

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



TEAM ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

oacpa.army2012@gmail.com
OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

20 April 2017

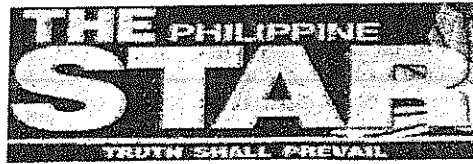
Thursday

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS
20 APRIL 2017

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather Forecast		PhilStar p.13
NATIONAL NEWS			
2-4	'Get Abus dead or alive'	Alexis Romero	Phil. Star p.1
5-6	Lacson dares PNP: Solve drug killings	Christine Avedaño	PDI p.A1
ARMY RELATED NEWS			
7	NPA releases 2 soldiers	Michael Punongbayan	The Phil Star p.13
8	NPA rebels release 2 soldiers	Al Jacinto	The Manila Times p.A1
9	NPA frees 2 hostages	Francis Wakefield	Manila Bulletin p.18
10	NPA releases 2 soldiers	Victor Reyes	Malaya p.B6
11	Photo: Released	Manman Dejeto	Manila Bulletin p.1
AFP RELATED NEWS			
12	Shoot ASG men. Duterte orders	Argyll Geducos	Manila Bulletin p.1
13	Investigation focus: How did Abu Sayyaf infiltrate Bohol	Mars Mosqueda	Manila bulletin p.17
14	Troops foil hijacking in Zamboanga	Julmunir Jannaral	The Manila Times p.A7
15	Sayyaf member killed in drug den	Victor Reyes	Malaya p.A2
16	Russian ships arriving in Manila Today	Michael Punongbayan	The Phil Star p.11
17	Russian Navy missile cruiser arriving today	Francis Wakefield	Manila bulletin p.3
18	Attempt to seajack cargo vessel foiled	Nonoy Lacson	Manila Bulletin p.18
ONLINE NEWS			
19	Roadside bomb explodes in Maguindanao		www.abs-cbn.com
20	Know how C-130s support FA-50PHs operations		www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com
21	Child amazon surrenders to army battalion in Kapalong		www.mindanaotimes.com
22	AFP more than able to secure prospective PHL nuclear facilities		www.pna.gov.ph
23	Suspected ASG killed, 34 others bagged in law enforcement ops in Sulu		www.pna.gov.ph

20 April 2017



Page: B

PHILIPPINE STAR
TRUTH SHALL PREVAIL

AR 21
BAGNET AND PUNALAN NEWS

PILIPINAS

SUNRISE 6:39 AM
SUNSET 6:11 PM
MOONRISE 12:42 AM
MOONSET 12:28 PM

LOW TIDE 1:07 PM
HIGH TIDE 5:40 PM

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST APRIL 20, 2017 (THURSDAY)

LOW PRESSURE AREA
2715h WITH HIGH WINDS OF
EAST-WIND 21 HIGH PRESSURE AREA
DISTRESSING AND/OR LIGHT AND WEAK
WINDS
ATTENDING THE EASTERN PORTIONS
OF THE PHILIPPINES
APRIL 20, 2017

LADAG CITY 24-32 °C
TUGUEGARAO CITY 24-35 °C
BAGUIO CITY 15-26 °C
SBMA/CLARK 25-36 °C
METRO MANILA 25-35 °C
TAGAYTAY CITY 22-32 °C
LEGAZPI CITY 26-32 °C
ILOILO/BACOLOD CITY 26-32 °C
TACLOBAN CITY 25-31 °C
PUERTO PRINCESA 25-33 °C
METRO CEBU 25-32 °C
CAGAYAN DE ORO 25-34 °C
ZAMBOANGA CITY 24-33 °C
METRO DAVAO 25-34 °C

EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST	APR 21 FRI	APR 22 SAT	APR 23 SUN	EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST	APR 21 FRI	APR 22 SAT	APR 23 SUN	
METRO MANILA	25 °C 35 °C	25 °C 35 °C	25 °C 34 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	26 °C 33 °C	26 °C 33 °C	26 °C 33 °C	Partly cloudy skies
TUGUEGARAO	24 °C 36 °C	24 °C 35 °C	24 °C 35 °C	ILOILO/BACOLOD	26 °C 32 °C	26 °C 32 °C	26 °C 31 °C	Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms
LADAG	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C	METRO CEBU	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	
BAGUIO	17 °C 25 °C	16 °C 25 °C	16 °C 25 °C	TACLOBAN	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 31 °C	25 °C 30 °C	
SBMA/CLARK	26 °C 36 °C	26 °C 35 °C	26 °C 34 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 31 °C	
TAGAYTAY	22 °C 31 °C	21 °C 32 °C	21 °C 32 °C	METRO DAVAO	25 °C 34 °C	25 °C 34 °C	26 °C 34 °C	
LEGAZPI	26 °C 32 °C	26 °C 33 °C	26 °C 32 °C	ZAMBOANGA	24 °C 33 °C	24 °C 33 °C	24 °C 33 °C	

20 April 2017



Page: 1

'Get Abus dead or alive'

Rody: P1-M bounty per bandit

By ALEXIS ROMERO

President Duterte yesterday offered a P1-million bounty for each Abu Sawayat bandit who attacked government troops in Inabanga, Bohol.

Duterte also bared plans to arm civilians against terrorists and drug lords.

The President ordered security forces to produce "dead or alive" the six or seven Abu Sawayat gunmen who managed to evade government forces during the clashes in Inabanga last week.

He promised to pardon civilians who would help in tracking down the bandits.

"My order to the police and to everyone and even to the civilians... they should fight and kill. My order is dead or alive. If there are six (bandits), maybe scouring the safety nets, wherever they can land, I have P1-million offer per person,"

Duterte said after a security briefing in Bohol.

"I intend to also arm the civilians. And I will include the civilians... if you kill somebody... you just go to the police and make the report and state your truth... no problem, I will take care of you. And pardon you for whatever," he added.

Duterte said the manhunt also covers drug addicts, whom he described as paranoid and capable of fighting back.

