

ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

oacpa.army2012@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
NEWS CLIPPINGS

08 February 2017

Wednesday

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

NEWS HEADLINES

08 FEBRUARY 2017

 <p>DUTERTE SCOLDS ERRING COPS</p> <p>ALL-OUT WAR ON REDS</p> <p>The president has ordered a sweeping military offensive against the New People's Army (NPA) and its affiliates, saying they are the main threat to the country's peace and stability.</p> <p>MISSISSIPPI</p> <p>GINEBRA RIPS ALASKA, GAINS SEMI</p>	 <p>Gov't projects P6.54-M losses from mine closures</p> <p>All-out war vs NPA</p> <p>The president has ordered a sweeping military offensive against the New People's Army (NPA) and its affiliates, saying they are the main threat to the country's peace and stability.</p> <p>Rogue policemen told: Quit or go South</p> <p>The president has ordered a sweeping military offensive against the New People's Army (NPA) and its affiliates, saying they are the main threat to the country's peace and stability.</p>
 <p>Duterte revokes Reds' safety pass</p> <p>The president has ordered a sweeping military offensive against the New People's Army (NPA) and its affiliates, saying they are the main threat to the country's peace and stability.</p> <p>Medal of Valor for 1st Lt. Alonzo</p>	 <p>The Manila Times</p> <p>Rogue policemen told: Quit or go South</p> <p>The president has ordered a sweeping military offensive against the New People's Army (NPA) and its affiliates, saying they are the main threat to the country's peace and stability.</p> <p>SHAWI has more power to appoint employees</p> <p>MEGALOTTO 6/45 GRANDDRAWING FEBRUARY 2017 6/45 82,000,000.00</p>

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

08 FEBRUARY 2017

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather Forecast		PDI p.A14
NATIONAL NEWS			
2-3	Gov't declares all-out war on Reds	Leila Salverria	PDI p.A6
4-6	All out war vs NPA	Alexis Romero	Phil. Star p.1
ARMY NEWS			
7	Cafgu pinabulagta	Rhoderick Beñez	Ngayon p.7
8	Bomba ng NPA umiskor	Betchai Julian	Abante p.6
9	Mag-asawang opisyal ng NPA arestado, 1 pa todas	Rodherick Beñez	PM p.2
10	2 rebels surrender at the start of army offensive operation in Caraga		www.news.pia.gov.ph
11	1 killed, 2 hurt in AFP, NPA encounter in Capiz		www.pna.gov.ph
12	86 th IB troopers extend aid to 6 road mishap victims in Isabela		www.pna.gov.ph
13	Ex-RPA member nabbed for murder		www.visayandailystar.com
14-15	315 new soldiers take oath, join 6 th Infantry Division's human resource		www.pna.gov.ph
16	Army troops clash anew with NPA rebels in Rizal		www.pna.gov.ph
AFP RELATED NEWS			
17	5 Abus killed in Sulu clash	Julie Alipala	PDI p.A10
18	5 Abus killed, 1 nabbed in Sulu clash	Roel Pareño	Phil. Star p.20
19	Fight terrorism won't be affected by resumption of war against NPAs	Francis Wakefield	Mla. Bulletin p.14
20	Offensive vs NPA mounts in Mindanao	Yas D Ocampo	Mla. Bulletin p.8
21	Leftist cabinet members won't resign	Jaymee Gamil	PDI p.A6
22-23	Tiamzons, other NDF consultants back in Phl	Rudy Santos	Phil. Star p.1
24	Cabinet Reds push resumption of talks	Alexis Romero	Phil. Star p.1
25	Soldiers abducted by insurgents still alive – AFP		Mla. Bulletin p.9
26	S. Luzon command continues military offensive vs NPA	Danny Estacio	Mla. Bulletin p.8
27	Gov't wants ROTC revived to make youth patriotic	Alexis Romero	Phil. Star p.18
28	Phl makes formal request for Chinese military equipment	Christina Mendez	Phil. Star p.9
29	PH fears China will build island on Panatag Panatag Shoal	AFP	PDI p.A3
30	Duterte oks US facilities in PH camps	Marlon Ramos	PDI p.A3
31	MNLF, MILF harboring terrorists?		PDI p.A14

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


COMMENTARY/EDITORIAL			
32	Frog and scorpion fight	Manuel Quezon III	PDI p.A12
33	'A generation without peace'		PDI p.A12
34-36	The communist insurgency: The Marcos-Aquino curse on the nation	Rigoberto Tiglao	Mla. Times p.A1
37	Imbes na isailalim ng retraining, tiwaling pulis, maglilinis ng Ilog pasig		Bulgar p.3
38	Ang isa, matagal na sa abroad, ang mag-asawa naman nakulong; Joma at Tiamzon, wala raw kontrol sa NPA	Bobí Tiglao	Bulgar p.3
39	Nakatiwangwang na lupain sa kampo ng military gagawing gulayan	PNA	Balita p.6
ONLINE NEWS			
40-41	PATHETIC LIARS// NDF and NPA gave Inconsistent statements over the death of 3 soldiers		www.dwdd.com
42	AFP strongly subscribes to President Duterte's description of NPA as terrorist group		www.pna.gov.ph

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






68 February 2017




Page: 114



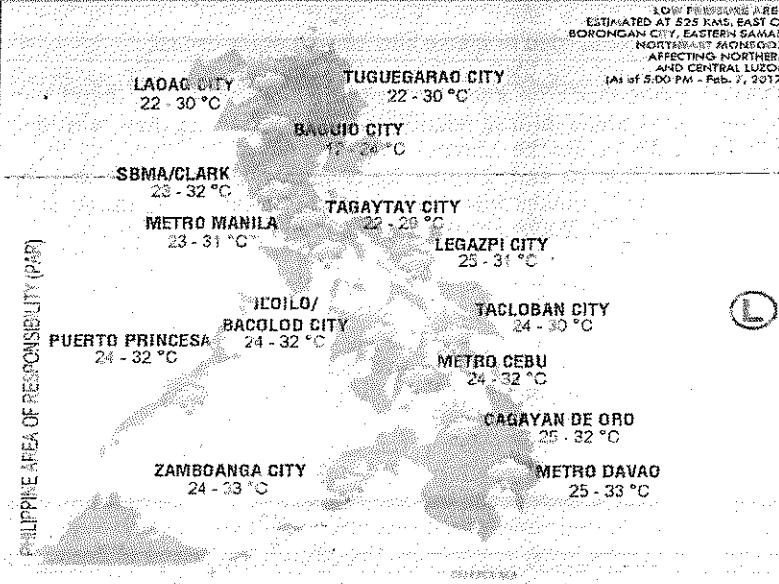
www.panahon.tv /PanahonTV



BALANCED NEWS • FEARLESS VIEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | FEBRUARY 8, 2017 | WEDNESDAY




LOW FREQUENCY AREA ESTIMATED AT 525 KMS. EAST OF BORONGAN CITY, EASTERN SAMAR. NORTHWEST MONSOON AFFECTING NORTHERN AND CENTRAL LUZON (At 5:00 PM - Feb. 7, 2017)




SUNRISE	SUNSET
6:23 AM	5:58 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
3:23 PM	3:35 AM
FIRST QUARTER FEB 4 12:19 PM	FULL MOON FEB 11 9:55 AM
LOW TIDE 3:30 AM -0.15 Meter	HIGH TIDE 7:40 PM 1.05 Meter

Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers
Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms
Cloudy along with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms
Light rains

CITY	TEMP 1	TEMP 2	CITY	TEMP 1	TEMP 2	CITY	TEMP 1	TEMP 2
METRO MANILA	21-30°C	20-29°C	TAGAYTAY	20-28°C	20-27°C	TACLOBAN	22-29°C	22-28°C
TUGUEGARAO	20-26°C	19-24°C	LEGAZPI	23-29°C	22-28°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	23-31°C	22-31°C
LADAG	19-28°C	19-27°C	PUERTO PRINCESA	24-30°C	24-30°C	METRO DAVAO	24-31°C	24-30°C
BAGUIO	11-22°C	11-21°C	ILOILO/BACOLOD	24-30°C	24-29°C	ZAMBOANGA	23-33°C	23-33°C
SBMA/CLARK	21-29°C	21-29°C	METRO CEBU	24-30°C	23-29°C			



SERGEANT NO. PARDAL MDI

Watch PanahonTV daily on Pilipinas HD at 9AM, 12NN, 3PM, 6PM & 9PM.

09 February 2017

INQUIRER

Page: AG

Gov't declares all-out war on Reds

FROM A1

By **Leila B. Salaverria**
@LeilasINQ

The government on Tuesday stepped up its offensive against communist guerrillas after it terminated the peace talks, announcing an "all-out war" against the New People's Army (NPA) and canceling safe-conduct passes to all rebels involved in the negotiations.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told reporters in Malacañang that the military operations against the guerrillas would be conducted through "surgical operations" to avoid casualties among noncombatants.

"It is an all-out war because they are considered by the President already as terrorists. We also consider them terrorists," Lorenzana said.

Release of political prisoners

President Duterte on Saturday canceled the talks a day after he terminated the government's unilateral ceasefire in response to the rebels' earlier

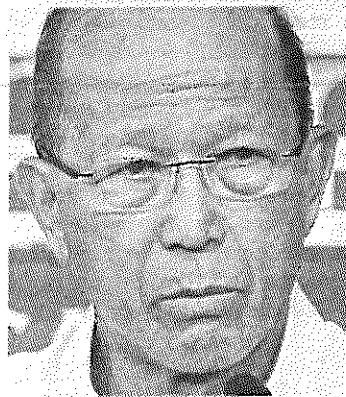
announcement that they would end their own truce this Friday.

The rebels said the government had reneged on a promise to release hundreds of political prisoners and violated its own truce.

Mr. Duterte said the rebels made "impossible" demands and attacked and killed several soldiers during the truce.

Jesus Dureza, presidential adviser on the peace process, said he had informed Fidel Agcaoili, chief negotiator of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP), and Jose Maria Sison, NDFP chief political consultant and Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) founder, that the government had also terminated the Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees (Jasig).

"Following the President's announcement of the cancellation of the peace talks with the CPP/NPA/NDF and per his instructions, the government is hereby serving this notice of the termination of the Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees (Jasig)," Dureza said in his e-mail to the NDFP on Tuesday.



Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana

The Jasig provides safe conduct to all rebel negotiators and their staff, allowing them to freely move around the country or to travel abroad. Junking it will clear the way for their arrest.

Court warrants

Presidential spokesperson Ernesto Abella, quoting the Office of the Executive Secretary, clarified that the rearrest of the consultants, who had posted bail to be released from detention to participate in the talks, would have to be based on arrest warrants from the courts that had granted them temporary liberty.

"So basically, this is under the jurisdiction of the courts," Abella said.

The Department of Justice would have to ask the courts to cancel their bail, he added.

Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II said the only reason communist leaders like Benito and Wilma Tiamzon were freed was because the government did not oppose their bail.

Immigration lookout

Aguirre also said he was planning to place all NDFP consultants on an immigration lookout bulletin order.

One NDFP consultant, Ariel Arbitrario, was arrested on Monday in Davao City, before the Jasig was terminated, because he was traveling with a person who was wanted for murder, Lorenzana said.

The defense secretary said the NPA was no different from Abu Sayyaf bandits, who had kidnapped and beheaded hostages.

"The Abu Sayyaf kidnap people and then they get money. The NPA will threaten those businessmen and also get money. There's no difference at all. They

are there to terrorize people, to giving them money. That's extortion," Lorenzana said.

"So we will hunt them down and maybe stop them from doing what they are doing," he added.

