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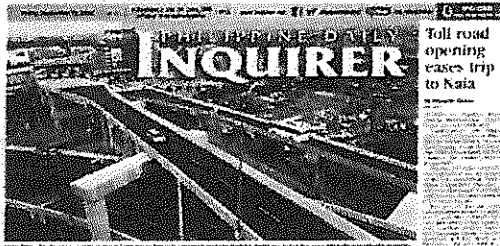
OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWS CLIPPINGS

23 September 2016

Friday

NEWS HEADLINES

23 SEPTEMBER 2016



Aguirre says De Lima has millions in banks

But he says AMLC documents won't show money in her name



Duterte allies grill hit man



Leila says jaybee was her asset

Traffic hits: Just enforce rules, Poe tells admin

Police to be 'tough' on Duterte allies: Duterte

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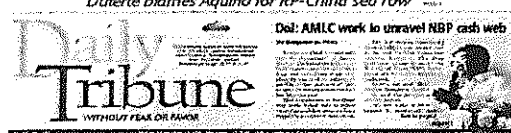
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Clinton leads in poll as debate looms

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PACMAN VS HIT MAN

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Department of Science and Technology
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and
Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)
Weather Division
ISO 9001:2008 Certified
Registry No. 01 100 1534769

WFS-02
REV.2/09-12-2016

24- HOUR PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST

ISSUED AT: 5:00 PM 22 SEPTEMBER 2016

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

SYNOPSIS: EASTERLIES AFFECTING THE EASTERN SECTION OF THE COUNTRY.

TROPICAL CYCLONE INFORMATION (TCI):

TROPICAL DEPRESSION (96W)

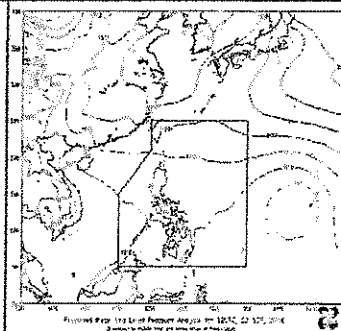
LOCATION: 1645 KM EAST OF MINDANAO (9.5°N, 140.5°E)

MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 55KPH

MOVEMENT: WEST AT 35KPH

FORECAST: PARTLY CLOUDY TO CLOUDY SKIES WILL PREVAIL OVER THE WHOLE COUNTRY WITH ISOLATED RAINSHOWERS OR THUNDERSTORMS MOSTLY OVER THE EASTERN SECTION.

MODERATE TO OCCASIONALLY STRONG WINDS BLOWING FROM THE NORTHEAST TO EAST WILL PREVAIL OVER EXTREME NORTHERN LUZON AND ITS COASTAL WATERS WILL BE MODERATE TO OCCASIONALLY ROUGH. ELSEWHERE, WINDS WILL BE LIGHT TO MODERATE COMING FROM THE SOUTHEAST TO EAST WITH SLIGHT TO MODERATE SEAS.



PAGTAYA: BAHAGYANG MAULAP HANGANG SA MAULAP NA KALANGITAN ANG IIRAL SA BUONG BANSA NA MAY PULU-PULONG MGA PAG-ULAN O PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG LALO NA SILANGANG BAHAGI.

KATAMTAMAN HANGGANG SA KUNG MINSAN AY MALAKAS NA HANGIN MULA SA HILAGANG-SILANGAN HANGGANG SA SILANGAN ANG IIRAL SA DULONG HILAGANG LUZON AT ANG MGA BAYBAYING DAGAT DITO AY MAGIGING KATAMTAMAN HANGANG SA KUNG MINSAN AY MAALON. SA IBANG DAKO, ANG HANGIN AY MAGIGING MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMAN MULA SA TIMOG-SILANGAN HANGGANG SA SILANGAN NA MAY BANAYAD HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG PAG-ALON NG KARAGATAN.

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: 10:50 PM TODAY 30.7 °C	MAXIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 6:00 AM TODAY 94 %	
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE: 6:00 AM TODAY 25.1 °C	MINIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 1:00 PM TODAY 69 %	
TIDAL PREDICTION ALONG MANILA BAY (COURTESY OF NAMRIA)	ASTRONOMICAL INFORMATION OVER METRO MANILA	
LOW TIDE TODAY: 6:21 PM 0.46 METER	SUNSET/ SUNRISE	MOONRISE/ MOONSET & ILLUMINATION
HIGH TIDE TOMORROW: 2:06 AM 1.07 METER	SUNSET TODAY: 5:52 PM	MOONRISE TODAY: 10:46 PM
LOW TIDE TOMORROW: 10:16 AM 0.15 METER	SUNRISE TOMORROW: 5:45 AM	MOONSET TOMORROW: 11:54 AM
	SUNSET TOMORROW: 5:51 PM	ILLUMINATION TODAY: 66%

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND QUERIES, PLEASE CALL AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 927-1335 OR LOG ON TO WWW.PAGASA.DOST.GOV.PH.

PREPARED BY: MAGGE

CHECKED BY: JJL



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Science and Technology
**PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC, GEOPHYSICAL AND
ASTRONOMICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (PAGASA)**
Weather Division
ISO 9001:2008 Certified
Registry No. 01 100 1534769

WFS-02
Rev.2/09-12-2016

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

ISSUED AT : 5:00 PM 22 SEPTEMBER 2016
VALID BEGINNING : 5:00 PM TODAY UNTIL 5:00 PM TOMORROW

CITIES	24-Hr Weather, Winds and Sea Condition Forecast from 5 PM today until 5 PM tomorrow		Extended Weather Outlook Duration: 5 PM until 5 PM of the following day				
	22 SEP		23 SEP	24 SEP	25 SEP	26 SEP	
Metro Manila	25 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East Manila Bay: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	
Tuguegarao City	24 °C 32 °C	Moderate: Southeast to East	24 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 31 °C	
Laoag City	25 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C	
Baguio City	16 °C 23 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East	16 °C 24 °C	16 °C 24 °C	17 °C 24 °C	16 °C 24 °C	
SBMA(Olongapo) / Clark Zone (Angeles City)	25 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East Subic Bay: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	24 °C 32 °C	
Tagaytay City	23 °C 29 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East	23 °C 30 °C	23 °C 30 °C	23 °C 30 °C	23 °C 29 °C	
Lipa City	25 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	24 °C 33 °C	
Legazpi City	26 °C 33 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	24 °C 33 °C	24 °C 31 °C	
Puerto Princesa City	25 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	
Iloilo City / Bacolod City	25 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 30 °C	25 °C 31 °C	24 °C 30 °C	
Metro Cebu	25 °C 33 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	
Tacolban City	24 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast to East Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 30 °C	
Cagayan de Oro City	25 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	
Valencia City	19 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast	20 °C 32 °C	20 °C 32 °C	20 °C 31 °C	20 °C 31 °C	
Metro Davao	25 °C 33 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 31 °C	
Zamboanga City	24 °C 33 °C	Light to Moderate: Southeast Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	24 °C 34 °C	25 °C 34 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	

LEGEND:

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

END OF FORECAST

PREPARED BY: MAJGE

CHECKED BY: JJL

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23 September 2016



Page: 1

Duterte denies involvement in Davao death squad

By GIOVANNI NILLES

President Duterte yesterday denied any involvement in the so-called Davao death squad (DDS), saying it was a political tool used by the opposition during the elections.

"It started in Davao as a political issue. As a matter of fact, you go to Davao, the DDS is not really a DDS. It was during the time 'Sparrow versus the DDS of government,'" Duterte said.

"That is not mine. They adopted it and attributed it to

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Duterte

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me. Then the opposition took it during election. But that's okay," he said.

Duterte pointed out not a single case was filed against him when Sen. Leila de Lima

was chair of the Commission on Human Rights for seven years.