"My enemies here are drugs and terrorists. Drug addicts have weapons. Ask any policeman or mayor. They really

Turn to Page 6

2

Get Abus From Page 1

have that. If they say that the firearms were planted, that's not true. Almost all of them are really paranoid," he said.

While his order to security forces was to produce terrorists and drug personalities dead or alive, Duterte said he would prefer to see them dead.

"I encourage civilians also to kill, because it's dead or alive man, there is reward. But I would I prefer them dead. If they are produced alive, I would have to feed them and that would be costly," he said.

Duterte also encouraged civilians to provide tips about the whereabouts of terrorists.

"No questions asked. We'll not even give you names. Just tell them where they are and the government will take care of the rest," he said.

The military said the P1-million bounty for each Abu Sayyaf militant would help expedite their arrest.

"Hopefully, this will encourage informants and other citizens to help expedite the arrest of these bandits," Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said.

Five Abu Sayyaf militants, three soldiers and a policeman were killed after the local terrorist group attacked government forces in Inabanga on

April 11.

Among those killed was Abu Sayyaf sub-commander Muamar Askali, alias Abu Rami, who was reportedly involved in the beheading of two Canadians and a German hostage.

Reports said there are as many as eight militants who managed to escape during the firefight in Inabanga.

Two of them reportedly were their local contacts from Barangay Napo of the town.

"Even ordinary people in Bohol will have an interest to track these Abu Sayyaf bandits because of the reward," said Capt. Jojo Mascarenas, spokesman for the Army's 302nd Brigade based in Bohol.

Mascarenas, however, warned bounty hunters to be cautious as the bandits are heavily armed.

Mascarenas said the bandits are still in Bohol but their capability to push through their plan to kidnap was diminished following the killing of their leader.

'Finish the game'

The attack happened as the Philippines is preparing to host the ASEAN Summit and Related Meetings on April 26 to 29.

Officials said security measures are in place to thwart any

attempt to disrupt the international event, which is expected to be attended by nine Southeast Asian heads of state.

"We can always make the projection that they were there to spoil the ASEAN... not only spoil, but to create a disaster for all of us," Duterte said.

"I said, rather than wait for another day for them to do it again, I told the military and the police, finish the game," he added.

The military has revealed how a single document recovered from the Abu Sayyaf thwarted the militants' plan to kidnap in Bohol.

Mt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., chief of Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom), said troops stumbled on the document from a suspected Abu Sayyaf lair during one of its operations weeks ago in Maimbung, Sulu.

The same information from the documents recovered led them to the plot of Abu Rami.

Galvez said the document detailed the Abu Sayyaf plot to raid selected targets in the Visayas and other areas outside Western and Central Mindanao.

"In one of our operations in Maimbung, we recovered several documents (from the Abu Sayyaf) and exploited it," he said.

Galvez said troops raided a suspected Abu Sayyaf camp in remote Barangay Ipil, Maim-

bung town.

The troops surprised the Abu Sayyaf, killing 16 of the militants, including the wife of Abu Sayyaf subleader Jihad Idang Susukan and Akbar Susukan.

"And one of those documents (recovered) was casing on the areas in the Visayas and also other areas outside the AOR (area of operation) of Westmincom," Galvez said. He said the information was immediately relayed to the AFP high command.

"We issued an alert memo since April 6 and 7 that somebody left Sulu and we don't know where they're heading to," Galvez said.

Galvez said this led AFP chief Gen. Eduardo Año to issue the alert for all the units to be vigilant during the Lenten season.

Since the information from the document of the Abu Sayyaf was in the general location of the Visayas region, all the unified commands were alerted about the plot of the terror group.

The intelligence information also led the military to track down the possible movements of the Abu Sayyaf until it led them to a village in Inabanga where at least six members of the bandit group, including Askali, were killed during clashes with government forces.

Galvez said they did not leak the information about the

recovery until the last hour.

"Even if we look stupid for not revealing the information, so be it. The point is the operation was successful, we were able to thwart the plan of the Abu Sayyaf like Muamar Askali to create havoc in the Visayas and we are happy because our information was not burned out," Galvez said.

He also confirmed another Abu Sayyaf leader, Al-habey Misaya, and his group also left Sulu.

Galvez declined to provide details on the movement of the Abu Sayyaf but gave assurance that security operations were being conducted to thwart any plot of the group.

"On Misaya, again we cannot divulge operational matters, but like what happened to Muamar Askali, he and his group will be dealt with lethally. Hopefully, just like what AFP chief said, we will put an end to this up to the last man of the Abu Sayyaf," Galvez added.

On the other hand, Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Jesus Dureza said a ranking Abu Sayyaf leader has sent surrender feelers to the government.

Dureza did not name the Abu Sayyaf leader but said the government has already started sending people to deal with him.

"There are feelers, verifications. All I know is that he

had already indicated that he wants to live peacefully," Dureza told a news forum in Makati yesterday.

"As a matter of fact, there are initiatives that are being made by the military, and on our side, we are also sending people to deal with him," he added.

Although Dureza begged off from naming the Abu Sayyaf leader citing operational concerns, it was earlier reported that one-armed bandit leader Radulan Sahiron wanted to give up because of his age.

Galvez had said elderly Muslim leaders have relayed to him the surrender plan of the bandit leader.

Sahiron, a one-armed bandit, is the most senior Abu Sayyaf leader based in Sulu. He is wanted by the US government, which has offered a \$1-million bounty for the kidnapping and killing of American Jeffrey Schilling in the late 1990s in Sulu.

Galvez said Sahiron reportedly set some conditions for his surrender, including that he not be handed over to the US government.

Sahiron reportedly wanted the Philippine government to handle the cases against him.

Galvez believed Sahiron wanted to surrender due to old age and has gotten tired of being on the run from government forces. - **With Jaime Laude, Roel Pareño, Robertzon Ramirez**

10 April 2017

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER

Page: A1

Lacson dares PNP: Solve drug killings

By **Christine O. Avendaño**
and **Phillip C. Tubeza**
@TeamInquirer

Sen. Panfilo Lacson on Wednesday said the authorities should change tactics in dealing with the narcotics problem as President Duterte's brutal war on drugs began to lose public support.

