

Army Vision: By 2029, a world-class Army that is a source of national pride



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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
NEWS CLIPPINGS

29 September 2016

Thursday

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

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

NEWS HEADLINES 29 SEPTEMBER 2016



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

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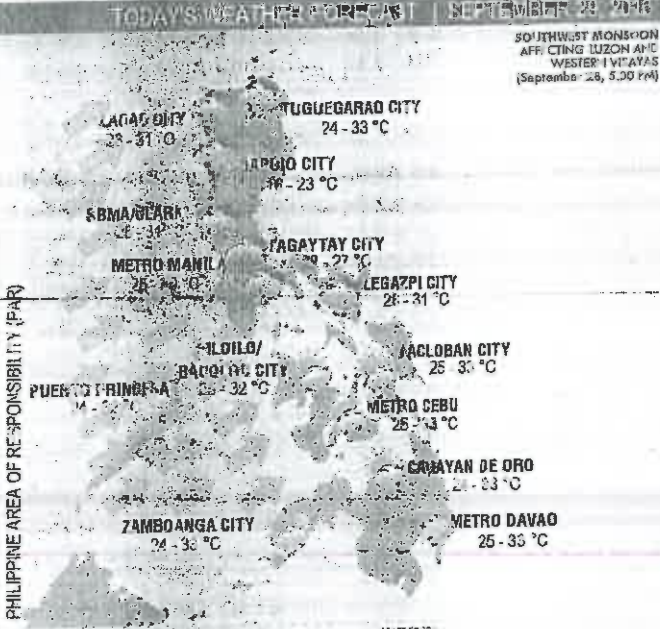
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | SEPTEMBER 20, 2016 | TUPACI

SOUTHWEST MONSOON AFFECTING LUZON AND WESTERN VISAYAS (September 20, 5:00 PM)



PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)

SUNRISE	SUNSET
5:46 AM	5:48 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
4:09 AM	4:41 PM
LAST QUARTER	NEW MOON
SEP 20	OCT 1
5:01 PM	5:11 AM
LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
3:50 PM	8:40 PM
0.20 Meters	1.04 Meters

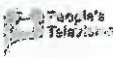


PAR: All ships in the area must maintain a constant watch for the presence of the typhoon and its effects.

Coastal areas with 10% chance of being hit by typhoon.

20% chance of being hit.

SEP 20		OCT 1		SEP 21		OCT 2		SEP 22		OCT 3	
METRO MANILA	25-31°C	24-32°C	TAGAYTAY	22-28°C	22-28°C	TACLOBAN	25-32°C	24-33°C			
TUGUEGARAO	24-34°C	23-35°C	LEGAZPI	23-32°C	26-32°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	23-33°C	23-34°C			
LADAG	25-31°C	25-32°C	PUERTO PRINCESA	26-32°C	26-32°C	METRO DAVAO	25-33°C	24-34°C			
BAGUIO	16-22°C	16-23°C	ILOILO/BACOLOD	26-32°C	26-32°C	ZAMBOANGA	24-32°C	23-33°C			
SBMA/CLARK	26-30°C	26-30°C	METRO CEBU	26-33°C	25-33°C						

Watch PANAHON TV everyday at 5:30 AM on PTV (Channel 4)

SAGOT MO, PARALE MO!

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29 September 2016



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Bilibid riot: Drug lord killed, 4 others hurt

Brawl ensues over shabu session

By PERSEUS ECHMINADA

A high-profile Chinese drug lord was killed while four others, including controversial convict Jaybee Sebastian, were wounded during a riot inside the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa City yesterday.

Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II said the riot broke out after an inmate reprimanded other convicts engaged in a shabu session.

Aguirre identified the dead as Tony Co, whose Chinese name is Xu You Kwang. He said Co and two other injured Chinese convicts, Peter Co and Vicente Sy, are among the biggest drug traders in the country.

Tony Co was among six Chinese nationals convicted in June 2011 for the 2001 kidnapping of Jacky Tiu in La Union. He was sentenced to 40 years in prison without possibility of parole. He and two others were meted an additional 17 years and four months for stealing the victim's car.

Tiu, who is married to former Philippine National Police chief Arturo Lomibao, confirmed to The STAR that Tony Co was indeed one of her kidnappers, and that they were dismayed to have learned that he and another of her kidnappers had evolved from kidnapping to drugs when the incident of the "Bilibid 19" broke out in 2014.

Also injured in yesterday's incident was former police chief inspector Clarence Dongajl and Sebastian, a prison leader being asked by officials to testify in the congressional investigation against Sen. Leila

Turn to Page 10

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Bilibid

From Page 1

de Lima.

Dongail reportedly reprimanded the two Cos and Sy for using shabu. Peter and the other inmates then attacked Dongail, triggering the riot.

Initial reports said up to eight inmates injured in the melee.

"He (Dongail) told them to

stop what they were doing because everybody in the facility would be affected if authorities find out that there's still shabu there," Aguirre said.

When Dongail went to Sebastian's cell, Tony followed him and the brawl ensued, he added.

Sebastian suffered stab

wounds in the hand and stomach and was rushed to the Muntinlupa Medical Center.

Sy, on the other hand, also sustained stab wounds at his back and was confined in the same hospital in serious condition.

Dongail sustained injuries but chose to be treated inside the penitentiary.

Sebastian claimed a certain Thomas was the one who attacked him.

Sebastian said he was talking with Dongail in the mess hall when Peter Co and Sy appeared and invited them to go to the cell of Tony Co for a meeting.

He said the attack took place inside the cell of Tony.

Sebastian said that Thomas, an inmate from Building 14, attacked him with an ice pick. He said he was able to fight back during a scuffle for the weapon.

Dongail, on the other hand, attacked Tony Co and Sy, he said.

Peter Co, however, claimed he was in the mess hall when he got an invitation from Tony for a meeting at his cell. He

declined to go alone and went with Sy.

Peter claimed they were inside the cell with Dongail when another inmate got inside and attacked Tony and Sy. He did not identify the attacker.

Prison officials said the statements of the two inmates point to two possible suspects - Thomas and Dongail - as the attackers.

Bureau of Corrections (Bu-Cor) director Rolando Asuncion said the seven to eight inmates involved in the riot are from two rival gangs. The violence ended quickly and occurred in a contained area separate from the larger inmate population.

He said it's not clear what kind of injuries the victims sustained but an ice pick and other materials were confiscated.

"It was a plain riot that lasted only for a minute," he said, adding that riots are a regular occurrence in prison.

The riot took place a day after prison officials installed a powerful military type cell-phone signal jammer that practically shut down all signals in



Funeral parlor workers carry the body of Tony Co.

JESSE BUSTOS

Building 14, the high security prison facility at the maximum security compound where 33 high profile convicts, including the so-called Bilibid 19 led by Sebastian, are confined.

Asuncion said some of the inmates at Building 14 could be transferred to other penal facilities to prevent a repeat of the riot.

He said the maximum security compound, which can accommodate 4,000 inmates, is now overcrowded with up to 15,000 convicts.

Asuncion said the convicts in Building 14 are confined in separate cells but every morning they are allowed to go out to exercise in a common area.

Asuncion said he is still awaiting the report from the police Special Action Force (SAF) that has taken over security of the NBP.

Philippine National Police chief Director General Ronald dela Rosa has ordered the SAF to conduct an investigation into the riot.

"We are now conducting an investigation on that. I hope they (SAF) will come up with

a very good investigation on what really happened," Dela Rosa said.

He said the riot would change the security atmosphere inside the prison, especially among the leaders and members of various gangs.

"That will create distrust among them, they will now feel suspicious on everybody inside," he said.

Over 300 SAF commanders were deployed to secure the NBP to prevent inmates and jailguards from bringing contraband inside the jail, particularly in the maximum security area.

