

*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](mailto:oacpa.army2012@gmail.com)  
OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

# NEWS CLIPPINGS

20 August 2017

Sunday

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

## TABLE OF CONTENTS


### 20 AUGUST 2017

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather	-	PDI p. A15
<b>AFP RELATED NEWS</b>			
2-4	As battle winds down, Mindanao umalma seek end to Marawi bombardment	--	BMirror p.A1
5	Lorenzana clear Marawi Ex-Mayor of Maute links	Allan Nawal	PDI p.A7
6	Military denies trampling on IP communities, right	Pna	DTribune p.3
7	AFP turns tables on Reds: They're militarizing 'Lumads'	Jeannette I.Andrade	PDI p.A9
8	Maute militants killed in clash with Navy men	Jaime Laude	PhilStar p.16
9	Marawi battle zone binomba	JG Tumbado	Abante p.2
10	2 Maute –ISIS reinforcements utas sa encounter	Joy Cantos	PM p.2
11	P5K combat pay para sa mga sundalo, pulis	CM.Luci-Atienza	Balita p.3
12	PN to get US-donate radar system on Aug.21	Pna	DTribune p.4
13	PH Navy to receive new radar system	Dempsey Reyes	MlaTimes p.A3
14	PH Navy to receive radar system from US	Aaron Recuenco	MlaBulletin p.2
15	17 Killed as MILF BIFF clash in Datu Salibo	Ali Macabalang	MlaBulletin p.1
16	6 dead in MILF offensive vs BIFF	AFP	MlaTimes p.A8
<b>NATIONAL NEWS</b>			
17	Lebanon Army Battle ISIS on Syria Boarder	AFP	MlaStandard p.B3
18-19	IS' Amaq claims cambrils	AFP	DTribune p.1
20-21	Military drills emerge as key obstacle to United States-North Korea talks	Bloomberg News	BMirror p.A8
22	Pinay's son missing after Barcelona terror attack	AP	Tempo p.5
<b>EDITORIAL</b>			
23-24	A civilian or a military for secretary of defense?	Carmen Pedrosa	PDI p.11
<b>ONLINE NEWS</b>			
25-26	DENTAL MISSION   403rd Brigade helps Lumads in Bukidnon	<u>Alvin Santiago</u>	<u>www.dwdd.com.ph</u>
27	SEASONED WARRIORS   MetroBank TOPS Awardees	<u>Alvin Santiago</u>	<u>www.dwdd.com.ph</u>
28-29	URBAN WARFARE   DND might acquire medium-sized tanks	<u>Alvin Santiago</u>	<u>www.dwdd.com.ph</u>


20 August 2017


# INQUIRER

Page: A15



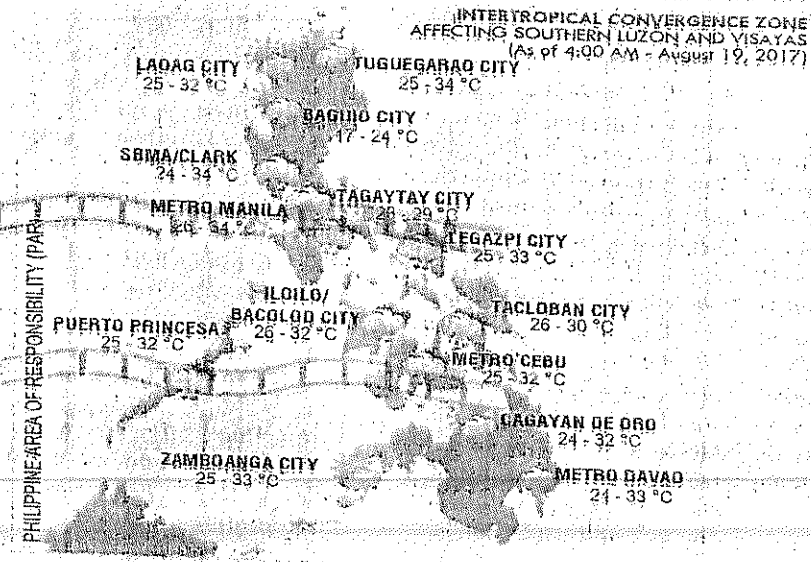
**PANAHON TV**  
www.panahon.tv /PanahonTV





**PHILIPPINE BATH INQUIRER**  
BALANCED NEWS - FEARLESS VIEWS

**TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST AUGUST 20, 2017 SUNDAY**



PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)

MAGERS SEA

**INTERTROPICAL CONVERGENCE ZONE AFFECTING SOUTHERN LUZON AND VISAYAS (As of 4:00 AM - August 19, 2017)**

<b>LAOAG CITY</b> 25 - 32 °C	<b>TUGUEGARAO CITY</b> 25 - 34 °C
<b>BAGUIO CITY</b> 17 - 24 °C	<b>TAGAYTAY CITY</b> 28 - 29 °C
<b>SBMA/CLARK</b> 24 - 34 °C	<b>LEGAZPI CITY</b> 25 - 33 °C
<b>METRO MANILA</b> 24 - 34 °C	<b>TACLOBAN CITY</b> 26 - 30 °C
<b>PUERTO PRINCESA</b> 25 - 32 °C	<b>BACOLOD CITY</b> 26 - 32 °C
<b>METRO CEBU</b> 25 - 32 °C	<b>CAGAYAN DE ORO</b> 24 - 32 °C
<b>ZAMBOANGA CITY</b> 25 - 33 °C	<b>METRO DAVAO</b> 24 - 33 °C

<b>SUNRISE</b>	<b>SUNSET</b>
5:43 AM	6:16 PM
<b>MOONRISE</b>	<b>MOONSET</b>
3:56 AM	5:02 PM
<b>FULL MOON</b>	<b>LAST QUARTER</b>
AUG 15 9:19 AM	AUG 20 9:30 AM
<b>LOW TIDE</b>	<b>HIGH TIDE</b>
MANILA SOUTH HARBOR	
4:35 PM	6:05 AM
0.02 Meter	1.34 Meter
Partly cloudy to at times squally with rainshowers and or thunderstorms.	
Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms.	

	AUG 21	AUG 22	AUG 21	AUG 22	AUG 21	AUG 22		
<b>METRO MANILA</b>	25 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C	<b>TAGAYTAY</b>	23 - 30 °C	22 - 29 °C	<b>TACLOBAN</b>	26 - 31 °C	26 - 32 °C
<b>TUGUEGARAO</b>	25 - 33 °C	24 - 32 °C	<b>LEGAZPI</b>	25 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C	<b>CAGAYAN DE ORO</b>	24 - 33 °C	24 - 34 °C
<b>LAOAG</b>	25 - 31 °C	24 - 30 °C	<b>PUERTO PRINCESA</b>	25 - 31 °C	26 - 31 °C	<b>METRO DAVAO</b>	24 - 34 °C	24 - 34 °C
<b>BAGUIO</b>	17 - 24 °C	16 - 23 °C	<b>ILOILO/BACOLOD</b>	26 - 32 °C	26 - 31 °C	<b>ZAMBOANGA</b>	25 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C
<b>SBMA/CLARK</b>	25 - 33 °C	25 - 32 °C	<b>METRO CEBU</b>	25 - 31 °C	25 - 31 °C	 		

