

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



TEAM ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
NEWS CLIPPINGS

12 January 2017

Thursday

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

NEWS HEADLINES

12 January 2017

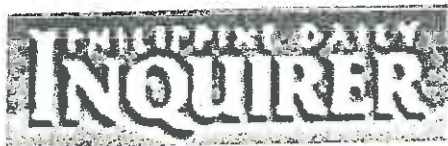
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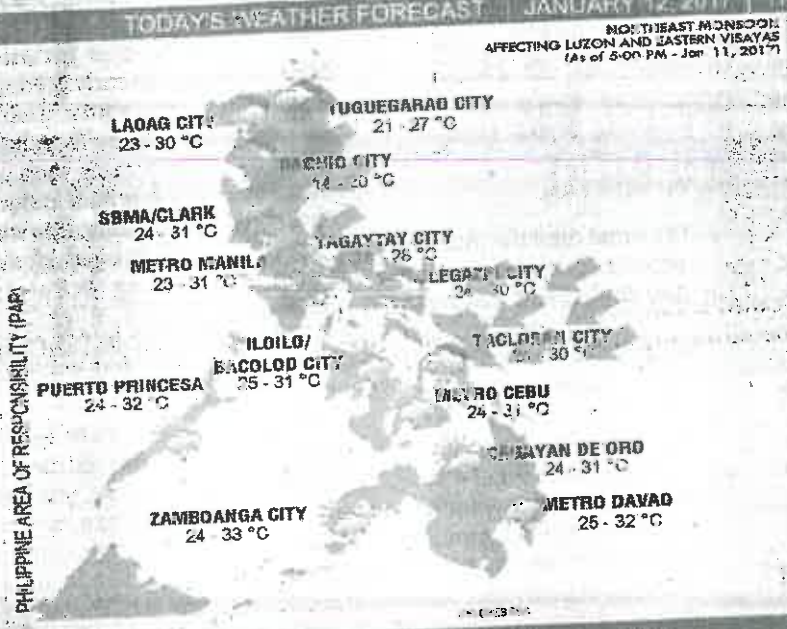
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BALANCED NEWS - FEARLESS VIEWS


TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | JANUARY 12, 2017 | THURSDAY

NO. 11 EAST MONSOON AFFECTING LUZON AND EASTERN VISAYAS (As of 5:00 PM - Jan 11, 2017)






PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)

SUNRISE	SUNSET
6:24 AM	5:45 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
5:38 PM	5:49 AM
FULL MOON	L1ST QUARTER
JAN 2 12:04 PM	JAN 21 4:22 AM
LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
MANILA SOUTH HARBOR	
5:16 AM	9:31 PM
-0.21 Meter	1.25 Meter
Partly cloudy to times cloudy with showers	
Fully cloudy to times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms	
Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorm	
Light rain	

	JAN 11	JAN 12	JAN 13	JAN 14
METRO MANILA	22 - 29 °C	23 - 31 °C	18 - 26 °C	19 - 29 °C
TUGUEGARAO	21 - 27 °C	21 - 27 °C	23 - 29 °C	24 - 30 °C
LADAG	22 - 30 °C	21 - 29 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C
BAGUIO	13 - 20 °C	12 - 19 °C	25 - 29 °C	25 - 31 °C
SBMA/CLARK	24 - 30 °C	24 - 31 °C	24 - 29 °C	25 - 31 °C
TAGAYTAY	18 - 26 °C	19 - 29 °C	23 - 29 °C	24 - 30 °C
LEGAZPI	23 - 29 °C	24 - 30 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C
PUERTO PRINCESA	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C
ILOILO/BACOLOD	25 - 29 °C	25 - 31 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C
METRO CEBU	24 - 29 °C	25 - 31 °C	24 - 28 °C	24 - 30 °C
TACLOBAN	24 - 28 °C	24 - 30 °C	23 - 31 °C	23 - 32 °C
CAGAYAN DE ORO	23 - 31 °C	23 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	24 - 31 °C
METRO DAVAO	25 - 32 °C	24 - 31 °C	24 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C
ZAMBOANGA	24 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C		

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Cops to kill narco mayors

By CHRISTINA MENDEZ

Tokhang and Double Barrel are being intensified by another notch: police chiefs assigned in areas governed by “narco mayors” have been ordered to shoot to kill.

President Duterte announced the order as he met with mayors from around the country at Malacañang yesterday.

“I will kill you,” he warned mayors involved in drugs, adding that the local police chiefs would be the designated hit men.

The President met with the mayors by batches yesterday – the first time since he assumed office and went on a full-scale campaign against illegal drugs.

Quoting the President, Tarauan City Mayor Antonio Halili said Duterte assured them he would not hesitate ordering chiefs of police to shoot the narco mayors in their respective areas of jurisdiction.

“*Papatayin kita*... I will ask the chief of police to shoot you,” Halili told **The STAR** last night after the meetings, quoting Duterte.

The President showed the mayors that he was dead serious about the war on

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Cops From Page 1

drugs, Halili said, adding that Duterte fumed about how drugs have been destroying the moral fabric of society.

"It's a very stern warning to those who are involved in drugs that you should stop... he is actually asking the police to shoot them (narco-mayors)," said Halili, himself involved in a shame campaign where drug suspects are paraded in his home province, a strategy that has also drawn flak from critics.

Apart from the police, Duterte told the mayors that he will be tapping the military in his campaign against drugs.

Interior Secretary Ismael Suenc, who has administrative control over the local officials, was absent during the meeting but Defense Secretary Deflin Lorenzana and Philippine National Police chief Director General Ronald dela Rosa were present when Duterte warned the local executives.