The SAF took over security in the NBP after a series of raids indicated high-value inmates were enjoying luxuries inside the penal facility.

Dela Rosa, however, could not say whether the riot would force Sebastian to testify against De Lima.

"I don't know. You better ask him. I don't know him personally, I don't know what's inside his mind," he said. - With Edu Punay, Cecille Suerte Felipe

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553 Local: 5235, 5295

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBL

29 September 2016

INQUIRER

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'Stop the madness'

De Lima links prison brawl to plot vs her

By Tarra Quismundo

"STOP the madness," Sen. Leila de Lima appealed to President Duterte and his allies yesterday, saying she believed that a reported "riot" at New Bilibid Prison (NBP) where an inmate was killed and four others wounded was a government warning to prisoners who had refused to link her to the illegal drug trade in the national penitentiary.

Seemingly feeling cornered, helpless and out of options, De Lima laid herself out to Mr. Duterte, daring the President to

get it done and over with. "Enough! Just arrest me now! That's really what you want to do. Send me to jail now!" De Li-

ma screamed during a news conference in the Senate.

"I'm here! Do what you want to me, Mr. President! I'll wait for you!" she said.

Mr. Duterte and De Lima have been at odds since 2009 when she was head of the Commission on Human Rights.

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From page A1

investigated extrajudicial killings in Davao City when he was still the city's mayor.

After being elected President in May, Mr Duterte warned Congress not to investigate a war on drugs that he planned to launch or there would be a clash between him and lawmakers.

In spite of that warning, De Lima, who had been elected to the Senate and designated chair of the committee on justice and human rights, launched an inquiry into the killing of thousands of drug suspects that had also drawn concern from the United Nations, United States, European Union and international human rights groups.

Angered, Mr Duterte accused De Lima of raising campaign funds by collecting payoffs from convicted drug lords serving their sentences at NBP which was under her jurisdiction when she was secretary of justice in the Aquino administration.

Last week, after she presented at the Senate inquiry a confessed hit man who testified that Mr Duterte ordered the Davao killings, the President's allies stripped her of her post as chair of the investigative committee.

House probe

Mr Duterte's allies in the House of Representatives also launched an investigation of the drug trade at NBP with Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II himself presenting drug convicts as witnesses against De Lima.

But one inmate, convicted kidnapper Jaybee Sebastian, refused to join the others in linking De Lima to the drug trade in the national penitentiary.

Sebastian, who De Lima had said was a government asset at NBP when she was the head of

the Department of Justice (DOJ), was wounded in the reported riot at NBP along with inmates Peret Co, Vicente Sy and former Philippine National Police Lt. Clarence Dongail. Convicted drug lord Tony Co was killed.

After learning about the supposed riot, De Lima called a news conference to express doubt about what really happened.

Gov't tactic

"The official version of the DOJ is that this was a riot. Absent other available reliable information, I am not discounting the fact that this is another way

of the government [to persuade] the Bilibid 19 to testify against me, and that this incident should serve as a lesson to those who refuse to cooperate with the government and do Aguirre's and Malacañang's bidding," De Lima said.

Bilibid 19 refers to 19 high-profile convicts whom De Lima ordered transferred to the National Bureau of Investigation detention center in December 2014 after a raid on NBP that led to the discovery of their continued illegal drug operations while serving their sentences at the national penitentiary.

Once more denying the government's allegations, De Lima

said the Palace should "stop this tragic, desperate and despicable actions" if her suspicion was true.

"These prisoners are supposed to be under the government's protection. To threaten them with violence and murder simply because they refuse to be used in the ongoing House hearing is the height of Mafia tactics and gangster-style operations that makes this government worse than a narcostate," she said.

"It makes this government an assassin-state, a state that promotes murder and summary execution as policy and as a weapon against its perceived

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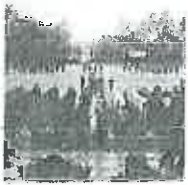
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<http://dwdd.com.ph/>

READINESS | 5ID Disaster Response Operation and Rifle Squad Challenge 2016

Alvin Santiago



CAMP MELCHOR F DELA CRUZ, Gamu, Isabela (DWDD) – The 5th Infantry (Star) Division, Philippine Army is in the midst of their Disaster Response Operation (DRO) and Rifle Squad Challenge 2016 being held at the Division Headquarters.

The challenge is competed by different entry squads of the line battalions and division reconnaissance companies, where each competing squads was tested on their skills and readiness in times of combat and disaster response operation.

As the basic fighting unit of the Philippine Army, 5ID ensures its operational readiness as capable and ~~equipped combat~~ and DRO operators at all times and through this kind of activity, each squad of the line units will be developed into operationally ready rifle squad with the highest degree of efficiency and organization.

This Command is developing its soldiers, to be more prepared and competent and to achieve the vision of its Commander, BGen Paul T Atal, who said that "every Star Trooper is an Epitome of Excellence and Discipline" that is a source of National Pride. **5DPAO / MCAG**

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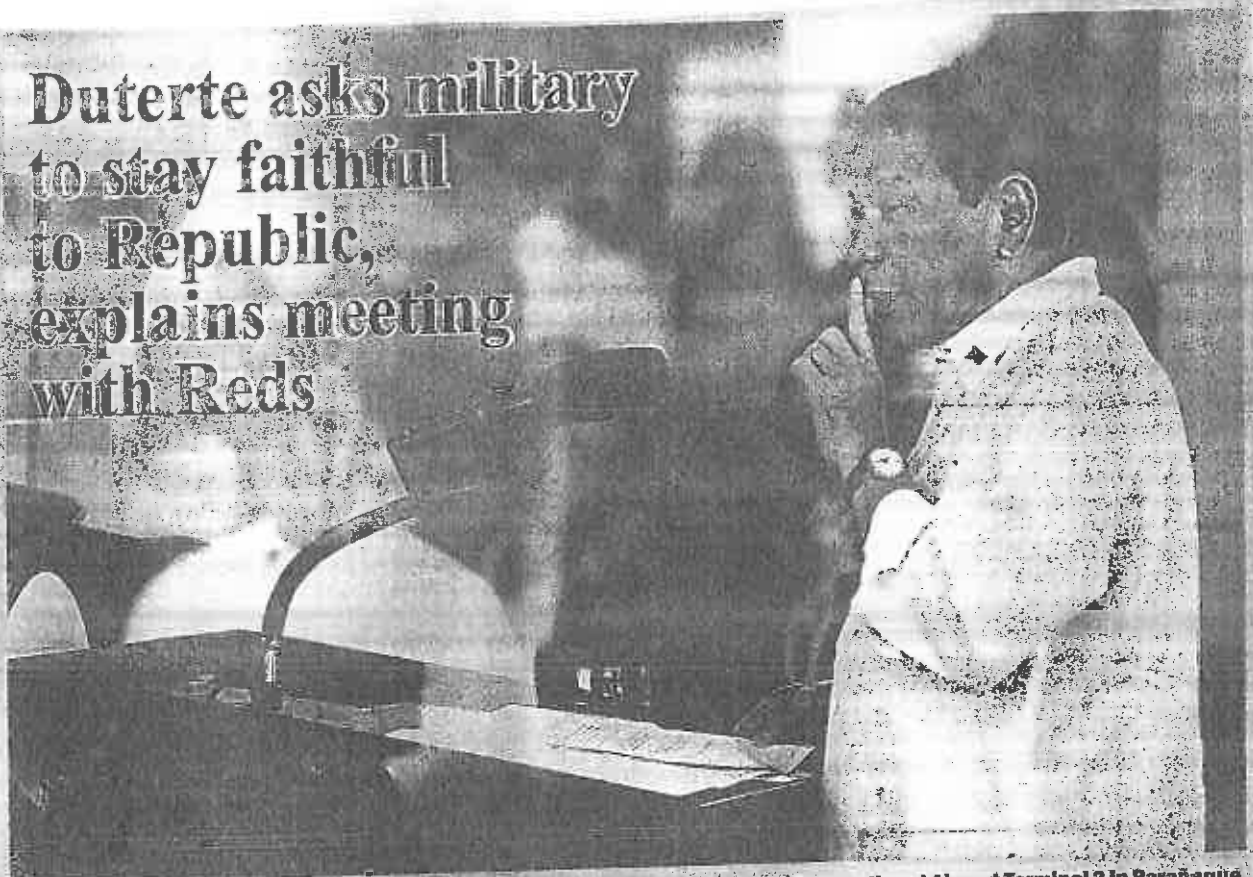
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21 September 2016