**DZRHNEWS TELEVISION**

**MONDAY - FRIDAY 11 AM & 5 PM**

**PILIPINAS 11**

WEEKDAYS 6AM, 6:30 PM & 9PM  
WEEKENDS 6AM

20 August 2017

BusinessMirror

Page. A1

# As battle winds down, Mindanao ulama seek end to Marawi bombardment

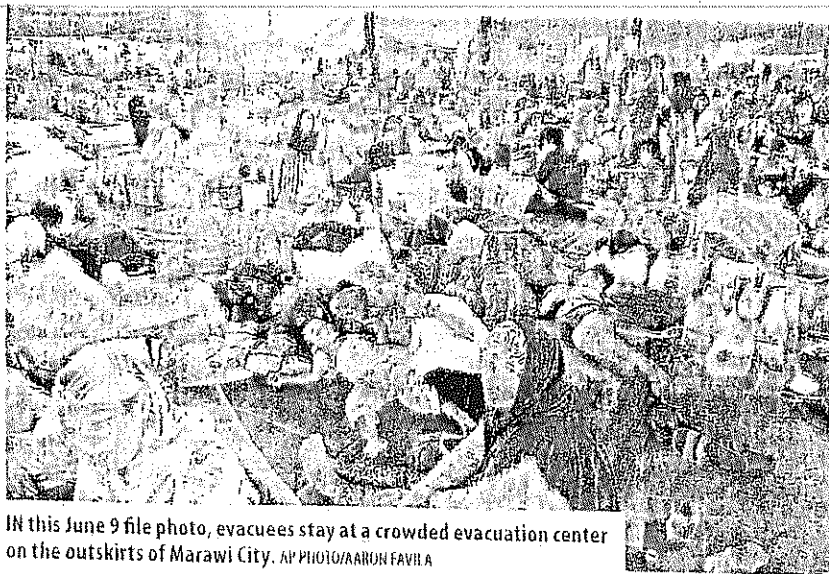
**I**SLAMIC scholars, the ulama, in Mindanao have condemned the rebellion in Marawi City, and have pledged to work with the Duterte administration in rooting out violent extremism in the region.

But while the ulama have vowed to work with the Duterte administration in ending the problem of extremism in the South, they also asked the military to stop its aerial bombardment of Marawi City.

The military has been bombing members of the Maute-Islamic State

Group since the rebellion broke out in May in an effort to flush them out, although their number has already dwindled to not more than 40 as of last military count.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo M. Año said the battle with the terrorists is already winding down, although military



IN this June 9 file photo, evacuees stay at a crowded evacuation center on the outskirts of Marawi City. AP PHOTO/RAHON FAVILA

2

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

officials could not give a definite period as to when the operations will finally end.

### Enough!

DURING a three-day conference held from August 14 to 16 in Iligan City, members of the Regional Ulama Council (RUC) have pleaded with Duterte to stop the bombings and look after the needs of displaced families.

The religious leaders said the Commander in Chief should also visit the internally displaced families to show that he commiserates with them.

“Such can be done by assuring the IDPs [internally displaced

persons] of food security and livelihood training; by strengthening and enhancing the relief assistance and distribution by governmental line agencies, and by giving assistance to the ulama in providing the IDPs spiritual and religious training, especially among the youth, so that they will not be lured into joining extremist ideologies,” the ulama said.

The ulama voiced their strong support to the fatwa declared by the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the declaration of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Darul Ifta (Fatwa Council) against violent extremism.

SEE “MARAWI,” A2

They also vowed their support in purging the terrorists out of Marawi and in pushing for peace and development in Mindanao.

The religious scholars also promised to be involved in the rehabilitation of the battle-stricken city, especially in terms of “moral, spiritual, social, educational and regional aspects”.

They recommended that ulama be deputized to monitor the implementation of the reconstruction and rehabilitation in Marawi City.

### Collaboration

THE Armed Forces Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom) commander, Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., said multisectoral collaboration must be propagated to counter terrorism in Mindanao.

“The Wesmincom has a peculiar area of jurisdiction as it combats the Abu Sayyaf in ZamBaSulTa [Zamboanga, Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi] area, the local terrorist group and the communist terrorists in ZamPeLan [Zamboanga Peninsula and Lanao provinces] area, and the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters in Central Mindanao,” he said.

Aside from Galvez, those who attended the conference were Defense Undersecretary Cesar Yano, Maj. Gen. Melquiades Feliciano, Lanao del Sur Vice Gov. Mamintal Adiong Jr. and Iligan City Mayor Majul Gandamra of Marawi City.

### Accreditation of Islamic schools

WHILE vowing to cooperate with the government in the fight against extremism and in propagating true Islamic teachings, the ulama, however, wanted the government to accredit Madaris, the traditional Islamic and Arabic schools in the country.

With this, they pushed for the revival of the Office of the Undersecretary for Madaris Education in the Department of Education.

The ulama also requested that the vacancy in existing national offices for Muslims, such as the presiding justice and associate justices of the Sharia appellate court, be

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

filled up by qualified Muslims. Gandamra welcomed the initiatives of the religious leaders and said, "I acknowledge the voice of the ulama to participate, not only in the physical rehabilitation, but also in the moral-recovery programs intended for the affected persons."

Adiong, who was present during the culmination of the activity, said he is aware of the importance of the conference.

Adiong added that the military and police needed the support of all sectors of society, especially saying that threat is imminent since violent extremism has already penetrated different levels of society.

#### No reinforcement for terrorists

AS the battle in Marawi nears its end, the military asked the 29 town officials of Lanao del Sur to implement measures to preempt the "spillover of the conflict", and the infiltration and recruitment of terrorists in areas of the province.

Galvez urged the officials to assist the government troops in preventing enemy reinforcements, as he noted the terrorists were already running out of ammunition and food.

"We are nearing the end of this prolonged battle with the penetration of our troops into the main battle area, but we beseech your consideration and assistance. We believe that the top leaders are still in the battle area, but we do not discount the possibility of reinforcement and retreat. This is where the key involvement of local government units comes in," Galvez said.

Addressing the town officials, Galvez said, "It would be best if you look after your lakes and your respective areas."

Officials of the Lumba-Baya-bag municipality said checkpoints have been established by members of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT), and passage of motorboats along Lake Lanao was also being monitored within their coastal barangays.

"We are preparing our con-

stituents so that we will be able to make ourselves ready. We want our BPATs to be trained so that we can take appropriate actions when needed," said one of the officials.

He also recommended that a system be implemented to validate the identities of local terrorists.

Balindong Mayor Benjamin Bagul said he had been monitoring movements to prevent the entry of possible reinforcements in his area.

However, Bagul noted that fishing activities within their lake-shore barangays have been limited due to security restrictions.

"We have registered and authorized 126 pump boats, however, we are also affected by the tightening of security as fishing can no longer be done from 3 to 5 a.m., but only at 6 a.m. and beyond," he said.

Galvez said that he will bring the issue for resolution and that he believes it would be best to have fishermen in the lake area from time to time so that they, too, can also serve as watchers who will report suspicious boats to authorities.

Masiu Mayor Nasser Pangandaman also shared his good practice of repainting the fishermen's boats and assigning control numbers to each. According to Pangandaman, those who violate regulations will be seized by the local government.