The President said that he would order the Commission on Audit (COA) to review the intelligence funds of local officials who will not do anything to eradicate drugs in their provinces.

Duterte also aired his frustration over the magnitude of the illegal drug problem in the country.

Security at the meetings was so strict that mayors were barred from bringing their cell phones inside Malacañang, Halili said.

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) invited 1,490 town mayors and 145 city mayors nationwide to attend the meeting yesterday in Malacañang.

The mayors were divided into two groups, with the first group made up of officials from the Visayas, Mindanao and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)

while the the second group consisted of officials from Luzon.

In the meeting with the mayors from the Visayas and Mindanao, Halili said the President again voiced his anger against retired police general and now Mayor Vicente Loot of Daanbantayan, Cebu who has been linked to drug trafficking in the region.

He was so angry with Loot who, as a former police general, the President said should have known better than be involved in illegal drug operations, Halili added.

Duterte told his audience that Loot tried to talk to him but he declined to even meet the mayor.

Halili came with the batch of Luzon mayors, who were among the busloads ferried from the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Pasay City that was used as a holding area before the Palace meeting.

The mayors were picked up from PICC and transported by bus to Malacañang, and vice-versa.

Duterte also urged the local officials who have strong anti-drug campaigns to continue helping him.

"He encouraged us to continue the campaign," said Halili, adding the President posed for photo opportunities with the mayors after the speech.

While some mayors felt tired waiting for several hours to meet the President, Halili said it was worth it.

"We were inspired to continue the campaign," said Halili, who was previously linked to drugs but has denied the allegations. After the speech, the mayors were treated to a simple snack of spring rolls, pork barbecue and other refreshments. Presidential spokesman Ernesto

Abella was mum on the details of the meeting, but reports said the President met first with the mayors from the Visayas and Mindanao before seeing those from Luzon.

A local official said that the meeting with the President was some kind of a "January call" on the Chief Executive.

The Malacañang invitation was not limited to mayors involved in illegal drugs but also local officials linked to other illegal activities.

Special Assistant to the President Christopher Go told **The STAR** that all mayors in the country were invited to meet the President. "It was a general invitation to mayors," Abella said.

Abella deemed the meeting as a conversation between the President – a former mayor – and the local executives where the issue of illegal drugs will likely be discussed.

"Let us put it this way, I suppose the intent is to have a conversation, he has not really met with the mayors in order to directly discuss his position, especially on criminality, crime and drugs," Abella said.

"I suppose it is safe to assume that that will be part of the conversation this afternoon, I'd rather state it that way, a dialogue between the President and his executives," he added.

During a speech last Monday, Duterte said he would kill mayors in the narco-list, which has been verified by his security team.

"I would call for the mayors and we would speak privately. I will really tell them. Look for your name in the narco-list. Son of a b***h, if your name is there, you have a problem. I will really kill you," Duterte said in Filipino – **With Edith Regalado**

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MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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PH eyes constructive alliances

Duterte: Frontiers of int'l cooperation limitless if countries respect each other's sovereignty

By GENALYN D. CABILING

The Philippines is committed to build on constructive alliances with international partners and pursue new friendship with others, President Duterte declared yesterday at the traditional New Year reception in Malacañang.

The President said he recognized

that the frontiers of international cooperation are "limitless" if countries help each other and respect each other's independence.

"We value partners as we seek to strengthen existing friendships even as we pursue new ones," the President said before diplomats, Cabinet members, lawmakers, and other senior government officials at the Vin

d'Honneur affair.

"We believe that friends help each other and utilize constructive engagement to achieve common goals. In truth, we all share the same aspiration of greater peace, progress, and prosperity," he said.

The President said the Philippines would "continue to build on our friendship founded on a common objective,

shared values, and time honored principles of international law."

Duterte's remarks came as the administration moved to lessen the country's dependence on its long-time ally the United States in protest of Washington's criticism of his bloody war on illegal drugs. Although he has not severed ties with the US, Duterte has forged closer economic alliances

with China, Russia, and other Asian neighbors.

The President did not mention the US, Russia, and China in his speech but pressed the need for respect for a nation's sovereign independence.

"In a world that recognizes our interconnectedness and respect each others' sovereign independence, the horizons and frontiers of coopera- **4**

PH eyes constructive...

tion are virtually limitless. Friendship, after all, knows no bound," he said.

It was the first New Year reception hosted by the President for the diplomatic community led by Papal Nuncio Giuseppe Pinto since he assumed office in June, 2016.

'Preserve mankind'

After giving a message and a toast during the traditional Vin d'Honneur reception, Duterte gave an off-the-cuff remarks, calling on the international community to "act together" and "preserve mankind" from the threat of terrorism.

"I just finished reading the other night *ISIS*, it's a book and it says there a lot of things of the state of our... so I hope we can get together, act together, and just to preserve mankind," Duterte said.

In the same event, President Duterte renewed his "sacred vow" to free Filipinos from the slavery of drugs, corruption and criminality.

The President said he was willing to do what he must to combat these "three evils" and pursue reforms to make the Philippines a "stronger Republic."

"When I assumed the presidency six

months ago, I certainly pledged to lead my country and my people. I vowed to address three basic evils that subjected my people, especially the poorest and the disenfranchised to the most unbearable burdens of slavery, or millions of them to drugs, corruption, criminality, and a revolution in the south," the President said in his remarks.

"I say to you all now that the sacred vow remains unchanged. I stay true to the mandate reposed on me," he added.