Clashes

The casualties on both sides had steadily risen since an NPA fighter died in a clash with Army soldiers in North Cotabato two weeks ago.

At least six soldiers were killed last week in separate guerrilla attacks in Mindanao and Luzon, including three whose bodies were found riddled with bullets after they were abducted by the rebels.

On Monday, an alleged NPA regional supply officer, Glenn Ramos, was killed in Davao City when he reportedly fought soldiers and policemen out to arrest him on attempted homicide charges.

On Tuesday, just hours before the government announced its "all-out war," a soldier was killed in a clash with suspected rebels in Capiz province.

Lorenzana said the military would focus on the "armed

FREED POLITICAL PRISONERS IN NDFP PANEL

Benito Tiamzon
Alan Jazmines Jr.
Adelberto Silva
Gabriel Kennedy Bangibang
Ruben Saluta
Servellano Jaime Soledad
Ma. Loida Magpatoc
Renante Gamara
Alfredo Mapano
Ernesto Lorenzo
Wilma Austria Tiamzon
Pedro Codaste
Porferio Tuna Jr.
Tirso Alcantara
Ariel Arbitrario
Eddie Genelza
Concha Araneta-Bocala

Compiled by Inquirer Research
SOURCES: ndfp.org and Karapatan

component" of the rebel movement, not the "peace-loving" supporters such as farmers.

—WITH REPORTS FROM JHESSET O. ENANO, CYNTHIA D. BALANA, GIL C. CABACUNGAN, NESTOR P. BURGOS JR., NICO ALCONABA, JIGGER JERUSALEM, ALLAN NAWAL AND REUTERS INQ

08 February 2017



Page: 1

All-out war vs NPA

NDF safe conduct passes scrapped

By ALEXIS ROMERO

The government has declared "all-out war" against the New People's Army (NPA) following the termination of peace talks with communist rebels, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said yesterday.

Lorenzana said the military would resume its operations against the insurgents, but still believes the Duterte administration remains open to resuming peace talks.

"The President is not yet closing the doors. 'If there is compelling reason to go back to the peace process, then we will go back,'" Lorenzana said, quoting the President. "So the doors are not closed. This is not cast in stone."

Lorenzana said the military is under orders from President Duterte to prepare "for the inevitable conflict" with the NPA following the termination of peace negotiations with the

communist rebels.

"It is an all-out war because they are considered by the President already as terrorists. We also consider them as terrorists," Lorenzana said.

The government's peace panel yesterday served a formal notice to the National Democratic Front, terminating the Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantee (JASIG) and cancelling safe conduct passes for NDF members, according to presidential peace adviser Jesus Dureza.

Lorenzana clarified the "all-out war" only covers the NPA, the armed component

Turn to Page 18

All-out war

From Page 1

OFFICE OF

of the communists, and is not directed towards "peaceful supporters."

He added there is no need to deploy additional troops against the NPA.

"I think we have sufficient troops on the ground in Caraga, Southern Mindanao and other places to address this issue," Lorenzana said.

"And if there is a need we may be transferring other troops from Luzon to areas that need these troops more," he added.

Lorenzana also assured the public that the all-out war would not lead to human rights abuses.

"It is bad for the image of the military. The military will lose its credibility if abuses are committed. And we try to avoid that," he said.

"I really punish them, discharge them or bring them to court if anyone is involved in that."

President Duterte terminated the talks with the NDF, the umbrella group representing the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the NPA following the scuttling of the interim truce of the two sides.

Duterte had lifted the government's six-month-old ceasefire Friday and the next day discarded the talks being brokered by Norway. Those moves came after the NPA abandoned their own truce and killed six soldiers and kidnapped two others in new flare-ups in the 48-year insurgency.

The government and the rebels separately declared ceasefires last year to foster the peace talks, which progressed steadily for months before rapidly deteriorating in recent weeks.

The CPP had declared they are terminating their unilateral ceasefire after accusing the government of failing to release all political prisoners and encroaching on rebel-held areas.

Duterte rejected the demand on the release of 400 political detainees, saying it is tantamount to granting amnesty.

On Sunday, Duterte labeled the CPP-NPA-NDF as a "terrorist group" and ordered the arrest of rebel leaders who took part in the peace negotiations.

Duterte also scored the communist rebels for launching offensives against soldiers despite the goodwill gestures demonstrated by his administration.

Lorenzana likened the NPA to the Abu Sayyaf, the bandit group involved in several kidnappings and bombings in Mindanao.

"How are they (NPA) different from the Abu Sayyaf? The Abu Sayyaf kidnap people and then they get money. The NPA will threaten those businessmen and also get money," Lorenzana said.

"There's no difference at all. They are there to terrorize people into giving them money, that's extortion. So we will hunt them down and maybe stop them from doing what they are doing," he added.

Still open

Despite the "all-out war," Lorenzana believes President Duterte remains open to resuming peace talks with the rebels.

He said he is open to holding backchannel talks with the NDF.

"Anything that will further peace in our country, I am in favor of that," Lorenzana said.

Last Monday, Duterte said he no longer wants to talk peace with the communists.

"I don't want it anymore. I don't want to be fooled anymore," Duterte had said.

Duterte also lamented that the rebels continued to commit atrocities despite his efforts to reach out to them.

"They are spoiled brats. They make demands as if they are the government," he said. "They killed soldiers and policemen... Fine, let's go to war."

Troops have resumed combat operations after Duterte lifted the ceasefire. Armed Forces of the Philippines-Public Affairs Office chief Col.

Edgard Arevalo said.

The operations were in response to complaints from villagers of rebel extortion and efforts to rescue the kidnapped soldiers, he said.

Arevalo reported the conduct of military operations following the lifting of the ceasefire declaration last Friday has yielded positive reports.

"There were a total of six armed engagements in various parts of the country since the President lifted the ceasefire and the peace talks on Feb. 4," he said.

Arevalo said the military was able to effect two arrests together with the Philippine National Police (PNP), and received seven who surrendered along with the high-powered firearms and an improvised explosive device.

Army troops clashed with about 20 NPA guerrillas Sunday in Occidental Mindoro, killing one rebel, and on Saturday, troops and policemen arrested a rebel couple in Misamis Occidental for a multiple attempted murder case, the military said.

A rebel consultant, Ariel Arbitrario, was taken into custody for questioning by troops Monday at a checkpoint in Davao City.

Another rebel leader, Ronald Porras Europa, was arrested in Silay City, Negros Occidental on Monday.

At least four other combat operations occurred elsewhere.

In Compostela Valley, suspected NPA rebels set ablaze a banana plantation-packing warehouse in Pantukan town late Sunday, military officials said.

An Army trooper was wounded during an encounter with NPA rebels in Aroroy, Masbate on Monday.

Two soldiers were wounded during an encounter with 15 suspected NPA rebels in Casinguran, Sorsogon on Monday.

Another soldier was killed and two others wounded during a firefight with NPA rebels in a remote village in Tapaz, Capiz yesterday.

On the other hand, the NPA maintained the killing of the

5, 5295

OFFICE

85, 5295

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

three soldiers in Bukidnon last week was a result of a "legitimate encounter."

NDF political adviser Luis Jalandoni had said the three soldiers might have been victims of a rubout, suggesting the military could be behind the killing.

Major Gen. Benjamin Madrigal Jr., commander of the 4th Infantry Division, condemned the accusation, saying the rebel group itself admitted that it was behind the brutal killings.

"In a desperate attempt to cover up for the barbaric acts committed by their terrorist members, Luis Jalandoni of the NDF gave accusations and libelous statements against the AFP," he said.

Madrigal pointed out that a day after the killing of the three soldiers, Allan Juanito, the NPA spokesman for the Northcentral Mindanao region, called up the media and owned up to the killing, saying the soldiers tried to fight back, pulling out their firearms, "but

the NPA shot at them first to defend themselves, resulting in their deaths."

The three soldiers were taken by NPA rebels in Malaybalay City in Bukidnon. The soldiers were unarmed and in civilian attire when they were snatched.

Their lifeless bodies, riddled with bullets, were later found along the road in a remote village in the city.

Arresting the consultants

The government has tightened the noose on the rebel leaders who acted as NDF consultants that Duterte wants arrested.

The Department of Justice has issued an immigration lookout bulletin for the rebel leaders who were granted temporary liberty to participate in the failed peace negotiations as consultants.

Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II said the lookout bulletin would cover NDF

consultants who are presently out on bail because of government's peace process with the communist rebels.

"These people are facing criminal cases so we have to prevent them from evading prosecution. They could possibly leave the country," he said.

Arevalo added the NDF negotiators cannot validly invoke the Joint Agreement on Security and Immunity Guarantee in questioning the arrests.

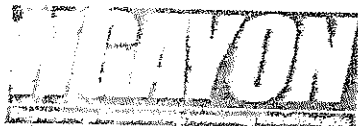
"That agreement applies only to those who are in hiding whom the government invites to participate in the peace talks," he said.

Lorenzana said the NPA took advantage of the ceasefire period to recruit new members, and they have grown in strength to about 5,000 fighters.

– With Michael Punongbayan, Gerry Lee-Gorit, Ben Serrano, Artemio Dumlao, Gilbert Bayoran, Jennifer Rendon, Celso Amo, AP

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

February 2017



Pahina. 7

Cafgu pinabulagta

COTABATO CITY, Maguindanao - Napaslang ang 26-anyos na Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) makaraang pagbabilin ng dalawang di-pa kilalang lalaki sa Purok Kwatro, Barangay Balite sa bayan ng Magpet, North Cotabato kamakalawa ng kahapon. Kinilala ang biktima na si Edwin Hejara, may-asawa, miyembro ng 72nd Infantry Battalion ng Phil Army at nakatira sa Barangay Tempuran sa nasabing bayan. Ayon sa report nakaupo ang biktima habang naghihintay ng pasahero nang lapitan at ratatin ng gunmen. Dalawang tama ng bala sa noo at kanang tenga ng biktima ang tumapos sa kanyang buhay. Sa ngayon ay nanatiling blanko ang pulisya sa motibo ng gunmen. **Rhoderick Benez**

February 2017



Pahina. 6

Bomba ng NPA umiskor

Isang sundalo ang Army, naganap ang sagu-nasawi nang masabugan paan alas-tres ng mada-ang improvised explosive ling-araw kung saan device (IED) sa eng-inambus ng mga pinani-kwentrong naganap niwalaang kasapi ng New sa Barangay Tacayan, People's Army (NPA) Tapaz, Capiz. ang mga sundalo hang-

Kinilalaang biktimang gang sa naapakan ni Fa-si Cpl. Ricky Bill Farinas rinang ang IED.

na nagtamo ng mga sugat Patuloy pa ang pursuit bunsod ng pagsabog ng operation ng mga sundalo itinanim na IED. sa armadong grupo at ina-

Sa inisyal na report alam din kung may nasu-mula sa 61st Infantry gatan sa panig ng mga Battalion ng Philippine rebelde. (Betchai Julian)

08 February 2017



Pahina. 2

Mag-asawang opisyal ng NPA arestado.1 pa todas

Nadakip ng pulisya at militar sa isang joint operation ang mag-asawang lider ng New People's Army (NPA) sa pantalan ng Ozamis City, Misamis Occidental.

Ang mga nahuli ay ang mag-asawang Lito El-medolan alyas Ka Ondoy, at Maria Bella Elmedolan, kapwa high ranking NPA leaders, residente ng Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur.

Ang hakbang ay matapos na maglabas ng mandato si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na tugisin ang lahat ng mga miyembro ng NPA.

Nabatid na inaresto sa pantalan ng Ozamis City ang mag-asawa na kung saan si Lito ay itinuturong opisyal ng Technical Ordnance Committee o taga-gawa ng bomba ng NPA habang nagsisilbing finance committee officer naman ang kanyang misis na si Maria.

