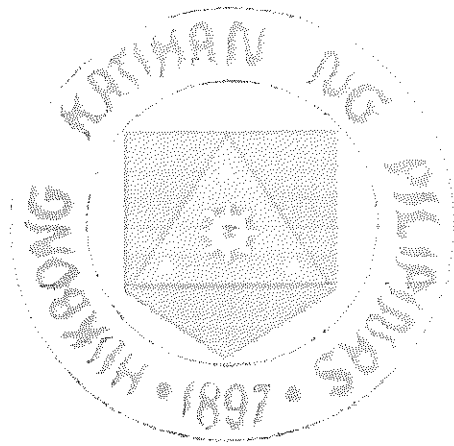


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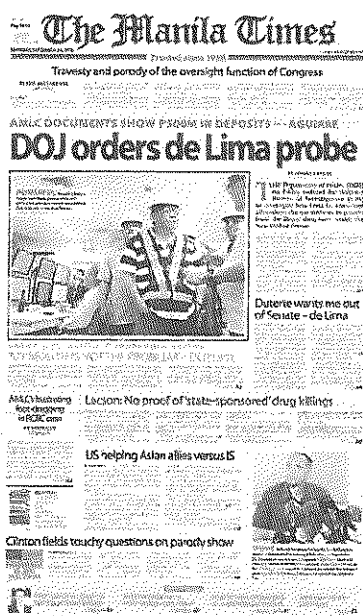
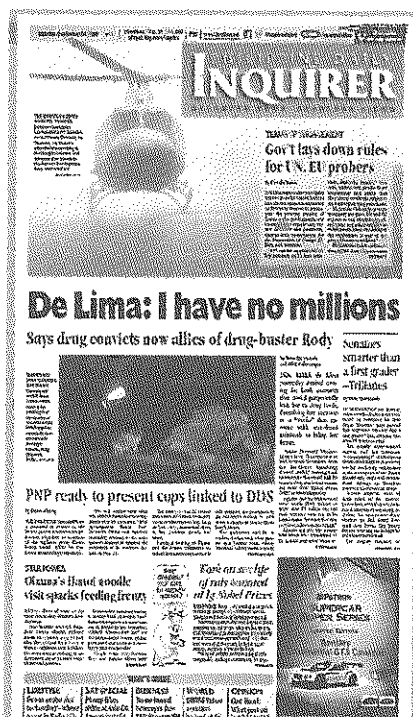
**24 September 2016**

**Saturday**

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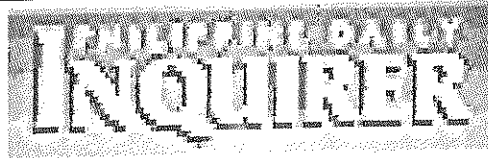
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**PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER**

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | SEPTEMBER 24, 2016 | SATURDAY

**INTERTROPICAL CONVERGENCE ZONE (ITCZ) ACROSS SOUTHERN LUZON AND VISAYAS**  
(September 23; 5:00 PM)

**PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)**

SUNRISE	SUNSET
5:45 AM	5:51 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
11:42 PM	12:50 PM
FULL MOON	LAST QUARTER
SEP 17 3:05 PM	SEP 23 5:58 PM
LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
11:50 AM	2:47 AM
0.11 Meter	1.14 Meter

Partly cloudy to fine cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms.  
Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms.

METRO MANILA		TAGAYTAY		TACLOBAN	
25-32°C	25-31°C	22-30°C	23-30°C	25-32°C	24-32°C
TUGUEGARAO		LEGAZPI		CAGAYAN DE ORO	
25-32°C	24-31°C	25-32°C	25-32°C	25-33°C	25-33°C
LAOAG		PUERTO PRINCESA		METRO DAVAO	
25-33°C	25-32°C	25-31°C	25-32°C	25-33°C	24-33°C
BAGUIO		ILOILO/BACOLOD		ZAMBOANGA	
16-22°C	17-22°C	25-31°C	25-32°C	25-32°C	25-33°C
SBMA/CLARK		METRO CEBU			
25-33°C	25-32°C	25-31°C	25-32°C		

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**SAGOT KO, PADALA HOI**

24 September 2016

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
**INQUIRER**

Page: A-1

# De Lima: I have no millions

## Says drug convicts now allies of drug-buster Rody

By Tarra Quismundo  
and Gil C. Cabacungan

SEN. LEILA de Lima yesterday denied owning fat bank accounts that could purportedly link her to drug lords, describing her accusers as a "mafia" that cavorts with convicted criminals to bring her down.

Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II on Thursday said he had received documents from the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) showing bank transactions that could link De Lima to drug syndicates operating from New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa City.

Aguirre said the transactions were worth P500 million to more than P1 billion but the bank accounts were not in De Lima's name "because she uses people to collect on her behalf."

Aguirre did not say exactly how much was transferred to De Lima's purported bank ac-

From page A1

counts. That, he said, will be disclosed when the DOJ files charges against De Lima.

The purported AMLC documents are expected to be used as evidence against De Lima.

"I have no millions or billions in my bank accounts. And I have no dummy accounts. Any alleged accounts that would be linked to me and my alleged drug links can only be fictitious," De Lima told the INQUIRER.

### Sleeping with convicts

"Secretary Aguirre and his operators are a mafia of lies and intrigues, who go to bed with criminal convicts just to get their perjured testimonies. In exchange, they give them immunity, immunity for drug lords and convicted criminals," she said in a text message.

De Lima's 2014 financial disclosure, the latest submitted during her time as a member of former President Benigno Aquino III's Cabinet, showed that her net worth was P4.88 million, slightly higher than the P4.59 million she declared in 2013.

(DOJ) is accusing De Lima, an outspoken critic of President Duterte's scorched-earth policy on illegal drugs, of profiting from narcotics operations run by convicted drug kingpins serving their sentences at NBP.

Several convicted drug lords are serving as the DOJ's chief witnesses in a House of Representatives inquiry into the illegal drug trade at NBP.

Administration allies in the House launched the investigation earlier this week after De Lima opened an investigation in the Senate of alleged extrajudicial killings in Mr. Duterte's bloody war on drugs.

