

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



TEAM ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

21 August 2017

Monday

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

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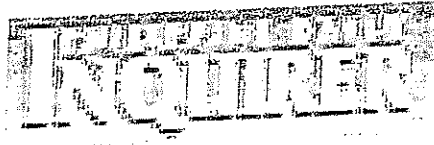
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS • FEARED VIEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | AUGUST 21, 2017 | MONDAY

LOW PRESSURE AREA ESTIMATED AT 0400M EAST OF BANGAL, SOUTHWEST MONSOON AFFECTING CENTRAL AND EASTERN LUZON AND VISAYAS (AS OF 4:00 AM - AUGUST 20, 2017)

SUNRISE	SUNSET
5:43 AM	6:16 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
4:56 AM	5:55 PM
LAST QUARTER	NEW MOON
AUG 15 6:15 AM	AUG 22 2:30 AM
LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
5:13 PM	9:05 AM
0.03 Meter	1.36 Meter

Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms

Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms

	AUG 20	AUG 21	AUG 22	AUG 23	AUG 24	AUG 25
METRO MANILA	24 - 30 °C	24 - 30 °C	22 - 29 °C	22 - 29 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 33 °C
TUGUEGARAO	25 - 31 °C	24 - 33 °C	24 - 30 °C	24 - 30 °C	24 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C
LAOAG	24 - 31 °C	24 - 31 °C	24 - 31 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 33 °C	25 - 32 °C
BAGUIO	15 - 22 °C	16 - 22 °C	24 - 31 °C	24 - 31 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C
SBMA/CLARK	24 - 31 °C	24 - 31 °C	24 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C	<p>SABOT KO, PAGALA MO!</p>	

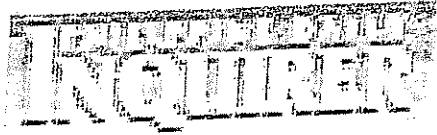
DZRH NEWS TELEVISION

MONDAY - FRIDAY
11 AM & 5 PM

PILIPINAS 10

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

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CHURCH LEADERS CALL FOR END TO DRUG SLAYS

STORY BY JEROME ANING AND CHRISTINE C. AVENDAÑO

Cardinal Tagle calls on the faithful to 'reflect, pray and act' while Archbishop Villegas urges the nation to summon up courage and oppose the killing of drug suspects.

AG

FROM A1

By Jerome Aning and Christine O. Avendaño @Team_Inquirer

The two highest-ranking officials of the Roman Catholic Church in the Philippines on Sunday called for an end to the "waste of human lives" and withdrawal of public support for drug killings following a brutal week in President Duterte's war on drugs in which a 17-year-old boy was among dozens killed.

The Archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, called on the faithful to "reflect, pray and act" while the head of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Socrates Villegas, called on the nation to stop supporting the police killings of alleged drug offenders.

Villegas also called for churches to ring their bells for 15 minutes starting at 8 p.m. from Aug. 22 to Nov. 27 as a prayer offering for the victims of the police operations in Pampanga province and Metro Manila last week and as a reminder to the living to stop supporting the killings.

'Killing spree'

Police raids dubbed "One Time Big Time" saw at least 76 people shot dead, authorities said, as rights groups and lawmakers condemned the sudden surge in operations as an alarm-

ing "killing spree" in Mr. Duterte's flagship program.

On Sunday, Cardinal Tagle expressed concern about the increase in the number of deaths.

"We knock on the consciences of those manufacturing and selling illegal drugs to stop this activity. We knock on the consciences of those who kill even the helpless, especially those who cover their faces with [masks], to stop wasting human lives," Tagle said in a statement read in churches.

"The illegal drug problem should not be reduced to a political or criminal issue. It is a humanitarian concern that affects all of us," Tagle said.

The cardinal said the Archdiocese of Manila was willing to play host to a multisectoral dialogue on the drug problem.

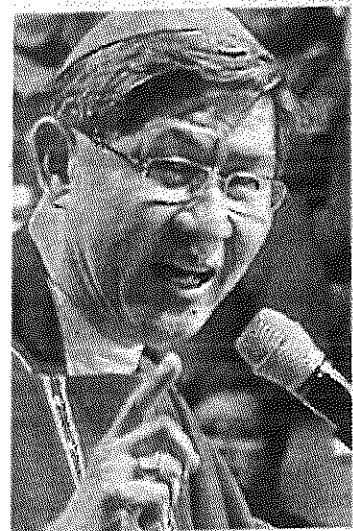
Villegas, in a pastoral exhortation also read in churches on Sunday, deplored public support for the killings of drug suspects and called on the nation to summon up courage and oppose the killing of alleged drug offenders.

Disagree with Duterte

"They say that if there are 32 killed every day, our lives would be better, and our countrymen nod in agreement. They applaud and cry with a smile ... while counting corpses in the night, while passing wakes for the dead left and right," Villegas said.

The people, he said, needed to be courageous and openly disagree with Mr. Duterte's stand that killing drug suspects will solve the country's drug problems.

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Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle

"It's not in our nature to be happy over the killings," he said.

Villegas said he wondered why only a few pitied the orphans and widows of slain drug suspects.

"Don't we know how to weep? Why aren't we shocked by the gunfire and flow of blood on the sidewalk? Why aren't we angry at the flow of drugs from China? Why is it that it's only the poor who are shot while if a rich person with connections with higher ups is tagged, there needs to be an investigation and affidavit first," Villegas asked.

The Catholic Church, one of the nation's oldest and most influential institutions, has been among the few voices denouncing the drug killings as polls show Mr. Duterte continues to enjoy widespread popularity.

During the 14 months Mr. Duterte has been in power, police have confirmed killing more



Archbishop Socrates Villegas

than 3,500 people—insisting they acted in self-defense.

More than 2,000 other people have been killed in drug-related crimes and thousands more murdered in unexplained circumstances, according to police data.

Police raids

The numbers saw a sudden increase last week, with Mr. Duterte praising the killing of 32 people in near-simultaneous police raids across Pampanga province on Monday and calling for more.