Duterte said the administration will stay firm in holding accountable corrupt public servants for their deeds.

He also promised to "make criminals responsible for their actions" as well as "work very, very hard to finally break the apparatus of the illegal drugs trade."

"In so doing, we affirm and renew our commitment to bring about the change that my country and people deserve. Certainly, realizing the change we need comes with the challenges but we are willing and able to do what we must, consistent with our constitutional mandate," he said.

Genuine reforms

The government has also started

to carry out genuine reforms to encourage more trade and investments, to intensify commercial activities, to ramp up investment and much-needed infrastructure, to increase revenues to make communities more resilient, and to improve basic social services, according to the President.

The pursuit of peace with Muslim rebels and communist group is also part of the President's priority this year.

"We are talking to all stakeholders to bring about just and lasting peace in Mindanao and to finally bring to an end one of the longest-running revolutions in the world," he said.

"These changes are vital to make the Philippines a stronger republic. If is on the basis of this political, social, and economic and the Philippines will be able to take on an even more active and more influential role in the community of nations," he added.

Addressing challenges

In the same speech, the President said the Philippines is also doing its part in addressing common challenges the international community face such as terrorism, natural and human-induced calamities, transnational crimes, hunger and poverty and international disputes.

"Indeed, as we thrive to be stronger

at our core, we hope to do more not just for our own people but for our region and for the world,” he said.

Duterte also grabbed the opportunity to seek international support for the country’s hosting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit this year.

“This New Year, the Philippines takes on the ASEAN Chairmanship with renewed fervor, a sense of purpose. It is a valor opportunity to exercise leadership to advance the regional development agenda of forging a rules-based community that puts citizens’ welfare at the heart of every initiative. The Philippines counts on your full support,” he said.

In his New Year’s toast, the President said he wishes for “deeper and more meaningful engagements” with the country’s partners and friends.

“To all our friends and partners in the community of nations, may our relationships continue to prosper for the greater benefit of our peoples,” he said.

To fellow government workers, Duterte said he hopes they will be blessed with strength and steadfastness and with passion, honesty and integrity in serving the nation.

To his countrymen, he expressed hope they would continue to carry the country towards a more aspired vision

of a secured and developed nation.

“Mabuhay ang Pilipinas! Mabuhay kayong lahat! At mabuhay ang the league of nations and friends! Salamat po,” he said.

“To your success, Excellencies. Kanpai! Bottoms up!” he said before drinking his glass of apple cider while his guests sipped their champagne.

Among those who attended the Palace event were Senate President Aquilino Pimentel III, Senator Cynthia Villar, Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea and other Cabinet members, and other senior government officials. Vice President Leni Robredo and Chief Justice Lourdes Sereno were not seen in the Palace affair.

Robredo’s spokesperson Georgina Hernandez said the Office of the Vice President received an invitation to the Vin d’Honneur through an email last December 28. But on January 4, “Malacañang called the office to retract the invitation, citing ‘guest list was limited,’” Hernandez said in a statement sent to media.

Apart from the traditional New Year’s reception, the President hosts a similar gathering for the diplomatic community every June 12 to celebrate the anniversary of the Philippine Independence. (With a report from Raymund F. Antonio)

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POLICE FILES

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Retired Army niratrat sa harap ng bahay sa Laguna

LAGUNA - Binawian ng buhay habang nilalapatan ng lunas sa Holy Rosary Hospital ang isang retiradong miyembro ng Philippine Army (PA) makaraang pagbabarilin ng malapitan ng riding in tandem sa Karapatan Subdivision, Barangay Banay-Banay, lungsod ng Cabuyao kamakalawa ng umaga.

Kinilala ni Supt Fernando Ortega, hepe ng pulisya ang biktimang si Ricardo Gallegos Jr. 51, may asawa, naninirahan sa nabanggit na lugar.

Nagtamo ng ilang tama ng bala sa iba't ibang bahagi ng kanyang katawan ang biktima na agad nitong ikinamatay.

Dakong 7:00 ng umaga batay sa resulta ng ismagawang pagsisiyasat nang maganap ang naturang insidente habang aktong nasa harap ng kanyang bahay ang biktima nang biglang sumulpot ang mga suspek bago malapitang pinagbabarili na lingid sa kanyang pamilya.

Mabilisang tumakas ang mga suspek lulan sa hindi naplakang motorsiklo papalabas ng naturang subdibisyon kung saan patuloy na kinikilala ng pulisya at target ng mga ito sa isinasagawang hot pursuit operation.

Kasalukuyang nagsasagawa ng malalimang imbestigasyon ang pulisya para matukoy ang tunay na motibo sa krimen.

(Dick Garay)

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

Gov seeks probe of 'lumad' leader's murder amid peace talks

Philippine Daily Inquirer / 12:00 AM January 11, 2017

MATI CITY—Davao Oriental Gov. Nelson Dayanghirang has called on the government and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) panels to investigate the killing of a "lumad" leader in Caraga town on Dec. 30.

The New People's Army (NPA), in a statement, said it was planning to disarm Mandaya tribal chieftain Datu Copertino Banugan and his men but the rebels were forced to kill him, his brother Ramon and a relative, Benny Banugan, because they fought back.

But Dayanghirang said no such NPA operation should have been conducted because of the ongoing ceasefire and peace talks.

The peace panels are scheduled to hold the third round of the talks in Rome later this month. A ceasefire, unilaterally declared by the NDFP and the government, has been holding for more than two months now.

"Why do it when there is a ceasefire? Why do it in the middle of the peace talks?" Dayanghirang said in an interview with the Inquirer on Friday.