"She criticized me but did not file a case. As secretary of justice, she was building a

name at my expense to become popular," Duterte said.

The DDS is widely believed as being behind the killings of a number of people in Davao City.

At the Senate hearing, witness and self-confessed hit man Edgar Matobato claimed they killed people on Duterte's

orders, including Jun Pala, a broadcaster and critic of the then mayor of Davao City.

He also said the DDS was responsible for the bombing of a Muslim mosque after the Davao Cathedral was bombed in 1993.

Matobato also alleged Duterte had four bodyguards

of his rival, Davao City Rep. Prospero Nograles, kidnapped and killed, aside from saying that the President's son Paolo ordered the killing of billionaire Richard King in 2014 due to rivalry over a woman.

The 57-year-old witness appeared at the Senate yesterday

to continue his testimony

On Monday, De Lima was ousted as Senate justice committee chair and replaced by Sen. Richard Gordon.

The committee is looking into the alleged extrajudicial killings since Duterte took his oath as President last June 30.

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De Lima seeks SC protection

By PAOLO ROMERO

Embattled Sen. Leila de Lima intends to seek protection and help from the Supreme Court (SC) as the Duterte administration's continued persecution has put her life in danger.

De Lima said she intends to file petitions for writs of *amparo* and *habeas data* before the

SC once she has sorted things out, as attacks against her are coming from all directions, including the ongoing inquiry at the House of Representatives on the alleged proliferation of illegal drugs at the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) when she was justice

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De Lima seeks

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secretary.

"I'm now a subject of persecution and I am no longer safe, I don't feel safe. The truth is, I'm not safe," De Lima said in a press conference at the Senate.

"They're (administration) violating my rights – my right to security and privacy," she said.

She doubted if she could trust the Philippine National Police, the National Bureau of Investigation and the Armed Forces of the Philippines to protect her.

She said she was considering the suggestion of some of her colleagues to seek protection from the Senate security.

The senator confirmed that she has found a temporary residence after she found herself unable to go home on Tuesday after the House inquiry publicly disclosed her address in Parañaque City and her mobile phone number.

She lamented that her neighbors are now being inconvenienced.

She also had cut off the phone line

after receiving calls and 2,000 obscene and angry text messages from "trolls and fanatics" of President Duterte.

De Lima also dismissed calls from allies of Duterte in the House for her to resign.

"Why should I resign? I'm the one being persecuted here," she said. "This is getting to be outrageous and laughable."

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Leila claims gov't pressuring her associates to testify

Sen. Leila de Lima yesterday accused the Duterte administration of increasing pressure and intimidation on her known associates as well as on other convicts at the New Bilibid Prison to boost their allegations that she was a protector of illegal drug opera-

tions at the NBP when she was justice secretary.

De Lima said she was alarmed over a report in **The STAR** that the Department of Justice (DOJ) has reversed its previous dismissal of drug charges against Marine Lt. Col. Ferdinand Marcelino, a for-

mer official of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA).

De Lima read to reporters two text messages purportedly from Marcelino forwarded by a common friend that she said had made sense after she read the

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Leila From Page 1

news item.

In a supposed text message sent last July 19, Marcelino was thanking a "mistah" or classmate in the Philippine Military Academy Class 1994 for defending him from "fabricated stories" and gave assurance that he will not allow himself to be used in the demolition job against De Lima.

Marcelino said he never had any doubt about De Lima's integrity and expressed plans to personally visit her in her office "when everything's settled down."

Another text message sent on Sept. 5 was ominous as Marcelino said "pressure is mounting" to reopen his case and plans to be incognito.

"Rest assured, I'll never give in to them," he said.

Marcelino asked their common friend to tell De Lima to "keep the faith and be strong."

However, Marcelino last night denied De Lima's claims that he is being pressured to testify against her.

Marcelino told an impromptu news conference with Public Attorney's Office (PAO) chief Persida Acosta that he will issue a written

statement over the reversal of the DOJ resolution dismissing his drug case.

"The struggle is sweeter if you're on the side of truth," he said.

"That's clear, no one pressured him to testify against anyone. That's because he is ready to tell the truth and only the truth, whatever he knows, anywhere," Acosta added, to emphasize Marcelino's statements.

Acosta said they will fight

the drug case in court as she expressed dismay over how intelligence officers like Marcelino are being subjected to questionable charges when he is just performing his duty.

Marcelino, who was arrested along with his Chinese companion Yan Yi Shou, had maintained they were framed as they were working undercover when PDEA agents found them in a condominium in Manila with 60 kilos of

shabu last Jan. 21.

De Lima added her reliable sources revealed that shortly after the May elections, people were going around the NBP asking convicts to sign affidavits to implicate her.

She said some of those who testified were subjected to psychological torture, blackmailed or given money to testify against her.

– Paolo Romero, Michael Punongbayan

73 September 2016

The
Standard
DEFINING THE NEWS

Page: 66

20 Abus give up in Zambo

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Twenty members of the Abu Sayyaf Group surrendered and turned over eight high-powered firearms to the government on Thursday in Basilan province, a military official announced.

Maj. Filemon Tan Jr., Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) spokesperson, said the surrenderers are led by ASG sub-leader Katatong Balaman alias Tatong.

Tan said the group of Balaman surrendered to Col. Thomas Donato Jr., Army's 104th Infantry Brigade commander, and Mayor Gulam Hataman of Sumisip, Basilan.

The Sumisip-based Army's 64th Infantry Battalion facilitated the surrender of Balaman's group in a ceremony held at the town hall of Sumisip.

Tan said the group of Balaman also turned over two locally-made shotguns aside from the eight high-powered firearms.

Donato said the group of Tatong is responsible for several ambushes and skirmishes against the government troops, particularly in Barangays Sukaten and Baiwas in the municipality of Sumisip.

"This is the result of the relentless operation we are conducting where they suffered lots of casualties. These Abu Sayyaf now fear for their lives, leading to the surrender," Donato said. PNA

23 September 2016



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21 Sayyaf men surrender to gov't

By ROEL PAREÑO

ZAMBOANGA CITY – At least 21 Abu Sayyaf members surrendered to government troops in Sumisip town yesterday.

Col. Thomas Cirilo Donato, 104th Army Brigade commander, said the surrendered brought with them assorted high-powered firearms – three M16 rifles, a caliber .30 M1 Garand rifle, one M79 grenade launcher and one caliber .45 pistol.

Chief Supt. Christopher Panapan, Basilan police deputy director, and Sumisip Mayor Boy Hataman formally accepted the surrendering bandits at Barangay Buli-Buli.

They were identified as Mu-

ril Baliyong, Iklaman Kanyu, Wilril Muril, Dawasa Dimasan, Jammer Balaman, Kamar Asnaton, Katatong Balaman, Kapitoy Nasalon, Apeng Balaman, Nhas Mustakin, Amarin Bantili, Alamin Baliyong, Musid Muril, Attong Sangkalahas, Bokoy Baliyong, Jhony Astana, Rit Iklaman, Mahotong Iklaman, Kaim Iklaman, Ittasirin Bantili Rayan Turul.

Donato said Hataman and local leaders of Sumisip facilitated the surrender.

Those who surrendered will be endorsed to Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Gov. Mujiv Hataman to assist them in rehabilitation and integration into mainstream society, the military said.

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22 September 2016

The Manila Times

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ARMM gov't takes over Sayyaf camp in Basilan

BY JULMUNIR I. JANNARAL

THE former Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) stronghold in Barangay Baguindan, Tipo-Tipo in Basilan was turned over by the military to officials of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), restoring full civilian control over the area.

The turnover came after the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) overran the ASG camp in August as part of a government crackdown against the terrorist group.

Regional Gov. Mujiv Hataman called for unity in achieving lasting peace to hundreds of residents in the village.

