

Army Vision: By 2040, 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

04 January 2017

Wednesday

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

NEWS HEADLINES

04 January 2017

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MATOBATO CLAIM IS INCREDULOUS, PALACE SAYS

'I SAW DU30 KILL 8 TIMES'

Condemned PNP chief T. Aligar
 Duterte said the report that he saw a presidential detail of eight soldiers killed by a group of 30 soldiers in a clash between the army and a rebel group in Mindanao is "incredible" and "palace says".

Poor fishers lose livelihood areas
'Nina' flattened houses in minutes
'Oro' denied PNP prize for dog kill
Pacquiao: At home in Forbes Park

RUSSIA WANTS WAR
RUSSIA WANTS WAR
RUSSIA WANTS WAR

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN
SSS PENSION HIKE AFTER TAX REFORM

PNP, PNP PAY RAISED ONLY IN 2016

WHAT are the best drop phones for operators in the world? WHICH IS THE BEST? Would you like to see a cell phone? Find out here: PNP IN WHO scored 50 points in Chicago's victory over Charlotte? PNP IN

DBM chief defends 607% hike in president's budget
SSS contribution increase pressed
Drug war deaths: Bulacan tops CL

STAR

Malaban police chief not yet off the hook in Emilio case

Indiscriminate firing suspect killed by cops
Leni on Rod's ouster claims: I give up

'Oro' award recalled amid animal cruelty issue

Sandigan asked: Reconsider ruling on Jojoec Loreuzo
Femaryl oustages heroin as deadliest drug on Long Island

The Manila Times

Annus Mirabilis: The Year of Wonders, 2016

PH ECONOMY COULD BECOME FASTEST IN THE REGION
Govt set to sustain high growth in 2017

Duterte named Person of the Year by Chinese magazine

Budget chief: Pension hike means higher contributions
French cardinal to attend Manila congress on mercy
Pope maintains 'zero tolerance' on sex abuse

GRANDLOTTO 6/45 WEDNESDAY 04 JANUARY 2017 JACKPOT PRIZE: P76,000,000.00

Standard

Trillanes links probed

Wicket's implication, Senator in NBP trial

Wicket's implication, Senator in NBP trial

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24-HOUR PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST

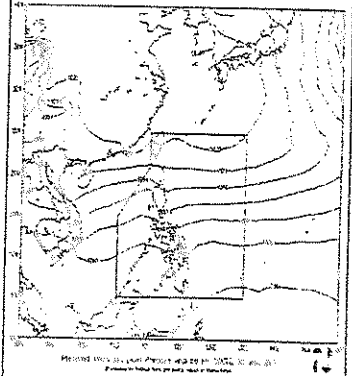
ISSUED AT: 5:00 PM 03 JANUARY 2017

VALID BEGINNING: 5:00 PM TODAY UNTIL 5:00 PM TOMORROW

SYNOPSIS: NORTHEAST MONSOON AFFECTING LUZON AND VISAYAS.

FORECAST: CLOUDY SKIES WITH LIGHT TO MODERATE RAINSHOWERS AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS WILL BE EXPERIENCED OVER THE REGIONS OF CARAGA, DAVAO AND SOCCSKSARGEN. CLOUDY SKIES WITH LIGHT RAINS IS EXPECTED OVER THE REGIONS OF CAGAYAN VALLEY, CORDILLERA, BICOL, MIMAROPA, EASTERN VISAYAS AND THE PROVINCES OF AURORA AND QUEZON. PARTLY CLOUDY TO CLOUDY SKIES WITH ISOLATED LIGHT RAINS WILL BE EXPERIENCED OVER METRO MANILA AND THE REST OF LUZON AND OF VISAYAS. PARTLY CLOUDY TO CLOUDY SKIES WITH ISOLATED RAINSHOWERS OR THUNDERSTORMS WILL PREVAIL OVER THE REST OF MINDANAO.

MODERATE TO STRONG WINDS BLOWING FROM THE NORTHEAST WILL PREVAIL OVER LUZON, VISAYAS AND EASTERN SECTION OF MINDANAO. THE COASTAL WATERS ALONG THESE AREAS WILL BE MODERATE TO ROUGH. ELSEWHERE, WINDS WILL BE LIGHT TO MODERATE COMING FROM THE NORTHEAST WITH SLIGHT TO MODERATE SEAS.



PAGTAYA: MAULAP NA KALANGITAN NA MAY MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG MGA PAG-ULAN AT PULU-PULONG PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG ANG MARARANASAN SA MGA REHIYON NG CARAGA, DAVAO AT SOCCSKSARGEN. MAULAP NA KALANGITAN NA MAY MAHINANG MGA PAG-ULAN ANG INAASAHAN SA MGA REHIYON NG CAGAYAN VALLEY, CORDILLERA, KABIKULAN, MIMAROPA. SILANGANG KABISAYAAN AT SA MGA LALAWIGAN NG AURORA AT QUEZON. BAHAGYANG MAULAP HANGGANG SA MAULAP NA KALANGITAN NA MAY PULU-PULONG MGA MAHIHINANG PAG-ULAN ANG MARARANASAN SA KAMAYNILAAN AT SA NALALABING BAHAGI NG LUZON AT NG KABISAYAAN. BAHAGYANG MAULAP HANGGANG SA MAULAP NA KALANGITAN NA MAY PULU-PULONG MGA PAG-ULAN O PAGKIDLAT-PAGKULOG ANG IIRAL SA NATITIRANG BAHAGI NG MINDANAO.

KATAMTAMAN HANGGANG SA MALAKAS NA HANGIN MULA SA HILAGANG-SILANGAN ANG IIRAL SA LUZON, KABISAYAAN AT SA SILANGANG BAHAGI NG MINDANAO. ANG MGA BAYBAYING DAGAT SA MGA LUGAR NA ITO AY MAGIGING KATAMTAMAN HANGGANG SA MAALON. SA IBANG DAKO, ANG HANGIN AY MAGIGING MAHINA HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMAN MULA SA HILAGANG-SILANGAN NA MAY BANAYAD HANGGANG SA KATAMTAMANG PAG-ALON NG KARAGATAN.