Col. Michelle Anayron, chief of the Army's 67th Infantry Battalion, said the NPA's claim that it killed Banugan as an act of self-defense was "nothing but a lame excuse."

"How can they call it self-defense? They tried to disarm him, it was only natural that [Banugan] would resist," Anayron told the Inquirer.

Anayron said electricity supply in Banugan's house was cut off before the attack. Authorities, he said, recovered three gallons of gasoline and unexploded Molotov bombs from the crime site.

Anayron also said the military could not launch pursuit operations against the rebels because of the ongoing ceasefire.

"Such violence was unwarranted. This is contrary to what they (rebels) want. They say they want peace talks and yet they perpetrate violent acts," Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala, chief of the Army's 28th Infantry Battalion, said. Dayanghirang said Banugan's death is a "huge loss to the peace-loving Mandaya people of Davao Oriental." Banugan was a leader of a Mandaya community in upland village of Pichon in Caraga town. Last year, the Inquirer visited Pichon's subvillage of Sangab during its Kalidugan Festival. Sangab is one of 13 Pichon subvillages comprising CADT (Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title)-01.

Awarded to the tribe in 1997 and covering about 14,000 hectares, CADT-01 is the first such title given to indigenous communities in Southern Mindanao. Residents have opposed the entry of NPA rebels in their land.

—NICO ALCONABA

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Suspect in Zambo fishermen's slay arrested

By ROEL PAREÑO

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Police have arrested one of the suspects behind the execution of eight local fishermen at sea here last Tuesday.

Arrested was Midzfar Yuno Nuño, 32, of this city's Barangay Sangali, according to Chief Insp. Ramon Bautista, commander of the Zamboanga City police station 2.

Bautista said Nuño was nabbed early Tuesday night in his house after the police received information from witnesses and the personal accounts of a survivor.

"The suspect is notorious and among the suspects extorting from fishermen in the area," Bautista said.

Another man was invited yesterday for question-

ing, according to Bautista.

Police also seized illegal drugs and explosives from Nuño, who was charged with possession of illegal drugs and explosives

Nuño is detained at Zamboanga City police station 3 based in Barangay Sangali.

The suspect denied involvement in the killings of the eight fishermen and claimed that he was at home and had not gone out to sea.

Bautista, however, said investigation disclosed that prior to the massacre of eight fishermen off Siromon Island near Barangay Dita, the group of Nuño reportedly hijacked another fishing boat and extorted money from the fishermen.

He said the incident occurred about an hour before the same group intercepted the other fishing boat and executed eight fishermen while seven others managed to escape.

The remains of the fishermen – their hands tied and with gunshot wounds in different parts of their bodies – were recovered on board their fishing boat.

Bautista said the arrest of Nuño would lead the police to the arrest of the remaining suspects.

He said extortion and revenge are the possible motives of the suspects after two of their gang members were killed during a police operation last November following

reports of fishermen being victimized by an extortion gang.

The police said the suspects operated in the vicinity of Zamboanga City and extort monthly protection money and a share of the catch from the crew of both small and large fishing boats.

Security strengthened

Meanwhile, security operations in the Sulu Sea will be strengthened to address the spate of attacks and kidnapping cases at sea when security forces from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines meet next week, security officials revealed.

The discussion for the specified security tasks of the three nations came with the latest declaration of the International Maritime Bureau that the Sulu Sea between eastern Malaysia and the Philippines has become dangerous for merchant shipping due to kidnapping threats from the Abu Sayyaf and pirates linked with the militants.

The Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia last year forged a tripartite agreement to strengthen security to address the spate of cross-border kidnappings and attacks of merchants at sea.

But the roles of the security forces of the participating countries were not specified, said Maj. Filemon Tan Jr., spokesman

for Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom).

Tan said Westmincom had already done their part in securing the Sulu Sea but measures have to be intensified with the increasing attacks largely blamed on groups linked with the Abu Sayyaf.

He said that more patrol boats would be deployed to secure the vast coastline of the city.

Tan said the tripartite discussion next week would focus on the role of each country and its specific task in helping address the threats.

"The discussion will set roles and tasking and make the task more specific for each country," Tan said.

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AFP urged to help clear Marcelino

By BERHEENA KAE UNITE

Alty Persida Acosta, legal counsel of Marine Lieutenant Coroner Ferdinand Marcelino, urged the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to help their comrade in proving to the court that Marcelino was doing covert drug operations in the past.

After the hearing of the drug case against Marcelino and his Chinese companion Yan Yi Shou on Tuesday before the Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 49, Acosta expressed that they are open for help the AFP can give.

"If the AFP wants to help their comrade, they can do so because this case involves national security and national interest while the war on drugs of the government is at stake," Acosta said.

Marcelino's camp was asked to submit a certification that Marcelino was indeed helping in the anti-illegal drugs operations of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Intelligence Service

of the AFP (ISAFP), Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) prior to his arrest in a drug facility in Manila last year.

Acosta said evidences that will strengthen the case of Marcelino to defy the court's decision against him will be revealed soon.

Acosta said they already have "evidences that will strengthen and solidify" the claims of Marcelino that he was involved in the legitimate anti-narcotics operations of the AFP.

"We already have several submitted documents but the judge wants some other documents, so we will try our best," Acosta said.

Furthermore, the Public Attorney's Office Chief said that this time, the certification on the role of Marcelino in the anti-drug operations "will be more specific" saying that the "manner of how Marcelino conducted the covert operations" will be included on the said documents.

