

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



# **ARMY**

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

**26 May 2016**

**Thursday**

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

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**THE PHILIPPINE STAR**  
www.pananahon.tv

**AIR 21**  
SABOT NG PAGALA NG

**5:00 AM - 5:30 AM**  
Mondays to Sundays

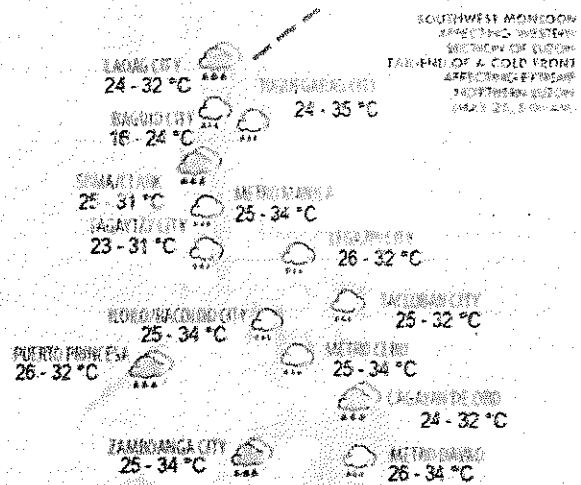
**SUNRISE** 5:26 AM  
**SUNSET** 6:20 PM  
**MOONRISE** 10:00 PM  
**MOONSET** 8:56 AM

**CHILL MOON** 5:14 AM MAY 22  
**EAST QUARTER** 8:12 PM MAY 26

**LOW TIDE** 8:43 PM 6.07 Meter  
**HIGH TIDE** 12:04 AM 1.13 Meter

**MANILA SOUTH HARBOR**

**TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST MAY 26, 2016 THURSDAY**



EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST	MAY 27 FRI	MAY 28 SAT	MAY 29 SUN	EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST	MAY 27 FRI	MAY 28 SAT	MAY 29 SUN
METRO MANILA	25 °C 33 °C	24 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	26 °C 33 °C	26 °C 34 °C	26 °C 34 °C
TUGUEGARAO	24 °C 35 °C	24 °C 35 °C	24 °C 34 °C	HOLO/BACOLOD	25 °C 34 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 34 °C
LAOAG	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C	24 °C 33 °C	METRO CEBU	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C
BAGUIO	16 °C 23 °C	16 °C 23 °C	16 °C 24 °C	TACLOBAN	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C
SBMA/CLARK	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 33 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 33 °C	24 °C 33 °C
TAGAYTAY	23 °C 31 °C	23 °C 31 °C	24 °C 31 °C	METRO DAVAO	26 °C 33 °C	26 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C
LEGASPI	26 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	ZAMBOANGA	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 34 °C	25 °C 34 °C

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

Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms

1

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INQUIRER

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# Congress nixes Marcos plea

## Leni leads official count after canvassing of 45 COCs

By Leila B. Salaverria

AS CONGRESS formally began the canvassing of votes for President and Vice President, its joint committee promptly shot down a motion from the camp of Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to canvass the votes for the two positions separately.

The count proceeded, and the canvassing committee ending its first session after opening 48 certificates of canvass (COCs) and canvassing 45 of them.

As of 9:30 last night, the running total in the tight vice presi-

dential race showed Liberal Party candidate Leni Robredo in the lead with 3,576,643 votes.

Marcos was a close second, with 3,281,151.

Earlier, before the panel could open any COC, lawyer

CONGRESS/A6

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Didagen Dilangalen from the Marcos camp asked for the separate canvassing of the votes for President so that Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte could be proclaimed ahead of time, pointing out that his rivals had already conceded.

Dilangalen, a former member of the House of Representatives, also noted that the race for the vice presidency was "hotly contested."

"Separate canvassing of the presidential and vice presidential votes is not only prudent and appropriate, it is likewise perfectly legal," he said.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel III, stopping the Marcos lawyer in the middle of his speech, informed him that the joint committee would proceed on a per COC basis, adding that he would just treat Dilangalen's manifestation as an opening statement.

Dilangalen then made a motion to ask for the separate canvass.

But Majority Leader Neptan Gonzales II, the head of the canvassing panel for the House, said that only members of the canvassing committee could raise a motion. Thus, Dilangalen's request could not be recognized.

"We are just following what is provided for by the Constitution and under our rules that we should canvass what is asked us by the rules," Gonzales said.

### **Canvassing rules**

The rules state that the joint committee will canvass, in the order they were received, the electronically transmitted COCs and the manually counted and physically delivered COCs.

Gonzales also said Dilangalen would be recognized if he had an objection to or observation on a particular COC. The panel could also not act on the request for the separate canvassing without going through the respective COCs, he said.

He then asked Dilangalen to take his seat.

"This is not the proper time for you to make the manifestation," he added.

The panel then proceeded with the opening of the COCs, with Davao del Sur votes first up for the count.

For the Davao del Sur votes, the panel found that five COCs were electronically transmitted,

with four of the COCs bearing the same figures, which were the same as the ones in the physically delivered COCs.