"I think the tactics employed are starting to reach saturation point as far as the public is concerned. While the overall strategy is still effective, I think it's time the (Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency) and the Philippine National Police [made] some adjustments to their tactical offensive," Lacson said in a statement.

The latest Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey showed that public satisfaction with Mr. Duterte's crackdown on illegal drugs fell to 46 percent in the first quarter of 2017 from 47 percent in December last year.

Fear of being killed

A majority of the respondents said they were worried that they or someone they knew would be victims of extrajudicial killings.

Lacson said people had grown tired of reports about the summary executions of drug suspects.

For a change, police can start by solving vigilante killings in the war on drugs and arresting those responsible.

"The police must therefore show solutions of these DUIs (deaths under investigation) and arrests must be made in considerable degree," he said.

The PNP, however, said it saw no need to rethink its approach to the campaign against illegal drugs.

Senior Supt. Dionardo Carlos said the drop in public support for the war on drugs in the SWS poll was a challenge for

5

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC

9555 Local: 5285, 5295

I think the tactics employed are starting to reach saturation point as far as the public is concerned

Panfilo Lacson
Senator

the police, but insisted there were no state-sponsored extrajudicial killings in the Philippines. "What is there to rethink? The deaths constitute 0.2 percent of the people involved in drugs that we've encountered. The 95 percent, or 1.18 million, surrendered peacefully while the rest were arrested alive," he said.

"We don't want them ending up dead [but] we give priority to protecting the public and also to [protecting] the lives of our policemen," he added.

They resisted arrest

The PNP insisted that drug suspects who were killed in police operations had resisted arrest, endangering the lives of law enforcers.

PNP records show that as of April 18, 2,710 drug suspects were killed in police antinarcotics operations.

Carlos said he agreed with Lacson that police should arrest those behind the killings, but disagreed that the killings were extrajudicial.

He said that under former President Benigno Aquino III's Administrative Order 35, extrajudicial killings refer only to the killings of journalists, activists and human rights defenders.

"This has to be explained, because if we keep on using the

term [extrajudicial killing], then all murders and homicides that we've monitored would appear [to be extrajudicial killings]," he said.

Sen. Risa Hondevinos said the increasing body count had led to the drop in public approval of Mr. Duterte's war on drugs.

'National nightmare'

She said the campaign had turned into a "national nightmare" and it would continue to lose public support as long as it continued to "create a climate of fear and impunity."

Sen. Joel Villanueva said the Duterte administration would "not get a passing grade" until it solved the vigilante killings.

There have been more than 3,700 alleged vigilante killings, the PNP calls them deaths "under investigation." In the war on drugs as of March 24,

A new Reuters report on the killings quoted two senior police officers as saying police had carried out most of the killings and they had received cash payments for executing drug suspects and planted evidence at crime scenes.

According to the report, the cash rewards for drug killings range from P20,000 for a "street level pusher and user," to P50,000 for a member of a barangay council, P1 million for "distributors, retailers and wholesalers," and P5 million for "drug lords."

Carlos denied the report, saying the PNP did not have enough money to offer cash payments to officers for killing drug suspects.

Nevertheless, the PNP is investigating the "serious" allegations in the report, he said. INQ



WATCH PNP ON SWS SURVEY ON DRUG WAR. IT DEPENDS ON CURRENT SITUATION
<http://Inq.news/PNPonSWS>

20 April 2017



Page: 3

NPA releases 2 soldiers

Two soldiers, kidnapped by New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Sultan Kudarat more than two months ago were freed in Davao del Sur yesterday.

The rebels turned over Army Sergeant Solomon Calocop and Private First Class Samuel Garay Jr. to Davao del Sur congressman Douglas Cagas, Columbo Vice Mayor Edwin Bermudez

and Bishop Redeemer Yanez in Sitio Datal Pitak, Barangay Colonsabak in Matanao town at around 9 a.m. The soldiers were brought to the Camp Panacan Station Hospital for checkup.

"We are happy. This act is a corrective measure on the part of the kidnapppers," the Eastern Mindanao Command said in a statement.

Maj. Gen. Rafael Valan-

cira, 10th Infantry Division commander, said the rebels rectified their "treacherous and insincere act" when a ceasefire was in place and peace negotiations were ongoing in February.

The release of soldiers seized by the NPA is among the conditions set by the government so the peace talks can prosper.

— Michael Punongbayan, Edith Regalado, John Unson

20 April 2017

The Manila Times

Page: 11

NPA rebels release 2 soldiers

ZAMBOANGA CITY Communist rebels on Wednesday freed two government soldiers they had captured in southern Philippines ahead of peace talks with the government.

The soldiers Sgt. Solomon Calocop and Private 1st Class Samuel Garay were released near Sultan Kudarat province after 75 days in captivity. Both are members of

39th Infantry Battalion, seized by the New People's Army (NPA) on February 2.

The two were handed over to the military and were debriefed by the army.

The rebels earlier accused the military of sabotaging the release of the "prisoners of war" by launching offensives against the NPA.

Jorge Madlos, a rebel spokesman, claimed military and police operations impeded the release and put the safety of the prisoners, their families

► **Release A2**

■ RELEASE FROM A1

NPA rebels

and third-party facilitators at risk.

He said the rebels had planned to release the prisoners on February 18, ahead of Easter. "The military and police, however, have stubbornly refused to heed the clamor for their units to stand down and suspend offensive operations to provide the opportunity for such a turnover," Madlos said.

"By ordering their troops to continue offensive operations, the officers of the military and police were exhibiting zero concern for the safety and welfare of their men who are in the custody of the NPA as well as for the third-party facilitators who are helping arrange the release of the [prisoners]," he added.

Madlos said the NPA was also set to release three other captured soldiers in Bukidnon province and in the Caraga region.