An official of Kapatagan town said there are some folks from other municipalities in Maguindanao who come to their town to recruit would-be members of the terror group.

In response, Galvez said, "You can create your inner defense. If you need it, we can provide you with training and support for security if you request for it. We will not leave you in this fight. We will make forces stay within the area. You will not be left out, you just have to do your part."

"For now, help your security sector swiftly address the present problem in Marawi by guarding your respective areas. Do not allow these terrorists to use your towns as recruitment areas and safe passage," he added.

20 August 2017

# INQUIRER

Page: A7



**GOLDEN ROOSTER** The Golden Rooster Foundation Inc., led by its chair Monica Prieto-Teodoro, donated P1 million to the Armed Forces of the Philippines for children of military heroes who gave up their lives in Marawi City. Teodoro, former Tarlac legislator, established the foundation to help abused, displaced or orphaned children. In simple rites witnessed by President Duterte in Malacañang, Teodoro signed the donation agreement with AFP chief of staff Gen. Eduardo Año. —CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Lorenzana clears Marawi ex-mayor of Maute links

**DAYAO CITY**—Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana has dropped former Marawi City Mayor Omar Solitario Ali and his son, Marawi City Vice Mayor Arafat Salic from the list of personalities being sought in connection with the Marawi crisis.

In an order dated Aug. 16, Lorenzana told the military, the police and other law enforcement agencies that Ali and his son had been removed from Arrest, Search and Seizure Orders (Assos) Nos. 1 and 2.

The said Assos were issued

on May 29 and June 5 against personalities suspected to have links with the Maute group.

Both Ali and Arafat denied the charges.

Ali even pointed out to his being emissary to the Maute group in behalf of the government. He said he was tapped by Presidential Adviser on Peace Process Jesus Dureza to negotiate with the Maute group at the height of the fighting in Butig, Lanao del Sur, last year.

He said he only talked with the Maute group thrice to con-

vince them to set aside violence and peacefully negotiate with the government.

But Lorenzana had said then the government had some proof Ali might have links with the Maute group.

Ali and Arafat both went into hiding while Ali's brother, Fahad Salic—who was also former Marawi mayor—was arrested in Misamis Oriental on charges of rebellion.

In a subsequent raid on Ali's home in Marawi City on June 23, authorities reported the recov-

ery of some P10 million worth of shabu. He also denied it, saying it must have been planted.

In removing Ali and Arafat from the wanted list in connection with the Marawi crisis, Lorenzana said he gave weight to the "representation" made by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (Opapp).

"Yes, I confirm on the representation of Opapp Sec(retary), who vouched for the father and son," he said in a text message to the Inquirer. —ALLAN NAWAL INQ

5

20 August 2017



Page: 3

## Military denies trampling on IP communities, rights

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has vehemently denied reports claiming that its forces are militarizing Lumad communities and trampling on the rights of Indigenous Peoples (IPs).  
“These allegations follow the same rhetoric they had in 2015 and covers up the exploitation of the Lumad by left-leaning groups,” AFP public affairs office chief, Col. Edgar Areyalo, said the other day.  
The AFP, he said, has already unmasked this deliberate and orchestrated effort by left-leaning organizations and the New People's Army (NPA) who encroach on IP communities.  
Dubbed as “*Taktikang Bakwit*,” left-leaning organizations distort the facts and circumstances that force Lumads to evacuate their homes, blaming instead the government's legitimate peace and security operations, he pointed out.  
“The AFP's presence in IP communities has always been in response to the presence of armed NPAs, as reported by Lumad leaders. It is the NPAs who have

militarized these areas by setting up camps and by using Lumad schools for indoctrinating, agitating, and recruiting new cadres,” Areyalo said.

These facts have been corroborated by an Affidavit of Unified Declaration of Tribal Leaders of Talaingod, Davao del Norte that was submitted by Lumad leaders, who condemned the abuses and exploitation committed by left-leaning organizations in the UCCP-Harlan incident.

Areyalo said they strongly condemn any action that uses the Lumads for propaganda against the government.

“Rest assured that the AFP will not stop in proactively seeking solutions through continuous dialogues with local leaders, government agencies, and non-government organizations to ensure that the rights of the Lumads are protected from exploitation and violence perpetrated by the NPA and its front organizations,” he added.

PNA



20 August 2017



Page: 19

# AFP turns tables on Reds: They're militarizing 'lumads'

By Jeannette I. Andrade  
@jiandradeINQ

Often accused of militarizing "lumad" communities in Mindanao, the Armed Forces of the Philippines this time claimed communist rebels were doing the militarization.

In a statement, AFP public affairs chief Col. Edgard Arevalo said on Saturday that there was no truth to the allegations of Bayan Muna Rep. Carlos Zarate that the military establishment was behind the militarization of indigenous communities in Mindanao and the supposed attacks on camps for indigenous people (IP).

"These allegations by Bayan Muna Rep. Carlos Zarate follow the same rhetoric they had in 2015 and cover up the exploitation of the lumad by left-leaning groups," Arevalo said.

The AFP, he said, had uncovered "Taktikang Bakwit," supposedly a campaign by left-leaning groups and the New People's Army (NPA) to infiltrate and cause disorder in IP communities that could trigger evacuation among lumads.

Arevalo claimed that left-

leaning organizations "distort the facts and circumstances in which lumads are forced to evacuate their homes, blaming instead the government's legitimate peace and security operations."

"The AFP's presence in IP communities has always been in response to the presence of armed NPAs as reported by lumad leaders," he said. "It is the NPA who [has] militarized these areas by setting up camps and by using lumad schools for indoctrinating, agitating and recruiting new cadres."

### Unified declaration

The AFP public affairs chief cited a unified declaration among tribal leaders in Talaingod, Davao del Norte, which "condemns the abuses and exploitation done by left-leaning organizations in the UCCP (United Church of Christ in the Philippines) Haran incident where the lumads lived in horrid conditions in 2015."

That year hundreds of lumads sought refuge at the UCCP Haran compound in Davao City claiming they were being harassed and subjected

to killings and abuse in their communities.

In their affidavit, the lumads later claimed they suffered abuses at the UCCP Haran compound.

"Testimonies from former NPA recruits, test papers from lumad schools run by left-leaning organizations and photos of operations against NPAs also debunk the aforesaid claims of Representative Zarate," Arevalo said.

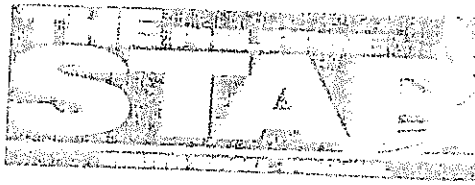
He condemned "any action that use the lumads for propaganda" against the government.

"This UCCP Haran incident in 2015 is unacceptable as these actions endanger the lives of lumads, particularly their women and children, and disrupt their way of life," he said.

"Rest assured that the AFP will not stop proactively seeking solutions through continuous dialogues with local leaders, government agencies and nongovernment organizations to ensure that the rights of the lumads are protected from exploitation and violence perpetrated by the NPA and its front organizations," Arevalo added. INQ

7

W August 2017



Page: 16

## 2 Maute militants killed in clash with Navy men

Two suspected members of the Maute group were killed in an encounter with soldiers guarding Lake Lanao on Tuesday night.