The panel decided to canvass the votes in the COC that matched with the hard copy, but

asked the Commission on Elections to submit an explanation on why there was a Davao del Sur COC with different numbers.

Dilangalen asked the panel what were the secret markings of the COCs from Davao del Sur

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that would be used to determine their authenticity.

He asked how the panel could be sure that the electronically transmitted and manually delivered COCs were authentic. He said it was not enough that the figures in the two documents matched.

But Pimentel said nobody from the committee questioned the authenticity of the Davao del Sur COC or asked that its canvassing be deferred.

Romulo Macalintal, lawyer for Marcos' rival Leni Robredo, also said counsels of the candidates could only object to the COCs or ask for their inclusion in the canvassing.

Macalintal said if Dilangalen believed the secret markings were not contained in the COCs, he should object to the inclusion of the COCs.

But Dilangalen did not ask for the exclusion of the Davao del Sur COC.

Marcos got more votes than Robredo in Davao del Sur, although it was Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano who topped the race for the vice presidency in the province.

### Cebu City COC

Another Marcos lawyer, George Garcia, sought the deferment of the COC for Cebu City, saying there was a difference in the number of clustered precincts in the canvass report and in the COC for the city.

Garcia wondered why the consolidation and canvassing system would print a canvass report ahead of the printing of the COC. He said there should be an explanation from the Commission on Elections (Comelec).

But Pimentel said he found the grounds cited by Garcia to defer the canvassing of the Cebu City COCs to be "not so substantial."

"You actually don't have another authentic copy of the city COC. You have a partial election report of the city COC in Cebu.

We are not comparing the orange to the apple," he said.

Gonzales said the task of the canvassing committee was to make sure the statement of votes

in the electronically transmitted COC was the same as the one in the manually transmitted COC.

In the case of Cebu City, there was no variance between the two, Gonzales pointed out.

Cavite Rep. Elpidio Barzaga also said that given the absence of discrepancy between the transmitted COCs, the panel was duty-bound to continue with the canvass.

### Discrepancies

The panel suspended the canvassing of the COC for Laguna province after finding discrepancies between the COC generated by the canvassing and consolidation system and the amended COC sent by the provincial board of canvassers (PBOC).

Also suspended was the canvassing of the COC from Ilocos Sur province, a known Marcos bailiwick.

Senator-elect Leila de Lima and Garcia agreed on the suspension of the Ilocos Sur COC canvassing.

Garcia said this showed that a province could print the COC even if not all of the municipalities under it had submitted results.

"It would appear that the original COC was printed absent a particular municipality," Garcia said.

He also noted that the amended COC later submitted by the PBOC was manually prepared and printed from an ordinary computer instead of the consolidation and canvassing system (CCS).

But Macalintal said this issue was explained during the canvassing of senators' votes by the Comelec.

He said that instead of the results from Rizal province, what was included was the results from the preelection test of the machine there. The CCS thought all the votes from the municipalities were in and thus printed the COC.

When the board reconvened to amend the COC, all parties were notified and nobody objected, Macalintal said.

But the congressional panel decided to call the PBOC members to appear before it and explain the discrepancies.

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF P

) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295



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## Army's 5th IB chief ends 2-year stint with good track record

By MAMER  
BAÑEZ

**BALER, Aurora --** Army Lt. Col. Joey A. Escanillas has completed his two-year tour of duty as commander of the Army's 56th Infantry Battalion assigned in Aurora, leaving behind a track record that surpasses his predecessors.

Lt. Col. Louie DS Villanueva, previously the commander of the 84th IB (Victorious), replaced Escanillas during the change of command ceremonies in Bgy. Calabua-

nan in Baler.

Villanueva vowed to continue the Army Transformation Roadmap (ATR) implemented in the 56th IB's jurisdiction by Escanillas who was reassigned as chief of staff of the Army's 4th Infantry Division based in Cagayan de Oro City.

Under Escanillas' stewardship, the 56th IB -- its best practices and novel concepts -- emerged as best battalion for 2015 among the nine infantry battalions of the 7th ID based in Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija, the country's largest military camp.

Villanueva, who was 84th IB chief since last August, was a member of the elite UN peacekeeping force in Haiti from November 2011 to October 2012.

He started his military career in 1994 and afterwards, was assigned in Eastern Samar up to 2001. From 2001 to 2004, Villanueva was at the Army's general headquarters in Fort Bonifacio.

He was transferred to Davao City from 2004 to 2008 and returned to Fort Bonifacio where he stayed up to 2010.

Villanueva also has stints at the 202nd Infan-

try Brigade under the 2nd Infantry Division at Camp General Mateo Capinpin, Tanay, Rizal.

Upon his return from Haiti, he was assigned to the 702nd IB in Bongabon, Nueva Ecija, and later served as adjutant (G1) of the 7th Infantry Division at the Fort Magsaysay Military Reservation up to August 2013.