EXTREMES OF TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY FOR THE 24-HR PERIOD ENDING AT 4:00 PM TODAY AND RECORDED AT PAGASA WEATHER STATION, SCIENCE GARDEN, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY:

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE: 01:50 PM TODAY 30.9 °C	MAXIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 06:00 AM TODAY 86 %	
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE: 06:00 AM TODAY 23.0 °C	MINIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 1:50 PM TODAY 45 %	
TIDAL PREDICTION ALONG MANILA BAY (COURTESY OF NAMRIA)	ASTRONOMICAL INFORMATION OVER METRO MANILA	
LOW TIDE TODAY: 5:06 PM 0.34 METER	SUNSET/ SUNRISE	MOONRISE/ MOONSET & ILLUMINATION
HIGH TIDE TOMORROW: 12:58 AM 0.93 METER	SUNSET TODAY: 5:39 PM	MOONSET TODAY: 10:03 PM
LOW TIDE TOMORROW: 9:06 AM -0.06 METER	SUNRISE TOMORROW: 6:22 AM	MOONRISE TOMORROW: 10:40 AM
HIGH TIDE TOMORROW: 4:00 PM 0.42 METER	SUNSET TOMORROW: 5:40 PM	ILLUMINATION TOMORROW: 27 %

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND QUERIES, PLEASE CALL AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 927-1335 OR LOG ON TO WWW.PAGASA.DOST.GOV.PH.

PREPARED BY: LADC

CHECKED BY: ADA

"Tracking the sky... helping the country"

WFFC BIR Road Diliman, Quezon City

Tel. Fax: -6329271541



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Science and Technology
**PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC, GEOPHYSICAL AND
ASTRONOMICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (PAGASA)**
Weather Division
ISO 9001:2008 Certified
Registry No. 01 100 1534769

WFS-02
Rev. 1/05-06-2016

24-Hour Weather Forecast and Extended Weather Outlook for Selected Cities:

ISSUED AT : 5:00 PM 03 JANUARY 2017
VALID BEGINNING : 5:00 PM TODAY UNTIL 5:00 PM TOMORROW

CITIES	24-Hr Weather, Winds and Sea Condition Forecast <i>from 5 PM today until 5 PM tomorrow</i>		Extended Weather Outlook <i>Duration: 5 PM until 5 PM of the following day</i>				
	03 JAN		04 JAN	05 JAN	06 JAN	07 JAN	
	Metro Manila	24 °C 31 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast Manila Bay: Moderate to Rough	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C
Tuguegarao City	22 °C 28 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast	22 °C 28 °C	22 °C 28 °C	23 °C 29 °C	24 °C 31 °C	
Laoag City	22 °C 31 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast Coastal Waters: Moderate to Rough	23 °C 31 °C	23 °C 32 °C	22 °C 31 °C	23 °C 32 °C	
Baguio City	14 °C 24 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast	14 °C 24 °C	14 °C 24 °C	14 °C 23 °C	15 °C 24 °C	
SBMA(Olongapo) / Clark Zone (Angeles City)	24 °C 31 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast Subic Bay: Moderate to Rough	24 °C 30 °C	24 °C 31 °C	23 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	
Tagaytay City	19 °C 28 °C	Moderate: Northeast	19 °C 28 °C	19 °C 28 °C	19 °C 28 °C	19 °C 29 °C	
Lipa City	23 °C 31 °C	Moderate: Northeast	23 °C 30 °C	23 °C 31 °C	22 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	
Legazpi City	25 °C 29 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast Coastal Waters: Moderate to Rough	25 °C 29 °C	25 °C 29 °C	25 °C 30 °C	26 °C 31 °C	
Puerto Princesa City	26 °C 31 °C	Moderate: Northeast Coastal Waters: Moderate	26 °C 32 °C	26 °C 32 °C	26 °C 32 °C	26 °C 32 °C	
Iloilo City / Bacolod City	26 °C 31 °C	Moderate: Northeast Coastal Waters: Moderate	26 °C 30 °C	26 °C 30 °C	26 °C 31 °C	26 °C 31 °C	
Metro Cebu	25 °C 30 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast Coastal Waters: Moderate to Rough	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 30 °C	26 °C 31 °C	
Tacloban City	24 °C 31 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast Coastal Waters: Moderate to Rough	25 °C 31 °C	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	
Cagayan de Oro City	24 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: Northeast Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	23 °C 30 °C	24 °C 31 °C	23 °C 31 °C	24 °C 31 °C	
Valencia City	18 °C 30 °C	Light to Moderate: Northeast	19 °C 29 °C	19 °C 30 °C	19 °C 31 °C	20 °C 31 °C	
Metro Davao	24 °C 29 °C	Moderate to Strong: Northeast Coastal Waters: Moderate to Rough	25 °C 29 °C	25 °C 30 °C	24 °C 29 °C	25 °C 31 °C	
Zamboanga City	24 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Northeast Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	24 °C 33 °C	24 °C 33 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 33 °C	

LEGEND:

	Clear Skies		Partly Cloudy to at times Cloudy with Rainshower and/ or Thunderstorms		Occasional Rains		Rains with Gusty Winds
	Partly Cloudy Skies		Cloudy Skies with Rainshower and/ or Thunderstorms		Monsoon Rains / Rains		Stormy
	Partly Cloudy to at times Cloudy with Rainshower		Light Rains				

END OF FORECAST

PREPARED BY: LADC

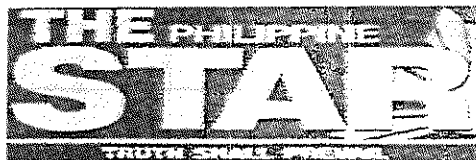
CHECKED BY: ADA

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04 January 2017



Page: 1

Indiscriminate firing suspect killed by cops

By EMMANUEL TUPAS

Quezon City policemen shot dead last Monday during an alleged shootout a suspect in a case of indiscriminate firing on New Year's Eve.