Issues

On Wednesday, members of the government's peace panel met to discuss

agrarian reform issues that may be tackled when they meet the National Democratic front (NDF) panel.

Robano Ador, head of the government panel on Comprehensive Agreement on Socio-Economic Reforms (CASER), said they focused on contentious issues that were raised during the previous rounds of peace talks.

"During the last two rounds, both parties agreed on principle for the distribution of land. We still have to tackle particular issues under agrarian reform," Ador told reporters.

Hernani Braganza, a member of the panel, said the problem on land distribution has "plagued the country" since 1972.

The problem, he added, "lies solely" on the distribution of private agricultural land planted with corn and rice.

The result of the meeting in the country will be elevated to the reciprocal working committee of both parties chaired by Ador.

Ador explained that every topic under the socioeconomic reform agenda will have separate bilateral agreements.

**AL JACINTO
AND DEMPSEY REYES**

20 April 2017



Page: 48

NPA frees 2 hostages

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

The military announced Wednesday the release of two of its soldiers, who were released by New People's Army (NPA) guerillas in Sitio Datal Pitak, Barangay Colon Tabak in Matan-ao, Davao del Sur.

Army Major General Rafael Valencia, the commander, 10th Infantry Division, identified the freed soldiers as Pfc. Samuel Garay Jr., and Sgt. Solaiman Calocop. They were abducted by Communist rebels in Columbio, Sultan Kudarat last February 2.

He said the two soldiers were turned-over by their captors at 9 a.m. to third party facilitator Sowing the Seeds of Love, which was accompanied by former Davao del Sur Congressman Mark Cagas and to the administration of Davao del Sur and Vice Mayor of Columbio, Sultan Kudarat, Vice Mayor Edwin Bermudez.

In a statement, NPA spokesperson Jorge "Ka Oris" Madlos said the two soldiers would have been released earlier had it not been for the "continuing offensive military and

police operations in the Socskargen area."

Madlos said the release of Garay and Calocop was in accordance with the Joint Statement of the Philippine Government (GRP) and the National Democratic Front (NDF) after the fourth round of formal peace talks in The Netherlands last April 6.

The joint statement stipulated the release of the two soldiers before Easter Sunday.

Despite the delay in the release of Garay and Calocop, Madlos said the guerillas are "also set to release three other POWs (Prisoners of War) in Bukidnon and in the Caraga region."

And as such, the NPA leader asked the government to "order its military and police forces to stand down and suspend offensive operations in the areas to be identified by third party facilitators in order to pave the way for the safe and orderly release and turnover of the (remaining) POWs."

"The Armed Force of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP) have stubbornly refused to heed the clamor for their units to stand down and suspend offensive

operations to provide the opportunity for such a turnover (of hostages)," Madlos said.

But military spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla maintained that there "was no hindrance for the release of the abducted soldiers and that there was no further reason to hold them."

Padilla also pointed out that Garay and Calocop were "unarmed and in civilian clothes when they were abducted in the midst of the unilateral ceasefires."

The two soldiers were immediately brought to Camp Panacan Station Hospital in Davao City for medical check-up.

"They will be... they will undergo psychological test and other usual debriefing," Valencia said.

The release of the two soldiers augurs well for the ongoing dialogue between teams from the GRP and NDF, which are in the midst of discussions over the provision of a Comprehensive Agreement on Socio-Economic Reforms (Caser) and a possible joint ceasefire agreement.

The two parties return to The Netherlands on May 26 for the fifth round of the formal talks.

d

20 April 2017

Malaya
The National Newspaper

Page: 86

NPA releases 2 soldiers

BY VICTOR REYES

NEW People's Army rebels yesterday released two soldiers they abducted in Sultan Kudarat some two months ago while government and the communist group were observing ceasefires.

Sgt. Solaiman Calocop and Pfc Samuel Garay were freed around 9 a.m. in Sitio Datal Pitak, Barangay Colonbasak in Matanao town in Davao del Sur, said Maj. Gen. Rafael Valencia, commander of the Army's 10th Infantry Division.

Still in the hands of the NPA are Pfc. Edwin Salan who was abducted in Alegria town, Surigao del Norte on January 29 and PO2 Jerome Natividad who was snatched in Talakag town Bukidnon on February 9. Surigao del Norte and Bukidnon are under the area of responsibility of the 4th Infantry Division.

Valencia said Calocop and Garay, both with the Army's 39th Infantry Battalion, were turned over by the rebels to a group led by former Davao del Sur congress-

man Mark Cagas.

Valencia said Calocop and Garay were later taken to the Camp Pana-can Station Hospital in Davao City for a medical checkup. "They will undergo psychological test and the usual debriefing," he said.

Asked if there are signs of torture, Valencia said, "I have yet to meet them. We will still find out later on."

The soldiers were intercepted by the NPA rebels last February 2 in Columbio town, Sultan Kudarat while aboard a motorcycle. Unarmed and in civilian clothes, the two soldiers were on the way to their base at that time.

The abduction came while the communists and the government were still observing their respective unilateral ceasefires and while the two sides were involved in peace negotiations.

Several other government troops were abducted before and after that, forcing President Duterte to lift the government ceasefire and terminate the talks. Duterte's order was also prompted by other rebel attacks.

The government later agreed to resume peace talks with the communists. However, government soldiers are continuing with offensive operations against the communists, pending the declaration of a bilateral ceasefire.

Valencia said the release of the two soldiers was long overdue. "They should have released the two long ago to prove that they are a responsible and sincere partner in the talks," he said.

Earlier this month, the National Democratic Front of the Philippines asked the military to suspend military operations in some areas in Mindanao to pave the way for the release Calocop, Garay, Salan and Natividad.

Asked if the 10th ID suspended military operations, leading to the release of Calocop and Garay, Valencia said, "We have no operations to suspend because we do not have any operations against them. Our position actually was for them to just leave the two soldiers anywhere (if they want to release them)," he said.