According to Acosta, Judge Daniel Villanueva wants that Marcelino's role in the anti-drug campaign be documented even if Marcelino's camp was able to show the same in a court in Quezon City which dismissed the case.

Meantime, the urgent motion for Commitment Order filed by the AFP on Jan 3 seeking the custody of Marcelino has been submitted for resolution. Legality of the detention of Marcelino under AFP's watch is still being studied, according to the court.

Marcelino and Yan, who face charges of possession of illegal drugs, were arrested by authorities in an alleged shabu laboratory in Manila in January last year. Marcelino has claimed that he was doing surveillance operation that night following a tip from Yan, who served as an asset for 11 years.

Marcelino and Yan's arrest warrant came out late December. They both surrendered on the same day. Marcelino turned himself over the AFP while Yan surrendered to the NBI.

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(Betheena Kae Unite)

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Extortion possible motive for slay of 8 fishermen – AFP

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

The Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WesMinCom) said yesterday that it was already working closely with the Philippine National Police (PNP) in hunting down the suspects who perpetrated the killing of eight fishermen on board a fishing boat off the high seas of Laud Siromon, Barangay Dita, Zamboanga City, Monday night.

Army Major Filemon I. Tan Jr., AFP WesMinCom spokesman, said government troops from the Marine Battalion Landing Team-11 is helping out the Zamboanga Police Office in tracking down the suspects.

"The PNP is leading the investigation and operations to hunt down the suspects. We (military) are just supporting them on the matter," Tan said.

Col. Juvymax Uy, commander of the AFP Task Force Zamboanga, earlier said that they were looking into extortion as the possible motive for the attack.

"Extortion on fishermen,

those who perpetrated the attack are lawless elements," he said.

Tan said that, based on reports he received from ground units, the fishing boat owned by a certain "Mumar" from Sangali and manned by 15 personnel, was successively shot by five unidentified armed men, killing eight of its crew members.

Reports added other crew members were able to jump off the boat, and survived by swimming away from the area.

Tan said at 8:40 a.m. Tuesday, Hon. Daud Bakil, the barangay chairman of Sangali, Zamboanga City, appeared before the Sangali Police Station with one Kervin Banahan, 37, a resident of Sangali, to provide additional information on the strafing incident.

Tan said the seven survivors were found on Siromon Island in Zamboanga City and were later rescued.

"The survivors were rescued by members of the Special Forces, Army, 11th Marine Battalion, Zamboanga City Police Office and Philippine Coast Guard," Tan said.

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RESISTANCE HIGHEST IN CAPITAL AT 81%

Pulse poll: 74% buck need for military rule

By Ted Tuvera,
Angie M. Rosales
and Charlie V. Manalo

President Duterte's frequent overtures on martial law does not sit well with many Filipinos based on the results of a Pulse Asia survey which showed seven out of 10 respondents do not see military rule as a necessity to solve the country's problems.

The polls conducted from December 6 to 11 showed 74 percent of 1,200 respondents said they "disagree" to the pollster's query: "Candidly speaking, it may be necessary now to have martial law to solve the many crises of the nation."

Only 12 percent agreed with the suggestion of martial law being imposed while 14 percent said they are "undecided."

Mr. Duterte in a recent speech broached the possibility of seeking a revision of the conditions on the imposition of martial rule under the Constitution primarily on the requirement for the President to submit a report to Congress within 48 hours of its declaration and that the

imposition can last only 60 days, unless Congress extends this.

The opposition to the need for martial rule was highest in Metro Manila at 81 percent, followed by Mindanao at 75 percent, Luzon at 74 percent and Visayas at 65 percent.

Visayas respondents were most receptive to martial law but at only 15 percent, followed by Luzon at 13 percent, Mindanao at 11 percent and Metro Manila at seven percent.

Across economic classes, disagreement was highest among class D at 76 percent and ABC at 75 percent.

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

From page 1

Agreement was highest among class E at 14 percent.

Mr. Duterte also repeatedly floated suggestions of declaring martial law in some of his speeches over the past six months, saying he is "tempted" to do so but noted that it will be likely opposed by the public.

In a speech last December, the President said that he wants Congress to ease the constitutional requirements for a Commander in Chief to implement martial law.

His suggestions on the imposition of martial law were all related to putting more teeth to his campaign against the narcotics trade.

As a response to the Pulse Asia report, Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella reiterated Mr. Duterte's stance that declaring martial law is unnecessary.

"The President earlier said that the imposition of martial law does not seem to improve significantly the lives of the Filipinos," Abella said in a text message to journalists.

Abella added even if Mr. Duterte is a fan of former President Ferdinand Marcos Sr., he recognizes that the late strongman's martial law from 1972 to 1981 was heavily tainted with violation of rights.

"The experience during the administration of former President Marcos as the best argument for President Duterte not to declare martial law," he added.

'Body should heed poll results'

Duterte critic Sen. Risa Hontiveros, chairman of the Senate committee on women, children, family relations and gender equality, said the survey results "should serve as a stern warning to all those who are planning to subject the country to a new form of authoritarian rule."

"The government should be guided by this latest survey to uphold the rule of law and safeguard democracy. Filipinos do not want a dictator so any leader of the government should not act like me," she added.

"Lastly, the Marcoses must see us as a clear message to stop their mad attempt to paint a rosy picture of martial law," Hontiveros added.

Sen. Bam Aquino shared the same observation in interpreting the results of the survey.

"It's a complete rejection of this type of leadership, that type of

governance that has leanings on violence or martial rule," he said.

While the public is well aware of the problems on illegal drugs, terrorism and other issues, Aquino said that clearly, they stand against such kind of approach in dealing with the problems of the country.

