

*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](mailto:oacpa.army2012@gmail.com)

## OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS **NEWS CLIPPINGS**

09 March 2017

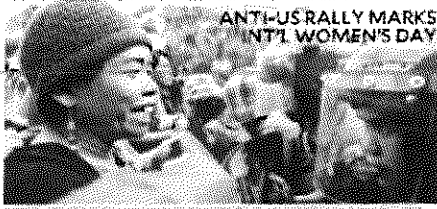
Thursday

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

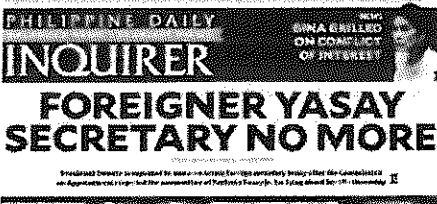
Army vision: By 2028, a world-class Army that is a source of national pride.

# NEWS HEADLINES

## 09 MARCH 2017



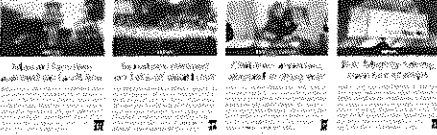
**ANTI-US RALLY MARKS INTL WOMEN'S DAY**




**PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER**  
**GINA BELLED ON CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

### FOREIGNER YASAY SECRETARY NO MORE

President Duterte suspended her as secretary general of the Commission on Appointments (CA) for amounting of President's Family. The filing should be by Thursday.




- Manila Express: ...
- The nation's ...
- China ...
- Asia's ...



**GINA LIZA YASIN A DEADLY AXE WITH 87**  
**WIFE SAYS BARE VIA HACKING**

Yasin is the ...

Category	Value
...	...
...	...
...	...




**WOMEN BOOSTED DUTERTE PRESIDENCY**

**Gina's 'sacred cow' bared**

President Duterte's ...


**Solid waste ... charged for DAP**

... ..



**CA rejects ...**

... ..



**Yasay dumped for lying**



... ..



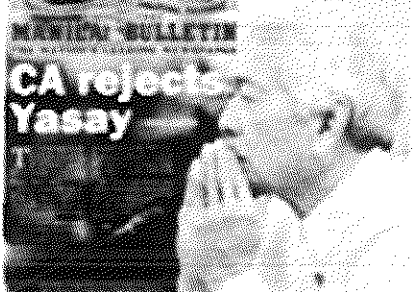
... ..




... ..




... ..




**CA rejects Yasay**



... ..



... ..



... ..