20 April 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 1



RELEASED - Pfc. Samuel Garay (second from left) and Sgt. Solalman Calocop (right) are escorted by members of the New People's Army (NPA) before their turnover to the Sowing the Seeds of Love, a third party facilitator, and representatives of the Davao del Sur provincial government in the hinterlands of Metan-ao, Davao del Sur. Garay and Calocop, who belong to the 39th Infantry Battalion, were abducted by the Communist rebels last February 2 in Columbio, Sultan Kudarat. Story on page 18. (Manman Dejeto)

||

20 April 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 1

Shoot ASG men, Duterte orders

By ARROYO, CYRUS S. DEBUDOS

President Duterte has encouraged the government forces as well

as civilians to shoot members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) "dead or alive" following the attack in Tubanga, Bohol, during the Holy

▶ 6

Week that left 10 people dead, four from the government forces.

"My order to the police and to the lahat (military) and even to the civilians wherein they should do fight and kill Ang order ko (My order) is dead or alive," he said.

Duterte, in an interview in Bohol, said he is also offering P1 million for each of the wanted ASG members.

"Kaya yung anim (So the six members are now) maybe scouring the safety nets kung saan sila maka-landing (where they can land). I have a P1-million offer per person," he added.

However, Duterte said he prefers these wanted members of the ASG dead when they are turned over to the authorities.

"Ako, I also encourage civilians to kill kasi dead or alive man yan, may reward. Pero mas gusto ko dead kaysa yung alive (because dead or alive a reward is at stake. But I prefer them dead)," he said, adding that it is his intention to arm civilians.

"Kapag nakapatay ka na (When you get to kill one), you just go to the police and make the report and

state your truth. Walang problema. (There's no problem), I will take care of you and pardon you for whatever [case may be filed against you]," he said.

He, however, said he is not at liberty to discuss how the civilians would be armed as he knows there would be objections so he would like to hear the side of the local officials first.

Duterte, meanwhile, assured that the government is doing its best to contain the threat of the terrorist group in Central Visayas and Mindanao.

He vowed to invade Jolo if the condition worsens but said it will not be good as there is a real possibility that innocent civilians may be affected.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) had earlier confirmed that 10 men - three soldiers, a cop, and at least six of the ASG men - were killed in the Bohol clashes that started at 5 a.m. on Holy Tuesday.

Duterte was in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for a state visit, the first stop of his three-country Middle East trip, when the attack happened.

20 April 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 17

Investigation focus: How did Abu Sayyaf infiltrate Bohol

By MARS W. MOSQUEDA JR.

CEBU CITY - The Police Regional Office (PRO) in Central Visayas has launched an inter-agency investigation on last week's clash between the Abu Sayyaf and government troops in Inabanga, Bohol, that will focus mainly on how the terrorist group was able to infiltrate the province and kept a covert presence there.

The PRO regional director, Chief Supt. Noli Talino, said the military and the police were still conducting follow-up operations in Inabanga.

The sweep has already netted Joselit

Melloria, said to belong to the extremist group ISIS.

Talino said the encounter in Barangay Nabo, Inabanga, is an isolated case and that Bohol remains safe and secure.

Chief Insp. Hector Amancia, deputy regional director of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG), one of the agencies involved in the investigation, said they are looking for evidence that the Abu Sayyaf group in Bohol was planning to detonate bombs.

Among the items seized from the group were an 81-mm mortar cartridge, three detonating cords, 49 blasting caps, blasting caps with cords, and eight impro-

vised explosive device assemblies.

Amancia said murder charges will be filed against the Abu Sayyaf members and residents who connived with the terrorist group by letting them to stay in their houses.

The clash in Inabanga killed government troopers 2nd Lt. Estillito Saldua, Sgt. John Dexter Duero, PO2 Rey Anthony Nazareno, and Cpl. Meljine Cajaban.

Four members of the terrorist group were also killed: Mouamar Askali alias Abu Rami, a sub-leader, a certain alias Abu Sufyan, a bomb expert, a certain Edimar Isnain, and an unidentified armed man.

Based on latest information, eight out of 12-member Abu Sayyaf are still at large.

The incident in Inabanga has sent officials in Central Visayas scrambling to assure visitors and the local populace that they are safe.

In Cebu province, Vice Governor Agnes Magpale said she has received assurance from Cebu Provincial Police Office director Senior Supt. Eric Noble that his men are securing coastal towns in Cebu that face Bohol.

The Department of Tourism (DOT) has also said it is confident the military

and the police were on top of the security situation in Central Visayas, following the recent travel advisory issued by the Korean Embassy warning its citizens against traveling to Bohol.

"We are actively coordinating for updates with our local and national security and law enforcement agencies who are fully capable of putting travelers concerns ease," said DOT regional officer-in-charge Judy Gabato.

Early this week, the consulate of South Korea in Cebu had issued a travel advisory for Bohol, citing the fighting in Inabanga. (With Jennifer N. Sarcauga)

10 April 2017

The Manila Times

Page: 17

Troops foil hijacking in Zamboanga sea

BY JULMUNIRIL JANNARAL AND AL JAGINTO

GOVERNMENT troops foiled an attempt by gunmen onboard three motorized boats to hijack a cargo ship off Siocon town in Zamboanga del Norte.

Capt. Joann Reunglay, spokesperson of the Western Mindanao Command (WestMinCom), said the cargo vessel MV Anabelle was plying the sea waters off Siocon from Liloay, Zamboanga del Norte enroute to Zamboanga City on Tuesday morning when its crew noticed three motorized boats with undetermined number of armed men about to board their vessel.

The captain immediately ra-

dioced for help.

The WestMinCom, through the Naval Forces Western Mindanao, immediately ordered all naval vessels patrolling the area to proceed to the last reported location of MV Anabelle, while two Philippine Air Force helicopters were deployed to fly over the area.

The captain of MV Anabelle said the pursuing motorized boats immediately fled the area upon

sensing the arrival of the Navy ships and the helicopters.

The cargo vessel with 21 crew was then escorted by Navy Patrol Craft 395 to Zamboanga City while the Littoral Monitoring Station Pilas continued to monitor its course until it was able to dock safely.