The 56th IB under Escanillas' watch conducted 2,217 combat operations

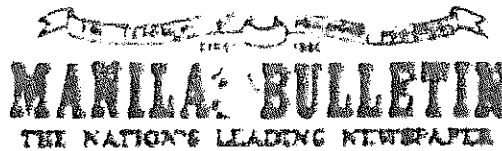
broken down into four brigade-participated operations, 18 battalion-initiated, 39 company-initiated, 172 platoon-sized initiated and 1,984 squad/team operations.

These operations resulted in the clearing of various barangays from communist influence, the recovery of war paraphernalia and the return to the folds of the law of New People's Army rebels.

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# Troops seize Sayyaf camp in Sulu

By **NONAY E. LACSON**

**ZAMBOANGA CITY**— Government troops overran an encampment of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in Maimbung, Sulu, Tuesday morning after a 45-minute armed encounter with the bandits.

Armed Forces of the Philippines, Western Mindanao command (WesMin-Com) Spokesman Maj. Filemon Tan, Jr., said yesterday elements of the Philippine Army, 14th Special Ranger Company discovered the encampment

of the ASG at Barangay Gulangan, Maimbung, Sulu about 8 am, Tuesday.

A firefight between the soldiers and the gunmen of ASG leader Idang Susukan ensued and lasted for about 45-minutes with the group before military was able to take control of the camp. The government did not absorb any casualty from the fight.

Tan said the Army soldiers were on clearing operations in the hinterland of the town when they chanced upon the camp that immediately sparked a firefight between the ASG and the

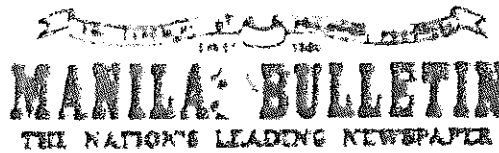
soldiers.

During a clearing operation inside the seized ASG camp, the soldiers found that the camp was equipped with potable water source and could accommodate about 200 people.

The soldiers also found gun parts, personal belongings, and a Honda motorcycle, Tan said.

Tan added that the Abu Sayyaf may have absorbed a substantial number of casualties as evidenced by the bloodstain seen by the soldier along the escape route of the bandits.

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## AFP denounces NPA for using minors in armed struggle

DAVAO CITY - The Armed Forces of the Philippines' 10th Infantry Division, yesterday denounced the New People's Army (NPA) for exploiting minors in their armed struggle against the government.

In a press conference at the Davao City Police Office (DCPO) here, Captain Rhyan Batchar said they were "sad-

dened" to learn that three of those who were killed in series of clashes between the government troops and communist rebels in San Isidro, Davao del Norte and Laak, Compostela Valley last May 18 were all teenagers."

He said the NPAs has no regard for the rights of children and the Indigenous Peoples because those were

killed in the encounter ages from 14 to 18 and were children of lumads in the hinterlands.

"This clearly shows that the NPAs violated humanitarian law that prohibits using minors and Indigenous People in war," Batchar said.

Batchar identified those slain as Mar June Gunay, 14 and his cousin Rodel Gunnay, 18 and Romel Perez 17.

He said their names and ages of victims were revealed after their relatives claimed the dead bodies last May 20. (Jonathan Santes)

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## **Western Mindanao Command, 4th Civil Relations Service Group to conduct football meet**

From the Philippine News Agency (May 25): Western Mindanao Command, 4th Civil Relations Service Group to conduct football meet

In line with its community engagement efforts, the Western Mindanao Command (WESMINCOM) and the 4th Civil Relations Service Group will conduct its "Foot for Peace 2016" on Saturday.

The sporting event will be held at Edwin Andrews Air Base, Sta. Maria, Zamboanga City.

Expected to attend are football fanatics coming from the provinces being secured by the WESMINCOM which include Zamboanga Provinces, Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi.

"An event like this provides opportunities for children and the youth to engage in valuable and positive relationship with adults, which is especially important when such benefits are not available at home," WESMINCOM spokesperson Major Filemon Tansaid.

"As they learn to interact with peers and adults, kids learn to safely navigate and negotiate right and wrong providing constructive experience, creating peaceful and productive relations with players," he added.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=688610>

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## **100 people evacuate as fighting rages in Misamis Oriental**

From the Philippine News Agency (May 25): 100 people evacuate as fighting rages in Misamis Oriental

About 100 people have evacuated to safer ground as fighting rages in the hinterlands of Salay, a coastal town east of Misamis Oriental since Tuesday.

The military has not issued an official statement. The local government, however, reported two army soldiers and an unidentified rebel of the New People's Army (NPA) were killed.

Francisco Dy, head of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (PDRRMO), said that the provincial government has readied relief goods for the displaced families.

"Our relief team that includes doctors and medical workers have been dispatched to Salay to assist the evacuees," Dy said.

He said that each family would be provided two food packs and a hygiene kit.

The fighting between the government troopers and the NPA rebels took place in the hinterland village of Bunal in Salay on Tuesday.