Chief Supt. Guillermo Lorenzo Eleazar, Quezon City Police District director, said policemen were about to arrest suspect Harold Moises for indiscriminate firing when he reportedly engaged authorities in a shootout.

The reported encounter occurred at around 4:30 p.m. along Kabisig corner Katangian streets in Barangay Batasan Hills.

Before the shootout, Eleazar said they received information from a concerned citizen that the suspect was spotted along Katangian street with a gun tucked in his waist.

A police team was deployed. When the team approached, Moises allegedly pulled out a caliber .45 pistol and fired at the policemen, who fired back.

Moises was pronounced dead at the East Avenue Medical Center from multiple gunshot wounds in the body.

Police said a handgun and three sachets of shabu were recovered from Moises.

Investigators said witnesses claimed that Moises had fired his pistol indiscriminately during the New Year's Eve revelry in Batasan Hills.

Meanwhile, the Pasig City policeman who fired his pistol indiscriminately during a quarrel in Tondo, Manila last Dec. 19 was disarmed and relieved from his post after administrative charges were filed against him, a police official said yesterday.

Chief Supt. Romulo Sapitula, director of the Eastern Police District (EPD), said Police Officer 1 Ronel Pantig was relieved from the Pasig City police and reassigned to the District Headquarters Service Unit.

Senior Supt. Orlando Yebra, Pasig City police chief, disarmed Pantig of his Beretta 9mm pistol.

An administrative case for grave misconduct and conduct unbecoming of a police officer was filed before the EPD's

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Indiscriminate From Page 1

Office of the District Internal Affairs Service last Dec. 29.

On the other hand, the pre-charge investigation and summary hearing proceeding will be conducted by the Internal Affairs Service of the Manila Police District, which has jurisdiction over the case.

Police investigator SPO1 Jay Jay Jacob disclosed that the criminal case against

Pantig for violation of Article 254, RPC (Illegal Discharge of Firearm) would be filed later before the Manila Prosecutor's Office.

Pantig fired his service firearm at the height of an argument with the brother of a certain Anthony Barsa Tan last Dec. 19 at the corner of Rivera and La Torre streets in Barangay 245, Zone 22 in

Tondo.

In the Cordillera region, Chief Supt. Elmo Francis Sarona, regional police director said a retired policeman and a soldier were among those arrested for indiscriminate firing during the holiday season.

He said retired police officer Wilfredo Bunagan Duenas was arrested after firing his gun while he was driving a hand tractor in Barangay San Quintin, Rizal, Kalinga.

Sarona said Army soldier

Serafin Masiong Fianza of Bekes of Paoay, Atok, Benguet was arrested after firing his pistol inside a videoke bar.

Sarona said aside from the two indiscriminate firing cases, no other untoward incident was reported in the Cordilleras where local government units stopped issuing permits to traders selling fireworks.

The Southern Police District (SPD) admitted yesterday that investigators are

still looking for leads in the case of the stray bullet that hit a 10-year-old boy in Taguig City on New Year's Eve.

SPD director Chief Supt. Tomas Apolinario said they are still gathering evidence to pinpoint the origin of the bullet that struck the head of Gian Penacilla.

Penacilla is recovering after doctors removed the bullet slug from his head at the Rizal Medical Center in Pasig City.

The victim was outside their house in Barangay Pal-ingon when a bullet hit him on the head at around 10:45 p.m. last Saturday.

Probers are hoping the slug could provide a lead to the identity of the registered owner of the gun, if the firearm is licensed.

The Taguig City government paid the medical bills of the victim, said Apolinario.

– With Non Alquitran, Cecille Suerte Felipe

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04 January 2017

INQUIRER

Page: A1

FROM A1

By Kristine Angeli Sabillo
@KSabilloINQ

Edgar Matobato, a confessed killer and member of the so-called Davao Death Squad (DDS), said he witnessed President Duterte kill eight times, seven at the infamous Ma-a quarry in Davao City, when Mr. Duterte was mayor there.

"Sa Ma-a, siguro pitong beses (In Ma-a perhaps seven times)," Matobato told an Inquirer.net team on Monday in an interview in a safe house, referring to a district in Davao City.

He said the killings happened between 1998 and 2000. But he could neither give details of the seven nighttime incidents in the gravel quarry on the outskirts of the city nor the identities of the victims. He suggested some of the victims were criminals.

He could only remember details of the killing of Mr. Duterte's alleged eighth victim, a National Bureau of Investigation agent he identified only as "Amisola."

(NBI agent Vicente Amisola was killed on Feb. 11, 1994.—Ed.)

Matobato said the DDS was going after kidnappers when the group came upon Amisola's vehicle blocking a narrow street. He said one of Mr. Duterte's men got into an altercation and then a gunfight with Amisola.

He said Amisola, who rolled under his pickup truck as he was being shot, was killed by Mr. Duterte, who emptied two Uzi magazines on the NBI agent.

The Inquirer could not independently confirm Matobato's allegations.

Execution-style

Matobato, 57, who has been shuttled to different safe houses in the past months because he fears for his life after pub-

licly testifying against the President in a Senate hearing in September, sat on a green monobloc chair at the edge of a small shed where his wife cooked his meals.

Behind him is a piece of land that slopes downward, into a narrow stream—the only background the team was allowed to shoot on video.

Asked if he had firsthand knowledge of Mr. Duterte killing people, he said, *"Marami na (There's been a lot)."*

"Minsan gabi yun pumupunta basta pinakaimportante ang binabaril (Sometimes, he went to the quarry at night if the person to be shot was someone important)," he said.

"Hindi namin alam ang pangalan (We did not know the names)," he said of the victims, who were all male.

"Pumupunta yan. Sya ang bumabari. Nakaupo ang tao (He

would go there. He would fire while the person was seated)."

During the Senate justice committee inquiry on extrajudicial killings, senators made fun of Matobato as he narrated how Mr. Duterte killed the man using an Uzi submachine gun.

Son ordered killings

Last week, Matobato was interviewed by CNN for an exclusive report where he basically recounted his testimony in the Senate, implicating Mr. Duterte in the alleged activities of the DDS.