"Our naval assets are all ready to render necessary assistance to deter hijacking and abduction at sea," said Rear Admiral Rene Medina, commander of the naval forces in Western Mindanao.

Last February 22, Petinglay said, Navy ships thwarted an attempt by suspected Abu Sayyaf Group terrorists to hijack the Vietnamese cargo ship MV Dong Hae

Star off Tawi-Tawi province near the Sabah border.

The bandits immediately aborted their plan upon sensing the arrival of the naval ships and air assets.

"The moment we receive calls for help, WestMinCom will be fast on our tracks to foil any attempt of terrorism or piracy," Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., WestMinCom commander said.

"Our sailors plying these waters should be vigilant all the time since these threats are always present. It is only when all of us will do our share of fighting this common enemy that we will surely defeat and disallow the bandits to continue sowing fear and terror in our seas and our communities," he added.

20 April 2017

Malaya
The National Newspaper

Page: 12

Sayyaf member killed in drug den

BY VICTOR REYES

A MEMBER of the Abu Sayyaf reportedly hooked on drugs was killed while an Army soldier was wounded during an anti-illegal drugs operation in Patikul town in Sulu early yesterday morning.

Brig. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana, commander of the military's Joint Task Force Sulu, said the operation also resulted in the arrest of 34 drug peddlers and users, including Abu Sayyaf members.

Sobejana said troops from the Army's 45th Infantry Battalion and Sulu provincial police swooped down at a drug den in Barangay Danag at around 4 a.m., leading to a 15-minute firefight.

Sobejana identified the slain Abu Sayyaf member as Jah Adul. "Some members of the Abu Sayyaf were there. In fact, the (slain suspect) was identified to be an ASG member," he said.

Troops recovered at the scene an M16 rifle, three cal. 45 pistols, three hand grenades and three heat-sealed plastic sachets containing suspected shabu.

Sobejana said a soldier sustained a gunshot wound in the gallbladder area and is now recuperating in a hospital. "He is already okay, in stable condition....He is under medication at present and already out of danger," he said.

Sobejana said the 34 arrested suspects included a female who has a standing warrant of arrest for peddling illegal drugs. He

could not immediately give the name of the female suspect, who he said is now in the custody of the police.

He said they are in the process of establishing the identity of the other arrested persons, adding they have information that some of those arrested are also members of the Abu Sayyaf.

Sobejana said Abu Sayyaf members are using drugs and have been monitored to be frequenting the drug den.

"They are using drugs. That is why when you see them beheading people, it's very inhuman, as if they do not know what they are doing. We suspect they are high on drugs," Sobejana said.

P3.2M SHABU SURRENDERED

The wife of an arrested drug pusher turned over P3.2 million of shabu to the Quezon City police on Tuesday.

Police reports showed that at around noon Tuesday, a certain Joy Haldos, 42, informed Barangay Pasong Tamo officials that she will surrender illegal drugs to them.

Barangay Pasong Tamo chairman Emmanuel Pilar relayed her message to operatives of the Talipapa Police Station, who immediately conducted recovery operations at No. 192 Rosal Street, Pingkian, Barangay Pasong Tamo. The operation resulted in the

seizure of one kilo of shabu, a caliber .45 pistol with a magazine and ammunition and a mobile phone. The confiscated items were brought to the PNP Crime Laboratory for examination.

Quezon City Police District director Chief Supt. Guillermo Eleazar said the seized items belonged to Joseph Haldos Sr., the husband of Joy, who was arrested last April 1 along with one Roland Fagela in a drug buy-bust operation along Tandang Sora Ave.

Eleazar said Joseph apparently instructed the 16-year-old friend of his son to keep the illegal items inside their house at No. 192 Rosal Street. The teenager, out of fear, revealed it to Haldos' son and wife, who reported to authorities.

Eleazar said they might file additional charges against Joseph.

At least five suspected drug pushers and users were arrested in separate anti-illegal drug operations conducted by Quezon City police on Tuesday.

Operatives of the Talipapa Police Station arrested a certain Felix Doroxas, 43, during a buy-bust operation at San Agustin Village in Barangay Talipapa at about 3:30 p.m. Two plastic sachets of suspected shabu and an improvised tooter were seized from him.

At about 4:45 p.m., the same operatives also arrested suspects Dennis Cuaresma, 41; Arnel Del Agna, 37; and Celso Francisco, 27; after they were caught in the act of sniffing shabu. Police con-

ducted the operation after receiving a tip from a concerned citizen.

Confiscated from the three were three plastic sachets of suspected shabu, an opened plastic sachet with traces of shabu, and drug paraphernalia.

Operatives of the Kamuning Police Station arrested suspect Gil Flores, 24, after a drug deal along Kamuning Road in Barangay Sacred Heart at about 10:45 p.m.

Police confiscated one plastic sachet of suspected shabu from him.

A barangay kagawad was arrested in Makati City last Tuesday for allegedly selling illegal drugs.

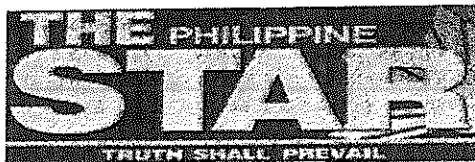
The Makati police said Virgilio Sombrero Awit Jr., barangay kagawad of East Rembo, was nabbed in a buy-bust operation along the northbound section of C5 Road near 19th Ave.

Insp. Jeson Wigilla of the Makati Station Drugs Enforcement Unit said four plastic sachet of suspected shabu were confiscated from Awit along with marked money worth P1,500. Awit is detained at the Makati Police Station.

A suspected drug user was arrested for allegedly running amuck in Pasig City on Tuesday night.

Senior Supt. Orlando Yebra, local police chief, said Rowell Sta. Ana, of Barangay Pineda, yielded a bladed weapon and two plastic sachets of suspected shabu. — *With Evan Orias and Christian Oinez*

20 April 2017



Page: 11

Russian ships arriving in Manila today

Two Russian warships will arrive in Manila today for a goodwill visit.