In a belated report, the Joint Task Force Marawi (JTFM) said Navy personnel patrolling the lake chanced upon a boat with two men on board. When a Navy gunboat moved closer to the boat, one of the men opened fire, triggering a shootout.

One of the suspects fell into the water while the

other was found dead on the boat.

Rifle propelled grenades, M14 rifle bullets and floating devices were among those recovered from the fatalities, the JTFM said.

The military tightened security around Lake Lanao amid reports that Maute terrorists are using it as their entry and exit points. There were also reports that the terrorists get supplies from their supporters through the lake.

– Jaime Laude

13

10 August 2017

UNA SA BALITA

Pahina. 2

## Marawi battle zone binomba

Kaliwa't kanang open-siba na ang inilunsad kahapon ng military laban sa mga natitirang miyembro ng teroristang Maute Group sa Marawi City.

Mula sa ere, isang P3 Orion guided bomber plane ang nagbagsak ng mga bomba sa tinatayang isang kilometrong lawak ng battle zone sa Marawi.

Tinatayang nasa 70 hanggang 80 mga terorista

na lamang umano ang nagtatago sa naturang lugar.

Bukod sa bomber plane, nagpapakawala rin ng rockets ang ilang helicopter ng Philippine Air Force (PAF).

Samantala, tinadtad din ng artillery fire ang ground area.

Pinaninindigan naman ni Capt. Jo-ann Petinglay, tagapagsalita ng Joint Task Force Marawi, na kinaila-

ngan na magsagawa ng airstrike at ang paggamit ng mga howitzer. Depende na aniya sa mga ground commander kung matutukoy na mahalagang bahagi ng misyon ay gagamitin ang air assets ng militar.

Binanggit pa ng opisyal na ang ilang istruktura na masasabing istrategikong lugar para sa mga kalaban ay nabawi na ng militar. (JG Tumbado)

9

2 August 2017



Pahina. 2

## 2 Maute-ISIS reinforcements utas sa encounter

Naslang ang dalawang pinaghihinataang reinforcements ng Maute-Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) na magdadala ng mga armas at bala sa kanilang mga kasamahang terorista sa loob ng war zone matapos na masukol ng tropa ng mga sundalo sa bakbakan sa Lake Lanao, Marawi City kamakalawa.

Sinabi ni Joint Task Force (JTF) Marawi Spokesperson Captain Johann Petinglay, ang mga suspek ay lulan ng bangka na paispatang naglalayag sa Lake Lanao nitong Biyernes.

Akmang sisitahin ng tropa ng pamahalaan ang

mga suspek nang bigla ang mga itong magpa-putok na nauwi sa ilang minutong habulan at bakbakan sa lawa.

Ayon kay Petinglay, tinamaan ng bala mula sa cal 50 machine gun ang mga suspek kaya nahulog ang bangkay ng isa sa mga ito sa nasabing lawa na hindi pa narerekober ng security forces.

Nasamsam sa lugar ang bangkay ng isa sa mga suspek, rifle grenades, 55 rounds ng 7.62 MM, dalawang rounds ng Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPG, booster charger at mga floating devices.

Magugunita na nag-

deploy ng tropa ng JTF Marawi sa Lake Lanao upang mapigilan ang pagtakas ng mga terorista sa lungsod ng Marawi at gayundin ang reinforcement ng mga kalaban kabilang na ang pagtatangka ng mga dayuhang terorista na sumaklolo sa bakbakan.

Sa kasalukuyang tala, sa ika-89 araw ng bakbakan nasa 128 na ang security forces na nagbubuwis ng buhay, 573 sa hanay ng Maute-ISIS at nanatili naman sa 45 ang mga sibilyang binawian ng buhay sa Marawi City siege na nag-umpisa pa noong Mayo 23. - Joy Cantos -

W August 2017

**Balita**

Page. 3

ANG HANUNGUNANG PANGYAGANG TAGALOG NG BANSA 1'8.00

## P5k combat pay para sa mga sundalo, pulis

Naaalarna sa pagtaas ng bilang ng terrorist activities sa nakalipas na taon, hiniling ng isang partylist lawmaker sa administrasyong Duterte na pataasin ang combat duty pay and combat incentive pay ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) at ng uniformed personnel ng Philippine National Police (PNP).

Ipinanukala ni Kusug Tausug partylist Rep. Shernee A. Tan na ang kasahukuyang P3,000 combat duty pay kada buwan ay gawing P5,000 at ang karagdagang combat incentive pay na P500 ay ipagkaloob sa mga sundalo at pulis na nakikipagbarkaban.

"The Marawi City siege has cer-

tainly displayed the bravery and patriotism of our soldiers and policemen that despite the meager benefits they expect to receive from the government, they continue to fight the terrorists in fulfillment of their sworn duty to protect our country," ariya.

Ipinagdijinan niya na nag-isyu si Pangulong Duterte ng Executive Order No. 3, series of 2016, na nagpataas sa kanilang combat duty pay na P3,000 kada buwan at karagdagang combat incentive pay na P300, na hindi dapat hiigit sa P300 kada buwan.

"However, due to the rising cost of commodities and the tremendous risks or hazards they are facing, there is

a need to further increase their combat duty pay and combat incentive pay to P5,000 per month and additional combat incentive pay of P500, which shall not exceed P5,000 per month respectively," pahayag ni Tan.

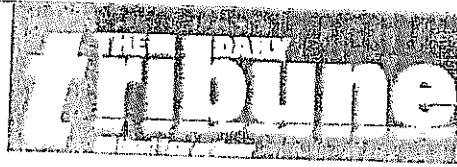
Inihain niya ang House Bill 6054 na magwawasto sa rate ng mga combat duty pay ng officers at personnel ng AFP at ng uniformed personnel ng PNP na P5,000 kada buwan.

Ang mga makikinabang sa panukala ay ang mga miyembro ng AFP at ng uniformed personnel ng PNP na sumasabak sa pakikipagbarkaban sa mga terorista.

**Charissa M. Luci-Atienza**

11

20 August 2017



Page: 4

## PN to get US-donated radar system on Aug. 21

The Philippine Navy (PN) will formally take possession of its first-ever tethered aerostat radar system (TARS) donated by the US government.

The turn-over ceremony will be led by US Embassy in Manila's Deputy Chief of Mission, Michael Klecheski, and PN flag-officer-in-command, Vice Adm. Ronald Joseph Mercado, at the Naval Education and Training Command in San Antonio, Zambales on Tuesday.

Navy spokesman, Capt. Lued Linema, said the TARS, a self-sustained, unmanned lighter-than-air

systems, would enhance the PN's capability in maritime intelligence surveillance reconnaissance by effectively detecting maritime and air traffic within the country's coastal waters using sensors.

It will also be used in the conduct of humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations.

The TARS includes a weather station that provides telemetry data to the ground station for the monitoring of ambient temperature, pressure, wind speed and other pertinent parameters in the operation of the system. PNA

12

20 August 2017

The Manila Times

Page: A3

## PH Navy to receive new radar system

THE Philippine Navy will be receiving a self-sustained, unmanned Lighter-Than-Air systems coming from the United States government in a formal turn-over ceremony set on August 22.

