

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



TEAM ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

oacpa.army2012@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
NEWS CLIPPINGS

17 February 2017

Friday

Army Core Purpose Serving the people. Securing the land.

NEWS HEADLINES

17 FEBRUARY 2017

The Manila Times
Court upholds Marcos protest

Daily Tribune
SC affirms Marcos protest on VP tally

Business Insight
PE: Ayala hub for car exports

The Standard XXX
6,000 defy rain, Lopez

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS**17 FEBRUARY 2017**

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather Forecast		Mla Times p.C2
NATIONAL NEWS			
2-4	SC gives green light for Bongbong	Evelyn Macairan	PhilStar p.1
5-7	Trillanes to Duterte explain P2.2B in banks	Christine O Avendaño	PDI p.A1
ARMY NEWS			
8	Cafgu binoga ng kabaro	Joy Cantos	Ngayon p.6
9	Amasona utas sa encounter	Joy Cantos	Ngayon p.6
10	Wife of NPA leader slain in clash	Zaida delos Reyes-Palanca	Peoples Journal p.13
11	Army ties doctor, nurse to NPA following Ifugao clash	Melvin Gascon	http://www.inquirer.net/
12	NPA rebels attack troops on relief mission in Surigao	Jenny Dongon	www.interaksyon.com/national
13	Army install new chief of staff for CMO	DWDD AFP CRS Radio	www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com
14-15	200 new soldiers to bring peace and development in Central & Western Visayas	DWDD AFP CRS Radio	www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com
16	4ID condemns NPA's attack, vows to help Surigao rise again	DWDD AFP CRS Radio	www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com
AFP RELATED NEWS			
17	Gender hovers over solon as an AFP reserve officer	Victor Reyes	Malaya p.B1
18	Transgender solon welcome, says AFP	Cynthia D Balana	PDI p.A7
19-20	Officer cites PNP criteria in awarding Medal of Valor	Cecile Suerte Felipe	PhilStar p.4
21-22	NPA releases video of kidnapped soldiers	John Unson	PhilStar p.2
23	Abu leader continues to remain potent threat despite AFP campaign	Mario J Mallari	Daily Tribune p1
24	Katutubo apektado sa glyera ng AFP vs NPA	Bernard Taguinod	Abante p.3
25	ASG sets deadline for P30M ransom of German hostage	Efren Montano	Peoples Journal p.7
COMMENTARY/EDITORIAL			
26	May kaibahan ba ang AFP Medal of Valor sa PNP?	Gen. Samuel d Pagdilao Jr	Police Files p.4
SPORTS			
27	Navy, Army bikers finish 1-2 in Ronda	Marc Anthony Reyes	PDI p.A23
28	Photo:Willing Navy 'pawn' tops 7 stage	Edwin Bacasmas	PDI p.A23

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

ONLINE NEWS


29	Sobejana asks for help to rescue German hostage	Lui Claudio	http://dwdd.com.ph/
30	AFP more than willing to accept transgender Bataan solon in reserve force	Philippine News Agency	www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com
31	Additional benefit//Soldiers and Policemen to be exempted in Estate Tax if Bill pushes through	DWDD AFP CRS Radio	www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com
32	NPA rebel dead in encounter with Army troops	Philippine News Agency	www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com
33	PMA prepares for alumni homecoming this weekend	Philippine News Agency	www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com
34	4 Navy vessels now helping in Surigao quake relief efforts	Philippine News Agency	www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

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

17 February 2017

The Manila Times

Page: 02



PANAHOON TV

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST FEBRUARY 17, 2017 | FRIDAY

**NORTHEAST MONSOON AFFECTING LUZON
TAIL-END OF COLD FRONT AFFECTING MINDANAO
AND EASTERN VISAYAS**
(As of 5:00 PM - Feb. 16, 2017)

LAOAG CITY 17 - 29 °C	TUGUEGARAO CITY 19 - 26 °C
BAGUIO CITY 9 - 22 °C	SBMA/CLARK 20 - 30 °C
METRO MANILA 19 - 29 °C	TAGAYTAY CITY 17 - 26 °C
HLOILO/BACOLOD CITY 24 - 29 °C	LEGAZPI CITY 21 - 26 °C
PUERTO PRINCESA 24 - 29 °C	TACLOBAN CITY 22 - 26 °C
ZAMBOANGA CITY 24 - 30 °C	METRO CEBU 24 - 26 °C
	CAGAYAN DE ORO 23 - 26 °C
	METRO DAVAO 23 - 26 °C

SUNRISE 6:19 AM

SUNSET 6:01 PM

MOONRISE 11:19 PM

MOONSET 10:32 AM

FULL MOON FEB 11 4:33 AM


LAST QUARTER FEB 09 3:32 AM

LOW TIDE 8:11 AM
0.14 Meter

HIGH TIDE 2:36 PM
0.56 Meter

- Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rain showers and/or thunderstorms
- Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rain showers
- Cloudy skies with rain showers and/or thunderstorms
- Light rains


	FEB 16 SATURDAY	FEB 19 SUNDAY	FEB 20 MONDAY		FEB 16 SATURDAY	FEB 19 SUNDAY	FEB 20 MONDAY
METRO MANILA	20 - 29 °C	21 - 30 °C	21 - 30 °C	BAGUIO	9 - 23 °C	10 - 23 °C	10 - 23 °C
METRO CEBU	24 - 27 °C	25 - 29 °C	25 - 29 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	24 - 30 °C	24 - 29 °C	24 - 29 °C
METRO DAVAO	24 - 28 °C	24 - 26 °C	24 - 27 °C	BORACAY	25 - 31 °C	25 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C



SAGOT KO, PADALE MO!

PILIPINAS HD

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



www.panahon.tv

/PanahonTV

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

17 February 2017



Page: 1

SC gives green light for Bongbong protest

By EVELYN MACAIRAN

The Supreme Court (SC) has allowed the electoral protest of former senator Ferdinand Marcos Jr. against Vice President Leni Robredo to proceed, rejecting her plea to have the case dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

The SC, convened as the Presidential Electoral Tribunal (PET), said it has jurisdiction over the case as mandated by the Constitution.

In questioning PET jurisdiction over the electoral protest, Robredo said the matter should have been raised before Congress when it was still acting as the National Board of Canvassers.

Robredo had also sought the dismissal of the case for "being insufficient in form and substance." She also cited failure of the Marcos camp to specify in detail her questionable acts or omissions.

But the PET pointed out that under Article VII, Section 4 of the Constitution pertaining to PET rules, "the tribunal shall be the sole judge of all contests relating to the election, returns and qualifications of the President or Vice President of the Philippines."

In an eight-page resolution dated Jan. 24 but released only yesterday, the PET ruled that the sufficiency in form and substance of Marcos' election protest is beyond question.

2

SC gives From Page 1

“On the matter of the sufficiency of the protest, the same (is) already beyond dispute. With the issuance of the summons, the Tribunal has found the protest to be sufficient in form and substance,” the ruling read.

“The protest contained narrations of ultimate facts on the alleged irregularities and anomalies in the contested clustered precincts,

which the protestant needs to prove in due time,” the PET ruled.

Marcos filed the case last June 29 to contest the result of the vice presidential race allegedly won by Robredo through cheating. Marcos lost to Robredo by over 260,000 votes.

He asked the PET to annul about a million votes cast in Lanao del Sur, Basilan and Maguindanao. Robredo filed her response last August seeking the dismissal of the protest.

“We are hoping that with this resolution, there will be an end to all these delays and we can finally move forward. There is a need to ferret out the truth as to what really transpired during the vice presidential race last May,” Marcos spokesman Victor Rodriguez said. “We just want the truth to come out. It’s that simple.”