At least 44 people were killed in various cities in Metro Manila in succeeding days, including a 17-year-old boy whose death on Wednesday sparked a national furor.

Relatives of Kian Loyd de los Santos released closed-circuit television (CCTV) footage of the Grade 12 boy being dragged by two officers as they questioned

a police report that he shot at them first.

"I don't believe the police story that Kian Loyd, a Grade 12 boy, died because he fought back and engaged three policemen in a shootout using a cal. -45 [pistol]. The CCTV footage showed he was already in their custody. How could he have fought back?" said Caloocan Bishop Pablo David, who said Mass at De los Santos' community on Saturday.

A Senate inquiry into the sudden surge in police killings of drug suspects can be expected, with senators supporting Mr. Duterte planning to file a resolution on Monday condemning the slayings, including the death of De los Santos.

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel III and the members of the majority bloc were meeting on Sunday to put into final form the resolution expressing the sense of the Senate over the slayings.

"Finalization of the resolution [on Sunday night]. It's about 95 percent done. [Only styling left to be done]," Pimentel said in a text message to reporters.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson said Pimentel called the meeting to decide what action the Senate needed to take in the face of the killings.

"At the outset, the sense of the majority is for the Senate to investigate it. And it looks like there is a growing sentiment that the investigation be referred to the committee on public order and dangerous drugs," Lacson said in a radio interview,

referring to his committee.

Lacson said the inquiry could focus on the sudden "killing spree."

"Is there an order to do so? Is there a pattern that every time the President speaks up and pushes the Philippine National Police, [there are] killings?" he said.

Review last year's finding

He said the Senate could revisit the justice committee's finding last year that the deaths of alleged drug offenders were not state-sponsored extrajudicial killings.

Lacson said the recent killings were a cause for concern, adding that if there was a directive, then "it looks like it's mutually contrived or orchestrated."

Asked whether he believed the police had to meet a quota in the war on drugs, he said there was such talk and that it would be "dangerous" if indeed police were under pressure to deliver.

"If we can authenticate the CCTV [footage] that it was Kian really being dragged by two policemen and being killed, then we can see there is no deep planning or deep thought [in the operation] because the top leader supports the police," he said.

Lacson said it was dangerous for the police to assume that Mr. Duterte would always back them up.

The PNP should reassess its narcotics operations, especially the one in Caloocan where De los Santos was killed, which was so "blatant," Lacson said. —WITH A REPORT FROM AFP INQ

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Rody calls Ninoy a patriot

By ALEXIS ROMERO

He recently called the slain senator's son and namesake "gago" or a fool, but President Duterte was all praises yesterday for Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr.

In a statement marking Aquino's 34th death anniversary today, Duterte urged Filipinos to aspire for the common good like Ninoy Aquino, the outspoken opposition figure during the Marcos regime which was blamed for his assassination.

Duterte, who allowed the burial of dictator Ferdinand Marcos at the Libingan ng mga Bayan despite outrage by human rights victims, even borrowed a famous phrase from Aquino: "indeed, the Filipino is worth dying for."

Calling Aquino a patriot, Duterte said history witnessed how the slain senator's work as a journalist and politician

drove him to effect "positive and meaningful changes in our society."

"Even at a time when hope was lost, he remained steadfast in his struggle to restore democracy through non-violent means," Duterte, an ally of the Marcoses, said.

"His deeds have taught us that we should always aspire for the common good—even if one must go against the grain—and do what is necessary," Duterte added.

He lauded Aquino for fighting for what was "right and just" throughout his career.

"Up until the very end of his life, he inspired a peaceful

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Rody calls From Page 1

evolution that resulted in) the liberties we enjoy today," the President said, referring to the historic people power revolution in 1986 that ended the 20-year rule of dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

Duterte expressed hopes that the commemoration of Aquino's death would strengthen the late senator's

"legacy of promoting solidarity and patriotism" among Filipinos "especially in these troubling times."

"Through his words of wisdom, let us reflect on his life and realize that, indeed, the Filipino is worth dying for," Duterte said, echoing Aquino's famous line.

Aquino, a vocal critic of Marcos, was shot dead on

Aug. 21, 1983 shortly after his plane landed at the then Manila International Airport.

The assassination paved the way for a series of events culminating in the 1986 People Power uprising in EDSA that toppled the Marcos regime, installed Aquino's wife Corazon as president and restored democracy.

Supporters of the Aquinos have accused Duterte of trying to diminish the

significance of the people power revolt to pay his debt of gratitude to the Marcos family.

Duterte's father Vicente served as a Cabinet member of Marcos but his mother Soledad was at the forefront of a group that backed the Aquinos.

Ilocos Norte Gov. Imee Marcos, daughter of the late president, supported Duterte's presidential bid.

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Army officer nabbed for drugs in Bukidnon

Eight persons, including an Army second lieutenant, were arrested in a buy-bust operation in Malaybalay City, Bukidnon Friday.

Army spokesman Lt. Col. Ray Tiongson identified the Army officer as 2nd Lt. Arthur Rey Barredo Arango. Another suspect was identified as Geoff Augustus Silabay, alias "Popoy."

Arango was arrested by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency at 1st Avenue Inn on Propia St., Barangay Sumpong.

Seized from the suspects were more or less 20 grams of suspected

shabu and drug paraphernalia

Tiongson said if evidence warrants and if indeed Arango is linked to the illegal drugs trade, he will be referred to either the military court martial or the Army's Efficiency and Separation Board.

"He is now being investigated over his possible involvement into illegal drugs operation. This is without prejudice to the possible criminal cases that will be filed against him," Tiongson said.

"The Army will not tolerate any of its personnel involved in illegal drugs operation," he added.

Tiongson said Arango is attached to the Headquarters and Headquarters Support Group of the Philippine Army and is on academic break after finishing the basic officer leaders course. He graduated last December 2016.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año had earlier directed all AFP uniformed and non-uniformed personnel to strictly follow the newly-approved drug-free workplace policy effective in all military camps and facilities nationwide. **(Francis T. Wakefield)**

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ASG, 7 lawless elements fall

A notorious Abu Sayyaf Group member and seven other lawless elements were arrested by government forces in Sulu last week.

