

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



ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

oacpa.army2012@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
NEWS CLIPPINGS

18 January 2017

Wednesday

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

NEWS HEADLINES

18 January 2017

WORLD ON EDGE AS TRUMP ERA NEARS

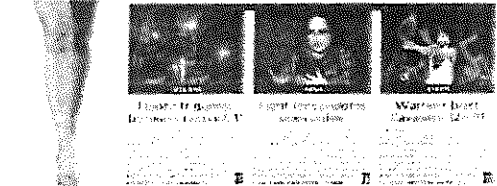
How it will be the most... (text partially obscured)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

GOVERNMENT DINNER COST P230K/TABLE



MISS U BEAUTIES IN BATTLE OF MACTAN II



DOMINGUEZ RICHET IN CABINET

THE MANDAY CONSPIRACY

PEACE PACT UNLIKELY BEFORE 2017, REDS SAY

2 incumbent congressmen on narec list - Speaker



Floods, landslides kill 5 in Mindanao

After-Phil protest, Koo's, Chinese official meet

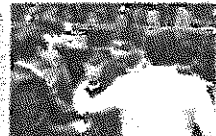


Kidnaped woman 'found alive'

A month's worth of rain hit CDO - Pagasa

Undan, Esperio to attend Trump's

Special main event: 'Cheater' vs 'Muslim'



QCFB: No planting, recycling of guns

The Manila Times

MANILA, PHILIPPINES, January 18, 2017

12.50 per copy (including delivery charge)

'Election machines tampered with'

MANILA (AP) — A watchdog group has accused the government of tampering with election machines in the Philippines.

Flash floods in part of Mindanao kill 4

MANILA (AP) — At least four people were killed and several others injured in flash floods in Mindanao, Philippines.

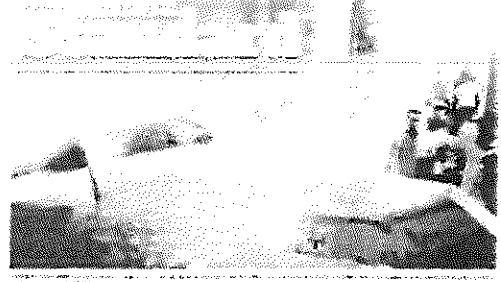
50 lawmakers warn against black dress, penalty bill

Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) reported 100 illegal fishing boats

GRANDLOTTO 4/43 WEDNESDAY, 18 JANUARY 2017 JACKPOT PRIZE

P 103,000,000.00

PCSO



Severe flood hits Mindanao; 7 dead

MANILA (AP) — A severe flood in Mindanao, Philippines, killed seven people and injured several others.


TABLE OF CONTENTS**18 JANUARY 2017**

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather Forecast	-	PDI p.A16
NATIONAL NEWS			
2-3	Floods, landslides kill 5 in Mindanao	Jaime Laude	Phil. Star p.1
4-6	World on edge as Trump era nears	New York Times	PDI p.A1
ARMY NEWS			
7	Wipe out terrorist groups, regional Army chief told	Fernan Marasigan	Mla. Times p.A3
8	Pres. Duterte visits wake of fallen Army officer	PNA	www.pna.gov.ph
9	TRIBUTE PRRD at wake of Cpt Clinton L Capio	Alvin Santiago	www.dwdd.com
10	Photo: Another hero		Mla. Bulletin p.1
11	Photo: thank you for your service		Standard p.A2
12	11 PA Senior officials receive star-rank promotions	PNA	www.pna.gov.ph
13	AFPMBAL donates 11 units of entertainment sets to Army	PNA	www.pna.gov.ph
14	Photo: Soldiers push a military truck...	Gerry Lee Gorit	Phil. Star p.1
15	Photo: Soldiers and rescue team...	Gerry Lee Gorit	Phil. Star p.14
AFP RELATED NEWS			
16	AFP focused on rescuing Abu hostages	Alexis Romero	Phil. Star p.14
17	AFP assures safety of hostages still its main consideration	Francis T Wakefield	Mla. Bulletin p.2
18-19	Military: Hostages' safety remains paramount	PNA	Bus. Mirror p.A3
20	AFP installs new Wesmincom commander	Mario J Mallari	Tribune p.3
21	PH troubled by China arms buildup in Spratlys	Cynthia Balana	PDI p.A4
22	Gov't optimistic on peace talks but...	Edith Regalado	Phil. Star p.4
SPORTS			
23	UNTV Cup: AFP, BFP fan quarterfinal bids		Tempo p.13
ONLINE NEWS			
24-25	Battle-seasoned general new chief of key in Mindanao command		www.ippdier.com


18 January 2017


INQUIRER

Page: 16



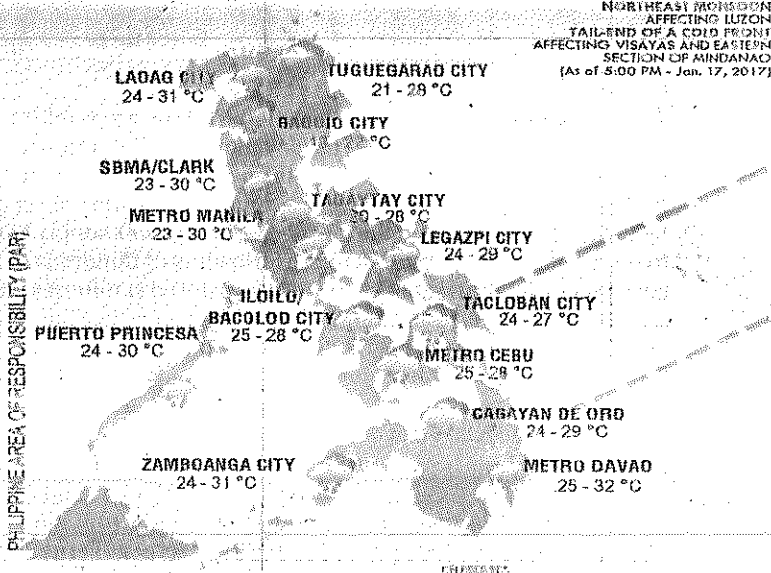
PANAHON TV
www.panahon.tv /PanahonTV













PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS + FEARLESS VIEWS





TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST JANUARY 16, 2017 WEDNESDAY









































PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)



NORTH-EAST MONSOON AFFECTING LUZON
TAIL-END OF A COLD FRONT AFFECTING VISAYAS AND EASTERN SECTION OF MINDANAO
(As of 5:00 PM - Jan. 17, 2017)

SUNRISE	SUNSET
 6:25 AM	 5:48 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
 11:04 PM	 10:38 AM
FULL MOON	LAST QUARTER
 JAN 12 7:34 PM	 JAN 20 8:13 AM
LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
 8:57 AM -0.04 Meter	 1:09 AM 0.85 Meter

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

	JAN 16	JAN 17	JAN 18	JAN 19	JAN 20	JAN 21
METRO MANILA	 22 - 31 °C	 23 - 31 °C	 19 - 27 °C	 20 - 28 °C	 24 - 28 °C	 24 - 30 °C
TUGUEGARAO	 21 - 29 °C	 22 - 29 °C	 23 - 28 °C	 24 - 29 °C	 25 - 30 °C	 24 - 30 °C
LADAG	 23 - 31 °C	 23 - 30 °C	 25 - 30 °C	 25 - 30 °C	 25 - 33 °C	 26 - 33 °C
BAGUIO	 13 - 23 °C	 14 - 22 °C	 25 - 29 °C	 25 - 30 °C	 24 - 33 °C	 25 - 32 °C
SBMA/CLARK	 22 - 30 °C	 23 - 30 °C	 25 - 30 °C	 26 - 30 °C		
TAGAYTAY			 19 - 27 °C	 20 - 28 °C		
LEGAZPI			 23 - 28 °C	 24 - 29 °C		
PUERTO PRINCESA			 25 - 30 °C	 25 - 30 °C		
ILOILO/BACOLOD			 25 - 29 °C	 25 - 30 °C		
METRO CEBU			 25 - 30 °C	 26 - 30 °C		

AIR 21
SAGOT KO, PADALA MO!

PILIPINAS HD  

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

18 January 2017



Page: 1

Floods, landslides kill 5 in Mindanao

By JAIME LAUDE

Incessant torrential rains over Northern Mindanao for the past several days have spawned widespread flooding and landslides, leaving at least five people dead, one missing and around 30 others injured, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) said yesterday.

NDRRMC executive director and Office of Civil Defense (OCD) chief Ricardo Jalad said the fatalities were mainly due to drowning and landslides.

He said another civilian has been reported missing in the severe flooding that hit Cagayan de Oro City the other day – the worst since Typhoon Sendong in 2011.

Officials said over 4,000 people were displaced from their homes following the torrential rains that flooded Cagayan de Oro and nearby areas starting Monday.

The NDRRMC has yet to officially receive full reports on the identities of the dead, but said they all came from Northern Mindanao, particularly Misamis Oriental.

Initial reports, however, showed that aside from a certain Renny Boy Cabidno who was buried under a collapsed wall in Cagayan de Oro, the rest of the fatalities came from Gingoog City with two dead and one each in Magsaysay and Opol towns. Another was reported missing in Medina town, all in Misamis Oriental.

There were also initial reports of

Turn to Page 9

Floods

From Page 1

five people who perished and a child missing in flashfloods that struck the towns of Jose Dalman and Roxas in Zamboanga del Norte.

Jalad said the flooding in Cagayan de Oro has been compounded by drainage problems in the city.

He said the sewerage system failed to drain the floodwaters following heavy rains that hit upper Bukidnon.

Regional disaster officials in Northern Mindanao reported the floods displaced some 1,654 families or 6,827 individuals.

On top of Cagayan de Oro City (Misamis) and Iligan in Lanao, 14 of Misamis Oriental's 23 towns and Gingoog City were hardest hit by widespread flooding.

The city council declared Cagayan de Oro under a state of calamity yesterday to hasten services to the displaced residents now staying in 19 evacuation centers.

Except for severe flooding in low-lying areas, there was no reported casualty in nearby Iligan City.

In 2011, Cagayan de Oro was

also devastated by torrential floods from Typhoon Sendong, leaving at least 1,152 people dead in the city and in neighboring Iligan.

On the other hand, Malacfiang declared the government is doing all it can to normalize the situation in Northern Mindanao.

"Government is doing everything to ensure that things go back to normal especially now that the weather is improving and roads are again passable," presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said.

Abella said the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is now providing assistance to affected families in Northern Mindanao, including Cagayan de Oro City, which is now under a state of calamity.

The DSWD said 953 families or a total of 4,378 individuals have been evacuated in affected areas in Eastern Visayas and Northern Mindanao.

Social Welfare Secretary Judy Taguiwalo said another 1,116 families or 4,879 individuals were affected by the flooding caused by torrential rains brought about by a low-pressure area and the tail-end of a cold front.

Aside from Cagayan de Oro, DSWD also reported evacuation of affected families in various

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

parts of Misamis Oriental and in Iligan City, Lanao del Norte.

A number of residents in Eastern Samar were also evacuated due to the flashfloods.

"Our regional officials are also maintaining constant communication with officials of the local government units," Taguiwalo said yesterday.

"The Cagayan de Oro local government and its disaster units as well as social welfare office are addressing the immediate needs of affected citizens. Our field office (in the region) is always prepared to provide augmentation support," she added.

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel III, a native of Cagayan de Oro, appealed for more help and assistance for the victims of the massive flooding in the city.

"We need to show the flood victims that they are not alone, and we are ready to stand in solidarity with them in their hour of need," he said.

Pimentel said his office, with its limited resources, would do its best to help the victims to complement government efforts.

The Office of the Senate President has launched a relief drive, "TabangCDO" to help the flood victims in the city.

Pimentel also gave assurance the help will not be limited to his hometown.