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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Duterte asks military to stay faithful to Republic, explains meeting with Reds



MAN WITH A MISSION – President Rodrigo R. Duterte speaks at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 2 in Parañaque City before leaving for Hanoi, Vietnam Wednesday afternoon. The President's visit aims to strengthen diplomatic and economic relations between the Philippines and Vietnam. (Richard V. Vinas)

By ELENA L. ABEN and AARON RECUECO

President Duterte on Tuesday night called on the military to remain faithful to the Republic.

Speaking before Philippine Marines at Camp Rudiardo Brown in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, the Commander-in-Chief asked the troops to give him time to address the problems confronting the country. He said he was working on bringing about peace, which in turn

would bring economic benefits to the country.

"I would like to ask you to remain faithful to the Republic," he said as he asked the troops for understanding as he deals with the Philippine communist leaders while at the ▶6

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Duterte asks military...

◀1

same time, he works to build alliances with China and Russia.

He said he is now talking peace with the left and Oslo, Norway, is providing its good offices so that the government and National Democratic Front (NDF) panels can meet.

He explained why he tendered a dinner Monday night in Malacanang for the leaders of the NDF, including recently released communist leaders Benito and Wilma Tiamzon. "Don't be offended. The entire leadership of the NPA, the NDF, sila (Luis) Jalandoni, lahat mga leaders nila, sabi ko, come and let's have dinner and let's talk about peace," he said.

"Sabi ko, I'm happy that we have stopped fighting because we have a se-

rious problem in the south. So ngayon, walang away masyado against the NPA."

With the ceasefire with the NPA, he said the military can now focus on the problem with the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in Mindanao.

Duterte said that the government is now also starting to talk with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). But, with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), he said that Nur Misuari seems to be equivocal. Misuari, the President said, now wants to include the Abu Sayyaf in the talks, which is not acceptable to him.

"As a matter of principle I can not accept that. Either Nur abandons the Abu Sayyaf and you (military) will

take care of the Abu Sayyaf. Kami ni Nur will just talk about peace," he said.

Duterte likewise told the troops that he is building many new alliances, especially in trade and commerce.

He criticized the US anew for "meddling" with the government's internal affairs, particularly in the campaign against drugs.

"Pag mipitula ako, I will have alliances, new alliances of commerce and trade. So I'll be visiting China and maybe Russia," he said.

"If they (US) continue to manipulate then you will understand why. Bakit mo pakialaman, mabigat ang problema. Ang problema is you can not understand a friend. Instead of helping us, patakil ka," he said.

"So please understand. But this Republic will rise, this Republic of the

Philippines will continue to be great," he said. "We will survive on our own. We will fight our wars on our own and we will win as a country."

'Bato' bares threat

Meanwhile, there is a new threat on the life of Philippine National Police chief Director General Ronald dela Rosa and it's not coming from the drug lords.

Dela Rosa disclosed that some retired generals and their police cohorts who are still in active service are already planning and funding the operation to liquidate him.

"We received reports that these rich generals, who have already accumulated wealth, are already financing the operation for us to be neutralized," he said. This threat is separate from the existing operation funded by drug

lords to kill him, he said.

Dela Rosa said the reports are still unvalidated, but "we will be vigilant."

As to reported threats from policemen found-involved in the narcotics trade, Dela Rosa said it is also possible, noting that one of the drug lords who surrendered to him has started giving names of narco-policemen.

Most of the politicians named by suspected drug lord Franz Sabalones are connected with retired Deputy Director General Marcelo Garbo, he said. Garbo is one of five retired and active generals named by President Duterte to be involved in the recycling of drugs and drug protection racket.

The policemen named by Sabalones are now being investigated by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) and the Internal Affairs Service (IAS), Dela Rosa said.

29 September 2016

The Manila Times

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AFP inventory: 2 guns confiscated govt-issued

THE Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff Gen. Ricardo Visaya has ordered the intelligence units of the Army, Navy and Air Force to continue exhaustive investigation of arms pilfering amid accusations that soldiers sell weapons and ammunition to the enemies of the State like the terrorist Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG).

Visaya made the directive even as the AFP inventory of firearms revealed that two of the high-powered weapons seized this week by the Philippine National Police (PNP) from a gunrunning syndicate were government-issued firearms.

Results of the accounting revealed that all the firearms recovered by the police were not issued to the AFP, except for the M-16A1 with serial number SN 123760 issued to the defunct Philippine Constabulary Support Command on July 8, 1982 and the M-203 grenade launcher issued to Service Support Command now Army Support Command on May 22, 1990.

The Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police (PC-INP), the predecessor of the PN, used to be under the command of the AFP.

Visaya also ordered the AFP's three service branches to help the PNP determine where the ammunition confiscated were issued.

On Tuesday, the Philippine National Police chief, Director General Ronald de la Rosa, presented during a news conference P6-million worth of high-powered firearms intended for the Abu Sayyaf.

The weapons and ammunition were seized by agents of the

PNP Criminal Investigation and Detection Group from Unding Kenneth Isa, Hja Risdinona Isa, Aljamer Akarab Mandin and Hurbini Alhi Sahibul during their arrest in Barangay West Crame, San Juan City (Metro Manila) on September 24.

The place is a stone's throw away from Camp Crame, the home of the PNP.

Col. Edgard Arevalo, chief of the AFP Public Affairs Office, on Wednesday said the AFP "will leave no stone unturned in this investigation and ensure that these unscrupulous acts will be stopped -- as it must immediately stop -- and the perpetrators meted stiff punishments provided under the Articles of War particularly AW 85 as may be warranted by court martial."

Article 85 is "Waste or Unlawful Disposition of Military Property Issued to Soldiers."

Under the article, "Any soldier who sells or wrongfully disposes of or willfully or through neglect injures or loses any horse, arms, ammunition, accoutrements, equipment, clothing or other property issued for use in the military service, shall be punished as a court-martial may direct."

Arevalo earlier said some "misfits" in the AFP are possibly involved in the selling of weapons and ammunition to the enemies of the State.

He added that the AFP leadership is seriously looking into the issue as some soldiers had been implicated in illegal activities in the past and they are facing court martial.

FERNAN MARASIGAN

29 September 2016



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AFP, PNP urged to probe sale of guns, ammo to Abus

By DELON PORCALLA

An administration law maker yesterday urged concerned government agencies to dig deeper into latest reports that weapons and ammunition produced by the government arsenal are being sold to gunrunners and the Abu Sayyaf in Mindanao.

Rep. Jericho Jonas Nograles of party-list Pwersa ng Bayaning Atleta said this problem should be addressed by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) soonest, since the same bullets have been killing soldiers and cops.

"This is very serious because if it is true that the high-powered firearms being used by terrorists to kill our soldiers and kidnap civilians are being supplied by our own government arsenal, then the AFP and the DND are equally responsible for the mess we are in," he said.

The government arsenal is located inside the premises of the Department of National Defense.

"The arrest of the alleged gunrunners should prompt a deeper investigation so that we can find out their source in the AFP and the DND," Nograles said.