Matobato said he never saw Paolo Duterte, the President's eldest son and now Davao City vice mayor, shoot a man. But he said Paolo asked the DDS to kill some of his enemies, including a man he argued with at a gas station.

Asked if Mr. Duterte's other children were involved with the

'I SAW DUBO KILL 8 TIMES'

AN EXCLUSIVE STORY
BY KRISTINE ANGELI SABILLO

Confessed hit man Edgar Matobato told the Inquirer he could not remember details of eight killings carried out by then Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte between 1998 and 2000, except for the murder of an NBI agent named Amisola

A2

DDS, he said no.

Matobato said Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte, the President's daughter, had criticized Philippine National Police Director General Ronald dela Rosa when he was still Davao police chief because of a large number of unsolved killings in the city.

First kill at Lucky 13

Matobato said his first kill, shortly after the DDS was formed by then Mayor Rodrigo Duterte, involved shooting a suspected robber at a billiard hall called Lucky 13.

He said he simply walked up to the man and shot him at close range as bystanders ran in fear.

He said he did not wear a mask. He said in Davao City, he had nothing to fear because he was with the police.

Matobato said the people could choose to believe him or not but he said the increasing

number of people being killed nationwide was proof of the existence of groups like the DDS.

Since Mr. Duterte became the President, more than 6,000 people have been killed in the war on drugs. A large number of the deaths are attributed to vigilante groups or unidentified gunmen.

Matobato pointed out that "Oplan Tokhang"—the police campaign against illegal drugs—started in Davao City.

He said the problem was that those killed were small-time drug pushers. He said the DDS did not kill any drug lord in Davao City. INQ



WATCH THE VIDEO

<http://inq.news/matobato>

04 January 2017



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3 soldiers who fired guns to welcome 2017 face dishonorable discharge

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

The Philippine Army (PA) said yesterday that three of its personnel who are under investigation for allegedly firing their guns to welcome the New Year in Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro, may be booted out of the military.

In an interview, Army spokesman

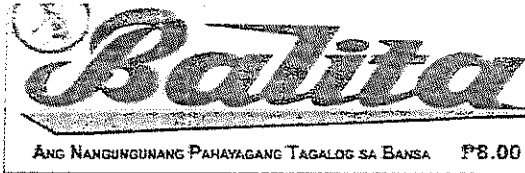
Col. Benjamin Hao said such actions committed by the Army soldiers will not be tolerated and that they will be dealt with accordingly.

Hao said if they are found guilty, the soldiers can be dishonorable discharge from the military service.

Senior Superintendent Christopher C. Birung, provincial director of

Oriental Mindoro Police Provincial Office (PPO), earlier identified the Army members as Pfc. Kevin Fajilagutan, Pfc. Leonard Magro and Pfc. John Rey B. Calansa, all belonging to the 514 Engineering Construction Battalion, 51st Engineering Brigade of the Philippine Army based in Sitio Palico, Barangay Biliran, Nasugbu, Batangas.

04 January 2017



Page. 5

Sagupaan sa Maguindanao: 5 BIFF, patay

NI FER TABOY

Limang miyembro ng Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) ang napatay nang makasagupa nila ng tropa ng militar sa tatlong bayan ng Maguindanao noong Bagong Taon.

May 1,000 pamilya na lumikas upang makaiwas sa labanan ang natatakot bumalik sa kanilang bahay, iniulat ng pulisya kahapon.

Nabalot ng tensiyon ang mga bayan ng Datu Salibo, Datu Saudi Ampatuan at Datu Shariff Saydona sa pag-atake ng ng BIFF.

Nilusob ng mga rebelde ang mga detachment ng Army na nagbabantay sa tatlong kabayanan at sinilaban ang limang bahay.

Inireport ng Humanitarian Emergency Action Response Team ng Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao na matagal nang nagbabanta ang BIFF na maghahasik ng kaguluhan sa

tatlong bayan.

Kinumpirma ng Maguindanao Provincial Police Office (MPPPO) na limang kasapi ng BIFF ang

namatay sa sagupaan. Hindi sinabi ng pulisya kung may nasugatan o namatay sa panig ng Army.

04 January 2017



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Marcelino surrenders to AFP

By JAIME LAUDE

Marine Lt. Col. Ferdinand Marcelino, facing arrest after a Manila court revived drug charges against him, surrendered to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) at around noon yesterday.

Marcelino, accompanied by his sister, presented himself before the AFP Provost Marshal General, where he "underwent booking processes, including fingerprinting, mug shots and physical examination" said Col. Edgard Arevalo, AFP public affairs office chief, adding that the AFP is filing a petition before the court for Marcelino's custody.

The Philippine National Police Anti-Illegal Drugs Group (PNP-AIDG) launched a manhunt for Marcelino and Chinese national Yan Yi Shou after a Manila court issued a warrant for their arrest.

The case against Marcelino and Yan stemmed from their arrest at a townhouse that allegedly doubled as a drug laboratory in Sta. Cruz, Manila on Jan. 21 last year.

Seventy-six kilos of shabu, with a street value of P383 million, were seized from the townhouse.

The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and the PNP-AIDG filed drug charges against Marcelino and Yan, who said they were on an intelligence operation at the time.

The drug case against the Marine officer, however, was ordered dismissed by Department of Justice (DOJ), then headed by now Sen. Leila de Lima.

When Vitaliano Aguirre II assumed the top DOJ post, the case was reopened and the Manila regional trial court issued a warrant for the arrest of Marcelino and Yan last week.

Arevalo said Marcelino is now detained at the AFP's Military Police custodial facility.

In a text message to fellow military officers, Marcelino told them that while he no longer trusts the country's justice system, he surrendered and is allowing himself to be jailed once again because he still believes that justice will prevail in the end.

"I do not deserve this and I have suffered more than enough. I need your help for me to once again get justice because I am innocent of all these charges. It's only you whom I can trust now," Marcelino said.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, an officer sympathetic to Marcelino said the AFP should take custody of the officer, just like retired Army general Jovito Palparan.