Ayon kay S/Supt. Jaysen de Guzman, police provincial director ng Misamis Occidental na may matitibay na ebidensya silang mula sa intelligence report ng AFP.

Nabatid na ang mag-asawa ay inaresto sa bisa ng arrest warrant na inisyu ni Judge Kimal Salacop, Regional Trial Court Branch 6, 10th Judicial Region, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur sa kasong multiple attempted murder na pansamantalang nakakulong CIDG detention cell ng Cagayan de Oro City at nakatakang ibiyahe sa Agusan del Sur para sa paglilitis.

Samantala, napatay naman sa shootout ang supply officer na si Glenn Ramos alyas Berdan, 40, ng Purok 4, Don Julian, Brgy. Maa, Davao City kamakalawa ng hapon.

Ayon kay Captain Rhyen Batchar, Spokesman ng Army's 10th Infantry Division (ID) kasalukuyang isinisilbi ng tropa ng militar at pulisya ang warrant of arrest sa kasong attempted homicide laban kay Ramos nang kumasa ito sa arresting team.-*Rhoderick Beñez, Joy Cantos*-

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

2 rebels surrender at the start of army offensive operation in Caraga

From the Philippine Information Agency (Feb 7): 2 rebels surrender at the start of army offensive operation in Caraga

Two regular members of the New Peoples Army (NPA) in this province have surrendered to the 3rd Special Forces Battalion based in Bayuagan City on Monday, February 6, 2017. They brought with them one M16, two garand, one carbine, one Light Anti-Tank Weapon and two IEDs.

The surrenderees who were identified as Jerry Petelo alias 'Wawie' and Rany Ayawon alias 'Dondon' of the North Eastern Mindanao Regional Party Committee (NEMRC) of the NPA operating in Agusan Norte and Agusan del Sur cited their frustration against the NPA leadership after their promised allowances were no longer given. The fear of the incoming army offensive was also among the reasons for their surrender.

The two surrenderees further revealed that a lot of their NPA companions in their unit share the same sentiment after President Rodrigo Duterte lifted the unilateral ceasefire earlier declared. They said that many have already left their unit for good while others are planning to surrender.

Lt. Col. Cristobal Zaragoza, Brigade Commander of the 401st Brigade, assured the duo that they will be treated well and will be assisted in their return to the mainstream society per instruction of MGen. Benjamin Madrigal, the 4th Infantry Division Commander.

Meanwhile, Lt. Gen. Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero of the Eastern Mindanao Command congratulated the 401st Brigade especially Capt. Jasper Bayrante and Clnsp. Rommel Villamor for ensuring the safety of the two NPA-surrenderees when they extricated from their main group.

Also, the duo will be given their benefits under the Comprehensive Local Integration Program (CLIP) of the government and incentives for the firearms they have returned to start a new life.

<http://news.pia.gov.ph/article/view/2041486455856/2-rebels-surrender-at-the-start-of-army-offensive-operation-in-caraga>

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

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

1 killed, 2 hurt in AFP, NPA encounter in Capiz

From the Philippine News Agency (Feb 7): 1 killed, 2 hurt in AFP, NPA encounter in Capiz

Four days after President Rodrigo R. Duterte lifted the ceasefire, one was killed while two others were hurt in an encounter between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and New People's Army (NPA) in Tapaz, Capiz, Tuesday.

Corporal Ricky Bill Fariñas was killed while Sergeant William Viado and Private First Class Donald Lisbo were hurt when an improvised explosive device (IED) blasted during the combat operation initiated by 61st Infantry Battalion to NPA's campsite in Barangay Tacayan, Tapaz, Capiz around 6:15 a.m.

"When the ceasefire was lifted, we initiated offensive operations against the NPA. While we were heading towards the objective of the operation, we did not know that there was an improvised explosive device and when it was activated, our (soldiers) were hurt," Lieutenant Colonel Leonardo Peña, commander of 61st Infantry Battalion told Philippine News Agency-Iloilo.

Fariñas died on the spot while both Viado and Lisbo were rushed to Dr. Ricardo S. Provido Sr. Memoria District Hospital in the town of Calinog, Iloilo for treatment.

Peña said they were already expecting an encounter with the NPA since the area is "very influential".

"Actually, we received series of reports about the (campsite) of NPA in that area during the time of ceasefire, but we cannot initiate offensive operations since it was prohibited and we respected the unilateral ceasefire," said Peña.

President Duterte terminated the ceasefire with NPA on February 3, two days when the NPA announced that it will end its ceasefire on February 10.

The President said he tried to extend peace with the communist rebels but many soldiers were still killed.

Meanwhile, Peña said the killing of one soldier will not stop them from initiating future combat operations against the NPA.

"We will continue the operation," said Peña.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=2&sid=&nid=2&rid=961785>

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

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

86th IB troopers extend aid to 6 road mishap victims in Isabela

From the Philippine News Agency (Feb 7): 86th IB troopers extend aid to 6 road mishap victims in Isabela

Aside from securing the nation against all forms of internal and external threats, soldiers on duty can also act emergency medical technicians if needed.

This was proven by troopers of the 86th Infantry Battalion who witnessed a roadside mishap at the National Highway near Barangay San Manuel, Naguillian town, Isabela Monday morning.

In the said mishap, six people, all members of the Reyes family, were injured, 5th Infantry Division public affairs office chief 1st Lt. Rhea May Reyes said.

She added the 86th Infantry Battalion troopers were headed to their headquarters in Camp Melchor, Upi town but opted to aid the injured passengers by transporting the victims to the Isabela Doctors General Hospital for medical treatment.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&pic=981631>

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

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

Ex-RPA member nabbed for murder

From the Visayan Daily Star (Feb 7): Ex-RPA member nabbed for murder

A member of the defunct Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncavao Brigade facing murder charges, was arrested yesterday by Army soldiers in Silay City, while policemen recovered three firearms and suspected shabu from a farmer in Kabankalan City, all in Negros Occidental.

Ronald Porras Europa, 46, was apprehended by troopers of the 62 nd Infantry Battalion Charlie Company headed by 1Lt. John William Portillano in Hacienda Hermal, Brgy. Guimbalaon, Silay City, for illegal possession of firearms.

Supt. Willy Diel, Silay City police officer-in-charge, said last night that the arrest of Europa yielded a KG9 automatic pistol with two magazines containing 41 ammunition.

Diel said that Europa has a pending arrest warrant for murder, with no bail recommended.

Europa was immediately endorsed by the Philippine Army to the Silay City Police Station for more investigations.

Diel said that the warrant of arrest was also served to Europa, who is now in jail.

The arrest of Europa came after the Philippine Army resumed its internal peace security operations, following the lifting of unilateral ceasefire with the New People's Army.

The RPA-ABB, which is now known as Kapatiran, entered into peace talks with the government in year 2000. Almost 17 years later, the government has yet to sign the closure agreement with the RPA-ABB, where many of its leaders died in assassination activities of the NPA.

Meanwhile, a police team yesterday swooped down on the house of a farmer in Brgy. Tapu, Kabankalan City, for illegal possession of firearms.

The raid at the house of the suspect identified as Hepolito Abad led to the recovery of three firearms, including a .45 caliber Colt pistol with two magazines containing seven ammunition, another .45 caliber pistol (STI International Spartan with two magazines containing 14 bullets, as well as an improvised shotgun.

Senior Supt. William Señoron, provincial police director of Negros Occidental, said 51 more live ammunition from 45 caliber pistol, suspected shabu, and its paraphernalia were also recovered, during the raid.

<http://www.visayandailystar.com/2017/February/07/topstory5.htm>

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

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

315 new soldiers take oath, join 6th Infantry Division's human resources

From the Philippine News Agency (Feb 7): 315 new soldiers take oath, join 6th Infantry Division's human resources

The Army's 6th Infantry Division has 315 new soldiers who will augment the Army and Marines in Central Mindanao Region after taking their oath Tuesday afternoon, officials said.

The new soldiers graduated from a nine-month Candidate Soldier Course on Saturday in a ceremony held at 6th Division Training School in Barangay Semba, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao.

The new soldiers, sworn in as new Privates of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, are members of Candidate Soldiers Class 416-2017 and Class 417-2017.

They underwent a rigid Basic Military Training and Jungle Warfare Mountain Operations Course as well as trainings on war fighting competency, disaster response and rescue operations, explosive ordnance and reconnaissance agent, water search and rescue, and martial arts called "pekiti tersia kali," according to 6th ID Public Affairs Office chief Captain Arvin Encinas.

After months of rigid training, Encinas said the new soldiers will be assigned to the different battalions of 6ID to boost the peace and development efforts of the command in Central Mindanao.

The 6th ID is composed of the three Army brigades and under its supervision and control are 1st Marine Brigade and Philippine Air Force (PAF), Army Special Forces Brigade, Army Engineering Brigade, 1st Mechanized Infantry Brigade and Special Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit brigade scattered in the provinces of Maguindanao, North Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and part of Lanao del Sur.

Brigadier General Arnel B. dela Vega, 6th ID chief, welcomed the new soldiers and congratulated them for their hard work and patience in finishing their trainings.

Speaking during the oath-taking of new soldiers, dela Vega lauded training unit commander Lt. Col Donald M. Gurniran and his men for their dedication in molding the character of the new soldiers and ensuring that the new breed will become outstanding troops of the Kampilan family.

Dela Vega told the new infantrymen that they were provided with the best training and will be deployed to their respective unit assignments under 6ID, making sure that they would be of great use to the people whom they have sworn to protect and serve.

The division commander reminded the new AFP members of the AFP's mission of upholding the sovereignty, supporting the Constitution, and defending the territory of the Republic of the Philippines against all enemies foreign and domestic; advancing the national aims, interest and policies; and planning the organization, maintenance, development, and deployment of its regular and citizen armed force for National Security.

"Take note of our primary duties, that is to secure the sovereignty of the state and the integrity of the national territory, protect the country from foreign aggression and internal subversion, advance national

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

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

aims and interest and perform duties as directed by immediate superiors " he said.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=2&sid=&nid=2&rid=961861>

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

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

Army troops clash anew with NPA rebels in Rizal

From the Philippine News Agency (Feb 7): Army troops clash anew with NPA rebels in Rizal

In line with President Rodrigo Duterte's ceasefire termination order, troopers from the 2nd Infantry Division, on patrol operations, clashed with an estimated 10 New People's Army (NPA) members in Rodriguez town, Rizal Monday afternoon.

The encounter took place in Sitio Lukutan Maliit, Barangay San Isidro of said locality at around 1:30 p.m., 2nd Infantry Division public affairs office chief 1st Lt. Xv-zon Meneses said.

In the 10-minute fighting, no casualties were sustained by both sides but retreating NPA members dropped behind ammunition and subversive documents.

"The enemies of the government shall expect massive combat operations as we are now more focused in protecting the people from any threat. Yet, we are still open for those NPAs who would like to return to the folds of law," 2nd Infantry Division commander Major Gen. Rhoderick Parayno said.

Pursuit operations are still ongoing as of this posting.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=961636>

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

08 February 2017



Page: 116

ANTITERROR DRIVE

5 ABUS KILLED IN SULU CLASH

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Five members of the Abu Sayyaf Group were killed in a clash with government troops in Sulu province on Tuesday, military reports said.

The firefight that broke out in Sitio Talok-talok on Capual Island in Omar town, said Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay, spokesperson of the military's Western Mindanao Command. She said the slain bandits were members of a group led by Alhabsy Misaya in Sulu.

Petinglay said soldiers recovered five bodies, arrested a member of the Abu Sayyaf and recovered firearms from the clash site.