He called on the AFP's Judge Advocate General's Office and the Office of the Ombudsman to conduct a lifestyle check on the civilian and military personnel of the government arsenal, particularly those who have access to defense articles being produced in their plant in Bataan.

The PNP's Criminal Investigation and Detection Group raided a house beside Camp Crame and arrested the alleged leader of a gunrunning syndicate identified as Unding Kenneth Isa and his three associates – Hja Risdinoma Isa, Aljamer Akarab Mandih and Humbin Alhi Sahibul.

Unding Isa, a defeated vice-gubernatorial candidate in Sulu, is reportedly one of the major arms dealers of the Abu Sayyaf as well as political warlords in Mindanao. – With Corillo Suerte Felipe, Roel Pareño

21 September 2016

Malaya
THE CULTURE. THE LAND. THE PEOPLE.

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Abu gun-runner yields 2 AFP firearms

BY VICTOR REYES

TWO of the firearms recovered by police operatives from a group of gun-runners arrested in San Juan last Saturday are owned by the Armed Forces, a military official said yesterday.

Col. Edgard Arevalo, chief of the AFP's public affairs office, said investigations are underway to identify the personnel to whom the firearms — an M16 rifle and an M203 grenade launcher — were issued to.

Arevalo said the M16 was transferred to the Support Command of the now defunct Constabulary, which used to be under the Armed Forces, in July 1982; while the M203 grenade launcher was given to the Army's Support Command in May 1990.

"Results of the accounting reveal that all the firearms recovered by the police were not issued to the AFP, except two firearms," said Arevalo.

The two firearms were among the various firearms seized from four suspected gun-runners, led by losing Sulu gubernatorial candidate Unding Kenneth Isa, who were nabbed in a raid in West Crame in San Juan.

The group, which is said to be supplying firearms and ammunition to the Abu Sayyaf Group and warlords in Mindanao, also yielded thousands of ammunition, many of them with markings "Government Arsenal."

The Government Arsenal, a bureau under the Department of National Defense, produces am-

munition, mostly for the use of soldiers. The Armed Forces on Tuesday said the seized ammunition was possibly pilfered by "misfits" in the military.

Arevalo said the process of identifying the personnel to whom the firearms were issued to may take a while.

"It's been a long time already. If you will notice, (they were issued) 1982 and 1990. What's important is that we established that not all the confiscated firearms were issued to the AFP," he said.

"We will not stop there, we will determine that," Arevalo said, referring to the personnel involved.

As to the seized ammunition, Arevalo said they have yet to establish if they were indeed pilfered and sold by military personnel.

29 September 2016



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2 of high-powered guns intended for Abu Sayyaf issued to AFP

Two of the high-powered firearms seized from a gun running syndicate linked to the terrorist Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) were issued to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

In a statement issued by the AFP-Public Affairs Office (PAO), it admitted two of the firearms confiscated by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) last Saturday were issued to the defunct Philippine Constabulary and the Service Support Command.

The findings came after AFP chief of staff Gen. Ricardo Visaya immediately ordered an inventory of all firearms issued to the military following the seizure of a cache of M203 grenade launchers, M16 and M14 rifles, thousands of various ammunition and explosive components at a residential area near Camp Crame.

"Results of the accounting reveal that all the firearms recovered by the police were not issued to the AFP, except two firearms to wit: a) M-16A1 SN 123760 issued to the defunct Philippine Constabulary Support Command on July 8, 1982 and b) M203 grenade launcher issued to Service Support Command now Army Support Command on May 22, 1990," the AFP-PAO said.

Visaya directed intelligence units of the Army, Navy and Air Force to continue their exhaustive investigations to

By Mario J. Mallari



VISAYA

help the PNP determine to where the ammunition confiscated were issued.

Earlier, PNP Chief Director General Ronald de la Rosa had said most of the ammunition seized were traced from the Government Arsenal which is under the Department of National Defense.

In a statement, the Government Arsenal (GA) admitted it has no more control of the ammunition hauled out of its compound in Bataan by either the AFP or the PNP.

"Similar to other manufacturers, the GA's responsibility and accountability, as a producer of small arms ammunition, ceases

from the time the items are hauled by the AFP and/or the PNP as we do not have the capability to monitor on which AFP or PNP units these ammunition are issued," the GA said.

Gen. Supt. Dionard Carlos, PNP spokesman, said investigation is still ongoing to trace the origin of all the items seized by the CIDG from the group of Unding Kenneth Isa who is tagged as a supplier of firearms and explosive components of the ASG and warlords based in Mindanao.

Carlos also said the use of a residential unit in West Crame, which is very near to the PNP national headquarters in Camp Crame, was part of "camouflaging."

"But we have our intelligence operatives roaming round as part of camp security measures," Carlos said.

For his part, Col. Edgar Arevalo, AFP-PAO chief, vowed the military will conduct in-depth probe of the matter as he warned those found liable will face possible court martial proceedings.

"We will leave no stone unturned in this investigation and ensure that these unscrupulous acts will be stopped — as it must immediately stop — and the perpetrators meted stiff punishments provided under the Articles of War, particularly AW 85, as may be warranted by Court Martial," Arevalo said.

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20 September 2015

The Manila Times

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2 more Sayyaf men slain, 4 wounded in Sulu clashes

BY AL JACINTO AND FERNAN MARASIGAN

TWO more members of the terrorist Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) were killed and three others were wounded in renewed clashes with government troops in Sulu on Wednesday.

A soldier was also wounded in the encounter.

The slain Abu Sayyaf fighters were reportedly followers of Alhabsy Misaya, one of the group's sub-leaders tagged as behind ransom kidnappings in Sabah, Malaysia.

The soldier, whose name was withheld pending notification of his family, was slightly wounded.

Major Filimon Tan, spokesman for the Western Mindanao Command, said soldiers from the 35th and 10th Infantry Battalions clashed with about 30 jihadists in the village of Pugad

Manaul in Panamao, Sulu on Wednesday morning.

It was not known whether Misaya was fighting alongside the slain bandits.

Misaya's group, the military said, is holding Malaysian and Indonesian hostages.

Tan said Air Force planes provided support to ground troops who were fighting the terrorist group that is being linked by authorities to the Islamic State.

The fighting came a day after suspected Abu Sayyaf gunmen snatched a Malaysian fisherman in

Sabah whose abduction Malaysian authorities have confirmed.

It was said that the gunmen sped off in a boat that headed to Tawi-Tawi.

Brig. Gen. Arnel dela Vega, commander of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Joint Task Force Sulu, said the first encounter happened at about 7:02 a.m., and the second at 9:05 a.m. in the adjacent sitio.

The three jihadists wounded in the second clash were seen being carried by the retreating bandits.

"Troops recovered one body while another was carried by the ASG as seen by pursuing troops and revealed by civilians," de la Vega said.

He attributed the success of the engagements to the cooperation of local residents.

"Our troops will continue to pursue the terrorists until we deal

a crippling blow to their ranks and leadership and rescue the remaining hostages," dela Vega said.

On Tuesday, Army troops also killed two notorious Abu Sayyaf members - the brothers Nixon and Brown Muktaadil - tagged as behind cross-border kidnappings in the rich Malaysian state of Sabah.

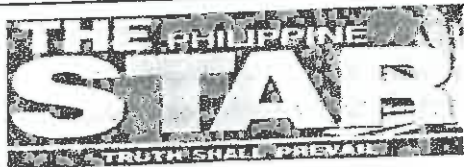
Security forces raided the brothers' hideout in Tambulian Island off Sulu's Patikul town where they were killed.

The two, authorities said, were behind the kidnappings of at least 26 Indonesian and Malaysian crew of slow-moving tugboats in Sabah near Tawi-Tawi province.

The military said the killing of the Muktaadil brothers was a big blow to the Abu Sayyaf because the duo served as guides and navigators in its kidnapping activities in Sabah.