"Let us remember that flood victims are not limited to CDO. We should ensure that we can help everyone to the best of our abilities," he said.

A month's worth of rain

The low-pressure area (LPA) which triggered massive flooding in Cagayan de Oro City and other parts of Northern Mindanao last Monday has dissipated.

However, a tail-end of a cold front will continue to bring moderate to occasionally heavy rains and thunderstorms over Visayas and the regions of Northern Mindanao and Caraga until today, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said yesterday.

"We still expect rains over these areas although not as heavy as last Monday," PAGASA weather forecaster Benison Estareja said in a television interview.

Estareja continued to warn residents in affected areas, especially those living in low lying and mountainous areas, against possible flashfloods and landslides.

"By Thursday, we expect the

tail-end of a cold front to weaken and by then we can expect improved weather condition in Mindanao," he said.

The two weather systems dumped almost a month's volume of rain in one day in Misamis Oriental, according to PAGASA.

The PAGASA-El Salvador station recorded 72.4 millimeters of rain in the province over a 24-hour monitoring on Tuesday. The area's average total rainfall for January is 98.9 mm.

The heavy rains caught residents by surprise, leaving the city at a virtual standstill.

Most residential areas had no light or water supply since the torrential rains began Monday.

Rescue workers had to retrieve several students of Mindanao University of Science and Technology in the city who were trapped in their classrooms because of the floods.

A shopping mall in the city remained open to allow the thousands of stranded to stay inside during the heavy rains and floods. – **With Alexis Romero, Evelyn Macairan, Janvic Mateo, Gerry Lee-Gorit, Paolo Romero, Helen Flores, Lino de la Cruz, John Unson, Roel Pareño**

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

12 January 2017



Page: A1

WORLD ON EDGE AS TRUMP ERA NEARS

STORY BY NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

From China to Germany, nations across the globe are accustomed to US President-elect Donald Trump's provocative Twitter messages, but they are less clear about whether his remarks represent meaningful policy guidelines, personal judgments or passing whims

AG

FROM A1

LONDON—The Germans are angry. The Chinese are downright furious. Leaders of Nato are nervous, while their counterparts at the European Union are alarmed.

Just days before he is sworn into office, US President-elect Donald J. Trump has again focused his penchant for unpredictable disruption on the rest of the world.

His remarks in a string of discursive and sometimes contradictory interviews have escalated tensions with China while also infuriating allies and institutions critical to America's traditional leadership of the West.

Where is he headed?

No one knows where exactly he is headed—except that the one country he is not criticizing is Russia and its president, Vladimir V. Putin. For now.

And that he is an enthusiastic cheerleader of Brexit and an unaffiliated Britain. For now.

Trump's unpredictability is perhaps his most predictable characteristic.

The world is accustomed to his provocative Twitter messages, but is less clear about whether his remarks represent meaningful new policy guidelines, personal judgments or passing whims.

In the interviews, Trump described the European Union as "basically a vehicle for Germany" and predicted that the bloc would probably see other countries follow Britain's example and vote to leave.

Trump also said Germany's chancellor, Angela Merkel, had made a "catastrophic mistake" in allowing refugees to pour into Europe.

Alarm and outrage

The barrage of inflammatory comments in joint interviews published on Sunday and Monday in Britain and Germany elicited alarm and outrage in Europe, even as Merkel dryly characterized Trump's positions as nothing new.

"They have been known for a while—my positions are also known," Merkel said on Monday in Berlin. "I think we Europeans have control of our destiny."

Her clipped response came as officials and analysts struggled with how to interpret Trump's remarks, as well as

how to react to them.

Some argued that Trump's words should be regarded as tactical, intended merely to keep his options open.

But nearly everyone agreed that Trump had made trouble, especially in criticizing Merkel, given her importance as a figure of stability in Europe and her campaign for reelection later this year.

China infuriated

For good measure, Trump had also infuriated China by using an interview on Friday with The Wall Street Journal to again question China's longstanding one-China policy.

The policy holds that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the mainland.

On Monday, China's foreign ministry spokesperson, Hua Chunying, said that anyone trying to use the status of Taiwan for negotiations would be "smashing their feet by lifting a rock" and would face broad and strong opposition from the Chinese government and people, as well as the international community.

She added that "not everything in the world can be bargained or traded off."

The English-language China Daily accused Trump on Monday of "playing with fire," saying that if Taiwan became up for negotiation, as Trump suggested to The Journal, "Beijing will have no choice but to take off the gloves."

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

European issues

Trump's interviews in Europe have placed him right in the middle of the continent's most contentious issues.

His critique of German dominance over the European Union is hardly a novel thought; many Europeans share the same complaints.

But what is startling is how an incoming US president would make such a statement about a key ally and, in doing so, give succor to populist parties seeking to shatter the European political establishment.

In the interview published on Monday in the German newspaper Bild and The Times of London, Trump also equated his trust of Merkel with his trust for Putin.

"I start off trusting both," he said during the joint interview, which was conducted inside his office at Trump Tower in New York, "but let's see how long that lasts. It may not last long at all."

Certainly, Trump knows how

to give a provocative interview.

Nato 'obsolete'

He repeated past criticisms that Nato is "obsolete" for supposedly not confronting terrorism, only to quickly add that "with that being said, Nato is very important to me."

Trump's comments "are a direct assault on the liberal order we've built since 1945 and a repudiation of the idea that the United States should lead the West," said R. Nicholas Burns, a former senior US state department official and ambassador to Nato, who also advised the presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton.

"To say that Nato is obsolete, openly support the disintegration of the European Union and then denigrate Merkel and put her on a par with Putin is a fundamental break with 70 years of American policy and strategic thought supported by Republicans from Eisenhower to now," said Burns, who has served presidents of both Republican and Democratic parties.

"Nato is the great power differential between the United

States and Russia, as our Asian alliances are the power differential between us and China," he said.

Trump's remarks almost certainly rankled Europe's two most powerful leaders, Merkel and Prime Minister Theresa May of Britain.