"It's about time for this place [Barangay Baguindan] to receive various projects from the government," Hataman said, as he vowed

to pour projects into conflict-affected ARMM areas.

Lt. Col. Ernest John Jadloc, 74th Infantry Battalion commander, said the camp was seized after a month of operations involving members of the 18th IB, 64th IB, Scout Rangers and Special Forces.

The operations paved the way for restoring local government authority and social services in areas where the terror group lorded over for years.

Baguindan was among the liber-

ated areas from the ASG jihadists, including Bohe Piang of al-Barka town after months of fighting, according to military officials.

Bisahari Hantian, village chairman, said they were grateful that the residents will finally experience peace and their lives brought back to normal.

Also, village resident Saida Abubakar said 40 years of constant evacuation because of fighting was too much for them to bear, especially the children.

After the ceremony, a People's Day was conducted to provide medical consultation and check-ups and hygiene kits were distributed.

The region's humanitarian emergency action response team (ARMM-HEART) also distributed relief packs to 1,574 families in Barangay Baguindan and Barangay Silangkum and in al-Barka town,

both ASG strongholds.

Meanwhile, 20 ASG members on Thursday surrendered and turned over eight high-powered firearms in Sumisip town also in Basilan.

Maj. Filemon Tan Jr., Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) spokesman, said the group, led by ASG sub-leader Katatong Balaman alias Tatong, surrendered to Col. Thomas Donato Jr., the Army's 104th Infantry Brigade commander, and Mayor Gulam Hataman of Sumisip.

Tan said Balaman's group also turned over two locally-made shotguns aside from the eight high-powered firearms.

Donato said the group is responsible for several ambushes and skirmishes against government troops, particularly in the villages of Sukaten and Baiwas.

WITH PNA

23 September 2016

The Manila Times

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Sayyaf frees another Indonesian hostage

ZAMBOANGA CITY: The Philippine military on Thursday said Abu Sayyaf bandits have freed a kidnapped Indonesian skipper of a fishing boat in Sulu in the Muslim autonomous region in Mindanao.

It said the 38-year-old Herman Bin Manggak, who was snatched along with two others on August 3 in Sabah, was handed over by the Abu Sayyaf to the rebel Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) of Nur Misuari.

The military's Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) did not release details surrounding the release of the Indonesian or whether ransom had been paid to the bandits, who have pledged allegiance to the Islamic State.

Security officials said Herman

was turned over by the MNLF to the military's Joint Task Force Sulu on September 22. The foreigner was interviewed by Army interrogators at Camp Teodulfo Bautista before being handed over to the Westmincom.

Malaysian authorities said Herman was the captain of a Malaysian fishing vessel and that two of his crew, an Indonesian and a Malaysian national, was released earlier by the kidnappers who originally demanded a 10,000-ringgit ransom.

The MNLF did not release a statement. Misuari's group has assisted in the release of over a dozen hostages, including a Norwegian man kidnapped last year at Samal Island in Davao del Norte province.

AL JACINTO

23 September 2016



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Freed Abu hostage leaves for Norway

By RUDY SANTOS

Kjartan Sekkingstad, the Norwegian hostage released by Abu Sayyaf bandits, left yesterday to finally return to Norway after almost a year of captivity in the jungles of Sulu.

Sekkingstad was reportedly accompanied by a relative on board a Thai Airways jet that took off at around 1 p.m.

The Abu Sayyaf released the Norwegian last Sept. 17, nearly a year after he and three others were abducted by the suspects from a resort on Samal Island in Davao on Sept. 21, 2015.

The other captives were Canadians John Ridsdel and Robert Hall, and Filipina Marites Flor. Hall, Ridsdel and Flor were visiting the resort's marina on their yacht and Sekkingstad was manager of the property.

Ridsdel and Hall were executed while Flor was freed last June.

Several diplomats from the Norwegian embassy and of-

ficials of the Department of Foreign Affairs accompanied Sekkingstad at the dignitary's lounge of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) terminal while waiting for his flight.

Sekkingstad was quoted as saying, "I am very happy to be alive and free," following a meeting with President Duterte together with Norwegian embassy officials in Davao City. "I feel wonderful."

He said that the bandits treated the hostages like slaves and they were regularly threatened with execution.

Sekkingstad and Norwegian Ambassador Erik Forner arrived at the NAIA domestic terminal 2 from Davao last Sept. 19 for a medical check-up before his scheduled flight home.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) believed the terror group is still holding 11 foreigners and six Filipinos captive.

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Pahina. 3

ARMOR TROOPER HULI SA PAGBEBENTA NG PUSLIT NA ARMAS

NAARESTO ang isang sundalo na umano'y sangkot sa pagbebenta sa black market sa Basilan ng mga armas at bala na inisyu ng Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Ito ang ibinuwag ng mga elemento ng First Infantry Division ng Philippine Army at ISAFP kaugnay ng aktibidad ng tiwaling military personnel na si Technical Sergeant Santiago Caasi, nakatalaga sa 1st Cavalry Squadron Mechanised Infantry Division ng PA. Si Caasi na gumagamit ng

alyas na SSG Randy Cruz ay nasa ilalim ng Scout Ranger Battalion ng Southern Command na nakabase sa Barangay Kampo Uno sa Lantian, Basilan.

Sa ulat ng First Infantry Division, naaresto si Caasi dakong alas-8:50 ng umaga noong Setyembre 20 sa isinagawang "takedown operation" sa headquarters ng 1st Cavalry Squadron ng PA sa Camp Jacobo E. Zobel sa Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur.

Inaresto si Caasi, tubong Pangasinan, sa ilegal na pagbe-

benta ng iba't ibang uri ng bala na nagkakahalaga ng P20,000 sa isang kontak nito sa Basilan.

Katuwang ng 1st Army Division ang Task Force Zamboanga at CIDG-9 sa pagaresto sa suspek na umamin naman sa akusasyon laban sa kanya.

Nakakulong si Caasi sa Transient Facility ng 1st Cavalry Division sa Camp Zobel habang hinihintay ang court martial proceedings dahil sa paglabag sa Article of War 85 o Waste or Unlawful Disposi-

tion of Military Property Issued to soldiers.

Sinabi ng panunuan ng Army na nananatili silang vigilante at hindi nila hinahayaan ang illegal activities, lalo na't sangkot ang kanilang mga tauhan.

Kaugnay nito, hinkayat din nila ang publiko na ipagbigay-alam sa kanilang Army hotline ang anomang impormasyon na may kinalaman sa mga kahalintulad na aktibidad at nakahanda silang umakson sa anumang reklamo. **REMATE NEWS TEAM**

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Duterte wants gov't forces to beef up anti-terror drive

By EDITH REGALADO

DAVAO CITY – Since there has been a lull in the fighting between government forces and communist rebels for a month now, President Duterte is telling the Army to also be good at handling a side arm and not just long firearms.

The ceasefire prevailing between the government and the Communist Party of the Philippines/National Democratic

Front/New People's Army since last month when formal talks resumed has paved the way for a lull in clashes between government troops and leftist insurgents.

The President has also been noted to have given, as some sort of raffle for the soldiers, at least four Glock caliber .30 pistols, before he left the military camps he recently visited.

The President said that the purchase has been made for about 130,000 Glock pistols for the Armed Forces of the Philippines for them to be better in doing covert operations in the fight against terrorism.

"Terrorism will come. So learn to adjust. *Hindi na ito long-arm, side-arm na ito.* That is why I give all of you Glock 30 caliber automatic. *Basta military caliber .45 talaga yan,*" Duterte told the ele-

ments of the Army's 10th Infantry Division in a visit at their camp in Mawab, Compostela Valley.

The President expressed hope that the Glock 30 pistols would be distributed to the soldiers as soon as possible.

The President told the soldiers that in fighting terrorism they should learn how a terrorist operates.

Duterte said that the soldiers should also study terrorist profiling and detection.

