

*Army Vision: By 2029, 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

29 August 2017

Tuesday

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

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

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

You Tube

**PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER**  
BALANCED NEWS + FEARLESS VIEWS

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**TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | AUGUST 23, 2017 | TUESDAY**

**INTER-TROPICAL CONVERGENCE ZONE AFFECTING SOUTHERN LUZON AND VISAYAS LOW PRESSURE AREA ESTIMATED AT 1,180 KM EAST NORTHEAST OF BORONGAN CITY, EASTERN SAMAR (At 4:00 PM - August 28, 2017)**

**LAOAG CITY** 24 - 32 °C  
**TUGUEGARAO CITY** 25 - 32 °C  
**BAGUIO CITY** 16 - 23 °C  
**SBMA/CLARK** 24 - 32 °C  
**METRO MANILA** 24 - 33 °C  
**TAGAYTAY CITY** 22 - 29 °C  
**LEGAZPI CITY** 26 - 31 °C  
**ILOILO/BACDLOD CITY** 26 - 31 °C  
**TACLOBAN CITY** 25 - 30 °C  
**PUERTO PRINCESA** 25 - 31 °C  
**METRO CEBU** 26 - 31 °C  
**CAGAYAN DE ORO** 24 - 32 °C  
**ZAMBOANGA CITY** 24 - 32 °C  
**METRO DAVAO** 24 - 33 °C

**SUNRISE** 5:44 AM  
**SUNSET** 6:10 PM  
**MOONRISE** 11:56 AM  
**MOONSET** 11:42 PM

**FIRST QUARTER** AUG 23 4:13 PM  
**FULL MOON** SEP 6 3:03 PM

**LOW TIDE** 10:21 AM  
**HIGH TIDE** 2:43 AM  
0.36 Meter      0.69 Meter

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

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	AUG 21	AUG 22	AUG 23	AUG 24	AUG 25
<b>METRO MANILA</b>	26 - 32 °C	25 - 31 °C	23 - 29 °C	22 - 28 °C	25 - 30 °C
<b>TUGUEGARAO</b>	24 - 32 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 30 °C	24 - 32 °C
<b>LAOAG</b>	24 - 32 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 32 °C	25 - 30 °C	24 - 33 °C
<b>BAGUIO</b>	15 - 23 °C	16 - 21 °C	26 - 31 °C	26 - 30 °C	24 - 32 °C
<b>SBMA/CLARK</b>	25 - 31 °C	25 - 30 °C	25 - 32 °C	26 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C
<b>TAGAYTAY</b>	23 - 29 °C	22 - 28 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 30 °C	24 - 32 °C
<b>LEGAZPI</b>	25 - 31 °C	25 - 30 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 30 °C	24 - 32 °C
<b>PUERTO PRINCESA</b>	25 - 32 °C	25 - 30 °C	25 - 32 °C	25 - 30 °C	24 - 33 °C
<b>ILOILO/BACDLOD</b>	26 - 31 °C	26 - 30 °C	26 - 31 °C	26 - 30 °C	24 - 32 °C
<b>METRO CEBU</b>	25 - 32 °C	26 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	26 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C
<b>TACLOBAN</b>	25 - 30 °C	25 - 31 °C	25 - 30 °C	25 - 30 °C	24 - 32 °C
<b>CAGAYAN DE ORO</b>	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C
<b>METRO DAVAO</b>	24 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C
<b>ZAMBOANGA</b>	24 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C

**DZRHNEWS TELEVISION**

MONDAY - FRIDAY  
11 AM & 5 PM

**PILIPINAS HD**

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

**AIR 21**

SAGOT KO, PADALA MO!

29 August 2017



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# ESPENIDO'S DEPLOYMENT TO ILOILO STUMPS MAYOR

STORY BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA AND CHRISTINE C. AVENDAÑO

President Duterte has assigned the controversial police inspector to Iloilo City headed by Jed Patrick Mabilog, who is on the Chief Executive's list of alleged narcopoliticians.

## FROM A1

By Philip C. Tubeza and Christine O. Avendaño @Team\_Inquirer

"Will he live?" President Duterte asked, referring to Iloilo City Mayor Jed Patrick Mabilog, whom he had linked to the narcotics trade, after announcing on Monday that he was assigning controversial Chief Insp. Jovie Espenido as police chief of the city.

Espenido had served as police chief of Albueria, Leyte province, and is chief of police of Ozamiz City, Misamis Occidental province, where the mayors, whom Mr. Duterte had linked to drugs, were killed by police in alleged shootouts.

Is Mabilog next? The Iloilo mayor said he was puzzled, but he nonetheless welcomed Espenido's assignment to his city. (See related story on this page.)

### 'Will he live?'

Mr. Duterte called Espenido to the front and told him to stay there.

"I will ask you again. You asked for the assignment in Leyte. The mayor there died," Mr. Duterte said, breaking off midway through a prepared speech during National Heroes' Day celebration at Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig City where Espenido and 129 soldiers killed in the battle for Marawi City were honored.

"You asked for another assignment in Ozamiz. The mayor there also died ... the mayor there was (Reynaldo) Parojinog," he said.

"Now, you want Iloilo because Mabilog has been identified as a protector. Will he live?" Mr. Duterte said.

"I just want to ask because I will again be accused. You shoot and I'm the one published," he added.

Espenido did not reply, but later he told reporters that his assignment to Iloilo was "God's will."

"You know that my superior's orders, especially the President's, are God's will. We will do our best," he said.

Espenido urged Mabilog to

cooperate in the Duterte administration's campaign against illegal drugs.

### Marching orders

Asked about his orders to Espenido, Mr. Duterte said: "Your duty requires you to overcome the resistance of the person you are arresting ... [If] he resists, and it is a violent one ... I hate to see dead policemen and soldiers performing their duty. Do you hear me? Your next assignment is Iloilo."

Mr. Duterte said "murder and homicide and unlawful killings" were not allowed and that police had to uphold the rule of law while carrying out their duties.

Mr. Duterte unleashed the war on drugs after taking office in June last year following an election campaign in which he vowed to use deadly force to wipe out crime and drugs.

Thousands of people have been killed and the violence has been criticized by much of the international community.

Mabilog was one of the officials named by Mr. Duterte last

year as among public officials involved in the narcotics trade.

No charges, however, had been filed by the police against the mayor.

Mabilog has since been aggressively implementing programs and activities against illegal drugs in his city.

#### Worried senator

But Espenido's assignment to Iloilo has given Senate Minority Leader Franklin Drilon a "cause of concern."

In a text message, Drilon acknowledged that it was President Duterte's prerogative to post Espenido in Iloilo.

"And the peace-loving, cultured and law-abiding Ilonggos welcome (Espenido) to Iloilo City," said Drilon, who hails from Iloilo.

"Having said that, the assignment to Iloilo City of Espenido is a cause of concern," the senator said, referring to the police official's controversial track record.

Drilon, however, expressed hope that Espenido would heed Mr. Duterte's order to "follow the rules of engagement" in

confronting the drug problem in Iloilo City.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson said he believed Espenido "knows what to do."

"While there's a lot of double-speak in the President's marching order, ultimately, it is on Espenido's account and responsibility to uphold the rule of law and follow the rules of engagement in his new place of assignment," Lacson said in a text message.

He said he knew Espenido, who worked with him in the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force 17 years ago.

"I know him as a focused, diligent and upright noncommissioned officer," Lacson said. "I am banking on that and more to say what I just said about the man." —WITH REPORTS FROM

NESTOR CORRALES AND REUTERS INQ



WATCH: Duterte assigns Espenido to Iloilo City—Visayas' 'drug bedrock'

<http://inq.news/EspenidoTransferred>

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# 'Unlawful killings not allowed'

*Rody tells cops: Kill only when faced with resistance*

By ALEXIS ROMERO

President Duterte yesterday reminded the police to follow the rules of engagement in operations, stressing that they are not allowed to carry out any unlawful killing.

"Murder and homicide or whatever unlawful killing is not allowed," he said in a speech during the National Heroes Day commemoration at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig City.

The President stressed there would be no cover-up in the case of Grade 11 student Kian delos Santos who, along with several others, was killed during a police operation in Caloocan City last Aug. 16.

*"Wala akong plano na magkapote ng abuse. Hindi trabaho ng Presidente yan* (I do not in-

tend to cover up abuses. That's not the job of a President)," he said.

Kian's death has drawn widespread public criticism on the government's campaign against illegal drugs.

He said the campaign would continue as he advised policemen to kill only in an act of self-defense and when overcoming resistance.

"Whenever their (police) life is in danger and they are in the actual performance of duty, your duty requires you

Turn to Page 4



President Duterte flashes the clenched fist sign with Saldy and Lorenza delos Santos, parents of Kian, during a meeting at Malacañang yesterday. Story on Page 4.

## Unlawful From Page 1

to overcome the resistance of the person you are arresting. If there is violence, then you have to overcome that violence to bring him to the folds of the law, and you can put him under your custody," the President said.

He added that it is not enough for policemen to call out suspects to surrender "because if he (suspect) does not and he resists violently" it may put the lives of law enforcers in jeopardy.

"If you do the country a favor, I will support you... Just follow the rules of engagement, the requirements of the performance of duty, which you have learned in your (training)," Duterte said.

Witnesses said Kian was executed by the policemen

who accused him of being a drug runner. They claimed the teenager was given a gun and ordered to fire it and run.

The policemen, in denying allegations that they executed Kian, claimed that the boy fired at them.

One CCTV footage showed an image of two policemen in plainclothes holding Kian and bringing him to where he was killed – a dimly lit portion of the community.