Procedure

Robredo’s camp brushed aside the PET ruling, saying it’s part of procedure.

Her lawyer Romulo Macalintal said the ruling does not

prove Marcos’ allegations that last year’s automated election was rigged.

“It only means that the PET will proceed with the case. It does not in any way reflect the validity or merits of any allegation of fraud or irregularity contesting the proclamation of Vice President Leni Robredo,” Macalintal said.

“The case would still go through the usual tedious and lengthy process of revision and recount of the ballots. The ballot boxes and their contents would be retrieved from various provinces to be brought to the PET for the recount,” he added. He said PET simply declared the complaint of Marcos sufficient in form and in substance.

“It should be emphasized that the purpose of assailing the substance of Marcos’ protest is to verify its compliance with the strict requirements of the rules as applied by the Supreme Court in various election protest,” Macalintal said.

“Our aim is to expedite an early resolution of the case in order to avoid further speculations on its status,” he stressed.

Sen. Francis Pangilinan said the PET decision was a big disappointment. Pangilinan is president of the LP, which is chaired by Robredo.

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

He lamented that despite a sound counter-protest by Robredo, PET emphasized the “sufficiency” of Marcos’ protest and it’s “already beyond dispute”

“However, we wonder how the protest was found to be sufficient in form and substance when, until now, no discrepancy in the election results have been presented?” Pangilinan said in a statement.

He said there appears to be “a disconnect between the supposed sufficiency in substance and the blatant lack of evidence to support their claims.”

He appealed to the PET to exercise the highest discretion in making decisions as any mistake or misjudgment could affect the integrity of the “greatest exercise of democracy” which is the election.

The senator also urged Filipinos to remain vigilant and steadfast in protecting and supporting Robredo

Not bothered

Meanwhile, Interior and Local Government Secretary Ismael Sueno said he is not bothered by reports that Marcos would eventually replace him.

Sueno said he has been going around the country to disseminate information about President Duterte’s anti-poverty programs and his plan to shift to federalism.

“We serve at the pleasure of the President. It is within his power, wisdom and discretion to appoint members of his Cabinet,” Sueno added.

“With the information being floated about the change at the helm of DILG, I take no offense whatsoever. It is business as usual for me as I dispense my duties and functions, with the blessings of President Duterte,” he explained.

Marcos was reportedly set to return to the political scene soon as the new DILG secretary.

Duterte is reportedly making preparations for Marcos’ entry into the Cabinet after the year-long ban on appointing losing candidates in the May 2016 elections.

As interior secretary, Marcos is expected to wield tremendous influence over local politicians as the DILG has jurisdiction over the Philippine National Police, Bureau of Fire Protection and Bureau of Jail Management. – With Janvic Mateo, Paolo Romero, Marvin Sy, Cecille Suerte Felipe, Perseus Echeminad

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

February 2017

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER

Page: A1

TRILLANES TO DUTERTE: EXPLAIN P2.2B IN BANKS

STORY BY CHRISTINE O. AVENDAÑO

The senator also claims that the President, his common-law wife and three children received almost P120 million from a campaign contributor from 2011 to 2013. Malacañang says it's up to the banks to release details of the alleged transactions

A10

5

FROM A1

By Christine O. Avendaño
@10avendanoINQ

The common-law wife of President Duterte, Clelio "Honeylet" Salvador Avendaño, had almost P200 million in bank transactions in Davao City between 2004 and 2009, according to Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, who vowed on Thursday to resign as senator if he was proven wrong.

Citing a new set of documents, Trillanes also claimed that Avendaño, Mr. Duterte and his three children by his former wife, Elizabeth Zimmerman, received almost P120 million from Sammy Uy, a campaign contributor, from 2011 to 2013.

At a news conference in the Senate, Trillanes renewed his call for the President to keep his promise during the presidential campaign to make public his bank transaction history to disprove he had P2.2 billion in transactions in three bank branches from 2006 to 2015.

"I'm confident in issuing such a challenge because I'm very certain about the authenticity of these documents," he said.

"Show us your courage. Show us that I am wrong. For the sake of your supporters, show us that you are clean," he said, addressing the President.

New documents

The new set of documents Trillanes released came from the same source who gave him



Sen Antonio Trillanes IV –LYN RILLON

in April last year papers showing that Mr. Duterte had P2.2 billion in bank transactions from 2006 to 2015.

In an affidavit he executed in exchange for the then presidential candidate to issue a waiver of his account at Bank of Philippine Islands (BPI), Trillanes identified his informant as one Joseph de Mesa, a "concerned citizen" who had a relative connected to a government agency.

Yesterday, Trillanes said Mr. Duterte's lawyer then and now his chief legal counsel, Salvador Panelo, had said BPI would issue the transaction history of his client's bank account at a branch in Pasig City after a week but nothing was released up to now.

Asked why he was reviving the issue, the senator said it was about time for the President to fulfill his promise to open his bank accounts.

He said the President's ac-

count at BPI's Julia Vargas branch in Pasig City had been validated when some reporters deposited money in the account to prove its existence.

Accounts cleaned

But after his exposé, the bank accounts were "cleaned," Trillanes said. Still, he said the transaction history of the accounts could not be erased.

He said he was compelled to raise the issue anew because of recent "relevant" developments showing that the President had done nothing to fight corruption, one of his campaign promises.

He also cited the release from detention of former President and now Pampanga Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and moves by Solicitor General Jose Calida to have the conviction and imprisonment of Janet Lim-Napoles, the alleged mastermind of the P10-billion pork

6

barrel scam, for serious illegal detention of whistler-blower Benhur Luy overturned

Honeylet's 176 transactions

A document on Avanceña listed chronologically 176 transactions of her bank accounts at BPI Davao Main, Metropolitan Bank and TCO Davao, and Philippine National Bank-Bangoy from July 14, 2004, to March 4, 2016.

The transactions (such as cash deposits, interaccount transfers, time deposit pre-termination credit memos, deposit checks and small bills) totaled P187,597,085.90.

The biggest transaction happened on Dec. 29, 2014, when a cash deposit of P4,349,709 was made to Avanceña's BPI Davao Main account, the document showed.

There were other transactions involving P4 million. The smallest amount transacted was P500,000.

Asked about Avanceña's bank accounts, Trillanes said that these were all deposits (credits) and that he had supporting documents to prove these.

"That is why I'm putting my being senator but also my life on line. You know the President is a killer and I will not fight based on bogus information," he told reporters.

Another document that Trillanes provided showed bank transactions of Samuel Cang Uy, who he said was in the export-import business and a campaign contributor of Mr. Duterte.

The document listed the purchase of manager's checks and telegraphic transfers, among other transactions that Uy made.

The recipients included Avanceña and the President's children—Sebastian Duterte, Paolo Duterte (now Davao City vice mayor) and Sara Duterte (Davao City mayor). The transactions from Oct. 25, 2011, to April 10, 2013, amounted to P118,176,767.38.

Avanceña received money from Uy four times and each transaction was more than P10 million for a total of over P42 million.

Also in four transactions, with Uy, Sebastian Duterte got a total of more than P41 million, while Paolo and Sara received more than P19 million and P14 million, respectively.

Drowned during campaign

Trillanes said the issue of the bank transactions of Mr. Duterte's family was drowned during the election campaign.

"But now that things have cleared up and people have started to think and have seen the kind of person the President is, they are more open-minded," he said.

The senator said he was certain the Office of the Ombudsman had already asked for copies of bank transactions of the President by now since he had filed a plunder case against Mr. Duterte seven months ago.