It doesn't help, Aquino said, that President Duterte has been giving flip-flopping statements on whether he will consider resorting to martial rule in addressing the concerns of the country.

A member of the House independent bloc also warned Mr. Duterte of entertaining any idea of resorting to military rule at any point under his administration barring any amendment to the 1987 Constitution.

Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman said with the Pulse Asia survey results, Duterte is left with no recourse but to adhere to the people's overwhelming sentiment.

"The 74 percent of Filipinos who disagree with the implementation of martial law in solving pressing national problems is a categorical signal to the Duterte administration not to consider resort to a martial law regime," said Lagman.

Lagman said the survey result was expected as there really was no basis for declaring Martial Law.

"In the first place, the bases for declaring martial law are absent. They are invasion and rebellion, and when public safety requires the imposition of martial law," said Lagman.

"The adverse reaction of the people to authoritarian rule must compel the President to explain what he means by his enigmatic statement that 'I am smarter than martial law,' when asked whether he would declare martial law," he added.

"Does he mean to impress that without even declaring martial law he can impose and realize the effects of martial law like the unabated extrajudicial killings relative to his deadly campaign against the drug menace?" said the solon.

"The people have spoken. President Duterte and his men must stop talking about tinkering with the revival of martial law," Lagman averred.

Pulse Asia said that among the hot topics when the survey was taken were the resignation of Vice-President Maria Leonor G. Robredo on December 4 as head of the

Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) after being barred by Mr. Duterte from attending Cabinet meetings due to "irreconcilable differences" between them; the decision of the Supreme Court (SC) by a vote of 9-5 (with one abstention) to dismiss the consolidated petitions arguing against the burial of former President Ferdinand E. Marcos at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB); the investigation by the Senate and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) into the killing of Albueria Mayor Rolando Espinosa Sr.; the recommendation made by the Senate Committee on Justice to file kidnapping, murder, and perjury charges against Mr. Edgar Matobato, a self-confessed member of the so-called Davao Death Squad (DDS), who testified that President Duterte was directly involved in extrajudicial killings in Davao City while serving as its mayor; the decision of the SC to clear three judges included by Mr. Duterte in one of his drug lists; Mr. Duterte's order to arrest gaming tycoon Jack Lam immediately on charges of bribery and economic sabotage; and the Sandiganbayan's acquittal of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and her husband as well as former Commission on Elections (Comelec) Chair Benjamin Abalos, Sr. in connection with a second graft case filed against them stemming from the botched \$329-million ZTE national broadband network (NBN) deal.

Fuming DUSO meets mayors

Municipal and city Mayors from all over the country also met yesterday with an obviously agitated President Duterte in Malacañang in relation to his thick file of local government officials involved in the drugs trade.

The highly secured close door meeting inside the Palace that lasted for about four hours happened days after the Chief Executive warned local heads that he will confront those involved in the illegal drugs trade.

"He was angry, there were a lot of profanities," one of the local executives who attended the meeting told *The Tribune*.

A staff of a City Mayor from Luzon present during the executive session, speaking on the condition of anonymity, told the *Tribune* that Mr. Duterte sought their support in backing his administration's policies

and programs.

"President Duterte basically instructed mayors to cooperate with him and even praised some of those active in fighting illegal drugs," the source said.

The President invited local executives present at the gathering of the League of City Mayors in Pasay City to talk about Mr. Duterte's thick list of government officials allegedly in cahoots with narcotic syndicates.

Asked if there were specific names named during the meeting, the source declined to disclose "anything about names".

Another source, a Mayor from Metro Manila told the *Tribune* in a text message that Mr. Duterte's message was "focused on anti-drugs".

"We are not allowed to talk about it yet," the lady Mayor said, noting that the President instructed them not to say anything about it.

Meanwhile, Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella confirmed to reporters in an ambush interview that Mr. Duterte's message to mayors is centered on his no-nonsense crackdown of the narcotics industry.

"The intent is to have a conversation in the same way that the president, he has not really met with the mayors, in order to directly discuss his positions especially regarding criminality, crime and drugs," Abella said.

"I'd rather state that it's a conversation, it's a dialog between the president and the local chief executives," he added.

In his speech on Monday, Mr. Duterte mulled to confront local chief executives jotted down in his thick narco-list saying that he is giving them the option to either drop their posts or leave the meeting dead.

"I will call the mayors. I will lock them in so it's just us. I will really tell them, 'The list I gave you is this thick. Look for your name there, mayor. If your name is there, son of a bitch, you have a problem, I will really kill you,'" the President said.

"The first thing that I would do is to deprive you of the supervisory powers over the police, second is I will remove all of your security detail," he added.

The President also said that he does not give a damn even if he will "go down on the history as the Butcher."

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SEA MARSHAL MAGBABANTAY

Pulisya, militar sanib-pwersa vs mga pirata

**Nina FRANCIS WAKEFIELD,
FER TABOY at BETH CAMIA**

Inihayag kahapon ng Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WesMinCom) na masusi itong nakikipagtulungan sa Philippine National Police (PNP) sa pagtugis sa mga suspek sa pamamaslang sa walong mangingisda sa isang bangka sa Laud Siromon sa Barangay Dita, Zamboanga City nitong Lunes ng gabi.

Sinabi ni Army Major Filemon I. Tan, Jr, tagapagsalita ng AFP-WesMinCom, na nakikipagtulungan ang Marine Battalion Landing Team-11 sa pagtugis ng Zamboanga City Police Office sa mga suspek.