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20 September 2016



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Armed men kidnap fisherman off Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR – Armed men seized a fisherman off Malaysia's eastern Sabah state, an official said yesterday, an area where militants from the Abu Sayyaf have been blamed for a series of abductions.

"One fisherman was snatched late last night," Wan Abdul Bari Abdul Khalid, head of Malaysia's Eastern Sabah Security Command, told AFP.

"The attack was carried out by six suspects, some armed with M-16 rifles."

Malaysian marine police chief Abdul Rahim Abdullah said the kidnappers came in a fast craft and headed in the direction of Mindanao after the incident.

The Malaysian victim who owned the fishing boat was with 20 other sailors when he was taken. The STAR online news reported.

The incident happened well inside Malaysian waters off Semporna's Gaya island, which is a short ride away from Philippine waters.

Authorities did not say if they believed the Abu Sayyaf, notorious for kidnapping for ransom, was involved. – AFP

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BusinessMirror

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Timeline: Philippine coups and military adventurism since 1986

SOME of President Duterte's opponents are warning of discontent in the Philippine military over his outreach to insurgents and criticisms of key security ally the US. Despite no signs of instability, the Philippines is no stranger to uprisings, whether by soldiers or civilians. While some were successful, most failed.

November 2007

PHILIPPINE armed forces stormed a luxury hotel in Manila's business district on November 29, ending another coup attempt by Philippine Navy officer Antonio F. Trillanes IV.

February 2006

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo declared a state of emergency on February 25 after uncovering a coup plot. Several military and police officials, as well as an opposition congressman, were arrested.

July 2003

ON July 27 more than 300 junior military officers, led by Trillanes, took over a hotel in the Makati district. His group surrendered within the day.

January 2001

STREET protesters forced President Joseph E. Estrada to resign on January 20 after his aborted Senate impeachment trial. He was succeeded by his

Vice President Arroyo.

October 1990

THE last coup attempt against President Corazon C. Aquino took place on October 4, when rebel soldiers raided an army base on the southern island of Mindanao. The rebels surrendered after two days.

December 1989

ON December 1 rebel aircraft attacked the presidential palace while their comrades seized a government-run TV station, several military camps and occupied the Makati commercial district. More than 100 people were killed before they surrendered on December 8.

August 1987

SOLDIERS, led by Col. Gregorio B. Honasan II, attacked the presidential palace in one of the most serious coup attempts against Aquino. More than 50 people died.

July 1987

AQUINO'S government discovered another coup attempt in which members of the military plotted to take over the main airport in Manila. Four officers were court-martialed.

April 1987

KNOWN as "Black Saturday," more than 50 soldiers raided the army

headquarters near the capital. The rebellion was quashed the next day. One soldier was killed.

January 1987

ABOUT 100 soldiers, led by Col. Oycar Canlas, seized the main compound of GMA Network Inc., while other troops tried to capture an air force base in Cavite province south of Manila. At least one rebel soldier died.

November 1986

AQUINO faced her second mutiny attempt when her government uncovered the "God Save the Queen" plot to unseat her, led by Juan Ponce Enrile, a former defense minister under Ferdinand E. Marcos.

July 1986

LESS than six months after replacing Marcos as president, Aquino faced the first of at least nine coup attempts when about 500 soldiers loyal to Marcos took over the Manila Hotel, one of the most famous in the Philippines. The coup attempt ended without violence two days later.

February 1986

BACKED by a military faction called Reform the Armed Forces Movement, surging street demonstrations helped force Marcos to step down as president after 21 years in power.

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Standard

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Rody woos army; foes warn of unrest

By Chris Blake and
Andreo Calonzo

FIVE months after his landslide election victory, Rodrigo Duterte can't stop campaigning. Yet rather than courting Filipino voters who put him into office, he's now giving out handguns and U.S. Shock watches to soldiers.

Duterte has given almost half his public addresses as president to a military audience—far more than his predecessors. The 71-year-old leader's refreshed stump speech includes promises to double troop salaries, improve health care for soldiers and secure modern equipment.

"Clearly he is trying to curry favor," said Joseph Franco, a research fellow at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore who previously worked for the chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. "Duterte is aware that toying with the AFP would be a very bad idea."

Duterte's outreach to the military is drawing attention in a country where coup rumors come as regularly as monsoon rains, with political opponents warning of the risk of discontent in an army with deep-rooted links to main security ally the US ties between the nation's civilian and military leaders, long a source of conflict, are key to prolonging a period of political stability that has made the Philippines one of Asia's fastest-growing economies.

One senator warning of a military backlash against the

president is Antonio Trillanes, a staunch critic of Duterte who was jailed for more than seven years for his involvement as a naval officer in several attempted coups against former President Gloria Arroyo.

"The officer corps are quite wary of the statements of President Duterte—they are not happy with the direction he is taking," Trillanes said.

Still, there are no signs of the kind of instability that led to a popular uprising that toppled former President Joseph Estrada in 2001. Last week, S&P Global Ratings affirmed a stable outlook on the country's BBB rating, the second-lowest investment grade, even as it noted the "predictability of policymaking" has diminished under Duterte.

Duterte isn't worried about any attempts to remove him from office, in part due to his high popularity rating. National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon said in an interview. A poll in July—the latest one available—showed he enjoyed the trust of 91 percent of Filipinos.

Esperon confirmed that the administration has received reports of plots to oust Duterte, but the groups mentioned don't have the capability to topple the government, he said.

"If indeed we prove that there is a destabilization attempt, in due time, we will come up with a statement," Esperon said. "In my view, I don't think there's any plot from the military." Bloomberg

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Duterte 'woos' army as opponents warn of discontent in ranks

FIVE months after his landslide election victory, President Duterte apparently can't stop campaigning. Yet, rather than courting Filipino voters who put him into office, he's now giving out handguns and G-Shock watches to soldiers.

Mr. Duterte has given almost half his public addresses as President to a military audience—far more than his predecessors. The 71-year-old leader's refreshed stump speech includes promises to double troop salaries, improve health care for soldiers and secure modern equipment.

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President Duterte's outreach to the military is drawing attention in a country where coup rumors come as regularly as monsoon rains, with political opponents warning of the risk of discontent in an army with deep-rooted links to main security ally the US. Ties between the nation's civilian and military leaders, long a source of conflict, are key to prolonging a period of political stability that has made the Philippines one of Asia's fastest-growing economies.

'Not happy'

ONE senator warning of a military backlash against the President is Antonio F. Trillanes IV, a staunch critic of Mr. Duterte who was jailed for more than seven years for his involvement as a naval officer in several attempted coups against former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

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'Feel honored'

"If, indeed, we prove that there is a destabilization attempt, in due time, we will come up with a statement," Esperon said. "In my view, I don't think there's any plot from the military."

The armed forces appreciates Mr. Duterte's outreach and hasn't seen any signs of unease among senior officers, spokesman Brig Gen Resituto C. Padilla said by phone.

"We feel honored that he prioritized visiting our men and installations," Padilla said of Mr. Duterte.

Peso sinks

MR. Duterte's push for closer ties with the military comes as he leans on the police to crack down on drugs, a war that has led to thousands of deaths. The President routinely bolsters his tough-guy image with references to his tenure as mayor in the southern city of Davao, where he is reputed to have killed people.

President Duterte's frequent outbursts against critics of his lethal anti-drugs campaign—particularly the US—have spooked investors. The Philippine peso sank to a seven-year low on Monday and stocks extended declines on Tuesday, as global funds sold the nation's stocks for a 24th straight day. The Philippine stock

index had climbed 0.3 percent at its noon break on Wednesday, while the peso was down 0.1 percent at the noon recess.