Mr. Duterte's allies in the Senate also stripped De Lima of her post as chair of the committee on justice and human rights, which is investigating the extrajudicial killings, on Monday after she presented a confessed hit man who linked Mr. Duterte to the killings of about 1,000 criminals and political oppo-

DELIMA/A10

IC AFFAIR

Purpos

The Department of Justice

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AGUIRRE

MARIANNE BERMUDEZ



DE LIMA

BULLIT MARQUEZ/AP

nents by a liquidation squad when the President was still the mayor of Dayao City.

The President's allies elected Sen. Richard Gordon to replace De Lima as head of the committee.

De Lima has repeatedly denied links to the drug trade at NBP, saying the allegations were part of efforts to discredit her after she launched the inquiry into the extrajudicial killings of drug suspects.

### Congress warned

After winning the presidential election in May, Mr. Duterte warned Congress not to investigate a war on drugs that he planned to launch after taking office or there would be a clash between him and lawmakers.

During the campaign, Mr. Duterte promised to kill tens of thousands of criminals and wipe out illegal drugs in six months, a timetable that he revised earlier this week, extending the campaign by another six months.

More than 3,000 drug suspects have been killed by police and vigilantes since Mr. Duterte took office on June 30, alarming the United Nations, United States, European Union and international human rights groups.

The foul-mouthed Mr. Duterte cursed them all—calling the United Nations and the European Union “stupid” and US President Barack Obama a “son of a bitch”—before saying on Thursday that he would allow UN and EU investigations of his war on drugs provided their representatives answer his questions about Western countries’ track record in human

rights.

As justice secretary in the Aquino administration, De Lima led raids on NBP several times, uncovering luxury villas and a shocking haul of contraband, including drugs, cash and gadgets belonging to high-profile inmates, several of whom testified against her at the House inquiry on Tuesday.

Presented by Aguirre, the convicts attested to De Lima's involvement in the drug trade at NBP, saying another drug lord, Jaybee Sebastian, even imposed sale quotas to raise funds for her senatorial run in May.

### 'Sham' inquiry

De Lima, who has refused to participate in what she described as a “sham” inquiry in the administration-controlled House, said on Thursday that Sebastian was a government asset.

De Lima noted the irony: the Duterte administration, while fiercely fighting illegal drugs, is now relying on drug convicts to malign her, the same drug lords the administration had earlier claimed were behind a plot to assassinate Mr. Duterte.

“[T]he drug lords and criminals in Bilibid are [now] the allies of the President in his war on drugs. Aguirre doesn't even notice how laughable their situation is now. The President has on his side the drug lords who, according to them (the administration), had chipped in to raise P1 billion to have him killed,” De Lima said.

In a news conference on Thursday, De Lima said some of the convicts could have been pressured to testify against her.

She said she had learned that one NBP inmate was taken to the military intelligence service and was “psychologically tortured” to testify against her.

In a talk with reporters yesterday, Aguirre said De Lima's reasoning was “out of line.”

“This reminds me of a quote [that] says, ‘Whom the gods destroy, they first make her mad,’” he said, messing up the Greek proverb, “Those whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad.”

### NBI to lead probe

Aguirre said the National Bureau of Investigation would lead the next stage of investigation of De Lima, which would follow the money trail, as indicated in the AMLC report, to the bank accounts of several private corporations.

“The NBI will dig deep into the ownership of these corporations and establish their [links] to the drug lords,” he said.

Although there is no direct link to De Lima, Aguirre said the AMLC report covered the accounts of more than 10 of her associates, friends and staff members.

“For example, if we found P500 million [in] the account of Ronnie Dayan (De Lima's former driver and bodyguard and alleged lover), we all know he has no income to justify having that much. So the conclusion of people, the judge, is that it came from his boss. It's that simple,” he said.

Aguirre said he believed the DOJ had enough evidence from the convicts and other resource persons who testified in the House inquiry to file charges against De Lima, but the department had requested more documents from the AMLC to make an airtight case against the senator.

Aguirre said he would bring new witnesses from NBP to the House inquiry, which would resume next month. Sebastian has refused to testify against De Lima, but Aguirre said other people, including a retired state prosecutor, had volunteered to help the DOJ get evidence against her. *With a report from Estrella Torres*

24 September 2016

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

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# No letup in offensive

## vs ASG

**T**he Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has rejected calls by Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) founding chairman Nur Misuari to suspend military operations against the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) while negotiations are still ongoing for the release of the 15 remaining hostages of the terrorist group.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said suspending military operations against the ASG is not possible as of the moment.

Air Force Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla, AFP spokesman, said it's very im-

portant for military troops in Sulu and Basilan to continue with their military operations while negotiations are ongoing for the release of the other hostages to prevent members of the bandit group from escaping.

In previous years, he said, suspension of military operations led to the escape of the Abu Sayyaf bandits.

Padilla, however, said they are still open for a brief halt in military operations if another hostage or hostages will be turned over to authorities.

In an ambush interview at the 44th anniversary of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) held at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, ►12



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5-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

**NO WAY** – The military has rejected an appeal by Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) founding Chairman Nur Misuari to suspend operations against the Abu Sayyaf. (AFP)

## No letup in offensive...

◀1

Lorenzana said the request for suspension of military operations was made by Misuari last Sunday following the release of Norwegian national Kjartan Sekkingstad from the hands of his Abu Sayyaf captors.

Sekkingstad was abducted, together with three others, on September 21, 2015 at the Ocean View Resort in Samal Island.

Lorenzana said the request was relayed by Misuari to Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Secretary Jesus Dureza.

Lorenzana said giving in to the request could give enough "breathing space" for the bandit group to recuperate, escape, and strengthen their forces.

"Sinabi ko na hindi ko magagawa

ayan baka magkaroon ng breathing space ang ASG at lalo sila lumaki. Kung mayroon siyang (Misuari) negosasyon sa isang lugar o sitio o specific area, doon ko lang io-order pero hindi buong Jolo," Lorenzana said.

Last Sunday, another Indonesian abducted by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) was released by his captors in Sulu.