The guided missile cruiser *Varyag* and sea tanker *Pechenga* from the Pacific Fleet of the Russian Navy will be in the country for several days, the Philippine Navy said yesterday.

The ships will dock at South Harbor's Pier 15 where a welcome ceremony led by Navy officials will be held at around 9 a.m.

Members of the media will be toured around the

ships on Saturday.

A concert by the Russian cultural dancers and music ensemble will be held in Rizal Park at 5 p.m. on Sunday.

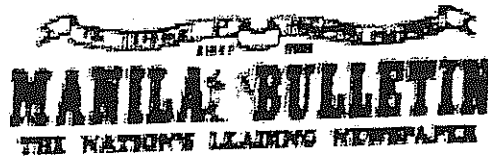
President Duterte toured the Russian anti-submarine warship *Admiral Tributs* when it docked in Manila last January.

Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said the visit by the Russian Navy would boost ties between the two countries.

– Michael Punongbayan

16

26 April 2017



Page: 3

Russian Navy missile cruiser arriving today

BY FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD
A Russian Navy missile cruiser ship and a large sea tanker are set to arrive in the country for a four-day goodwill visit.

Navy Captain Lued J. Lincuna, the director of the Naval Public Affairs Office, said the guided missile cruiser Varyag and large sea tanker Pechenga from the Pacific Fleet of the Russian Navy will arrive at Pier 15, South Harbor, Manila today.

He said the goodwill visit of the Russian Navy Pacific Fleet

ships will start with a welcome ceremony to be hosted by the Philippine Navy at about 9 a.m.

A press briefing for the media by Varyag's Commanding Officer Captain Alexsei Ulyanenko will also be held.

On Saturday at 11 a.m. there will be a shipboard tour at the guided missile cruiser Varyag.

At about 5 p.m., Sunday Filipinos will have a taste of Russian Arts and Culture as Russian Cultural Dancers showcase their talent at the Concert at the Park at Paco Park, Manila from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

20 April 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 18

Attempt to seajack cargo vessel foiled

By **NONOYE LACSON**

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Government forces foiled an attempt by suspected members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) to seajack a cargo vessel on Tuesday morning, off the coast of Liloy and Siocon in Zamboanga del Norte.

Armed Forces of the Philippines Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WestMinCom) Commander Lt. Gen. Carlito G. Galvez Jr. said yesterday that Philippine Navy boats and Air Force helicopters immediately deployed in the seas of Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte after receiving a distress call from cargo vessel MV Anabelle at around 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Galvez said the MV Anabelle had 21 crew members and was loaded with bags of cement while navigating the sea waters off Siocon from Liloy, Zamboanga del Norte enroute to Zamboanga City.

According to Galvez, the boat captain sent out a distress call and reported that three motorized boats with undetermined number of armed men on board were trying to board their vessel.

The Western Mindanao Command through the Naval Forces Western Mindanao immediately directed all

naval ships patrolling the area to proceed to the last reported location of MV Anabelle, while two Philippine Air Force helicopters were also deployed to fly over the said area.

The captain of the cargo vessel said the motorized boats immediately left the area upon sensing the arrival of the navy ships and the helicopters, Galvez said.

After the foiled seajack, MV Anabelle was escorted by Navy Patrol Craft 395 to Zamboanga City while continuously being monitored by the Littoral Monitoring Station Pilas until it was able to dock safely in Zamboanga City.

"Our naval assets are all ready to render necessary assistance to deter seajacking and abduction at seas," Rear Adm. Rene N. Medina, commander of the Naval Forces Western Mindanao, said.

On Feb. 22, 2017, navy ships were also able to foil an attempt to seajack MV Dong Hae Star by suspected ASG members in Tawi-Tawi. The bandits immediately aborted their plan upon sensing the arrival of the naval ships and air assets.

"The moment we receive calls for help, WestMinCom will be fast on our tracks to foil any attempts of terrorism or piracy," Galvez said.

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

ONLINE NEWS

20 APRIL 2017

www.abs-cbn.com

Roadside bomb explodes in Maguindanao

From ABS-CBM (Apr 19): Roadside bomb explodes in Maguindanao



Photo courtesy of Shariff Saydona Mustapha Municipal Police

SHARIFF SAYDONA MUSTAPHA – A roadside bomb exploded in the national highway along Barangay Nabundas, Wednesday morning.

Nobody was hurt in the blast, said Maguindanao Deputy Provincial Police Director, Police Superintendent Jibin Bongcayao.

Maguindanao police said the target of the bomb might have been police officers and soldiers who regularly patrol the area.

According to Bongcayao, Barangay Nabundas, Shariff Saydona Mustapha in Maguindanao is an area occupied by Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF).

However, BIFF spokesperson Abu Amir said they are not involved with explosions in South Central Mindanao because bombing is against the policy of their organization.

<http://news.abs-cbn.com/news/04/19/17/roadside-bomb-explodes-in-maguindanao>

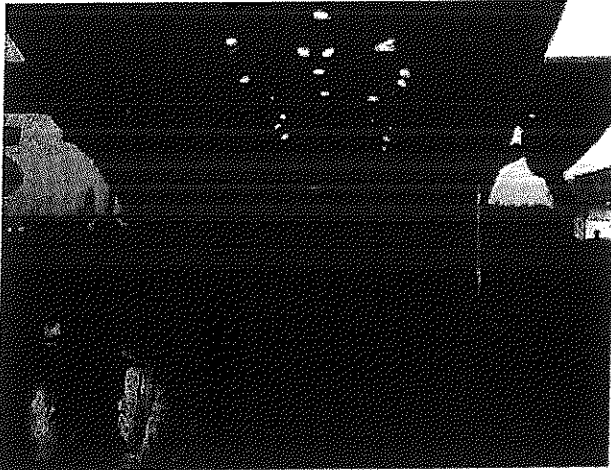
Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.

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

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

Know how C-130s support FA-50PHs operations

From Update Philippines (Apr 19): Know how C-130s support FA-50PHs operations



Philippine Air Force 220th Airlift Wing is providing support every time FA-50PH Fighting Eagles conducts operations. The latest is sorties conducted April 18 held at Clark Air Base.