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

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### 09 MARCH 2017

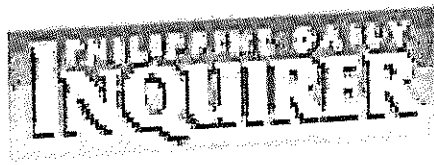
PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather Forecast		PDI p.A1
<b>NATIONAL NEWS</b>			
2-4	Foreigner Yasay secretary no more	Christine Avendaño	PDI p.A1
<b>ARMY NEWS</b>			
5-6	4 cops killed in NPA attack	Eddie Aguirre	PDI p.A15
7	4 cops killed, 1 hurt in Davao NPA ambush	Edith Regalado	Phil. Star p.A18
8	4 rebeldeng NPA dedo sa encounter	Tony Sandoval	Ngayon p.7
9	1 sibilyan sugatan, 1 pang NPA tiklo sa engkwentro sa Quezon	Ronnie Digos	Abante p.3
10	Gov't troops capture NPA rebel in Quezon		<a href="http://www.pna.gov.ph">www.pna.gov.ph</a>
11-12	NPA members in Negros Oriental urged to surrender, avail of P300,000 cash aid		<a href="http://www.pna.gov.ph">www.pna.gov.ph</a>
<b>AFP RELATED NEWS</b>			
13	Bloody week in Zambo	Nonoy Lacson	Mla. Bulletin p.12
14	3 'Maute' todas militar	Joy Cantos	Ngayon p.7
15	ASG leader sugatan sa bakbakan	JG	Remate p.3
16	ASG leader Hapilon, nasapul sa bakbakan	JG Tumbado	Abante p.6
17	2 Abu Sayyaf todas sa bakbakan sa Basilan		Police Files p.3
18	Palace welcome Leila's tirade vs government incapacity to crush Abus	Ted Tuvera	Tribune p.4
19	Phl to seek joint border patrol vs Abus	Roel Pareño	Phil. Star p.A18
20	Brit who wanted to join Abus gets 8 years		Phil. Star p.10
21	Troops raid Maute lair in Lanao del Sur, 2 killed	Alfred Dalizon	People's Journal p.13
22	Kin inspire top PMA cadets to pursue military career	Tonette Orejas	PDI p.A15
23	Photo: Astig!	Keith Bacongco	Balita p.1
<b>EDITORIAL</b>			
24	MILF, MNLF, Abu Sayyaf, and peace in Mindanao		Mla. Bulletin p.10
25	How to uproot Abu Sayyaf		PDI p.A16
26	Only ROTC grads in uniformed services, but keep ROTC voluntarily	Antonio Sotelo	PDI p.A14
<b>ONLINE NEWS</b>			
27-28	Gov't execs share PDU30's view on war with Reds		<a href="http://www.pia.gov.ph">www.pia.gov.ph</a>
29	Notorious Zamboanga Del Sur KFR leader		<a href="http://www.pna.gov.ph">www.pna.gov.ph</a>

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

	killed in encounter		
30	3 Maute rebels dead in Lanao del Sur clash		<a href="http://www.sunstar.com.ph">www.sunstar.com.ph</a>

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

09 March 2017



Page: A14

www.panahon.tv /PanahonTV

BALANCED NEWS • FEARLESS VIEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | MARCH 9, 2017 | THURSDAY

**NORTHEAST MONSOON AFFECTING LUZON**  
(As of 5:00 PM - Mar. 8, 2017)

**LAOAG CITY** 21-31 °C  
**TUBUEGARAO CITY** 21-30 °C  
**BAGUIO CITY** 14-23 °C  
**SBMA/CLARK** 22-32 °C  
**TAGAYTAY CITY** 19-29 °C  
**METRO MANILA** 22-32 °C  
**LEGAZPI CITY** 25-30 °C  
**ILOILO/BACOLOD CITY** 25-30 °C  
**TACLOBAN CITY** 24-30 °C  
**PUERTO PRINCESA** 24-31 °C  
**METRO CEBU** 24-34 °C  
**CAGAYAN DE ORO** 23-29 °C  
**ZAMBOANGA CITY** 24-30 °C  
**METRO DAVAO** 24-30 °C

<b>SUNRISE</b>	<b>SUNSET</b>
6:08 AM	6:05 PM
<b>MOONRISE</b>	<b>MOONSET</b>
3:11 PM	3:19 AM
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b> MAR 6 7:32 PM	<b>FULL MOON</b> MAR 12 10:54 PM
<b>LOW TIDE</b> 3:12 AM -0.17 Meter	<b>HIGH TIDE</b> 7:24 PM 0.98 Meter

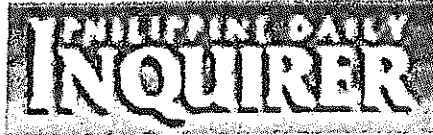
Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers  
Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms  
Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms  
Light rains

	MAR 10	MAR 11	MAR 10	MAR 11	MAR 10	MAR 11		
<b>METRO MANILA</b>	22-31 °C	23-31 °C	<b>TAGAYTAY</b>	19-25 °C	19-29 °C	<b>TACLOBAN</b>	24-31 °C	25-31 °C
<b>TUBUEGARAO</b>	21-31 °C	22-32 °C	<b>LEGAZPI</b>	24-31 °C	25-31 °C	<b>CAGAYAN DE ORO</b>	23-30 °C	23-29 °C
<b>LAOAG</b>	21-31 °C	28-30 °C	<b>PUERTO PRINCESA</b>	24-31 °C	25-30 °C	<b>METRO DAVAO</b>	24-31 °C	25-31 °C
<b>BAGUIO</b>	14-24 °C	15-24 °C	<b>ILOILO/BACOLOD</b>	26-30 °C	25-30 °C	<b>ZAMBOANGA</b>	24-30 °C	24-31 °C
<b>SBMA/CLARK</b>	22-33 °C	23-30 °C	<b>METRO CEBU</b>	25-31 °C	24-30 °C			