He also said he was looking at other illegal activities that Mr. Duterte had engaged in when he was still mayor. INQ

f

February 2017



Pahina. 6

Cafgu binoga ng kabaro

Patay ang isang sundalo ng Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) matapos itong pagbabarilin ng kanyang kabarong sundalo sa bayan ng Pangil, Laguna noong Miyerkules ng gabi. Kinilala ang biktima na si Gerald Relevante habang nahaharap riamar sa kasong kriminal ang suspek na si Eduardo Galay, 45. Sa police report na nakarating kay P/ Senior Supt. Joel Pernito, provincial director ng Laguna Police, naganap ang insidente sa mess hall ng Cafgu detachment sa Bigy Galalan bandang alas-7:30 ng gabi. Ayon sa imbestigasyon, nanonood ng telebisyon ang dalawa nang pagbabarilin ng suspek ang biktima kung saan nagising naman ang mga kasamahang Cafgu. Nagawa pang maisugod sa pagamutan ang biktima pero namatay din ito matapos ang ilang oras. Sumuko sa himpilan ng pulisya si Galay na bitbit ang M14 rifle na ginamit sa krimen. **Joy Cantos**

8

February 2017



Pahina. 6

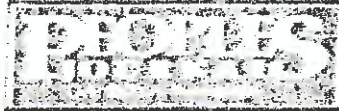
Amasona itas sa encounter

Patay ang isang amasonang rebelde sa naganap na bakbakan ng tropa ng militar at New People's Army sa bayan ng Bobon, Northern Samar kamakalawa. Sa report ni Army's 8th Infantry Division Commander Major Gen Raul Farnacio, naganap ang bakbakan sa pagitan ng 43rd Infantry Battalion at mga rebelde sa Sitio Cabaywa, Brgy Santander sa nasabing bayan.

Kinilala ang amasona na si Bernadette "Kakan" Lutao, asawa ng kumander ng NPA na si Salvador "Badok" Nordan. Narekober ng mga sundalo sa encounter site ang ilang improvised explosive device at tatlong cellular phones. "The NPA has been deliberately violating the human rights with their production and employment of IEDs and their continuous disruption of the peaceful lives of our fellow Filipinos especially those in the far-flung barangays," pahayag ni Farnacio. *Joy Cantos*

9

17 February 2017



Page. 13

Wife of NPA leader slain in clash

A WIFE of a leader of the New People's Army on Wednesday was killed in an encounter with government forces in Bobon, Northern Samar.

Philippine Army's 8th Infantry Division spokesperson Lt. Cherry Luna said Bernadette Lutao alias "Kakan," wife of NPA leader Salvador Norda alias "Badol," was killed in a clash at Sitio Cabaywa, Bgy. Santander, Bobon, Northern Samar.

Members of the 43rd Infantry Battalion, 8th Infantry Division led by Lt Edsel Ryan Celebre were patrolling the area when they met the rebels.

A firefight ensued that led to the death of Lutao. Seized at the clash site were one improvised explosive device (IED) and three cellular phones.

Zaida delos Reyes-Palanca

10

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

<http://www.inquirer.net/>

Army ties doctor, nurse to NPA following Ifugao clash

Melvin Gascon



INQUIRER FILE PHOTO

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya — A doctor and a nurse were linked by the military to the New People's Army following a Feb. 12 clash between the Philippine Army soldiers and suspected communist rebels in a remote village in Ifugao province.

The identification card, cash machine cards and the professional license of Dr. Ana Marie Leung were allegedly discovered at a rebel camp that was abandoned following the Sunday firefight in Barangay (village) Namal in Asipulo town.

A postal identification card belonging to Isabelle Anne Ramos, a nurse from Quezon City, was also found at the area, said Capt. Jefferson Somera, community relations officer of the Philippine Army's 86th Infantry Battalion (IB) which took custody of the rebel camp at Sitio (subvillage) Pinugao.

The rebels abandoned an M16 rifle, bullets and laptop computers at the camp following the hour-long battle. Army officials said the families of Leung and Ramos could claim these cards from the 86th IB base in Kiangan town.

But Somera said the Philippine Army would request the Anti-Money Laundering Council to freeze the contents of the ATM cards' bank accounts, which might have been used by the rebels, Somera said.

The Army's 5th Infantry Division's Judge Advocate is also studying whether there were grounds to charge Leung and Ramos. **SFM**

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

www.interaksyon.com/national

NPA rebels attack troops on relief mission in Surigao

By: Jenny Dongon, News5 | Philippines News Agency

February 16, 2017 12:11 AM



Military vehicles used in relief operations in quake-stricken areas of Surigao del Norte (TV5 video grab)

A military convoy was shot at by communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels Tuesday evening while returning to Surigao City after delivering relief goods to an earthquake-stricken village of San Francisco town in Surigao Del Norte province.

No casualty was reported on the government side in the brief five-minute firefight between soldiers and eight rebels who fired upon the convoy at about 8:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The convoy consisted of a platoon of the 30th Infantry Battalion with civilian partners from local government units and non-government organizations.

The military learned that the attackers belonged to the NPA's guerilla front community 16, which Col. Rico Amaro, batallion commander of the 30th Infantry Division, described as rebels responsible for atrocities such as extortion and terrorism in the area.

The attack came despite a unilateral ceasefire declared by the NPA's North Eastern Mindanao Command over the weekend in Surigao del Norte and Agusan del Sur to allow the delivery of relief goods to areas stricken by the magnitude 6.7 earthquake that hit Surigao City on Friday (Feb. 10) and left six people dead and more than a hundred individuals injured.

The attack also added to the anxiety of residents who have been feeling the effects of continuous aftershocks. Residents appealed to the NPA not to hamper the relief operations.

The military on Wednesday condemned the attack on the relief convoy.

Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Madrigal, commander of the Army's Fourth ID in Camp Evangelista in Cagayan De Oro City, said "We condemn in the strongest terms possible the recent harassment of NPA on our soldiers who were assisting the civilian volunteers in the delivery of relief goods to the earthquake-stricken residents in the village of Linunggaman, San Francisco, Surigao Del Norte."

He said the attack waged by the NPA rebels showed that the "terrorists" could not be trusted at all.

"The NPA deceived the entire nation when they attacked the soldiers when they (NPA) even declared a 'unilateral ceasefire' so that the relief goods could be delivered smoothly to earthquake-stricken villages in Surigao Del Norte," Madrigal said in a statement released Wednesday.

The LGUs and the national government had estimated damage to properties at about P650 million and restoration works went in high gear this week in a bid to bring back normalcy in the lives of the people.

Classes in Surigao City and nearby areas are scheduled to resume on February 20 after government engineers assess the damage to schools.

12

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

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

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

DWDD: Army installs new chief of staff for CMO

DWDD AFP Civil Relations Service Radio Website



FORT BONIFACIO, Taguig City – The Philippine Army installed an experienced CMO officer as the new Assistant Chief of Staff for Civil-Military Operations, G7 during the change of chief office ceremony held here on Monday 8:00 a.m.

Colonel Facundo O Palafox IV formally assumed as the head of the Assistant Chief of Staff for CMO, G7, and replaced Col. Arnulfo Marcelo Burgos, Jr. who will assume command of the Army's 202nd Infantry Brigade based in Southern Tagalog.

Brigadier General Rodel Mauro Alarcon, the Acting Army Chief of Staff presided the change of chief of office ceremony.

Palafox is the former deputy and executive officer of the G7 prior to his new position. He also served as the Squadron Commander of the 2nd Cavalry Squadron and been a Commandant of The Armor School both are under the Mechanized Infantry Division, Philippine Army.

A graduate of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1990, Palafox also holds a Master's degree in Public Management major in Development and Security from the Development Academy of the Philippines.