Abu Sayyaf member Fahar Ismael, alias "Putoh Taron," was arrested in a checkpoint by the 41st Infantry Battalion and the police in Barangay Timbangan, Indanan, Sulu last Wednesday at about 7 a.m.

Ismael is said to be involved in the kidnappings of Engineer Marso Salinas and Evelyn Chan. He has a warrant of arrest for murder as co-accused of his leader, Idang Susukan.

Ismael is now under custodial investigation. Seven lawless elements were

arrested by the military and police in Lugus, Sulu last Friday at about 7:16 a.m.

Seized from the lawless elements were three M14 rifles, two M16 rifles, an M1 Garand rifle, a caliber .45 pistol, six clips for Garand rifle, assorted magazines, 13 magazines for M16, assorted ammunition, and assorted ammunition pouches and uniforms.

The lawless elements were arrested for illegal possession of firearms by the Philippine Marine Ready Fleet Sulu and the Marine Battalion Landing Team 1 under Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Cabanlet and the 52nd Special Action Company, Special Action Force.

The suspects and firearms

seized were turned over to Sulu Provincial Police Office for proper disposition.

"Law enforcement support operations, in collaboration with the police, will continuously be conducted by the Joint Task Force Sulu to contain lawless elements operating in the area," said Lieutenant General Carlito G. Galvez Jr., commander of the Armed Forces Western Mindanao Command.

"It is with pride that I congratulate the soldiers of the Joint Task Force Sulu headed by Brigadier General Sobejana and the policemen of Sulu Province Police Office for this recent commendable accomplishment," he added. **(Francis T. Wakefield)**

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Pahina. 6

Sayyaf, 12 pang armado nalambal

ZAMBOANGA CITY --- Nasakote ng militar at pulisya ang 13 mga armado, kabilang ang isang notoryosong miyembro ng Abu Sayyaf na sabit sa mga pagpatay at ransom kidnappings sa rehiyon ng Mindanao.

Inanunsyo kahapon ng Western Mindanao Command ang naturang operasyon sa lalawigan ng Sulu at Sultan Kudarat kung saan ay nadakip ang mga suspek at nasamsam sa kanila ang iba't ibang armas.

Sinabi ni Captain Jo-ann Petinglay, tagapagsalita ng militar, na nahuli nila ang 7 armado sa bayan ng Lugus at ang Abu Sayyaf na si Fahar Ishmael sa bayan ng Indanan sa Sulu noong nakaraang linggo.

Kahapon lamang ito inanunsyo dahil sa patuloy na operasyon umano ng militar at pulisya laban sa Abu Sayyaf at iba pang armadong grupo. Sabit umano si Ishmael sa kidnapping nina Marso Salinas at Evelyn Chan at nahaharap rin sa patongpatong na kasong pagpatay sa naturang lalawigan. "Ishmael is now under custodial investigation," ani Petinglay.

Iniimbestigahan rin umano ang 7 nadakip matapos na mahulihan ang mga ito ng mga sari-saring armas. Hindi naman sinabi ni Petinglay kung miyembro sila ng Abu Sayyaf o pribadong armed gang.

Limang iba pang armado na sabit sa pamimirata at extortion ang nadakip sa bayan ng Kalamansig sa Sultan Kudarat ngunit nakatakas naman ang kanilang lider na si Tenti Mangain.

Nabawi sa kanila ang 5 automatic rifles, isang pistol, granada at mga bala at uniporme ng militar. (Al Jacinto)

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The Manila Times

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Abu Sayyaf member, 7 others nabbed in Sulu

SHARIFF AGUAK, Maguindanao: An Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) member involved in ransom kidnappings and seven lawless elements were arrested in separate operations in Sulu recently, a belated report that reached the Western Mindanao Command (WestMinCom) said.

ASG member Fahar Ismael, alias Putoh Taron, was arrested at a checkpoint manned by troops of the 41st Infantry Battalion and the police in Barangay Timbangan, Indanan town on Wednesday.

Ishmael, facing a string of murder charges, is being implicated by the military in the kidnappings of Marso Salinas, an engineer, and Evelyn Chan, according to Captain Jo-ann Petinglay, WestMinCom spokesman.

Ishmael has an arrest warrant for murder as co-accused of ASG leader, Idang Susukan. He is now under custodial investigation.

Meanwhile, seven lawless elements carrying high-powered firearms were also arrested in a joint military and police operation in Lugus town on Friday.

Seized from them were rifles and various caliber firearms: three M14, two M16, and M1 Garand rifle; a .45 caliber pistol; six clips for Garand rifle; assorted magazines; 13 magazines for M16; assorted ammunition, pouches and uniforms.

Their capture and that of Ismael were not immediately made public because of ongoing operations against the Abu Sayyaf and other lawless groups.

"Military and police operations continue against lawless elements in southern Philippines as part of government efforts to curb criminality and terrorism and protect the public from harm," Petinglay said.

Similarly, in Sultan Kudarat, Philippine Marines backing the police provincial office served arrest and search warrants to a group of lawless elements in Kalamansig town on Thursday and arrested five suspects with assorted firearms and war materials in Barangay Ito Andong.

The target of the warrant, Tenti Taup Mangarin, listed as high-value target, however, escaped after sensing the approaching security forces.

Arrested instead were his men – Bonao Mangarin, Usop Mangarin, Mimong Agam, Osik Mangarin and Celino Ogib.

Taup is wanted for arson in connection with the burning of the heavy equipment of GEMMA construction in Kalamansig. He and his group are also reportedly engaged in piracy in the coastal municipalities of Lebak and Kalamansig.