Autopsy results revealed that Delos Santos was shot on the head while he was already kneeling on the ground and turning away from the police.

His parents, Saldy and Lorenza, filed a complaint for murder against Caloocan City police station 7 head Chief Insp. Amor

Cerillo, PO3 Arnel Oares, PO1 Jerwin Cruz and PO1 Jeremias Pereda last Friday.

Oares, Cruz and Pereda were also charged for violating the anti-torture law.

In numerous speeches, Duterte underscored the importance of shielding the children of overseas Filipino workers from the harm that may be brought by drug use or caused by drug abusers.

Lorenza worked as an OFW in Saudi Arabia to provide for Kian's education.

Meanwhile, Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II dismissed what he said were futile calls for him to inhibit in cases involving the slain teenager.

He said leaders of the militant group Akbayan were "misinformed and ignorant of procedures" when they called for his inhibition in the preliminary

investigation on the murder and torture charges filed by Kian's parents against the four police officers.

"I will not even touch that case. I have not myself resolved even a single case in the DOJ since I assumed office," Aguirre stressed in a text message.

He explained that a preliminary investigation is conducted by prosecutors and a justice secretary has no hand in it unless its resolution is appealed or petitioned for review.

"Even on appeal, I will not handle the case. The cases on appeal are assigned to my five undersecretaries. They will not be brought to me for filing in court or dismissal," Aguirre said.

The DOJ chief also denied that he has prejudged Kian's case, stressing that he is "only biased in favor of the truth and

of justice."

He said he already condemned the killing of Kian and gave assurance that "the ones responsible for this dastardly act will be punished to the full extent of the law." Akbayan echoed the call earlier made by Sen. Risa Hontiveros, their former party-list representative in the House, for Aguirre to inhibit from the case.

"Secretary Aguirre has consistently downplayed the death of Kian as an isolated event. The secretary, who denies the existence of extrajudicial killings in the country, said that the case of Kian was blown out of proportions. Because of these reasons, among many others, Secretary Aguirre must inhibit from the case of Kian to prevent any form of whitewashing," Akbayan

Youth said in a statement yesterday. In Nueva Ecija, the Catholic diocese is joining the Archdiocese of Lingayen-Dagupan in ringing church bells to pray for an end to the killings.

In a statement, Father Richard Lagos noted the growing chaos, confusion and division about various issues especially on drugs, widespread extrajudicial killings and other crimes.

If there are two faces that the Church now has, these are the faces of Kian delos Santos and all other victims of injustice: kneeling down and begging, kneeling down and suffering, the statement read.

Lagos also urged the faithful to pray for those killed in the government's war and their families. – **With Edu Punay, Eva Visperas, Cecille Suerte Felipe**



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## Cops in slay of Marawi soldier relieved

Philippine National Police chief Director General Ronald dela Rosa has ordered the relief of two policemen who shot dead a soldier who fought in Marawi as he arrived in Zamboanga del Sur last week to visit his family.

Dela Rosa said the relief of Police Officer 2 Ronald Zeros and PO1 Michael Bullanday would pave the way for an impartial investigation into the killing of Pfc. Rodilo Bartolome of the Army's 53rd Infantry Battalion.

The policemen were placed under camp restriction in Pagadian City.

"It's not a punishment but part of due process," Dela Rosa said.

Zeros and Bullanday said they were responding to the reported presence of an armed man in Barangay Monte Alegre, Aurora at around 3:45 p.m. when they saw

Bartolome. The policemen claimed Bartolome drew his gun, but witnesses said the victim only took out his wallet to show his identification card.

Contrary to a police report that Bartolome was acting strangely, the military said the soldier was given an overnight pass to visit his family after he underwent debriefing and tested negative for crisis stress.

Chief Superintendent Billy Beltran, Zamboanga peninsula police director, appealed to the public to avoid speculating on the incident.

"The regional leadership of the police and military is asking its personnel to remain calm. The Criminal Investigation and Detection Group assured us of an impartial investigation," Beltran said.

– Cecille Suerte Felipe, Roel Pareño

29 August 2017

MANILA BULLETIN  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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• **Army soldier arrested in drug buy-bust**

BUTUAN CITY – An Army soldier and his alleged companion were arrested during a buy-bust operation conducted by the elements of the Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) of Butuan City Police Office (BCPO) at Purok 9, Barangay Ong Yiu, Butuan City Sunday night. Initial report received by Chief Supt. Rolando B. Felix, regional director of Northeastern Mindanao Police Regional Office 13 (PRO13) from BCPO city director Senior Supt. Percival Augustus P. Placer said that suspects Private First Class Joy Casitares, 44, of the Army's 4th Infantry (Diamond) Division and Sherlyn L. Cubillas, 22, were arrested during buy-bust operation conducted by the DEU elements of BCPO Station 2 at 9:40 p.m. on Aug. 25, 2017. Seized from the alleged possession of the suspects were suspected shabu worth P11,800, marked money 500 peso bill, one 45 caliber pistol with seven live bullets and one single Suzuki Rider motorcycle. The suspects were newly identified drug personalities categorized as pusher/user. (Mike L. Crismundo)

29 August 2017

The Manila Times

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# 2 NPA rebels killed in Isabela encounter

BY DEMPSEY REYES

**T**WO members of the New People's Army (NPA) were killed in an encounter with troopers of the Philippine Army's 86th Infantry Battalion (86IB) on Monday morning in San Mariano, Isabela.

Prior to the encounter, information through text messages was received by the 86IB that armed men are reportedly "extorting" food and money from residents in remote Sitio Lumalog of Barangay Cadsalan.

When the troops responded to check the area, they were fired upon by at least 15 suspected NPA rebels triggering a firefight at 4:30 a.m. which lasted for about five minutes.

The retreating communist rebels left behind their slain comrades, including a shotgun and a caliber 22 rifle as well as the spent shell of a gun.

The military is still determin-

ing the identities of the slain rebels with the assistance of village officials and the Philippine National Police.

Meanwhile, the 86IB said that on May 7 this year, suspected members of the NPA fired at a detachment camp in Barangay Tappa also in San Mariano, Isabela and attacked a detachment of militia men in Maddela, Quirino province.

2A August 2017

MANILA BULLETIN  
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# 2 NPA rebels die in Isabela

By **FREDDIE G. LAZARO**

**C**AMP DELA CRUZ, Isabela — Two suspected members of the New People's Army (NPA) were killed after engaging army soldiers in a pre-dawn gunbattle in the remote area of Sitio Lumalog, Barangay Cadsalan, San Mariano, this province yesterday.

Lieutenant Colonel Jose Vladimir R. Cagara, the commander of the army's 86th Infantry Battalion (86th IB), confirmed that the encounter happened at about 4:30 a.m. of National Heroes Day

He said elements of the Alpha Company of his unit were conducting security patrol in the area upon receiving reports from civilians about the presence of fully-armed men on extortion activities in the area.

The soldiers responded immediately but upon reaching the area, the suspected rebels fired at them, prompting them to return fire. As a result, two suspected rebels died on the spot while the others escaped from the encounter site.

When the smoke cleared and the gunmen already retreated, soldiers collected from the encounter site a

shotgun, a caliber .22 rifle and assorted ammunition.

Cagara said the identification of the slain rebels is under process, while a hot pursuit operation against the fleeing rebels was underway.

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## Philanthropist donates P68-M to fallen Army soldiers

By Priam Nepomuceno August 28, 2017, 12:13 pm

MANILA -- In line with the country's observance of National Heroes Day, the Philippine Army (PA) on Sunday handed over PHP68 million in checks to the families and loved ones of 68 troopers who died in the ongoing efforts to liberate Marawi City from the clutches of Maute Group.

The turnover ceremony took place at Ricarte Hall, PA Officers Club, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, Army spokesperson Lt. Col. Enrico Gil Iletto said.

Families and loved ones of the fallen troops were given PHP1 million check each.

The money was initially donated by an anonymous donor to the Armed Forces of the Philippines who then forwarded it to the PA, Iletto added.

The number of beneficiaries of this unnamed philanthropist has now climbed to 76.

Family members of the remaining Army fatalities will be given the same assistance once their documents and other requirements are processed.

"The Philippine Army is grateful for the support extended to the families of our fallen soldiers. This will surely serve as an inspiration to our troops still fighting in Marawi City," Iletto added.

As of this posting, a total of 130 troops, from the various armed services, have been reported killed in the ongoing Marawi crisis. *(PNA)*

[www.pna.gov.ph](http://www.pna.gov.ph)

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## 129 cops, soldiers slain in Marawi conflict get medals

By ALEXIS ROMERO

President Duterte yesterday awarded the Order of Lapu-Lapu medals to 129 soldiers and policemen killed in the ongoing battle in Marawi City and to Police Chief Insp. Jovie Espenido, who oversaw the raid in Ozamiz City that resulted in the deaths of members of the Parojinog clan.

The President conferred the Order of Lapu-Lapu on the Marawi casualties and to Espenido during the celebration of National Heroes Day at Fort Bonifacio.

The Order of Lapu-Lapu was created through Executive Order No. 17 issued last April. The order is given to government officials and private individuals who rendered "invaluable service in relation to a campaign or advocacy of the President."

Duterte said the awardees "rendered extraordinary service" to the country and contributed to efforts against crime, illegal drugs and terrorism.

"In the face of the difficulties we are facing as a nation, I am confident that we can overcome the challenges and emerge triumphant for the simple reason that it is through tough times that heroes like you are made," the President said.

"To the awardees fortunate enough to be here with us today, your contributions to our efforts to build a better life for our people have earned you the right to be called heroes. Treat it not as an honor but a responsibility and always live your lives in a manner befitting the title," he added.

