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NEWS CLIPPINGS

19 April 2017

Wednesday

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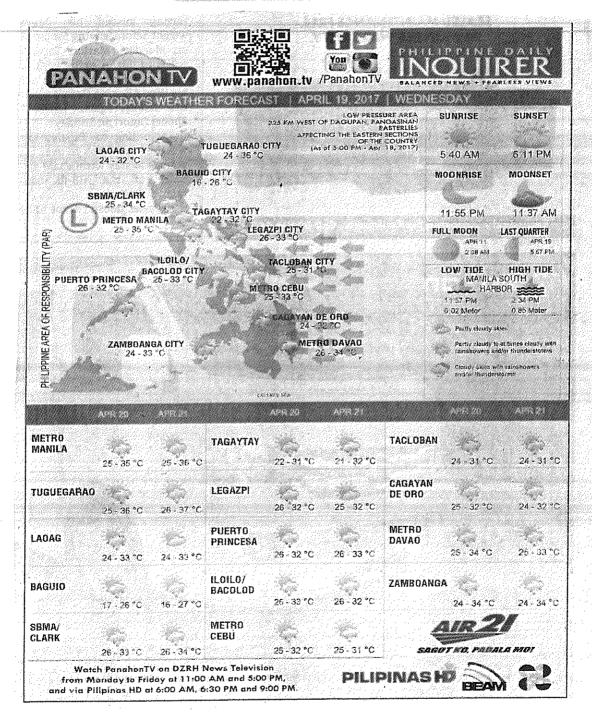
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29 dead in Ecija bus crash

By CECILLE SUERTE FELIPE and VICTOR MARTIN

An overloaded minibus fell into a deep ravine along a winding road near the boundary of Nueva Ecija and Nueva Vizcaya before noon yesterday, killing 29 of its passengers, many of whom were traveling back to Manila and Ilocos after the long Lenten break.

Authorities said the accident in Barangay Capintalan in Carranglan town along the Cagayan Valley-Nueva Ecija highway left 38 people injured, many of them critically.

Police said the impact of the fall yanked out the roof of the Leomarick bus with license plate AVZ-757.

The Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) said 18 of the fatalities were females.

A survivor, 31-year-old Ian Boy Fernandez of Sto. Domingo Bambang, said the bus was trying to overtake another bus when its engine stopped. While the driver was trying to restart the engine, he lost control of the vehicle on a sloping portion of the road.

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Fernandez, who was with his 38-year-old wife Remedios and eight-year-old son Mico, said he was able to jump off the bus as it rolled downhill and veered toward the ravine

As he climbed down the ravine to rescue his wife and child, people gathered at the crash site taking photos. It was not clear if his wife and son survived.

Fernandez said the bus was overloaded with more than 60 passengers, 11 of them standing, when it fell into the ravine about 100 feet deep.

Turn to Page 8

29 dead From Page 1

Malacañang condoled with rescue team which, he said, the families of the fatalities and vowed to hold accountable those responsible for the tragedy

We express our deep condolences to the families of the victims who died in the tragic bus accident in Carranglan, Nueva Ecija," presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said.

"We guarantee that the culprits behind the fatal bus mishap will be held accountable," he added. The Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) has ordered the suspension of Hospital," said Hara. the Leomarick franchise.

It was not clear as of press time if the driver was among the fatalities. Some survivors said passengers bound for Manila would have disembarked in San Jose, Nueva Ecija to get another bus ride to the capital.

Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Carlos Padilla rushed to the crash site together with personnel from the Philippine Red Cross and the Nueva Vizcaya provincial retrieved 26 bodies from the site at around 3:55 p.m.

He said some of the injured were brought to the Indigenous Hospital in Aritao town, Nueva Vizcaya Provincial Hospital in Bambang town and Veterans Regional Hospital (VRH) in Bayombong town.

Dr. Arlene Hara, NVPH head, confirmed 13 deaths at the hospital alone.

"A still unidentified victim remains in critical condition at the ICU (intensive care unit) of the Nueva Ecija Provincial

Dr. Rowena Constantino of the VRH said the dead included a six-month-old infant and seven children as of 5:15 pm

Senior Supt Antonio Yarra, director of the Nueva Ecija Provincial Police Office, said the accident took place at around 11:30 a.m. while the bus was traveling at around 75 kph along the treacherous Cagayan Valley-Nueva Ecija highway from Santiago, Isabela to Candon, Ilocos Sur.

"As of 2 p.m. about 40 victims have been taken out of the bus and lifted from the accident site, which is about 80 to 100 feet deep form the road area," Yarra said

He added the bus had a capacity of 45 passengers.

which resulted in about a three-kilometer long queue of vehicles," Michael Calma, of the PDRRMO, added. 'Accident prone' Carranglan Nueva Ecija Mayor Mary Abad said Capintala was about 45 minutes from the town proper and is considered an accident nose first;" he said in Filipino

Authorities said rescue operation was tedious as personnel had to carefully check the injury of each passenger before removal from the site on a stretcher.

"The Cagayan Valley-Nueva Ecija highway was closed during the rescue operations, prone area.