According to Capt. Lued Lincuna, Philippine Navy spokesman, the unit will be receiving the Tethered Aerostat Radar System (TARS) donated by the US government.

The ceremonies will be held at the Naval Education and Training Command in San Antonio, Zambales with US Deputy Embassy Chief of Mission to the Philippines Michael Klescheski and Philippine Navy Flag Officer in Command Vice Adm. Joseph Ronald Mercado gracing the event.

TARS is expected to enhance the Navy's capability when it comes to

Maritime Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance "by effectively detecting maritime and air traffic" within the Philippines' coastal waters using sensors, Lincuna said.

"Moreover, it will also be utilized in the conduct of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response operations," he added.

The radar system also include a weather station providing telemetry data to the ground station for the monitoring of ambient temperature, pressure, wind speed and other pertinent parameters in its operation.

It will be the first time for the military to receive such system coming from the American government, despite President Rodrigo Duterte's continuous tirades against the United States.

**DEMPSEY REYES**

13

20 August 2017

MANILA BULLETIN  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 2

## PH Navy to receive radar system from US

By AARON RECUENCO

The United States government is donating a Tethered Aerostat Radar System (TARS) to the Philippine military to improve its maritime intelligence and reconnaissance capabilities.

Philippine Navy (PN) spokesman Capt. Lued Lincuna said the radar system is expected to arrive on Tuesday at the Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) in San Antonio, Zambales.

"It is expected to enhance the PN's capability in maritime intelligence surveillance reconnaissance by effectively detecting maritime and air traffic within the country's coastal waters using sensors," said Lincuna.

The TARS is an unmanned and self-sustained lighter-than-aircraft system which is primarily used for surveillance.

It can rise to an altitude of 15,000 feet but would remain stationary as it is tethered by a cable on the ground.

The use of TARS is seen to be very important in the archipelagic country like the Philippines as it could provide details on the presence of aircrafts and vessels in coastal areas.

Aside from poaching issue, smuggling of illegal drugs and other contrabands is also a big problem in the country.

Lincuna, however, said that the TARS that will be donated will also be used in the conduct of humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations.

"The TARS includes a weather station that provides telemetry data to the ground station for the monitoring of ambient temperature, pressure, wind speed and other pertinent parameters in the operation of the system," he said.

The turnover ceremony is expected to be attended by US Deputy Embassy Chief of Mission to the Philippines Michael Klescheski and Philippine Navy Flag Officer in Command, Vice Adm. Ronald Joseph S. Mercado.

14



20 August 2017

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

Page: 1

# 17 killed as MILF, BIFF clash in Datu Salibo

By **ALI G. MACABALANG**

**COTABATO CITY** — Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) fighters clashed anew with its breakaway group, the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), in Maguindanao last Friday, leaving 17 persons dead.

Senior Superintendent Agustin Tello said the two groups clashed when the BIFF tried to set up a bomb in Datu Salibo town south of Maguindanao prov-

ince. When the smoke of the three-hour gunfight cleared, 12 followers of BIFF leader Esmail Abdulmalik lay dead.

They were identified as Salik, Noboh, Amir, Sanged, Mohaimin, Sulah, Tathoh, Pagal, Arsad, Dindih, Musib and Awal.

Abdulmalik is a former henchman of Malaysian terrorist bomb maker Zulkifli bin Hir (Marwan) who was killed by Special Action Forces in Mamasapano in 2015.

The Task Force Itihad (TFI) of the MILF, on the other hand, suffered five casualties — Mahmud Lagujab, Darix Kendag, Kuzak Ali, Anwar Maulana, and Kalidin Ulama. Four other MILF fighters were wounded.

The fighting between the two rebel groups started when BIFF rebels detonated a bomb that wounded several MILF fighters which retaliated in early August. Army troops have backed the Moro rebel front fighters with ▶4

## 17 killed as MILF, BIFF... ◀1

artillery fire and airstrikes, army Lt. Col. Gerry Besana said.

More than 40 rebels from both sides have been killed in the sporadic clashes in Datu Salibo and outlying towns in Maguindanao province's vast marshland, Besana said.

The BIFF was formed by Ustadz Umbra Ameril Kato after bolting from the MILF in protest over the botched signing in 2008 of Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD) which the Supreme Court declared as unconstitutional.

After Kato's death in 2015, the BIFF splintered into three factions. The MILF leadership said the Abdulmalik group "closed its door to peace talks" and pursued the extremist ideology of the Daesh or Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

Captain Arvin Encinas, public af-

fairs officer of the Army's 6th Infantry Division, said their units are guarding against possible BIFF retaliations on innocent civilians to avenge the death of more than 20 members killed in skirmishes with MILF guerillas since last month.

The MILF is helping the government fight violent religious extremists in Maguindanao in keeping with its two peace compacts with the government — the October 15, 2013 Framework Agreement on Bangsamoro and the March 27, 2014 Comprehensive Agreement on Bangsamoro.

The Moro rebels' mastery of the terrain is a big help to military as troops confront the rise of new pro-Islamic State groups, including those behind a deadly siege in southern Marawi City that has dragged for nearly three months, Besana added. (With a report from AP)

15

W August 2017

The Manila Times

Page: A8

# 6 dead in MILF offensive vs BIFF

THE Philippines' largest Muslim militant group has launched a deadly offensive against a splinter faction that has pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group, police said Saturday.

The fighting between the two groups began about two weeks ago in the marshy farmlands around the southern town of Datu Salibo on Mindanao island, regional police spokeswoman Tara Leah Cuyco said.

Clashes between the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and its offshoot, the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), took place on Friday and Saturday,

with six fighters from the original group killed.

"The MILF is trying to force the BIFF out of the area. They do not want any trouble," Chief Inspector Cuyco said.

A MILF guerrilla leader told a video journalist working for Agence France Presse on Saturday: "We do not want them here. It's an order from the higher-ups."

The MILF, which has more than 10,000 fighters, has waged a decades-long guerrilla war, first for independence and later autonomy for the large Islamic minority in the south of the largely Catholic

Asian nation.

It signed a peace treaty with the Philippine government in 2014 and is observing a ceasefire with the Philippine government while waiting for the passage of a proposed law that would grant self-rule to the Muslim areas of the Mindanao region.

Senior MILF leaders have warned President Rodrigo Duterte to deliver on government commitments under the peace accord, chiefly the autonomy law, or risk frustrating MILF members and causing them to defect to the BIFF and other pro-IS groups.

The BIFF, said by the military

to have a few hundred armed fighters, has been among several small armed groups in Mindanao that have pledged alliance to the IS.

The fighting comes as the military fought a near three-month battle in Marawi, a Muslim city 100 kilometers to the north.

The fighting in Marawi is being led by two other Muslim rebel factions, the Maute group and the Abu Sayyaf.

The Marawi battle has left 573 militants and 128 soldiers and police dead, along with at least 45 civilians, according to an official tally.

AFP

14

20 August 2017



Page: B3

## LEBANON ARMY BATTLES ISIS ON SYRIA BORDER

BEIRUT, Lebanon—Lebanese troops launched an offensive against the Islamic State group on Saturday close to the Syrian border where the jihadists have been active for several years.

The operation follows one by Shiite militant group Hezbollah last month against jihadists in another border area further south.