She said the government's naval forces conducted a blockade to intercept bandits leaving Capual Island.

"This operational success shows the commitment of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in fulfilling its mandate of bringing internal peace and security in the province of Sulu," said Maj. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., the commander of the Western Mindanao Command.

"Rest assured that we will continue to abide by the rules of engagement. We will contain the Abu Sayyaf Group with the assistance of the local government and the community," he added. —JULIE ALIPALA INQ

08 February 2017



Page: 20

5 Abus killed, 1 nabbed in Sulu clash

ZAMBOANGA CITY - Five suspected Abu Sayyaf bandits were killed and another was arrested in a military offensive on an island in Sulu yesterday.

Marine soldiers launched the operation at around 8 a.m. after receiving intelligence reports that the bandits were hiding in Sitio Talok Talok on Capual island, said Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay, spokesperson for the Western Mindanao Command.

The fatalities, who have yet to be identified, were turned over to village officials for disposition.

Naval forces put up a blockade in the waters off Capual Island to intercept the fleeing bandits.

Petinglay said the soldiers recovered eight rifles from the gunmen, who were led by Alhabsy Misaya.

Petinglay said the military intensified its operations against Abu Sayyaf bandits to rescue the remaining hostages.

The Abu Sayyaf is still holding seven Indonesians, five Malaysians, six Vietnamese, a Dutch, a German, a Korean and six Filipinos.

Last week, five Abu Sayyaf bandits were killed and seven others were wounded in an encounter with Army Scout Rangers also in Sulu. Two soldiers were wounded in the clash.

- Roel Pareño, Michael Punongbayan

or - Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

ing the land.

18

28 February 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 14

Fight vs terrorism won't be affected by resumption of war against NPAs

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

The chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Public Affairs Office (AFP-PAO) assured that the fight against terrorism won't be affected now that combat operations against communist rebels have resumed.

This after President Duterte ended the five-month government ceasefire over the weekend following reported violations and atrocities committed by New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas.

In an interview, Marine Colonel

Edgard Arevalo explained that the all-out war against the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), Maute Group, and other local and foreign terrorists in Mindanao won't be affected as there are sufficient personnel and equipment in areas where New People's Army (NPA) operate.

Arevalo said that based on the latest information they received, the current strength of the communist rebels stand at 3,700 with their concentration mostly in the area of Northeastern Mindanao.

"As of the moment we don't see

this (resumption of combat operations against NPAs) having any effect in our ongoing operations against the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu, Basilan and Tawi-Tawi and other terrorist groups in Central Mindanao," Arevalo said.

"Because we have sufficient personnel, equipment and units in these areas where the NPAs operate. It has also been part of our plans to have contingencies, I mean to plan for contingencies in the event that the peace process doesn't succeed," Arevalo said.

Arevalo said that as of the moment there is no immediate need to re-deploy

"Yes, because that's part of our mandate and the peace talks just gave us the opportunity to have some breathing space, especially to residents so that they would not live in fear that they will be affected as a result of the fighting and at the same time have the opportunity to have their own business," Arevalo said.

Arevalo said as of the moment, there is no need to pull out troops presently deployed in Basilan and Sulu.

Arevalo earlier said that the resumption of combat operations was in line to the Chief Executive's pronouncement to go after communist rebels, especially those who commit atrocities to the people.

Arevalo, at the same time, said that efforts are being made to locate the whereabouts of three soldiers earlier kidnap by suspected New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas.

forces to go after communist rebels.

"We have to take this into account that's why this has already been factored in when we made changes in the deployment. But as I was saying, again, for the moment the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) sees that we have sufficient forces, equipment and personnel in these areas and there's no immediate need for any movements," he said.

Arevalo, at the same time, said that the AFP is very much ready for a two-pronged campaign against terrorists and communists.

08 February 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 8

Offensive vs NPA mounts in Mindanao

By **YAS D. OCAMPO**
and **MIKE U. CRISMUNDO**

DAVAO CITY - A regional supply officer of the New People's Army (NPA) was killed in a shootout in Davao City, while a rebel couple was apprehended by authorities in Agusan del Sur, as the government stepped up its all-out war against communist insurgents in Mindanao.

Glenn Ramos, alias Berdan and a resident of Purok 4, Don Julian, Barangay Maa here, was slain in a shootout with a joint police and military team, which tried to serve a warrant on the suspect for attempted homicide.

Ramos is said to be a regional supply officer of the NPA in the Davao region.

Rhyan Batchar, spokesperson of the 10th Infantry Division, said Ramos refused to submit himself and drew a

weapon that led to a brief firefight.

He sustained two gunshot wounds in the body and was brought to the Southern Philippines Medical Center where he was later declared dead-on-arrival by the attending physician.

Meanwhile, Lito and Maria Bello Elmedolan, alleged to be members of the technical ordnance committee and finance committee, respectively, of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP)-NPA Komisyon Mindanao (KOMID), were arrested in Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur, Saturday.

The couple was arrested around 3:45 p.m. by elements of the Misamis Occidental Police Provincial Office (PPO) Intelligence Service and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), which served an arrest warrant on them for multiple attempted murder that was issued by Judge Kimal Salacop of Regional Trial Court of Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur.

The couple was visiting the wake of a relative when they were pounced upon by the military and arrested while onboard a barge as they were leaving the port area, it said.

The arrested couple was immediately brought by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) to the Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur court on Monday for proper disposition, a police report said.

Elsewhere in Mindanao, the Army reported on Monday that undetermined numbers of NPA rebels attacked a banana plantation on Sunday evening in the province of Compostela Valley.

Batchar said NPA rebels on board five motorcycles assaulted a banana plantation owned by DOLE Stanfilco in Sitio Sto. Niño, Barangay Araibo, Pantukan town.

The rebels then burned the packing plant inside the plantation, Batchar added.

No one was reported hurt during the attack but the burning caused the banana plantation around ₱1 million in damages, he added.

February 2017



Page: 16

SUPPORT FOR PEACE TALKS

LEFTIST CABINET MEMBERS WON'T RESIGN

By Jaymee T. Gamil
@jameegamilINQ

Leftist members of President Duterte's Cabinet said on Tuesday they would not resign and would instead work for the resumption of peace talks between the government and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP).

"As heads of national government agencies tasked to address poverty and improve the quality of life of the Filipino, we believe that the (Government of the Republic of the Philippines) should move the peace negotiations with the NDFP forward," Agrarian Reform Secretary Rafael Mariano, Social Welfare Secretary Judy Taguiwalo and National Anti-Poverty Commission Secretary Liza Maza said in a joint statement.


They said they "will continue to engage within the Cabinet and the rest of the administration toward the resumption of the talks and strengthening the civilian voice in the peace process."

Most substantive agenda

The proposed Comprehensive Agreement on Social and Economic Reforms, which was tabled in the third round of talks in Italy, was the "most substantive agenda in the negotiations and is key to lasting peace and long-term poverty eradication," they said.

They said the two sides had already reached "a common understanding of the agrarian unrest in the country and have agreed in principle to the free distribution of land to farmers and farm workers."

Their respective working groups on political and constitutional reforms also have exchanged views on a proposal to



They have passion [for] what they are doing and that's what we need in the Cabinet—people who are passionate (about) what they do

Delfin Lorenzana
Defense Secretary

form a federal system as well as safeguards and constitutional guarantees.

The three Cabinet secretaries lamented that the peace talks had been stalled under Mr. Duterte but expressed continued support for the President.

They said Mr. Duterte had made a commitment "to lift 9 million Filipinos out of poverty by the end of his term."

"The statement adds weight on the government's work in implementing a genuine agrarian reform, building its industries and promoting social welfare and development as an integral part of poverty alleviation," they said.

Passion for work

The Cabinet secretaries said while talks on socioeconomic reforms were ongoing, the agencies under the Cabinet's Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cluster were working on direct, immediate and substantial benefits for the poor and the marginalized sectors of society.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, who announced on Tuesday an "all-out war" against communist rebels, said

Taguiwalo, Mariano and Maza were "doing their job very well" and need not step down.

"They have passion [for] what they are doing and that's what we need in the Cabinet—people who are passionate (about) what they do," Lorenzana told reporters in Malacañang. "If they keep on delivering the services to the people and helping the government, I don't see any reason why they cannot continue."

Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, a former Navy officer and one of the strident critics of Mr. Duterte, said he agreed with the President's all-out war against the rebels. "It's about time," he said.

"But to prove that this is not another bluster, President Duterte must immediately fire the CPP (Communist Party of the Philippines) officials whom he appointed to various high positions in government," Trillanes said in a statement without identifying the officials.

Taguiwalo, Mariano and Maza were nominated to the Cabinet by the NDFP, but have not been acknowledged as officers of the CPP. —WITH REPORTS

FROM LEILA B. SALAVERRIA AND TARA QUISMUNDO INQ

08 February 2017



Page: 1

Tiamzons, other NDF consultants back in Phl

By RUDY SANTOS

The Bureau of Immigration confirmed that couple Benito and Wilma Tiamson - chairman and secretary general, respectively, of the Communist Party of the Philippines - and other consultants of the National Democratic Front (NDF) were not arrested when they returned to the country last Jan. 31 after attending the peace talks in Rome.

Turn to Page 15

Tiamzons From Page 1

Red Mariñas, chief of the bureau's Port Operations Division at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, said President Duterte only ordered their arrest a few days ago after the unilateral ceasefire was lifted.

The NDF said all 17 of its consultants - released from prison in August and who participated in the peace talks in Oslo, Norway and Rome, Italy - are back in the country and are "not in hiding."

The NDF has 22 consultants to help in the talks between the government and the communist rebels to end five decades of conflict.

A day after ending the truce, Duterte also terminated the formal peace negotiations.

Duterte said he was ordering the government peace panel to "fold up the tents and come home."

"Peace talks would remain canceled unless there is a compelling reason that will benefit the interest of the nation," he added.

Duterte lifted the ceasefire after New People's Army (NPA) rebels killed three soldiers and kidnapped three other troops in separate incidents.

Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) yesterday demanded the immediate release from detention of NDF consultant Ariel Arbitrario and the alleged NPA liaison officer as Roderick Mamuyac.

KMU chair Elmer Labog claimed that Mamuyac and his companion Jun Sinday are legitimate labor leaders tasked to escort Arbitrario.

He said that Mamuyac and Sinday are not members of the NPA.

Col. Erwin Neri, Task Force Davao commander, said Arbitrario and Mamuyac were arrested last Monday by elements of the Army-led Task Force Davao at a checkpoint in Barangay Sirawan, Toril, Davao City.

The arrest of NDF leaders came two days after Duterte lifted the unilateral ceasefire with the communist rebels.

Neri said Arbitrario and Mamuyac were immediately turned over to the police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

"The AFP claim is erroneous and fabricated," Labog said, insisting that Mamuyac is a trade union organizer of

KMU Southern Mindanao and not in any way connected with the NPA.

KMU said both Mamuyac and Sinday were tasked to accompany Arbitrario as part of the efforts of KMU to support the peace talks between the government and the NDF.

"Arbitrario's arrest, despite the non-existence of a formal notice of termination, is a desperate attempt of the AFP to sabotage the peace talks, taking advantage of the President's hasty retorts," he added.

"We call on the President to get back to his senses and respect previously signed agreements such as the JASIG and Comprehensive Agreement on the Respect of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law," he said.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) justified yesterday the arrest of NDF consultants after Duterte scrapped the peace talks.

Col. Edgard Arevalo, AFP Public Affairs Office chief, said the negotiators enjoyed temporary liberty on account of bail granted by the courts at the behest and the intercession of the government.