Reports reaching Camp Crame showed four pick-up vehicles helped bring the victims to hospitals in Bangbang, Nueva Vizcaya, which is closer to the accident area.

The mayor said local police are now coordinating with the bus management as initial reports showed the bus lost its brakes as it maneuvered a sharp curve

PDRRMO's Calma said rescue teams were checking the scene until late in the afternoon to ensure all the passengers were accounted for.

"Rescue teams were still checking. If you look closely, the bus appeared to have landed

Meanwhile, LTFRB spokesperson and board member Aileen Lizada said in a text message the suspension of Leomarick franchise takes effect once the bus operator, initially identified as Leonardo Patulot. receives a copy of the order.

The operator has two buses, including the one which figured in the accident.

Based on initial information from LTFRB field officers, the bus was not out of line.

Lizada said they were looking at human error and the condition of the vehicle as possible cause of the accident.

If there was overloading, the bus operator and dispatcher would be asked to explain. Investigators would also check on travel time and if there was an alternate driver.

The LTFRB recently issued a memorandum setting a six-hour limit of driving for bus drivers

"There are many angles that we need to thresh out," she said in an interview over dzMM radio. - With Alexis Romero, Ric Sapnu, Manny Galvez, Emmanuel Tupas, Raymund Catindig

lan Boy Fernandez, 31, of Sto. Domingo, Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya jumped off the ill-fated bus before it fell into the ravine. He is shown here watching over his wife, Remedios, 30, at the emergency room of the Veterans Regional Hospital in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya.

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16 hurt in two Tacurong City blasts

By JOSEPH JUBELAG and Francis T. WAKEFIELD

ACURONG CITY, Sultan Kudarat – At least 16 people, including three policemen and two soldiers, were injured after two improvised bombs exploded at a mini-mart here Monday night.

Senior Supt. Raul Supiter, Sultan Kudarat police director, said the first improvised explosive device went off inside the comfort room of Dragon Mart in Barangay New Isabela, this city, at around 6:45 p.m. Monday.

Supiter said that as security forces responded to the scene, another improvised explosive device (IED) exploded within the crime

scene some 20 minutes later.

The second explosive was placed in a garbage bin in front of Dragon Mart.

Army Capt. Arvin Encinas, the Public Affairs Officer of the 6th Infantry Division, identified the six wounded Army and police personnel as Staff Sergeants Logen C. Presaldo and Ramil M. Garde, Corporal Alvin Jimenez, SPO2 Jasper Garcia, PO2 Gerald San Pedro, and PO1 Eleazar Sustiguer.

The wounded civilians were identified as Sausalito C. Manoy,

Balliaranda Dawika, Joseph Liba, Leo Cueva, Danica Ila Ballaran, Reymart Del Rosario, Roger Bamo, Ryan Omar Hipolip Ali, Michael Pom, and Richard Pineda.

Police arrested two suspects who were acting suspiciously at the crime scene.

Supiter identified them as Warren Gani and Juhari Gani, alleged members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front

When frisked, the suspects yielded two fragmentation grenades.

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2 MILF men held for Sultan Kudarat bomb blast

By JOHN UNSON

TACURONG CITY – Two suspects in the bomb explosion in this city on Monday night have been arrested.

Waren Gani and Juhari Gani were fleeing from the blast when intercepted by policemen and soldiers, Senior Superintendent Raul Supiter, Sultan Kudarat police director, said yesterday.

Supiter said the suspects yielded fragmentation grenades and claimed they are members of the 108th base command of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Supiter said he would inform the joint government-MILF ceasefire committee on the arrest of the MILF men.

The government and the MILF are bound by the 1997 Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities in addressing security concerns. The committee is composed of representatives of the MILF, Philippine National Police, Armed Forces of the Philippines and Malaysian-led International Monitoring Team.

The MILF could not be reached for comment.

The number of wounded victims rose to 15, including Army Sergeants Logan Presaldo, Ramil Garde and Alvin Jimenez and Police Officer 2 Gerard San Pedró, PO1 Eleazar Sustiger and SPO2 Jasper Garcia

The soldiers and policemen were securing the premises of a fuel retail station in Barangay Isabela following the discovery of an improvised explosive device in the area when a second bomb planted a few meters away went off

Among the wounded civilians were ambulance driver Roger Bamo and Saulsato Manoy of the city disaster risk reduction and management council.

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Minor, fellow NPA surrender in Davao

BY VICTOR REYES

A 15-YEAR-OLD girl and another member of the New People's Army surrendered to the military in Kapalong town, Davao del Norte Monday, the Army reported yesterday.

The rebels were identified only as "Rose," 15, and "Junjun," 18. They belong to the Dibabawon tribe and were members of the NPA's Pulang Bagani Command 4, said 2Lt. Amadeuz Celestial, civil military operations officer

of the Army's 60th Infantry Battalion.

Celestial said the two disclosed there are four more minor indigenous people still with the NPA operating in the province.

Celestial said Rose surrendered "because she is already tired of treading the mountains, fear and she doesn't understand the law of the NPA" while Junjun surrendered because of "abuses" by senior NPA rebels.