**JULMUNIR I. JANNARAL
AND AL JACINTO**

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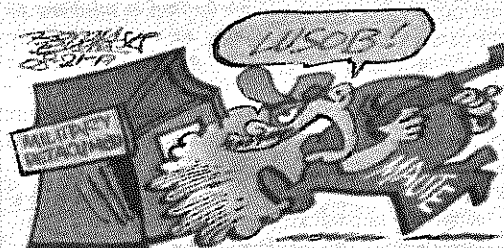


Pahina. 6

Military detachment nilusob ng Maute supporters

Sinalakay ng hindi bababa sa 20 mga armadong lalaki ang isang military detachment malapit sa Marawi City kahapon ng umaga sa Lanao del Sur.

Sa inisyal na ulat ni Capt. Jo-Ann Peunglay, spokesperson ng Joint Task Force Marawi, ang sinalakay na detachment ay ang 55th Infantry Battalion na pinamamahalaan ng mga miyembro ng Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU).



Ang paglusob ng mga armado na sinasabing sumusuporta sa mga Maute group ay nabantong sa dalawang oras na engkuwentro pero wala namang iniulat na nasugatan o nasawing sundalo.

Patuloy naman ang isinasagawang hot pursuit operation ng pinagsanib na puwersa ng militar at pulisya laban sa grupo na nang-harass sa nasabing military camp.

Kaugnay nito, namataan din ng tropa ng pamahalaan ang nasa 20 armadong grupo na hinihinalang sasaklolo sa Maute group habang tumatawid sa bayan ng Saguiaran noong Biyernes ng madaling-araw.

Nadiskubre ang nasabing grupo matapos mag-report ang dalawang residente sa lokal na opisyal ng nasabing bayan na dumaan sa harap ng kanilang bahay ang mga armadong kalalakihan. (Betchai Julian)

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Troops deployed in Nueva Ecija to contain avian flu

By **Mario J. Mallari**

Troops from the military's Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) were also dispatched in Nueva Ecija to help authorities contain bird flu in farms in San Isidro town.

Lt. Col. Isagani Nato, public information officer of Nolcom, said that the deployment of 137 soldiers in San Isidro town is part of the military's commitment to support efforts to address the outbreak.

Nato said that Nolcom, under the leadership of Lt. Gen. Romeo Tanalgo, has been in constant coordination with other government agencies since the bird flu outbreak was confirmed in Pampanga last week.

"This (deployment of soldiers in Nueva Ecija) is in response to the request of the Bureau of Animal Industry under the Department of Agriculture for assistance after confirming a new incident of bird flu outbreak in the said municipality of Nueva Ecija," Nato said.

"Like the first batch of soldiers sent in Pampanga to augment other concerned government agencies involved in containing the bird flu outbreak, the contingent immediately underwent training on proper procedures from the DA prior to their employment," he added.

Last week, around 300 soldiers, mostly from the Army's 48th Infantry Battalion (IB), were

dispatched to San Luis, Pampanga, to help DA contain the virus in the area.

According to Nato, troops have already culled a total of 27,055 chickens that resulted to the depopulating of all poultry farms within the quarantine zone (1 Km radius) for the first two days of operation as directed by the Department of Agriculture.

Together with the Office of Civil Defense Region 3 and MDRRMO San Luis, Nato said other troops are manning the Incident Command Post on call to assist in the containment of the avian influenza in other affected areas.

As of Saturday, some 40,000 to 70,000 fowls are still subjects to depopulation within the seven-kilometer restricted and controlled areas in Sta. Rita and San Luis, respectively.

Also, flu vaccination and individual health screening facilitated by the Provincial Health Office of Nueva Ecija was conducted in order to determine their conditions, ensure safety and prevent further contamination.

"Inter-agency coordination and collaboration, with the cooperation and support from other stakeholders, are paramount in addressing this concern. Thus, the Northern Luzon Command will remain committed in supporting all efforts toward social and economic stability leading to sustainable national development," Nato said.

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Malaya

The National Newspaper

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Maute death toll now 581

BY VICTOR REYES

THE number of Maute Group members slain in the armed rebellion in Marawi City, which is nearing its third month, continued to rise as government troops continued to clear a small part of the city of the terrorist group.

As of yesterday, 581 Maute men have been killed, with 638 firearms recovered, said Capt. Joann Petinglay, spokeswoman of the military's Western Mindanao Command and Joint Task Force Marawi.

The figure is higher by eight compared to last Friday's count.

The number of slain soldiers and policemen remained at 128 and civilians at 45.

About 50 to 60 Maute members are still left in the city, confined in a small battle area measuring 800 by 600 meters.

Asked when the military will

See MAUTE > Page B6

MAUTE

finally end the conflict that started on May 23, Petinglay said, "We still have more than 400 structures to clear. Look at the structures being cleared and make an estimate how long it will take."

Petinglay said operating troops cleared 26 structures of Maute men and improvised explosive

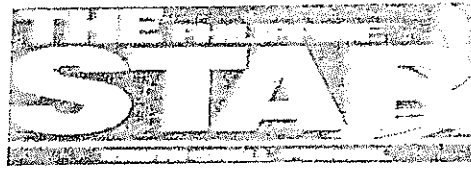
devices (IEDs) last Saturday. On Friday, said 32 buildings were cleared the previous day.

"The clearing depends on the structures... Some of them have been destroyed due to air strikes. They may be cleared of enemy presence but not cleared of IEDs or bombs. That's one of the issues that that we are facing on the ground," said Petinglay.

Petinglay also said soldiers are still facing two major challenges -- the presence of hostages and IEDs.

"If our soldiers will not be careful or (will be) careless in the clearing operation, they may hit the hostages. That's one of the issues that we have to consider... The enemy is holding hostages which they are using as human shields, to the disadvantage of our troops," said Petinglay.

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Dureza admits helping former Marawi mayor as go-between

By **JOSE RODEL CLAPANO**

Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Jesus Dureza admitted yesterday that he helped former Marawi City mayor Omar Solitario secure clearance in a meeting with Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana.

Solitario was among local officials linked to the Maute group that laid siege to Marawi City. His brother, Pre Salic, was also a former mayor and relative by affinity of the Mautes.

Dureza said Solitario had volunteered to help end the fighting in Marawi.