"His life is in danger if he is detained outside of military custody because during his stint at the PDEA, he was instrumental in the arrest and conviction of big-time drug lords. He too earned the ire of police officers who are the real protectors of big-time drug syndicates operating in the country," Marcelino's fellow officer said.

Another officer said Marcelino is simply a victim of the political war between President Duterte and De Lima.

The DOJ has asked the court to issue a hold departure order against Marcelino and Yan to prevent them from fleeing to another country.

– With Edu Punay

04 January 2017

The Standard

EDGEWATER NEWS CENTER

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Colonel in drug charges gives up

By Rey E. Requejo and Florante S. Solmerin

THE Justice department has asked a court in Manila to issue a hold-departure order against Marine Lieutenant Colonel Ferdinand Marcelino over his P380-million drug case.

The department urged the court to issue the order against Marcelino and Yan Yi Shou, his co-accused, to prevent them from flying to another country to avoid prosecution.

"The prosecution dreads and believes that both accused may leave the country to escape prosecution and avoid facing up to their liability," the department said in its appeal.

Marcelino on Tuesday surrendered

Next page

Colonel...

From A1

to the Provost Marshal of the Armed Forces of the Philippines days after a local court ordered him arrested in connection with a case linking him to the operation of a shabu laboratory in Manila.

The Justice department's prosecutors said it was necessary to prevent the two accused from escaping because they had yet to be arraigned.

Marcelino and Yan were ordered arrested by Manila RTC Branch 49 on Dec. 22 for possession of illegal drugs.

They had earlier denied the charges against them during a preliminary investigation at the Justice department.

They had also questioned their arrest during a joint Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency-Philippine National Police operation in Sta. Cruz, Manila, in January last year and their indictment by the department.

Marcelino claimed that they were inside the seized shabu laboratory with nearly 77 kilograms of shabu worth P380 million only because they were conducting an intelligence operation at the time.

He claimed he was in the apartment for a covert surveillance operation as a member of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

04 January 2017



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AFP: 2 hostages have joined Abus

Military says Japanese, Filipino are now part of the bandit group; 3 others removed from list of kidnap victims

By Julie Alipala
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ZAMBOANGA CITY—The Armed Forces of the Philippines said a Japanese treasure hunter abducted by the Abu Sayyaf in 2010 and a Filipino businessman held by the bandits since 2014 have been removed from the list of kidnap victims after the military received reports that they have joined the group.

Maj. Filemon Tan Jr., the spokesperson of the Western Mindanao Command (Westmin-

com), said fish trader Joshua Bani had been considered an ally of the Abu Sayyaf and will no longer be included on the government's list of kidnap victims.

He said the fate of Japanese Toshio Ito, who had earlier been suspected of joining the bandit group, is unknown.

Tan said kidnap victims Dennis Cabadunga, a businessman from Labason town in Zamboanga del Norte province, who was kidnapped on May 28, 2015; Santino Espino, a 9-year-old boy kidnapped in Jolo town in Sulu

province on June 30, 2016; and Antonio Tan, a Chinese-Filipino businessman from Lapuyan town in Zamboanga del Sur province, who was kidnapped on March 23, 2016, had also been removed from the list of kidnap victims because the military had not received updates on their status for a long time.

He said the military's list now has 27 victims, among them a Dutch, a German, a Korean, four Indonesians, five Malaysians, six Vietnamese and nine Filipinos.

Tan said the military has

"strengthened" its cooperation with residents of Sulu in a bid to enlist their help to rescue the victims.

Locals' cooperation

"We are strengthening our cooperation with the local populace and make them understand their role in the campaign against the Abu Sayyaf. The people can always put pressure on the Abu Sayyaf and not support the bandits. The cooperation with the AFP is significant in this fight," he said.

Temojen Tulawie, a former councilor of Jolo, said the bandits have become more powerful, with the group's influence becoming stronger in five major towns in Sulu.

"The Abu Sayyaf started abducting more people, [especially] foreigners, 16 years ago. There was kidnapping before 2000 but it was not that [prevalent] compared to 2000 until today," Tulawie said.

He said many soldiers have died in the campaign against the Abu Sayyaf, but the bandits con-

tinued to operate and the problem of kidnapping persisted.

Tulawie said now is the time for President Duterte to show his tough leadership.

"Mr. Duterte [should use an] iron fist, but this has to be an extraordinary solution without spilling the blood of innocent people. We have [experienced] so many deaths and abuses," he said.

Tulawie said the military campaign against the Abu Sayyaf should focus on the towns of Patikul, Talipao, Maimbung, Parang and Indanan. INQ

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The Manila Times

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Police, soldiers to get pay hike this month

BY CATHERINE S. VALENTE

GOVERNMENT civilian employees and members of the police and the military will get the second of four programmed salary increases beginning this month, one of President Rodrigo Duterte's economic managers said on Tuesday.

"There will be another round of salary increases this year, both for civilian [workers] and [members of the] military and policemen," Budget Secretary Benjamin Diokno said during a news briefing in Malacanang.

The salary hike, according to Diokno, is part of the government's program to double the compensation of policemen and soldiers by 2018.

"We would be able to comply

with the desire of the President to double their take-home pay by January of 2018," the Budget chief said.

Diokno added that he already submitted to the Office of the President a copy of a bill that seeks to raise the regular pay of the government's security forces.

"This [bill] would only require [a] joint resolution from both the Senate and the House. And going by the behavior of Congress, they won't object to a salary increase be-

cause it's a popular move," he said.

On January 1 this year, Diokno added, the government implemented the second tranche of the salary adjustment, which was under the Salary Standardization Law passed by Duterte's predecessor, then-President Benigno Aquino 3rd.

The first tranche of the adjustment already took effect on January 1 last year, while the two subsequent and final tranches would begin on January 1, 2018

and January 1, 2019, respectively.

"We are now on our second tranche of a four-tranche salary adjustment, okay? As you know, we gave the salary increase last year. There will be another round of salary increases this year, both for civilian [workers] and [members of the] military and policemen," Diokno said.