Hezbollah is deeply embroiled in the civil war that has raged in neighboring Syria since 2011, fighting in support of President Bashar al-Assad's regime.

The Lebanese army has sought to keep out of the conflict but has been forced to take action since jihadists of IS and then Al-Qaeda affiliate Al-Nusra Front assaulted the border town of Aarsal in 2014 and abducted 30 soldiers and police.

"In the name of Lebanon, in the name of kidnapped Lebanese soldiers, in the name of martyrs of the army, I announce that operation 'Dawn of Jurud' has started," army chief General Joseph Aoun said Saturday.

He was referring to two mountainous border areas -- Jurud Ras Baalbek and Jurud al-Qaa -- where IS has been active.

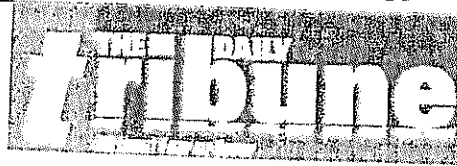
"The army is confronting the Daesh terrorists to chase them out and recover territory," army spokesman General Ali Kanso said, using an Arabic acronym for IS. "We have no fear of Daesh."

Kanso said the army believed there were around 600 IS fighters in the two areas, controlling some 120 square kilometers (46 square miles) of territory.

AFP

17

20 August 2017



Page: 1

## IS' Amaq claims Cambrils attack

"Soldiers" of the Islamic State (IS) group carried out a deadly attack in the Spanish seaside resort of Cambrils, the jihadist organisation's propaganda outlet Amaq said yesterday.

"Attacks by the soldiers of the Caliphate in Spain... led to the deaths and wounding of more than 120 people from the states of the Crusader alliance," it said in a statement on its Telegram account.

It said its fighters "ran over several Crusaders with a truck in the coastal town of Cambrils."

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), meanwhile, said a Filipino child has been reported missing after being separated from his mother following the Friday attack on Barcelona that left 14 killed and 100 others injured.

Foreign Affairs Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs Sarah Arriola said the mother is a 43-year-old Filipina who is the wife of a British citizen and has been based in Australia for the past three to four years.

"She and her son were in Barcelona to attend the wedding of a cousin from the Philippines when the

incident happened," she said, adding the woman's husband is on his way to Barcelona to help locate his son.

Honorary Consul Jordi Puig Roches visited the victim in the hospital after he was notified by local authorities, and since then DFA is keeping in touch with her relatives in the Philippines.

Eight hours after a deadly attack, an Audi A3 car rammed into pedestrians in Cambrils, 120 kilometres (75 miles) south of Barcelona.

Police killed the five attackers, some of whom were wearing explosive belts.

Six civilians and a police officer were wounded in the attack and one woman later died of her wounds, authorities said.

IS, which once controlled a self-declared "caliphate" across large parts of Iraq and Syria, has suffered major losses in recent months.

It has called for attacks against states taking part in the US-led coalition fighting against it.

### DFA to extend help

The DFA said Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano has instructed the Philippine Embassy in Madrid to extend all possible assistance the "seriously injured" Filipina may need.

Turn to page 2

"It saddens us to inform the public that a compatriot of ours from Australia and her seven-year-old son are among the victims of last Thursday's terrorist attack in Barcelona," Cayetano said in a statement.

"I have directed our Embassy in Madrid to proceed to Barcelona and extend all possible assistance to our injured kababayan and to exert all efforts to help find her son," he added.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has also requested prayers for the seven-year old Australian-Filipino boy.

"There's a little Australian boy whose mother was badly injured and he is lost, he's missing in Barcelona," Turnbull was quoted as saying. "So I think we should all in our private moments say a prayer for that little boy. All of us as parents know the anguish his father is going through and his family is going through as they rush to find him in Barcelona."

Thursday's attack, which involved a van that plowed through crowds gathered in Barcelona's Las Ramblas tourist district, also resulted in injuries to members of an Irish family that was of Filipino descent.

Arriola updated that the surgery performed on a five-year old Filipino boy who suffered leg injury as a result of the attack has been a "success".

"We will continue to exert all efforts until we are sure that there are no other Filipinos among the victims of this dastardly act," Arriola said.

She stressed that the Embassy and the Honorary Consulate are working closely with members of the Filipino Community in checking if there are other Filipinos who were among those killed or injured in the attack.

### No radical inclination

Residents of Melouiya, a village high in Morocco's Atlas Mountains, are in shock at the news two of their sons were implicated in terror attacks in Spain.

A traditional tent set up on a rocky patch of ground near the rough stone house of the Oukabir family, originally intended for a wedding reception, has been turned into a funeral tent.

"Joy has given way to sadness and pain," said Abderrahim, in his forties, an uncle of the Oukabir brothers.

Driss Oukabir, 27, was arrested in the Spanish town of Ripoll on Thursday just hours after a van sped into crowds on the busy Las Ramblas avenue in central Barcelona, leaving 13 people dead.

His brother Moussa, 17, was one of five "suspected terrorists" shot dead after knocking down pedestrians in the Catalan seaside resort of Cambrils in a second attack in the early hours of Friday.

"We are in shock, completely distraught," said the father of the two young men, Said, with tears in his eyes.

With an athletic build and a baseball cap on his head, he was surrounded by family members, neighbours and friends who had come to offer their condolences.

"Spanish police called Moussa's mother who is in Spain to tell her that he was dead," he told AFP shortly before the official announcement by police on Friday night.

The twin terror attacks left 14 people dead and some 120 wounded.

"We are simple, peaceful people. We don't know anything about radicalism or terrorism," another resident told AFP.

The economy of the impoverished, mostly Berber-speaking region is based mainly on farming, herding and money sent home by family members working in Europe.

Said Oukabir left to try his luck on the other side of the Mediterranean in the 1990s.

With his son Driss, who was 10 at the time, he headed for the province of Girona in Catalonia.

Moussa, who would have celebrated his 18th birthday in October, was born in Ripoll, a Spanish town of around 10,000 people about 100 kilometres (60 miles) north of Barcelona.

AFP

20 August 2017

# BusinessMirror

Page. A8

## Military drills emerge as key obstacle to United States-North Korea talks

TENS of thousands of troops from the US, South Korea and several other countries will conduct drills over the next few weeks to prepare for a possible war with Kim Jong Un's regime. The annual Ulchi-Freedom Guardian military exercises starting on Monday routinely spark condemnation from North Korea, and this year is no different. The state-run Korean Central News Agency this week called them "reckless saber-rattling" and warned that they could spark an accidental war.

The drills are important for another reason: China has called on the US to halt them in order to start talks with North Korea, part of its freeze-for-freeze proposal that would also require Kim to suspend nuclear and missile tests. The US rejects this outright, and scaling down the drills now would make President Donald J. Trump look weak so soon after his warnings of "fire and fury."

Still, some former American officials and analysts are saying at least some drills should be up for negotiation. William McKinney, a retired Army colonel who spent more than 40 years involved in US-Korea military relations and planning, said the US should consider suspending larger exercises—provided it gets something in return. Neither the one next week or a large one usually held in March would impact US readiness, and they could be replaced with more targeted drills that focus on command and control systems, he said.