Army Major Filemon I. Tan Jr., the spokesman of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Western Mindanao Command (WestMinCom), identified the freed Indonesian national as Herman Bin Manggak, 38. He was released to the MNLF last Sunday and later handed over to the AFP Joint Task Force Sulu (JTFS) in Sulu province at 11 a.m. Thursday.

Manggak, it was recalled, was abducted by armed men off the waters of Sandakan, Sabah on August 3, 2016.

The military said the bandit group is still holding captive six Malaysians, four Indonesians, four Filipinos, and a Dutch national.

The AFP had earlier said that focused military operations also led to the release over the weekend of Sekkingstad and Indonesian fishermen Lorens Kote, Teodurus Kofung, and Emmanuel.

Padilla, in the same interview, said that a handful of Abu Sayyaf fighters have already been killed due to intense focus military operations by the AFP Joint Task Force Sulu.

"Halos 481 sila bago nagkaroon ng sunod-sunod na engkwentro, maaring mga 300 na lang sila ngayon," Padilla stressed.

29 September 2016



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## Duterte to Army: Take control of paramilitary units

DAVAO CITY – President Duterte has instructed the Philippine Army to immediately take full control of existing paramilitary units, particularly those involved in fighting leftist guerrillas.

The President mentioned in particular the Bagani Command operating mainly in northern Mindanao.

"We are trying our best to come up with a peaceful country," the President said, stressing that peace

cannot be achieved if paramilitary units continue to operate.

"But you know, I have noticed from many reports that the government-backed paramilitary units are still operating. I am now ordering the Army to take full control over this Bagani command and the there is another group, I forgot the name. So many," the President told reporters in Cagayan de Oro City Thursday af-

temoon.

The President's order came on the heels of a unilateral ceasefire he declared with communist guerrillas.

The President explained that in spite of an apparent lull in clashes between government forces and the leftist guerrillas for a month now, there have also been reports of continued operation of paramilitary groups.

– Edith Regalado

24 September 2016

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
**INQUIRER**

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# Du30 orders Army: Rein in militias

DAVAO CITY—President Duterte has ordered the military to rein in “lumad” militias being used in counterinsurgency operations, saying while a truce is in effect between the government and communist rebels, he has been receiving reports that paramilitary groups continued to operate.

During his visit to the police regional command in Cagayan de Oro City on Thursday, Mr. Duterte ordered the Armed Forces to “take full control” of the Bagani, an anticommunist paramilitary group composed of so-called lumad warriors but which is being linked to abuses in lumad areas in Mindanao.

He said the military should also stop the operations of “another group” of militiamen, which the President said he could not name because there are “so many” paramilitary groups that he already forgot what they are called.

“Let’s stop the fighting because we are really trying our best to come up with a peaceful country,” said Mr. Duterte in Cagayan De Oro.

“The communists have agreed to talk so we are talking,” he said, referring to the revival of the peace process between the government and National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP), an umbrella organization of underground

leftist groups that include the Communist Party of the Philippines and its armed wing, New People’s Army.

“This fighting in the mountain has been going on ever

since,” Mr. Duterte said on Thursday. “But you know, I have noticed from many reports that the government-backed paramilitary units are still operating,” the President said.

He said the continued operations of militias, “especially with firearms issued by the government, would undermine the peace process.”

## Goodwill gesture

Luis Jalandoni, chair of the NDFP peace panel, lauded the President’s order. But Jalandoni, a former priest, said the militias should also be disarmed “because they are prejudicing

and sabotaging the peace talks.”

The Bagani has been linked to the killing of political activists, among them Italian priest Fr. Fausto Tentorio.

Hundreds of lumad from Compostela Valley and Bukidnon provinces have been staying in Davao City for more than a year now after they have been harassed by Bagani and another lumad militia, Alamara, in their communities.

Manobo evacuees from Lianaga, Surigao del Sur, had been set to return to their homes following assurances given by the government that it is now safe

for the lumad to go back.

But early this month, only a few Manobo evacuees made it back to their homes after many of them canceled their planned

homecoming amid reports that Army soldiers are still in their community.

The Manobo people fled following a series of raids on their communities by military-backed anticommunist lumad militiamen that led to the killings of three Manobo leaders.

Leaders of Malahutayong Pakugbisog sa mga Sumusunod (Persevering Struggle for the Next Generation) of Mapasu,

an indigenous peoples organization, decided early this month not to allow the return of most of Manobo residents of Lianaga, especially women and children, until after soldiers from the 75th Infantry Battalion had completed their pullout and removed detachments in the area.

## Refuge

More than 2,000 lumad residents of Diatagon village in Lianaga had sought refuge in the Surigao del Sur Sports Center in Tandag City.

Jose Campos, a leader of Mapasu, confronted a military offi-

cer, Col. Isidro Purisima, who heads the Army’s 402nd Brigade, over the continued presence of soldiers in the Manobo community.

“I’m sorry, sir, but we really lost trust in you,” Campos had told Purisima in a dialogue that was supposed to precede the return of the Manobo people to their community in Lianaga.

Campos is elder brother of Dionel Campos, one of three Manobo leaders killed on Sept. 1 last year during a militia raid that sparked the evacuation of Manobo people from Lianaga. **German Lacorte with Chris Panaganiban, Inquirer Mindanao**

oacpa.army2012@gmail.com

people. Sec

# AFP nixes Nur call for a stop to operations against Abu Sayyaf

By RENE ACOSTA  
@reneacostaBM

**T**HE military on Friday rejected the call of Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) Founding Chairman Nur Misuari to stop the operations against the bandit Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in Sulu in order for him and his group to negotiate for the release of kidnap victims.

Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla Jr., Armed Forces spokesman, said the intense operations against the bandits in Sulu and Basilan will continue despite Misuari's plea.

"It is very important now for us to sustain the operation. That [halt of military operations] has happened before and it led to escape [of the enemies]," Padilla said.

"We will only give way to turn-over or transfer [of hostages]," he added.

At least five kidnap victims have been released by the terrorists since last week, with the release having been facilitated through Misuari and his group in Sulu.