Dureza said he also arranged a meeting with the President in Davao City where Solitario offered help.

"(We) then provided support in his plans of putting back in operation a local radio station that had stopped due to the need to install a new antenna to mobilize listeners how to counter violent extremism. He even published a small book on how to deal with the emergence of violent extremism," Dureza said.

Dureza said he had recommended the issuance of a clearance from the secretary of national defense to allow Solitario to travel, considering the former mayor

was among the personalities to be arrested under martial law in Mindanao.

"I talked with Secretary Lorenzana and I was told that a clearance for him (Solitario) was being issued, including his two sons," he said.

Dureza clarified Solitario's sons were not included in his representations since he had no knowledge of their activities.

Dureza said that during their Cabinet security cluster meeting at Camp Aguinaldo, he was furnished copies of the clearances signed by Lorenzana.

"I emailed the copies to former Iligan mayor Franklin Quijano to pass them on to Omar Solitario. I also later called Solitario that he should directly arrange the planned meeting with Secretary of National Defense as OPAPP does not get involved in AFP operational matters," Dureza said.

Dureza said Solitario had offered to mediate with the Maute group, named after the two brothers leading the terrorists fighting government forces over the control of Marawi City since May 23.

"When (the fighting in) Marawi erupted, he (Solitario) was sending me timely situation updates and offered if he could initiate talks with the Mautes. After

consulting others, I advised him to first refrain from dealing with them as the situation was still fluid consistent with government policy that we cannot undertake peace talks with plain terrorists," Dureza said.

When Solitario's name was included in the arrest orders pursuant to the declaration of martial law, Dureza said he revoked his consultancy arrangement with the OPAPP.

He said Solitario later informed him that he left Marawi City and stayed in a safe sanctuary outside the city but he kept in touch by making suggestions on how to deal with the developing incidents.

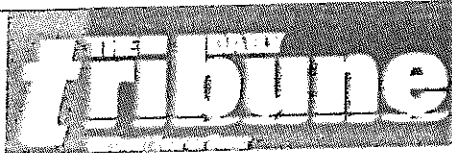
"He was distressed why his name was included in the list. At one time, when the President was in Cagayan de Oro monitoring Marawi, I arranged his phone call with the President," Dureza said.

The President had told Solitario over the phone that he instead should talk to Dureza, he said.

"So I continued handling him. Later on I was informed that there was an arrangement for him to meet with Defense Secretary Lorenzana to discuss how he could help the government," Dureza said.

– With Edith Regalado

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PN to formally receive radar system from US

By Mario J. Mallari

The Philippine Navy (PN) will formally receive tomorrow sophisticated radar system from the United States to further boost its maritime surveillance and reconnaissance capability.

Capt. Lued Lincuna, spokesman of the Navy, said that the Tethered Aerostat Radar System (TARS) will be turned over to the Philippine Navy by US Deputy Embassy Chief of Mission to the Philippine Michael Klescheski.

Navy Flag Officer in Command Vice Admiral Joseph Mercado will receive the radar during ceremonies scheduled Tuesday at the Naval Education and Training Command in San Antonio, Zambales.

The TARS, a self-sustained unmanned lighter-than-air systems, comes as a donation from the US government.

"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," Lincuna said.

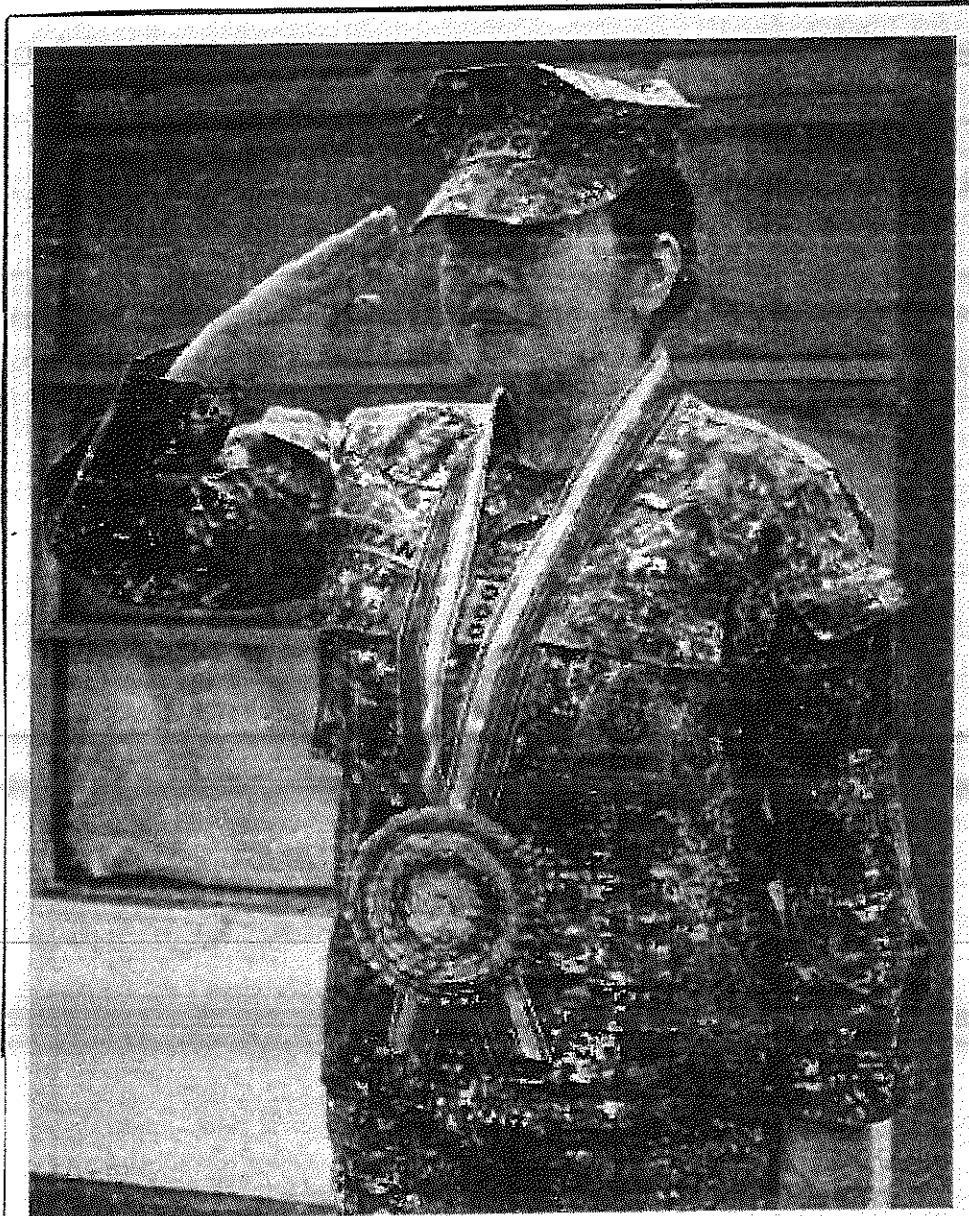
"Moreover, it will also be utilized in the conduct of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response operations," he added.