Until Wednesday, the running gun battle continues prompting village residents, mostly farmers, to evacuate to safer grounds in the town proper of Salay for fear of being caught in the crossfire, the local government reported.

Dy said that the PDRRMO is concerned on the health of the children and the villagers who have been reportedly affected by the "traumatic" experience.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?lan=2&sid=&nid=2&rid=888639>

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## Operations to rescue Abu hostages continue

The government "continues to exert determined efforts" to bring about the safe release of Abu Sayyaf hostages, Malacañang said yesterday.

Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr. said the hostages would be rescued through "a combination of law enforcement and military operations."

He made the statement as President Aquino met with the Cabinet security cluster and the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Armed Forces gave him an update on the security situation in Mindanao.

It was not an emergency meeting, Coloma said.

The Abu Sayyaf continued to release videos of hostages pleading that ransom be paid or they would be killed.

They even threatened Aquino in one video that they would also behead him if they were able to capture him as they showed how they decapitated Canadian hostage John Ridsdel.

Those present in the meeting were Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr., Foreign Affairs Secretary Jose Rene Almendras, Justice Secretary Emmanuel Caparas, presidential adviser on the peace process Teresita Deles, National Security Adviser Cesar Garcia, acting Armed Forces chief Lt. Gen. Glorioso Miranda and representatives from the Department of National Defense and PNP.

Last May 10, the PNP Criminal Investigation and Detection Group arrested an Abu Sayyaf member identified as Sakur Mustakin, 44 - with aliases "Junior Mustakin" and "Junior Asarani Sawadjaan" - along Bayani Road in Taguig.

Mustakin, who has a P900,000 bounty on his head, and other Abu Sayyaf bandits were supposedly deployed in Metro Manila early this year to bomb shopping malls to sow terror and chaos during the election period.

- Aurea Calica

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# INQUIRER

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## Abu Sayyaf camp falls

THE MILITARY scored a small victory against the notorious kidnap-for-ransom terrorist cell Abu Sayyaf (ASG) yesterday, as troops seized one of the group's encampments in Sulu province.

In a statement, the Armed Forces of the Philippines Western Mindanao Command announced that the 14th Scout Ranger Company had managed to take the camp of the group of Idang Susukan in Barangay Gulangan, Maimbung, Sulu after a 45-minute gunfight with the rebels.

The gunfight broke out amid the military's ongoing pursuit and clearing operations against the ASG.

Jaymee T. Gamil

26 May 2016

# The Standard

DEFENDING THE NEWS

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## Digong: Install security managers

By Florante S. Solmerin

THE camp of President-in-waiting Rodrigo Duterte has urged the Aquino administration to officially install the incoming administration's top security managers even before the new president's inauguration on June 30.

"The two generals [(the incoming chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and director general of the Philippine National Police)] can assume in an acting capacity until President-elect Duterte is sworn into office," said a retired general who is part of Duterte's security team.

"The change of command is to give the new military and police chiefs time to prepare Duterte's security during the oath-taking," said the source who spoke on condition of anonymity.

He said that the turnover of commands to incoming AFP chief Lieutenant General Ricardo Visaya and designated PNP director general Chief Superintendent Ronald dela Rosa should be done at least a week before Duterte's inauguration.

Visaya is a member of the Philippine Military Academy "Matikas" Class 1983 while Dela Rosa belongs to PMA "Sandiwa" Class '85.

Duterte's camp has already named Colonel Rolando Bautista to head the Presidential Security Group. Bautista (PMA Class '85) is current commander of the Army's 104th Infantry Brigade and concurrent commander of the Joint Task Group Basilan.

Duterte has also named former military chief retired Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr. as national security adviser. Esperon served as chief of staff during the administration of detained former president and re-elected Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.



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**Malaya**  
The National Newspaper

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# Esperon dismisses coup talks

BY VICTOR REYES

INCOMING National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon Jr. yesterday dismissed a warning issued by Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV early this month that the administration of incoming president Rodrigo Duterte will be facing coup attempts.

Esperon, a former Armed Forces chief who played a role in quelling two of three incidents of military adventurism during Arroyo administration, gave a big laugh when asked about the chances of a coup in the Duterte government.

"They must be dreaming. Isipin na lang nila mabuti, baka hanggang threat lang sila," said Esperon, who will also be serving as the director general of the National Security Council as national security adviser.

"We have learned that it's

See ESPERON > Page B6

## ESPERON

(coup) is not a solution to our problems, so they're wasting the time of the Filipinos. They're wasting time and opportunities but I don't think they are capable of doing it," said Esperon.

Military rebels tried to overthrow the Arroyo administration thrice, including the short-lived Oakwood mutiny in July 2003. Trillanes, a former Navy lieutenant, was one of the core leaders of the mutiny.

The two others were launched in February 2006 and in November 2007. Esperon played a key role in quelling the two attempts in his capacity as Army chief and AFP chief, respectively.

"Let's see if there will be (a coup)... Maybe he (Trillanes) knows because he likes planning coups," said Esperon.