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

SAGOT KO, PADALA MO!

69 March 2017



Page: 41

# FOREIGNER YASAY SECRETARY NO MORE

STORY BY CHRISTINE O. AVENDAÑO

**President Duterte is expected to name an acting foreign secretary today after the Commission on Appointments rejected the nomination of Perfecto Yasay Jr. for lying about his US citizenship** **AZ**

## FROM A1

By **Christine O. Avendaño**  
@10avendanoINQ

Lawmakers on Wednesday rejected the nomination of Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay Jr. after ruling that he lied to them about his American citizenship.

By rejecting his nomination, the Commission on Appointments (CA) effectively fired Yasay, throwing the Philippines' diplomatic leadership into turmoil at an important time for the country, which holds the rotating chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

Sen. Panfilo Lacson, chair of the CA's foreign relations committee, said President Duterte could not reappoint Yasay.

### Acting secretary to be named

Malacañang said Mr. Duterte would name an acting foreign secretary.

Presidential spokesperson Ernesto Abella said the Office of the Executive Secretary would communicate with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) by 8 a.m. Thursday.

"Announcement will be forthwith," Abella said.

The DFA spokesperson, Assistant Secretary Charles Jose, said the department would wait for Mr. Duterte's appointment of an acting secretary.

It was unclear on Wednesday what steps the government would take against Yasay for concealing his US citizenship as he served as associate commissioner at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) from 1993 to 1995 and as chair of the body from 1995 to 2000.

Yasay also unsuccessfully ran for a seat in the Senate in 2001 and 2004, and for Vice President in 2010.

He was the first Duterte nominee to be rejected by the CA.

In an extremely rare move, the CA unanimously voted to reject Yasay's nomination following tense confirmation hearings in which he admitted to misleading the lawmakers.

"He was not telling the truth. He was not being forthright in the question-and-answer portion of the (confirmation) hearings," Lacson said.

Yasay, appointed by Mr. Duterte at the start of his administration eight months ago, told the initial hearing on Feb. 22 that he had never been an American citizen and that he had never held a US passport.

But the Inquirer, citing documents that contradicted Yasay's declaration, reported on Feb. 27 that Yasay was granted American citizenship in 1986.

The documents also showed that Yasay formally renounced his American citizenship at the US Embassy in Manila on June 28 last year, just two days before Mr. Duterte appointed him to head the DFA.

### Apology and admission

In a television interview on Monday, Yasay admitted he once carried a US passport, but said he had returned it along with his naturalization certificate.

He said he renounced his US citizenship in 1993 and that the document he filed in Manila last year was only for confirmation and reiteration of his renunciation.

On Wednesday, Yasay faced the CA again and was grilled over the documents that showed he was granted US citizenship in 1986.

He insisted that he never lied about his citizenship but apologized for "inadvertently misleading" the commission.

His last stand collapsed when Mindoro Rep. Josephine

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

Ramirez-Sato asked him to answer categorically yes or no whether he once became an American citizen.

"I wish I could answer that question with a yes or no, but as directly as I could in answering that question, I have always admitted that I was granted US citizenship. That's my answer," Yasay said.

"I was granted US citizenship [on] Nov. 26, 1986, but it's my position that that grant of US citizenship at that time was void," he added.

Yasay held that he was "ineligible and disqualified" to become a US citizen because he had no intention to reside in the United States, a view that he stated in an affidavit that he handed to Sato after the initial hearing on Feb. 22.