Meanwhile, Col Burgos will replace Col Giorivine Dida as commander of the 202nd Infantry Brigade. Dida will assume as the Assistant Division Commander of the 2nd Infantry Division, Philippine Army.

The designation of Palafox, Burgos and Dida is part of the Army's continuing career and leadership development program for its senior officers

13

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

DWDD: 200 new soldiers to bring peace and development in Central & Western Visayas

DWDD AFP Civil Relations Service Radio Website



CAMP-PERALTA, Jamindan, Capiz -- Two hundred (200) newly enlisted soldiers were welcomed by the Army's 3rd Infantry (Spearhead) Division led by its commander Maj. Gen. Jon N Aying during the joint enlistment, entrustment of firearms and graduation ceremonies of Candidate Soldiers Classes 410 and 411-2016 held here yesterday February 13, 2017.

The new members of the Spearhead Troopers Division have successfully completed the six (6) month rigid Candidate Soldier Course (CSC) and Jungle Warfare Mountain Operation Course (JWMOC) held at the Division Training School (DTS) in Camp General Macario Peralta Jr., Jamindan, Capiz.

The training that kicked-off last August 1, 2016 aimed to provide the candidate soldiers with the basic knowledge and skills of soldiery, to develop their character worthy to become members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and to prepare them to perform duties as riflemen and automatic riflemen of the infantry squads.

Gabriel C Cablas, received the Commander, 3rd Infantry Division Award for graduating Number 1 besting 104 others in Class 410 with a General Point Average of 89.29% in all evaluated subjects both academic and non-academic in the said training.

While Kenneth D Pedrosa, topped the Class 411 besting 94 others. Pedrosa also received the Commander, 3rd Infantry Division Award who garnered a General Point Average of 90.05% in all evaluated subjects both academic and non-academic courses.

In his speech, Maj. Gen. Jon Aying emphasized to the new soldiers the true meaning of military professionalism that once you are already a soldier, you have to resist your right to live where you choose to live, to say not anymore what did you choose to say, to dress what you do not choose to dress and it needs but an order to settle them with their families and dislocate their normal lives.

14

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

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



"If you have the right perception in life, faith in God, spotless morality, harmonious relationship with your comrades and the people in the community, whatever you will be doing will be easy" he added.

Maj Gen Aying also reminded the newly enlisted soldiers that the firearms being entrusted to them are the symbol of strength to win the battle and this weapon will serve as the weapons to promote peace and order in their respective fields.

He also thanked the parents, relatives and friends of the new soldiers for the support and congratulated the Division Training School personnel who were responsible for the training of these new breed of soldiers.

The new soldiers will be assigned in the different battalions in Western and Central Visayas and the Negros Island Regions to perform peace and development works in the countryside and likewise add to the unit's strength in these areas.

The Chief of Staff, 3ID Awards went to Reymar Q Atillano and Joven D Buyco for Graduating Number 2 in Class 410 and Class 411 respectively.

Recipients of the Commandant, 3rd Division Training School Awards were Justine GLariosa and Erwin M Verdadero for graduating Number 3 in Class 410 and Class 411 respectively.

For obtaining the highest rating in Physical Fitness Test throughout the duration of the training, the Physical Proficiency Awards went to Marvin P Licos for Class 410 and Jeorem S Sison for Class 411.

15

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

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

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

DWDD: 4ID Condemns NPA's attack, vows to help Surigao Rise again

From DWDD AFP Civil Relations Service Radio Website



CAMP EVANGELISTA, Cagayan de Oro City – Army troops conducting relief operations were fired upon by NPAs in Barangay Linunggaman, San Francisco, Surigao del Sur, 8:30 P.M, Tuesday.

A platoon of 30th Infantry Battalion in a convoy with civilian partners from LGU, NGOs, and LGAs was harassed by members of New People's Army after they have distributed relief goods for the communities affected by the recent magnitude 6.7 earthquake.

No casualty was reported on the incident.

It can be recalled that the NPA has declared the ceasefire in the area in order for the Government Agencies and Local Government Units to facilitate the Disaster Relief Operations and to restore the normalcy of the situation after the earthquake shook the entire province.

Col. Franco Nemesio Gacal, Commander of 402nd Infantry Brigade said, "In partnership with all the Government Agencies, NGOs, and civilian volunteers, we will not allow this recent act of treachery on the part of the NPA to cause the deprivation of basic needs due to the people affected by the disaster. It will not deter us to continue our efforts in helping the province to bring back to normal situation."

"We condemn in the strongest terms possible the recent harassment of NPA. There is no way that we can trust these terrorists. They have deceived the entire nation when they attack our soldiers with civilian volunteers who have just delivered relief goods the earthquake-stricken communities. The recent declaration of ceasefire by the NPA is nothing but lie and deception", said by Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Madrigal, 4ID Commander.

16

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

17 February 2017

Malaya
The National Newspaper

Page: B1

Gender hovers over solon as an AFP reserve officer

BY VICTOR REYES

THE Armed Forces yesterday said transgender Bataan Rep. Geraldine Roman is going to be a "welcome addition" to the military if she pursues her intention to be part of the AFP's reserve force.

AFP public affairs office chief Col. Edgard Arevalo said Roman has announced that she will be applying for the Armed Forces reserve force. She will be the first transgender in the military if her application is approved.

But Arevalo had a caveat. "They are entering an institution placed in high esteem. We admonish them to maintain the dignity of the uniform, observe discipline, propriety and decorum; and measure up to the steep standards of the service. Else, they have no room in this noble profession of arms."

To put it bluntly, Roman, based on her

gender, must wear a male uniform

Roman has said she hopes the military is aware that as a transgender woman, she should be wearing woman's uniform

Arevalo said: "Admittedly this is the first time that we have that situation concerning a prospective applicant. We have to go by the gender of the applicant as reflected in the certificate of live birth."

Arevalo said the court has approved Roman's petition to change her gender to female. However, Arevalo could not immediately say if Roman's birth certificate, one of the requirements in the application, already bears her new gender.

"If she satisfies the legal requirement that would say that she has been physically transformed into a woman, then we will allow her to wear the uniform of a woman and groom her hair into a woman," said Arevalo.

And there lies the problem.

17

17 February 2017



Page: A7

Transgender soldier welcome, says AFP

By Cynthia D. Balana
@cynthdbINC

The Armed Forces of the Philippines on Thursday said it welcomed the expressed intent of Bataan First District Rep. Geraldine Roman, the country's first transgender legislator, to join the military and become an officer of its Reserve Force.

The AFP said in a statement that it does not discriminate applicants in terms of gender, either in the regular or reserve force of the military.

It said the military institution has its own gender and development program that handles gender issues.

"The AFP welcomes the expressed interest of Rep. Roman. We highly value the patriotism of our citizens and will work to cultivate this. She will be a welcome addition to the reservists force," the statement said.

The AFP reminded all applicants who will train in the military service that they would be entering an institution placed in high esteem.

As such, we admonish them to maintain the dignity of the uniform, observe disci-

pline, propriety and decorum, and measure up to the steep standards of the service," the statement said.

"Else, they have no room in this noble profession of arms," it added.

Commendation

In a statement, Roman commended the AFP for its policy of accepting members of the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) community and expressed her strong support for the return of the Reserve Officers Training Command (ROTC) for the youth.

"Change is truly happening in our country now as promised by President Duterte," Roman said, as she thanked the President, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and AFP Chief Gen. Eduardo Año for allowing the entry of the LGBT in the military force.

To show her support for the the President, Roman said she will encourage the youth to join and promote the ROTC.