He said Rose and Junjun were separately recruited to the NPA by one alias Emilies and Pai, respectively, and were promised to be sent to school and assigned to legal fronts of the movement. But they were instead sent to combat, he said.

He said Rose served as a medical staff member and Junjun, a squad leader of the NPA unit. They are undergoing medical check-up and stress debriefing.

Rose "will also undergo special psychological debriefing for any indication of child-abuse-related trauma," Celestial said.

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2 NPA rebels surrender

CAMP BANCASI, Butuan City

— Two New People's Army (NPA)
rebels voluntarily surrendered to
the Army's 8th Infantry Battallion
(8th IB) on Sunday.

1st Lt. Erwin P. Bugarin, Civil Military Operation Officer (CMO) of the 8th IB yesterday said the two armed NPA rebels whose identities were temporarily withheld for security reason also surrendered four high and low-powered firearms at the 8th IB headquarters in Impasug-ong, Bukidnon province.

"The two has finally decided to return to the mainstream society after realizing the futility of the armed struggle," said Bugarin.

Bugarin added that the two rebels grew tired of following the ideology and listening to the empty promises by their NPA leaders apart from starvation and

leaders apart from starvation and being physically exhausted in trying to avoid authorities.

"We are now facilitating the livelihood assistance based from the Comprehensive Local Integration Program of the Government to them. In addition to this, they are also set to participate in the unit's arm to arm program in order to rehabilitate them in the mainstream of the society," added Bugarin. (Mike U. Crismundo)

Two NPA Members Yield, Surrendered Four Firearms in Bukidnon

Lui Claudio

IMPASUG-ONG, Bukidnon— Two NPAs surrendered to the 8th Infantry (Dependable) Battalion on Easter Sunday bringing along their four high and low-powered firearms at 8lB headquarters in Impasugong, Bukidnon.

The two has finally decided to return to the mainstream society after realizing the futility of the armed struggle.

The NPA is losing steam and it was felt by its members. The former rebels revealed their reason for their surrender. First is that they grew tired of following the ideology and listening to the empty promises which had been encrypted in their minds by their NPA leaders; second, physical exhaustion as they keep on running away from the government security forces; third, they were starving in the mountains; and lastly, they wanted to live a better and peaceful life.

"The Philippine Army is serious in the performance of their duty to the nation in upholding peace and order. Despite the holidays, we work to keep threats away from the community. We may be mandated to go after armed groups but we never get tired of helping those who saw a brighter path and are seeking a better future. We are focusing all our efforts to achieve one goal and that is to provide the Filipino people just and lasting peace."

"We are now facilitating the livelihood assistance based on the Comprehensive Local Integration Program of the Government to them. In addition to this, they are also set to participate in the unit's ARM TO FARM Program in order to rehabilitate them in the mainstream of the society. This is a sustainable program that shall equip them with some basic livelihood knowledge and skills. All of these programs are designed to help our former rebels and those NPAs who are planning to surrender and have a better life outside the rebel group."

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• Fake intel officer arrested in Aklan

KALIBO, Aklan — A man claiming to be an intelligence officer was arrested in this provincial capital fast Monday The suspect was identified as Sammy Ocate, a native of Negros Occidental province. He has reportedly been going around Aklan province, including Boracay Island, claiming that he was sent by highranking military officials based in Metro Manila to gather information pertaining to illegal drug trade and other criminal activities. Philippine Army's 12th Infantry Battalion (12 JB) Lt. Col. Antonio Tumnog said Ocate issues fake military IDs, which he says his victims can use to legally carry firearms. Ocate sells the IDs for P300. Authorities seized from Ocate several fake military IDs and a toy gun (Jun N. Aguirre)

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Military, police given deadline to move into gov't housing

By PAOLO ROMERO

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) have until June 15 to decide whether or not to use vacant government housing units allocated for them.

The units will be turned over to other qualified beneficiaries should the deadline given to the AFP and PNP lapse, the National Housing Authority (NHA) said.

This developed as AFP, PNP and NHA officials blamed each other during yesterday's Senate inquiry on why the over 55,124 housing units for uniformed personnel nationwide remained unoccupied for the past several years.

The inquiry, led by Sen. Joseph Victor Ejercito and Negros Occidental Rep. Alfredo Benitez, tackled the illegal occupation by urban poor group Kadamay of housing units in Pandi, Bulacan intended for AFP and PNP personnel.

NHA general manager

OFFICE REPORTS ARENT E

Marcelino Escalada said that after President Duterte ordered the unoccupied housing units awarded to qualified Kadamay members, the agency gave the AFP and PNP until May 30 to submit the list of beneficiaries

The May 30 deadline was extended until June 15

Escalada said of the 66,184 housing units, only over 8,000 are occupied by beneficiaries from the uniformed sector.

AFP and PNP housing officials said the units were too small—with a 22-square meter floor area — for a family and lacked basic facilities and access roads

They said the NHA did not coordinate the design and construction with the AFP and PNP.

NHA group manager Susan Nonato said they conducted meetings with AFP and PNP housing officials and housing fairs for uniformed personnel.