"They're part of the four-tranche system that we are implementing," the Budget chief added.

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State workers' pay hike up to Congress

By CHRISTINA MENDEZ

Budget Secretary Benjamin Diokno urged Congress yesterday to pass a resolution empowering President Duterte to order the release of the second tranche of pay increases of government employees.

In a briefing at Malacañang yesterday, Diokno said he had notified the President of the need for a joint resolution from the Senate and the House of Representatives allowing Duterte to tap the funds incorporated in the P3.3-trillion national budget for 2017.

The budget department is seeking a legal cover for an executive order former president Benigno Aquino III signed last February. Some P57.9 billion was already incorporated in the budget last year.

"But there's already an allocation in the 2017 budget for a salary increase, second tranche," Diokno said. "But we will go to Congress and ask for authority."

Congress has not enacted Aquino's EO.

But Diokno said a joint resolution of the House and

Senate is enough to put the EO into effect.

Pending measures at the Senate are pushing for a three-year pay increase for 1.53 million government employees including military and uniformed personnel.

20% pay hike for police, military

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) is pushing for a 20-percent rise in annual pay of the country's police and soldiers.

In a statement yesterday, the DBM said it had submitted the proposal to Malacañang, to be approved by Congress later.

Once approved, a private soldier or police officer's annual regular pay would rise 20.04 percent to P327,834, including allowances, in line with the Duterte administration's pledge of better pay for the country's uniformed personnel.

For the increase, P27.5 billion will come from the Miscellaneous Personnel Benefits Funds.

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DEFINING THE NEWS

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Soldiers' pay hike in 2018

By John Paolo Bencito

CONTRARY to President Rodrigo Duterte's vow to double the salary of soldiers and the police by December 2016, the promised pay hike might be possible only by 2018. Budget Secretary Benjamin Diokno said Tuesday.

"As far as the military is concerned,

we will be able to comply with the desire of the President to double their take-home pay by January 2018. Sooner, if we pass the tax reform [measure], because tax reform would mean reducing the personal income tax rate from a maximum of 32 percent to 25 percent," he said in a Palace briefing.

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Soldiers...

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For Duterte to keep his word to double salaries, the government would have to ask Congress to raise the regular pay of the AFP and PNP through a higher base pay by next year.

The proposed base pay hike is on top of the second tranche of the Salary Standardization (Executive Order No. 201, s. 2016) that will increase the compensation of government employees, including military and uniformed personnel but would require Congress concurrence.

Once approved, a Police Officer I who received a total annual compensation of P321,746 in 2015 and P355,290 in 2016 will receive P473,625 in 2017. Similarly, a Private who received a total annual compensation of P330,866 in 2015 and P342,936 in 2016 will receive P436,138 in 2017, the Budget Department said.

This, along with raised combat pay for soldiers from a typical P18,000 to P36,000 last 2015 will raise compensation for military and uniformed personnel by 2018.

"If you are going to increase the basic pay, you need to increase also the pension [for retired soldiers]," Diokno said.

It is estimated that doubling the salaries of uniformed military and police personnel would cost taxpayers about P230 billion a year, he said.

In August 2016, Duterte told soldiers and policemen that their pay would be doubled come yearend in recognition of their service to the nation.

"By December, you'd have doubled your salaries. This August, that's going to start," Duterte said in Filipino as soldiers cheered. "Look at your paychecks. It's there now."

Duterte initially announced a salary increase for men and women in uniform during his visit to Fort Magsaysay in Palayan City, Nueva Ecija on July 26. He said soldiers' pay will have an incremental increase starting August and tasked Diokno to find a way to deliver.

In the same news briefing, the budget chief announced that workers will start receiving higher pay as part of the second tranche of the government's salary standardization.

Diokno added that civilian government employees, including public school teachers and government hospital nurses are included in the wage hike.

"They are part of the salary standardization," he said. "They are part of these tranches. But it does not mean that we will double their salary because right now the pay of public school teachers are much higher than [that] of private school teachers."

"The previous administration had a down payment 2016. And we are going to honor it... But you know, there may be a legal defect because it did not go through Congress [and was] just incorporated in the budget."

The salary standardization is a follow-through on the Aquino administration's Executive Order No. 201, which would have allowed the implementation of a four-year salary increase program for government workers after Congress failed to pass a law proposing wage standardization.

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Security measures in place for Nazarene feast – Erap

Manila Mayor Joseph Estrada assured the devotees of the Black Nazarene yesterday that security measures are in place to prevent any untoward incident during Monday's procession.

Following a meeting with Manila Police District (MPD) director Senior Superintendent Joel Coronel, Estrada announced that they would establish an Incident Command System (ICS) to deal with the huge crowd during the procession.

The MPD expects 15 million people to trek to the Quiapo Church and attend the yearly procession of the Black Na-

zarene also known as *Traslacion*, Spanish for transfer.

The Black Nazarene would be brought to the Quirino Grandstand in Rizal Park and would be returned to the Quiapo Church.

"We have made all the proper preparations and final coordination with different agencies involved in *Traslacion*. We can say we are ready to deal with emergencies," Estrada said.

Estrada has strictly ordered the 4,995-strong MPD to double its security preparations for the annual religious activity, especially after the Armed Forces of the Philippines (recently warned that the Maute

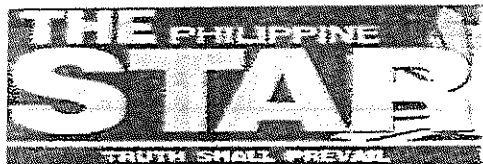
terror group based in Mindanao could deploy members in Metro Manila to conduct bombings to divert the military operations against the terrorist group in Butig, Lanao del Sur.

The military said the Maute group could be responsible for the town fiesta bombing in Hilongos, Leyte on Dec. 28, wherein 32 people were wounded.

Coronel said the the ICS is composed of various local and national government agencies and private sector partners that aim to ensure the effective consequence management of disasters or emergencies.