She said this will prepare them for the country's defense and for earthquake and typhoon rescue operations. INQ

18

17 February 2017



Page: 4

Officer cites PNP criteria in awarding Medal of Valor

By CECILE SUERTE FELIPE

If the military has the Medal of Valor, the police have their Medalya ng Kagitingan.

Philippine National Police (PNP) spokesman Senior Supt. Dionardo Carlos made the distinction between the two highest honors for uniformed personnel.

Carlos said the privileges received by its recipients are different.

"To distinguish, the PNP, through the Napolcom (National Police Commission) and the DILG (Department of the Interior and Local Government), for our part, it's the PNP Medalya ng Kagitingan. The privileges are different from what the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines) gives," Carlos said.

All the 44 Special Action Force (SAF) police commanders who were killed in the Mamasapano incident

in January 2015 were awarded the Medal of Valor. Two of them – Senior Insp. Gednat Tabdi and PO2 Romeo Cempron – were already awarded during the term of former president Benigno Aquino III.

"There was a review of the 42 others and they found that they deserve to have the posthumous award of the PNP Medal of Valor," Carlos added.

During the commemoration of the second anniversary of the bloody incident, President Duterte ordered a review of the awards, after which the Medal of Valor was given to the 42 SAF personnel.

Duterte had announced he had upgraded the PNP Distinguished Conduct Medal (Medalya ng Kabayanihan) earlier awarded to the fallen SAF 42 to Medal of Valor.

Turn to Page 5

5285, 5295

Officer From Page 4

However, some military officers said giving the awards to the SAF policemen would demean the distinction of the award.

Carlos stressed the PNP has its own criteria on the Medal of Kagitingan.

He said the Medal of Valor awarded to the two recipients earlier were based on testimonies of the survivors and there was an investigation and the board reviewed and appreciated the gallantry shown by the two fallen police officers.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and Medal of Valor awardee Ariel Querubin, however, disagreed.

Lorenzana openly expressed his disapproval of giving out the Medals of Valor to the SAF 44, pointing out the military merit medal is never given "en masse."

He said the Medal of Valor is an individual award for someone who distinguishes himself conspicuously, at the risk of life, and have displayed personal bravery or self-sacrifice so extraordinary as to set the individual apart from his comrades.

"I am sure that there are some who may be deserving, but definitely not all them. As I said, initially, there are vital criteria for the Medal of Valor and dying is not one of them," Lorenzana said.

Former Army chief Arturo Ortiz, leading the retired and active military officers, said the PNP and the DILG, being civilian government organizations, could not just dish out the Medal of Valor because it is only reserved for the military.

"The PNP can give the highest civilian awards to the SAF 44 for their supreme sacrifices but the Medal of Valor – this is the most sacred in the military," Ortiz said.

In the Napolcom memorandum circular 93-018, the Medal of Valor is given to any police personnel who performed "a deed of personal bravery and self-sacrifice above and beyond the call of duty so conspicuous as to distinguish himself clearly above his comrades in the performance of more than ordinary hazardous service."

– With Jaime Laude

20

12 February 2017



Page: 2

NPA releases video of kidnapped soldiers

By JOHN UNSON

KORONADAL, South Cotabato – The communist New People's Army (NPA) on Wednesday released a video of the two soldiers they kidnapped two weeks ago in

Sultan Kudarat and urged President Duterte to negotiate their safe release

The NPA's Valentin Palamine Regional Operations Command-Far South Mindanao assured the families of Pfc. Samuel Garay and Sgt.

Soliman Calocop that they are treated humanely and are not being tortured as earlier reported

The NPA sent the video to Mindanao-based media outfits through email, appealing to Duterte to work out their

release through a peaceful negotiation

The NPA's Dencio Madrigal spoke in the video and called on the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to halt military operations in Sultan Kudarat

He accused the government of using the AFP's civil-military operations and other humanitarian outreach programs as

pretext to determine the location of NPAs, and how to efficiently neutralize the communities supporting rebels.

In a separate video, Garay and Calocop said they were treated well by the rebels

Garay and Calocop were riding tandem on a motorcycle when they were taken by rebels at a checkpoint in Columbio two weeks ago

This was days before the NPA terminated its unilateral ceasefire with the government earlier this month

Hostilities began shortly after President Duterte declared all-out war against the NPA and scuttled the peace talks with the rebels

Elsewhere, residents began to flee their villages on fears that they might get caught in a firefight between government

Turn to Page 3

21

NPA From Page 2

troops and the NPA rebels.

Ifugao Rep. Teodoro Bagulat, Jr. said the fighting forced indigenous peoples to flee their villages in Asipulo town.

“Just days after the breakdown of the peace talks and the lifting of the cease-fire, the military and the NPA have renewed fighting. While casualties on both sides are expected, the greater tragedy is the displacement of peace-loving indigenous peoples from their ancestral homes,” Bagulat said.

Bagulat urged the resumption of peace talks and an immediate halt to the clashes between the military and the NPA.

In Quirino province, at least 50 families have fled their homes in Barangay San Martin, Maddela town since Wednesday, local officials said.

Barangay chairman Paulino Lunag said villagers started to leave their houses for refuge with relatives in the town proper after some 150 NPA rebels were spotted in their village.

Lunag said the villagers left their houses to avoid being caught in a potential crossfire between the NPA and troops of the Army’s 86th Battalion advancing to their area.

Meanwhile, a suspected NPA leader was arrested by the police in Meycauayan, Bulacan on Wednesday.

Fernando Quirante, alias “Ka Bert,” is wanted for multiple murder and listed as No. 1 Most Wanted Person in Victoria City, Negros Occidental.

– With Artemio Dumlao, Raymund Catindig, Ben Serrano, Rhodina Villanueva, Cecille Suerte Felipe

22

17 February 2017



Page: 1

Abu leader continues to remain potent threat despite AFP campaign

By Mario J. Mallari



Despite intensified efforts to neutralize extremists operating in Mindanao, the group of Abu Sayyaf leader Radullan Sahiron remains a "potent" force in Sulu, a military official yesterday said.

Col. Cirilito Sobejana, commander of Joint Task Force Sulu, said Sahiron continued to enjoy command of large number of supporters in the island province.

"Sahiron is the most potent one considering that he has the most number of followers," said Sobejana, who is also the concurrent deputy

From page 1

commander of the Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom).

Sahiron, known as Commander "Putol", is included in the United States list of most wanted terrorists with \$1-million reward for his neutralization. He was tagged in the 2001 raid at the posh Dos Palmas resort in Palawan where several hostages were snatched, including three Americans.

Two of the American hostages, namely, Martin Burnham and Guillermo Sobero, were killed while under captivity. Sobero was beheaded as Independence Day present to former President Gloria

Macapagal-Arroyo while Burnham was killed during a rescue operation a year later that ended in the rescue of his wife Gracia.

Aside from this, Sahiron's group was also blamed for the kidnapping of a female broadcast journalist and her crew in 2008.

Sahiron is believed to have around 130 Abu Sayyaf fighters under his command operating in the outskirts of Sulu.

As JTF-Sulu commander, Sobejana is tasked to neutralize Sahiron's group within six months or until July this year as directed by Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año.

According to Sobejana, aside

from defeating significantly the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu, the JTF-Sulu is exerting its "best efforts" to rescue 27 hostages still being kept by the bandit group.

"By July 31, the kidnapping problem in Sulu, Basilan and Tawi Tawi should be finished," he said.

"(By that time), there should no more hostages on their custody, their strength has been significantly reduced and economic progress sets in in Jolo and the entire province of Sulu," Sobejana added.

Currently, 14 military battalions under JTF-Sulu, composed of Army, Air Force and Navy, are operating against the Abu Sayyaf group in Sulu.