The 129 soldiers and policemen died in separate clashes with Islamic State-inspired

Maute terrorists in Marawi City. The militants laid siege to the city last May 23, prompting Duterte to place the entire island of Mindanao under martial law.

Espenido oversaw the police raid at the compound of the Parojinog clan last July that resulted in the death of Ozamiz City mayor Reynaldo Parojinog, his wife Susan, his brother board member Octavio Parojinog Jr., sister Mona and 11 others.

Espenido was also the police chief of Albura, Leyte when its mayor, Rolando Espinosa Sr., was killed in an alleged shootout inside a jail facility in Baybay City.

But a witness said that no shootout transpired and Espinosa was executed inside his prison cell.

Meanwhile, former military ordinarate and archbishop

Ramon Arguelles believes that now is the time for law enforcers to put more value on human life.

"I am in favor of giving the police intense spiritual formation on the divine commandments and respect for human right to life," said Arguelles, a retired archbishop of Lipa, Batangas.

"If they have an evil heart, they will do evil no matter what you place in their body. The police and all government service people must work for the good of all, even the misguided," he added.

He reminded law enforcers that violence would not be solved by committing more violence.

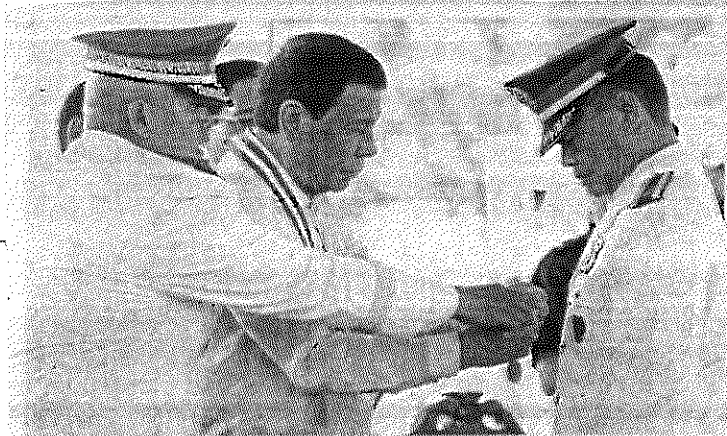
"Crime never solves crimes. Violence generates only more violence," he said. — **With Evelyn Macairan**

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INQUIRER

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# DUTERTE GIVES LAPU-LAPU AWARD TO 129 MARAWI FALLEN SOLDIERS



**LIBINGAN RITES**— President Duterte presents the Order of Lapu-Lapu Magalong Medal to Chief Insp. Jovie Espenido, Ozamiz city police chief, during recognition ceremonies at Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig City. —MALACAÑANG PHOTO

**By Nestor Corrales**  
@NCorralesINQ

President Duterte on Monday awarded the Order of Lapu-Lapu to Chief Insp. Jovie Espenido during the National Heroes' Day celebration at Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig City.

Espenido received the Magalong Medal, which is conferred on officials and employees of the government and private citizens who have rendered "extraordinary service or have made exceptional contributions to the success of an activity pursuant to a campaign or advocacy of the President."

Espenido led the raids on the houses of the Parojinog clan in Ozamiz in July that led to the death of the city's mayor, Reynaldo Parojinog Sr., and 14 others.

He was the police commander of Albuera, Leyte province, when Mayor Rolando Espinosa Sr. was killed in a warrant raid on a cell in the sub-provincial jail in Baybay City where the local official was held on drug charges on Nov. 5 last year.

Espenido was earlier given a special award during the Philippine National Police anniversary celebration for his contri-

buton to Mr. Duterte's war on drugs.

Mr. Duterte also awarded the Kalasag Medal under the Order of Lapu-Lapu to 129 government troops who were killed in action in the battle for Marawi City.

The Kalasag Medal is awarded to those who "lost their lives" as a direct result of their participation in the President's campaign or advocacy.

Mr. Duterte created the Order of Lapu-Lapu in April through Executive Order No. 17 and expanded its coverage through Executive Order No. 35 that he signed on Aug. 3. INQ

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August 2017

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

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# Duterte confers Order of Lapu Lapu on 129 fallen troops in Marawi

By ARGYLL CYRUS E. GEDUCOS

President Duterte posthumously conferred on Monday the Order of Lapu Lapu Medal of Kalasag to the 129 soldiers and police who were killed in action fighting the terrorists in Marawi

City, Lanao del Sur.

The medals were given during the celebration of National Heroes' Day, themed "Taong Bayan: Ang Bagong Bayani ng Bayan," at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig City Monday morning. ▶2

## Duterte confers Order...

◀1

Joining Duterte in handing out the medals to the families of the slain government troops, aged 21 to 33, were Philippine National Police (PNP) Chief Director General Ronald dela Rosa, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief-of-staff Eduardo Año, and Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana.

The Medal of Kalasag is awarded to those who lost their lives while rendering extraordinary or exceptional contributions to Duterte's campaign or advocacy.

In his speech, Duterte said he envies the fallen Marawi troops as they "went out of this planet blazing and leaving a legacy

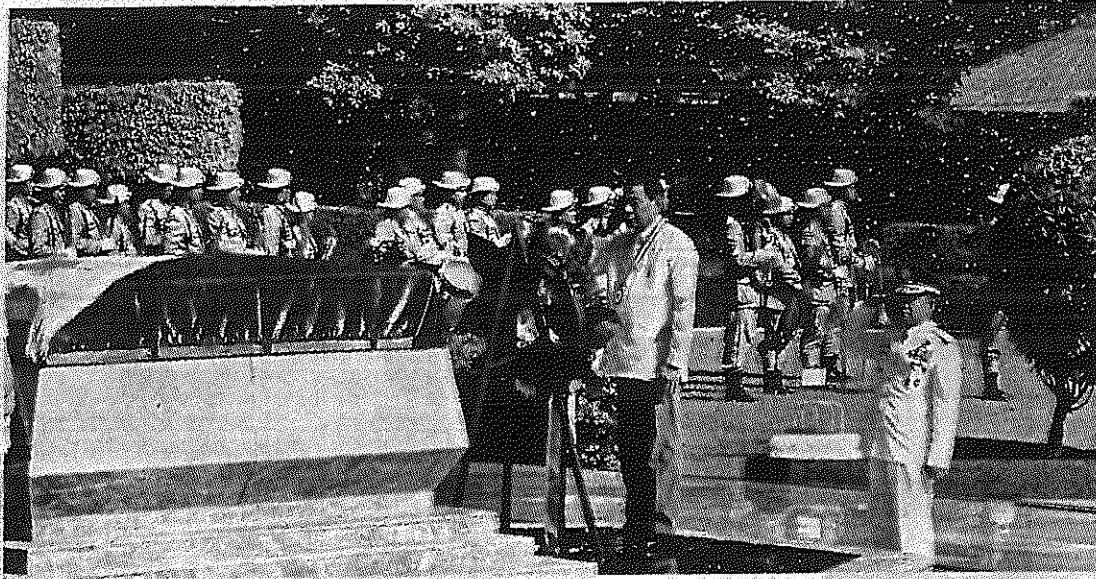
of the term 'bravery.'"

"Today, we confer the Order of Lapu-Lapu [on] individuals who rendered extraordinary service to our country. Of utmost significance are the fallen heroes of Marawi, of Jolo, Sulu and in other places in the country fighting terrorism and subversion of the New People's Army and the ISIS-Maute terror groups in Lanao," he said.

"I cannot thank them enough for their valuable service to our nation, and we shall forever be in [their] debt," he added.

The war in Marawi which started on May 23, 2017, prompted Duterte to declare





**FALLEN HEROES**  
– President Rodrigo Duterte pays tribute to the fallen soldiers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers in Libingan ng mga Bayani in Tagulig City on Monday during the commemoration of National Heroes' Day. (Jay Ganzon).

martial law in the entire Mindanao for 60 days. The declaration lapsed on July 22 and Congress granted its extension until December 31, 2017.

#### **Nameless heroes**

Meanwhile, Duterte said that the National Heroes' Day is not only for the likes of Jose Rizal or Andres Bonifacio, but also for those nameless individuals who died for the country.

"So every Filipino who actually done something for our country, must be recognized, living or dead. Every year, we come together every last Monday of August to celebrate the bravery of all Filipino heroes, named or unnamed," he said.

"In these trying times, when our people are in need of heroes to look up to, we pay tribute to those whose heroism made our nation what [it is] today,"

he added.

Duterte said that the country should also honor the nameless heroes whose exploits "are never published in history books [or] whose death anniversaries are not celebrated as public holidays."

"We thank them still for their deeds and remember their exploits forever," he said.

#### **Emulate patriotism**

Duterte also urged to participate in the government's efforts to build a stronger, peaceful, and more secure nation.

"We count on our people to emulate the patriotism of our heroes so that we may all prevail against the looming threats of criminality, terrorism and [illegal] drugs," he said.

"In the face of the difficulties we are facing as a nation, I am confident that we can overcome the challenges and emerge triumphant for the simple reason that it is through tough times that heroes like you

are made," he added.

#### **Honor the heroes**

In his National Heroes' Day message, Duterte encouraged the public to honor the Filipino heroes by upholding the rule of law, protecting the nation, and fostering goodwill.

He also encouraged the Filipinos to pay homage to the country's heroes by harnessing the "same virtues as we continue to fight against lawlessness, criminality, and poverty that hinder us from achieving our full potential."

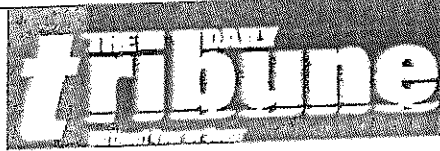
"Their courage, leadership and wisdom paved the way for us to enjoy the blessings of freedom, independence, and democracy," Duterte said.