Brexit

Trump's enthusiasm for Britain's vote to leave the European Union, or Brexit—if welcomed by British officials, in general terms—has put considerably more pressure on May.

She is preparing to give a major speech on Tuesday about her Brexit plans, even as Trump promised to give Britain a quick and fair trade deal outside the European Union—a deal that cannot take place for at least two years until Britain leaves the bloc.

Awkwardly for her, one of the interviewers was Michael Gove, who strongly supported Brexit and ran for the Conservative leadership against May, who immediately fired him from the Cabinet.

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

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

Trump's first meeting with a British politician was with another May adversary, Nigel Farage, the former leader of the anti-Europe UK Independence Party.

Merkel, who is known for her sangfroid and pragmatism, shrugged off Trump's latest criticism, saying that what matters is what he does in office.

"I am waiting for the president to be sworn into office. That is the way it is done," she said. "And then, of course, I will work with him together."

The German foreign minister, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, was not so sanguine.

Astonishment, commotion

Trump's comments had "caused astonishment and commotion, and I'm sure not just in Brussels," where he spoke on Monday before a monthly meeting of European Union foreign ministers.

Steinmeier said he had just seen the Nato secretary general, Jens Stoltenberg, and that there was continuing concern inside the military alliance.

"First, it goes against the statements of the nominated defense secretary a few days ago," Steinmeier said.

"We have to see what it will yield in terms of US foreign policy. The same goes for the statements on trade policy. We count on the US to stick to its international obligations, including in the World Trade Organization," he said.

Others cautioned against taking Trump's words literally, at least for now.

"I take all of this with a pinch of salt," said Robin Niblett, the director of Chatham House, the London-based research institution.

"I think Trump is trying to keep his options open and not be cornered by simply standing up for existing policy positions," he said.

Trump's transition team will try to begin to smooth over some of the tensions on Tuesday in Washington, where the group planning his inauguration will host a black-tie dinner for members of the foreign diplomatic corps to mingle with prospective Cabinet members, leaders of Congress and Vice President-elect Mike Pence.

Stay calm

Outgoing US President Barack Obama's departing ambassador to Germany, John B. Emerson, has used a series of exit interviews and speeches in

recent days to urge the Germans to stay calm, not to over-interpret Twitter posts or view them as finished foreign policy.

Emerson underscored that, while more clarity was needed, there were signs that Trump did value Nato and the promise of US protection for European allies.

"It's a very crucial issue, not just for European security, but for American security," Emerson said.

He noted that Trump "authorized President Obama when he came here on his trip shortly after the two of them met to reassure European partners of the full commitment to Nato. Now, we need to see what that means."

Yet Europe is staring at a potentially transformative political year, with elections coming in the Netherlands, France and Germany, and possibly in Italy.

Victories by populist parties could destabilize the European Union, and many European officials worry that Trump's attacks are damaging.

Martin Schäfer, a spokesperson for Steinmeier and the German foreign ministry, flatly rejected Trump's comment in the interview that the European Union "is basically a vehicle for Germany."

"Perhaps in times such as these, when order is crumbling, it is more important than ever that we want to, and must, stand together," Schäfer said, underlining the post-World War II German stance that only through the country's role in a larger European alliance are peace and prosperity guaranteed.

Stand united

Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault of France said Trump's comments were an invitation to the bloc to stand united.

"As is the case with Brexit," Ayrault said, "the best way of defending Europe, and that is the invitation Trump has given to us, is to remain united as a bloc, not forgetting that the strength of Europeans lies in their unity."

The British foreign secretary, Boris Johnson, who supported Brexit, emphasized Trump's warm comments on the Anglo-American relationship.

"I think it's very good news that the USA wants to do a good free trade deal with us and wants to do it very fast," he said. "Clearly it will have to be a deal that's very much in the interests of both sides, but I have no doubt it will be." —NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

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

18 January 2017

The Manila Times

Page: A3

Wipe out terrorist groups, regional Army chief told

BY FERNAN MARASIGAN

MAJOR General Carlito Galvez Jr. of the Philippine Army has been named as the new commander of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom).

Galvez's designation, according to a military official, was in line with the AFP's target to decimate the extremist Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) and other terrorist groups that operate mainly in southern Philippines.

Galvez assumed command on Tuesday, replacing Lt. Gen. Mayor-algo de la Cruz, who was designated as the AFP's Inspector General.

De la Cruz served Westmincom for one year and two months.

Vice Admiral Narciso Vingzon, the newly designated AFP deputy chief of staff, concurrently held the position of Inspector General that was left vacant after its former head, Maj. Gen. Oscar Lactao, was designated as commander of the AFP Central Command.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año ordered the decimation of the ASG and other terrorist groups within six months as ordered by President Rodrigo Duterte.

He described Galvez as experienced, trained and the most fit to assume command of the unit that would be responsible for neutral-

izing the ASG, the Maute Group, the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters and other terrorist groups in Western Mindanao.

"To achieve this difficult task, necessary adjustments in tactics and strategy, and in the approaches to neutralize the ASG, including changes in the leadership and composition of the team that will execute his plans, will have to be made. And this is part of the dynamism of the military profession," Col. Edgard Arevalo, chief of the AFP Public Affairs Office, said.

He added that the designation of Galvez was part of the AFP's tasks to finish off the terrorist groups in Mindanao.

"We could expect changes in techniques, tactics, procedures and our approaches, even deployment of units, changes, not necessary additions, all of them would be part of it [new AFP campaign to crush Abu Sayyaf]," Arevalo said.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana earlier disclosed that the AFP would be employing fresh approaches in dealing with terrorists.

One of them, according to him, is to designate new officers to make sure these new strategies would be carried out against terrorist and other lawless elements.

Año said by June this year, there would be an assessment of the AFP campaign against these groups and, by the time, there should be a "significant defeat" of the enemies.

Promotion

Meanwhile, 11 ranking officers of the Philippine Army have been promoted to the next higher rank, five to the rank of major generals and six to brigadier generals.