### 'Bargaining chip'

"IF there is a point in time when a degree of trust exists between the two parties for a quid pro quo agreement, then one or both exercises might be up for being suspended," said McKinney, the nonresident Korea chairman at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "I am not looking to see a unilateral suspension, but at some point they might be a bargaining chip."

General Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said on Thursday that the exercises were important for the alliance to maintain the ability to defend itself. They could be reduced if North Korea were to pursue denuclearization and cease ballistic missile tests, he said.

"As long as the threat from North Korea exists, we need to maintain a high state of readiness to respond to that threat," Dunford told reporters in Beijing. Military exercises are "not currently on the table as part of the negotiations in any way."

Tensions on the Korean peninsula appeared to calm down this week after Trump praised Kim for waiting to fire missiles over Japan into waters near Guam. He has previously said military force is an option to prevent Kim from gaining an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) that

20

could deliver a nuclear weapon to the US

### 'Buck passing'

IN the past, the drills have raised tensions. During last year's exercises, North Korea launched a ballistic missile from a submarine and put its military on the highest alert.

Formal talks on North Korea's nuclear program collapsed in 2009, and the US has resisted restarting them until Kim demonstrates a commitment to denuclearization and halts tests of missiles and nuclear devices. North Korea, on the other hand, wants the US to drop its hostile policies before agreeing to talks.

China's proposal for talks isn't sincere, according to Ryan Hass, a fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington.

"The dual-freeze approach is China's attempt at buck passing and moral equivalency between US actions and North Korean actions," Hass said. "Buck-passing in the sense that Beijing is not making a genuine effort to leverage a freeze. They are making a genuine effort to pin responsibility on the United States."

Last year's Ulchi-Freedom Guardian event involved nearly 80,000 troops in land, sea and air drills. The US and South Korea haven't released many details on this year's event.

### Burned before

SOME analysts see room for maneuver. Kim's regime only wants the US to cancel military drills that prepare for removing him from power and detonating nuclear weapons. Joel Wit, a former state department official, wrote in the *Atlantic* magazine on August 13.

"As any informed military planner will tell you, that's possible while also maintaining the readiness of American forces on the Korean peninsula," wrote Wit, who met with North Korean officials in Geneva after Trump's election win. "And had Pyongyang halted testing in 2015, Washington wouldn't be facing the imminent threat of a North Korean ICBM today."

The US has been burned before when it suspended military exercises. In the 1990s the large-scale Team Spirit exercises between the US and South Korea were canceled several times in a bid to get the North Koreans to abandon their nuclear program. Pyongyang eventually reneged on an agreement to dismantle its nuclear reactors—one among many reasons the US doesn't trust North Korea.

Still, that shouldn't stop the US from exploring a deal, said John Delury, an associate professor of Chinese studies at Yonsei University in Seoul. "If you are going to suspend exercises you should get something pretty good from the North Koreans for it," Delury said. "It is not something to do as a simple goodwill gesture." *Bloomberg News*

August 2017



Page. 5

## Pinay's son missing after Barcelona terror attack

The Foreign Affairs Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs Sarah Arriola said in a statement on Saturday that the 43-year-old Filipino woman was seriously injured in Thursday's attack. She had been based in Australia for the past three or four years.

Arriola says the woman and her son were in Barcelona to attend

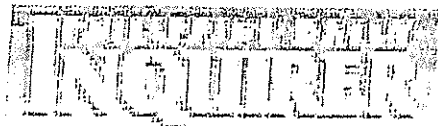
the wedding of a cousin from the Philippines.

Arriola says the woman's British husband is en route to Barcelona to help find his son. Arriola says the boy was separated from his mother during the attack.

Australia's prime minister has urged people to pray for the child. (AP)



W August 2017



Page: 11

## FROM A DISTANCE

CARMEN N. PEDROSA

### A civilian or a military for secretary of defense?

With speculations on who the President will choose to be his secretary of defense, it is time that we look at the geopolitics around us and determine whether we should have a civilian or a military officer to be his secretary of Defense. Both are good friends of mine. I campaigned for Gibo as a presidential candidate and General Esperon is not only a friend but a colleague in several campaigns for good government.



I remember Esperon saying once to me that although I may be right in pointing out the provision of the Constitution that civilians must at all times be supreme to the military but he has had experience of local authorities abusing their positions and making it difficult for the military in their work for peace and order.

Gibo was GMA's defense chief in her administration. He is a good man but his effectiveness in a cabinet post requiring closeness to the military could be questioned. So I am not surprised if he asked for more time before accepting Duterte offer to return as defense chief.

Although the offer was made soon after Duterte won, it did not have the urgency that it now has. I know that for a long while he did not want any position in government. All he wanted was a quiet life and to work for a living in private business.

Teodoro served as DND chief from 2007 to 2009 under former president Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, before resigning to run as the standard-bearer of the administration party for the 2010 elections.

I was present at a lunch with his relatives and sisters who were hoping that he would not give up public life. He was very popular but to this day we do not know just how many votes were taken away from him that went to his cousin Noyonoy Aquino.

In my opinion we need both a Teodoro and an Esperon as secretary of defense. It is a hard choice.

But it is true that a secretary of defense who is out of touch with geopolitics will not be as effective in government today. Actually someone made the point to me in the case of a national security adviser. He must have an intellectual background in touch with geopolitics. President Duterte must be in a quandary on who his choice would be. *Abangan*

In American government the Secretary of Defense is assisted on public affairs. The Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. He is the principal staff advisor and assistant to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense for public information, internal information, community relations, information training, and audiovisual matters in support of Department of Defense activities.

At the same time he is in charge of a worldwide public affairs community of some 3,800 military and civilian personnel.

The assistant to the secretary follows the Secretary's Principles of Information in providing Defense Department information to the public, the United States Congress and the media.

I think the mismanagement of the country by Noynoy is what prodded Filipino voters for change. He was a laid back chief of state and did not have the qualities of leadership. We just tolerated him to finish his term. The China question and his subservience to American foreign policy were also cited in looking for a different leadership. And then of course, he represented the oligarchy that for many Filipinos have become abusive in the use of their government positions. That, more than economic reasons, although equally disconcerting was what led to Duterte's victory. The comparison between the two, one of the elite and the other a cussing provincial mayor, became a lively contest with a strong incentive for change. We should never again have for a President someone with no administrative experience at all.

Just as it was in Iceland, Filipinos became more aware that it would not do to be fence-sitters. They are now more willing to seek accountability from politicians, and that reforms would be made or the country would collapse. The election of Noynoy was a betrayal of public trust and should not happen again.

History will cite these times as a political awakening and the beginning of a grassroots, civic movement for constitutional reform. Finally we are beginning to see the light. We are in critical times and this was the cue to insist in a more participatory role for ordinary citizens in drafting a new constitution.

In Iceland, there were assemblies, community meetings and online discussions, as a conversation on the constitutional structure unfolded. According to those in the center of political activity, it was this mood that led to the drafting of a new constitution.

A dedicated social media columnist, Jose Alejandrino is ecstatic about the reaction to his recommended proclamations if Duterte finally decides that he needs revolutionary government to carry out his reforms.

The proclamations went viral and led groups to organize and do more to convince the President to declare a revolutionary government.

Alejandrino has proposed the following proclamations.