"They have dedicated their lives to ensure that future generation will have a life that is full and comfortable," he added.

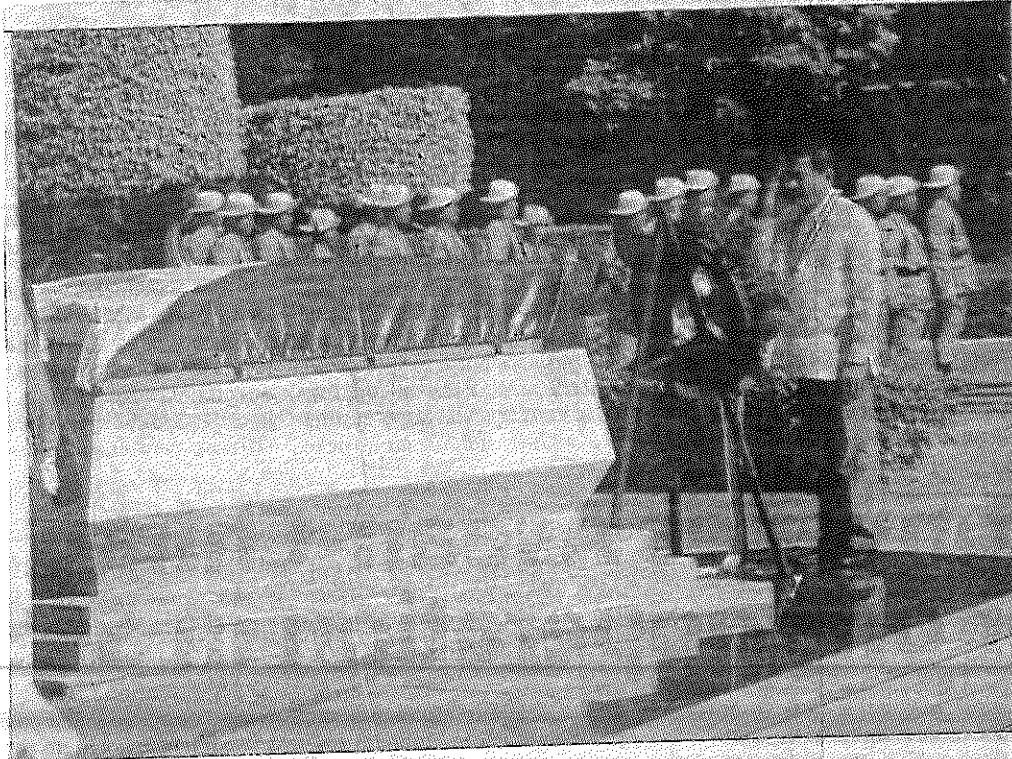
Duterte also said that Filipinos should continue to embrace the heroes' ways in everyone's daily undertakings.

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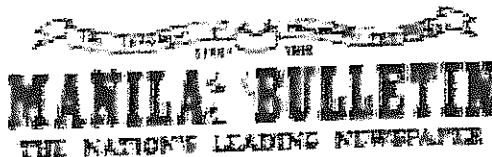


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**Tribute to fallen heroes** President Duterte pays tribute to fallen Filipino heroes at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers, Libingan ng mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City during the National Heroes' Day commemoration yesterday. PNA

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# 10 Maute reinforcements

Troops foil terrorists' attempt to sneak into main battle area in

Marawi City

# slain

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

**T**he attempt to reinforce Maute Group fighters still holed up in war-torn Marawi City was foiled early Monday morning

when alert troops killed 10 terrorists following a three-hour clash in Lanao Lake, Lanao del Sur.

The 10 suspected terrorists were trying to sneak into the main battle area in Marawi City when soldiers

from a task group monitoring Lake Lanao chanced upon them aboard two motorized pump boats at about 2:30 a.m. Monday. A fierce gunfight ensued.

As the terrorists got nearer to the lakeshore, another task

▶ 6

## 10 Maute reinforcements... ◀1

force joined the firefight until the Maute reinforcements were killed. No casualty was reported on the government side.

At the height of the clash, troops saw one of the terrorists' pump boats sinking.

At about 5 a.m., troops searching the scene of the fight found five bodies of the suspected terrorists plus an M16 rifle and a motorized pump boat. However, the bodies of the five other Maute reinforcements as well as the sunken pump boat remain unaccounted for.

As of press time, patrolling soldiers and policemen are still looking for the dead bodies and the sunken boat.

"The recent accomplishment of our ground forces only shows the successful coordination made by our troops and the local government units," said Lt. Gen. Carlito G. Galvez Jr., commander of the AFP Western Mindanao Command. "The plan of the terrorists was earlier reported to us that is why it was easier for patrolling special forces, riverine units, and maritime policemen to detect and neutralize the movement."

"Let this be a warning to those who have the intention to escape and enter (the battle area). Our troops are ready for you. We will definitely get you," Galvez added.

### Maute patriarch dies

The killing of the 10 reinforcements came a day after the death of Cayamora Maute – father of Omar and Abdullah Maute who led the terror attacks in Marawi City – was reported.

Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) director Serafin Barreto Jr. said the 67-year-old Maute patriarch was taken to Taguig-Pateros District Hospital at around 2 p.m. Sunday but died at 3:07 p.m.

"Yes, we received a report that he died this afternoon, at 3:07 p.m. Jail officials said his BP (blood pressure) spiked and he had difficulty in breathing," Baretto said when asked to con-

firm the death.

However, Baretto said the Maute patriarch's cause of death has yet to be determined. He was a detainee at the Special Intensive Care Area (SICA) 1 facility in Camp Bagong Diwa, Taguig City.

Baretto disclosed that jail warden Chief Inspector Lloyd Gonzaga had earlier requested medical checkups for Maute outside of the detention facility the past few months but he got no approval from the judges holding his case.

"Matagal na ngang nagre-request 'yung jail warden ng checkup para sa kanya, siguro as early as July, dahil nagco-complain nga, nahihirapan daw huminga at masakit ang dibdib kaso hindi nga naaprubahan ng mga judges (The jail warden has long requested for medical checkups for him, I think as early as July, since he was complaining that he has been having difficulty in breathing and chest pains but it was not approved by the judges)," Baretto added.

The Maute patriarch was arrested at a checkpoint in Davao City last June 6 and was later transferred to the Metro-Manila jail facility of the BJMP in Camp Bagong Diwa, Taguig City, following reports of an attempt to rescue him.

He was later indicted for violation of Sec. 28 E (1) in relation to Sec. (a) of Republic Act 10591 (Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act) and violation for Sec. 3 of Presidential Decree 1866 as amended by Republic Act 9516 (Law on Explosives).

Even before his detention, the BJMP chief, said the Maute patriarch was already diagnosed with hepatitis, type 1 diabetes, and hypertension.

BJMP spokesperson Senior Inspector Xavier Solda said the elder Maute was "in critical condition" when he was taken from the Special Intensive Care Unit at Camp Bagong Diwa to Taguig-

Pateros District Hospital at around 3 p.m. He later died.

Maute's relatives have already received his body and will take it to Quiapo.

"Dadalhin siya ng mga kamag-anak niya 'dun sa Quiapo, but we don't have the specific location yet," Solda said, noting that according to Islamic tradition, the funeral must be held as soon as possible.

"It's up to them to decide kung ano ang next nila na gagawin, especially kung paano iilibing ng kanilang pamilya," he said.

### Unfortunate incident

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff General Eduardo Año on Monday said the death of the father of the Maute brothers was an unfortunate incident not only for his family, but especially the victims of terrorism in the war-torn city.

"This is an unfortunate incident for his family, but more so for the victims of terrorism in Marawi and their relatives who are awaiting justice and expecting that Mr. Cayamora would answer/atone for his involvement in the Marawi rebellion," he added.

### Marawi update

Meanwhile, as of 7 p.m. Sunday or Day 98 since the Marawi siege started, a total of 603 Maute fighters have been killed by government forces, with 665 firearms taken from the terrorist.

AFP Western Mindanao Command and Joint Task Force Marawi spokes Army Captain Jo-Ann D. Petinglay said the total number of government forces killed remained at 130.

She said there is no change in the number of civilians killed which remains at 45 and number of civilians rescued at 1,728.

She added that about 1,270 improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and unexploded ordnance (UXOs) were taken from the different structures in the main battle area.

"Yesterday alone, 32 IEDs and UXOs were seized by troops," she said. (With a report from Martin A. Sadongdong)

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### SNEAKING INTO MARAWI WAR ZONE

## 10 TERROR SUSPECTS KILLED IN LAKE LANAO BATTLE

By **Jeffrey Maitem**  
@inquirermindanao

MARAWI CITY—Government security forces on Monday killed 10 suspected Islamic State-inspired terrorists who were trying to sneak into the battle zone in Marawi City.

Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., commander of the military's Western Mindanao Command, told reporters that soldiers were able to intercept pump boats carrying members of the Maute and Abu Sayyaf groups as the terrorists attempted to enter the main battle area through Lake Lanao.

He said a firefight erupted and lasted for three hours. Ten terrorists were killed, he said.

"Pursuit operations immediately ensued between forces

of the Joint Task Group Lawa and the fleeing terrorists. At 5 a.m., upon searching the area, troops were able to recover five dead bodies of the enemy, one M16 rifle and one motorized pump boat," he said.

"One of the pump boats was also seen sinking during the pursuit operation. Patrolling soldiers and policemen are still looking for the dead bodies and sunken boat," Galvez said.

He said the interception came with help from the local governments.

