action against the invading Japanese forces.

The third oldest living war veteran is 99-year-old retired Col. Vicente F. Alhambra, who volunteered as member of the famous Philippine Scouts during the war.

Defense Undersecretary Ernesto G. Carolina, administrator of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO), said he is always amused of Col. Alhambra who personally gets his monthly pension at the PVAO's office.

"Col. Alhambra vividly recalls his experience during the war and a he's a jolly fellow," Carolina said.

Despite his advancing age going to the century mark this July, "Col. Alhambra still remembers every detail of his experience during the war," Carolina pointed out.

Every time he visits PVAO to get his pension, Alhambra likes to talk to PVAO employees, greeting and thanking them for the monthly pension he gets.

World War II veterans get a monthly pension of P5,000, plus P1,700 as Total Administrative Disability Pension.

Carolina said that the gallantry, heroism and sacrifices of World War II veterans "will serve as an inspiration to the youth of this generation, to love and serve the country and to fight for peace and freedom at all cost."

On Wednesday, the Department of National Defense will lead in the celebration of the 74th *Araw ng Kagitingan* to culminate the Philippine Veterans Week in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. (PNA)  
SCS/RBC/EDS