Proclamation No. 1 - Reaffirming the will of the people as sovereign and supreme, abrogating the Cory Constitution, and establishing a revolutionary govern-

ment with full powers.

Proc. No. 2 – Appointing members of the Cabinet of the revolutionary government based on performance.

Proc. No. 3 – Restoring the Supreme Court and appointing its new members.

Proc. No. 4 – Directing the Supreme Court to create special courts to try cases of heinous crimes against the State and establish quotas with a time frame for their resolution, their terms of reference, and corresponding penalties for non-performance.

Proc. No. 5 – Expanding list of heinous crimes punishable by the death penalty.

Proc. No. 6 – Establishing a stiff anti-terrorist law and its parameters.

Proc. No. 7 – Reaffirming the role of the AFP and PNP as guardians of the State and protectors of its people with penalties for erring and abusive personnel.

Proc. No. 8 – Reaffirming an independent foreign policy and friendship with all nations.

★

## ONLINE NEWS

20 AUGUST 2017

dwdd.com.ph

# MEDICAL-DENTAL MISSION | 403rd Brigade helps Lumads in Bukidnon

*ALVIN SANTIAGO (DWS)*



**CAMP OSITO D. BAHIAN (DWDD)** – As part of its commemoration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples (IP) and the International Humanitarian Law Month, the 403rd Infantry "Peacemaker" Brigade of the Army's 4th Infantry Division conducted Medical and Dental Civic Action Programs in the IP dominated areas in the province of Bukidnon.

In partnership with Team Jesus-Hearts for Tribes Philippines Incorporated, World Wildlife Fund-Philippines, Local Government Units, 8th Infantry Battalion and 1st Special Forces Battalion, the activities were conducted at Brgy. Zamboanguita, Malaybalay City on August 10, 2017, Brgy. Iba, Cabanglasan, Bukidnon on August 11, 2016, and Brgy. Mirayon, Talakag, Bukidnon on August 12, 2017.



In totality, some 2,877 local residents and tribesmen benefited from the free services which include medical consultation, tooth extraction, circumcision, giving of medicines, eye check up, and giving of eye glasses. The World Wildlife Fund-Philippines also gave books about preserving mother nature to the Lumad children, while the soldiers offered free haircut services and porridge feeding.

25

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

The activity showcased the 403rd Infantry Brigade's commitment to continuously serve the people, especially the less fortunate, through its partnership with various government and non-government organizations, all in the pursuit for peace.



Meanwhile, COL ERIC C VINOYA INF (GSC) PA, Commander of 403rd Infantry "Peacemaker" Brigade, assured the local residents of Bukidnon that the unit will not only secure the communities from the threats posed by the NPAs and protect the rights of the Lumads, but also continue to facilitate the delivery of basic services to the people to attain peace not only in Bukidnon but also in Misamis Oriental. He also gave his assurance that the soldiers of the Brigade will continue to observe and uphold the provisions of the International Humanitarian Law.

"We assure our people, most especially our Lumad brothers, that we will continue to protect them particularly their right to live peacefully, afar from the threats of intimidation and exploitation of the NPA bandit group and all its cohorts, as well as their equal rights to avail of the services of the government and our NGO partners. We will continue to do this not only in the province of Bukidnon but in the province of Misamis Oriental as well. May this activity also remind our people of our constant and true commitment to observe and uphold the International Humanitarian Law that is aimed at placing the civilians away from harm during armed confrontations," said Colonel Vinoya.

The Lumad communities in Bukidnon continue to become vulnerable targets for the abuses, exploitation and recruitment of the NPA bandit group and other organizations that act as its cohorts. **403IBde / MCAG**

U

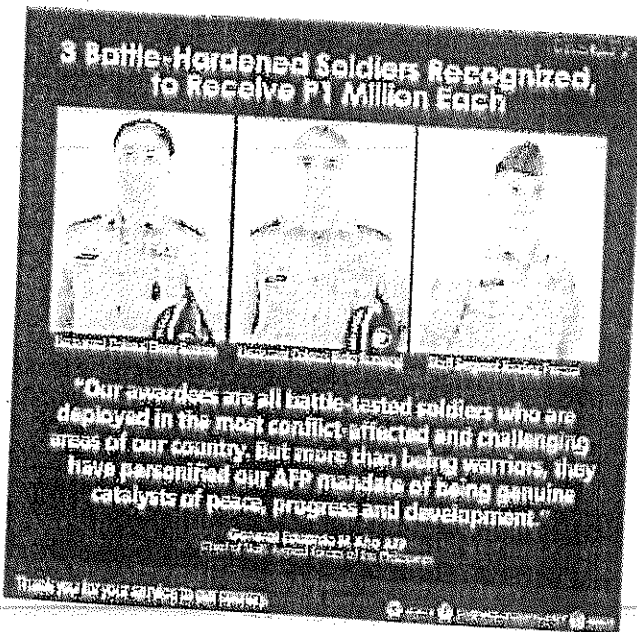
*Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.*

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

dwdd.com.ph

# SEASONED WARRIORS | MetroBank TOPS Awardees

Photo: Arvin Sanilago / Arvin Sanilago



CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD) – Three seasoned warriors who fought local terrorists in Mindanao were presented as this year’s “The Outstanding Philippine Soldiers” (TOPS) in a ceremony held Monday, 14 August 2017 at the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) General Headquarters Building.

Lieutenant Colonel Elmer Suderio, Lieutenant Colonel Ricky Bunayog, and Staff Sergeant Narding Pascual will be honored during Metrobank’s 55th Anniversary in September. They will each receive P1 Million cash incentive, a gold medallion, and a trophy from the Metrobank Foundation, Inc.

The three awardees were chosen for rendering service beyond the call of duty, and for inspiring and influencing their comrades and the people in their respective communities. All three members of the Philippine Army were selected from around 40 nominations from the Army, Air Force, and Navy. **CRSAFP / MCAG**

27

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

dwdd.com.ph

## URBAN WARFARE | DND might acquire medium-sized tanks

By Alvin Serrano | Philippine Daily Inquirer | 2023-08-10

**CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD)** – The Department of National Defense (DND) is studying the possibility of acquiring medium-sized armoured vehicles to augment its current units.

According to Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, they are looking into getting tanks / armoured vehicles weighing 20 tons or less, with medium-caliber cannons, but capable of breaching concrete walls compared to the heavy 40-ton tanks

Sec Lorenzana added that they this type of armoured carriers could fit well the needs of our Armed Forces in dealing with Urban Warfare, like in what is transpiring in Marawi City where the ISIS-inspired Maute terror group seized most of the city and used dwellings and high-rise structures as base of operations, logistics, machine gun nest and sniper positions.

Although he hopes that a Marawi-type conflict will be avoided in the future, any such events will not necessitate the acquisition of a heavy battle tank fleet, but medium tanks would suffice in any urban warfare and for training.

Our Mechanized Infantry Division has in its inventory the Armoured Infantry fighting Vehicle M113A1, the M113 Armoured Personnel Carriers, M706 Commando Vehicle, Scorpion Combat Vehicle Reconnaissance, and the Simba Fighting Vehicle.

Lorenzana believes that the current armour capability that they are using, largely in Marawi (120 armour vehicles), can sustain the needs of the AFP. AES / MCAG

18

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



TAGS

29

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