"The plan of the terrorists was earlier reported to us, that is why it was easier for patrolling special forces, riverine units and maritime policemen to detect and neutralize the movement," he added.

"Let this be a warning to those who have the intention to escape and to enter—our troops are ready for you. We will definitely get you," Galvez said.

Since May 23, at least 129 government troops had been killed along with 603 Abu Sayyaf and Maute terrorists in the battle for control of Marawi.

Forty-five civilians have been killed, while more than 1,728 others have been rescued from the battle zone.

Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay, spokesperson for the Joint Task Force Marawi and Western Mindanao Command, said troops continued to recover improvised explosive devices and unexploded ordnance in the different structures in the war zone. INQ

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## 10 Maute men killed trying to enter Marawi war zone

By ROEL PAREÑO  
and MICHAEL PUNONGBAYAN

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Ten members of the Islamic State (IS)-inspired Maute group were killed in a pre-dawn encounter yesterday with government

troops who intercepted them as they tried to sneak into the main battle area in Marawi City to reinforce their group, a military official reported.

Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) and Joint Task Force Marawi spokesperson Capt. Jo-Ann

Petinglay said soldiers caught the militants on board two motorized pumpboats in Lake Lanao, moving into the main battle area around 2.30 a.m.

A firefight erupted and lasted for three hours, followed by pursuit operations against the fleeing terrorists,

according to Petinglay.

She said that around 5 a.m., government troops conducted a search operation that yielded five bodies from the Maute group, an M16 rifle and a motorized *banca*.

Turn to Page 7

## 10 Maute From Page 1

The dead were initially identified as Muktar, Abu Talib, Ismael, Samson and Nidal, all adolescents.

She added the five others were killed in the pursuit operations but their bodies were not recovered as their pumpboat sank during the fierce chase.

As of yesterday, soldiers and police forces were still searching for the remains of the slain militants in the 340-square kilometer lake.

Westmincom chief Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr. said security around the lake will be heightened as they have anticipated attempts of the terrorists to reinforce their cornered comrades in the city's main battle area.

"The plan of the terrorists was earlier reported to us, that is why it was easier for patrolling Special Forces Riverine units and maritime policemen to detect and neutralize the movement," Galvez said, noting that the accomplishment of the government forces was a result of their successful coordination with local government units and civilian authorities in the area.

Galvez said the neutralization of the militants should serve as a warning to those who would try to escape and reinforce the terrorists.

"Our troops are ready for you. We will definitely get you," Galvez said.

### **Maute death toll rises to 613**

Yesterday's encounter between government forces and the Maute brought the death toll of militants to 613.

Government forces also recovered 665 assorted high-powered firearms as fighting entered its 98th day yesterday, Petinglay said.

She added that no casualty from government troops has been reported since Sunday, although some 130 have been killed since the first day of hostilities.

Among civilians, the death toll stood at 45 while 1,728 were rescued.

About 1,270 improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and unexploded ordnances (UXO) were recovered in different structures in the main battle area.

Last Sunday alone, troops recovered 32 IEDs and UXOs rigged as traps by the

Maute group in the remaining battle area, Petinglay said.

### **Cathedral retaken**

Government troops have also finally cleared and regained control of St. Mary's Cathedral since Friday afternoon – 95 days after the conflict started – but had to clear the Catholic church in the mainly Islamic center from IEDs.

Petinglay said troops from the 10th Infantry Battalion had to stealthily and decisively move in and recover the church located in Barangay Marinaut.

During the first week of the siege, the Maute group posted on social media a video of its members seizing the church and desecrating religious images by setting them on fire.

The group also seized Fr. Teresito "Chito" Suganob along with 10 other church devotees.

Petinglay said that after retaking the church, troops were able to recover three high-powered firearms and assorted ammunition.

This came barely a day after the troops also retook the Islamic Center and the Grand Mosque that the Maute had occupied to use as command and control center.

From the Islamic Center, the troops recovered three booby traps, one suicide bomb suit with IED, two Rocket Propelled Grenade launchers, one RPG rocket, one tripod for a 50-caliber machine gun and one Daesh black flag.

The troops also discovered a dug-in tunnel inside the mosque believed to be the hiding place of ammunition.

### **Augmenting troops**

Meanwhile, another elite Scout Ranger battalion of the Philippine Army headed by a Negrense military officer is now in Marawi, as the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) tries to finish off the remnants of the Maute group who continue to engage government troops in armed skirmishes.

The newly organized 5th Scout Ranger Battalion (5SRB), headed by Lt. Col. Marlo Jomalesa, a native of Silay City, Negros Occidental, arrived Saturday in the city.

## 10 Maute From Page 7

Jomalesa yesterday said they would join other Scout Ranger units fighting against the Maute group for the past three months.

The 1st Scout Ranger Battalion, which used to be assigned in central Negros, is also in Marawi.

It is with the 15th and 82nd Infantry Battalions under the supervision of the 3rd Infantry Division headed by Maj. Gen. Jon Aying.

Before their deployment to Marawi, Jomalesa said the 5SRB troopers underwent training in specialized courses, aside from the close-quarter battle, as the Marawi conflict is being fought in urban warfare.

In a related development, the National Housing Authority (NHA) is now reportedly eyeing to use prefabricated materials to build better temporary shelters being planned

out for 5,000 Marawi “bakwit” (evacuee) families, according to Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Lanao del Norte-First Engineering District assistant district engineer Ade Mustapha Deron.

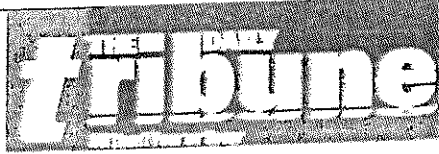
“Last week, it was discussed that it seems the NHA would scrap the building of bunkhouses and it would instead use prefabricated materials. They are planning on building a single attached, one-story house that has around a 22-square meter floor area. Each house would have its own toilet and a septic tank,” Deron said.

Deron added that the NHA is reportedly planning to start constructing the houses on Sept. 8, targeting to build three houses a day.

– With John Unson, Gilbert Bayoran, Evelyn Macairan, Rhodina Villanueva, Cecille Suerte Felipe, Lino dela Cruz



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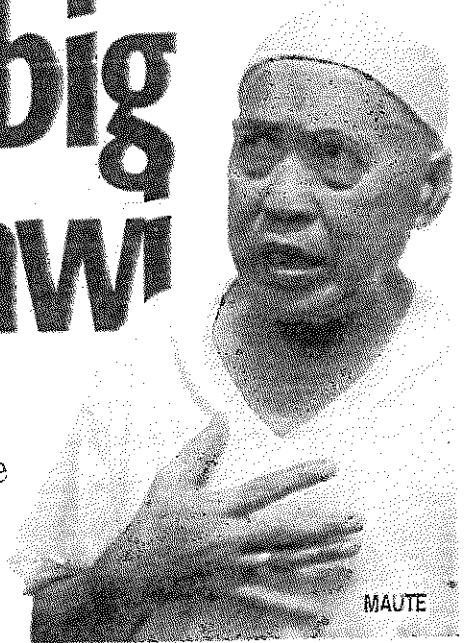
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# AFP readies '1 big battle' for Marawi

By Mario J. Mallari

Betting on the prospect that the resolve of the pro-Islamic State (IS) fighters in Marawi City has weakened, particularly after the recent death of Cayamora Maute, the father of the Maute brothers who are leading the militants, the Armed Forces of the Philippines

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**From page 1**

(AFP) said it is bracing for “one big battle” against the terrorists still holed up in a small area in Marawi City.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año said that following the capture of the grand mosque or the Islamic Center in Marawi City by government troops, the terrorists’ movements are now constricted in small area.

“We’re preparing for one big battle,” said Año.

While it expects the morale of the remaining Maute Group terrorists to plummet with the death of Cayamora Maute, the AFP is not expecting the lawless elements to commit atrocities worse than what they have done thus far.

“Before they were spread out, now they are consolidating so we expect there will be fresh fighting when we get to the last phase of the battle,” he added.

Año, however, refused to divulge further details, citing confidentiality of operational matters.

“Our tactical and ground commanders know what to do,” he said.

The AFP chief hinted that the expected battle would be more intense as the terrorists vowed to fight to the end.

“The enemies had said that

they will fight it out up to their last breath so with that declaration we expect that it will be do or die for them,” said Año.

The AFP chief stressed that it is just a matter of time for the government troops to totally flush out the terrorists from Marawi City.

“It’s just a matter of time before we could finish this. What we really want is to minimize the loss of lives and destruction. We want to finish this without adding more casualties especially civilians,” said Año.

As of Sunday night, a total of 603 terrorists and 130 government troops had been killed since the eruption of the conflict last May 23.

Forty-five civilians were also killed while 1,728 others were rescued.

**Cayamora holds vital info**

The death of Cayamora will affect the ongoing conflict in Marawi City as two of his sons are believed to still be leading the terrorists in putting up resistance against advancing government troops.

Año said that it is saddening that the elder Maute, father of Abdullah and Omar Maute who are leading IS-inspired terrorists in the dragging Marawi City siege, could no longer answer for the crimes attributed to him.

“We are saddened by his death

because he has a lot to answer (before the bar of ) justice because there are many victims of violent terrorism in Marawi,” said Año.

The elder Maute was among the high-profile personalities tagged in the Marawi City siege captured by government troops by virtue of Arrest Orders 1 and 2 issued by Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana in connection to the implementation of martial law.

Apart from being the patriarch of the Maute brothers, Cayamora is accused of financing the operation of the Maute group as a terror organization.

Others arrested were his wife Farhana Romato-Maute, other relatives and former Marawi City Mayor Fajad Salic.