Lt. Gen. Glorioso Miranda, acting Army commander, led the donning of ranks in a simple ceremony at the Army's headquarters in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City (Metro Manila) on Monday.

Promoted to major general were Joselito Reyes, the Army Inspector General; Rhoderick Parayno, commander of the 2nd Infantry Division; Jon Aying, commander of the 3rd Infantry Division; Paul Atal, commander of the 5th Infantry Division; and Herminigildo Aquino, commander of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command.

Promoted to brigadier generals were Earl Baliao, deputy commander of the 6th Infantry Division; Bienvenido Datuin Jr., deputy commander of the 4th Infantry Division; Roseller Murillo, commander of the

101st Infantry Brigade; Roy Devesa, commander of the 503rd Infantry Brigade; William Alunday, commander of the 2nd Mechanized Infantry Brigade; and Arnold Fernandez, commander of the 52nd Engineer Brigade.

Miranda reminded the newly promoted generals that the new rank they received is an additional accountability that they need to internalize as part of their service, not only to the Philippine Army, but also to the whole nation as well.

Last week, five ranking AFP officials were promoted to the next higher rank.

On Friday, Año presided over the donning of ranks to generals, flag officers and senior officers of the Regular and Reserve Forces of the AFP in a ceremony held at the AFP Commissioned Officers Club in Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City.

One of the promoted officers is the newly appointed AFP deputy chief of staff Rear Admiral Narciso Vingzon, who is now a three-starred vice admiral.

He was joined by four other senior officers--Col. Isidro Purisima, commander of the AFP Command Center; Col. Gavin Edjawan, chief of AFP Pension and Gratuity Management Center; Col. Jesulito Calimag, the AFP Provost Marshal General; and Col. Ernesto Ravina, deputy commander of the AFP Southern Luzon Command, who were all promoted to the rank of Brigadier General.

Pres. Duterte visits wake of fallen Army officer

From the Philippine News Agency (Jan 17): **Pres. Duterte visits wake of fallen Army officer**

President Rodrigo Duterte visited last Monday night the wake of Capt. Clinton Capio, the first soldier killed in action this year, at the Libingan ng mga Bayani Mortuary in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

Accompanied by National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, President Duterte expressed sympathy and condolences to the wife of the fallen military officer.

The President also extended financial assistance to the bereaved family of Capio.

Capio from Baguio City is an elite Army Special Forces officer who was killed on January 12 following a nine-hour encounter with the Abu Sayyaf bandits in Basilan.

Capio's four other comrades were injured when they reportedly encountered 60 to 80 Abu Sayyaf terrorists under commander Furuji Indama in Barangay Cabcacan, Simisip town in Basilan. Two ASG militants were killed.

The Army's operation against the Abu Sayyaf is in line with the directive of the President to eliminate the bandit group known for kidnappings and beheadings.

On his way out of the chapel, the President was greeted by many Army soldiers, most of them belonging to the Special Forces of the Philippine Army.

He briefly talked to the soldiers, assuring them of his full support as they perform their duties to the nation.

He asked them to continuously help in the government's fight against illegal drugs and corruption and maintain peace and order in the country to sustain economic growth.

The President also assured the soldiers that his communication line will always be open in case they need help.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=955786>

TRIBUTE | PRRD at wake of CPT Clinton L Capio

Posted by Alvin Santiago on January 17, 2017 at 7:51 AM

LNMB, Fort Bnifacio, Taguig City (DWDD) – President Rodrigo Roa Duterte visited the wake of Captain Clinton L. Capio at the Libingan mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

The President personally gave his condolences to the family and platoon members of Captain Capio who died on January 12, 2017 during an encounter with more or less 60 fully armed Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) members under Furuji Indama (a.k.a Abu Dujana) while conducting a combat operation in Cabcaban, Sumisip, Basilan.

Captain Capio was a graduate of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) in 2006. He served as the Commanding Officer of the 1st Special Forces Company (1SFC) of the Philippine Army (PA).

Present during the visit were National Defense (DND) Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and other high-ranking military officials. **RTVM / MCAG**

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

18 January 2017

THE TOWER OF BABEL
SINCE 1898
MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 1



ANOTHER HERO – President Rodrigo R. Duterte (right) talks to the surviving platoon mates of the late Captain Clinton Capio at the wake of the fallen member of Philippine Military Academy Class of 2006 at the mortuary of the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio Monday night. Capio was killed in a clash with Abu Sayyaf members last January 12. (Malacañang Photo)

18 January 2017

The
Standard
PHILIPPINE NEWS PAPER

Page: A2



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE. President Rodrigo Duterte salutes comrades of slain Army Captain Clinton Capio during his wake visit at the mortuary of the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio on January 16, 2017. Capio, a Philippine Military Academy Class 2006, was killed in a clash with the Abu Sayaff members last Thursday. Malacañang Photo

11 senior PA officials receive star- rank promotions

From the Philippine News Agency (Jan 17): **11 senior PA officials receive star- rank promotions**

Eleven senior officers of the Philippine Army (PA) were donned their star ranks during short ceremonies held Monday in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

Five were promoted to the rank of major generals and six were promoted to brigadier generals effective Dec. 29, 2016, PA spokesperson Col. Benjamin Hao said.

Promoted to Major Generals were Joselito M. Reyes, the Army Inspector General; Rhoderick M. Parayno, the Commander of the 2nd Infantry Division; Jon N. Aying, the Commander of the 3rd Infantry Division; Paul T Atal, the Commander of the 5th Infantry Division; and Herminigildo C. Aquino, the Commanding General of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command.

Promoted to Brigadier Generals were Earl D. Baliao, the Deputy Commander of the 6th Infantry Division; Bienvenido Datuin Jr, the Deputy Commander of the 4th Infantry Division; Roseller G. Murillo, the Commander of the 101st Infantry Brigade; Roy T. Devesa, the Commander of the 503rd Infantry Brigade; William A. Alunday, the Commander of the 2nd Mechanized Infantry Brigade; and Arnold F. Fernandez, the Commander of the 52nd Engineer Brigade.