"When government builds homes without regard for the immediate needs, safety and comfort of those who will live in it, then it becomes a sheer act of shameless profiteering," Ejercito said.

"Government officials and employees become greedy bureaucrat capitalists out to steal from government coffers, making easy profit from the misery of the poor, displaced and marginalized families," he added

He said a Commission on Audit report showed the occupancy rate for the AFP-PNP housing units stands only at 13.92 percent as of September last year.

Benutez said the lack of coordination and efficiency among government agencies led to the current situation and called for legislative action to address the matter.

He described the occupation by Kadamay of the Pandi housing units as "not a simple act of disorder but a call, a sign of desperation."

He suggested to NHA officials to merge two units into one to make them bigger

Benitez filed a joint resolution authorizing the NHA to award the housing units to other beneficiaries.

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Robredo gets security briefing from military

BY VICTOR REYES

VICE President Leni Robredo, who is being linked to a supposed plot to oust President Duterte, was given a security briefing by the Armed Forces yesterday during a visit to the military's general headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Col. Edgard Arevalo, chief of the military's public affairs office, said Robredo's visit was in connection with a long-standing invitation extended to her by Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana.

Lorenzana and AFP chief Gen. Eduardo Año welcomed Robredo to Camp Aguinaldo.

"Since she's here, the opportunity is already here, we gave her information, security briefing... It's a normal or routine activity that we accord to a visiting national leader," said Arevalo.

Arevalo said lawmakers have been given security briefings in the past. "She is the Vice President, she is a government official, she is actually the second highest official of the land so she is entitled (to a briefing)," he said.

Arevalo said the AFP's deputy chief of staff for operations, Maj. Gen. Melquiades Feliciano, delivered the briefing for Robredo.

"At the conference room, the Vice President was informed of the mission, vision and functions of the AFP as a bureau under the Department of National Defense," said Arevalo.

"More importantly, the Vice President was made aware of the capabilities the AFP now possesses, the security challenges it faces," he said.

Arevalo said Robredo was also informed of the "AFP's way forward in its firm and continuing commitment to bring about conditions for peace, progress, and security for the country with the support of other departments, local governments, and their respective constituents."

Arevalo said Robredo thanked the AFP and the defense department for the arrival honors and wished the military "success in all its endeavors."

He said Robredo "expressed satisfaction over the many AFP accomplishments and gave her support to the uniformed personnel and civilian employees of the AFP in the pursuit of its mission." Arevalo said Lorenzana thanked Robredo for visiting Camp Aguinaldo and expressed the "continuing and unwavering loyalty and commitment of the DND — the AFP included — to the Constitution and the duly constituted authorities."

Some Malacañang officials have been linking Robredo to a supposed destabilization plot against Duterte. The military has said it has not received any report about attempts to destabilize or unseat the President.

Last month, Duterte said Robredo had nothing to do with any destabilization effort.

Arevalo, asked if destabilization was discussed during the briefing, said: "None at all, none of such kinds of topic. It's plain and simple briefing about our missions, functions, way ahead, current security situation, etc."

"She asked some questions during the briefing but that's all. There was no discussion about destabilization," he said.

Asked if Robredo asked about destabilization, he said: "No, she made no questions about that. She is more concerned about the security threats and how we are addressing it."

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Pahina. 3

26,000 PNP, AFP et al idedeploy <u>SA ASEAN</u> Summit

tauhan ng National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) at iba pang mga force multipliers ang nakatakdang ideploy kaugnay ng gaganaping Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit na gaganapin sa Metro Manila sa susunod na linggo

Ito ang inihayag kahapon ni NCRPO Chief P/Director Oscar Albayalde kaugnay ng ipatutupad na security measures sa ASEAN Summit na gaganapin sa Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) sa Pasay City.

Ayon kay Albayalde. nasa 18,000 pulis ang

Aabot sa 26,000 magbabantay sa venue ng ASEAN Summit sa Metro Manila kung saan maliban dito ay magkakaroon din ng augmentation ng puwersa mula sa Regions 1, 3 at IV.

"A total of 26,000 personnel will be deployed, including those from the Armed Forces of the Philippines and other agencies, 'yung mga force multipliers natin," ani Albayalde .

Sinabi ni Albayalde na bagaman wala namang silang namomonitor na banta ng terorismo sa malaking event na idaraos sa bansa ay nakahanda ang kapulisan sa lahat ng oras upang tiyakin na magiging mapayapa ang okasyon na dadaluhan ng mga lider

at delegado ng mga bansa na kabilang sa **ASEAN**

Nabatid na ang ika-30th ASEAN Summit 31st ASEAN Summit sa ay gaganapin sa PICC sa Abril 25-29 habang idaraos din sa Metro bre ng taong ito

Manila ang ASEAN 50h anniversary sa darating na Agosto ng taong ito.

Itinakda naman ang - Clark, Pampanga sa darating na Nobyem-

Kaugnay nito naka-. takda namang magsagawa ng simulation exercises sa susunod na linggo bago ang itinakdang event para tivakin ang kahandaan ng preparasyon ng

pulisya sa pangangaladelegado ng ASEAN.