President Duterte declared martial law in Mindanao immediately after the IS-inspired terrorists, led by Isnilon Hapilon and the Maute brothers, laid siege to Marawi City last May 23.

Año said the death of the elder Maute will definitely affect Omar and Abdullah, who are believed still holed up at the main battle area in Marawi City.

“There will be a big effect because his children are still there in Marawi, so they will be affected,” he said.

“The remaining Maute brothers there will have low morale, of

course," he added.

Reports said that the elder Maute died at the Taguig-Pateros District Hospital where he was rushed Sunday night due to high blood pressure. He has been at the intensive care unit of the Camp Bagong Diwa Station Hospital before he was transferred to the hospital.

The elder Maute has been suffering from hypertension, hepatitis and diabetes.

Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla Jr., AFP spokesman, echoed Año's pronouncements, saying the death of the Maute patriarch will deprive the victims of terrorism of justice.

"This is an unfortunate incident for his family but more so to the victims of terrorism in Marawi and their relatives who are waiting for justice and expecting Mr. Cayamora would answer or atone for his involvement in the Marawi rebellion," said Padilla.

"With his death, unfortunately justice would not be served," he added.

#### Reinforcing terror band killed

Ten terrorists, meanwhile, were killed yesterday after attempting to sneak into the main battle area in Marawi City using pump boats.

Lt. Gen. Carlito Gálvez Jr., commander of the military's Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom), said that elements

of the Task Group Musang were able to intercept the 10 terrorist members on board two motorized pump boats attempting to sneak into the main battle area at 2:30 a.m.

A three-hour fire fight ensued resulting in the killing of five terrorists.

Pursuit operations were immediately launched by forces of the Joint Task Group Lawa against the fleeing terrorists.

At around 5 a.m., upon searching the area, troops were able to recover five dead bodies of the enemy; one M16 rifle; and one motorized pump boat.

Troops were also able to shoot and neutralize five more terrorists in the ensuing fire fight but were not able to recover the dead bodies.

One of the pump boats was also seen sinking during the pursuit operation.

Soldiers and policemen are now looking for the dead bodies and sunken boat.

"The recent accomplishment of our ground forces only shows the successful coordination made by our troops and the local government units," said Galvez.

"The plan of the terrorists was earlier reported to us that is why it was easier for patrolling special forces riverine units and maritime policemen to detect and neutralize the movement," he added.

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# Malaya

The Kalinga Newsstand

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## The end is near for Marawi: AFP

BY VICTOR REYES

ARMED Forces chief Gen. Eduardo Año yesterday said the military is preparing for "one big battle" against the remnants of the Maute Group behind the dragging armed rebellion in Marawi City.

This developed as government troops killed 10 Maute members in a firefight at Lanao Lake yesterday dawn, while the terrorists were out to reinforce their comrades in

Marawi City.

"We're seeing the progress, advance of our soldiers. We've gained control of the Grand Mosque. They're now left with a small area so probably we're preparing for one big battle," said Año.

Año was referring to the Islamic center which was recovered by government troops following a firefight with Maute members last Thursday.

See THE > Page B6

### THE

Hours later, President Duterte went to the main battle area to congratulate the troops for the feat.

"We've recovered the Grand Mosque. This means that their area is getting smaller. The enemy is consolidating. They're spread out before, now that they are consolidating, we expect that there will be fresh fighting when we come to the last phase of the operation," said Año.

Año said he is expecting the Maute Group to fight until the end.

"The enemy said they will fight it out to their last breath so with that declaration, we expect them to ... do or die," said Año.

Asked when the "one big battle" will take place, the military chief said: "It's hard to say. We need to have confidentiality. Our tactical commanders and ground commander know what to do there."

Año said the end of the conflict is imminent. The fighting, which broke out last May 23, has already resulted in the death of 613 Maute members, 130 soldiers and policemen and 45 civilians.

"It's just a matter of time before this ends. What we want really is to minimize the loss of lives and destruction. We want to end this

without additional casualties, especially on the civilians," said Año.

Military estimates indicate around 50 Maute members are confined in a half square kilometer area and holding about 30 hostages.

Capt. Jo-ann Petinglay, spokesperson of the military's Joint Task Force Marawi and Western Mindanao Command, said the troops spotted the terrorists, on board two pump boats, around 2:30 a.m. their way to re-inforce their comrades in Marawi City.

After a three-hour firefight, Petinglay said five of the fatalities were recovered in one of the boats, along with an M16 rifle.

She said the bodies of the five other slain Maute members were not retrieved because they sank with their pumpboat. She said soldiers and policemen were still searching for the sunken bodies and boat.

Wesmincom commander Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez said the military earlier received information about the group's plan to enter the main battle area, prompting the patrol.

"The plan of the terrorists was earlier reported to us that is why it was easier for patrolling special forces riverine units and maritime policemen to detect and neutralize the move," said Galvez.

"Let this be a warning to those who have the intention to escape and to enter, our troops are ready for you. We will definitely get you," he added.

Government forces have retaken last week vital facilities previously occupied by the Maute members, including the Grand Mosque (Thursday), the Marawi City police station (Tuesday), and the Saint Mary's Cathedral (Friday).

"During the first week of the siege, video footages of the Daesh-inspired terror group Maute were posted on the internet showing members of the terror group rampaging over the church, destroying statues of Catholic saints. Said footage also showed the disrespectful acts of the terrorists towards the said religious icon," said Petinglay.

She said troops recovered at the scene three high-powered firearms and assorted ammunition.

Petinglay said recovered at the Grand Mosque were three booby traps, a suicide bomb suite with an improvised explosive device, two rocket propelled grenade launchers, a rifle grenade, a tripod for cal. 50 machine and a Daesh black flag.

"Also, the troops discovered a dug-in tunnel inside the mosque which was believed to be where they hid their ammunition," said Petinglay.

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**REJOINING FIGHT VS TERROR**

# WOUNDED SOLDIERS BACK TO MARAWI FRONTLINE

ILIGAN CITY—More than 300 soldiers who were earlier wounded in the fight against Islamic State-inspired militants are back to the battle zone in Marawi City.

Capt. Jo-ann Petinglay, spokesperson for the Joint Task Force Marawi and the military's Western Mindanao Command, told the Inquirer on Sunday that most of the soldiers who returned to the main battle area suffered only minor injuries.

"They wanted to help their

colleagues and would like to take part in our campaign to liberate the city," Petinglay said.

According to Petinglay, only a small section of Marawi remains under the control of the militants, but the situation is "complicated" because terrorists are still holding around 50 hostages.

Since May 23 when fighting broke out, at least 130 soldiers have been killed, along with 597 gunmen from the Maute and Abu Sayyaf groups. Military records showed that

45 civilians were killed while more than 1,728 others were rescued from the battle zone.

On Saturday, heavy fighting broke out in the main battle area following a strong resistance from Maute and Abu Sayyaf gunmen hiding in less than 400 buildings and structures, including mosques.

"We cannot give exact timeline as to when we can totally liberate the city, but we are hoping it will be over soon," Petinglay said. —JEFFREY

MAITEM INQ

29 August 2017



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## Maute patriarch's death won't affect case vs terrorists — DOJ

By EDU PUNAY

The death of Cayamora Maute would lead to the dismissal of the rebellion case filed against him but would not affect those filed against all other members of the terrorist Maute group, Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II said yesterday.

For the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the demise would definitely affect the morale of his sons, terror leaders Omar and Abdullah Maute, in Marawi City.

Aguirre, in a text message, said the criminal cases against arrested Maute terrorists and supporters remain strong despite the death of clan patriarch Cayamora.

Citing a legal doctrine, he explained that death extinguishes the criminal liability of an accused.

Cayamora, 67, had been detained at Camp Bagong Diwa in Taguig City. He was set to stand trial for rebellion along with the other members of the terror group, which is said to have sworn allegiance to international terror group Islamic State. He was rushed to the Taguig-Pateros District Hospital where he died of hypertension and diabetes Sunday afternoon.

The military tagged him as one of the funders of the Maute terror group that attacked Marawi City on May 23, causing the displacement of more than 100,000 residents and the death of 603 terrorists, 130 soldiers and 45 civilians.

Aguirre said the trial of the rebellion case filed against other Maute members and supporters - including Maute matriarch Ominta Romato, alias Farha-

na, former Marawi City mayor Fajad Salic, and Mohamad Maute, alias Abu Jadid, the group's alleged bomb maker - would proceed before the Taguig City regional trial court.

The Department of Justice is set to resolve the charges against 58 suspected Maute recruits arrested in Zamboanga City last July 25 and three alleged members of the Abu Sayyaf arrested in Sulu last Aug. 10. AFP chief Gen. Eduardo Año said Cayamora's death would definitely affect the morale of his sons.

"You know what they have already done. There is probably nothing more drastic that they could do than what they have already done since day one," Año said, referring to the terror the group brought to Marawi City.

"The death of Cayamora will of course lower the morale of the Maute brothers there, but that's about it," Año added.

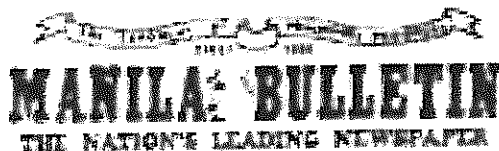
Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) chief, agreed, saying the death will not change the perception of soldiers and Marawi residents of the barbarism of the Maute group.

He ordered his units to increase their security alerts as the remaining terrorists may use it for "sympathy attacks."

The AFP chief and designated implementor of martial law in Mindanao said the military operations against the Maute would continue until the predominantly Muslim city is freed from the terrorists' grip.