On Wednesday, he told the lawmakers that his US citizenship was void because the US Immigration and Nationality Act "provides that anyone who has preconceived intent to abandon his residency at the time of application is disqualified to that grant."

"Am I to believe you can lose [your] American citizenship by your own personal preconceived intention that you will not permanently reside in the US?" Sato asked Yasay, reminding him that he swore allegiance to the United States when he took his oath as a US citizen.

"For lack of a better term,

you fooled the USA when you applied for citizenship with a preconceived intention not to reside permanently in the US and abandon your citizenship in that country. Were you truthful in your oath [to] that country?" Sato asked.

Replying, Yasay admitted there was a "misrepresentation on my part for not divulging that."

#### Vote to reject

San Juan Rep. Ronaldo Zamora moved to end the questioning of Yasay, and the 15 committee members withdrew behind closed doors to vote whether to reject or confirm his nomination.

Later, on the floor, Lacson announced the body's unanimous decision to reject Yasay's nomination.

"Let this be a reminder to everyone present in this hall, that by definition, an oath is a solemn declaration, accompanied by a swearing to God or a revered person or thing, that one's statement is true or that one will be bound to a promise," Lacson said.

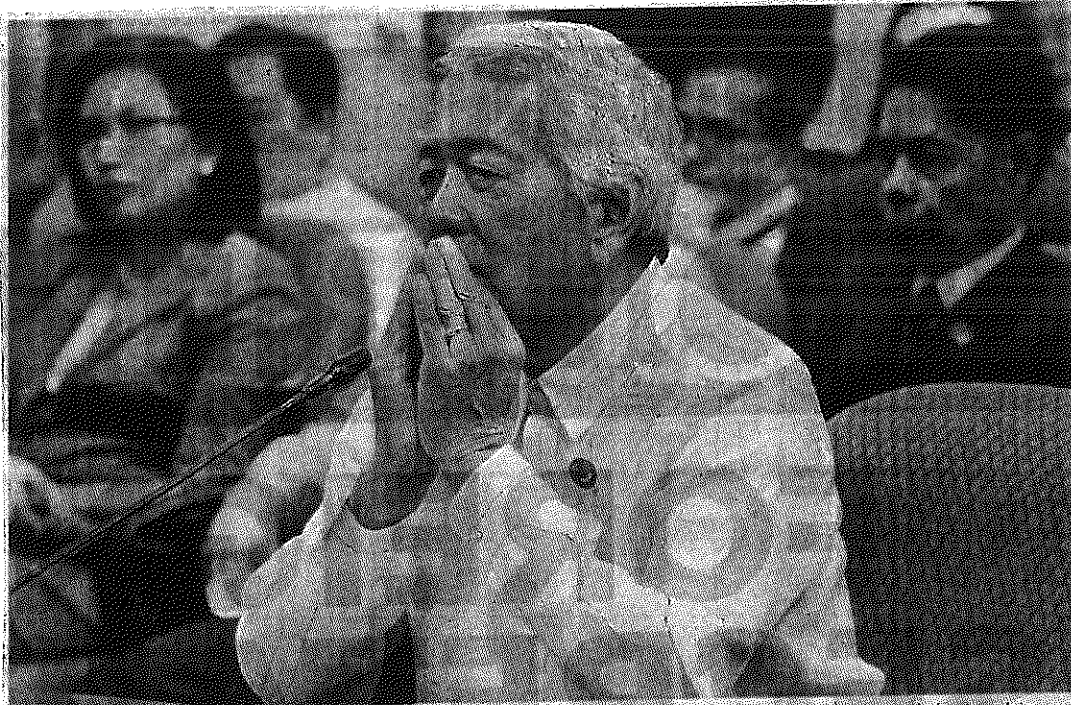
"The person making the oath invites punishment if the statement is untrue or the promise is broken. The legal effect of an oath is to subject the person to penalties for perjury if the testimony is false," he said.