"I have told all your command-

ers, the chief of staff, that you will get everything you need to fight the enemies of the state," Duterte said.

He also told the soldiers to train themselves and reinvent themselves.

Duterte has ordered the officers and men of the Army's 9th Division during his visit on Wednesday at Camp Elias in Barangay Tinangis in Pili, Camarines Sur to shift the fight against terrorism now that they are not engaging with the NPA due to the unilateral ceasefire.

– With Celso Amo

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₱300-K bounty up for arrest of Sultan Kudarat bombers, murder suspects

GENERAL SANTOS CITY (PNA)

— The provincial government of Sultan Kudarat has offered an initial bounty of ₱300,000 for information that will lead to the arrest of the suspects behind the series of killings and other crimes in the province since last year.

Sultan Kudarat Gov. Sultan Pax Mangudadatu said Thursday the reward money was offered to speed up the resolution of the cases, among them the previous grenade attacks in Esperanza and Isulan towns.

"It will be given to anyone who would be able provide information leading to the arrest of the suspects," he said.

The governor said the putting up of the bounty was supported by members of the Provincial Peace and Order Council in a recent meeting.

He specifically cited Vice Gov. Raden Sakaluran, officials of the Sultan Kudarat Provincial Police Office and the Army's 601st Infantry Brigade as those who backed the measure.

Mangudadatu said the provincial government's top priority is the resolution of the two grenade attacks, and the killing of a former municipal councilor of Isulan as well as two other barangay officials.

A six-year-old boy was killed while more than 40 others were injured when

a grenade exploded at a carnival in Esperanza town last February 21.

A grenade explosion also rocked the celebration of the province's foundation anniversary on Nov 21, 2015, leaving 11 persons injured.

On March 15, 2015, former Isulan councilor Elmo Segura was gunned down by unidentified suspects.

Two barangay chairs were also killed in separate shooting incidents in the province earlier this year.

Mangudadatu directed authorities to dig deeper into these incidents and give justice to the victims.

"All these suspects should be arrested and put behind bars," he said.

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No joint patrol with US counterparts, Rody tells soldiers

By GIOVANNI NILLES

A day after saying the Philippines still needs the US in the South China Sea, President Duterte yesterday reiterated he would not allow local troops to go on a joint patrol with their American counterparts.

He also said Filipinos would be seeing him more often in China within his six-year term in office.

Duterte pointed to his "new

foreign policy" that aims to seek independence from traditional Philippine partners like the US.

"I will not allow it (joint patrols in the South China Sea) and if there is war, where is the battlefield? Palawan?" Duterte said in a speech during the inauguration of Filinvest Development Corp.'s power plant in Villanueva, Misamis Oriental.

The US and Philippine forces

have been training under the Balikatan program, which includes counterterrorism operations.

"So, what we do now is we go to China and rightly so China is in good faith. There is the Arbitral judgment and after we won, we have two options: we go to war to claim it or we talk in peace," Duterte said.

Since the country does not have the capability to go to war, Duterte said the better option would be to talk.

"And there will be a time, there is always a time in this world: the time to talk, a time to war, a time for blood, a time to be purified," he said.

Duterte stressed the Philippines will not have anyone to

depend on except itself.

Duterte reiterated his willingness to talk with China on the country's entitlements in the South China Sea using the decision of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague.

"This piece of paper that we have our award, we do not go out of the four corners of this paper. We talk. That should be the way. We do not approach it

arrogantly. It's just business," he said.

Among the things that Duterte said he would "demand" when he visits China is to allow Filipino fishermen their fishing rights.

Although there is no date set yet, Duterte said Filipinos would be seeing him more often going to China to negotiate with its leaders.

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Senators grill 'executioner' over conflicting statements

By MARVIN SY

The newly organized Senate committee on justice and human rights grilled self-confessed Davao death squad (DDS) hit man Edgar Matobato yesterday, putting his credibility as witness on the line in the inquiry on alleged extrajudicial killings.

Seeing many inconsistencies in the witness' statements, the committee agreed in the end to invite alleged DDS members, as identified by Matobato, to also testify in the next hearing.

At the start of yesterday's hearing, newly installed committee chairman Sen. Richard Gordon and Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano took turns in cross checking the details of Matobato's testimony in the previous hearing.

With a copy of the affidavit that Matobato executed before the National Bureau of Investigation when he was still under the Witness Protection Program of the Department of Justice, Cayetano confronted the witness with the alleged killing of a terrorist identified as Sali Makdum.

Cayetano pointed out that Matobato and Makdum knew each other before he was killed and that they were business partners based on a report of *CNN Philippines*. It was also reported that Matobato's wife and the wife of Makdum were cousins.

Matobato said he had real estate dealings with Makdum and that he only found out about his being a terrorist from the heinous crimes division of the Davao City police.

Asked if the killing of Makdum was ordered by President

Duterte when he was still mayor of Davao City, Matobato said the order did not come directly from Duterte, but from SPO4 Arthur Lascañas, whom he described as the head of the DDS.

Cayetano noted the inconsistencies in Matobato's statements on how Makdum was killed based on his affidavit and his testimony before the Senate.

In the affidavit, Cayetano noted, Matobato saw a group of policemen slitting the throat of Makdum before taking turns stabbing him.

But in his Senate testimony yesterday, Matobato said he and Lascañas hanged Makdum, then Lascañas chopped up Makdum's body.

According to Matobato, he was aware that the orders handed down by Lascañas were coming from the President.

In the case of a certain NBI agent known only as Amisola, whom Matobato claimed engaged 30 armed men in a firefight and was eventually shot dead by Duterte himself, Cayetano maintained that the narration was incredible.

Cayetano said it was hard to believe that 30 armed men were unable to put down a single person. Matobato said there was difficulty in hitting Amisola because he was hiding behind his vehicle and shooting back at them.

On Matobato's claim that he was also involved in the killing of the bodyguards of former House speaker Prospero Nograles, Cayetano noted that in his affidavit, he claimed that several policemen gave the order to kill them, but in his

testimony yesterday, he said the instruction came from Lascañas alone.

Gordon also noted that Matobato gave conflicting testimonies about whose men exactly they killed. Matobato explained that the bodyguards were men of generals Matillano and Jovito Palparan but were detailed to Nograles, who was running for mayor against Duterte.

Gordon also tried to verify Matobato's claim that he was a member of the CAFGU (Civilian Armed Force Geographical Units) before Duterte recruited him into his so-called Lambada Boys, which eventually became the DDS.

Gordon pointed out Matobato's name was not in the Armed Forces of the Philippines' list of CAFGUs.

Matobato clarified that he was actually part of the Civilian Home Defence Forces (CHDF), CAFGU's predecessor, starting from 1982.

Matobato said in his testimony yesterday he decided to quit the DDS in September 2013 because he was already old and no longer wanted to take part in killings.

But Sen. Panfilo Lacson said Senate President Aquilino Pimentel III had relayed to him the claim of a regional adjudicator of the Department of Agrarian Reform in Davao that Matobato made an attempt to kill him in October 2014 in Davao.

Lacson said DAR's Abeto Salcedo Jr. saw Matobato on television during the previous Senate hearing and recognized him right away as the person

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who tried to kill him

Matobato denied the claim, insisting he was in Manila in 2014.

Asked by Cayetano if the affidavit he executed at the NBI was about the DDS, Matobato said it was about how he was tortured and not about the DDS.

Cayetano pointed out that the affidavit was full of details about the DDS, contrary to Matobato's claim.

According to Ferdinand Laviña, officer-in-charge of the Office of the Deputy Director for Forensic Investigation Service of the NBI, the DOJ, then headed by Sen. Leila de Lima, had sent Matobato to the NBI.

NBI's Anti-Illegal Drug Division chief Joel Tuvera admitted no lawyer assisted Matobato when he executed his affidavit.