PA Chief Lt. Gen. Glorioso V. Miranda led the ceremony. He advised the newly promoted generals that the new rank they received is an additional accountability that they need to internalize as part of their service, not only to the Army, but also to the whole nation as well.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=955714>

AFPMBAI donates 11 units of entertainment sets to Army units

From the Philippine News Agency (Jan 17): AFPMBAI donates 11 units of entertainment sets to Army units

In line with efforts to improve the welfare and morale of troopers in the field, the Armed Forces of the Philippines Mutual Benefits Association Incorporated (AFPMBAI) formally turned 11 sets of entertainment packages to the Philippine Army (PA) on Monday.

Col. Benjamin Hao, PA spokesperson, said each entertainment package includes a 32-inch LED TV, a karaoke with amplifier and two-way bass reflex speaker.

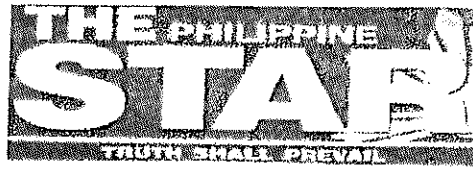
Recipient Army units were the headquarters of the 7th Infantry Division, the 603rd Infantry Brigade, the 7th and 34th Infantry Battalions, the 4th Mechanized Infantry Battalion and the 1st Cavalry Squadron of the Mechanized Infantry Division, the 3rd and 10th Regional Community Defense Groups of the Army Reserve Command, the 15th Field Property and Accountability Office, and the Property Accountability Office and General Support.

Brig. Gen. Librado B. Moog, AFPMBAI Executive Services Division head, representing the donor institution, said they will continue to provide assistance to soldiers as part of their commitment to improve the welfare of the AFP troops.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=955707>

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

18 January 2017



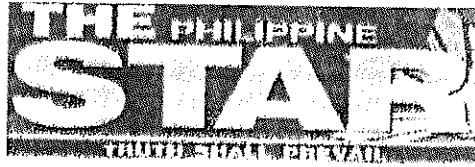
Page: 1



Soldiers push a military truck to higher ground after heavy flooding caused it to stall while rescuing stranded teachers and students at Mindanao University of Science and Technology in Cagayan de Oro City the other night.

GERRY LEE GORIT

18 January 2017



Page: 14



Soldiers and rescue teams transport stranded residents in Cagayan de Oro on Monday night. Torrential rains spawned by a low-pressure area and the tail-end of a cold front submerged the city in floodwaters.

GERRY LEE GORIT

8 January 2017



Page: 14

AFP focused on rescuing Abu hostages

By ALEXIS ROMERO

Military operations against Abu Sayyaf bandits are geared toward rescuing the hostages, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief Gen. Eduardo Año, said yesterday.

Año said President Duterte was only emphasizing the need to “neutralize terrorist groups once and for all” when he directed the military to bomb the bandits even though their captives could be harmed.

Año said the military has tactics and techniques to ensure the safety of hostages while running after armed groups.

“We are trained for that. We always make sure we apply the right force and approach

to ensure the hostages are safe. Our first objective is to rescue the hostages,” Año told reporters at Fort Bonifacio on Monday night.

“Because of new technology, you can target one side of a building without harming the hostages,” he added.

In a speech before businessmen on Saturday, Duterte ordered security forces to bomb bandits who are trying to escape with their hostages to finally end the problem of kidnappings.

Meanwhile, Año ordered Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) chief Maj. Gen.

Carlito Galvez to crush the Abu Sayyaf in six months.

Galvez took over the post from Lt. Gen. Mayoralgo de la Cruz, who was named inspector general of the AFP, yesterday.

Año expressed optimism that Galvez could do the job even as he gave assurance that the AFP would support Westmincom in accomplishing its mission.

“Westmincom is our priority. All our resources, best soldiers will be deployed here,” Año said during the turnover ceremony at Camp Navarro in Zamboanga City.

Meanwhile, the President posthumously promoted Capt.

Clinton Capio who was slain during an encounter with Abu Sayyaf bandits in Basilan last week.

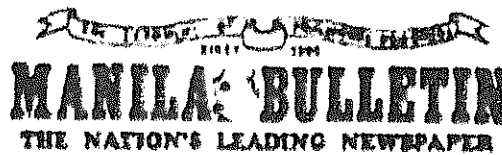
Duterte signed the recommendation for Capio’s promotion when he visited the Army officer’s wake at Fort Bonifacio on Monday night.

The President also assured Capio’s wife May Shiel on the prompt release of the benefits for her husband.

Año said Capio’s family would receive P2 million aside from a monthly pension.

Capio’s daughter will be granted a scholarship while his widow will be given a job, Año added. – With Roel Pareño

18 January 2017



Page: 2

AFP assures safety of hostages still its main consideration

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) assured yesterday that the safety of hostages is still the main consideration in the conduct of any operation against the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG).

In a press briefing at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Air Force Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla, AFP spokesman, gave the assurance that the welfare of the kidnap victims still the main concern of combatants on the field when dealing with the armed extremists.

The AFP gave its assurance following President Duterte's statement over the weekend to "bomb extremists still holding hostages."

The President was quoted as saying that the loss of civilian lives in such an attack by the military could be considered as "collateral damage."

The Abu Sayyaf is known to be holding 27 local and foreign captives.

"Even though the President issued a strongly worded statement, when we apply this our main consideration is still protecting the lives of the hostages," Padilla told reporters.

18 January 2017

BusinessMirror

Page. A3

Military: Hostages' safety remains paramount

THE Armed Forces will continue to consider the safety of hostages while carrying out its mission to crush the Abu Sayyaf, the spokesman for the military said.

Asked to comment on President Duterte's order to bomb the bandits even if they have hostages with them, Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said: "We got this guidance and looked at it seriously...but in the implementation of [the] guidance, we apply our skills and our operational art."

Addressing businessmen in Davao City over the weekend, Duterte said he had instructed the Navy and the Coast Guard: "If there are kidnappers and they're trying to escape, bomb them all."