Nakikipag-ugnayan na rin ang NCRPO sa

kanilang mga dayuhang ga sa kaligtasan ng mga counterparts para sa higit pang pinaigting na security measures (Joy Cantos)

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Pahina. 3

Terror threat pinawi ng AFP

PINAKALMA ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) ang publiko sa pangambang may mga pag-atake ng terorismo sa bansa kasabay ng pagtiyak na walang terror threat sa Pilipinas, gaya ng pananakot ng ilang miyembro ng Abu Sayyaf na maghasik ng karahasan sa inabanga, Bohol.

Ito ay may kaugnayan sa pagpapalabas ng travel advisory ng South Korea sa kanilang mga kababayan na iwasan munang magtungo sa Bohol dahil umano sa presensya ng teroristang grupo.

Ayon kay AFP spokesperson Major General Restiluto Padilla, karapatan naman ng gobyemo ng Korea na maglabas ng travel ban dahil malaking porsyento ng mga dayuhan sa bansa ay mga Koreano.

Subalit, iniyak ng militar, maging ng gobyemo na magbabalik na lahat sa normal ang sitwasyon sa Bohol matapos mapigilan ng tropa ng militar at mga tauhan ng Philippine National Police (PNP) ang tangkang terorismo ng ASG. MAS

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Pahina. 3

EO ni ex-PGMA sa military procurement pinawalang-bisa

Pinawalang-bisa ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang executive order na inilabas ni dating Pangulong Gloria Macapagal Arroyo hinggil sa defense contracts.

Pinirmahan noong Abrīl 7 ni Pangulong Duterte ang Executive Order No. 18 na nagpapawalang-saysay sa EO No 235 na nilagdaan ni dating Pangulong Arroyo noong 2003 kung saan ay nililimitahan ang awtoridad ng kalihim ng Department of National Defense (DND) kaugay sa pagapruba ng procurement contracts at magtaguyod ng single Bids and Awards Committee para sa Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). (ACano)

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Pahina. <u>4</u>

Sinong magaling, PMA Class '85 o '86?

HINDI nakakasiguro si Dep Dir HINDI nakakasiguro si Dep Dil Gen Ramon Apolinario na siya na ang papalit kay Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Dir Gen Ronald Baio dela Rosa. Si Apolinario ang deputy chief for administration (DCA) ng PNP at next in line na siya kay Bato Isama na ang sistema na sila ni Bato ang pinagpilian na maging PNP chief



PNP at next in fine ha siya kay Balo lasama na ang sistema na sila ni Bato ang pinagpilian na maging PNP chief matapos maupo si Digong kaya may plus factor na si Apol, di ba mga kosa? Subalit ang ugong ngayon sa Camp Crame. nagsisikuhan na ang mga matataas na opisyales ng PNP, nagpapasiklaban at nagbabakasakali na mapansin ng "Davao connection" na nagbubulong kay Digong sa mga appointments sa gobyerno Kahit bagyo ang dating niya kay Digong, subalit kung mahina ang kapit niya sa poste baka matangay nang malakas na hangin si Apol at goodbye sa ambition niya na papalitan si Bato, di ba mga kosa? Lalo na t may haka-haka na iliisanin ni Bato ang puwesto niya sa Hulyo para mag-concentrate din sa ambition niya na maging senador kaya baka hindi lang sikuhan ang mangyayari sa PNP kundi suntukan na. Boom Panes! Henche! Ipokrito lang ang ayaw maging PNP chief di ba mga kosa?

Sa totoo lang, madaming opisyales ng PNP ang nagsisipsip ngayon sa Davao connection na bagyo kay Digong Kanya-kanyang pakulo sila para makamtan nila ang pinakamataas na puwesto sa PNP. Kung si Apol ay malapit na kay Bato at kay Inday Sara may nautira pa siyang pamato sa katauhan ni Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano, ang rinning mate ni Digong noong nakaraang election. Ang birada ng kalaban niya kay Apolinario ay galing siya sa comptroller family halos sa tanang buhay niya. Ika nga hindi lumaki sa field operation ito at puro pera ang hinawakan. Ano ba 'yan? At higit sa lahat palamiya-lamya si Apolinario kumpara kay Bato ay brusko rin dahit kallangan ito sa kampanya laban sa droga at kriminalidad, ayon pa sa mga kosa ko. Pero nakasama ko si Apolinario noong hepe pa siya ng Taguig City at naging Chief Directorial Staff ng National Capital Region Police Office noong panahon ni NCRPO chief Dir. Carmelo Valmoria at nakita ko na masipag at matiyaga naman siya. Hehehe! Tatalumin kaya ng sipag at tiyaga ang brusko? Ano sa tingin n'yo mga kosa?

Hindi lang si Apol ang muyembro ng PMA Class' 85 na gustong

Hehehe! Tatalunin kaya ng sipag at tiyaga ang brusko? Ano sa tingin n'yo mga kosa?