"Whether familiarization flights or air strike missions anytime the FA-50ph aircraft will conduct its sorties, the C-130s led by the Airlifters are expected to support and ferry all the ground equipment which also includes the operators and other maintenance crew,"the Air Force said.

"This kind of activity is part of the Transformation Road Map of the PAF Flight Plan 2028 which is to basically perform a supporting roles to territorial defense operations,"the Air Force explained.

The 220th Airlift Wing's main role is to provide tactical airlift and air transport to all Armed Forces of the Philippines units, and government agencies. It also provides airlift for para-drop/airdrop of personnel, equipment and supplies.

220th Airlift Wing also conducts aero-medical evacuation, long range maritime patrol, air reconnaissance and aerial searches.

<http://www.update.ph/2017/04/know-how-c-130s-support-fa-50phs-operations/16921>

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

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

www.mindanaotimes.com

Child amazon surrenders to army battalion in Kapalong

From the Mindanao Times (Apr 19): Child amazon surrenders to army battalion in Kapalong

A 15-YEAR-OLD girl rebel and 18-year-old New People's Army member surrendered to the Bravo company of the 60th Infantry Battalion in Sitio Patil, Barangay Gupitan, Kapalong in Davao del Norte on Monday.

2Lt. Amadeuz Vj Celestial, civil-military operations (CMO) officer of 60th IB, identified the girl only as alias Rose, medic of the Pulang Bagani Command 4. Prior to his surrender, alias Junjun was the squad leader of Primera, Abe, Carlos of Pulang Bagani Command 4, Sub-Regional Committee of the Southern Mindanao Regional Command.

They both belong to the Dibabawon tribe. They initially made contact with a tribal leader in the area and the commander of a Cafgu Active Auxiliary Detachment in Kapalong.

Accordingly, Junjun was recruited by certain alias Pai and Rose was recruited by certain Emilies Bat-ao who promised to support their schooling in Davao City.

Rose claimed that she grew tired of always escaping the authorities, and she didn't fully grasp the ideology of the NPA. Junjun claimed that he experienced abuse at the hands of the senior rebel leaders. He was made to carry heavy packs and personal belongings from the time he was 15.

He also claimed to have stayed in UCCP Haran in Davao City for about a month. They both revealed that there are four still four Lumad child-soldiers in their command.

Lt. Col. Emmanuel Canilla, the battalion commander, said that recruiting Rose and Junjun only showed that the NPA continues to disregard international laws on the use of child soldiers.

Based on their records, Rose was the fifth underage rebels who surrendered to their battalion.

Two more members surrender in Bukidnon

Meanwhile, two NPA members are set to participate in the 3rd Infantry Battalion's Arm-to-Farm program after their surrender on Sunday in Impasugong, Bukidnon. Under the program, the two would be working in the farm for their initial subsistence.

Lt. Erwin Bugarin, civil-military operations (CMO) officer of 3rd IB, said the two rebel returnees, whose names are withheld for security purposes, brought with them four firearms with bullets.

"Despite of the holidays, we work to keep threats away from the community," he said. "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."

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

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

www.pna.gov.ph

AFP more than able to secure prospective PHL nuclear facilities

From the Philippine News Agency (Apr 19): **AFP more than able to secure prospective PHL nuclear facilities**

Should the Philippines restart its nuclear power program in a bid to achieve energy sufficiency, the military is more than ready and capable to secure the sensitive infrastructure.

"Yes, the AFP is capable of securing our key facilities and critical infrastructures if tasked to do so," Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) spokesperson Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said when asked if the military is capable of securing such facilities from various threats.

Earlier, Department of Energy (DOE) undersecretary Jess Posadas stressed the importance of nuclear security as among the 19 infrastructure issues that need to be prioritized by countries embarking on a nuclear power program.

He made the statement at the Seminar on Security of Radioactive Sources went underway Monday to kick off the 7th Annual Meeting of Nuclear Energy Cooperation Subsector Network (NEC-SSN).

The seminar, held at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila, aims to reaffirm the importance of international and regional cooperation in nuclear security, and promote ASEAN member states' enhancement of security of radioactive sources.

The seminar was jointly organized by the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and the Integrated Support Center for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Nuclear Safety (ISCN) of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA), with the Philippines as host.

The delegates to the meet include representatives of other ASEAN member states (Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Indonesia), and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), as well as members of the Nuclear Energy Program Implementing Organization (NEPIO) from the Philippine nuclear network, such as the DOE, the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI), the National Power Corp., the UP National Engineering Center (NEC) and other stakeholders in the public and private sectors.

The 7th NEC-SSN meeting and its associated events is in line with the Philippine hosting of the 50th Founding Anniversary of the ASEAN.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=980856>

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

22

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

www.ona.gov.ph

Suspected ASG killed, 34 others bagged in law enforcement ops in Sulu

From the Philippine News Agency (Apr 19): **Suspected ASG killed, 34 others bagged in law enforcement ops in Sulu**

Fulfilling their law enforcement role, troopers from the Joint Task Force Sulu have shot and killed a suspected Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) bandit and arrested 34 other drug suspects in a joint operation with police in Patikul Wednesday early morning.

This took place 4 a.m., according to Joint Task Force Sulu commander Brig. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana.

Troops from the 45th Infantry Battalion conducted the operation at Barangay Danag, of the above-mentioned town.

Sobejana said his men were aiding local police officers in the serving of search and arrest warrants against a known drug enclave in the area when a short firefight took place, killing a suspected ASG bandit and captured of 34 suspects, of which 33 are male and one female.

A trooper identified as one Cpl. Maramat was hit in the gallbladder in this 15 minute encounter, he added.

The former is now in stable condition while the slain bandit was identified as Jah Adul.

Also recovered were an M-16 automatic rifle, three .45 caliber pistols, assorted drug paraphernalias and three large heat-sealed satchets containing suspected shabu along with five grenades.

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