– Jose Rodel Clapano, Non Alquitran

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Russia eyes maritime exercises with Phl vs terrorism

By JAIME LAUDE

Russia wants to hold maritime drills with the Philippines to help combat terrorism and piracy by sending two warships to Manila for the first official navy-to-navy contact.

Rear Admiral Eduard Mikhailov, deputy commander of the Russian Navy's Pacific Fleet, said they want to duplicate the exercises they were holding with other Southeast Asian countries by holding bilateral training here or in Moscow with Filipino sailors.

Russian anti-submarine vessel Admiral Tributs and sea tanker Boris Butoma arrived late on Tuesday for a four-day goodwill visit, with its crew

expected to demonstrate anti-terrorism capability and hold talks.

"Our governments will maybe discuss in some period of time the possibilities of our maritime exercises," Mikhailov told a news conference, adding Russia has been holding drills with the Indonesian navy.

"The biggest problem now in the world is terrorism and piracy, and all our exercises we have, for example, with you we will have to fight these problems and we will show you what we can do and we will see what you can do and show us," Mikhailov added.

"For sure, in the future

we'll have exercises and build exercises with Philippines. Our government will be discussing... the possibilities of our maritime exercises... maybe just only maneuvering or maybe, use of combat systems and so on," he said.

A spokesman for the Philippine Navy told reporters this is the first official interaction with the Russian navy, an arch-rival of its former colonial master and closest ally in the region, the United States.

Washington and the Philippines have been holding naval exercises annually but President Duterte has instructed the

defense department to "reformat" drills with Washington, moving away from the South China Sea to repair relations with China.

Mikhailov said they were willing to help train Philippine counterparts to fight piracy and terrorism and they hope to foster stronger security in the region.

Russia even wanted to lump together all claimants of the South China Sea in multinational war games.

"We'll take very big, be part and play of all participants. For example, not only Russia and Philippines, but Russia,

Philippines, China and maybe Malaysia together, because the main task is the safety in this region," Mikhailov said.

He said securing the region's waters, including the South China Sea, is a concern for all countries, including Russia.

Both Russia and China have expressed readiness to help the Philippine military pursue its capability upgrade program by offering to become its source of weapons and other military assets and equipment.

Russia, for its part, is offering to sell a submarine, drones and sniper rifles to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

The Philippines has been struggling to prevent Islamist militants from abducting crew of slow-moving tugboats and foreigners sailing on yachts in the southern maritime borders with Indonesia and Malaysia.

"We will do our best from our side to help you," Mikhailov said.

This developed as India announced yesterday that its Coast Guard ship would be docking in Manila for a three-day goodwill visit from Jan. 7 to 10.

The Indian vessel's arrival is timed with the departure of the visiting Russian warships on Jan. 7.

– Reuters

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INQUIRER

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RUSSIA WANTS JOINT 'WAR GAMES' WITH PH NAVY

By **Cynthia D. Balana**
@cynchdbINQ

The Russian Navy wants to hold maritime drills with the Philippine Navy to help combat terrorism and piracy, sending two of its warships to Manila as President Duterte moves to bolster ties, including a possible weapons deal.

The Admiral Tributs, an antisubmarine vessel, and a sea tanker, the Boris Butoma, arrived in Manila on Tuesday for a four-day goodwill visit, with its crew expected to demonstrate antiterrorism capability and hold talks, said Rear Adm. Edward Mikhailov, deputy com-

mander of the Flotilla of Russian Navy Pacific Fleet.

"Our governments will maybe discuss in some period of time the possibilities of our maritime exercises," Mikhailov told a news conference through an interpreter, adding the Russian Navy has been holding drills with the Indonesian Navy.

Mikhailov said the Russian Navy could demonstrate its capabilities, as it did in Indonesia in October and November last year, during which Russia showed a large number of maritime equipment.

"Of course, everybody has a choice. You can choose ... to co-

operate with United States of America or to cooperate with Russia, but from our side we can help you in every way that you need," he said.

Fighting terrorism, piracy

Mikhailov said they wanted to help train Philippine counterparts to fight piracy and terrorism and they hope to foster stronger security in the region.

"The biggest problem now in the world is terrorism and piracy, and all our exercises we have, for example, with you we will have to fight these problems and we will show you what we can do and we will see what

you can do and show us," he added as the Russian Navy showcased the warships.

The Philippines has been struggling to prevent Moro bandits from abducting crew of slow-moving tugboats and foreigners sailing on yachts in the southern maritime borders with Indonesia and Malaysia.

The Abu Sayyaf, a small but violent group that has had links with al-Qaida and has pledged allegiance to the Islamic State jihadist group, is holding a German tourist and more than 10 Malaysian and Indonesian crewmen.

A Dutch and a Japanese are

also being held captive.

The Russian vessels are docked at Pier 15, Manila South Harbor.

Third Russian visit

This week's visit will include meetings between naval officials, as well as the opening of the ships to the public and Russian tours of historical places in Manila and Cavite province.

This is the third such Russian visit to the Philippines but is the first under Mr. Duterte's administration.

Russian ships also made trips to the Philippines in 2012 and in 2016. —WITH REUTERS AND AP INQ

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Malaya
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DND opens bids for six aircraft

GOVERNMENT has allotted P4.96 billion for the acquisition of six close-air support aircraft for the use of the Philippine Air Force, under the modernization program of the Armed Forces.

The Department of National Defense scheduled a pre-bid conference for the acquisition on January 11 in Camp Aguinaldo. The deadline for the submission of the bids and opening of the bids is on January 29.

"These aircraft shall be capable of performing close-air support air operations during day and night," according to a DND

invitation to bid posted on the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System.

"The guiding principles for this project shall be based on affordability and sustainability while conforming to the requirements of the Philippine Air Force in furtherance of accomplishing its mission," it added.

DND undersecretary for Finance, Munitions, Installations and Material Raymundo Elefante said the fixed-wing aircraft will support OV-10 aircraft in the inventory of the Air Force.

Elefante said the aircraft being acquired are meant to provide close-air support to troops fighting threat groups.