23

February 2017



Pahina. 3

Katutubo apektado sa giyera ng AFP vs NPA

Apektado na ang mga katutubo sa giyera sa pagitan ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) at New People's Army (NPA) sa Ifugao matapos bumagsak ang peace talks sa pagitan ng gobyerno at mga rebeldeng komunista.

Ito ang dahilan kaya nanawagan si Ifugao Rep. Teddy Brawner Baguilat sa gobyerno na ituloy na ang peace talks sa Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) upang makabalik na sa kanilang bahay ang mga katutubong apektado.

"Just days after the breakdown of the peace talks and the lifting of the ceasefire, the military and the NPA have renewed fighting. While casualties on both sides are expected, the greater tragedy is the displacement of peace-loving indigenous peoples from their ancestral homes," ani Baguilat.

Inihalimbawa ng mambabatas ang mga katutubo sa Ifugao na labis na umanong naaapektuhan sa giyera ng militar at NPA kaya umaapela ang mambabatas na bumalik na ang magkabi-

lang kampo sa peace negotiating table.

"Hundreds of IPs are now in an evacuation center in Namal, Asipulo where the fighting has been raging between the military and the NPA in the past few days," ani Baguilat.

Sa ngayon aniya ay hirap na hirap na ang mga katutubo sa mga evacuation centers dahil kulang-kulang ang pagkain, tubig, kumot at mga damit pangginaw matapos bumagsak ang temperatura sa Ifugao. (Bernard Taguinod)

24

17 February 2017



Page. 7

ASG sets deadline for P30M ransom of German hostage

By Efren Montano

THE Abu Sayyaf Group has warned of beheading German captive Jurgen Gustav Kantner if authorities fail to deliver the P30 million ransom by Feb. 26. The warning was aired in a video circulated by the SITE Intelligence Group, that monitors jihadist websites.

In the two-minute video, Kantner, wearing an orange shirt and sporting a beard, spoke in German as he addressed his family and the German government.

Meanwhile, Malacañang said the government will do everything to get the foreigner alive.

"We continue appeal to the captors to spare the life of the victim," said Presidential Peace adviser Jesus Dureza.

"The government still reiterates its very strong no ransom policy. So we are not going to talk with them about ransom," Dureza stressed.

However, he said the government will not intervene if Kantner's family or another party agreed to pay the ransom.

Kantner was abducted off Tawi-Tawi in November last year as he and his wife Sabine Merz, were sailing there. Sabine was killed when she reportedly put up a fight. Her body was later found on the yacht with gunshot wounds.

Dureza said part of the government efforts to rescue Kantner and at least 20 other hostages were the continuing military operations in Sulu.

Among those the bandits had decapitated were Canadian hostages Robert Hall and John Ridsdel, who were taken from Samal Island in Davao del Norte. The two beheaded victims' companions, Norwegian Kjartan Sekkingstad and Filipino Marites Flor, had been separately released after ransom was

25

17 February 2017

POLICE FILES

Page. 4

May kaibahan ba ang AFP Medal of Valor sa PNP?

ANG AFP Medal of Valor o Medalya ng Kagitingan ay ang katumbas ng US Congressional Medal of Honor ang pinakamataas na parangal na iginagawad sa sundalo o marine ng US Armed Forces. Nagsimulang iginawad ang US Medal of Honor noong taong 1861 sa US Navy at sumunod naman sa US Army noong taong 1862. Ang medalya ay iginagawad sa bisa ng batas na nilagdaan ni President Abraham Lincoln. Ang AFP Medal of Valor ay sumunul angawad noong taon 1940. Mula 1940 hanggang ngayon 41 pa lang ang nasa talaan ng mga nabigyan ng medalya. Ito ay palatandaan na talagang piling-pili lamang ang nabibigyan ng pinakamataas na parangal na maaring igawad ng Hukbong Sandatahan ng Pilipinas.

Noong nabubuhay pa ang Philippine Constabulary (PC) ito ay isa sa apat na sangay ng AFP. Meron din katangi-tanging miyembro ng PC ang nagkaroon ng Medal of Valor dahil sa ipinamalas na pambihirang katapangan "above and beyond the call of duty." Nang buwagin ang PC at pinalitan ng Philippine National Police (PNP) ihiniwalay na ito sa AFP. Ang bagong itinatag na PNP ay nagkaroon nanit ng sariling regulasyon patungkol sa mga medalya at parangal na iginagawad sa katangi-tanging pulis at tauhan ng PNP. Ang pinakamataas na parangal na maigagawad ay ang Medalya ng Kagitingan o PNP Medal of Valor hango sa Medal of Valor ng AFP.

Avon sa NAPOLCOM Memorandum Circular 93-018, "The Medalya ng Kagitingan or the PNP Medal of Valor is the highest award of the Philippine National Police. It is awarded to any member of the Philippine National Police who have performed in action a deed of personal bravery and self-sacrifice above and beyond the call of duty so conspicuous as to distinguish himself clearly above his comrades in the performance of more than ordinary hazardous service. This award may be given only if the enemy force is so overwhelming as compared to the government troops". Samantala ayon naman sa AFP, "The AFP Medal of Valor is the Philippines highest military honor. To earn



this award, AFP personnel (or member of the recognized guerilla forces) must have been involved in actual conflict with armed enemies, distinguishing himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty. To justify an award of the Medal of Valor, one must perform in action a deed of personal bravery or self sacrifice above and beyond the call of duty as conspicuous as to distinguish him above his comrades."

May pagkakaiba ba ang Medalya ng Kagitingan o PNP Medal of Valor sa AFP Medal of Valor? Sa palagay ko wala kung ang prinsipyo at pamantayan sa likod ng parangal ang paguusapan. Pareho lang. Dapat personal na ipinamalas ng pinagkalooban ng medalya ang pambihirang kagitingan at pagpapakasakit sa sarili at hindi alintana ang kaligtasan at buhay habang nasa gitna ng labanan. Sa labanang iyon ang kanyang ipinmamalas na pambihirang kagitingan ay bukod tangi at hindi mapapantayan ng sinuman sa kanyang mga kasamahan. Hindi maaring magkaiba sapagkat isa lang ang pinagmulan ng parangal. Ang proseso ay halos pareho. Dumadaan ito sa masusing imbigtigasyon at matinding deliberasyon.

Ang kaibahan lang sa ngayon ay ang pagkakaroon ng batas (RA 9049) na nagbibigay ng buwanang pabuya at iba pang pribilehiyo sa mga ginawaran ng medalya ng Kagitingan sa hanay ng kasundaluhan. Walang katumbas na batas na magbibigay ng parehong pribilehiyo sa mga pagkalooban ng medalya sa hanay ng kapulisan. Kung walang batas hindi pwedeng obligahin ang mga pampubliko at pribadong eskwelahan at ospital na bigyan ng skolaryip at libreng paggagamot ang mga pinarangalan.

Kaya naman bilang dating opisyal ng PNP na naging

kinatawan sa Kongreso isa sa isinulong kong panukalang batas noong naka-raang 12th Congress ay iyong magpapatibay ng pamantayan ng pagpipili at magbibigay ng pribilehiyo sa mga PNP Medal of Valor awardees tulad ng

kanilang counterpart sa AFP. Hindi lang nagkaroon ng sapat na panahon upang maisulong ito ng ganap sa Kongreso ngunit pinakiusapan ko ang mga dati kong kasamahan sa Kamara na dati ring galing sa serbisyo na ihain uli ang panukalang batas. Panahon na upang magkaroon ng isaang batas na maggagabay sa mga kinaukulan ng tamang paraan at pamantayan sa pagkaloob ng Medalya ng Kagitingan kasama na ang pagatas ng gantimpalang karapatdapa na matamasa ng mga bayaning pulis.