"They say 'hostages'. Sorry, collateral damage," he said in the speech, delivered soon after the kidnapped Korean ship captain and Filipino crew member of a cargo vessel were freed in Sulu.

The Abu Sayyaf is believed to be holding up to 28 kidnap victims, a number of them foreigners.

Padilla said the military "is prepared to carry out the President's directive, but we will also take consideration of the hostages' lives while applying the full force of military

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



PRESIDENT Duterte and Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana pay their last respect to Army Capt. Clinton Capio at the mortuary of the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. Capio, member of Philippine Military Academy Class of 2006, was killed in a clash with the Abu Sayyaf bandits on Thursday. PNA

resources and power in order to implement that.”

He added it was up to ground commanders “to be

able to implement that in the best way possible, at the least cost of life and at the least application of violence.”

Nevertheless, he stressed that Duterte’s order spoke of his commitment to remove the Abu Sayyaf threat, once and for all. PNA

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

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

18 January 2017



Page: 3

AFP installs new Wesmincom commander

As part of the military leadership renewed efforts to crush terrorist groups, particularly the Abu Sayyaf, in southern Philippines, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) yesterday installed new commander of the Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom), Maj. Gen. Carlito Galvez formally assumed as Wesmincom commander vice Lt. Gen. Mayoralgo de la Cruz, who was appointed as Inspector General-AFP based in Camp Aguinaldo. Defense Secretary Deffin Lorenzana and AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año graced the change of command ceremony. Año vowed to significantly defeat the Abu Sayyaf group within six months. A member of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) "Sandiwa" Class of 1985, Galvez was the former commander of the Army's 6th Infantry Division (ID) based in Maguindanao. Galvez is not a stranger to Wesmincom, having served as commander of the Army's 104th Brigade operating in Basilan against the Abu Sayyaf band of Isnilon Hapilon and Furuji Indama.

Mario J. Mallari

18 January 2017

INQUIRER

Page: 14

PH TROUBLED BY CHINA ARMS BUILDUP IN SPRATLYS

By Cynthia D. Balana
@cynchdbINQ

China's recent installation of weapons on artificial islands in the disputed South China Sea was "very troubling," Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said on Tuesday, after Manila quietly protested Beijing's activities.

The Department of Foreign Affairs sent a note verbale to the Chinese Embassy last month after confirming a report from the US-based Center for Strategic and International Studies about China's arms buildup in the Spratlys.

"The actions of China in militarizing those disputed features are very troubling," Lorenzana said in a statement. "They do not square with the Chinese government's rhetoric that its purpose is peaceful and friendly."

"The Philippine government would be remiss in its duty to protect its national interest if it does not protest, question and seek clarification from China on the presence of weapons in the Spratlys," he said.



Secretary Delfin Lorenzana

He took a stronger line than Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay, who refrained from criticizing China on Tuesday but said the issue had to be handled carefully and the public should know "we are not sleeping on the job."

Balancing act

"When something happens that can pose us some kind of threat to our sovereignty rights, we issue a note verbale so we can talk about it and make sure it is properly addressed," Yasay said.

With billions of dollars of potential Chinese trade and

investment at stake, the Philippines has a difficult balancing act in upholding its sovereignty claims while staying on the better terms that President Duterte has established with historic rival China.

The Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative (Amti), a US think tank, has also said it has been tracking construction of hexagonal structures on Kagitingan (Fiery Cross), Pangani-ban (Mischief) and Zamora (Subi) reefs since June and July last year. China has built airstrips on these islands, capable of accommodating large military aircraft.

It said China has placed modern weapons on Pangani-ban, which is located within the Philippines' 200 nautical mile exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Lorenzana said some of the reclaimed areas mentioned in the Amti report were within the country's EEZ. The Permanent Court of Arbitration ruled in favor of Manila in July last year, saying Beijing had no historical title to the vast

maritime region.

For its part, the Philippines has decided to shelve planned upgrades to facilities on islands it controls, such as repairing an eroded runway, to avoid incurring China's wrath.

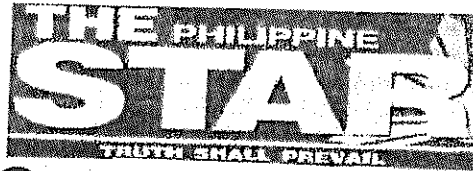
Lorenzana said a diplomatic protest was the correct procedure and despite warming relations with China, the government still had a duty to protect the national interest.

China claims most of the South China Sea, through which about \$5 trillion of goods passes annually. An international arbitration ruling last year invalidated those claims.

China's artificial islands became a hot issue last week when the US nominee for Secretary of State, Rex Tillerson, told a Senate hearing that Beijing should be repelled from, and then denied access to, the controversial islets.

Yasay last week suggested Manila would play no part in that, and said of the United States, "Let them do it" —WITH
A REPORT FROM REUTERS INQ

18 January 2017



Page: 4

Gov't optimistic on peace talks but...

By EDITH REGALADO

DAVAO CITY - The government views with guarded optimism the peace negotiations with the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) which resume in Rome starting tomorrow until Jan. 25.

Presidential adviser on the peace process Jesus Dureza said yesterday that the third round of talks would center on unfinished discussions on the proposed bilateral ceasefire vis-a-vis issues on the release of prisoners.

"The crucial agenda items on socio economic reforms, constitutional, political reforms and end of hostilities and disposition of forces are on the table for discussions. These issues, although difficult, are surmountable with both sides sharing common aspirations for peace," Dureza said.

But Fidel Agcaoili, the communists' chief negotiator, is not as hopeful as he believes that ending one of Asia's longest insurgencies with a peace pact would not be possible before 2019.

The National Democratic Front, CPP's political arm, also warned that forces on the ground were urging an end to a ceasefire as they became frustrated with the government's "broken promises."

"The NDF goes into the third round of formal talks in Rome determined as always to persevere with the peace talks but increasingly troubled by the other party's sincerity," Agcaoili said in a statement.