Trillanes, a vice presidential

candidate in the May 9 elections, issued the coup warning last May 3 or two days before he filed a plunder complaint against Duterte.

He said if Duterte wins, he could be unseated if his (Trillanes) allegation that the Davao City mayor has undeclared wealth is proven true, and because of the mayor's ties with the communist movement.

Last Friday, Trillanes said he will not be part of any coup against the Duterte government, if there will be any, and the proper way to remove a president is by impeachment.

Meanwhile, a former military officer involved in one of three failed attempts to overthrow the Arroyo government criticized Duterte for naming Esperon as national security adviser.

"In fairness, he has a background in intelligence," the

source said of Esperon. "But Duterte should have appointed to the position someone who has no blemished record so he won't be criticized."

The source was referring to Esperon's supposed involvement in the rigging of results of the 2004 presidential elections to ensure the victory of Gloria Arroyo.

"His name was mentioned in the Garci tapes," the source said.

It was implied in the Garci tapes, a compilation of wiretapped conversations between Arroyo and then elections commissioner Virgilio Garcillano - that Esperon and several other military generals worked to ensure Arroyo's victory.

Esperon was Arroyo's AFP chief from July 2006 to May 2008. After he retired in 2008, he was appointed by Arroyo as presidential adviser on the peace process.

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Pahina. 0

## 2 dayuhang bihag ng Sayyaf, umapela kay Duterte

Nagmamakaawa ng tulong ang bihag na Norwegian na si Kjartan Sekkingstad, kasama ang Canadian national na si Robert Hall at Pinay na si Rites Flor kay incoming President Rodrigo Duterte na makalaya sa kamay ng Abu Sayyaf, ayon sa lumabas na video kahapon.

Bilang tugon, tiniyak ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) na ginagawa nila ang lahat ng paraan at effort upang mailigtas ang natitira pang mga bihag sa Sulu na kinidnap ng Abu Sayyaf.

Hindi nagbigay ng pahayag si Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla tungkol sa nasabing video subalit tiniyak niya na nakapokus sila sa rescue operation ng mga bihag. "Hopefully we get results soon once pag nagkaroon ng decisive engagement sa area," sabi ni Padilla.

Ayon naman kay Col. Noel Detoyato, chief, AFP public affairs office (PAO), nakita na nila ang nasabing video at palagi nila itong tinitingnan upang pag-aralan ang kinaroroonan at kalagayan ng mga bihag.

"Rest assured, the

AFP's operations will continue and we will not stop until the situation is rectified and normally restored. We will not stop until they are rescued and the kidnappers are brought to justice," sabi ni Detoyato, kasabay ng paggiit ng government's no ransom policy.

"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," ayon kay Detoyato.

Sa huling video ng ASG, nagmakaawa ang mga bihag at nanawagan kay President-elect Rodrigo Duterte na gawin ang lahat ng paraan upang sila ay mailigtas at mapalaya mula sa kamay ng mga bumihag sa kanila.

Nagbabala ang ASG na sasapitin din nina Hall, Sekkingstad, at Flor ang dinanas ni Ridsdel kapag hindi naibigay ang hinihingi nilang P600 milyon sa itinakdang alas-tres ng hapon sa Hunyo 13.

**Kampo ng Sayyaf nakubkob**

Nakubkob kahapon

ng militar ang isang kampo ng Abu Sayyaf matapos ng halos 45-minutong sagupaan sa rebeldeng grupo sa lalawigan ng Sulu.

Ayon sa Western Mindanao Command, kampo umano ni Abu Sayyaf leader Idang Susukan ang nabawi ng mga tropa ng 14th Special Ranger Company sa Barangay Gulungan. Wala namang inulat na casualties sa magkabilang panig, ngunit malaki umano ang kampo at maaaring magkuta ang 200 katao roon.

Nabawi rin ng mga sundalo ang iba't ibang bahagi ng mga baril, isang motorsiklo at mga personal belongings na naiwan ng mga rebelde.

Kamakailan lamang ay 7 sundalo rin ang sugatan sa bayan ng Jolo sa Sulu pa rin matapos na batuhin ng granada ang kanilang truck habang patungo sa kanilang barracks. Kadarating lamang ng mga tropa sa Jolo mula Zamboanga City ng sila'y tirahin. Bagama't walang umako sa atake ay Abu Sayyaf naman ang sinisipat ng mga awtoridad na nasa likod nito. (Lhean Angeles/Al Jacinto)

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

## **PSG to make adjustments to security procedures for Duterte**

From MindaNews (May 25): PSG to make adjustments to security procedures for Duterte

The would-be commander of the Presidential Security Group said Tuesday he will make adjustments to the existing security procedures and protocols to suit the wishes of incoming President Rodrigo Duterte.

Duterte said he does not like adulation and prefers going alone without being followed by a security team.

In an interview at the Davao City Police Office, Col. Roland Bautista said he has yet to talk with Duterte on PSG procedures, including security for his immediate family.

He said he is honored to be chosen to head the PSG.