Four of the captives, Norwegian Kjartan Sekkingstad and four Indonesians were released on Saturday to a commander of the MNLF, who turned them over to Misuari.

This week another Indonesian was also freed to Misuari and his group before he was turned over to the Joint Task Force Sulu, led by Brig. Gen. Arnel de la Vega.

The military has maintained that the bandits have been forced to release the five as a result of the intense military operations

in Sulu where more than 7,000 soldiers were operating.

It predicted that more captives would be freed, also due to the operations, which were ordered by President Duterte, who earlier ordered the Armed Forces to finish the ASG

"to the last man."

Misuari promised to help in freeing of the remaining Abu captives, which included five Malaysians, three Indonesians, a Dutch and two Filipinos, if the operations were suspended.

Padilla maintained that the military operations will continue, partly because the soldiers have the momentum to finish their mission.

"We believe that the military operations continues to pressure the Abu Sayyaf, and we are on the right track to finally decimate the enemies," he said.

Padilla added that from about 480 fighters, the strength of the ASG has already decreased to around 300 since start of the intensified military operations.

Meanwhile, a former Abu Sayyaf camp on Basilan Island is back in government control.

The government of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) held a one-day dental and medical mission on September 18 to residents of Barangay Baguindan in Tipo-Tipo town to symbolize the government's taking control of the area.

ARMM Gov. Mujiv Hataman, witnessed the turnover ceremony that day.

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

ARMM Vice Gov. Haroun Al-rashid Lucman Jr. and Party-list Rep. Sitti Djalila Turabin-Hataman of Anak Mindanao attended the turnover ceremony.

The regional government's humanitarian emergency action response team provided relief packs to 1,574 families in Barangay Baguindan and Barangay Silangkum and in Al-Barka town. *With Manuel Cayon*

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24 September 2016



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## AFP backs Nur request to suspend offensive vs Sayyaf

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has thumbed down the request of Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) leader Nur Misuari to suspend military operations against the Abu Sayyaf while negotiating for the release of remaining hostages.

AFP spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla stressed the importance of continuing the military offensive against the terrorist group, saying the suspension of operations

By JANVIC MATEO  
would give members of the Abu Sayyaf an opportunity to regroup or escape from authorities.

Padilla said they may only allow the suspension of operations if there will be a turnover of hostages held by the bandit group.

Earlier this week, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana bared the request of Misuari to suspend operations while he negotiates for the release of the remaining hostages.

"I only told the commander to use their judgment because they are on the ground. They can only, maybe, stop operations in areas where the negotiations are taking place, not in all places," Lorenzana told ANC.

During the anniversary of the Philippine Veterans' Affairs Office yesterday, Lorenzana told reporters that they could not grant Misuari's request for the suspension of operations. – With Perseus Echaminada

24 September 2016



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## 20 Abus surrender

At least 20 suspected Abu Sayyaf bandits based in Sumisip, Basilan surrendered on Thursday

Col Thomas Donato Jr. of the 104th Brigade of the 1st Infantry Division, said the bandits, with their sub-leader Katatong Balaman, alias Tatong, turned over eight high-powered firearms and two locally made shotguns.

"This is the result of our relentless operations. The Abu Sayyaf now fear for their lives, leading to the surrender," Donato said.

"We are very open to surrenderees. We want to end this war and pave the way for development in Basilan," he added.

– Cecille Suerte Felipe

24 September 2016

Page. 1

# SOLDIER SELLING ARMS TO 'STATE ENEMIES' NABBED

By PAUL M. GUTIERREZ | JOINT operatives from the Philippine Army, Intelligence Service of the AFP (ISAFP) and the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) arrested an active member of the Philippine Army suspected of selling weapons and ammunition to "armed state enemies" and other lawless elements in Mindanao.

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## SOLDIER...

From Page 1

Arrested last September 20 during a "takedown operation" at the headquarters of the Army's 1st Cavalry Squadron in Camp Jacobo Zobel, Labangan, Zamboanga del Sur, was Technical Sergeant Santiago Caasi (803099), assigned at the Philippine Army's 1st Mechanized Infantry Division.

Caasi, who is under the operational control of the 3rd Scout Ranger Battalion, Southern Command, based in Bgy. Kampo Uno, Lamitan, Basilan, was allegedly caught selling four M203 (grenade launcher) for P2,500 a piece at a "black market" in Lamitan.

Information gathered by the ISAFP and Army Intelligence also disclosed that the soldier, who also uses the name, 'Scout Sergeant Randy Cruz,' had also managed to sell several pieces of M16 and M14 assault rifles in the area, which is a known lair of the terrorist Abu Sayaff Group (ASG).

However, sources declined to confirm if the suspect is also supplying the high-powered rifles and ammunition to the ASG, although it is one angle the military is looking into.

The ASG is now the target of a massive government campaign to put an end to the group's terrorist acts.

Sources said the suspect, who is a native of Pangasinan, is being charged for violation of Article of War 85 or the "waster or unlawful disposition of military properties issued to soldiers."

In a statement, the Army leadership said, "We encourage the public to give us information of such offenses through the 'Army Hotline.'"

"We also give due credence to anonymous but meritorious complaints."

Sources said a deeper investigation is now being undertaken to identify other possible cohorts of Caasi in the military service.

24 September 2016



Page. 3

## Drug rehab center in Army camp

An Army camp in Mindanao became the pioneer military host of a drug rehabilitation center in support to the anti-illegal drug campaign of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

The Army's 401st Infantry Brigade opened Thursday a two-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), was inaugurated with Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador Panelo as guest of honor, representing the President.

Army Col. Benjamin Hao, Army spokesman, said the RTRC can accommodate 60 patients at a time and shall be managed and administered by the provincial government of Agusan del Sur.

Hao said the establishment of the RTRC is in line with the province's drug rehabilitation program called Substance Use Recovery and Enlightenment (SURE). (Francis T. Wakefield)

24 September 2016



Pahina. 2

## Army Major niratrat ng Corporal

**D**ahilan lamang umano sa simpleng alitan, binistay ng bala ang isang Army Major ng isang Corporal sa tahanan nito sa Brgy. Busbus, Jolo Sulu kahapon ng umaga. Kinilala ni Major Felimon Tan, Spokesman ng

AFP Western Mindanao Command ang nasa-wing biktima na si Major Nurhusin Hadjaruddin, Commander ng Army's 52nd Engineer Brigade.