He explained that the grant of temporary liberty is to enable them to freely travel in the Philippines and abroad to participate in the peace negotiations.

"With the declaration of the President terminating the peace talks with the CPP-NPA-NDF, it effectively informs the negotiators from both sides of the table to wind up activities and come home immediately," Arevalo explained.

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

He said the NDF negotiators should surrender and abide by the conditions of the courts that granted them bail.

Continue peace talks

Anakpawis Rep. Ariel Casilao appealed to Duterte to reconsider his decision to scrap the peace talks with the NDF since the initial negotiations have attained significant progress such as the free distribution of land.

In a statement, Casilao said the preliminary meeting of the Reciprocal Working Committee on the Socio-Economic Reforms Agenda of both panels had agreed upon in principle the free distribution of land for farmers under the working draft of Comprehensive Agreement on Social and Economic Reforms.

"The suspension or termination of the peace talks will benefit the elite few hacenderos and compradors such as the Cojuangcos of Tarlac and Lorenzos who own Lapanday in Mindanao, and is detrimental to millions of farmers who have long been demanding genuine land reform in the country," Casilao said.

Casilao is vice-chairman of the House committee on agrarian reform and author of House Bill No. 555 or Genuine Agrarian Reform Bill that pushes for free distribution of land to farmers.

Bacolod City Bishop Patricio Buzon said that the peace talks would succeed if both sides show sincerity.

The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) said Defense Secretary Delfin

Lorenzana's threat to wage an all-out war against the NPA would only result in more human-rights violations.

KMP secretary-general Antonio Flores pointed out that civilians would be the first casualties of this all-out war.

"Declaring an all-out war against the NPA is declaring war against the people. Every all-out war campaign and militarization plan launched by previous administrations has targeted civilians, including activists, leaders and members of progressive organizations and even government critics," he added.

Breeding insurgents

Sen. Francis Escudero expressed apprehension over the government's order to engage the NPA in an all-out war, saying that this will only breed a new generation of insurgents.

While acknowledging that it was the NPA "who cast the first stone so to speak," Escudero said that both parties are responsible for the collapse of talks.

Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV said that it was about time that the government declared an all-out war against the NPA.

"It's about time. But to prove that this is not another bluster, President Duterte must immediately fire the communist officials he appointed to various high positions in government," Trillanes said.

Sen. Francis Pangilinan urged the two sides to get back to the negotiating table soon and realize the insanity of war.

Priest-turned-rebel Frank Fernandez denounced the military "occupation" of 60 barangays in Negros during the ceasefire period.

Fernandez, in a statement issued by NDF-Negros, said the AFP, especially its Peace and Development Teams, had occupied schools, chapels, markets, houses and even basketball courts in barangays, among others, for their psy-war propaganda, intelligence and interrogation activities.

Army officials in Negros denied Fernandez's allegations and claimed that the NPA took advantage of the ceasefire period to consolidate rebel forces and continue their recruitment activities.

Fernandez also justified the NPA attacks against AFP troops as a means to defend the rights of the people.

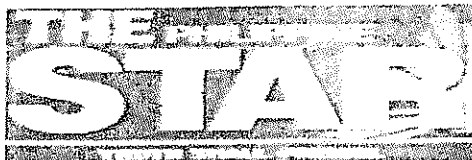
With Mayen Jaymalin, Michael Punongbayan, Rhodina Villanueva, Marvin Sy, Ding Cervantes, Gilbert Bayoran

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: (

5 Local: 5285, 5295

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

02 February 2017



Page: 1

Cabinet Reds push resumption of talks

Left-leaning Cabinet members will keep their posts and are not barred from Malacañang despite the end of peace talks between the government and communist rebels.

Social Welfare Secretary Judy Taguiwalo, Agrarian Reform Secretary Rafael Mariano and National Anti-Poverty Commission lead convenor Liza Maza attended yesterday's Cabinet meeting at Malacañang where they urged President Duterte to resume the peace negotiations.

Turn to Page 3

Cabinet From Page 1

Duterte earlier terminated the peace talks with the communists after the rebels launched attacks against government forces in Mindanao.

"As heads of national government agencies tasked to address poverty and improve the quality of life of Filipinos, we believe that the government should move the peace negotiations with the NDF (National Democratic Front) forward," the three officials said.

"We are one with the peace advocates, legislators, and individuals who urge both parties to resume the talks. We will continue to engage within the Cabinet and the rest of the administration toward the resumption of the talks and to strengthen the civilian voice in the peace process," they added.

The leftist officials said the peace negotiations have made historic strides on many fronts. They lamented that the talks "have now come to a standstill."

"This time, by pursuing peace, and through the political will of President Duterte, the talks have been productive. The government and the NDF have never been closer in their articulation of a shared vision of a society that addresses the root causes of war, poverty and inequality," they said.

"Let each side come to terms with the compelling reasons why we have come to the negotiating table in the first place. For it is the welfare of the millions of poor Filipinos that is at the core of the peace negotiations. Let us give peace a chance." – Alexis Romero

February 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 9

Soldiers abducted by insurgents still alive – AFP

COLUMBIO, Sultan Kudarat (PNA) – Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) officials here believe that the two infantrymen seized by communist New Peoples Army (NPA) last Wednesday here are still alive and considered prisoners of war, an Army lieutenant on Tuesday said.

Citing intelligence information, Second Lieut. Silver Belvis, speaking for the 39th Infantry Battalion, said the two soldiers, Sgt. Solaiman Calocop and Private First Class Samuel Garay, were being kept in the mountain-borders of

Sultan Kudarat, North Cotabato and Davao del Sur.

Belvis said the local government of Columbio, police, military and religious leaders have formed a crisis management committee to help save the prisoners of war.

"Our intelligence information showed the two are being treated well and we continue to hope they will be reunited with their loved ones anytime soon," Belvis said.

Residents in the villages have been

providing information that the two were still alive.

Calacop and Garay were on board a motorbike heading to the 39th IB detachment in Columbio from Makilala, North Cotabato on February 1, when about 10 communist rebels flagged them down in Barangay Telefas, Columbio.

They were disarmed and taken into custody by members of the NPA Guerilla Front 72 Mindanao Region Committee.

The crisis management committee has sent a manifesto to the local leaders

of Guerilla Front 72, to the office of Sultan Kudarat Gov. Pax Mangudadatu and to President Duterte seeking their help for the immediate release of the captives.

Belvis said the NPA has not issued any statement about the abduction.

Garay's wife has appealed for the immediate release of her husband saying he has two children waiting for him at home.

The Army has not conducted any major operation but efforts are underway through diplomatic means.

08 February 2017


MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 8

S. Luzon command continues military offensive vs NPA

By **DANNY J. ESTACIO**
and **NINO N. LUCES**

CAMP NAKAR, Lucena City – The Southern Luzon Command, Armed Forces of the Philippines (SOLCOM) resumed military offensive operations against the CPP-NPA in South Luzon area after the termination of the government unilateral ceasefire.

The military offensive recorded three separate clashes against the rebels in Southern Tagalog and Bicol Region on Monday.

SOLCOM reported that elements of the 31st Infantry Battalion led by 2nd Lieutenant Niko Pendejito were on a combat patrol when they encountered 15 NPAs at Sitio Kabungahan, Brgy. Trece Martinez, Casiguran, Sorsogon. The firefight lasted for 15 minutes on Monday morning, resulting in the injury of Private First Class Mart Maximo Odsinada and Corporal Jerome Tu.

The incident was reported to the 903rd Infantry Brigade of the Philippine Army under Colonel Fernando Trinidad

On the same day, in Masbate, elements of 93rd Division Reconnaissance Company encountered an undetermined number of NPAs at Sitio Bantulinao, Barangay Amutag, Aroroy, at around 1:40 p.m. The encounter uncovered four improvised explosive devices,

ammunitions of M14 rifle, personal belongings and NPA documents.

Another clash occurred at Sitio Lukutang Maliit, San Isidro, Rodriguez, Rizal where the troops of 80th Infantry Battalion, after receiving information from the residents, encountered 10 NPAs in a 10-minute gun battle at around 1:50 p.m.

“We will hit them hard,” Lieutenant General Ferdinand F. Quidilla, SOLCOM chief reiterated the conviction of Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines General Eduardo Año.

Military offensive operations will continue to decimate the rebel group in the Southern Tagalog and Bicol Regions. Pursuit operation of the engaged units continues, Quidilla added.

In Sorsogon

Meanwhile, the Sorsogon governor said he is determined to revive the earlier proposal of initiating peace talks between the Army and the NPA in his area.

Gov. Robert Lee Rodriguez told the Manila Bulletin that he is willing to provide resources for military and the rebels to negotiate and end hostilities.

“Bubuhayin ko yung unang proposal nung gobernador pa ang aking ama na si Raul Lee. Okey na yung Army kaya lang medyo ayaw ng kabilang kampo kasi dapat daw sa national level. Baka

pwede nating hanapan ng paraan para muling isulong yung local peace talks dito sa Sorsogon,” Rodriguez said.

In 2013, the former governor of Sorsogon appealed to the New People’s Army and the government forces to initiate a meaningful dialog that will start in the local level in order to preserve life and explore all avenues to implement doable formula for a lasting peace.

He had offered the resources of the Provincial Government as an initial step and reaching out the rebels and the military for an end to the hostilities especially in the province of Sorsogon.

On Monday morning, an encounter between the army and the NPA that lasted for 15 minutes happened almost few kilometers away from Sorsogon City proper.

Major Virgilio “Gil” Perez, information officer of the Army’s SOLCOM confirmed that two soldiers from the government side were wounded in the clash.

He identified the wounded are Private First Class Mart Maximo Odsinada and Corporal Jerome Tu.

Meanwhile, another encounter between 93rd Division Reconnaissance Company and undetermined number of alleged NPA happened in Sitio Amutag, Aroroy town, Masbate province on Monday afternoon.

08 February 2017



Page: 19

Gov't wants ROTC revived to make youth patriotic

By ALEXIS ROMERO

The Duterte administration will push for a mandatory Reserved Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program for grades 11 and 12 in public and private schools to instill patriotism among the youth.

The Cabinet agreed to support the program during a meeting in Malacañang yesterday, presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said.

Agriculture Secretary Emmanuel Piñol, who was present during the meeting, said President Duterte approved the mandatory ROTC after a thorough discussion on the issue.

The restoration of the mandatory ROTC would require an amendment to the National Service Training Program Law enacted in 2002.

"This will now be forwarded to Congress and the Senate and certified as urgent by President Duterte," he added.

Piñol said Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana highlighted the advantages of the ROTC revival during the meeting. According to the defense chief, ROTC instills in the youth the value of patriotism, love of country, moral and spiritual values, respect for human rights and adherence to Constitution.

ROTC is one of the three programs for students under NSTP. Other components of the program are the Civic Welfare Training Service, which requires students to participate in development programs and community service initiatives, and the Literacy Training Service,

which allows students to teach public school students basic skills.

Mandatory ROTC was scrapped in 2002 following the death of University of Santo Tomas student Mark Chua, after he exposed alleged irregularities in his unit.

Abella said the Cabinet also approved with conditions the IDOLE-Overseas Filipino Workers Identification Card System.

The system facilitates OFWs' electronic transactions with government and private offices.

It also provides them easy access to their records with government agencies, debit and automated teller machines and beep cards for the Metro Rail Transit and Light Rail Transit.

February 2017



Page: 9

Phl makes formal request for Chinese military equipment

By CHRISTINA MENDEZ

The Philippines has formalized its request for precision-guided munitions (PGM), fast boats and drones from China as part of the assistance offered by Beijing to the Duterte administration's campaign against illegal drugs and terrorism, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said yesterday.