Tuvera said Matobato opted against getting a lawyer and refused when he was ordered to go to Davao with them to present proof of the killings, allegedly for fear for his life.

As such, Tuvera explained, the NBI was not able to build a case regarding the DDS claims of Matobato.

Sen. Juan Edgardo Angara said it was important for the Senate committee to test the credibility of Matobato and the veracity of his allegations during the hearings.

"Matobato's allegations are so grave," Angara said. "But in my opinion, these seem to be full of inconsistencies and conflicted with his statements in the past two hearings. But then, we must let the committee decide on

what recommendation or action to take. What's important is this issue is in the public eye."

In the end, the committee agreed to summon the alleged DDS members named by Matobato, although invitation was already sent to 23 of them, when De Lima was still heading the committee.

To be summoned are: Lascañas, SPO4 Sanson Buenaventura, Chief Insp. Jacy Francia, Fulgencio Pavo and Ronald Lao; SPO3 Jim Tan, Jun Laresma and Donito Ubales; SPO2 Enrique de los Reyes Ayao; SPO1 Reynante Medina, Bienvenido Furog, Vivencio Jumawan, Jun Bisnar and Gaston Aquino; Senior Supts. Isidoro Florivel/Florobel, Rey Capote, Tony Rivera and Dionisio Abude, and certain Bienvenido Laud, Alvin Laud, Roly Engalia and Arnold Ochavez.

No CHR representatives

For yesterday's hearing, the committee invited officials of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) to attend, but they did not make it due to short notice.

"It is not the case of being more comfortable with one or the other senator," CHR chairman Chito Gascon said yesterday.

"Due to lack of time, we failed to make appropriate arrangements for security and transport concerns for the witnesses," Gascon said.

CHR had sent representatives to the previous committee hearings, then headed by De Lima.

But Gascon stressed the commission is always ready to cooperate with the Senate and ready to assist in shedding light

on the matter.

"But we also need to ensure that our witnesses are secure," he added.

The CHR chief said the absence of their officials was because of miscommunication between the committee secretariat and the agency, partly due to the change in leadership.

Following the ouster of De Lima as committee chair, Gascon said the CHR is ready to work with Gordon and other officials to ensure that human rights and the rule of law are upheld.

No corroboration, no investigation

Meanwhile, the Philippine National Police (PNP) is not inclined to investigate policemen linked to the DDS by Matobato without a sworn statement that validates his allegations.

PNP spokesman Senior Supt. Dionardo Carlos said the PNP sees no basis for such investigation yet, as Matobato's testimony in the Senate remains unconfirmed.

But Carlos said the PNP would go ahead with it once there is a sworn affidavit validating Matobato's allegations.

"What we are looking for is an affidavit, sworn statement or evidence that would corroborate the statement of one person," Carlos said.

In his testimony at the Senate last week, Matobato said some members of the Davao City Police took part in the killing of criminals in Davao during the term of then mayor now President Duterte. - **With Cecille Suerte Felipe, Janvic Mateo, Paolo Romero**

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The Manila Times

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Closing bidder questions purchase of Navy Frigates

BY FERNAN MARASIGAN

ONE of six bidders in the government's acquisition of two Navy frigates has raised questions on the alleged modification of the bid structure by the bids and awards committee (BAC) of the Department of National Defense (DND), in which the project was supposedly split into two components.

STX Offshore and Shipbuilding Co. Ltd. (STX Korea) claimed that providing the bidding for the two ships and their weapons systems, and the bidding for ammunition, was grossly disadvantageous to the government and in serious violation of procurement laws.

"Splitting the Authorized Budget of Contract (ABC) and the items to be bid out after the first stage of the bidding, and before the second stage, is tantamount to changing the terms and conditions of the bid in the middle of the game," STX Korea said in a statement.

It said that initially, the bidders were made to believe that the ABC was P18 billion and the items for bidding were the vessels, weapons system and ammunition, "and we

joined the bidding on the basis of those parameters."

"It is thus unfair for everyone, especially for those who failed to pass the initial stage, to have the terms substantially changed when the bid has already been submitted," STX Korea pointed out.

It said the BAC later released the technical specification for the project but removed all references to ammunition. The BAC also attached a memorandum to the bid document, specifying the need to split the bidding for the vessels and the ammo which could be in the form of missiles, bullets, torpedoes and others.

The firm claimed the BAC purposely split the project to make it appear that the winning bidder, Hyundai Heavy Industries, offered

the lowest price at P16 billion for the two vessels alone.

Splitting the bid will limit the number of bidders to those who will be able to match the specifications of the winner of the first bidding, it claimed.

"In other words, there will be no competition for the bid of ammunition as the manufacturer of the launchers in the first bid is the only manufacturer of the ammunition that will fit such launchers," STX Korea added.

Arsenio Andolong, DND Public Affairs Service director, said the action of the BAC should not be considered as splitting the contract.

He explained that the separation of the procurement of the platforms with launchers and procurement of missiles and munitions was the result of technical discussions with eligible bidders that included STX Korea, STX France, HHI, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Navanta S.A. and Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering Co.

Andolong added that the eligible bidders suggested to the Philippine Navy's technical working group to acquire missiles or munitions through a government-to-government transaction, to facilitate the export-import license

of the defense items.

The DND official maintained that the department did not violate any provisions of Republic Act (RA) 9184 or the Procurement Reform Act in modifying the bidding documents.

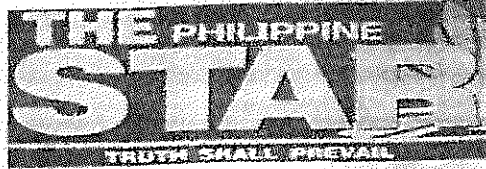
"It must be emphasized that the frigate project or Lot 1 was undertaken through a two-stage bidding as provided for under Section 30.3 of RA 9184 and its IRR (Implementing Rules and Regulations)," he pointed out.

"In this modality, due to the nature of the requirements of the project, the required technical specifications . . . of the contracts cannot be precisely defined in advance bidding, therefore, the procuring entity shall prepare the bidding documents including the technical specification in the form of performance criteria only," Andolong said.

"Thus prospective bidders shall be requested at the first stage to submit their respective eligibility requirements and initial technical proposals only. Subsequently, meetings or discussions will be held by the BAC with those eligible bidders who passed the first bidding in order to come up with the final revised technical specifications," Andolong explained.

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Commonsense

By MARICHU A. VILLANUEVA

Chief spook speaks up

National Security Adviser (NSA) Hermogenes Esperon Jr. spoke for the first time since President Rodrigo Duterte declared a state of lawless violence in Mindanao last Sept. 3.

Breaking his self-imposed silence – as required most of the time by his job as the government's chief spook – Esperon confirmed intelligence authorities are following leads the Davao blast may be part of a much bigger plot than a mere act of terrorism.

Without getting into details, Esperon assuaged the public that government agencies tasked to protect the country from the enemies of the state are doing their best to head off terror attempts. He disclosed that the Davao blast that killed 15 people and injured 100 others have some shades of destabilization plot against the Duterte administration.

As national security adviser, Esperon has under his command the resources and personnel of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency. The NICA has inter-agency support from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Philippine Coast Guard and Bureau of Immigration among other law enforcement arms.

Himself a retired AFP chief of staff, Esperon speaks from his experience since he entered as a cadet at the Philippine Military Academy. He graduated from PMA in 1974, or two years after the late president Ferdinand Marcos declared martial law. Citing lawless violence across the country, Marcos imposed martial law through Proclamation 1081 on Sept. 21, 1972.

This sad chapter in our country's history marked its 44th anniversary on Wednesday and coincided with our weekly *Kapitan sa Manila Bay* at Café Adriatico in Malate, Manila where we had Esperon as featured guest.