"I know him. He learned the ropes here sa Mindanao. Lahat sila mahusay (they're all good)," Duterte spoke of Bautista.

Bautista, commander of the 104th Infantry Brigade based in Basilan, vowed to protect Duterte at all cost.

"The PSG has existing security procedures and protocols. This is actually institutionalized, tested, and applied to the previous presidents. Yung mga protocols, it could not be compromised but it could be improved or mag-innovate tayo based on the desires ng Presumptive President," he said.

"Sa tingin ko, there is always period of adjustment kaya may term na transition. We will see to it na may smooth security transition... But the bottomline here we have to protect the president.

The procedures and protocols yun ang i-apply natin," he said.

He explained that security adjustments will be made according to the assessment and security situations or threats but added they will consult the president before making innovations and improvements based on existing security protocols.

"After making an assessment and security situations, that's the time that we have to make modifications on the existing protocols and procedures," he said.

On Duterte choosing members of his PSG, Bautista added "trust and confidence" are important.

Duterte, mayor of Davao City for 22 years, could be seen checking for himself the slum areas and even riding the taxi at night as his way of checking security in the evening.

On several occasions, the incoming president had negotiated with the New People's Army for the release of soldiers and police officers captured by the rebel group.

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"We must lay down ang cards at makausap ang president na ito yung threat situation. Pinakauna sa isang Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.

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area is situational awareness. Pagbigay sa situation na ito yung threat. then we will advice the president. na 'sir mukhang delikado dun. and maybe we can adjust the venue of the event. or postpone the engagement.' Bautista said.

He said the PSG would also heed what Duterte wants and discuss with him the possible threat levels but he believes the incoming president would listen to his PSG.

<http://www.mindanews.com/top-stories/2016/05/25/psg-to-make-adjustments-to-security-procedures-for-duterte/>

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# INQUIRER

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## Libingan burial for Marcos an insult to his victims—Leila

By Marlon Ramos

THE DECISION of presumptive President-elect Rodrigo Duterte to allow the burial of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos at Libingan ng mga Bayani is an affront to the victims of martial law, Senator-elect Leila de Lima said yesterday.

"Evidently, [Duterte is] showing a lack of sensitivity to the feelings of the thousands of victims of martial law atrocities," De Lima told reporters after a news briefing on the canvassing of votes in the vice presidential election.

"Those issues have no closure yet [but here you are, ready to endow an aggressor with the status of a hero]. I think that's not proper," she said.

De Lima, a former chair of the Commission on Human Rights and secretary of justice, said granting a hero's burial to Marcos was akin to forgetting all the human rights violations committed by the Marcos regime.

"That's the consequence because we have no closure to those cases of [human rights abuses] then you will be adding insult to injury, to put it very mildly," she said.

De Lima said the public should be "wary and be really vigilant" about the policies that the Davao City mayor may implement during his six-year term as President.

"In as much as we would want to entertain some hope, the way things are going... those early pronouncements [of Duterte]... doesn't give me any comfort that we're looking at glory days. [It's] quite [to the] contrary," she said.

On Monday, Duterte expressed his preference to allow the burial of Marcos at Libingan ng mga Bayani "not because he is a

hero, but because he was a Filipino soldier."

He said Marcos' burial at the heroes' cemetery would put an end to years of "hatred" and "division" among Filipinos.

Duterte's friend, Communist Party of the Philippines founder Jose Maria Sison, said in an online interview that if the Marcoses wanted to protect the late strongman's remains, they should bury them in a mausoleum in Batac City in Ilocos Norte province instead of at Libingan ng mga Bayani.

"By building a huge mausoleum for Marcos [at Libingan ng mga Bayani], the Marcoses run the risk of exposing the [structure] to being blown up by so many victims of the fascist dictatorship, just like the huge bust of Marcos on [Marcos Highway at the border of La Union and Benguet provinces]," Sison said.

"It might be wiser... for the Marcoses to keep the remains of Marcos where they can guard these better," he said.

De Lima also expressed misgivings about the designation of lawyer Salvador Panelo as press secretary and presidential spokesperson.

Panelo has served as lawyer for controversial politicians, including the Ampatuan clan, most of whose members are under trial for the Maguindanao massacre, where 58 people, including 32 journalists, were killed in November 2009.

"The incoming President has the right to choose [his Cabinet officials] because first and foremost, it's a matter of trust and confidence. But then again, there should be acceptability, credibility [and scrutiny of] the status of the appointees," De Lima said.

*With a report from Delfin T. Mallari,  
Inquirer Southern Luzon*

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

### NO ROOM FOR COUP | Esperon will not allow coup de'tat on Duterte's administration



Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, DWDD — Incoming National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon said that there's no room for coup de'tat on Duterte administration.

In an interview, Esperon was asked about Trillanes' plan of coup de'tat in Duterte's term, he mentioned, "tignan naten kung meron nga baka naman he is just talking through air". He also added Trillanes' plan of coup de'tat is not the solution to the problem.

When asked about the role he played in quelling coup de'tat during the time of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Esperon said that he learned his lesson.