While Mr. Duterte has a tendency to contradict himself at times, his anti-US rhetoric has increased after an expletive-laden tirade against US President Barack Obama earlier this month prompted their first-ever meeting to be canceled. The Philippine leader has since called for an end to joint patrols in the South China Sea, and pushed for increased economic and military cooperation with China and Russia. Just this week, he said relations with Washington were reaching "a point of no return, and he accused the US of manipulating the peso.

Mr. Duterte's comments don't always mesh with the plans of the Philippine defense establishment, said Ashley Townsend, research fellow at the US studies center at the University of Sydney.

"It's telling that in the hours and days after some of these comments have been made, you have had the foreign minister and other senior advisers sort of scurrying to

make sure that their US partners are aware that they are not throwing out the US alliance," he said.

At home, the President has also reached out to communist rebels waging war against the government for almost five decades. He gave Cabinet posts to two political activists nominated by the National Democratic Front, the political wing of the insurgent movement, and freed more than a dozen other members ahead of peace talks that started in Oslo last month.

That issue is very sentimental and emotional to the armed forces, because not only resources were spent but also lives of soldiers and assets were lost," said Rep. Gary C. Alejano, who also joined a failed coup against Arroyo in 2003. "It is dangerous, because you are now allowing the enemies of the state inside your house."

Mr. Duterte built an important bridge to the military establishment with the July appointment of former president and army chief Fidel V. Ramos as special envoy over the South China Sea dispute. Ramos, 88, played a crucial role in halting coup attempts

against Arroyo and former President Corazon C. Aquino

'Bigger issues now'

YET, despite Ramos's pedigree, his influence as a retired general is "persuasive at best, because he had become a politician and he is not in active command," said Segundo E. Romero, professional lecturer at the Ateneo de Manila University who used to help formulate defense policies for the government.

"Military disaffection with Duterte will show if he orders soldiers to participate in the drugs war, sharing the blame for extrajudicial killings with the police," Romero said. "The military will also balk at a sudden shift toward China without due consultation and institutional acceptance."

Alejano, the congressman and former coup plotter, said "only time will tell" whether Mr. Duterte can keep the military happy or the threat of a coup will increase. "If you have to compare the past uprisings and the reasons behind such uprisings, there are bigger issues now compared to before." *Bloomberg News*

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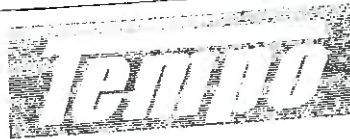
PRESIDENT Duterte, wearing a pilot's jacket, gestures with Defense Chief Delfin N. Lorenzana (second from right) and Armed Forces Chief Ricardo R. Visaya (second from left) at the Philippine Air Force headquarters in Pasay City on September 13. AP PHOTO/BULLIT MARQUEZ

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19 September 2016



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PRESIDENT Duterte, together with AFP Chief of Staff Ricardo Visaya, troops the line during departure ceremony at the NAIA Terminal 2 in Parañaque City. Duterte flew to Hanoi, Vietnam, for a two-day working visit. (Richard V. Vinas)

24 September 2016

INQUIRER

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Military defies Duterte on war games

CANBERRA—Philippine military authorities announced last week the first large-scale combat exercises between US and Filipino forces under the Duterte administration, in a dramatic rebuff of its criticism of US security policies.

The announcement came on the heels of a speech by President Duterte that he would not allow Philippine forces to conduct joint patrols with the US military in the disputed South China Sea because he feared the exercises could spark an armed conflict on territory claimed by the Philippines.

Mr. Duterte has also alarmed Philippine allies in the Asia-Pacific (including Japan and Vietnam) for calling on the United States to withdraw its forces from Mindanao, where he said the minority Muslims resented the presence of US troops.

The participation of Philippine troops in the Oct. 4-12 combat exercises is not just an engagement in joint patrols in disputed waters. It is a major show of force involving 1,400 US military personnel and 500 Philippine Marines in amphibious landing and live-fire exercises at a northern gunnery range in the Philippines.

These exercises put military muscle to the PH-US Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA), which the Philippine Supreme Court upheld in January. The VFA gives the US military the right to increase troops deployed in the Philippines for the war games, and to bring equipment into military areas, including Subic Bay, former site of a US naval base.

This is the security arrangement that Mr. Duterte seeks to dismantle in his reckless bid to end US military presence in the Philippines. He has claimed that he wants to pursue an independent security and foreign policy, but this stance has put the Philippine military on the spot, and prompted the announcement expanding the US participation in the joint exercises.

COMMENTARY

Amando Doronila

Despite the President's provocative statements, US State Department spokesperson John Kirby said that the United States had not received any formal request to withdraw its forces from Mindanao, and that it would be premature to respond to media reports on Mr. Duterte's comments. "We remain committed to our alliance with the Philippines," Kirby told reporters in Washington. "It's been a long, productive history."

Presenting himself as a nationalist by playing up the anti-American line, Mr. Duterte put the entire country under a national emergency due to a "state of lawlessness" following a bomb attack in his home city of Davao early this month. The declaration allows him to use the military to assist in fighting crime and violence. On the presence of US forces, he said it would inflame the situation and suggested that they may be kidnap or murder targets by local terrorist groups.

In announcing the Philippines' participation in the expanded war games, military authorities appeared to be sending a message warning the President against tampering with longstanding security mechanisms with the United States.

Military authorities have noted that Mr. Duterte has described himself as a socialist, who has had an uneasy relationship with the United States and who also has said that he is charting a foreign policy not dependent on the United States as a treaty ally. He has taken steps to revive ties with China, which were strained under the Aquino administration. It was during the term of President Benigno Aquino III that a suit was filed

by the Philippines at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague concerning the territorial disputes in the South China Sea. The arbitral court eventually ruled that China's claim over almost the entire South China Sea has no basis in international law. China has refused to recognize the ruling.

Mr. Duterte's conciliatory overtures to China appear to be undermining the prospects of implementing the arbitral court's ruling. He appears to be oblivious of the contradictions posed by his friendly approaches to China vis-a-vis his declaration of forging an independent foreign policy. He has been sending mixed signals on his security and foreign policies, which seem to be mired in ambiguities.

For example, while Mr. Duterte steps up his attacks on the United States, he has said he will not abrogate the US-PH Mutual Defense Treaty and will maintain the longstanding alliance between the two countries. He has also said the Philippines needs the United States as a counterbalance in the South China Sea. He made the statement in the course of explaining his earlier remark that he might ask the US Special Forces to leave Mindanao to pave the way for talks with Moro rebels with historical grievances from abuses suffered at the hands of the US colonial administration.

"I have never said. Get out of the Philippines. After all, we need them there in the South China Sea. We don't have armaments," Mr. Duterte said. He added that the Philippines is not ready to go to war with China, and that he would not want it because it would be a "massacre."

What's his clue—his foul mouth and insults to the United States and also to the United Nations?

Amando Doronila was a regular columnist of the Inquirer from 1994 to May 2016.

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ONLINE NEWS

29 SEPTEMBER 2016

<http://www.inquirer.net/>

2 more Abu bandits killed in Sulu

Julie Alipala

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Two more Abu Sayyaf members were killed as government forces continue to pound the group of bandit sub-leader Alhabsy Misaya in Sulu, a report from the Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) said Wednesday.

The clash between soldiers and Misaya's group started on Tuesday. One soldier was also injured in the clashes.

On Tuesday, soldiers killed siblings Nixon and Brown Muktadil during an operation in Pata town.

Maj. Filemon Tan Jr., the spokesperson of the military's Westmincom, said soldiers conducting anti-Abu Sayyaf operation on Tambulian Island caught up with the Muktadils and killed them both in the process.

"The Muktadil brothers were involved in the series of kidnappings victimizing 26 Indonesians and Malaysians on high seas in the boundaries of Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines," Tan said.