Esperon doused cold waters to concerns on the possible return of martial rule in our country.

Martial law fears arouse from pronouncements of Esperon's fellow Cabinet official who espoused "constitutional authoritarianism" for President Duterte. Aside from the declaration of a state of emergency that empowers President Duterte to call the AFP to help the PNP quell lawless violence, Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador Panelo floated the idea of giving the commander-in-chief expanded powers under a "constitutional dictatorship" to give him powers over the executive and legislative branches to speed up reforms.

"He (President Duterte) will not go for it," Esperon said.

Smarting from the decision of President Duterte to allow the burial of Marcos at the *Libingan ng mga Bayani*, foes and critics now accuse him of laying the groundwork for martial law in the country. The Supreme Court, however, has issued a temporary injunction against the burial of Marcos pending resolution of the petitions filed before it.

Esperon could not be pinned down to reveal if they suspect the destabilization plots come from rival political camps. President Duterte earlier pointed to the Liberal Party (LP), the erstwhile party in power, to be plotting to impeach him.

President Duterte admitted having sensed obvious slanted reports here and abroad linking him to alleged extrajudicial killings in the ongoing police operations against illegal drugs.

A few days earlier, no less than Presidential Communications Office Secretary Martin Andanar bared to Malacañang reporters about supposed ouster plots against President Duterte. The anti-Duterte group allegedly wants him out of Malacañang by January 2017.

Andanar said a Cabinet member learned of the supposed plot while on official trip in the United States. The Cabinet official said unnamed Filipino-Americans based there were purportedly hatching the ouster plot. Andanar refused to name the Cabinet official. Currently on official trip in New York are presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella and Department of Foreign Affairs Secretary Perfecto Yasay Jr.

In fact, Esperon disclosed, they have detected 'funds moving.' Esperon stopped to say 'who' and 'where' the funds are going, except that they know the 'why.'

Esperon declined to elaborate on this alleged ouster plot. He is willing to bet big-time though that narco syndicates are funding the campaign to oust President Duterte in retaliation to his administration's all out war against illegal drugs.

In fact, Esperon disclosed, they have detected "funds moving." Esperon stopped to say "who" and "where" the funds are going, except that they know the "why."

Esperon gave assurance that President Duterte is not a power-hungry leader contrary to fears foisted by his bitter critics and arch political enemies. He said President Duterte has been in the forefront of the campaign for a shift to a federal form of government that would subdivide the country into federal states since he was Davao City mayor. So how can someone who would lose so much jurisdiction over federal states be a power-hungry dictator, Esperon argued.

As a lawyer and prosecutor for so many years, Esperon said President Duterte knows the limits of the laws. Esperon further averred to President Duterte's strict adherence to the 1987 Constitution to carry out what needs to be done for the country during his watch.

"So do we call him a constitutional dictator, or do we call him a forceful law enforcer, enforcer of the laws of the land, enforcer against criminality, enforcer against illegal drugs, enforcer against corruption, enforcer for good governance?" Esperon asked, adding: "Be the judge."

The former Davao City mayor is better known as "the punisher." Nonetheless, Esperon said President Duterte won 16 million votes on a campaign promise to suppress illegal drugs and corruption.

This is why Esperon said he is very confident no destabilization plot will prosper while President Duterte enjoys the trust and support of 91 percent of Filipinos based on the latest surveys on his first 50 days in office.

Esperon admitted the country's narco problem is so pervasive and is one of the immediate threats to national security. With an estimated 3.7 million Filipinos as drug addicts, he too, is worried.

Speaking as chief spook, Esperon vows to help President Duterte stamp out the narco menace in our country before it's too late.

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ONLINE NEWS

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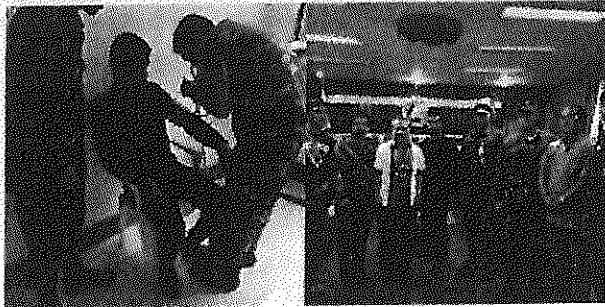
www.dwdd.com.ph

FREEDOM | Another Indonesian Released in Sulu

Alvin Santiago September 22, 2016 0 Comment breaking, Headlines

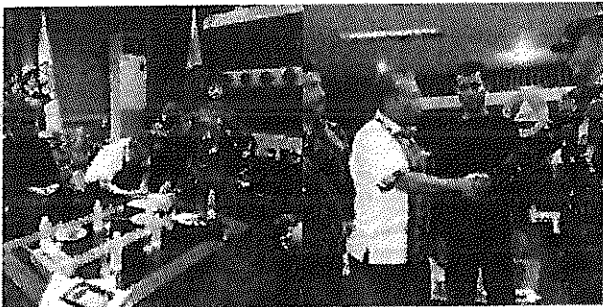
CAMP BAUTISTA, Sulu (DWDD) – Another Indonesian kidnap victim was released in Sulu Thursday morning as troops continue intensified rescue efforts.

The released hostage was identified thru his passport as Herman Bin Manggak, 30 years old. He is the sixth Indonesian freed from Abu Sayyaf captivity since Pres Rodrigo Duterte assumed office and ordered an intensified rescue effort.



Herman was officially turned over to military custody at 12nn by the local government of Sulu and was immediately taken to Camp Bautista hospital in Jolo for check-up and processing.

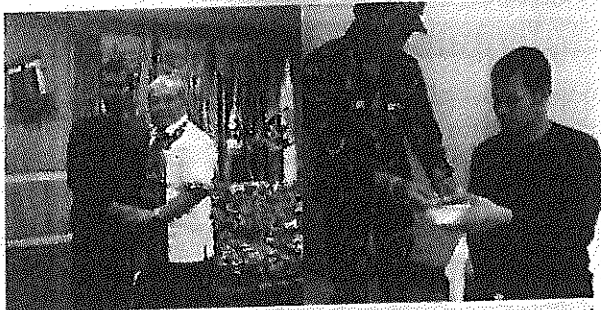
Talking to an interpreters, he asked for food and relayed how government troops nearly rescued him three times as they engaged the ASG in fierce gunbattles. "The release of the victim is the result of relentless focused military operations combined with efforts of different sectors particularly LGU of Sulu and other stakeholders"



Brig.Gen. Arnel Dela Vega, commander of Joint Taskforce Sulu said Several kidnap victims were successively rescued or released after the intensified rescue efforts and arrival of more troops in Sulu.

It may be recalled that Martina Yee who was kidnapped by armed men in Sirawai was rescued yesterday in Indanan Sulu by elements of the 35th Infantry Battalion, only two days after her captivity; the fastest and successful rescue operation conducted on a kidnap victim by armed men before she can be further turned over to the ASG.

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



The swift rescue of Yee was attributed by authorities to a well-coordinated effort by AFP and PNP with the help of civilian populace from Sirawai to Sibuco and Zamboanga City to Sulu who informed and alerted troops on the presence of armed men.

Gen. Ricardo Visaya, the AFP Chief of Staff, commended the troops for the success. "Let me commend all the troops for a well-coordinated and incessant two-day rescue operation that led to the successful rescue of Martina Lyn Yee who was kidnapped in Sirawai, Zamboanga del Norte on 19 Sep 2016. As your Chief of Staff, I am truly proud of this accomplishment, noting that this is the first time that we have intercepted the ASG while they are still enroute to their hiding place. Your dedication in this accomplishment will be in the annals of the AFP's history. Congratulations and keep up the good work!" Gen. Visaya said. IS Tm – JTF SULU / MCAG

www.mindanaoexaminer.com

Sayyafs free another Indonesian hostage in Philippines

Posted: 3:35 pm, September 22, 2016 by Desk Man

ZAMBOANGA CITY – The Philippine military on Thursday said Abu Sayyaf militants have freed a kidnapped Indonesian skipper of a fishing boat in the southern province of Sulu in the Muslim autonomous region in Mindanao.