Furthermore, Esperon said that the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has learned a lot from the past experiences.

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## **Abu Sayyaf member tasked to kidnap Kris or Manny arrested in Taguig**

From Coconuts Manila (May 25): Abu Sayyaf member tasked to kidnap Kris or Manny arrested in Taguig

So, it seems that the Abu Sayyaf plot to kidnap Kris Aquino or Manny Pacquiao was real.

READ: PNOy: Abu Sayyaf planned to kidnap Pacman or Kris

An Abu Sayyaf member identified as Sakur Mustakin, 44 — with aliases "Junior Mustakin" and "Junior Asarani Sawadjaan" — was nabbed along Bayani Road in Taguig on May 10, though the Philippine National Police's Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) only made the announcement on Tue. May 24.

"The CIDG said that Mustakin, who has a PHP900,000 bounty on his head, and other Abu Sayyaf bandits, were supposedly deployed to Metro Manila early this year to sow terror and chaos during the election period by bombing malls.

"They were also alleged tasked to to kidnap Aquino and Pacquiao supposedly to raise funds for the terrorist group," report Cecille Suerte Felipe and Non Alquitran in *The Philippine Star*.

Mustakin is said to have participated in the kidnappings on Sipadan Island in Sabah, Malaysia in 2000.

He was also tagged in the kidnapping of six members of Jehovah's Witnesses in Patikul, Sulu in 2002. He is believed to be reporting directly to Abu Sayyaf leader Radulan Sahiron, alias Putol.

According to Senior Superintendent Ronald Lee, chief of the CIDG-National Capital Region, Mustakin was nabbed "by virtue of arrest warrants for kidnapping issued by the Taguig Regional Trial Court Branch 266 and Isabela, Basilan RTC Branch 1."

The report noted: "Amid reports of the Abu Sayyaf presence in Metro Manila, the CIDG activated Operation Plan Black Guardian to conduct surveillance in Maharlika Village, Taguig."

<http://manila.coconuts.co/2016/05/25/abu-sayyaf-member-who-was-tasked-kidnap-kris-or-manny-arrested-taguig>



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## **Guv calls for full alert vs. rebel attacks**

From the Visayan Daily Star (May 24): Guv calls for full alert vs. rebel attacks

Gov. Alfredo Marañon Jr. yesterday called on the Army and police not to be "over confident" and to stay on alert at all times to prevent a repeat of recent New People's Army attacks that have, so far caused the death of three soldiers and two farmers in Negros Occidental.

The governor said the NPA have been staging attacks, not only in Negros but all over the Philippines, citing Samar and Davao. They appear to have an agenda for these activities, which the military and police intelligence community will have to figure out, he said.

We condemn these killings, and call on the rebels to put an end to this, and opt for dialog to resolve their concerns. Marañon said.

"We have called on them to come down so their lives can improve, their children can go to school, and they can be given livelihoods," he pointed out.

A week after the ambush-slay of three Army soldiers in Toboso, suspected New People's Army rebels struck again Sunday, by attacking the bunk houses of agrarian reform beneficiaries in Sitio Buntod Aliwanay, Brgy. General Luna in Sagay.

Chief Inspector Eduardo Corpuz, Sagay City police chief, identified those agrarian reform beneficiaries killed in the rebel attack Sunday in Sagay City as Dionesio Ebañez, 44, and Jose Pios, 51, members of the Aliwanay Farm Workers Association Beneficiaries under the Tupaz Foundation.

Senior Supt. William Señoron, Negros Occidental police director, said they have so far identified three suspects in the attack on the bunk houses of the agrarian reform beneficiaries, and are in the process of identifying the rest so that charges can be filed against them.

Señoron said he agrees with the governor on the need for the police not to be over confident and to be on alert against rebels attacks.

The police and military will review their operational strategy for better coordination, he said.

Marañon said there appeared to be a conflict among CARP beneficiaries in Sitio Buntod Aliwanay, Brgy. General Luna in Sagay.

But he said it is hard to prove that a private army was the target of the rebel attack in the area.

<http://www.visayandailystar.com/2016/May/24/topstory2.htm>

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

## **Joma: I'll be home in July**

From the Philippine Daily Inquirer (May 25): Joma: I'll be home in July

Barring a major setback, Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) founder Jose Maria "Joma" Sison will be back home in July, in time for the release of political prisoners in the general amnesty promised by presumptive President-elect Rodrigo Duterte.

"I will probably go to Manila in July to celebrate the release of the political prisoners and the approval by the principals of the formal agreement or declaration earlier forged by the negotiating panels to resume the peace negotiations," Sison said in an online interview from his base in Utrecht, the Netherlands, on Tuesday.

He said representatives of the incoming Duterte administration and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) may consult with each other and prepare drafts that may be finalized at the resumption of formal talks in July.

Last week, NDFP representative Fidel Agcaoili met with Duterte and discussed initial steps for reopening the peace talks.

The NDFP, the political arm of the CPP, and the national government have been engaged in on-and-off negotiations the past 27 years but peace has remained elusive.