Bandang alas-11:30 ng umaga nang sumugod ang armadong suspek na si Corporal Julhalim In-

**NI JOY CANTOS**

danan sa bahay ni Hadjaruddin na bigla na lamang nitong niratrat.

Ayon kay Tan, nagtamo ng maraming tama ng bala si Hadjaruddin sa iba't-ibang bahagi ng katawan na idineklarang

dead-on arrival sa Kuta Heneral Teodulfo Bautista.

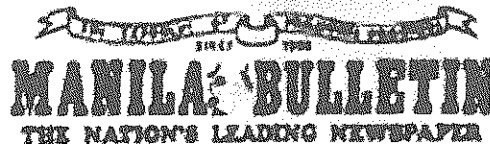
Ang labi ng biktima ay dinala na sa Jolo proper para mailibing sa loob ng 24 oras alinsunod sa tradisyon ng mga Muslim.

Sa pahayag ng mga kasamahang sundalo ni

Indanan nagtanim umano ito ng galit sa nasabing Major na humantong sa malagim na krimen.

Naglunsad na ng manhunt operations ang mga awtoridad upang maaresto ang suspek at mabigyang hustisya ang biktima.

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# Housing for cops, soldiers unoccupied

**T**ACLOBAN CITY – A housing village for policemen and soldiers in a village here remain unoccupied after three years.

At least 800 housing units in Sangyaw Village in the northern part of the city have been finished but unoccupied. The contractor has not turned over the project to the National Housing Authority (NHA) and it has no occupancy permit from the city engineering office.

The Solana Land Development Corporation and Golden Build Corporation are the project's contractors. Both

companies are Manila-based.

NHA regional Estate Management Specialist Dorcas T. Secreto said she cannot say if the developers must be sanctioned for failing to turn over the units on schedule.

Work in Sangyaw Village began in April 2013 and was supposed to be ready for occupancy in August of the same year.

Secreto said 450 units were reserved for the low-salaried personnel of Armed Forces of the Philippines, 450 for the Philippine National Police, and 50

units each for the Bureau of Fire Protection and Bureau of Correction.

City Engineer Dony O. De Paz said no one has applied yet for an occupancy permit. De Paz said it is important that they apply for the permit so a check on the livability of each unit could be conducted.

Sangyaw village is on an eight-hectare property in Tagpuro village, in the northernmost part of Tacloban where Yolanda survivors are mostly relocated.

It is a row housing concept with 40-square meter lot each and a floor area of

22 square meters.

Each unit costs ₱240,000, with ₱205,000 to be amortized by the occupant and ₱35,000 subsidized by the NHA.

The monthly rent is ₱200 for 30 years.

Joseph Peter Sison of Solana Company said the turnover was delayed because it took the firm a year to process the titling for the mother title and preparing the 1,000 individual titles.

The ₱18.6-billion project is a flagship program of the previous administration that started in 2012. (PNA)

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# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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## Reds warn of US plot vs Duterte

By Jocelyn R. Uy

TWO COMMUNIST rebel leaders yesterday warned that a plot to oust President Duterte by elements of the US government, the military and moneyed groups in the country could derail the success of the peace talks.

Speaking at a forum on the peace talks, Benito and Wilma Tiamzon warned that while the progress of the peace talks with the government under the Duterte administration looked bright, there was a need for vigilance against these "powerful forces" that might put up heavy resistance to it.

The Tiamzons, designated consultants of the National Democratic Front (NDF), the political arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines, which is engaged in the peace talks with the government, said the second round of peace negotiations in Oslo, Norway, next month will take up more crucial and challenging issues.

### Leftist influence

Among the issues to be tackled are the proposed general amnesty for political prisoners and a ceasefire of the two parties.

"We know that even before President Duterte was elected, there were already elements of the US government and members of some influential groups who were planning to stop the Left's influence on the government," said Benito in Filipino.

He also said there were members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines

and the Philippine National Police continuing to campaign against the peace talks.

"Because of this situation, we are hopeful yet vigilant for sudden twists that might occur due to intensified friction between the political factions," he said at a forum attended mostly by students and teachers in Pasig City.

### Murder trial

The Tiamzons were temporarily released from detention last month to participate in the resumption of the peace negotiations in Oslo on Aug. 22. They were among 22 NDF consultants requested to be released by the communist group.

The Tiamzons, said to be ranking members of the CPP-NPA's central committee, were arrested two years and five months ago and were detained at Camp Crame in Quezon City while on trial for multiple murder.

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The Manila Times

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## NDF: Lasting truce 'untenable' if ...

By John Paolo Bencito

THE communist National Democratic Front said Friday forging a permanent ceasefire with the government by October may be "untenable" because of violations of the prevailing truce but President Rodrigo Duterte or-

dered the military to control all militia groups while the peace talks are ongoing.

"The continued violations [make the permanent ceasefire] untenable," and it is important for the government to address this already," said NDF consultant Adelberto Silva, a ranking

official of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

"In the next round of talks, we will try to move forward the bilateral ceasefire agreement. The NDF had already raised the matter with the [government of the Republic of the Philippines]," Silva said in a media forum on Friday. *Next page*

### NDF:...

From A1

If the supposed violations are not ironed out in the next round of talks, Silva said the prevailing ceasefire may not be renewed after it expires on Oct. 28.

Silva, along with NDF consultants Alan Jazmines, Rafael Baylosis, Randall Echanis, Loida Magpatoc, Ruben Saluta, Renato Baleros, Kennedy Bangibang and Jaime Soledad are preparing for the next round of talks in Oslo from October 6 to 10.

But Duterte already ordered the military to control anti-communist paramilitary groups, that were organized to help the military secure hot spots across the country, while the talks are ongoing.

Speaking to reporters during his visit in Camp Vicente Alagar in Cagayan de Oro City on Thursday, Duterte said the presence of the civilian armed groups could undermine the peace talks.