It said the 38-year old Herman Bin Manggak, who was kidnapped along two others on August 3 in Sabah, Malaysia was handed over by the Abu Sayyaf to the former rebel group Moro National Liberation Front under Nur Misuari.

The Western Mindanao Command did not release details surrounding the release of the Indonesian or whether ransom had been paid to the militants whose group is tied to the Islamic State.

But security officials said Herman was turned over by the MNLF to the military's Joint Task Force Sulu on September 22 where the foreigner was interviewed by army interrogators at Camp Teodulfo Bautista before being handed over to the Western Mindanao Command.

"Western Mindanao Command emphasizes the efforts of Joint Task Force Sulu troops in conducting continuous focused military operations to track down and destroy the Abu Sayyaf group responsible for the series of kidnappings and atrocities in the area," the military said.

Malaysian authorities said Herman is the captain of a Malaysian-flagged fishing vessel and that two of his crew members – an Indonesian and a Malaysian national – had been released earlier by the kidnappers, who originally demanded 10,000 ringgit ransom.

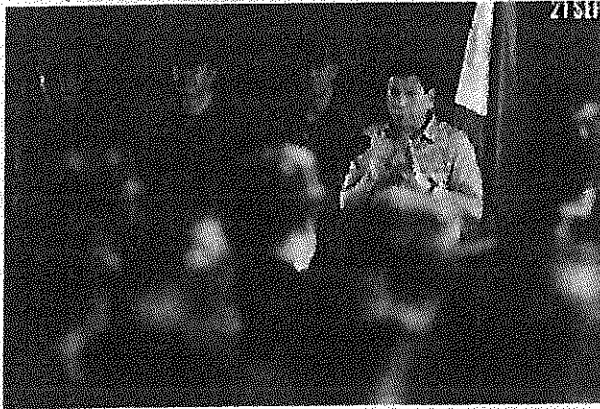
The MNLF did not release any statement, but Misuari's group helped seek the release of over a dozen Indonesian hostages, including a Norwegian man kidnapped last year in Samal Island in Davao del Norte province in Mindanao. (Mindanao Examiner)

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

www.dwdd.com.ph

PERSONAL INTERACTION | Duterte visits 9ID in CamSur

Marycel Necio Batara September 22, 2016 0 Comment #KATROPA, 9ID, bicol, duterte



PILI, Camarines Sur — President Rodrigo R. Duterte arrived here Wednesday afternoon and proceeded to Camp Elias Angeles, headquarters of the 9th Infantry Division (ID) of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in Barangay San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur, to visit the troops.

Maj. Gen. Manolito P. Orense, commander of the 9th ID, also known as the Spear Division, gave a situation briefing to the President when he arrived at the Officers' Club at around 3:30 p.m. or four and a half hours later than his scheduled arrival of 11 a.m.

At around 4:30 p.m. when the President started his speech before the soldiers in Bicol, he initially dwelt on the "encompassing" illegal drug problem, which he said, has come to destroy the nation.

He said the drug menace will "destroy your children and the next generation."

But the President said "the technicality of the law makes it hard for me to deal with the problem on illegal drugs."

He added: "What is very disturbing about this country now, ang droga kasi within the government na ang away." (the fight against illegal drugs has reached the ranks of the government)

The President made passing remarks on how the United States became interested in Mindanao.

"Naging interesado ang mga Amerikano sa Mindanao kasi walang typhoon (The Americans became interested in Mindanao because there is no typhoon). But they could not get workers to work for them," he said.

President Duterte gave assurance to the soldiers that "there will be an inclusive government with the left but there will not be a coalition government."

With regards to the problem with the Abu Sayyaf Group or ASG, the President said, "I do not want to talk with the Abu Sayyaf Group."

He told the Bicol soldiers to "make the most of this time to come up with doctrines on how to deal with terrorism."

Before the end of his speech at around 5 p.m., the President gave three Glock 30 and four magazines to the soldiers which he said were for use in encounters with the terrorists.

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"Para sa engkuwentro sa mga terorista," he said.

The President has been going around military camps in the country in previous weeks with a promise to the soldiers that they will be given what is due them while soliciting support for his programs.

Presidential Communications Office Secretary Martin Andanar earlier said President Duterte has to visit the military camps just like the previous Presidents to boost the soldiers' morale and to personally interact with them on the government's programs lined up for the AFP.

In past weeks, government troops from Bicol under the 9th ID have been sent to help fight the ASG in Mindanao.

On September 3, the 49th Infantry Battalion of the 9th ID was sent to augment the troops of the Western Mindanao Command. Soldiers from the 65th IB, also from the 9th ID, were earlier deployed to the same area.

The President's visit here in Camp Elias Angeles was his third visit to military camps across the country in a span of four days. On Tuesday, September 20, the President took the time to visit and talk to the Agila troops of the Philippine Army at Camp General Manuel T. Yan Sr. in Mawab, Compostela province.

Earlier, on Sunday, Sept. 18, the President visited the 5th Infantry Division (ID), at Camp Melchor F. Dela Cruz in Isabela. (PNA)

www.mindanaotimes.net

Medal of valor winners to get house and lot: Duterte

Posted on September 22, 2016 by Yas D. Ocampo

PRESIDENT Rodrigo R. Duterte said that the soldiers have the full backing of the national government, and their bravery would be rewarded promptly.

"Give me Valor, and I will give you something very, very good."

Mr. Duterte was a guest at the 10th Infantry Division Camp Manuel T. Yan, Sr., in Mawab, Compostela Valley Tuesday afternoon.

"It's true, I have no money but I will raise it. I have so many friends who are millionaires. You will immediately own a house and lot here in Davao (for those who will win the medal of valor)," he promised.

The medal of valor is the highest military honor the government can bestow on a soldier in the line of duty. Republic Act 9049, or the Act granting monthly gratuity and privileges to an awardee of the medal of honor, guarantees benefits and rewards for the recipients of the medal.

Recipients of the honor receive P20,000 in monthly gratuity for the lifetime, aside from salaries and pensions.

Mr. Duterte also promised to provide body vests and the acquisition of Barrett sniper rifles for the troops.

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"I have told all your commanders, the Chief of Staff, that you will get everything you need to fight the enemy of the state," Mr. Duterte said.

President Duterte said that he was already impressed with the capabilities of the Philippine army's snipers. "The Philippine military is doing good on snipers, so you better train," he said.

According to the president, the Philippine Army should start training to be involved in counter-terrorism operations. He said that the military should invest more in training in the profiling of bombing or terror suspects.

President Duterte said that the soldiers should expand their training capabilities, especially since the Philippine war on terror includes only a handful of suspects, who were likely not interested in bombing the hinterlands.

"You'll have to study crime and detection, bomba, tapos iyong profiling. How to deal with them, kasi ang kalaban natin diyan hindi naman paramihan – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5," he said.

www.dwdd.com.ph

ANTI-ILLEGAL DRUG CAMPAIGN | Army shares camp in Mindanao for rehab facility

Marycel Necio Batara September 22, 2016 0 Comment #KATROPA, AgusanRehab



Agusan Rehab (Photo from Google)

FORT BONIFACIO, Taguig City – An Army camp in Mindanao became the pioneer military host of a drug rehabilitation center in support to the anti-illegal drug campaign of the president.

The Army's 401st Infantry Brigade opened today a 2-hectare facility inside its camp in partnership with the province of Agusan del Sur.

The center, called as the Residential Treatment and Rehabilitation Center (RTRC), is inaugurated today with Atty. Salvador Panelo as Guest of Honor representing the president.