Año said the area being controlled or occupied by the enemy is getting smaller each day. - With Michael Punongbayan, Roel Pareño

21 August 2017



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## Islamic Center, St. Mary's Cathedral retaken by troops

By **FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD**  
and **NONOY E LACSON**

St. Mary's Cathedral, a Roman Catholic Church in the center of the predominantly Muslim city of Marawi, was retaken by government forces a day after taking control of the Islamic Center, which the Maute Group used as its command center after laying siege of the city last May, a military official revealed on Monday.

Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WestMinCom) spokesman Army Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay said troops from the 10th Infantry Battalion stealthily and decisively moved in to clear St. Mary's Cathedral in Barangay Marinaut, Marawi City, at 3 p.m. last August 25.

Troops seized three high-powered firearms and ammunition after retaking the church.

A day earlier at 2 p.m. of August 24, the Islamic Center was also retaken by the military about two hours before President Duterte arrived in the Main Battle Area to visit battle-weary troops.

St. Mary's Cathedral was the subject of video footages released by the Daesh-inspired terror group Maute during the first week of the siege. In the video footages, suspected members of the Maute Group were shown seizing and

desecrating the church.

In the case of the Islamic Center, it took government forces several days of operations and planning before the Maute terrorists were flushed out from the iconic center – preserving the structure and keeping it from any mortar or indirect fires.

Members of the Maute Group had used the structure as their headquarters, where their command and control came from. They also used it for storage of ammunition and firearms.

After the Islamic Center was retaken, three booby traps, one suicide bomb suit with improvised explosive device, two rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) launchers, one RPG, one tripod for 50 caliber machine gun, and one Daesh black flag were seized.

Troops also discovered a dug-in tunnel inside the mosque which was believed to be where the ammunition were hidden.

"We have seen how these terrorists have desecrated both the Islamic Center and the St. Mary's Cathedral," said Lt. Gen. Carlito G. Galvez Jr., commander of the Western Mindanao Command.

"This only shows how these people do not respect any religion, may it be Christian or Muslim. We abhor the acts of the terrorists and we know that they will never have a place anywhere in the world," he said.



**Balitang VISMIN Balitang VISMIN Balitang VISMIN**

# TERORISTA MAS MAPANGAHAS SA PAGKAMATAY NI MAUTE

**Ni Betchai Julian**

Dahil sa pagkamatay ni Cayamora Maute, ang ama ng Maute Brothers na namumuno sa paghahasik ng lagim sa Marawi City, posibleng mas magiging mapangahas pa ang mga terorista sa pakikipaglaban sa gobyerno sa loob ng battle zone sa lungsod.

Ayon kay Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) spokesman Restituto Padilla, inaasahan na nilang mas magiging mapangahas at matapang sa pakikipaglaban sa tropa ng militar ang magkapatid na Omar at

Abdullah

Paliwanag ni Padilla, maaari din itong gamitin ng Maute group bilang propaganda para isulong at suportahan ang kanilang ipinaglalaman sa Marawi City at magamit din para sa kanilang taga-suporta at mga pamilya na nasa loob ng battle area.

Ikinalungkot naman ni AFP Chief of Staff Eduardo Año ang pagkamatay ni Cayamora Maute sa loob ng BJMP detention cell dahil marami pa siyang pananagutan sa batas at marami pa ang naghihintay na biktima ng karahan na dulot ng terorismo sa Marawi.

Giit ni Año, hindi nasagot ni Cayamora ang pagkakasangkot nito sa terorismo sa nasabing lugar.

Idinagdag pa ng Chief of staff na malaki ang epekto ng pagkamatay ng ama ng Maute brothers sa labanan sa Marawi.

Si Cayamora Maute, ay nasawi sa loob ng Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) sa Taguig noong hapon ng Linggo. Subalit nilimaw ng AFP na matagal nang may dinaramdam na sakit si Cayamora tulad ng diabetes at hepatitis bago pa man ito maaresto.

# 5 ISIS bumulagta sa sagupaan

**ZAMBOANGA CITY**

Limang umanong mga miyembro ng lokal na ISIS militants ang napatay kahapon ng madaling-araw habang nagtatangkang pumasok sa Marawi City sa Lanao del Sur upang tulungan ang mga kasamahan na nakikipaglaban.

Na-intercept umano ng mga nagpapatrolyang sundalo sa Lake Lanao

ang dalawang motorboat na tuluan ng mga armado kaya nagkaroon ng habulan at sagupaan.

Nabawi ng militar ang mga bangkay ng nasawing militante.

Sinasabing lumubog ang isang motorboat. Nabawi naman ng mga sundalo ang isang M16 automatic rifle sa nasabing motorboat.

Iginiit naman ng militar na umabot na sa 603

ang mga napatay na ISIS militants mula nang magsimula ang labanan noong Mayo 23, ngunit hindi naglalabas ng mga larawan ng mga nasawi ang awtoridad.

Umabot na rin sa 45 ang bilang ng mga napatay na sibilyan at 130 naman sa panig ng militar at pulisya at pumasok na sa ika-apat na buwan ang labanan sa Marawi. (Al Jacinto)

# Cathedral nabawi na sa Maute

Patuloy na lumiliit ang pinagkukutaan ng mga teroristang grupo matapos na ring mabawi ng mga taulhan ng Armed Forces of the Philippines mula sa kamay ng teroristang Maute group ang Saint Mary's Cathedral na nasa Brgy. Marinaut, Marawi City.

Ayon kay Captain Joan Petinglay, tagapagsalita ng Joint Task Force Marawi, nabawi ang Catholic church noong August 25.

Nakakuha rin ng tatlong matataas

na kalibre ng baril at sari-saring bala sa loob ng simbahan.

Matatandaang sa kasagsagan ng giyera sa Marawi City ay nag-viral sa video footages ang pagsira at pambabastos ng teroristang Maute group sa mga imaheng mga Santo.

Sinabi pa ng militar na mas marami pa silang mababawing mga lugar bago matapos ang araw na ito dahil sa patuloy na pagkakapatay nila sa mga natitirang miyembro ng teroristang grupo. (Betchai Julian)



29 August 2017

**NGAYON**

Pahina. 2

# Child warriors isinasabak na!

Tumutulung na ang mga menor de edad na child warriors ng teroristang grupo na Maute sa pakikipaglaban sa tropa ng militar sa Marawi City.

Ayon kay Col. Edgard Arevalo, hepe ng Public Affairs Office ng Armed Forces of the Philippines, ito ay base umano sa mga nakakausap ng mga sundalo na mga sibilyan at sa mga nakatakas na bihag ng teroristang grupo.

Giit ni Arevalo, ang mga child warriors ay nakumbinsi ng Maute group na maging kapanalig nila, inamasan at kasalukuyan ng lumalaban sa mga sundalo.

Ginawa nito ang pahayag matapos na ulat ni Rowhanisa Abdul Jabar na ang kanyang anak na dinukot pitong taon na ang nakakaraan ay isa sa mga child warriors sa Marawi City.

Sinabi naman ni Arevalo na ang nasabing ulat ay beberipikahin muna ng intelligence community.

Samantala, namatay ang ama ng dalawa sa mga lider ng mga Maute na si Cayamora Maute, 64,

## Ni GEMMA AMARGO-GARCIA

sa Taguig-Pateros District Hospital, ayon sa Bureau of Jail Management and Penology

Ayon kay Sr. Insp. Xavier Solda, tagapagsalita ng BJMP, tumaas ang blood pressure at nahirapang huminga si Cayamora habang ito ay nasa kanyang selda sa Camp Bagong Diwa sa Taguig City kaya siya isinugod sa pagamutan.

Nabatid na bago pa mang maaresto at maku-long sa BJMP si Cayamora ay maraming na karamdaman tulad ng diabetes, hypertension, hepatitis at iba pa.

Dinala ang bangkay ni Cayamora sa mosque sa Quiapo at agad ding inilibing sa Norzagaray, Bulacan kamakalawa ng gabi.

Ang asawa naman Cayamora na si Ominta "Farhana" Romato Maute ay nananatiling nakakulong sa BJMP.

Dahil sa pagkamatay ni Cayamora, posibleng mas magiging mapangahas

pa ang Maute brothers sa pakikipaglaban sa gobyerno sa loob ng Marawi City.

Ayon kay Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) spokesman Restituto Padilla, inaasahan na nilang mas magiging mapangahas at matapang sa pakikipaglaban sa tropa ng militar ang magkapatid na Omar at Abdullah Maute.

Paliwanag pa ni Padilla, maaari rin itong gamitin ng Maute group bilang propaganda para isulong at suportahan ang kanilang ipinaglalaman sa Marawi City at magamit din para sa kanilang taga-suporta at mga pamilya na nasa loob ng battle area.

Samantala, sinabi ni Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Eduardo Año na isang mafaking laban ang inihahanda ng AFP para tuluyang mabawi ang Marawi City na halos isandaang araw nang inookupa ng mga teroristang Maute group.

Sinabi ni Año na maliit na bahagi na lamang ng ng lugar ang nasasakop ng mga terorista dahil sa patuloy na opensiba ng military.

Bilang patunay umano dito ay ang pagsulong at pagbawi ng militar sa Grand mosque noong nakarang linggo na siyang pinakamalaking mosque at isang simbolo ng Islam sa nasabing siyudad.

Ang nasabing mosque umano ang siyang ginagamit na pangunahing hideouts ng Maute at Abu Sayyaf group. (May ulat ni Mer Layson)

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# NPAs release 10 construction workers

By MIKE U. CRISMUNDO

**B**UTUAN CITY — The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) yesterday pressed on with its wide pursuit operations against more than 100 fleeing New People's Army (NPA) rebels who swooped down and set up a road block at a Mimbalite area, Barangay Eureka, Gingoog City, held 10 construction workers as hostages for over five hours, and eventually released them late Friday afternoon.