16

17 February 2017

Page: A23

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



SPORTS

Navy, Army bikers finish 1-2 in Ronda

Navy's Jan Paul Morales stuck to Army's Cris Joven throughout the seventh stage on Thursday as they landed 1-2 in the 224-km Ronda Pilipinas challenge that ended in Daet, Camarines Norte. Though he won stage honors, Morales said his role was to tire out the chasers like Joven so his teammate and tour leader, Rudy Roque, can relax. —STORY BY MARC ANTHONY REYES **A23**

Sacrifice keeps Roque 'relaxed' in lead; Army's Joven at bay

"I may not be able to make it (win the title this year)," said the 31-year-old Morales of Philippine Navy-Standard Insurance after winning stage honors by two bike lengths.

"But I'm getting tired, too," admitted Morales in Filipino.

He admitted being the designated pawn as he led a two-man breakaway (with Ronnilan Quita) in hilly Ragay, Camarines Sur, still more than 100 km away from the finish line.

"That's my role, to tire out the chasers like Joven so Rudy

(Roque) can relax with the main peloton," said Morales.

But he also admitted it may soon backfire on him with still seven stages left in the race.

Roque, Morales' teammate and current red jersey wearer, indeed kept his lead intact, two minutes, 21 seconds ahead of another Navy rider, Ronald Lomotos. Morales was third overall 2:50 behind.

But Joven, riding for Kinetix Lab-Philippine Army, managed to creep to fourth, just 3:15 behind Roque.

"From the start our goal is the championship. Whoever is fittest, we support him," said Morales. "Right now Rudy is in top condition and they will have a hard time getting the red jersey from him."

Roque finished the stage in the top 8, with the same time as Morales (6:09:04), Elmer Navarro of Go For Gold, Ryan Serapio of Team Ilocos Sur, Quita of Army, Leonel Dimaano RC Cola-NCR and Jemico Brioso of TIS.

And while Joven represented the biggest threat in the P1

million top individual honor. Go For Gold has already camped four riders inside the top 10 of the overall classification—Navarro (5:06 off the leader), Ismael Grospe Jr., (7:11), Jonel Carcueva (7:49) and Bryant Sepnio (9:37).

From here, the riders will take on a 187-km eighth stage to Unisan, Quezon.

Morales said their team will be mostly trying to defend the red jersey. "If and when we make an attack, we'll make sure others can't catch up." INQ

27

17 February 2017

PHILIPPINE DAILY

A23

SPORTS

Willing Navy 'pawn' tops 7th stage



Teamt Philippine Navy/Standard Insurance cyclist Jan Paul Morales negotiates a lonely stretch of the seventh stage from Pili, Camarines Sur to Daet, Camarines Norte. — EDWIN BACASMAS

28

A23

ONLINE NEWS 17 FEBRUARY 2017

<http://dwdd.com.ph/>

Sobejana asks for help to rescue German hostage

Lui Claudio

Sulu Joint Task Force Commander Col. Cirilito Sobejana on Wednesday asked the support of civilians especially from terrorist-inflicted communities to rescue the German hostage, Jurgen Kantner.



Col. Sobejana explained that his group is doing their best efforts to rescue Kantner and other victims abducted by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) but cannot do it alone.

"We will be doing the relentless effort, we will pursue them and hopefully we will be able to make it," Sobejana said.

Sobejana also discouraged the payment for ransom as it will give the bandit group the more capability to develop its force.

Kantner's video spread in the internet addressing his government that the bandit group will kill him if the ransom is not paid before February 26.

"It's a strategy actually...we will just do our best effort and hopefully we will be able to get the victim with no ransom," Sobejana explained.

Meanwhile, Sobejana assured that all available manpower including the navy and air force components and 14 battalions under his command will be utilized in operations to rescue ASG's hostages.

The commander also said that they are developing a good strategy to cover all areas in Sulu, particularly where kidnap victims brought.

Prior to six months order to decimate the bandit group, Sobejana said that issues of kidnapping in Sulu, Basilan, and Tawi-Tawi must end on or before July 31.

The Abu Sayyaf has currently 27 kidnap victims including a Dutch, a German, a Korean, five Malaysians, six Vietnamese, seven Indonesians, and six Filipinos. **-MF**

29

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

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

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

AFP more than willing to accept transgender Bataan solon in reserve force

Philippine News Agency

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) sees no difficulty in giving in to the desires of Bataan 1st District Rep. Geraldine Roman, the first transgender woman elected to the House of Representatives, in joining the military's reserve force.

This was stressed by AFP public affairs office chief Col. Edgard Arevalo in a message to the Philippine News Agency late Wednesday.

"In taking in applicants to the AFP whether in regular or reservist force, we do not discriminate with respect to gender," he added.

The AFP's ongoing gender and development program guarantees that, Arevalo stressed.

"As such, the AFP welcomes the express interest of Rep Roman. We highly value the patriotism of our citizens and will work to cultivate this. She will be a welcome addition to the Reservists Force," he added.

And before accepting and training prospective members, Arevalo said the AFP inculcates on them that that they are entering an institution placed in high esteem.

"As such, we admonish them to maintain the dignity of the uniform; observe discipline, propriety and decorum; and measure up to the steep standards of the service. Else, they have no room in this noble profession of arms," he added.

But he clarified that gender of the prospective will be based on the gender of the applicant based on certificate of live birth.

Roman earlier lauded the AFP for allowing military applicants coming from the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) sector.

In the same vein, the Bataan solon expressed support for President Rodrigo Duterte's decision to return the Reserved Officers Training Corps (ROTC) in the country's high school curriculum.

She added ROTC will help the youth in preparing for the nation's defense and mercy missions in case of calamities.

30

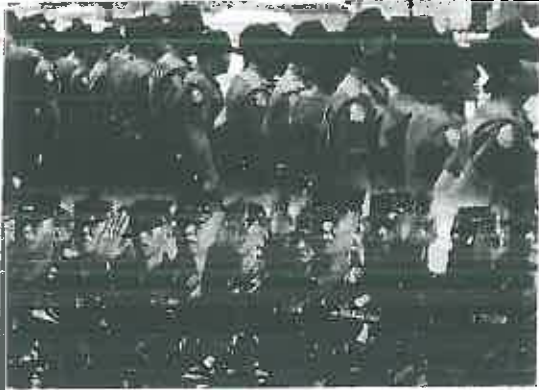
Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land.

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

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

DWDD: ADDITIONAL BENEFIT || Soldiers and Policemen to be exempted in Estate Tax if Bill pushes through

DWDD AFP Civil Relations Service Radio Website



Valenzuela City 1st District Rep. Wes Gatchalian filed a House Bill which aims to exempt both uniformed personnel of Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines from paying estate taxes.

Since both members of PNP and AFP guarantee the "fullest enjoyment of a citizen of his freedom" as they are protecting the citizens from lawless elements of the community, Gatchalian said on his explanatory note that these modern-day heroes deserve a small token for all of their sacrifices.

He stressed that the men and women in uniform have already given much to the country by risking their lives in protecting the freedom of the people, and relieving their families from the additional burden of paying estate tax is the least thing that the government can do for them.

Gatchalian also added that once the HB 4881 was already passed as law, the family of a soldier or policeman who passed away will be guaranteed an exemption from paying more than 20 percent in the estate taxes.

Lastly, he reiterated that HB4881 was proposed to ultimately honor the men and women in uniform. – CAT

21

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

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

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

NPA rebel dead in encounter with Army troops

Philippine News Agency

New People's Army (NPA) rebels on Thursday launched a series of attacks in three areas in Davao City's second and third districts, resulting in the death of one communist guerilla.