Hindi lang si Apol ang miyembro ng PMA Class '85 na gustong masungkit ang trono ng PNP oahil lumalakad din sina Dir Gregorio Pimentel, hepe ng Directorate for Intelligence ng PNP at Chief Suptomany Gaerlan, hepe ng PRO 11 sa Davao City. Sa totoo lang puro may Davao connection sina Apolinario, Pimentel na may direct line kay Digong at Gaerlan. Hindi lang 'yan karamihan sa mga opisyales na nakaupo sa sensitibong puwesto ng PNP ngayon ay may tinatawag na Davao connection at ayon sa mga kosa ko sa Camp Crame, hindi naman sila kagalingan kaya lang sila ang nanalo, kaya wala silang magawa. Boom Panes! Hehehe! Weather-weather lang 'yan, di ba mga kosa?

Samantala ang mga classmate naman 'in Bato sa PMA Class' 86 na gusto ring pumalit sa una ay sina NCRPO chief Dir. Oscar Albayalde; Dir. Camilo Pancratius Cascolan, hepe ng Directorate for Operations, at Dep. Dir Gen. Fernando Mendez Jr., ang deputy chief for operations, pubalit

Camilo Pancratius Cascolan, hepe ng Directorate for Operations, at Dep Dir, Gen. Fernando Mendez Jr., ang deputy chief for operations, (DCO). Sina Albayaide, Cascolan at Mendez ay walang Davao connection subalit lumaki sila sa field, intel at operation. Ang lamang ng PMA Class '86 ay puwede silang ibulong ng classmate nilang si Bato kay Digong, di ba mga kosa? Hehehe! Kayo na ang maghusga mga kosa kung sino ang magaling, PMA Class '85 o '86? Kaya lang, baka malingat ang PMA Class '85 at '86 at masingitan sila ni Dir. Bong Leuterio, ng Internal Affairs Service (IAS) na miyembro ng PMA Class. '88 na taga-Davao din. Pag nagkataon. 'ika nga sa karera ng kabayo, from the outside si Leuterio, di ba mga kosa? Kaya't kayo mga kosa ko sa Camp Crame, sino ang manok n'yo na papalit kay Bato?

Kung sabagay, matagal pa ang retirement ni Bato kaya marami pang mangyayari na maaring makaapekto ng tsansa ng bawa't isa sa mga kandidato para maging PNP chief, di ba mga kosa? Abangan!

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Pahina. <u>3</u>



Sayyaf, durugin na!

HUSTISYA ang sigaw ng pamilya at kaanak ng kapitan ng fishing boat na binihag at pinugutan ng bandidong Abu Sayyaf

noong nakalipas na linggo sa Patikul. Sulu.

Tripleng dagok ang natamo ng pamilya ng biktimang si Noel Besconde na bukod nga sa tuluyan itong pinatay mistulang itinakbo pa ang pinagsikapan nilang nilikom na halaga para mabayaran kahit konti ang hininging ransom ng grupo para sa kalayaan ni Noel.

Mukhang itinakbo pa ito ng taong kanilang pinagkatiwalaan

Bukod pa nga rito na hindi pa nakikita ang katawan at ulo ni Besconde. Sigaw ngayon ng kaanak ng biktima makamit sana nila ang hustisya at tuluyan nang supilin ang grupo ng mga bandido na marami na ang pinahirapan.

Matindi na talaga ang panawagan ng publiko para malipol at supilin ang grupong ito

Perwisyo na ang mga ito na dapat na tutukan nang husto ng militar at mga kinauukulan.

Noon pang nakalipas na taon dinukot at binihag ng mga bandido si Besconde. Nabatid na nabigo ang pamilya ni Besconde na magbayad ng P 50 M ransom na hinihingi ng mga abductors nito kapalit ng kaniyang kalayaan. Sinasabing dahilan hindi naibigay ang ransom ay pinugutan ng ulo si Besconde nitong Huwebes Santo pero kamakalawa lamang isinapubliko ng militar matapos itong makumpirma.

Hindi lang sa mga indibiduwal perwisyo at pahirap ang mga bandido, kundi apektado na rin ang bansa dahil nga sa maraming turista ang medyo andap na rin na magtungo sa bansa dahil

sa hinahasik na kaguluhan ng mga ito.

Durugin na ang mga ito, Now na!

April 2017



Pahina.



Abu Sayyaf, Itokhang din

KUNG ang mga rebeldeng New People's Army (NPA) ay hindi mapipigilan sa ilegal na pangungolekta ng "revolutionary tax" porke ito ay kanilang source of revenue, lalung hindi maaawat ang terorista at bandidong Abu Sayyaf sa kanilang ginagawang kidnapping activities. Diyan din kasi sila kumukuha ng pondo para masustinihan ang kanilang diabolikong gawain. Ang nakapanggigili, ang iba sa kanilang mga biklima ay pinupugutan pa ng ulo. Walang sinisino maging dayuhan o Pilipino.