Lorenzana said he has submitted the letter to Chinese Ambassador Zhao Jianhua regarding the \$14-million arms package that China pledged to the government.

"We have formalized that because China is giving us \$14 million... we asked for many things such as boats and drones," he said when asked if Duterte had requested for the PGMs from Beijing. "This is (in the form of) assistance."

The PGM is intended to precisely hit a target to minimize collateral damage.

Lorenzana noted that a PGM is less sophisticated than a missile, which could carry a conventional or nuclear explosive.

The defense chief added that he submitted the military's wish list to the Chinese ambassador about three weeks ago.

"They will look at the list, and see if they can provide them... Once they have okayed it, then we will proceed (to China) and look at them," Lorenzana said.

He affirmed Duterte's pronouncements last week that he had sounded off to China to help the Philippines with the acquisition of precision-guided arms.

"And I have also asked the Armed Forces to use all available assets and all the weaponry that's at our disposal. And I have an urgent message to China to help us if they have precision-guided arms, they can give us a loan," Duterte said.

He revealed the infor-

mation as he discussed the threat of Islamic groups in Mindanao.

While he lambasted the United States for interfering in local affairs, Duterte asserted his promise to Beijing about his decision to defer bringing up the issue of the dispute in West Philippine Sea.

Last weekend, Duterte also said that he would tap Russia for the procurement of modern equipment to be used in operations against terrorists in Mindanao.

The Philippines' bilateral relations with China strengthened after Duterte made a state visit to Beijing and set aside for the meantime the United Nations arbitration ruling in the South China Sea dispute.

After the warming of relations between the two countries, China also offered a \$500-million long-term soft loan for other military equipment. This is apart from the \$14-million grant.

03 February 2017



Page: 13

PH fears China will build island on Panatag Shoal

The Philippines expects China to try to build on the Scarborough Shoal, the country's Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said on Tuesday, a move he said would be "unacceptable" in the flash-point waterway.

In an interview with Agence France Presse, Lorenzana said he believed China would eventually reclaim the shoal, which sits just 230 kilometers from mainland Luzon.

Beijing has already built a number of islets and reefs in the South China Sea, installing military facilities on several of them.

Analysts say that similar in-

stallations on Scarborough Shoal, also known as the Panatag Shoal, could give China effective military control over the disputed waterway, something the United States had said it was not prepared to accept.

"They encroached," Lorenzana said of a 2012 confrontation that saw Philippine vessels displaced. "They occupied three islands there, plus they are trying to get Scarborough. So, to us, that is unacceptable."

"If we allow them, they will build. That's very, very disturbing. Very much (more) disturbing than Fiery Cross because this is

so close to us," Lorenzana added, referring to one of the Philippine-claimed reefs China had built on.

Because of its position, another military outpost on Scarborough Shoal is seen as the last major physical step required to secure control of the sea.

An outpost on the shoal would also put Chinese fighter jets and missiles within easy striking distance of US forces stationed in the Philippines.

The shoal also commands the northeast exit of the sea, so a Chinese military outpost there could stop other countries' navies from using the vital stretch of waters.

A UN-backed tribunal in a case brought by the Philippines under then President Benigno Aquino III ruled last year that the so-called "nine-dash-line," which underpins Beijing's claim to most of the South China Sea, had no legal basis.

But his successor, President Duterte, has courted Beijing and backed away from his country's close relationship with the United States.

Lorenzana said Chinese island-reclamation efforts were meant to control the South China Sea.

"That could be their strategy

to counter any superpower that would encroach on the South China Sea because they believe South China Sea is like their lake," he added.

The administration of new US President Donald Trump has indicated it will push back against any Chinese attempt to solidify control of the sea.

During confirmation hearings, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said the United States would block Chinese access to the islands, although analysts had pointed out that this would require a military blockade, an act of war.—AFP

08 February 2017



Page: A3

MISINFORMED

DUTERTE OKS US FACILITIES IN PH CAMPS

By Marlon Ramos
@MRamosINQ

President Duterte has allowed the construction of temporary military facilities as mutually agreed on by the United States and the Philippines under the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (Edca), Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said yesterday.

Edca, whose constitutionality was upheld by the Supreme Court last year, further strengthened the military agreement between the two countries under the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty.

In a press briefing in Malacañang, Lorenzana said the President was misinformed when he accused American soldiers of bringing in war armaments in Palawan, Pampanga and Cagayan de Oro City.

"I don't know where the President got his information, but I corrected it. I talked to him to tell him that, 'Mr. President, first, there was no construction yet of Edca camps,'" the defense secretary told reporters.

"It will be constructed sometime later this year or next year. Second, it's not allowed in our agreement. There will be no stockpiling of weapons or anything that could be used for war games," he recalled telling the President.

Moreover, Lorenzana said the equipment that the US military would be bringing in were mostly intended for humanitarian assistance and disaster response such as rubber boats.

He said the equipment would be "strategically located around the country" to allow US forces to immediately provide assistance in case of disasters.

Added Lorenzana: "I actually asked (the President's) decision if we would still continue with the Edca construction or not. He said, 'OK. Let's allow it, but be sure there will be no stockpiling of ammunition there.'" INQ

February 2017



Page: A14

MNLF, MILF HARBORING TERRORISTS?

President Du30 was reported to have "pleaded with" (read: begged) the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) not to provide safe haven for "ISIS-contaminated" Moro terrorists ("Duterte asks MNLF, MILF: Don't give sanctuary to terrorists," News, 1/27/17).

That is, by far, the clearest admission by government of what everyone else has been suspecting all along: Those bandits could not have gotten strong and bolder if not for the fact that the MNLF and the MILF have been keeping them under their wings.

What took Du30 too long to realize that? Observers

have been suggesting all these years that, as nonnegotiable proof of their sincerity in the ongoing peace process and since they are in the best position to know exactly where the terrorists are, the MNLF and the MILF should be at the forefront of efforts to capture them.

Alas, that is all wistful thinking. How could the MNLF

and the MILF members rat on their own blood relatives? The Mamasapano fiasco made the handwriting on the wall just bigger: Terrorists and several members of the MILF (and more likely than not, also of the MNLF) are interchangeable personas.

DINO M. CAPISTRANO,
dmccaps0210@gmail.com

February 2017

INQUIRER

Page: 12

Frog and scorpion fight

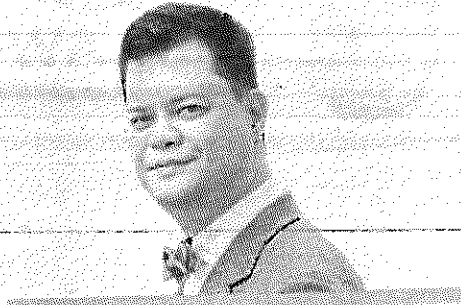
In September last year, Pierre Rousset writing in Europe Solidaire Sans Frontières observed that President Duterte had created a coalition of the Right and Left (with Joel Maglunsod in the labor department, Judy Taguiwalo in social welfare, Rafael Mariano in agrarian reform, and Liza Maza in the antipoverty commission, as the nominees of the communists).

Rousset noted: "(Duterte) does not have a power base of his own; to survive, he conducts a permanent war of movement."

The President did invest prestige and political capital in the peace talks with the Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army/National Democratic Front. The problem: His gamble was based on two difficult premises: first, the talks concluding swiftly as it would be impossible to keep rightists at bay forever; second, that there was an equal commitment from the unified leadership of the communists.

The first proved impossible because the communists demanded that captured comrades be released first, even as the President repeatedly and forthrightly declared that a deal had to come first, otherwise the other parts of his coalition would be difficult to control.

The second failed because, (per Rousset) his overtures were made to Jose Ma. Sison who was only a titular leader. The communists were divided on the question of talks. Rousset says Benito and Wilma Tiamzon, the real leaders of the communists at home, eventually agreed to the talks "simply hoping that Duterte will take practical steps to implement his policy of independence vis-à-vis the United States," while one can infer Sison and friends were genuinely hoping for some sort of a coalition government to come about.



THE LONG VIEW

MANUEL L. QUEZON III

Other factors were at play—e.g., the war on drugs, the CPP, according to Rousset, "even offering to contribute to it." Sison for his part tried to reciprocate by using his own prestige to downplay objections to human rights abuses: He said some objected; but he himself did not say he did, and he criticized Obama's criticisms. In the end, the communists could not risk being too quiet on these matters.

Last January, articulating the official position of the movement he belongs to, Teddy Casiño, said they have no illusions about the President, but hoped their collaboration would tip the balance in government. They would "formally" oppose things like the war on drugs and the Marcos burial while remaining engaged.

Rigoberto Tiglao, who knows whereof he speaks (having been in the movement and in the innermost circles of government), wrote something interesting: It was the NPA attack on the Pico de Loro resort on Jan. 29, not the ambush on soldiers in Davao del Sur on Feb. 1, that convinced the

President "that the peace talks with the NDF were useless, and that the communists were just making a fool out of him."

Tiglao's article clinically dissects the communist movement and the military top brass. The communists, he says, are a kind of confederation of regional associations, with two "centers" the group that manages its party-list representatives and the exiles led by Jose Ma. Sison in the Netherlands, who are tolerated because of their ability to raise funds from socialists abroad. The regional commands, which "enjoy their de facto fiefdoms in the guerrilla areas they control," tolerate peace talks because the wind-down of military operations for the duration allow the NPA to tax its territories in peace.

As for the AFP, Tiglao believes its top brass is risk-averse. Lacking full political support from presidents to wipe out the communists and because they attain regional commands prior to retirement, generals are loath to stir up trouble and avoid actively pursuing the NPA especially since there is no assurance they will be safe from retaliation once they retire.

A familiar story: A scorpion hitches a ride across a river on a frog, which skeptically says you will sting me, to which the scorpion soothingly replies, "Of course not, if I did so, we will both drown. So the frog obliges; halfway across the river the scorpion stings the frog, telling it, as both proceed to drown, "I couldn't help myself, it's in my nature." Which ignores the possibility that the frog was looking forward to snacking on the scorpion once they reached shore.

Twitter: @mlq3; FB: www.facebook.com/mlquezon3

18 February 2017

INQUIRER

Page: A12

'A generation without peace'

In those matters within the scope of his political experience or legal expertise, President Duterte does not seem to recognize any middle ground. Either "drug personalities" are killed, or nothing; he has even said he regrets allocating government funds to pay for the rehabilitation of drug dependents. His relationship with communist rebels is the latest example of this either-or thinking.

The first President to style himself as a socialist, to justify giving public honors for a dead New People's Army leader when he was still mayor of Davao City, to claim in public and before influential businessmen that "the Reds" would "die for me, believe me," has now ordered an all-out war against them.

Last Friday, he lifted the government's unilateral ceasefire against the communist insurgents, and told the Armed Forces: "Go back to your camps, clean your rifles and be ready to fight." On Saturday, he ordered the government peace panel to pull out of the peace negotiations, telling the members to "fold up the tents and come home." On Sunday, he pronounced the Communist Party of the Philippines-NPA-National Democratic Front "a terrorist group." And on Monday, a consultant of the NDF, released as part of the peace process, was arrested in Davao City.

Last December, in Malacañang, he had waxed expansive about the communist movement's support for him. "The Reds would never demand my ouster. They will die for me, believe me. That's the reason why I was able to convince them for a talk."

Five weeks later, at the wake in Cagayan de Oro City of three soldiers killed in an encounter with NPA guerrillas, he gave vent to his feelings of resentment and mistrust. In a mix of languages, he said: "You show your good faith, and instead you are shamed by the response of the damned group. As if they were somebody. You give them all the leeway and you return to me a stupid [reply] ... From now on, I will consider the CPP-NPA-NDF a terrorist group."