On Monday, Duterte reiterated to reporters that he would grant amnesty and pardons to political detainees as part of confidence-building measures to bring the communist rebels back to the negotiating table and end over four decades of armed conflict.

"This is a highly significant and noble act of goodwill. It promotes the peace negotiations," Sison said.

He said the NDFP peace panel members were "inspired" by the promised release of all political prisoners.

"They are ready to meet in Oslo as early as June with the negotiators of President-elect Duterte," Sison said. The Norwegian government is brokering the peace talks between the Philippine government and the NDFP.

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/787385/joma-ill-be-home-in-july>

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## **PNP, AFP set up security contingency plan for Duterte Thanksgiving Party**

From the Philippine News Agency (May 25): PNP, AFP set up security contingency plan for Duterte Thanksgiving Party

The Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) are preparing for the thanksgiving party of incoming President Rodrigo Duterte on June 4 dubbed "One Love One Nation Thanksgiving Party #DU31" which is expected to draw over 100,000 supporters here and neighboring cities and provinces.

With 2,000 police and multipliers from the Davao City Police Office (DCPO) excluding additional police contingent from the Police Regional Office (PRO) 11, security forces from Task Force Davao and the 10th Infantry Division, DCPO spokesperson Milgrace Driz said the city will be fully secured for the party.

Even if they are not yet sure if Duterte will show up at the event, Driz said strict security measures normally implemented during big events in the city will also be in place.

This means the public is prohibited from carrying backpacks inside the venue; no drinks in canisters; no deadly weapons; other drinks and water must be in clear/transparent containers.

Speaking at the AFP-PNP forum Wednesday, Driz also reminded the public on the ban on smoking, selling of liquors beyond 12 midnight and selling of liquors to minors. The party starts from 1 p.m. and ends at 1 a.m.

Following the incident in Pasay where five persons died allegedly due to drug overdose, Driz said police and park security will also closely monitor the activities of the people inside the venue.

Taking into consideration that Duterte might attend, Driz said presidential security procedures are also added. A landing area for chopper is also prepared.

The organizers of the thanksgiving party thrown for Duterte by the "Dutertards" – a word coined for Duterte supporters, are targeting 100,000 participants on June 4. The number could grow because people from other provinces are also expected to travel to the city for the party.

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PRO-11 spokesperson Andrea dela Cerna said they have also coordinated with police in the boundary municipalities to conduct checkpoints for cars coming to Davao City.

Dela Cerna said all police units were given directives to conduct inspections on all people going inside.

The Task Force Davao and Army units take charge for the periphery areas. 10th ID Deputy Commander BGen. Casiano Monilla said they will deploy people along river lines to prevent entry of people in non-designated entry points.

It may be recalled that during the simultaneous singing of the Philippine National Anthem on May 7, some participants took motorized boats to cross to the Crocodile Park.

So far, Monilla said they have not received any security threats that will derail the event.

Meanwhile, Rhodelio Poliquit, chief of the City Traffic and Transport Management Office, said they will only implement a "stop and Go" system along the Carlos P. Garcia Highway near the Crocodile Park to prevent parking along the national highway that impedes movement of vehicles.

According to Poliquit, they cannot impose a truck ban on national highway during the day. Motorcycles are not also allowed to enter the park area.



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

## Esperon laughs off talk about a coup d'etat against the Duterte administration

From InterAksyon (May 25). Esperon laughs off talk about a coup d'etat against the Duterte administration

Retired Gen. Hermogenes Esperon Jr., in-coming national security adviser, debunked on Wednesday (May 25) a coup rumor being floated earlier by Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV against the administration of incoming President Rodrigo Duterte because of the latter's willingness to work with communist leaders in the government.

"Let's see if there is one or he [Trillanes] is just talking through air," Esperon, a former chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), said. "If ever there is, we will show them that staging coups is not a solution to problems."

He said staging a coup d'etat would be just a "waste of time," noting how past attempts at a coup d'etat had never succeeded because of "lack of capability" of the plotters.

"I think the Armed Forces has learned a lot from past experiences," Esperon said. "They must be dreaming."

Esperon was among military figures during the administration of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

From being chief of Philippine Army, Esperon was later appointed to the AFP top post after reportedly backing out from a coup being staged in February 2008 against the Arroyo administration by then Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim.

Esperon was also among four generals implicated in the "Hello Garci" scandal. But they were cleared of any involvement in the controversial 2004 presidential election won by Arroyo against her closest rival, the late action king Fernando Poe Jr.

In the 2016 presidential election, Esperon was just among many former generals who banded together to support the candidacy of Duterte.

Duterte had said he would be appointing a good number of former generals into key government positions, such as at the corruption-laden Bureau of Customs (BoC), the Bureau of Immigration (BI), the Land Transportation Office (LTO), and the Department of National Defense (DND).

<http://interaksyon.com/article/128232/esperon-laughs-off-talk-about-a-coup-detat-against-the-duterte-administration>