The TARS also 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.

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CHANGE OF COMMAND Colonel Rodylyn Tingzon-Manzano is the newly installed brigade commander of the 7th Marine Brigade (Reserve). On August 12, Brig. Gen. Arthur Biyo, commander of the Naval Reserve Command of the Philippine Navy, turned over the command of the 7th Marine Brigade to Manzano, who replaced Brig. Gen. Benjamin Espiritu. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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The Manila Times

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PMA holds entrance exam today

THE Philippine Military Academy (PMA) administers its entrance examination for aspiring officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in 40 examination centers nationwide today.

The PMA Entrance Exam (PMAEE) is the first stage in the selection process for cadetship in the country's premier military school.

Cadets enjoy a full government scholarship during their entire stay in the PMA.

Upon earning a bachelor's degree, they will be commissioned as second lieutenants and ensigns in the AFP.

Today's examination will measure applicants' mental ability in Mathematics (Algebra and Geometry), English (Grammar and Reading Comprehension) and Abstract Reasoning (Verbal, Numerical Reasoning and Pattern Analysis).

Pioneering batches of senior high

school students under the K to 12 Basic Education Program who will have graduated before April 2018 are allowed to take the PMAEE.

The academy particularly accepts Grade 12 and even college-level students who graduated from the 4th year High School of the old curriculum.

Qualified applicants must be natural-born Filipino citizens, have a minimum height of 5 feet for both male and female, single and have never been married, physically fit and of good moral character, must have not committed any administrative or criminal case and should have been born between April 1, 1996 and April 1, 2001.

Successful applicants would be officially received in the academy on April 1, 2018 and would be part of PMA Class of 2022.

GLEE JALEA

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MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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Soldiers help contain avian flu outbreak in Nueva Ecija

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

Another contingent of army soldiers have been deployed in Nueva Ecija as part of efforts to contain the avian flu virus that has struck poultries in the province, after Pampanga.

The deployment of 137 personnel from the 7th Infantry Division of the Armed Forces of the Philippines' Northern Luzon Command ▶8

(AFP-NOLCOM) to the municipal hall of San Isidro town, Nueva Ecija happened last Saturday morning.

Their deployment was done in response to the request of the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), under the Department of Agriculture (DA), for assistance after confirming a new incident of bird flu outbreak in the municipality.

Like the first batch of soldiers sent to Pampanga to augment other concerned government agencies involved in containing the bird flu outbreak, the contingent immediately underwent training on proper procedures from the DA prior to their deployment to the actual site of the infected poultry farms.

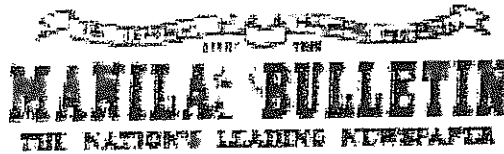
Also, flu vaccination and individual health screening facilitated by the Pro-

vincial Health Office (PHO) of Nueva Ecija was conducted in order to determine their conditions, ensure safety and prevent further contamination.

Meanwhile, the previous augmentations are still in Sta. Rita, San Luis, Pampanga to continue the conduct of culling in the backyard/restricted areas and control zones (7 Km radius), with an estimated number of 40,000 and 70,000 infected fowls that are yet to be depopulated, respectively.

As of yesterday, the troops have already culled a total of 27,055 chickens that resulted to the depopulating of all poultry farms within the quarantine zone (1-kilometer radius) for the first two days of operation as directed by the DA.

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ISAFP chief next 4th ID head

CAMP BANCASI, Butuan City - The chief of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (ISAFP) will take over as commander of the Army's Northeastern and Northern Mindanao 4th Infantry Division (4th ID) on Wednesday.

Maj. Gen. Ronald Villanueva will replace Maj. Gen. Benjamin Madrigal Jr.

Madrigal, a member of Philippine Military Academy Class of 1985, assumed leadership of the Southern Luzon (Solcom) based in Camp Nakar, Lucena City, last Friday, replacing Lt. Gen. Ferdinand Quidilla who is retiring after reaching the mandatory retirement age of 56 on August 30, 2017.

Madrigal served as 4th ID's commander for 17 months and his new assignment as

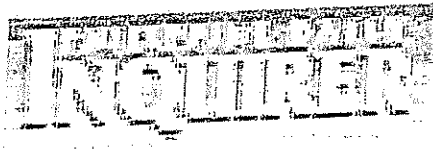
Solcom chief is a promotion, said 4th ID spokesman Capt. Joe Patrick A. Martinez.

Villanueva is Madrigal's batchmate at PMA.

Villanueva is the son of Brig. Gen. Rogelio F. Villanueva who commanded the 4th ID from March 28, 1988 to March 19, 1990.