"Paramilitary men operating with firearms issued by the government would undermine the peace process. I hope this ends because we are really trying our best to come up with a peaceful country," he said.

Duterte particularly mentioned the Magahat-Bagani Force operating in Surigao del Sur and another

group in Arakan, North Cotabato.

In his speech before policemen, he said he was to meet with NDF chief peace negotiator Luis Jalandoni in Davao City on Thursday night but did not reveal details.

"Jalandoni is waiting for me in Davao. He's there right now and I've invited them for dinner," he said, adding that he is pushing for an "inclusive government" and not a coalition government with the communists.

Duterte added he could come up with a peace deal with the NDF so long as they do not insist on having posts in the country's police and military organizations.

The Duterte administration is also talking with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, Moro National Liberation Front and the Communist Party of the Philippines, headed by Jose Maria Sison, in a bid to achieve lasting peace in the country, particularly in Mindanao.

Both the government and NDF negotiating panels signed an agreement in Oslo last August to enforce a ceasefire for 60 days ending Oct. 28 while talks are ongoing in Oslo.

While the NDF welcomed Duterte's pronouncements to address threats from paramilitary groups, they stressed that this is not enough to resolve the threats looming the continuation of the ceasefire agreement.

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## Rody, Jalandoni meet, discuss peace process

DAVAO CITY – President Duterte discussed with National Democratic Front (NDF) chief negotiator Luis Jalandoni the peace process over dinner at a hotel last Thursday night.

Jalandoni arrived in Davao City Wednesday to address the 5th Ecumenical Church Leaders Summit on Peace organized by the Philippine Ecumenical Peace Platform at the Homitoni Inn.

Duterte said he has left it up to the negotiators how to go about the formal talks, which resumed last month.

By EDITH REGALADO

"I leave it really to the ones who are deciding there, calling the shots and the ones negotiating there in Oslo (Norway)," he said. "I'll just place the imprimatur, then I'll say go ahead, and things like that."

Duterte did not give details of his conversation with Jalandoni, except that their discussion centered on the peace process.

Jalandoni was earlier quoted to have said that despite his apparent contradictions, Duterte showed strength, particularly in pursuing the peace negotiations.

The formal peace negotiations will resume on Oct 6-8 in Oslo.

The government and NDF negotiating panels earlier met in Manila and agreed in principle to "revitalize" the Joint Monitoring Committee for the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL).

The two panels also discussed the extension of the existing unilateral ceasefire following their separate declaration last month.

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## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

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# Parameters of ceasefire in the works

By Vince F. Nonato

PEACE negotiators of the government and National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) are set to hammer out parameters of what counts as ceasefire violations next month.

NDFP ceasefire committee panelist Tirso Alcantara disclosed this development, saying the agreement on Oct. 28 would be the takeoff point before the peace panels can finally work out a bilateral ceasefire.

While the NDFP confirmed the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process' Wednesday statement that no violent encounters have been reported since peace

talks resumed last month, consultants said violations of the separately declared ceasefires have occurred.

"What we'll talk about on Oct. 28, we will consolidate the unilateral ceasefires so that would serve as the basis for what should be done," Alcantara, said, while clarifying "that's not yet the mutual bilateral ceasefire."

"It's simply a consolidation of what violations have occurred, what should be done based on the consolidation of the previously declared ceasefires," he said in a Friday forum.

The peace panels have earlier agreed to finalize ceasefire mechanisms in 60 days, Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Jesus Dureza said on Aug. 29 after the conclusion of the first round of peace talks in Oslo.

Alan Jazmines, vice chair of the NDFP Reciprocal Working Committee on Social and Economic Reforms, said that even with the ceasefires in place, military and paramilitary forces have continued to disturb local civilian communities.

"The problem remains. That needs to be stopped," Jazmines said.

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## Maguindanao marks World Peace Day

**MAGUINDANAO –**

Performing ethnic songs and dances, students in the largest school in Maguindanao, along with international organizations, on Wednesday celebrated World Peace Day to help foster peace in Mindanao.

Among the guests at the Peace Concert at the gymnasium of the Mindanao State University in Datu Odin Sinsuat town in Maguindanao were representatives from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the Office of the

**By JOHN UNSON**

Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process.

Members of different youth groups and students from the MSU's separate campuses here and in General Santos City took turns performing before some 4,000 Muslim and *lumad* students from Maguindanao's 36 municipalities.

Jointly organizing the concert, the first in the province, were various non-government organizations, local governments, the United Nations Chil-

dren's Fund and cooperating peace advocacy blocs.

The UNICEF has various programs for children and youth sectors in Maguindanao and other provinces in Mindanao.

Maguindanao, a known bastion of the MILF, is a beneficiary of humanitarian projects of different entities in the United Nations.

The UNICEF and the MILF are cooperating on enforcing a UN program preventing involvement of children as combatants in armed conflicts.

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## BusinessMirror

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### 'Open military, police camps, posh villages to motorists'

**T**HERE are ways to help ease traffic in Metro Manila, but the Duterte administration seems to have yet to find the right mix of proposals.

Architect and Urban Planner Felino A. Palafox Jr. on Friday offered unsolicited advice to the administration not to focus on the supply side of transportation, such as roads, trains and buses, but rather look more at the demand side, which pertains to land use.

Speaking during a forum, dubbed *Brewing@AIM* by the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) on Friday, Palafox said he is in favor of granting President Duterte emergency powers to address Metro Manila's traffic woes.

However, he said there should be a more definite program, scope of works, deliverables and timeline.

Palafox was invited as a resource person by the Senate Committee on Public Works to give insights on Metro Manila's traffic problem.

"All the proposals I am seeing right now will not help solve the traffic problem. They will only alleviate the problem," he said.

Palafox said the proposals focus too much on the supply side of transportation—roads, vehicles, trains and buses. He said these will not solve the traffic problem. He added that it is better for the government should look at the demand side of transportation, particularly land use.

Palafox said urban planning and design should be given due consideration in land use planning.

Instead of big buildings occupy too much space, Palafox prefers the establishment of high-rise buildings, including shopping malls, which he said are major traffic generators.