He said the deaths of the Muktadil brothers served as a major blow to Misaya's group because the siblings served as sea guides and navigators during the group's conduct of high-seas kidnappings. **RAM**

<http://news.abs-cbn.com/news>

2 Abus killed, 3 hurt in separate Sulu encounters:

Army

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Sep 28 2016 05:05 PM

SULU - Two members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) were killed and 3 others wounded in two separate encounters between the military and ASG rebels in Panamao, Sulu early morning Wednesday, the Philippine Army said.

A soldier was also slightly wounded by shrapnel and is currently recuperating at Camp Bautista Hospital in Jolo.

The first encounter occurred past 7:00 a.m. in Barangay Pugad Manaul, Old Panamao in Sulu. Around 30 ASG rebels and the Bravo Company of the 35th Infantry Battalion engaged in a firefight, where the two ASG rebels were killed, and a soldier was wounded.

The military retrieved one of the bodies while the other was seen being carried away by the ASG.

A second encounter occurred past 9:00 a.m. between the same group of ASG rebels and the Bravo Company of the 10th Infantry Battalion in an adjacent sitio, also in Barangay Pugad Manaul.

Three ASG rebels were reportedly wounded in the second encounter.

The military said the ASG troops are reportedly holding some Malaysian and Indonesian hostages.

This is the second day that troops engaged the ASG in Sulu. On Tuesday, the Muktadil brothers, Nixon and Brown, were killed in an operation in Sulu.

Brig. Gen. Arnel dela Vega, commander of the Joint Task Force Sulu, attributed the successive engagements to cooperation of residents.

"Our troops will continue to pursue the terrorists until we deal a crippling blow to their ranks and leadership and rescue the remaining hostages," Dela Vega said.

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<http://bombradyo.com/>

Mga nakumpiskang baril, bala ng PNP 'di lahat galing sa AFP - Visaya

By Bombo Analy Soberano

Nilinaw ng pamunuan ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) na hindi sa kanila nanggaling ang karamihan sa mga baril na nakumpiska ng PNP mula sa isang gun-runner na umano'y nagsusuply ng baril sa bandidong Abu Sayyaf.

Ito ang binigyang-diin ni AFP chief of Staff Gen. Ricardo Visaya matapos niyang ipag-utos ang pag-iimbentaryo ng lahat ng armas ng AFP.

Ginawa ni Visaya ang direktiba kasunod ng presentayon kahapon ng PNP ng mga nakumpiskang armas at bala na may nakatatak na "government arsenal."

Ayon kay Visaya na batay sa accounting ng AFP, dalawa lang sa mga ipinisintang baril ng PNP ang natuklasang nagmula sa AFP.

Ito ay ang M-16A1 rifle na may SN 123760 na inisyu sa defunct Philippine Constabulary Support Command noong July 8, 1982 at isang M203 Grenade Launcher na inisyu sa dating Service Support Command na ngayong Army Support Command noong May 22, 1990.

Kasunod nito ipinag-utos ni Visaya sa intelligence units ng army, navy at airforce na magsagawa ng imbestigasyon upang matulungan ang PNP na matukoy ang source ng mga bala na nakumpiska.

Samantala, tiniyak ni AFP na walang sasantuhin ang militar sa isinasagawang imbestigasyon at papanagutin ang matutukoy na responsable sa pagnanakaw at pagbebenta ng military hardware.

<http://bombradyo.com/>

Sgt. Sanchez 'di pinilit lumagda ng affidavit - PSG

By Bombo Reymund Tinaza

Mariling pinabulaanan ngayon ng Presidential Security Group (PSG) ang pahayag ni Sen. Leila de Lima na pinuwersa nilang pumirma ng affidavit ang dati nitong security detail na si Sgt. Jonel Sanchez.

Sinabi ni Lt. Col. Michael Aquino, ang tumatayong spokesman ng PSG, walang katotohanan ang paratang ni Sen. De Lima dahil hanggang ngayon ay wala pang nilalagdaang affidavit si Sanchez.

Ayon kay Col. Aquino, nagsabi na umano si Sgt. Sanchez na gusto niyang kumuha ng sariling abugado pero wala pang naiharap.

Tiniyak din ni Aquino na mananatili ang pagsunod at pagkilala ng PSG sa rule of law.

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(Update) Two ASG bandits killed, 3 others wounded in series of Sulu clashes

From the Philippine News Agency (Sep 28)

Two more members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) were killed while three others were wounded following a series of encounters between Joint Task Force-Sulu troopers and the bandits in Panamao, Sulu Wednesday morning.

A soldier was also slightly wounded by shrapnel and is currently recuperating at the Camp Bautista Hospital in Jolo.

Joint Task Force-Sulu commander, Brig. Gen. Arnel dela Vega said the first encounter transpired at 7:20 a.m. between an estimated 30 ASG and the Bravo Company of the 35th Infantry Battalion in Barangay Pugad Manual in Panamao.

In the clash, two ASG terrorists were killed but troopers recovered the body of only one of the slain bandits.

Dela Vega said civilians saw the other body being carried by the retreating terrorists.

The second encounter occurred at 9:05 a.m. between the same group of ASG and troops of the Bravo Company, 10th Infantry Battalion in an adjacent sitio in Barangay Pugad Manual, also in Panamao, resulting in three ASG wounded.

Dela Vega said the engaged ASGs were reportedly holding some Malaysian and Indonesian hostages.

The wounded soldier was airlifted to Camp Bautista Station Hospital for treatment while the ASG member was brought to the Sulu Provincial Police Office for processing and proper disposition.

~~This is the second successive day that troops engaged the ASG in Sulu.~~

On Tuesday, the notorious Muktadil brothers of the ASG, Nixon and Brown, were killed in an operation by troops in Sulu.

Dela Vega attributed the successive engagements to the cooperation of local residents.

"Our troops will continue to pursue the terrorists until we deal a crippling blow to their ranks and leadership and rescue the remaining hostages," he added.

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www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

Duterte to Marines: Defend the Republic

From the Philippine News Agency (Sep 28)

President Rodrigo Duterte has urged the Philippine Marines to stay loyal to the Republic and help to fight the country's drug problem.

In his remarks before the elite troops on Tuesday (September 27), Duterte said: "I am now calling you... to also fight drugs."

He stressed, however, that he is not encouraging them to take the law into their own hands.

Duterte promised to give the soldiers anything they want and need "to win a fight, to win a war, to win a battle, ibibigay ko sa inyo, walang problema."

President Duterte also assured the troops that economic benefits "will come if there is a peaceful Philippines."

Turning to the government's peace efforts, the President emphasized that he was "not a wartime President. I am a President seeking peace for my people."

During his dialogue with the Marines, Duterte reiterated his plan to seek closer ties with China and Russia. He announced that he would be visiting these countries soon to discuss trade and commerce.

"This Republic will rise, this Republic of the Philippines will continue to be great... We will survive on our own. We will fight our wars on our own and we will win as a country," Duterte told the soldiers.

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<http://dwdd.com.ph/>

TALK TO THE MARINES | Pres Duterte Visits PMC

Alvin Santiago



PHILIPPINE MARINE CORPS HEADQUARTERS, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City (DWDD) – President Rodrigo Roa Duterte continued to remind the nation about his war against illegal drugs, encouraging the uniformed men and women of the Philippine Marine Corps to do what is right in the performance of their duties, most especially when their lives are at stake.



He made this statement following a visit in Arayat, Pampanga where authorities discovered a large factory of shabu that, according to him, is as large as a hangar and can produce illegal drugs of up to 200 kilos per day.

The President reiterated that the uniformed personnel should strictly do their jobs to contain and eventually stop illegal drugs that continue to contaminate the country. He admitted that up to now, he still feels worried in solving such a problem because of its enormity.