What triggered the abrupt change? In a word, reality caught up with the President. A movement that was initially welcoming of him had trusted him to keep his promise to release all political prisoners; at the same time, the dividing lines in the movement, between younger rebels particularly in Mindanao and the older generation living in exile, had emerged in sharp relief. Dissatisfaction with the President's handling of the issue involving political prisoners had gelled in the last few weeks; this led the CPP and the NPA to lift its own ceasefire, without withdrawing support from the peace talks. Fighting, however, resumed just hours after.

This is not the first time that the President has vented his anger on communist insurgents.

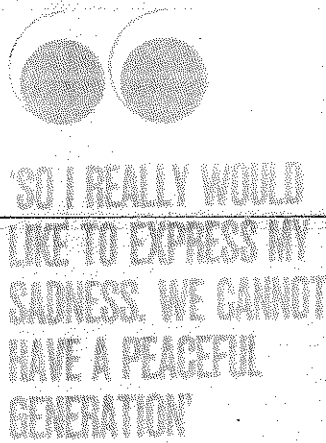
In his first State of the Nation Address last July, he announced a unilateral ceasefire in the military campaign against the NPA. A mere week later, he lifted the ceasefire; he charged the communist insurgents with bad faith, mocked their armed strength, called Communist Party of the Philippines founder Jose Ma. Sison "arrogant."

Sison responded in kind, describing his former student as "volatile" and a "butangero" (a goon). But despite the harsh exchange, the fate of the first round of negotiations scheduled for August was never at risk or in doubt.

The situation today, half a year later, is much more problematic. The fate of the peace talks is now in limbo; NDF consultants released because of their role in the negotiations are now targeted for arrest; the defense secretary has vowed an all-out war; and even the President himself, who inspired so much hope that the longest-running communist insurgency will finally be resolved through a just peace, has thrown up his hands.

"So I really would like to express my sadness. We cannot have a peaceful generation. There will be always be a fight," he said last week. "But let it not be said that I did not try. So I guess that peace with the communists cannot be realized during our generation. Maybe years from now."

From peace partner to enemy.



February 2017

The Manila Times

Page: A1

The communist insurgency: The Marcos-Aquino curse on the nation

The Philippine elite and all Presidents after Marcos have left it alone to grow

BY RIGOBERTO D. TIGLAO
Columnist

THERE are several unique features of our unlucky country that distinguish us from the rest of booming Southeast Asian nations, among them:

A weak sense of nationalism reflected in the fact we are the biggest migrant nation in the region; an exploitative Spanish- and Chinese-descended elite that does not really see itself as Filipino; a feeble state that is easily manipulated by the oligarchy; and a

nation in inane awe of foreign capital that it allows foreigners to dominate telecoms and other public utilities even if the Constitution prohibits such.

The Philippines has another unique feature that a single administration could have corrected if only it had the political will: We have the longest standing communist insurgency, not only in Southeast Asia but in the whole world. Last December, the Communist Party of the Philippines celebrated its 48th anniversary.



THE LAST MAOISTS ON EARTH: The Philippine elite allowed them to grow.

►TiglaoA6

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

Other Southeast Asian nations were of course not immune to communist insurgencies, especially since China under Mao Zedong tried to foment Marxist revolution in the region in order to construct a wall of communist client states around it to keep out US hegemony.

However, all such countries which faced communist insurgencies have crushed them more than two decades ago—except the Philippines.

The most brutal was by Indonesia: Suharto's government from 1965 to 1966 wiped out—physically—Asia's biggest communist party after China's, in such a ferocious manner that about one million Indonesians of Chinese ethnicity were killed, not just by government troopers but by racist Javanese militias.

Malaysia and Singapore started to prosper only after their British colonial administrators, and then their independent governments, crushed the Malayan Communist Party, defeated by 1960. Thailand's communist insurgency lasted from 1965 to 1983, with the ruthless crushing of its militant student movement in the infamous Thammasat University massacre in 1976, largely unopposed by the world.

One insurgency defeated

The Philippines actually defeated



RIGOBERTO TIGLAO

one communist insurgency, that one led in the early 1950s by the pro-Soviet *Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas*, which tried to mimic the Chinese model of developing an anti-Japanese army during World War II into a communist "People's Liberation Army". Its *Hukbo ng Bayan Laban sa Hapon* became the *Hukbo na Magpapalaya sa Bayan* ("Huks"). The Huks were crushed by 1954 by a popular President, Ramon Magsaysay, assisted—or led by the nose as some accounts would have it—by the US Central Intelligence Agency.

It was the newer, pro-Chinese communist party of the last Maoists on this planet, which has led the longest-running communist insurgency, with its so-called New People's Army. That such a Maoist insurgency has raged for nearly five decades is astonishing, if you look at it.

Indeed, its strategy for capturing power—a people's army emerging out of a Red base in the hinterlands and then encircling the cities (as Mao did in the 1940s)—in this day and age is

so out of touch with reality that it is as patently insane as believing that a Divine Messiah will take over the reins of the Philippine government, because it is a devout Catholic nation.

Its major enemies—US imperialism in the Philippines and big landlords—may not have been completely vanquished, but have been inarguably defeated, as evidenced by the kicking out of all US military bases in the country and the passing of land reform laws.

There is no longer "US monopoly capital" dominating the economy, as Sison asserted in the 1970s, but an Indonesian monopoly capital, as it were, controlling telecoms and public utilities—about which, however, the communists are strangely quiet. China—which is the local communists' beacon of Mao Zedong Thought and which even tried giving the NPA 10,000 M-14 rifles in 1971 to speed up the revolution—now has become the booming market of both ethnic Chinese and foreign capitalist billionaires.

To say that the communist insurgency persists because of Philippine poverty begs the question. Why aren't there surging communist insurgencies in the poorest nations on the planet, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa like the Congo and Ethiopia?

Rather, the reasons for the emergence and persistence of the communist insurgency is an indictment

of the Philippine elite.

The refusal of the strongman Marcos, supported by a faction of the Philippine elite, to step down when his regime was in decay, explains much of why the NPA expanded in the late 1970s until his fall in 1986. The Communist Party managed to portray itself as the only armed force capable of overthrowing a fascist dictatorship. The efforts of Marcos' forces to defeat the NPA were spun as human rights abuses, thereby further demonizing it.

Marcos' archenemies

But it was Marcos' political enemies that nurtured the communist insurgency from its very inception in the late 1960s. It was Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. who linked up the college English teacher Sison and his young Maoists to Huk commander Dante and his surviving gang of Huks. The Cojuangcos allegedly financed heavily the new party and its NPA, and their vast Hacienda Luisita became the NPA's refuge, its de facto Red base. Their motive? To make governing difficult for President Marcos who was gunning for a second term, and seemed to be succeeding.

Throughout martial law, it was the faction of the elite that was against Marcos that helped finance the NPA. Logging and mining companies of

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

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

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

course did so not out of political motives, but out of sheer business opportunism. Provincial governors, such as those in the North, helped the NPA as long as it helped them defeat their political rivals.

President Corazon Aquino saw the communists as her allies against military mutineers, that one of her first orders when she assumed power in 1986 was to free all communist leaders, including Sison and Dante. Sison of course fled abroad to raise funds from Marxist organizations around the world, and to undertake global propaganda to propagate the party as a legitimate revolutionary quasi-state.

Even after a military-police faction fired upon leftist demonstrators that resulted in the infamous Mendiola massacre, the Cory government's implicit policy was to let the communists alone, and seek a peaceful settlement with them. Cory even ordered a new 1987 Constitution to be formulated that would allow the communists to get their representatives into Congress through the so-called party-list system, which gave them a larger platform for propagating their demands, and even for getting government financing.

The communist insurgency has therefore been the curse put on the nation by both Marcos, during whose regime it grew, and Aquino who let it expand under her administration.

All succeeding Presidents—in-

cluding President Duterte until last week—followed Cory's policy of appeasement. This was especially so in the case of her son, Benigno S. Aquino III, who even let communist fronts hound and prosecute military commanders such as Gen. Jovito Palaparan who tried to suppress the NPA in his field of jurisdiction. There was of course an element of opportunism on the part of our Presidents, even in the case of the general in charge of fighting the NPA during martial law — President Fidel Ramos — as they wanted their terms to be without overt conflict, even as the insurgency covertly grew.

If our elite and their representatives, the Presidents of the Republic, have really left the communist insurgency alone, is it any wonder that it has existed for nearly five decades?

The communist insurgency has been a cancer all Presidents since Marcos have allowed to grow. Southeast Asian nations that faced communist insurgencies didn't, and consequently extinguished them, removing a major block to their economies' growth, and thereby allowing millions of their citizens and their descendants to live prosperous, happy lives.

E-mail: tiglao.manilatimes@gmail.com

FB: Bobi Tiglao

AND Rigoberto Tiglao

Archives: rigobertotiglao.com

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

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

February 2017



Pahina. 3

MUKHANG hindi na mapigil ang galit ni Pangulong Duterte sa mga komunista. Bukod sa pagbawi ng tigil-putukan, pag-utos sa AFP na habulin at durugin na ang NPA at ang pahayag na hindi na makakamit ang kapayapaan sa henerasyong ito, idedeklara na rin ang CPP/NPA/NDF na isang teroristang grupo, tulad ng pahayag ng Amerika.

Inutusan din ang mga pinalayang rebelde na kusang bumalik na sa kulungan dahil pansamantala lang naman ang kanilang kalayaan para makibahagi sa usapang pangkapayapaan. Kung hindi babalik, ituturing silang mga pugante.

Tinawag pang mga spoiled brat ang mga komunista. Halos ibinigay na raw ang lahat, wala pa ring tigil sa kahihingi mula sa gobyerno. Si Duterte ang commander-in-chief ng AFP. Kaya hindi niya ikinatuwa ang pagbisita sa burol ng sundalong napatay sa pananambang ng NPA, sa panahon pa ng tigil-putukan. Inutos na arestuhin na ang mga nakibahagi sa usapang pangkapayapaan.



Imbes na isailalim sa retraining, tiwaling pulis, maglilinis ng Ilog-Pasig

May maresto na ngang consultant ng mga komunista para ipakita na seryoso si Duterte sa kanyang mga banta. Kung may pag-asa pang matuloy ang usapang pangkapayapaan, hindi natin masasabi, lalo na kung ganito na magsalita ang pangulo tungkol sa mga komunista.

KINONTRA na ni Pangulong Duterte ang utos ni Gen. Dela Rosa na isasailalim sa retraining ang mga pulis na sangkot sa katiwalian. Nagtataka nga ang ilan sa plano ni Dela Rosa na kapag sumailalim na sa retraining ang mga tiwaling pulis ay puwede nang bumalik sa tungkulin. Ano naman ang garantiya na hindi na sila masasangkot sa kriminalidad?

Hindi ba, dapat kinakasuhan ang mga sangkot sa katiwalian? Ang ordinaryong mamamayan ba, isinasailalim lang sa seminar kapag gumawa ng krimen at puwede nang bumalik sa lipunan?

Ayon kay Duterte, ang nais niya ay mag-report sa kanya ang mga pulis na ito at linisin ang Pasig River. Sigurado tayong ito ang gustong makita ng mamamayan. Gusto nilang makitang sumisisid ang mga maruruming pulis sa maruming tubig ng Pasig River. Sana, makunan ng media 'yan

Para maintindihan nila kung ano ang ibig

sabihin ng marumi. Tatlongdaan at walumpu't pitong pulis ang pinapupunta ni Duterte sa Palasyo. Sana nga ay mangyari ang plano ng pangulo

8 February 2017



Pahina. 3

MABUTI at hindi pa huli nang matnawaan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na wala raw mangyayari sa usapang pangkapayapaan ng gobyerno sa mga rebeldeng komunista.