Also, Palafox said that to ease traffic in Metro Manila, the government should also consider opening the gates of military or police camps to allow motorists to pass through, particularly during peak hours.

The area occupied by Camps General Rafael Crame and Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo in Quezon City, he said, is bigger than Ayala Center in Makati.

In the same breath, he said homeowners in gated villages in Metro Manila, particularly along Edsa should open their gates and allow private and public-utility vehicles to pass through at least during peak hours.

Gated communities, he said, is already obsolete, as they were designed during the Spanish period, citing the walled city of Intramuros.

Palafox, who lives in one of the posh villages in Metro Manila, said if the government will initiate the move on its part to address traffic, the even posh villages may follow.

"It will alleviate the situation. I think the capacity of Edsa is 280,000 vehicles a day. But I think 600,000 vehicles ply Edsa every day," he said.

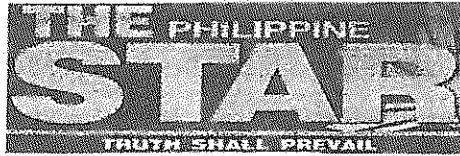
Shopping malls, he said, should also start constructing elevated path walks that would interconnect malls that would allow shoppers to move from one mall to another without going crossing roads because that slows down traffic, too.

Palafox also suggested the transfer of government offices away from Metro Manila, so that hundreds or thousands of employees from outside Metro Manila would not have to add to the congestion every day just to perform their duty.

"The departments of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, even Malacañang. These government offices can be transferred outside Metro Manila to decongest the city," he said.

Palafox also said the toll for vehicles exiting Metro Manila should be free, but that getting in should be increased. This, he said, will discourage vehicles from going in and out of Metro Manila, unless the trip is very important. *Jonathan L. Mayuga*

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## Esperon on PC revival: No cause for alarm

National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon Jr. urged the public yesterday not to be alarmed by President Duterte's idea of reviving the Philippine Constabulary (PC), even as some quarters deem it unconstitutional.

Esperon, a former chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said the President was only thinking of how to make the police's powers at par with those of the military, so that it boosts government's fight against illegal drugs, criminality and terrorist groups.

Esperon noted that the Philippine National Police has a specialized unit called the Special Action Force (SAF).

By CHRISTINA MENDEZ  
and JESS DIAZ

"In the past, there was this highly mobile force called the PC," Esperon said at the recent Kapitan sa Manila Bay forum. "They are not bound to specific geographic assignments and locations, somehow similar to the PNP's Special Action Force."

SAF is the PNP's specialized national mobile unit created by former president Fidel Ramos, now the government's special envoy to China.

SAF was formed along the lines of the British Army's Special Action Service. Its mission is to conduct operation as a raid deployment force anywhere in the country,

specifically in situations with national and international implication in the areas of hostage-rescue, commando-type unconventional warfare, search and rescue, civil disturbance management during national emergency and other special operations.

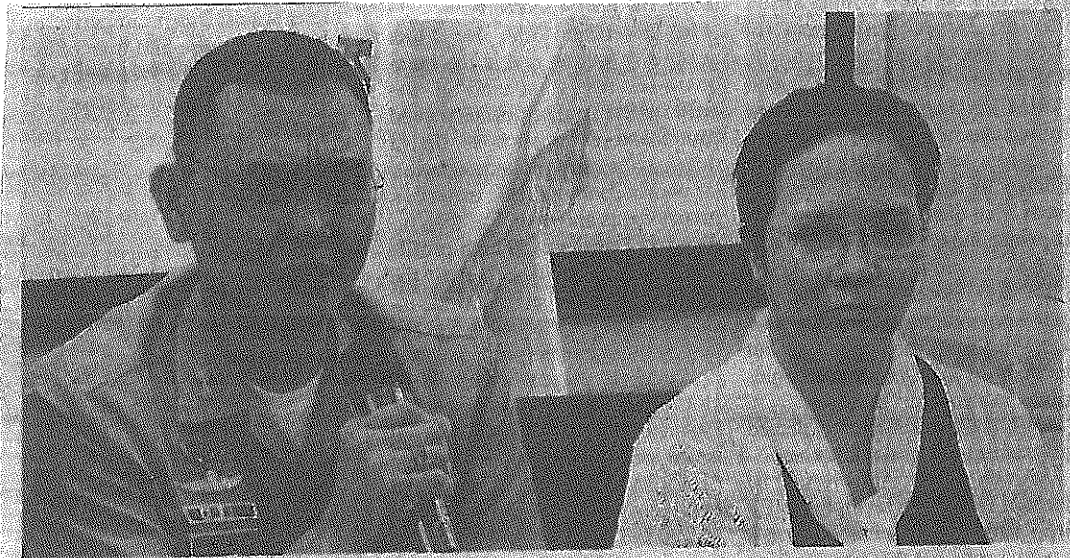
In his speech earlier this week at the Philippines Army's 10th Infantry Division, also known as the Agila Division, during a visit at Camp General Manuel Yan in Mawab, Compostela Valley, Duterte said he was thinking of reviving the PC.

Duterte said resurrecting the PC would boost the government's current intensified campaign against extremist groups and illegal drug syndicates.

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The Manila Times

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**DURESS DENIED.** Marine Lt. Col. Ferdinand Marcelino, facing drug-related charges, denies at a news briefing Thursday night Senator Leila de Lima's claim he is being coerced to testify against her. With him is his counsel Public Attorney's Office chief Persida Acosta. **Manny Palmero**

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**Editorial EDITORIAL Editorial**

## **Pagtiklop ng ilang Abu Sayyaf, good news**

**M**UKHANG nagbubunga na ang operasyon ng AFP kontra Sayyaf at talagang nabubulabog na sila. May ilang taas-kamay na rin sa mga awtoridad. Maaaring dahil sa takot o sa kagustuhang magbagong buhay at makipagkasundo na sa gobyerno.

Nakagagaan na rin sa pakiramdam ang ulat na dalawampung miyembro ng Sayyaf ang sumuko sa AFP sa Sumisip, Basilan.