Unang sinabini Col. Juvymax Uy, commander ng AFP Task Force Zamboanga, na tinitingnan nila ang posibilidad na extortion ang motibo sa pag-atake.

EXTORTION

"Extortion on fishermen, those who perpetrated the attack are lawless elements," sabi ni Uy.

Nabatid na pinoproblema ng

mga mangingisda ang pangingikil ng ilang armadong pirata.

Sinabi naman ng WestMinCom na kabilang din sa kanilang mga iniimbestigahan ang napaulat na agawan ng dalawang grupo ng mga mangingisda sa lugar.

Inimbestigahan din ng pulisya ang impormasyon na posible umanong may kaugnayan ang massacre sa pagkamatay ng isang magkapatid na hinihinalang kasapi ng Abu Sayyaf sa joint operation noong Nobyembre sa karagatan malapit sa pinangyarihan ng

insidente.

SEA MARSHALS

Kaugnay nito, pinag-aaralan na ng Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) ang pagpapakalat ng mga sea marshal sa Moro Gulf sa Mindanao kasunod ng pag-atake ng mga pirata.

Ayon kay PCG Officer-in-Charge Commodore Joel Garcia, ang kanyang pahayag ay kasunod ng pag-atake ng mga pirata sa isang bangkang pangisda sa Siromon Island na ikinamatay ng walong katao.

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President Duterte is joined by chief military and police officials during yesterday's *vin d' honneur* at Malacañang. Also in photo are Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and PNP chief Director General Ronald Dela Rosa.

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Benilde gives Hidilyn big lift to chase dream

By KRISTINA VILLANUEVA

After putting her college education on hold to pursue her weightlifting dreams, Olympic silver medalist Hidilyn Diaz has gone back to school through a full scholarship program at College of St Benilde



Hidilyn Diaz

ERNIE PEÑAREDONDO

The 25-year-old lifter has just started school as a first year business management student last Jan. 5, seeing the importance of education in pursuing her dreams

Baring her plans of putting up businesses and becoming a sports official someday, Diaz said she would want to set an example to other athletes who would simply settle for excellence in their respective sports, learning more in other aspects of life and continue to grow as a person.

"I have achieved something in sports but there's nothing like a college degree. There will be more opportunities. I see other athletes who reached a dead end in their careers for lack of good education," said Diaz in Filipino. She plans to put up weightlifting gyms to help in the grassroots development program and possibly go into a food business venture

"It's a must for us to get higher education since athletes seem to be contended with being good in training and in their events, happy where they are. But I try to change that mindset, let them be aware of other things and grow as a person."

Diaz was in her second year as an irregular computer science student at the Universidad de Zamboanga in 2010 when she decided to shift her focus to weightlifting after heeding the advice of her coach who saw a dip in her performance

The hard work paid off and Diaz went on to vie in a number of international competitions and went on to represent the country in two Olympic Games since, 2008 in Beijing and 2012 in London.

After almost seven years of school hiatus, Diaz is now hurdling the tough task of balancing school and her preparations for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics where she is seeking to give the country its first-ever gold medal.

Diaz, whose Rio feat snapped the country's 20-year medal drought in the Games, takes five subjects or a total of 15 units and is given a free hand by St. Benilde in choosing her class schedule where she could still train at least twice a day on her Tuesday and Thursday classes where she has a late afternoon to early evening schedule and once a day on her Monday and Wednesday classes where she has a morning and evening schedule.

At the moment, she is preparing to meet at least 90 percent of her lift in the 2016 Olympics 88 kg in snatch and 112 kg in clean and jerk in the Hidilyn Weightlifting Open set on April 15 and 16 she co-organized with Patricia Bermudez-Hizon and Crossfit Alliance's Jason Truman.

Open to all hopefuls, the two-day event, where she hopes to raise weightlifting awareness and at the same time be a potential member of the weightlifting pool, will also serve as a gauge for her target lift as she prepares for the fifth Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Turkmenistan this September and the International Weightlifting Federation World Championships this November in the US.

CSB athletic director Stephen Fernandez hopes their move of offering a scholarship to the Olympian will inspire other schools to help other athletes.

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ONLINE NEWS
12 JANUARY 2017

<http://www.update.ph/>

Full force of military combat power: 51 Battalions deployed to defeat all terror groups

PNA

Armed Forces of the Philippines chief-of-staff General Eduardo Año said that while Development Support and Security Plan (DSSP) "Kapayapaan" is focused on the primacy of the peace process, terror groups like the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), Maute Group, Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, Ansar-Al-Khilafah Philippines and other lawless groups will feel the full brunt of the military's combat power.

"While we are addressing the ASG (threat and other lawless elements), we apply the full force of the AFP, in fact in the Western Mindanao Command area where the ASG and other terror groups [are known to be operating], 51 battalions are already deployed to [conduct focused military operations against them]," he added.

Año said this is the biggest ever troop deployment for the AFP as they are making sure that the campaign against the ASG and other lawless and terror groups will be significantly defeated and their capabilities to wreck havoc or terror reduced to the very minimal.

He added efforts to combat these threats will be evaluated this coming June to determine whether the strategies being implemented against them are taking effect.

When asked what initiatives the AFP are taking against these lawless and terror groups, Año said the military has intensified our intelligence operations and engagements with the local communities so local residents will report to authorities presence of suspicious-looking individuals in their respective areas.



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

AFP hunts down remnants of terrorist group

Jeffrey Maitem



Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana. INQUIRER FILE PHOTO/LYN RILLON

GENERAL SANTOS CITY— Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana has ordered the military to hunt down the remnants of the terrorist group, Ansar Al-Khilafah Philippines, hiding in Sarangani province and other parts of Central Mindanao.