He said the acquisition is among the many programs set under the military's ongoing modernization program, which calls for the procurement of equipment for the Air Force, Navy and Army.

"That's already planned," Elefante said of the aircraft acquisition. "We are implementing programs that were programmed by the end user. The end users are the Army, Air Force and the Navy," he said. – *Victor Reyes*

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BEYOND THE NEWS

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IN BRIEF

PAF to buy 6 aircraft worth P4.9b

SIX fixed wing aircraft worth P4.96 billion are set to be procured by the Philippine Air Force through a public bidding to be conducted by the Bids and Awards Committee of the Department of National Defense, according to the government's Philgeps website.

The procurement was confirmed by Raymundo Elefante, Undersecretary for Finance, Munitions, Installations and Materiel.

The DND-BAC has scheduled the pre-bid conference for interested bidders on Jan 11 at the DND building at Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City.

Dubbed "Close Air Support Aircraft," the project is part of the PAF's "big-ticket items" worth P43.27 worth of modern assets to be procured under the overall 2013-2017 Modernization Projects of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Asked what type of aircraft would be bought, Elefante could not give specific description except to say these would be used for internal operation.

"These are close air support aircraft for our troops engaged with the enemy on the ground," he said. **Florante Solmerin**

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ARMY TO SKIP PSL NEW SEASON

By Theodore Jurado

THE Philippine SuperLiga will enter its fifth season without one of its biggest crowd-drawers—Philippine Army.

With most of the Lady Troopers undergoing military training, the team's lone civilian in the roster in Rachel Anne Daquis is looking for a home.

"I am welcoming any invitations because I really want to play this year," said Daquis in an online interview.

With the PSL starting with its pre-season Invitational Conference next month, Daquis hopes to find a team right away.

Suiting up for another club is nothing new to Daquis, a product of the storied Far Eastern University program.

When Army took a leave in the PSL All-Filipino Conference two years ago, Daquis played for Petron, led her team to a historic 13-0 sweep and emerged as the tournament Most Valuable Player.

She returned to the Lady Troopers this year and helped Jovelyn Gonzaga, Honey Royse Tubino and veteran setter Tina Salak conquer the Invitational Conference title over a powerhouse guest team from Thailand.

Army had a chance to make a return stint to the

PSL All-Filipino Conference Finals again, but Daquis suffered a foot injury, with other members of the team also dealing with various injuries.

This year, Army opted to send its athletes to Candidate Soldier training

course — a grueling eight-month training at the Training and Doctrine Center in Capas, Tarlac, prompting Daquis to look for another team.

Among those clubs which are reportedly interested on Daquis are

Signal, Foton and Petron. The HD Spikers are very aggressive in pursuing Daquis to boost their open spiker position.

The Tornados are tinkering at the possibility of having Daquis on their fold, while the rebuilding

Tri-Activ Spikers would always be in the mix to reunite with the 28-year-old hitter.

Daquis will just be 'on loan' to the team which will acquire her, just like what happened when she played for Petron.

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



THE Army spikers, seen above in one of their victories, won't be around when the Philippine SuperLiga opens its fifth season in February.

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

ONLINE NEWS

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AFP says it has successfully fended off ASG, Maute Group, BIFF threats

From the Philippine News Agency (Jan 3): **AFP says it has successfully fended off ASG, Maute Group, BIFF threats**

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has successfully fended off security threats coming from the Abu Sayyaf Group, Maute Group and Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters during the recently-concluded year.

This was stressed by AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla in an interview Monday.

"The AFP has shown its determined efforts to deal with these groups so as to secure our municipalities and major cities, so 2016 showed and proved that the AFP forces is effectively performing and doing its job following the successful arrests of many of the Davao City bombing suspects," he added.

The AFP spokesperson also said the military performed well in eliminating the threats poised by the three lawless groups.

During the last two months of 2016, the AFP together with the Philippine National Police (PNP) has successfully arrested nine out of the 12 suspects involved in the Sept. 2 bombing in Davao City. The incident killed 15 persons and wounded 70 others.

The suspects have professed affiliation with the Lanao Del Sur-based Maute Group.

Padilla said the AFP will continue cooperating with the PNP regarding law enforcement operations until threats posed by the ASG, Maute Group and the BIFF are totally neutralized.

"Definitely the AFP rates itself as having successfully dealt with all these local terrorist groups and these efforts of the Armed Forces prevented many violent activities from being conducted within these communities," he added.

"We will continue to conduct focused military operations but at the same time we will work with local government units so that they can effectively reach out to these individuals and perhaps convince them to have a change of heart so that as one nation we can work together for the upliftment of the lives of our citizens instead of having these conflicts," Padilla stressed.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=952299>

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

AFP hopeful 2017 will be the year of real peace

From the Philippine News Agency (Jan 3): **AFP hopeful 2017 will be the year of real peace**

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) strongly supports President Rodrigo Duterte's agenda for a just and lasting peace and is hopeful that 2017 will be the year where it will finally start.

This was disclosed by AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla who said the entire military is hoping that something positive, concrete, and definite will be announced this year regarding the ongoing peace talks with the New People's Army (NPA) rebels.

"We are all supportive of the President's agenda to have a long lasting and justice with the group and we are looking forward, the year 2016 was a pioneering year for the resumption, it was a good year for the resumption of the peace talks and hopefully year 2017 will start with a good joint declaration," he added.

Armed confrontation between the AFP and the NPA finally ceased after Duterte restored the declaration of ceasefire on Aug. 21 after noting violations from the rebel group.

The President's gesture in restoring the erstwhile unilateral ceasefire declaration effectively reimposed the suspension of military operations earlier issued by the AFP to its field units.

"Further, peace-building efforts were exerted to ensure that line units are aware of the advocacy of the Commander-in-Chief, including the dissemination of the proposed reconstituted JASIG (Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees) list and the release of detained alleged political prisoners. The original JASIG list was meant to identify communist members who will figure in the peace negotiations with the CPP-NDF (Communist Party of the Philippines-National Democratic Front) and will aid in the implementation of the ceasefire with the rebels," the AFP earlier said.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=952350>