This was confirmed by Joint Task Force Haribon chief Brig. Gen Gilbert Gapay, who until Thursday night still monitors the encounter in the vicinity of Baguio and Calinan Districts.

Gapay said the rebels were under the Pulang Bagani Command 1 under alias Jinggoy and Pulang Bagani Command 2 under alias Lando.

Around 5:30 a.m. Thursday, Gapay said rebels attacked the military detachment in Malabog, Paquibato District but the Army troops were able to fight back. The encounter left one NPA rebel dead but his body was brought by the fleeing rebels.

At lunchtime, rebels attacked the civilian community at the Davco pineapple plantation in Baguio District and burned the harvester owned by Del Monte Philippines.

Gapay said the attack in Davco could be a retaliation for the death of an NPA in the earlier encounter.

Another encounter ensued late afternoon in Lamanan, Calinan between the blocking force and the fleeing rebels.

According to Gapay, nearby residents also heard explosions and sporadic gunfires. But Gapay said this has yet to be confirmed by the 3rd Infantry Battalion operating in the area.

As of press time, pursuit operation is still ongoing.

32

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

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

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

PMA prepares for alumni homecoming this weekend

Philippine News Agency

The current closure of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) to the public is in preparation for the Alumni Homecoming on Saturday, February 18 and is not affecting the tourism business in the city.

The gates of the PMA were closed to the public since February 15 until after the annual homecoming and is not at all due to the rumored "red alert" status.

Last week, Baguio City Mayor Mauricio Domogan denied having announced the "red alert" status in the city and belied reports of any disturbance perpetrated by members of the New People's Army (NPA) or the Abu Sayyaf.

Primary hotels in the city – the Baguio Country Club (BCC), Manor Hotel at Camp John Hay and Grand Sierra Pines Baguio, to name a few – are fully booked.

Most of the hotels accommodated the alumni of the PMA and the others were booked on the weekend for some seminars.

Tourists flock to the city to escape the heat of the lowlands which still range between 22°C and 28°C.

Mary Ann Holmes, a tourist from Angeles City, Pampanga said the temperatures recorded in Baguio City recently are similar to some Middle East and European countries during winter.

Business is at its peak at this time due to the Baguio Flower Festival (BFF), PMA alumni homecoming, the PMA graduation in March, Strawberry Festival of La Trinidad in Benguet and summer season to include the Holy Week.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte is expected to grace the PMA Alumni Homecoming and address the men and women graduates of the primary military school in Asia.

23

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

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

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

4 Navy vessels now helping in Surigao quake relief efforts

Philippine News Agency

With four gunboats now helping in the Surigao City relief efforts, there is still no need to deploy the Philippine Navy (PN)'s largest ship, the BRP Tarlac (LD-601), in the ongoing mercy missions in quake-affected areas. This was disclosed by PN spokesperson Capt. Lued Lincuna in a message to the Philippine News Agency Thursday.

"(There are) no final plan for the deployment of the SSV (strategic sealift vessel) (yet)," he added. Lincuna said there are still other naval assets in the area that can support the ongoing relief efforts in Surigao City.

Four gunboats in Naval Forces Eastern Mindanao were earlier tapped to help in the ongoing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief mission in the locality.

The 7,000 gross-ton BRP Tarlac was commissioned during short ceremonies at Pier 13, Manila South Harbor last June 1.

She arrived in the Philippines last May 14 after a five-day journey from PT PAL (Persero)'s shipyard in Surabaya which started on May 9.

The Philippines has a two SSV order with the Indonesian shipbuilder worth PHP3.8 billion.

She was formally presented to the public at Pier 13, Manila South Harbor last May 16.

BRP Tarlac was assigned to the Philippine Fleet's Sealift Amphibious Force.

The ship has an overall length of 120 meters, breadth of 21 meters, draft of five meters and carry a payload of 2,800 tons.

She has a cruising speed of 13 knots and maximum speed of 16 knots and a minimum operating range of 7,500 nautical miles.

Her sister-ship is expected to be delivered by May 2017. The ship has a complement of 121 officers and enlisted personnel.

She can carry 500 troops, two rigid-hull inflatable boats, two landing craft units and three helicopters.

34

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

Month	Week	Dates	Name
March	3 rd week	23 - 27 Mar	Florie
	4 th week	28 - Mar - 01 Apr	Valleera
April	1 st week	3 - 7 Apr	Roxanne
	2 nd week	10 - 14 Apr	Chief
	3 rd week	17 - 21 Apr 17	Wpiz
	4 th week	28 - 29 April / 27 - 01 May	Dermot Mau
May	1 st week	2 - 6 May 17	Group
	2 nd week	8 - 12 May 17	CIA JABATE
	3 rd week	15 - 19 May	Admin
	4 th week	22 - 26 May	CPT OP
June	1 st week	29 May - 2 June	R AISA
	2 nd week	19 - 23 June	
	3 rd week	19 - 23 June	Charmie
	4 th week	27 June - 01 July	Carol
July	1 st week		
	2 nd week	NO -	
	3 rd week		
	4 th week		
August	1 st week	7 - 11 Aug	Cpl Parjady
	2 nd week	10 - 14 Aug	Dermot
	3 rd week	21 - 24 Aug 21 - 24 Aug	CPT JABATE
	4 th week		
September	1 st week	4 - 8 Sept	Admin
	2 nd week	11 - 15 Sep	CPT OP
	3 rd week	18 - 22 Sep	Valleera
	4 th week		
October	1 st week		
	2 nd week		
	3 rd week	16 - 20 Oct	Chief
	4 th week	23 - 27 Oct	Stinky
November	1 st week		
	2 nd week		
	3 rd week		
	4 th week	20.	



HEADQUARTERS
PHILIPPINE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Fort Andres Bonifacio, Metro Manila



OACPA/A

02 February 2017

5 DAYS PASSES 1st Semi-Annual (February-June 2017)

Nr	Rank/Name/AFPSN/AFPMOS	PREFERRED DATE	Destination
OFFICERS			
1	LTC RAY C TIONGSON O-12421 (INF) PA		
2	CPT BENJAMIN B DE PERALTA II O-14418 (INF) PA	22-26 MAY	
3	1LT FLORAIDA T TUMBALI O-144414 (AGS) PA	20-25 May 17	
ENLISTED PERSONNEL			
4	TSg Reymond R Costales 784342 (Inf) PA	20-25 (25-28)	
5	SSg Geremeo M Vallecera III 847694 (QMS) PA	27-31 MARCH	PAGIBUNDO / PUERTO GALERA
6	Sgt Jaber A Jabalde 843773 (MI) PA	25-30 APRIL	
7	Cpl Noel D Damot 873128 (AGS) PA	20-25 APRIL	
8	Cpl Gladys G Jadloc 875425 (FS) PA	23-27 May 17	Basey, Samar
9	Cpl Florie O Parajado 876845 (EW) PA	23-27 May 17	Calapan City
10	Cpl Cesar P Lopez 878684 (QMS) PA	15-19 May 17	
11	Cpl Ma Roxanne C Redosendo 882165 (EW) PA	10-14 Apr 17	Cotabato
12	Pfc Lady Charmie M Panganiban 905698 (EW) PA	17-21 Apr 17	South Cotabato
13	Pfc Maria Lucia P Lapa 908586 (EW) PA	24-28 Apr 17	ORMOG / Cebu
14	Pfc Raisa Gail D Anobling 916664 (EW) PA	25-30 APRIL	29 MAY - 02 June / Calamba
15	Cpl Carol Torre	27-June - 01 July	Binalat Cuyago Nueva Ecija