Kasabay na isinuko ang walong high-powered firearms at dalawang locally-made shotguns.

Hindi talaga basta-basta puwedeng maliitin ang mga Abu Sayyaf lalo na at armado rin sila.

Ang sa atin lang, ngayong may mga sumuko na, sana pilitin na rin silang magsalita o kaya naman ay ituro sa mga awtoridad ang iba pang kuta ng iba pang Sayyaf nang sa ganu'n ay mas mapabilis ang pagsugpo sa kanila.

Kung mapapasuko silang lahat nang maayos at hindi na mangangailangan pa ng dahas, mas okay.

Pero kung ipipilit ang pakikidigma at palitan ng putok sa awtoridad, wala na tayong magagawa.

Ang sa atin lang, yung mapahinto na sila sa mga ilegal nilang gawain at matigil na ang kanilang masasamang operasyon.

Dahil hangga't hindi nakukubkob at napapasuko ang lahat ng Sayyaf, hindi matatapos ang giyera natin para sa kapayapaan.

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## At Ground Level

By SATUR C. OCAMPO

### Life and survival under martial law



At this time of the year since 2011, I have written in this space a piece about martial law and the Marcos dictatorship. Mostly I have ruminated on the wrong decisions by the Cory Aquino government that have, since then, allowed the pernicious imprint of martial law – military and police abuses, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and other human rights violations – to leave its mark on every post-dictatorship administration for the last 30 years.

Today I would like to share a more upbeat account of my experiences, such as when I related (on Sept. 20, 2014) how, after nine years of military detention, I managed to escape in May 1985.

As a journalist-political activist since the early 1960s, I have developed this philosophical attitude: to steadfastly uphold the principles I have embraced (to serve the people), give my utmost under all circumstances, and be prepared for the worst. Thus, when Marcos suspended the writ of habeas corpus after the Plaza Miranda bombing on August 21, 1971, I resigned as sub-business editor of the *Manila Times* and assumed a semi-underground mode of living, together with my comrade-wife, Bobbie Malay. Our two children were born in the underground.

Assuming another identity and altering my physical appearance, I managed to travel freely from place to place via public transportation. From time to time, I would visit businessmen friends who gave generous financial support and lent me their motor vehicles. For two years I drove about in an "owner-type" jeep sans a driver's license, but never had a problem with checkpoints and the military-police manning them. Except once, when a friendly patrol car stopped us to say that my vehicle's license plate had become detached. phew!

For some time, we shifted from one safehouse to another along the MacArthur highway in Central Luzon. Walking in the rice fields behind the house, watching the sunrise or sunset with my little family, was a pleasurable respite

from the cares and worries of living under a repressive regime.

There was one place where it was my task to fetch water several times a day from a hand-operated pump on the edge of the highway, as vehicles whizzed by on the road.

When I was captured upon arrival in a house in Olongapo City in January 1976, I immediately knew that a very bad ordeal was going to begin. I prepared my mind accordingly.

True enough, one of my captors, then Lt. Amado Espino, confronted me with eyes bristling with rage. Pointing to bullet-wound scars on his neck, he barked: "See what your comrades did, they almost killed me!" Calmly I replied: "But why did you stand in the line of fire?" He fumed. Later on, after he and his colleagues failed to extract a single word, or even a moan from me in a nightlong torture session, Espino brought me to a sugarcane field, cocked his Armalite rifle and said: "So you won't talk. We'll leave you here dead." Again calmly I replied: "You can't shoot me dead. You need to present me to Marcos, your master." He knew I was right. Espino backed off, cursing.

Before the torture session, my captors presented me, with my blindfold removed, to their senior officer, who had ordered me placed in a dark mosquito-infested cell. I had asked the guard for the officer's name and he guilelessly gave it: Major Benjamin Libarnes. So when the group got exhausted in torturing me without getting any information, Libarnes said, "OK, boys, he's doing yoga and we're all tired. *Pahinga na muna.*" That's when I spoke "OK, Major Libarnes, you can rest now." Aghast, he cried out, "How did you know my name?" I knew then I had gotten him unsettled.

The third military officer who figured prominently in torturing me was then Lt. Rodolfo Aguinaldo. Taking his turn after that first unsuccessful session, he removed my blindfold and bellowed:

"Look into my eyes. I'll give you hell!" I did just that, staring steadily at him as he pummelled me with his fists and kicked me on the chest (the sole of his combat boot left a mark that stayed for days). Getting no reaction of fear or pain from me, "Agi" stomped on the floor, pulled his long hair and repeatedly cursed at me. He realized he had failed and left in a huff.

(At a recent media forum on martial law, journalist Raissa Espinosa-Robles, author of a well-documented book, *"Martial Law, Never Again!"*, disclosed that a ranking AFP officer, who claimed to have witnessed my interrogation but not the torture, had told her: "Satur was tough." He acknowledged that torturing me was a futile exercise.)

Yes, it's possible to take the moral and political high ground in such circumstances. After nine months of solitary confinement, I was transferred to the big detention center at Camp Bagong Diwa in Bicutan, Taguig. Along with the other detainees there who had survived brutal treatment with their spirit similarly unbroken, we decided to organize ourselves and demand that we be allowed to manage our day-to-day life in prison. We succeeded. Through secret balloting we elected our leaders, and I got the unanimous vote to be the spokesperson and head of the executive committee.

For almost nine years until my escape in 1985, I remained head of the *Samahang mga Bilanggong Pulitikal sa Bicutan*, which ran a democratic system of self-governance within a military prison. We augmented the meagre food budget (P4 a day) by producing handicrafts, the income from which also partially funded the basic needs of poor families among us. Our products carried the message: "Free all political detainees!" That message was sent across the country and beyond, helping build up the movement, nationally and internationally, against the Marcos dictatorship.

Our morale remained high, through five hunger strikes that led to the release of hundreds of political detainees. We transformed prison into a school – for literacy and for broadening, deepening social consciousness and the political commitment to fight for freedom and oust the Marcos dictatorship.

Our efforts paid off well.

Email: [satur.ocampo@gmail.com](mailto:satur.ocampo@gmail.com)

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