The father was assigned as brigade commander in Agusan provinces before his promotion as the 4th ID chief. (Mike U. Crismundo)

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FRONT IN TERROR WAR PITS MILF MEN VS EX-COMRADES

SULTANKUDARAT, MAGUINDANAO—Another front in the war on terror has drawn Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) into gun battles with former members who, MILF leaders said, could become the next extremists unless their demand for an independent Islamic state was answered by the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL), which would expand Moro autonomous powers and territory.

Days had passed since clashes broke out between MILF and a faction of Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) that had pledged allegiance to Islamic State (IS). At least 25 people, five of them MILF fighters, had already been killed.

Led by the late Ameril Umbra Kato, BIFF broke away from MILF over peace talks with the government.

After Kato died, a faction of BIFF pledged allegiance to IS.

MILF chair Murad Ebrahim said the incursion into MILF ter-

ritory by the Abu Turaifi faction of BIFF, which had sworn fealty to IS, prompted MILF military action against BIFF.

"What ignited the recent events in Maguindanao was the entry of IS-inspired groups in MILF identified areas," Murad said in an interview in Camp Darapanan on Saturday.

No choice

He said the MILF was left with no option but to use force.

"It was necessary. We had to ensure it as part of our agreement with the government not to allow criminal and terrorist elements in our area," Murad said.

Sources said the BIFF faction had been recruiting fighters in MILF camps.

Murad said MILF operations against BIFF were just "clearing operations" now but "it is still ongoing."

He said signs of radicalism taking root were the operation in 2015 to capture international

terrorist Marwan that led to the deaths of 44 elite policemen and the ongoing war in Marawi City.

"One major solution to this is to get in place a political solution to the Bangsamoro question and problem," Murad said.

The proposed BBL, he said, offers a political solution as it would form a Bangsamoro government to answer the call for self-determination of the Moro people.

"That is why we look forward to the passage of the BBL," Murad said.

The BBL was endorsed by the Office of the President to the Senate and House of Representatives last week.

"We were expecting that it will be certified as an urgent bill," Murad said.

Duterte's promise

MILF, Murad said, remained optimistic that the BBL would be legislated before the end of year as it was personally

promised by President Duterte several times.

"We are holding on to the words of the President that this bill will be passed," Murad said.

Nabil Tan, acting chair for the government implementing panel, said the BBL was a priority of the government.

Tan added that it would be certified as urgent at the "proper time" and that the President's endorsement left "untouched" the draft BBL.

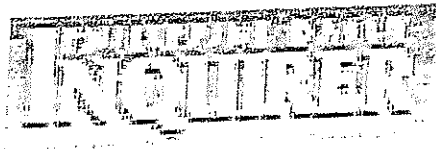
The Duterte administration, Tan said, respects and believes in the independence of Congress in the legislative process.

"It may be passed by December," Tan said.

The BBL would pave the way for the creation of a new Bangsamoro government that would give primacy on respecting the rights of the Bangsamoro people.

It was also expected to end decades of bloodshed in conflict-torn areas in Mindanao. —KARLOS MANLUPIG INQ

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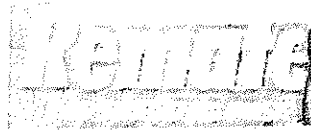
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FIGHTING IS INCURSION



Members of Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) secure an area in Camp Darapanan, which is the group's main headquarters, in Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao, on Saturday. The MILF recently launched an operation against an Islamic State-inspired group. —KARLOS MANLUPIG

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Pahina. 5

KATAPUSAN NG ISIS/MAUTE, LITAW NA LITAW NA

SINABI ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) ng ilang linggo na lamang ay posibleng matapos na nila ang pakikipaglaban sa mga miyembro ng ISIS/Maute Group na naghahasik ng kaguluhan sa Marawi.

Sa naging panayam ng mga mamamahayag sa AFP, sinabi ng mga ito na kaunti na lamang ang natitira sa mga Maute Group at hindi na rin masyadong makagalaw ang mga ito dahil sa patuloy na opensiba ng militar.

Posible rin daw na nauubusan na ng suplay na pagkain at bala ang mga kalaban kaya't nahihirapan na ang mga ito sa pakikipaglaban at ginagamit na lamang ng mga ito bilang "human shield" ang kanilang mga bihag na sibilyan.

Marami na rin sa mga residente ang gusto nang mag-sibalik sa kanilang mga bahay ngunit hindi pa rin ito pinapayagan ng mga militar dahil posibleng may mga pampasabog na iniwan ang mga miyembro ng Maute Group.

Gusto kasi ng militar na bago pabalikin ang mga apektadong residente ay malinis na malinis na ang kanilang babalikan nang sa gayon ay wala sa kanila ang posibleng masaktan dahil sa mga tinanim na pampasabog ng mga kalaban.

Sabik na sabik na kasi ang mga residenteng naapektuhan ng labanan na mabalikan ang kanilang mga naiwang bahay at ari-arian ngunit hanggang hindi pa tuluyang nauubos ang mga miyembro ng Maute



ALINGAWNGAW

ni ALVIN FELICIANO

Group ay hindi sila papayagan ng militar para na rin sa kanilang kaligtasan.

Nakahanda na rin ang iba't ibang ahensiya ng gobyerno na inatasan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na magsasaayos sa mga nasira sa kaguluhan.

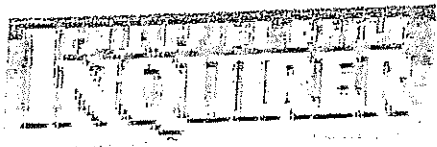
Bukod sa muling pagsasaayos ng kanilang mga bahay at iba pang infrastruktura na nasira sa labanan ay nakahanda na rin ang gobyerno na maibalik sa dati ang takbo ng buhay ng mga apektadong residente.

Kabilang na dito ang pagbibigay sa mga residente par-

tikular na sa mga kabataan ng psychosocial upang matanggal ang takot sa kanilang pag-iisip bukod pa sa pagbibigay ng skills training ng Technical Education and Skills Development Authority na kanilang magagamit sa paghahanap-buhay.