Ang kausap ng mga opisyal ni Duterte sa Europa ay sina Jose Ma. Sison at ang mag-asawang Wilma at Benito Tiamzon, ang mga lider daw ng Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas.

Ngunit, ang mga ito ay wala na raw kontrol sa New People's Army na siyang matagal nang nakikipaglapan sa mga sundalo ng Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Bagaman, may 'ceasefire' o tigil-putukan habang nag-uusap ang dalawang panig sa Europa, binalewala ito ng mga rebelde at nilusob nila ang Pico de Loro Resort sa Hamilo Coast, Nasugbu, Batangas.

Mga 30 armadong NPA ang pumasok sa sosyal na bakasyunan sa Batangas at sinunog ang isang gusali, kinuha ang 16 na shotgun ng mga sekyyu, apat na M-16 rifles, mga laptop, radyo at cellphone ng mga tao sa resort.

Kinuha rin ng mga rebelde ang Toyota Hi-Ace at tatlong Mercedes Benz na kotse ng resort na siyang ginamit nila bilang sasakyang pantakas.

Ayon sa ating source, ang pagsalakay daw sa Pico de Loro ay isang babala sa may-ari nito, ang Pamilya Sy, na kailangang magbayad ng 'revolutionary tax' o buwis sa mga komunista sa halagang P500,000 bawat buwan.

Nakusap daw si Henry Sy, ang may-ari rin ng SM mall sa kapulisan na huwag palakihin ang isyu dahil baka matakot daw ang mga mayayaman at wala nang bumili ng kanilang mga lote at condominium sa loob ng Pico de Loro.

May isa pang insidenteng matindi na dagdag-kumbinsi kay Pangulong Duterte na ipatigil na ang pakikipag-usap sa CPP/NPA/NDF.

Noong Pebrero 1, tinambangan daw ng NPA ang tatlong sundalo sa Malaybalay, Bukidnon. Hindi nakauniporme at hindi rin armado ang tatlong sundalo dahil lumabas lang sila ng barangay para ayusin ang ilang papeles.

Tinawag na 'overkill' ang ginawang pagpatay sa mga sundalo dahil tig-24 na bala ang nakuha sa katawan ng bawat sundalo na kinilalang sina Corporal Owen Yee, Private First Class Pat Non, at PFC Niño Christopher Talabor, mga miyembro 8th Infantry Battalion.

Dahil dito at sa iba pang mga insidente sa iba't ibang bahagi ng Pilipinas, nakumbinsi si



Ang isa, matagal na sa abroad, ang mag-asawa naman nakulong; Joma at mga Tiamzon, wala na raw kontrol sa NPA

P-Duterte na walang saysay ang pakikipag-usap ng gobyerno sa CPP at sa National Democratic Front.

Ginagawa lang daw siyang tanga ng mga komunista Mabuti na lang daw at mabilis mag-isip si Duterte. Ipinag-utos nya kaagad na huliin ang mga lider ng CPP/NPA/NDF bilang mga terorista na may layuning pabagsakin ang Republika.

Isa sa mga hinihiling nina Joma at mag-asawang Tiamzon ay ang palayain ang 400 mga komunista na nakabilanggo.

Magagalit ang militar kung mangyayari ito dahil marami sa mga 'political detainee' na ito ay miyembro ng NPA, na maraming napatay na mga sundalo ng AFP.

Dapat sana ay tinungnan muna ng gobyerno kung sino talaga sina Joma at Tiamzon sa organisasyon ng mga komunista?

Hindi yata alam ni Digong na wala nang kontrol ang mga ito sa NPA dahil matagal na silang wala sa lugar ng pakikibaka.

Si Joma ay ilang dekada nang masarap ang pamumuhay sa mayamang bansa ng The Netherlands, ang mga Tiamzon naman ay nakulong.

Ang mga komunista sa probinsiya ay nagkani-kanya na at bawat rehiyon ay may kumander na sinusunod. Halimbawa, si Jaime "Ka Diego" Padilla ang bossing ng Melito Glor Command sa Southern Luzon.

Ang dating pinakamalakas na grupong rehiyon ay ang Manila-Rizal lalo na noong pinalangunahan ito ni Popoy Lagman, na kalaban ni Joma.

Pinatay si Ka Popoy noong 2001 at ayon sa mga balita, mga kasamahan din niya sa Partido Komunista ang nag-utos ng kanyang asasinasyon.

8 February 2017



Page. 6

NAKATIWANGWANG NA MGA LUPAIN SA KAMPO NG MILITAR GAGAWING GULAYAN

PDALALAWAKIN ng Department of Agriculture-Region 11 ang pagsisikap nito upang itaguyod ang pagtatanim ng mga gulay, mula sa mga paaralan hanggang sa mga kampo ng militar.

Nagkasundo sina Department of Agriculture-Region 11 OIC Director Engr. Ricardo Oñate, Jr. at ang mga opisyal ng militar sa rehiyon ng Davao na makibanagi sa proyeksiong “Gulayan sa Kampo” para gawing vegetable garden ang mga lupang nakatiwangwang lang sa mga kampo ng militar.

Itinulad sa “Gulayan sa Paaralan”, inihayag ni Oñate na ang pagkakaroon ng “Gulayan sa Kampo” ay makapagbibigay ng pagkain sa mga sundalo, gayundin para sa supplementary feeding sa mga komunidad.

“Ituturo natin sa ating mga sundalo ang mga teknolohiya sa pagtatanim ng gulay at itatampok ang kanilang mga gulayan upang himukin ang mga kalapit na komunidad na magsipagtanim na rin ng mga gulay,” sabi ni Oñate.

Lumahok na ang mga kinatawan mula sa iba’t ibang Infantry Battalion (IB) ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)-Philippine Army sa rehiyon ng Davao sa orientation at hands-on training sa pagtatanim at pag-salaga ng gulay na isinagawa sa tanggapan ng Department of Agriculture-Region 11.

Sinubukan na ng mga miyembro ng Sandatahang Lakas ang pagsasako ng lupa (vermicast, garden soil, at burned rice hull) bilang bahagi ng hands-on training at field tour sa taniman ng gulay ng City Agriculture Office sa Tagum City, Davao del Norte.

Sinigyan din sila ng supot ng mga punia ng Department of Agriculture-Region 11 bilang kanilang panimula sa pagkakaroon ng Gulayan sa Kampo.

Sinabi ni Private First Class Mariano Mique, Jr., ng 3rd Infantry Battalion sa Malagos, Davao City, na makakatulong ang proyekto para matutunan nila ang mga inirekomendang teknolohiya sa pagtatanim at pagpapalago ng mga gulay.

“Maaari rin naming maibahagi ang mga kaalamang ito sa mga kalapit na komunidad. Sa pamamagitan nito, maipakikita naming sa kanila na taos sa aming loob ang pagtulong sa kanila,” sabi ni Mique.

Sa pagsasakatuparan ng proyekto, maghahanap din ang Department of Agriculture ng Best Camp Garden sa Region 11.

PNA

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

ONLINE NEWS 08 FEBRUARY 2017

PATHETIC LIARS || NDF and NPA gave Inconsistent Statements over the Death of 3 Soldiers

Posted by Lui Claudio on February 7, 2017 at 9:17 AM



4TH INF DIV

CAMP EVANGELISTA, Cagayan de Oro City — In a desperate attempt to cover up for the barbaric acts committed by their terrorist members, Luis Jalandoni of the National Democratic Front (NDF) gave accusations and libelous statements against the AFP during his interview with the GMA network saying that the death of the three soldiers in Bukidnon was a rubout.

When asked by a GMA news anchor about the said incident, Jalandoni said "Eh report po yan ng militar. Maaaring militar din ang bumari ng maraming bala diyan sa kanila kasi wala pa kaming report na galing sa NPA. Kailangan tignan. Wala namang ganong patakaran ang NPA na gagamit ng ganung karaming bala sa isang enkwentro ho. So tignan nalang maaaring rubout din yan na galing no sa military mismo para ipagbintang ho sa NPA... oo tignan nalang kasi ang reputation naman ng NPA mahusay na mahusay sa masa diyan sa iba't-ibang lugar." (That was a report from the military. There's a possibility that the military are the one's who shot at them because we still have no report from the NPA. We have to see this. It is never a policy of the NPA to waste several bullets in an encounter. It can be a rubout done by the military to put the blame to the NPA. Because we have to see that the NPA has established a good reputation to our people in different communities)

On the contrary, it can be noted that the day after the killing of the three soldiers, Allan Juanito, the NPA spokesperson for the Northcentral Mindanao Region, called up the media and owned up to the said killing saying that 'the soldiers were on board two motorcycles when they were flagged down by the NPA in Sitio Kalib, Barangay Kibalabag in Malaybalay, at around 5pm on Wednesday (Feb 1)'. Juanito further averred that 'the soldiers tried to fight back, pulling out their firearms, but the NPA shot at them first to defend themselves resulting in their (the soldiers') deaths'. — The said statement can also be seen in both local and national broadsheets and heard over the local radio stations.

MGen Benjamin R Madrigal Jr., 4ID Commander condemned the accusation of Jalandoni. He said, "Mr Jalandoni's accusations has added more injury to the pains and sufferings of the families and loved ones of our three soldiers. In an attempt to hide the barbarism of their armed wing and to deceive everyone about the incident, Jalandoni accused the AFP over killing our own troops."

"It is clear therefore that Mr Jalandoni is not in touch with the situation on the ground. Moreover, with the admission of Allan Juanito on the incident, let us see if Mr Jalandoni can sanction the perpetrators, apply the Geneva protocols, and bring them to justice. If he really wanted to pursue the

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

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

peace talks with the government, he must order the NPA to stop terrorizing our communities, doing atrocities and start working with the whole nation on the attainment of lasting peace." -4ID-PIO

www.dwdd.com

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

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

AFP strongly subscribes to President Duterte's description of NPA as terrorist group

From the Philippine News Agency (Feb 7): AFP strongly subscribes to President Duterte's description of NPA as terrorist group

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) strongly subscribed to President Rodrigo Duterte tagging the New People's Army (NPA) as a terrorist group.

"We subscribe to PRRD's (President Duterte) declaration of the NPA as a terrorist group. Their actions manifest no less than acts of terrorism," said AFP public affairs office chief Col. Edgard Arevalo on Tuesday.

Arevalo said the NPA has proven this tag by extorting money from individuals, private businesses, and corporations; burning of buses, public conveyances and farm implements; in driving away indigenous people from their communities; of laying of improvised explosive devices (IED) that victimizes non-combatants.

"(These) are definitely acts of terrorism," he stressed.

As this develops, military operations against the NPA after the President's lifting of the ceasefire and peace talks have yielded positive reports so far.

"There were a total of six armed engagements in various parts of the country since the President lifted the ceasefire and the peace talks on Feb. 4. We were able to effect two arrests together with the PNP (Philippine National Police), and received seven surrenderees who have yielded high-powered firearms and an IED. Some of them used their aliases because they requested to remain anonymous for fear of reprisal," the military official stated.

~~Also killed while resisting arrest on Feb. 6 in a joint operation between Task Force Davao, Intelligence Service AFP, and other local intelligence unit, backed by Criminal Investigation Detection Group-11 and Special Weapons and Action Team was Glen Ramos alias "Berdan".~~

Arevalo said the latter was military hardware liason officer of Southern Mindanao Regional Committee.

The incident happened in Maa, Davao City. He has a warrant of arrest with Criminal Case No. M-DVO-1501538-CR at 11 Judicial Region Branch 6.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=961725>

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