The RTRC can accommodate 60 patients at a time and shall be managed and administered by the provincial government of Agusan del Sur.

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

The establishment of the RTRC is in line with the province's drug rehabilitation program called, Substance Use Recovery and Enlightenment (SURE).

SURE aims to give victims of drug use a second chance to life and keep them away from drug syndicates who are covering their tracks.

Gov. "Eddiebong" Plaza of Agusan Sur praised the local Army unit for the significant support in his anti-drug campaign.

Plaza said that his province takes pride of having the 401st Brigade as an adopted Army unit and a partner in his provincial development programs.

The Army brigade camp based in the town of Prosperidad of the province has a total land area of 334 hectares.

Col. Cristobal N. Zaragoza, the Army's 401st Brigade Commander, said that this is part of a team collaboration existing between the military and the local government.

"We will give our all-out support to this campaign," said Zaragoza. "A drug-free province is necessary for a drug-free country."

www.pna.gov.ph

Agusan Del Sur-based Army unit opens drug rehab facility

MANILA, Sept. 22 (PNA) --- The 401st Infantry Brigade, which is based in Prosperidad, Agusan Del Sur, formally opened a two-hectare drug rehabilitation center Thursday.

Army spokesperson Col. Benjamin Hao said this is in support of President Rodrigo Duterte's anti-illegal drug campaign.

The two-hectare facility is called the "Residential Treatment and Rehabilitation Center" (RTRC) and inaugurated Thursday with Presidential Legal Adviser Atty. Salvador Panelo as guest-of-honor, representing President Duterte.

The RTRC can accommodate 60 patients at a time and will be administered by the provincial government of Agusan Del Sur, Hao added.

The establishment of the RTRC is in line with the province's drug rehabilitation program called Substance Use Recovery and Enlightenment (SURE).

SURE aims to give victims of drug use a second chance to life and keep them away from drug syndicates who are covering their tracks.

The 401st Infantry Brigade camp in Prosperidad has a total land area of 334 hectares. (PNA)
LAP/PFN

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DND in the market for PHP256-M worth of 'Coast Watch System Requirements'

MANILA, Sept. 22 (PNA) -- In line with efforts to enhance the country's maritime situational awareness, the Department of National Defense (DND) announced that it has allocated the sum of PHP256,360,000 for the acquisition of "Coast Watch System Requirements" needed to enhance the MSA capability of its two Northern Luzon stations.

Funding will be sourced from the AFP Modernization Act Trust Fund, DND Special Bids and Awards Committee (SBAC) chair Undersecretary Raymundo DV Elefante said.

The project will again be undertaken through alternative mode of procurement which is Limited Source Bidding. "Likewise, the mode of procurement involves direct invitation to bid by the procuring entity from a set of pre-selected suppliers or consultants with known experience and proven capability relative to the requirements of a particular contract," Elefante said.

These are Datatrail/Elbit System Ltd, Indra, Baybridge Services (Far East), Pronet Systems Integrated Network, Elita System Ltd, HITT (Scan Marine, Inc.), Ltd One Commerce Int'l Corp (Signalis Rep).

They are also required to sign an undertaking for the non-disclosure of details for the project.

Submission and opening of bid envelopes in on Oct. 3, 10:00 a.m. at DND SBAC Secretariat, Right Wing Basement, DND Building, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. (PNA) BNB/PFN/Lorevie Dela Paz (OJT)

www.pna.gov.ph

Pampanga to ink deal with DND, VMCC on veterans' healthcare

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga, Sept. 22 (PNA) -- The provincial government of Pampanga headed by Governor Lilia Pineda, Department of National Defense (DND) and the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMCC) will partner to bring medical services closer to veterans.

VMCC medical professional staff Dr. Dominador Chiong Jr. and Dr. Martha Nucum met on Thursday with Governor Pineda, Provincial Administrator Andres S. Pangilinan Jr. and officer-in-charge of the Provincial Health Office Dr. Jose Antonio Rivera to discuss the veterans hospitalization and medical care program that can be implemented in 11 provincial and district hospitals.

Chiong said the program aims to address the health care needs of the veterans and their qualified dependents who do not have convenient access to VMCC and provide partial subsidy for the hospitalization expenses and reimbursement of certain select procedures and additional benefits.

Living World War II veterans, Armed Forces of the Philippines retirees and former members of the Philippine Constabulary (PC) and their dependents are covered in the program, Chiong said.

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Rivera said the provincial government will put up a veterans ward in the 11 provincial and district hospitals and train nurses that will coordinate with the beneficiaries.

Rivera also said that a veterans summit will also be conducted to inform the veterans and retirees in Pampanga and other provinces in Central Luzon of the benefits that they can get under the said program.

A medical mission will also be conducted during the event that will render medical consultation, dental check-up, eye examination and ECG, among others.

A help desk will also be established where concerns of veterans regarding pensions, IDs and re-validation will be processed.

According to Chiong, "there are about 17,000 living World War II veterans and 424,000 retirees and their dependents in the whole country who are entitled to healthcare benefits at present. Every year, about 5,000 retirees are being added on the list." (PNA)

LAP/ZST/JM

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PHIBLEX 33 | Phi-US Annual Naval Bilateral Exercise

Alvin Santiago September 22, 2016 0 Comment breaking, Headlines

MARINE BARRACKS RUDIARDO BROWN, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City (DWDD) – The Philippine and United States Navy will be conducting the 33rd edition of the "Philippine Bilateral Exercise Or PhiBLEX" from October 4-12, 2016 at the Headquarters Philippine Marine Corps, Fort Andres Bonifacio, Taguig City.

According to Cpt Ryan F Lacuesta, PN (M), Director, Marine Corps Public Affairs Office Public Affairs Office, the exercise will have different events that will enhance the interoperability and capability of the naval forces of both countries.

Some of the exercise activities are as follows:

PHIBLEX33 Opening Ceremony on October 4, 2016 to be held at the Acero Hall, Headquarters Philippine Marine Corps, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City

Amphibious Landing Exercise on October 7, 2016 at the Naval Education Training Command in San Antonio Zambales.

Combined Live Fire exercise (CALFEX) on October 10, 2016 at the Crow Valley in Tarlac.

Turn-over ceremony of Engineering project at the Palawig Elementary School and San Vicente Elem School on October 11, 2016 at Sta Ana, Cagayan, and,

Closing Ceremony PHIBLEX33 on October 12, 2016 at the Acero Hall, Headquarters Philippine Marine Corps, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. **PAO PMC / MCAG**

www.pna.gov.ph

PHL Air Force flies 34,423 kg. of relief goods to Batanes Island

By Priam F. Nepomuceno

MANILA, Sept. 22 (PNA) -- The Philippine Air Force (PAF) has flown 34,423 kg. of emergency supplies and equipment to Typhoon 'Ferdie'-ravaged Batanes Island.

The supplies were carried by one Lockheed C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft and one Airbus Military 295 medium transport, Air Force spokesperson Col. Araus Robert Musico said in an interview with the Philippines News Agency (PNA) Thursday.

Relief flights took place over the weekend, he added.

Musico said the C-130 transported 32,200 kg. and the C-295, 2,223 kg. of relief goods and equipment. More goods will be flown if needed, he said.

The Air Force currently has four C-130 and three C-295 aircraft in its fleet.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) earlier announced that it is focusing on early recovery operations in Batanes Island.

"There is now an ongoing coordination with the Regional DRRMC (Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council) for the formation of a Post-Disaster Needs Analysis Team to be deployed to Batanes," NDRRMC executive director Ricardo Jalad said.

A psychosocial stress debriefing team had left for Batanes Tuesday to help typhoon victims traumatized by Typhoon Ferdie.

Jalad also said that power and communication lines knocked down during the storm are being restored. (PNA)
CVL/PFN