Ang pinakahuling karumal-dumal na ginawa ng bandidong grupong ito ay ang pagpugot sa ulo ng isa sa ka-nilang mga bihag na isang Pilipino. Ito ay bagay na ikinagalit ng buong pamahalaan at sambayanan. At ito ay

isang bagay na ginawa nila noong Huwebes Santol

Kunsabagay, hindi naman sila Kristiyano kaya puwede nilang gawin ang kahit anong kabuktutan ano mang araw. Wala silang Diyos na kinikilala bagamat sinasabing sila'y mga Islam. Sila ay mga malulupit na tulisan. Mga terorista. Dapat, pati Muslim community ay makiisa na sa

pagsugpo ng mga kalabang ito ng kabutihan.

Ang sabi ni AFP Chief of Staff, Gen Eduardo Año,
"gaganti ang militar" at ibibigay na ang "lethal blow" sa bandidong grupo. Ibig sabihin, dudurugin na ng mga maggiting na mandirigma ng AFP ang buong grupo.

Madalas na nating marinig ang ganyang mga babala ng pamahalaan. Hangga ngayon, namamayagpag pa rin ang mga bandidong ito na ang ginagawang pananggalang ay ang buong komunidad na kakampi nila. Nakikinabang din palibhasa ang mga komunidad na ito sa pondong nakukuha ng mga bandido mula sa kanilang tinatanggap na ransom

Mahirap nga siguro ang pagpuksa sa grupong ito, dahil ang kalaban mo ay buong barangay na kumakanlong sa kanila. Ngunit hindi naman marahil masasabing mas malakas ang puwersa ng mga ito kumpara sa pinagsanib na

(Sundan sa pahina 5)

AKSYON NGAYON... Mula pahina 4

lakas ng pulisya at militar. Kung gaano kalupit ang mga pulis sa pagliligpit sa mga inaakalang pusher ng droga, sana ay ganoon din sila kalupit sa mga bandidong tulisan na ito. Huwag nang pabayaang lumaki pa hanggang sa pati pamahalaan ay hindi na kayang kontrolin ang mga ito. Kontrobersyal palibhasa

kung tumutulong ang puwersa ng ibang bansa sa ating mga law enforcers. Pero kung ako ang tatanungin, bakit hindi natin kunin ang kanilang tulong? Kung tutuusin, hindi lang Pilipinas ang piniperhuwisyo ng Abu Sayyaf kundi pati mga kalapit na bansa kasama na ang mga dayuhang turistang paolilipinaliwaliw sa Pilipinas. turistang nagliliwaliw sa Pilipinas.

a April 2017



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Peace fuels federalism train

ody's attention has turned to the crafting of a new constitution that will embody his ultimate goal of a federal shift for the government which he believes will be the most potent solution to solve most of the country's problems, including the conflicts in Mindanao.

Prior to his Gulf States trip, Rody said he will name the 25 members of the consultative committee that would review the 1987 Constitution and make recommendations toward the federalism bid.

Rody, however, imposed conditions at the start of the federalism effort which the draft Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) is submitted and there is substantial progress in the peace process with the National Democratic Front (NDF).

Rody issued Executive Order 10 last December 7 mandating the creation of the charter change (cha-cha) body to "study, conduct consultations, and review the provisions of the 1987 Constitution, including, but not limited to, the provisions on the structure and powers of the government, local governance, and economic policies."

Rody's precondition for the forming of the cha-cha body is logical since a key goal of the federal shift is for enduring peace and portions of the agreements with the communist and Islamic groups are expected to be embodied in the new Charter.

The peace processes with the Bangsamoro fronts that are the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and with the NDF are currently being negotiated within the framework of the 1987 Constitution.

Drafting the BBL is the 21-member Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC), composed of 11 nominees from the MILF and 10 from the government.

The BTC is also mandated "whenever necessary, to recommend to Congress or the people proposed amendments" to the 1987 Constitution.

In the peace negotiations with the NDF, the Reciprocal Working Groups on Political and Constitutional Reforms have formally exchanged full drafts of the tentative agreement on the reform agenda that may need provisions which will be embodied in the Constitution.

NDF chief political consultant Jose Ma. Sison said the NDF is willing to be a co-founder of the Federal Republic of the Philippines and cooperate in making the constitutional amendments "to prevent dictatorship, dynasties and corruption, uphold national sovereignty and territorial integrity, respect human rights, realize social justice and ban foreign military bases, forces and weapons of mass destruction."

Duterte said the communist groups, the Moros, the Lumads and other sectoral groups can recommend names for the concom.

The trickier part is the crafting of the new BBL which Rody said would have to be a document uniting the MNLF and MILF.

He recently called on leaders of both armed Islamic groups to a meeting to come up with a consensus, saying he will only certify for urgent passage in Congress only one draft Bangsamoro law.

Since the term of former President Marcos, four major peace agreements with the Moro revolutionary fronts, the MNLF's Tripoli Agreement of 1976 and Final Peace Agreement of 1996 along with the MILF's Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro in 2012 and the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro in 2014 were signed.

The MNLF under Nur Misuari is drafting a law to amend RA 9054, the law that was supposed to have translated the 1996 political agreement into a legal document, to expand and strengthen the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao while the MILF, along with the other MNLF factions under Yusoph Jikiri (formerly under Muslimin Sema), are in the 21-member BTC that is crafting the draft BBL. Both drafts will be incorporated in the BBL to be submitted to Congress.