Lorenzana visited the military headquarters in Sarangani on Monday to commend troops for killing three Ansa Al-Khilafah men, including the local leader, Mohammed Jaafar Sabewang Maguid.

The defense chief said the killing of Maguid, also known as "Tokboy," in Kiamba town on Jan. 5 and the deaths of Pakistani national Abu Naila and his Filipino wife, Kadija, on Jan. 7 in Maasim town represent a major victory in the fight against terrorism and a big blow for Ansar Al-Khilafah.

"We will continue the operation against them as well as against members of the Maute group in Lanao del Sur," Lorenzana said.

It was not clear how many Ansar Al-Khilafah men remained.

But Supt. Romeo Galgo Jr., spokesperson for the Central Mindanao Police Office, told the Inquirer that the authorities were monitoring the movements of three more members of the group in Sarangani.

"No more foreigners this time. They are all Filipinos," Galgo said.

Senior Supt. Joseph Semillano, the Sarangani police chief, said Naila arrived in Maasim in August last year to train Ansar Al-Khilafah members in bomb-making.

Naila and his wife tried to travel to Sulu province on

Jan. 7, but aborted their plan when they noticed that the government had increased naval security, Semillano said.

The two were killed by government forces on the same day.

Maguid's group was blamed for the 2015 grenade attack in Maasim that killed a police officer and wounded dozens of civilians.

On Aug. 20 last year, three of his men were killed when government forces swooped down on his lair in Barangay Daliao in Maasim.

In a subsequent raid on the house of Kupang Sahak, another follower of Maguid, government forces found black Islamic State group flags and bomb-making materials.

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

RENEWING COMMITMENT | EastMinCom held New Years Call

Alvin Santiago



NSFA, Panacan, Davao City – Eastern Mindanao Command (EMC) held the traditional New Years Call in the morning of January 11, 2017 at Naval Station Felix Apolinario, Panacan, Davao City.

New Years Call is a military tradition where Military sub-commanders and staff officers pay courtesy call to the Commander of a major command renewing their commitment to serve and their adherence to the chain of command.

The activity was hosted by Lt. General Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero, Commander EMC and attended to by commanders of component units (Air Force, Navy, and Army) and Support Units of EMC, Unified Command Staff and Civilian Heads of Office of the Command.

The New Years call was followed by a Command Conference wherein Lt General Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero, Commander of EMC issued his guidance in the implementation of Development Support and Security Plan "Kapayapaan".

"I therefore pin my hope on everyone as we welcome 2017 with much optimism and great expectation as we embark on the implementation of the AFP Support and Security Plan "Kapayapaan". Let us all endeavor to again focus our attention and energy to the new challenge ahead" Guerrero said. EASTMINCOM / MCAG

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

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Additional 500 troops deployed to Davao City to secure launch of ASEAN Chairmanship 2017

PNA

Around 500 troops from the Army, Navy and Air Force were flown to Davao City to augment the Philippine National Police (PNP) contingent tasked to secure the launching on Jan. 15 of the ASEAN chairmanship 2017.

These uniformed personnel consists of explosive ordnance disposal experts and K-9 units and their handlers, were flown Wednesday, said AFP public affairs office chief Col. Edgard Arevalo.

Arevalo said these troops will be subordinated to Eastern Mindanao Command's Joint Task Force Haribon which will is the premier military anti-terrorist unit in the area that is also tasked to support the PNP in securing the ASEAN Summit 2017.

He added additional troops will be deployed if needed.

Aside from terror threats, Joint Task Force Haribon is also tasked to respond to disaster incidents and internal security operation.

Despite these preparations, the AFP official said that they are still to detect any direct threats for the ASEAN Summit 2017.



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

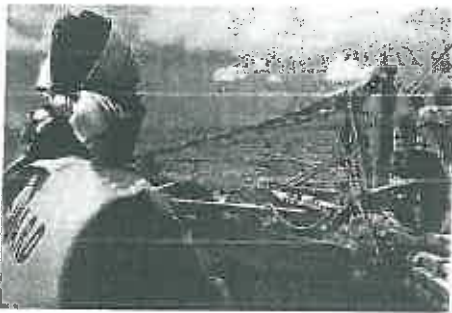
<http://news.mb.com.ph/>

AFP, PNP hunt down killers of Zamboanga fishermen

By Francis Wakefield

The Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WesMinCom) said it is working closely with the Philippine National Police (PNP) in hunting down the suspects who perpetrated the killing of eight fishermen on board a fishing boat off Laud Siromon, Barangay Dita, Zamboanga City, Monday night.

Army Major Filemon I. Tan Jr., AFP WesMinCom spokesman, said government troops from the Marine Battalion Landing Team-11 are helping out the Zamboanga Police Office in tracking down the suspects.



This undated photo received on January 10, 2017 shows Philippine coast guard personnel inspecting a fishing boat of which its crew (C, background) were allegedly killed by pirates off the coast of Laud Siromon in Zamboanga, the southern Philippine island of Mindanao.

(AFP PHOTO / STR / MANILA BULLETIN)

"The PNP is leading the investigation and operations to hunt down the suspects. We (military) are just supporting them on the matter," Tan said.

Col. Juvymax Uy, the commander of the AFP Task Force Zamboanga, earlier said they are looking at the possibility that extortion could be the motive behind the attack.

Tan said based on reports from ground units, the fishing boat owned by a certain "Mumar" from Sangali and manned by 15 personnel, was shot at by five unidentified armed men, killing eight of its crew members.

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