"There are about three million drug addicts and 92 percent of all barangays are already under the influence [of drugs]. So paano ito?" President Duterte said.

But he added, "I would like to ask for you this: Kung andyan-iyong problema, it's four million, at kung ganong klaseng factory ang pinaglalaruan tayo dito, you have to do something about it. Individually or collectively. Kapag sinabi na you go and operate, hunt for them, apprehend them, place them under arrest."

Whatever the outcome, the Commander-in-Chief assured them that he would not allow the police and military to go to prison for doing their duty. He also advised them not to put the law into their hands because in the midst of the country's war against illegal drugs, he still wants to show solidarity.

"I am not a war time President. Mind you. I am the President seeking peace for my country for my people," he said.

Likewise, President Duterte asked them to remain faithful to the Republic and to give him time to fix the problems threatening the country, saying, "please understand. This Republic will rise, this Republic of the Philippines will continue to be great."

During the event, the President shared a boodle fight style-dinner with the marines. He also received a memento called Ginunting, a bladed weapon commonly used by the marines in their trainings. RTVM / MCAG

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NAVAL AIR GROUP | Safeguarding the nation

Lui Claudio



To organize, train, equip and maintain assets for air operations that is the mission of the Naval Air Group, Philippine Navy. It was manned by the most competent and abled workforce of officers and enlisted personnel with naval aviation skills and specialization like pilots, aircraft maintenance, and technicians. It is lead and commanded by Commander Naval Air Group (CNAG) assisted by his deputy commander, chief of staff, three special staffs and seven regular staffs.

Aside from the regular squadrons which are MF-30, MH-40, NATS-50, and GSS, the Naval Air Group Organization has activated the Aircraft Inspection and Maintenance Squadron (AIMS) bringing the total number of squadrons under the group of five with five naval air unit strategically located all over the country. This Naval Air Units are the Naval Air Unit Northern Luzon located in Poro Point in San Fernando, La Union, the Naval Air Unit Southern Luzon in Legaspi City, Naval Air Unit West in Puerto Princesa Palawan, Naval Air Unit Central in Cebu, Naval Air Unit Eastern Mindanao in Davao and Naval Air Unit Western Mindanao in Zamboanga City while there are 6 BNIs, 4 Cessna, 5 AW109E, and 2 R22BII aircraft inventory.

Naval Air Group has numerous capabilities and can perform different tasks. In Maritime Air Surveillance, they observe closely any moving or static target whether a photo or a video coverage through the Naval Aircraft. In Search and Rescue, they locate and aid persons in distress condition or in danger. In a medical evacuation, they transport the patient from an isolated area to a medical facility where then can give treatment to the person in need. Naval Air Patrol catches and stops hostile enemy forces from entering our land. When it comes to Parajump operations, troops are for aerial disembarkation for deployment or in the performance of combat missions. In Airdrop Operations, they resupply of ground units through Navy Aircraft dropping provisions while airborne is at a safe altitude. In Insertion and Extraction operations, in a hostile environment a rapid deployment and recovery of the operating troops to perform special operations. While in Pilots and Crew Training conducts aviation course for officers and aircraft crew for enlisted personnel.

Aside from operational flights, they also have Christening, Commissioning, and Maiden Flight of NHT423 and Awarding of Honorary Naval Command Aviator's Badge to CPF. In view of the arrival of the new R22 BII trainer helicopter, the said aircraft will be Christened and Commissioned in the service of PN. After the ceremonies, a maiden flight could be conducted jibe orientation flight of CPF. After which, there will be a simple awarding of Honorary Naval Command Aviator's Badge to CPF aboard Aviator's Lounge.

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A bloodletting activity for the benefit of PNRG and other medical institutions was conducted by NATS50 in coordination with the PF Medical Group and CNH last September 16, 2016, aboard Hangar Nr 1.

Dubbed as the "Clash of Squadrons", the Inter-Squadron Sports fest was organized by AIMS which will be administered by the different personnel of NAG squadrons. The formal opening ceremony was held last September 6, 2016, with basketball matches to jumpstart the series of games. The event ended last September 26, as the participants played series of fun games by mere brute force and native talents.

There was also a movie block screening for the benefit of PWDs and drug dependent (both minors) in coordination with the administration of a mall-based cinema held last September 28, 2016.

This September 30 and October 8, 2016, respectively, the GSS will be organizing outreach programs for the benefits of the drug dependent and PWD minors entitled as "Care to Watch; Watch to Care".

On the other hand, an Aviator's Night, a traditional night for all naval aviators and maintenance officers of NAG giving honors to exceptional achievements of fellow naval aviator for the year will be held on October 8, 2016, as the proposed date. Honorees will be determined by the UPR who will also supervise the conduct of the said activity and will determine a pool of aviators who will roast the honorees.

While on October 8, 2016, in view of NAG's Foundation Day, there will be a Thanksgiving Mass followed by the blessing of NAG Female Barrack Extension. It will be followed by NAG Family Day to hand-over the equipment and donations to drug-dependents and PWD beneficiaries and also the awarding of deserving NAG personnel and stakeholders. It will be coupled by series of merriment activities and festivities such as a hot-air balloon, aircraft low-opener pass and different booths and static displays.

In the future, we can expect from the Naval Air Group are the fixed wings TC90 Acquisition, ASW Fixed Wing Aircraft, FW Trainer Aircraft, BI EO/IR installation. Also rotary wings ASW Helicopter, Medium-Lift Helicopter and Trainer Helicopter

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ESPRIT DE CORPS | TRADOC Hosted AFP-PNP-PCG Olympics 2016

Alvin Santiago

CAPAS, Tarlac (DWDD) – The Philippine Army's Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) under Brig. Gen. Herminigildo Francisco C. Aquino hosted and administered the 3-day combat pistol and rifle shooting competition through the Marksmanship Training Center as part of the AFP-PNP-PCG Olympics 2016 at Camp O'Donnell, Capas Tarlac in the morning of September 28, 2016.

The event is conducted annually which aims to promote and enhance physical fitness, discipline, teamwork, camaraderie and esprit-de-corps among shooters and players from the Philippine Army; Philippine Navy; Philippine Air Force; Philippine Coast Guard; and Philippine National Police.



"The combat shooting event is just one of the various competitions organized under the Olympics. TRADOC is pleased to be hosting this particular event and we welcome everyone in high spirits. To the players, do the best that you can. There is no failure in doing your best. Win or loss, I know the players will show utmost sportsmanship and respect for fellow players." BGen. Aquino said in his keynote speech.

The competition will be conducted in accordance with AFP-PNP-PCG Olympics rules and regulations. Each contingent shall have a pistol and rifle team with eight members. **G7 TRADOC / MCAG**

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PNP Recovered FAs Not issued to the AFP

Lui Claudio

CAMP AGUINALDO, Quezon City – Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff General Ricardo Visaya immediately ordered the inventory of the firearms issued to the AFP. This proceeded in the light of the confiscated arms and ammunition presented by the Philippine National Police (PNP) at Camp Crame in Quezon City, 27 September 2016.



Results of the accounting reveal that all the firearms recovered by the Police were not issued to the AFP, except 2 firearms to wit:

- a) M-16A1 SN 123760 issued to the defunct Philippine Constabulary Support Command on 08 July 1982; and
- b) M203 Grenade Launcher issued to Service Support Command now Army Support Command on 22 May 1990.

Gen Visaya has directed intelligence units of the Army, Navy, and Air Force to continue their exhaustive investigations to help the PNP determine to where the ammunitions confiscated were issued.

The Chief of AFP Public Affairs Office Marine Colonel Edgard Arevalo declares, "We will leave no stone unturned in this investigation and ensure that these unscrupulous acts will be stopped – as it must immediately stop – and the perpetrators meted stiff punishments provided under the Articles of War particularly AW 85 as may be warranted by Court Martial."

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