"I want the wars between the Filipinos ended ... besides ...
I cannot wage a war against my own people," Rody said.

Rody has a clear vision on what he wants done the soonest to effect lasting peace which provides a good foundation for his eventual goal of a federal state.

ONLINE NEWS 19 APRIL 2017

Foiled ASG landing in Bohol unrelated to ASEAN meeting -

From the Philippine News Agency (Apr 18): Foiled ASG landing in Bohol unrelated to ASEAN meeting - AFP

<u>Kidnapping of local and foreign tourists frequenting Bohol's lovely beaches is the sole mission of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) band which landed in Inabanga town on April 11, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) public affairs office chief Col. Edgard Arevalo said Tuesday.</u>

This as he dismissed earlier claims that the brigands were out to attack or abduct ASEAN delegates in the province for the Intersessional Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Trade Negotiating Committee ASEAN Caucus Meeting which will be held at the Hennan Resort in Panglao Island from April 19 to 21.

Representatives from Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Brunei and the Philippines, this year's ASEAN host, will attend the meetings.

"As far as initial information of the AFP, the ASG bandits whom our troops encountered in Inabanga town are only out for kidnapping (and having them ransomed if successful)," he added in Filipino.

In the Sitio Ilaya, Barangay Napo clash last April 11, four ASG bandits were killed, including Muanmar Askali alias "Abu Rami" and three soldiers and one police officer, aside from an elderly couple whose presence in the encounter site is still being investigated.

Still at- large are five to seven ASG "stragglers" whom the military said is unarmed and unlikely to cause further trouble.

Arevalo said it is very unlikely that the bandits can attack the ASEAN delegates as the venue where they will be holding the meeting is well secured by government security forces.

Earlier, the AFP said the ASG is forced to look for kidnapping victims from afar due to the incessant military pressure in their enclaves in Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi.

Lack of kidnapping opportunities is causing financial difficulties for the group as they no longer have sufficient funds to buy weapons, food, and the loyalties of the communities they are hiding in.

http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=980612

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

PAF looking for PHP11.3-M worth of C-130 spares

From the Philippine News Agency (Apr 18): PAF looking for PHP11.3-M worth of C-130 spares

In line with ongoing efforts to ensure that all of its assets are flyable and mission-ready at all times, the Philippine Air Force (PAF) is allocating the sum of PHP11, 347,000 for the acquisition of spare parts needed for the maintenance of one of its Lockheed C-130H/T cargo aircraft.

This acquisition project is Lot 3 for the above-mentioned cargo plane.

Pre-bid conference is scheduled on April 21, at 1 p.m. at the PAF Procurement Center Conference Room, Villamor Air Base, Pasay City.

While submission and opening of bids is on May 5, 9 a.m. at the same venue, said PAF bids and awards committee chair Brig. Gen. Nicolas Parilla in a bid bulletin posted at the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System.

The PAF presently operates five C-130 units in its air fleet. They are often used for troop and supply transport and humanitarian assistance disaster relief missions.

http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=980647

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

PHL's second SSV now completed, awaiting inspection before voyage home

From the Philippine News Agency (Apr 18): PHL's second SSV now completed, awaiting inspection before voyage home

Construction of the country's second strategic sealift vessel (SSV), the BRP Davao Del Sur (LD-602), is now officially completed, the Philippine Navy (PN) announced on Tuesday.

With this development, the ship is now awaiting for the PN's pre-delivery inspection (PDI) team which will check the vessel for possible defect, said Navy spokesperson Capt. Lued Lincuna in a message to the Philippine News Agency.

"SSV 2 is now completed. PDI team for BRP Davao Del Sur is now enroute for Indonesia today (April 18)," he added.

Lincuna said BRP Davao Del Sur is scheduled to sail for the country by first week of May and her arrival is expected on the second week of the same month.

The BRP Davao Del Sur was launched last Sept. 29. She is the sister ship of the BRP Tarlac (LD-601), currently the largest Filipino warship in commissioned.

BRP Tarlac was commissioned during short ceremonies at Pier 13, Manila South Harbor last June 1.

She arrived in the Philippines last May 14 after a five-day journey from PT PAL shippard in Surabaya which started on May 9.

BRP Davao Del Sur is also a Makassar-class landing platform dock like her sister ship BRP Tarlac.

Its delivery to the Philippines, tentatively scheduled this coming May, will complete the two-unit SSV procurement project with an approved budget contract of PHP4 billion sourced from the AFP Modernization Act Trust Fund.

Just like the BRP Tarlac, the PN's latest SSV will serve as a floating command-and-control ship especially in the conduct of humanitarian assistance and disaster response and will also serve as a military sealift and transport vessel.

The ship has an overall length of 120 meters, breadth of 21 meters, draft of five meters, and can carry a payload of 2,800 tons.

She has a cruising speed of 13 knots and maximum speed of 16 knots and a minimum operating range of 7,500 nautical miles.

BRP Davao Del Sur can carry 500 troops, two rigid-hull inflatable boats, two landing craft units and three helicopters.

http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=980668

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