—WITH REPORTS FROM LEILA B. SALAVERRIA, JEANNETTE I. ANDRADA, MAILA AGER AND AFP INQ

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

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

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



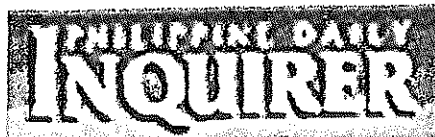
**REJECTED** Foreign Secretary Perfecto Yasay Jr. makes an unsuccessful last stand during his confirmation hearing on Wednesday. —CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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.



001 March 2017



Page: A15

# 4 cops killed in NPA attack

Policemen on their way to crime scene in upland village in Davao del Sur province when ambushed by rebels

By **Eldie Aguirre**  
and **Allan Nawal**  
@inqmundanao

DIGOS CITY—Police and military officials have tagged the New People's Army (NPA) behind the ambush that killed four policemen and wounded another in Bansalan town in Davao del Sur province on Wednesday.

The attack happened a day after President Duterte said the government was doing back-channel talks with communist leaders for the possible resumption of the peace talks.

Senior Supt. Samuel Gadingan, Davao del Sur police director, said a team of policemen from Bansalan and from the Scene of Crime Operatives' (Soco) provincial office was headed to the upland village of Sibayan in Bansalan at 6 a.m. to investigate a murder incident when armed men, believed to be NPA rebels, fired at their vehicles.

Killed were Police Officers 1 Rolly Belayo, Joe Narvasa and Saro Mangutara of the Bansalan police, and PO3 Jayden May Rabor of the Davao del Sur Soco. Wounded was PO3 Allen Arnado.

Gadingan said the policemen, aboard a patrol car and another

vehicle, were about 100 meters from their destination in Sibayan when they were attacked.

President Duterte, on Tuesday, said the government had been doing back-channel talks with the National Democratic Front of the Philippines to discuss the possible resumption of peace negotiations, which he suspended on Feb. 4 following NPA attacks in Mindanao.

Lt. Col. Marion Angcao, com-

mander of the Army's 73rd Infantry Battalion, said Sibayan village chair Eddie Dicdican reported to the police a murder incident in his village on Tuesday.

"The police were only able to respond to the report [on Wednesday] because it was already Tuesday night when they received the report," Angcao said.

Both the police and the military said it was likely that the NPA was behind the ambush because it

was the only armed group known to be operating in the area.

"Prior to the ambush, there had been reported sightings of NPA rebels in nearby communities," Angcao said.

He said the ambush was staged after soldiers clashed with rebels in Barangay Alegre on Feb. 25 when the military took over a major NPA camp in the village.

Lt. Col. Harold Argamosa,

commander of the 39th Infantry Battalion in Makilala, a town in North Cotabato province adjacent to Bansalan, said the military deployed troops to pursue the suspects. Bansalan shares borders with Makilala and Kidapawan City, where the NPA's Front Committee 51 is known to operate.

## Quezon clash

In Quezon province, four suspected NPA rebels were killed in

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



Authorities inspect the ambush site in Bansalan town, Davao del Sur. —MARLON GAYOG/CONTRIBUTOR

a clash with government troops in San Andres town on Tuesday.

Col. Lenard Agustin, commander of the Army's 201st Infantry Brigade, said a team of 18 soldiers engaged at least 20 rebels in a 30-minute gunfight in Barangay Mabunga on Tuesday afternoon.

Agustin said the military was informed about the presence of armed men who were soliciting food and other forms of support in the village.

He said soldiers arrested a rebel after the fire fight. He declined to identify the rebel but said he was from Barangay Burgos in Mulanay town.

Agustin said soldiers found a 22-year-old woman, who had a bullet wound in her left arm, near the encounter site.

"We've already established her identity. But we will still question her presence in the encounter site. Why was she there?" Agustin said.

He said the woman was taken to a hospital in Camp Nakar in Lucena City.