Makaaasa ang ating mga kababayan na naapektuhan ng kaguluhan na ibalik ni Pangulong Duterte ang katahimikan at kaayusan sa kanilang lugar at hindi na ito magtatagal dahil na rin sa pagsusumikap ng tropa ng gobyerno na matapos na ang digmaan sa Marawi City.

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WHAT COMMUNIST REBELS FEAR MOST

The CPP/NPA/NDF is at it again, spinning unbelievable yarns designed to drive a division among the US government, President Duterte and the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The communist extortionists claim, without naming any sources, that there is an alleged collaboration of the Central Intelligence Agency and the military to kill communist leader Jose Ma. Sison and subsequently overthrow President Duterte.

I think nobody in his right mind would believe the NDF's fantastic tale, as the majority of Filipinos have been fed up with the deception and lies being spread by these communist extortionists to achieve their evil objectives.

At current conditions, with President Duterte still enjoying a trust rating of more than 80 percent and has achieved the support of the rank and file military officers, it would be foolhardy for the CIA even to tinker with the idea of collaborating with the AFP to kill Sison and eventually oust

Mr. Duterte. Sison is old, sick and reportedly dying. There is no need to assassinate him.

The US and Australian governments have offered the AFP spy planes to conduct surveillance for the local troops engaged in battle against the Abu Sayyaf-Maute group in Marawi City.

The CPP/NPA/NDF fears that those spy planes from the United States and Australia can also be borrowed and used by the AFP to track down movements and put an end to the insurgency being waged by the communists.

President Duterte has scrapped the peace talks with the Left and vowed to focus his attention on them once the Marawi siege is over.

And that is what leftist guerrillas fear most. The President may ask for the United States and Australia's assistance for use of spy planes to track and pin them down, in all areas where they operate.

DANA DEL ROSARIO,
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ONLINE NEWS

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SAFETY TRAINING | PN holds Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Determining Control

Posted by Alvin Santiago

BONIFACIO NAVAL STATION, Fort Bonifacio, Metro Manila (DWDD) – The Naval Safety Office (NSO) facilitated the Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Determining Control (HIRADC) seminar-workshop attended by around 50 participants coming from different Philippine Navy (PN) units on Aug. 9 to 11 at Bonifacio Naval Station (BNS), Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

Two former NSO directors, Capt. Restituto Q. Bilbao, Jr., currently the Commander of BNS; and retired Navy Captain Mario C. Royena, shared their learning experience to the safety officers of different PN units who attended the first day of the activity. Relevant Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) such as the PN Grounding and Other Unusual Incidents Review Board, HIRADC, and Motorcycle Safety Driving were discussed. Also, scenario-based exercises on safety management were undertaken to determine their level of proficiency.

On the succeeding days of the seminar-workshop, PN officers and enlisted personnel who are yet to undergo training on HIRADC were accommodated. They underwent thorough exercise in the identification of different potential hazards in work area, the process of HIRADC, and risk assessment and control that will help eliminate, minimize or mitigate accidents in the workplace. Also, institutions accredited by the Department of Labor and Employment facilitated lectures and group discussions.

The activity culminated in a simple ceremony with the Chief of Naval Staff as keynote speaker represented by the Assistant Chief of Naval Staff for Operations, N3, Capt. Roy Vincent T. Trinidad. He delivered an inspirational message to the participants on the importance and relevance of safety to all PN personnel, properties, and workplaces. **NPAO / MCAG**

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ADVANCEMENT OF IHL | PN takes part in the Humanitarian Law commemoration

By Alvin Santiago

NAVAL STATION JOSE ANDRADA, Roxas Blvd, Manila (DWDD) – As part of the Armed Forces of the Philippines's commitment and adherence to International Humanitarian Law (IHL), the Philippine Navy (PN), through the PN Human Rights Office (PNHRO), actively took part in the series of activities in line with the commemoration of the 2017 IHL Month celebration with the theme: "The Advancement of IHL is the Shared Responsibility of All, Pagsulong ng International Humanitarian Law, Pananagutan ng Lahat".

On August 7, the Acting Chief, PNHRO, Capt. Primitivo S. Decio Jr, led the recitation of the AFP Soldiers pledge of reaffirmation of commitment and support to IHL during the Flag Raising Ceremony at Headquarters Philippine Navy.

On the same day, the PNHRO attended the International Humanitarian Law Seminar-Workshop and Symposium on Internally Displaced Persons hosted by the Department of Education (DepEd) at the Department of Education Central Office, Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Meralco Ave., Pasig-City.

PN personnel from different units also joined the Run For Humanity on August 12 at Liwasang Ullalim in CCP Complex hosted by the Philippine Red Cross (PRC), Pasay City Chapter. This yearly fun run was also participated by different government organizations, stakeholders, and IHL Ad hoc committee members.

Lastly, PNHRO attended a Flag Raising Ceremony at the Department of Foreign Affairs, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City on August 14. It was followed by a ribbon cutting ceremony for the photo exhibit and showing of IHL video clips entitled "Rules of War" and "Emblems". The symbolic Flag of IHL known as the "IHL Flag" was also raised. Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano, National Defense Secretary Delfin N Lorenzana, and PRC Chairman Sen. Richard Gordon were among the prominent personalities present during the said activity. **NPAO / MCAG**

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

www.pna.gov.ph

Retired military doc named new VMMC chief

Priam Nepomuceno

Retired Brig. Gen. Mariano A. Mejia, former head of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Medical Center, was appointed as Chief of Medical Staff of the Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC) in Quezon City.

In a statement released on Thursday, the Department of National Defense said Mejia's oath-taking ceremony was presided by Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana last August 15.

Prior to his appointment, Mejia also served as AFP Surgeon General, Army Chief Surgeon and commander of various military hospitals and facilities such as the Fort Bonifacio General Hospital, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo Hospital, among others.

His numerous accomplishments, awards and decorations in the AFP was capped with his hosting of the 6th ASEAN Chiefs of Military Medicine Conference at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel, Mandaluyong City in July 2016.

With the theme "Global Climate Change: Challenges to the ASEAN military medicine," the successful conference was attended by delegates from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar and Singapore. **(PNA)**

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