At least 130 heavily armed rebels believed to be members of guerilla-Front Committee 4-B of the CPP-NPA North-Central Mindanao Regional Committee under a certain "Commander Dahon" swooped down and set up a road block

at a Mimbalite area in Eureka, Gingoog City at around 1 p.m. on Friday and held 10 workers of the construction firm, took their vehicles and Isuzu pickup and forward boom truck.

According to initial report from the Gingoog City Police Station (GCPS), the rebels also seized some personal belongings of the workers.

The 10 workers and one field engineer were heading to Sitio Mimbalite of that same city when they were flagged down by the rebels past 12 noon on Friday, GCPS report said.

The workers were riding a pickup truck, a dump truck, and a boom truck at that time, it said.

The rebels commandeered the vehicles and brought the workers to Sitio Talangisog where they were held

for over five hours.

The construction workers were temporarily held hostage by the NPAs and lectured them not to believe the local government's promise of a certificate of ancestral domain title before releasing them, after almost five hours.

No one was reported harmed among the released construction workers of Equi-Parco Construction Company based in Butuan City.

Combat pilots of the Philippine Air Force's (PAF) strike wing are already on standby for possible air cover to the pursuing combat maneuvering troops of the Army's 403rd Infantry Brigade.

The Army's 401st Infantry (Unity) Brigade also conducted blocking position along the provincial border of

Agusan del Norte and Misamis Oriental which is a possible escape route for the NPA rebels.

According to the latest information, the fleeing NPA rebels are now heading towards Utao River in Agusan del Norte.

The hot pursuit operations are also supported by the forces of Northeastern Mindanao Police Regional Office 13 (PRO 13), as a blocking force in the regional border of northeastern and northern Mindanao regions.

GCPS city director Supt. Roel Lamiing said they are gathering vital information from the released construction workers in addition to their preparation for the filing of appropriate charges against the group of Commander Dahon.

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## HOTSPOT MOCHA USON

### Third visit in Marawi

“I have to be here because I want all of you to know that... *Mahal ko kayo*. I hope you will be able to clean up Marawi City and get rid of the terrorists,” President Rodrigo Roa Duterte said in a speech during his second visit to Marawi.



*Tapang at malasakit*. Two of the main reasons why 16 million Filipinos, or possibly more, voted for Rodrigo Roa Duterte as the 16th president of our country. In all the actions of his administration and his directives to different government agencies, we can see and feel his care for the welfare of the people. A year after he won the election, we have seen a lot of change happen in our country, however we also faced a lot of challenges particularly in the war on drugs and terrorism. The war on drugs have revealed the severity of the drug problem in our country which involves several politicians as drug protectors. Aside from terrorism and the drug problem, we also face a lot of challenges from power greedy politicians who are eager to destroy the image of the president for their self-interest. Amid all these obstacles in his first year in office, President Duterte still stands strong with his genuine care for the Filipino people intact, and his bravery against the enemies of our country growing stronger.

The recent Marawi siege dampened the spirits and left many of our Muslim brothers in fear spawned by the relentless Maute group. However, hope still lingers as our beloved President, in full battle gear, visited the war-torn city of Marawi last Aug. 24, and gave courage as well as heightened the morale of our good soldiers to fight off the terrorists that have been plaguing the country for three months. Unmindful of the danger he was in, President Duterte did a couple of stopovers outside the safe zone to reach out and communicate with the soldiers and assure them of the government's efforts to ensure that their families are well taken cared of. This has been the third visit of the president in Marawi but this is the first time he visited the main battle area of Marawi, instead of just visiting the camps of the soldiers. For the first time, I have also witnessed first-hand the situation inside Marawi, the

area seemed like a ghost town. I was nervous during this visit because we are only 300 meters away from the frontline area where Maute members are hiding. I was worried that we might be attacked at any moment, but I think this is also why the president decided to visit the soldiers in the main battle area. If I'm scared of the possibility of being attacked, then what could our soldiers – who stay there day and night – be feeling? The moment I saw the look on our soldiers when they saw President Duterte, I understood why he was there. He wanted the soldiers to know that he is not just a president or a commander-in-chief who send troops into battle without risking his own life, he's a leader who prefers to lead the battle himself and show his soldiers that he is willing to risk his life with them. The high morale of the soldiers was clear and visible when they were visited by the president regardless of the danger he was putting himself in and quoting some of the soldiers, they said "yan ang presidente!"

In our brief talk with President Duterte, I asked him what he was doing there when he knew that it's dangerous in the area, and he just said "When your time is up, it's up. Kahit saan ka magpunta." I feel like this is the president's secret on how he can overcome dangerous situations and he is the kind of leader that we truly need. Someone who is not afraid of anything or anyone, someone who will fight for the people, someone who shows his troops that they are not alone and that he is there for them; this is the kind of president that we need to bring change in our country, this is the kind of leader that is Duterte; *Tapang at malasakit* in one man.

★

## ONLINE NEWS

29 AUGUST 2017

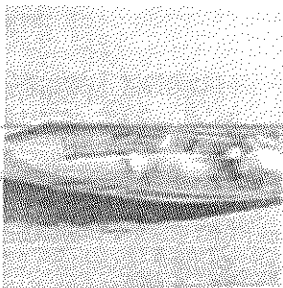
# OPERATIONAL UPDATES | JTF Marawi marks significant success

Report by Alvin Santiago on August 28, 2017 at 12:02 PM

**CAMP RANAO, Marawi City (DWDD)** – As of August 28, 2017 or 98 days since the start of the siege in Marawi, the government has marked significant success in its campaign to free the city from the grasp of the Daesh-inspired Maute Group.

According to Joint task Force Marawi, since August 27, they have recorded 603 terrorist killed and 665 firearms recovered from the group.

Yesterday, soldiers were able to recover 32 Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and Unexploded Ordnance or a total of 1,270 IEDS and UXOs from different structures in the Main Battle Area.



Other significant events for the past week:

- retaking of the Islamic Center
- retaking of St Mary's Cathedral
- retaking of the Lanao Del Sur Police Provincial Office
- the holding of a Congregational Prayer help, done for the first time
- and, 10 Maute members killed after attempting to enter the Main Battle Area.

Meanwhile, there were no change in the number of civilians killed, 45, and number of civilians rescued at 1,728, while the number of government casualties is now at 130 killed in action. AES

[www.dwdd.com](http://www.dwdd.com)

# Kin of soldiers fighting for the country are heroes, too

By Liza Agoot August 28, 2017, 2:21 pm

**LA TRINIDAD, Benguet** -- In every war, there are casualties who emerge as heroes. They are given medals for bravery, for gallantry and for their heroism.

These soldiers' spouses, children, parents and siblings are also heroes in their own right for being brave enough to let go of their loved ones who are involved in the country's national defense or police operations.

Edna Tabdi, mother of Senior Inspector Gednat Tabdi, the Special Action Force (SAF) trooper who was killed in Mamasapano, Maguindanao on January 25, 2015 is a hero, fighting for the battle of the 44 families who lost a loved one on that unfortunate day.

Her son is one of the two SAF troopers who were awarded the Medal of Valor by former President Benigno Aquino III.

Edna has three other sons who are in the police service. Of the three, one is also a SAF trooper like Gednat.

The Tabdi family has 15 other members who are with the Philippine National Police and a few with the Armed Forces of the Philippines, many of whom are assigned in Mindanao.

Despite the pain of always trying to recall the tragic events, Edna talked about losing a child and attaining the justice they've been fighting for.

*"Yun lang makakapagpatahimik sa akin, dun lang ako makaka move-on* (That is the only way I can have peace of mind and move on)," she said.

*"Patuloy kaming lumalaban and lalaban sa giyera sa korte. Hindi kami titigil hanggat 'di napaparusahan ang dapat parusahan sa pagkamatay ng anak ko at iba pang miyembro ng SAF 44* (We will continue to fight the battle in court until those responsible for the death of my son and the other members of SAF 44 are made answerable)," she added.

Edna's son, Gednat, was apparently the one who shot and killed Zulkifli Binhir, also known as "Marwan" -- an international bomb expert on the wanted list of the United States for various bombing incidents in Mindanao and other parts of Southeast Asia.

Edna added that her son died at around 4:30 p.m. on that day, more than 12 hours after the start of the operation.

After more than two years, the battle of the families continues without any clear date when it would end.

Questions continue to hound Edna's mind: *"Siguro kung may reinforcement na dumating hindi ako nangunguilla ngayon, hindi nawalan ng asawa ang manulang ko, hindi naipanganak na walang tatay*

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

*ang apo ko* (If only the reinforcement came, I would not be feeling the loneliness of losing a son, my daughter-in-law will not be a widow and my grandson will not be born without a father)," she said.

Gednat married Lea in October 2014. Lea was seven months pregnant with their first child when her husband died.

While Edna tries to divert her attention by making herself busy selling at the souvenir shop at the strawberry field that was given as an assistance to her by non-government organization BIBAK, her daughter-in-law and grandson are also battling the loneliness of losing Gednat.

The family makes it a point to visit Gednat's grave every weekend to remind the orphaned child of his father's gallantry.

Losing a loved one is never easy, Edna lamented. "*Mahirap matanggap para sa isang ina* (It's not easy to accept especially for a mother)," she realized.

The battle continues as Edna and Lea try to move on by strengthening their faith and spirituality.

Edna is a hero in her own right for raising Gednat and three other children who have pledged their services to the country. (PNA)

[www.pna.gov.ph](http://www.pna.gov.ph)

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