He added that the communists would need at least two more years after negotiators agreed on a series of economic and political reforms before even beginning "serious discussions" on a final peace pact.

Those economic and political reforms have yet to be agreed, and are meant to be discussed in Rome.

President Duterte, who describes himself as a socialist, has made ending the rebellion one of his top priorities in June last year and installed three communists in his Cabinet.

Military records showed at least 30,000 people have died in the conflict as the communists waged their "national democratic revolution" since 1968 to overthrow a capitalist

system that has created one of Asia's biggest rich-poor divides.

Dureza said the preparatory work and engagements, led by Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III for the government and Agcaoili for the CPP, "even before the third round of talks auger well for possible significant progress with the hosting and facilitation of the Norwegian team headed by Ambassador Elisabeth Slattum."

The President has instructed the government panel to work for an early settlement of the issues as he calls on the nation to provide support to the efforts to ultimately bring peace in the land.

"The outcomes of the third round of talks can bring us closer to achieving some possible milestones for sustainable peace," Dureza added.

Poker game

The communists have long demanded the release of hundreds of jailed communists before they consider making major concessions in the peace talks.

Duterte ordered the release of at least 18 top leaders to kickstart the peace process but the rebels wanted the immediate freedom for 434 rebels, a condition that the President said he could not give straightaway.

He described the negotiations as a "poker game."

"My aces are in prison," he said, referring to the jailed communists. "If I released them all my cards would lose. There would be nothing else to talk about."

Bello said the government is still sticking to its timeframe to secure a peace deal in nine to 12 months since the start of talks in August last year.

He added that he has told the communists that it would be to their advantage not to delay the process, or they would risk not being able to finalize a pact before Duterte's term ends in 2022.

Agcaoili said the prospect of a permanent ceasefire was "growing dim" because of the prisoner issue as he also accused security forces of violating the current temporary ceasefire. - With Jose Rodel Clapano, AFP

18 January 2017



Page. 13

UNTV Cup: AFP, BFP fan quarterfinal bids

Defending champion Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) kept their quarterfinal hopes alive with big wins over top two rivals in the 5th UNTV Cup held over the weekend at the Pasig City Sports Center.

Exploiting the absence of former PBA MVP Kenneth Duremdes, the BFP Firefighters leaned on a fiery start and a well-balanced attack to stun the erstwhile unbeaten Bureau of Customs Transformers, 95-89, and stay in the running for a berth in the next round.

Veteran Gilbert Malabanan led five BFP players in double figures with 21 points, including clutch baskets that helped scuttle Customs' spirited comeback for their fifth win in 9 games.

More than improving their quarterfinal chances, the Firefighters earned the distinction as the first team to beat the powerhouse squad that played minus its heart and soul who begged from playing due to a previous commitment.

The AFP Cavaliers likewise improved to a 5-4 record with an 80-72 victory over Judiciary Magis who saw their six-game winning streak

Games Sunday
(Pasig City Sports Center)
3 p.m. -- Judiciary vs MMDA
5 p.m. -- Customs vs AFP
7 p.m. -- NHA vs BFP

come to an end.

Despite their defeat, the Transformers remained on top, but the Magis slipped to a share for second to third places with the idle Philippine National Police Responders at 7-2 in the tournament offering ₱4 million to the chosen charity of the champion team.

Meantime, Malacañang ended a three-game skid by crushing National Housing Authority, 91-65, to formalize its entry into the next round.

The top two finishers after the round will advance outright to the semis while teams from No. 3 to No. 6 play a series in the quarters. The seventh and eighth teams will be eliminated.

Eric dela Cuesta and Von Javier led the Malacañang Karnao with 20 and 19 points, respectively, while the Cavaliers drew big games from Jeffrey Quiambao and Ronald Pascual with 18 and 17 points, respectively.

ONLINE NEWS

18 JANUARY 2017

Battle-seasoned general new chief of key Mindanao command

From Rappler (Jan 17): **Battle-seasoned general new chief of key Mindanao command**

Major General Carlito Galvez Jr, the new Western Mindanao Command chief, brings his rich combat and administrative experience to the critical military post

CRITICAL POST. Major General Carlito Galvez Jr assumes leadership of the Armed Forces of the Philippines Western Mindanao Command. Photo by Richard Falcatan/Rappler

A battle-seasoned general is the new chief of a critical military command in Mindanao.

Major General Carlito Galvez Jr replaced Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom) chief Lieutenant General Mayoralgo dela Cruz in a change of command ceremony Tuesday morning, January 17.

Dela Cruz is moving to the headquarters in Manila to become the military's inspector general.

Galvez now heads the military command responsible for fighting local terrorist groups and protecting peace talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), two areas that President Rodrigo Duterte had directed the military to focus on.

The 53-year-old Galvez brings to the post a rich combat and administrative experience dealing with threat groups in one of the most violent areas in the country, as the Duterte administration strives to implement a peace deal with the MILF.

Galvez had served as the commander of the 6th Infantry Division based in Maguindanao. He was then tasked to protect the government's ceasefire with the MILF based in the province, and to deal with various peace spoilers such as the MILF breakaway group, the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF).

Galvez has open communication lines with the MILF leadership as he had served as co-chairman of the Coordinating Committee on Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) that monitors the government and MILF ceasefire, and investigates alleged violations.

Galvez had worked with MILF leaders to keep the ceasefire intact after the January 2015 Mamasapano bloodbath that killed elite cops and sparked national outrage.

Galvez also fought the Abu Sayyaf Group in Basilan when he became the youngest commander of the 104th infantry brigade from 2012 to 2013. He led military operations to prevent rogue members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) based in Basilan from reinforcing the fighters led by Habier Malik during the Zamboanga siege in 2013.

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

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

He also served critical administrative positions. Before getting the 6th ID post, Galvez was AFP deputy chief for operations and, before that, Wesmincom's deputy commander for the peace process.

Galvez is a member of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1985.

<http://www.rappler.com/nation/158616-general-carlito-galvez-jr-wesmincom-chief>

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