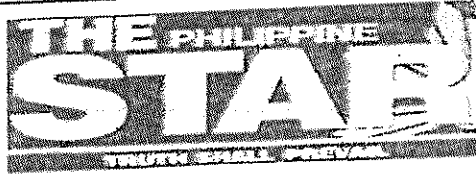
Soldiers recovered five rifles and a grenade launcher from the clash site. —WITH REPORTS

FROM WILLIAMOR MAGBANUA AND DELFIN T. MALLARI JR. INQ

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – E

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

69 March 2017



Page: A18

# 4 cops killed, 1 hurt in Davao NPA ambush

**DAVAO CITY – Four police officers were killed in an ambush by suspected New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Davao del Sur yesterday.**

Police Officers 1 Rolly Benelayo, Joe Narvaza and Saro Mangutara of the Bansalan police and PO3 Jayden May Rabor of the Scene of the Crime Operatives were responding to a shooting incident that left two villagers dead in Barangay Sibayan when they were waylaid at

around 7:30 a.m.

PO3 Allen Arnado was wounded and taken to a hospital for treatment.

Personnel of the Army's 39th and 73rd Infantry Battalion and Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit launched pursuit operations for the rebels.

The Philippine National Police condemned the attack, saying the "ruthless treachery of the NPA reared its ugly head again."

Meanwhile, four NPA rebels were killed in a firefight with government troops in Barangay Mabunga in San Francisco, Quezon on Tuesday.

No casualties were reported on the government side. Soldiers belonging to the

85th Infantry Battalion were patrolling the area when they encountered the rebels.

Three caliber .45 pistols and improvised explosive devices were recovered from the rebels after another clash in Barangay Tabgon in Camarines Sur at around 1:05 p.m. – Edith Regalado, John Unson, Michelle Zoleta, Ed Amoroso, Michael Punongbayan, Emmanuel Tupas, Cecille Suerte Felipe

09 March 2017



Pahina. 7

#### **4 rebeldeng NPA dedo sa encounter**

**LUCENA CITY** - Apat na aktibong miyembro ng rebeldeng New People's Army (NPA) ang napatay makaraang makaengkentro ang tropa ng pamahalaan sa Sitio Umagis, Brgy Mabunga, San Francisco, Quezon, kamakalawa. Sa ulat sa tanggapan ni AFP Southern Luzon Command (SOLCOM) Commander Lt. General Ferdinand Quidilla, nagsasagawa ng security combat operation dakong alas-2:50 ng hapon ang mga operatiba ng 21D jungle fighter ng PA sa pamumuno ni Capt. Zander Khan Usman nang makasalubong nila ang nasa 20 miyembro ng NPA. Naunang nagpaputok ang mga rebelde hanggang sa gumanti ang tropa ng pamahalaan at tumagal ng kalahating oras ang engkuentro. Nang malagasan ng apat na kasamahan ang mga rebelde ay tumakas sila patungong kagubatan, samantalang sa clearing operations ay nakarekover ang mga sundalo ng dalawang M-16 armalite rifle, AK-47, isang M-203 grenade launcher, mga personal na kagamitan at mga subersibong dokumento. **Tony Sandoval**

09 March 2017



Pahina. 3

## 1 sibilyan sugatan, 1 pang NPA tiklo sa engkwentro sa Quezon

Matapos ang bakbakan ng militar at rebeldeng New People's Army (NPA) kamakalawa sa Quezon kunsaan apat na rebelde ang napatay, isa namang hinihinalang NPA ang nasakote ng tropa ng pamahalaan sa kamilang hot pursuit operation.

Ayon kay Col. Lenard Agustin, commander ng 201st Infantry Brigade ng Philippine Army, isang 26-anyos na lalaki na mula sa Barangay Burgos sa bayan ng Mulanay ang kamilang nahuli.

Tumanggi itong pangalanan ang rebelde.

Dakong alas-dos ng hapon nang maganap ang bakbakan ng mga elemen-

to ng 2nd Jungle Fighter Company at nasa 20 NPA sa Sityo Umagos, Brgy. Mabunga, sa bayan ng San Andres, kamakalawa.

Tumakas ang mga rebelde matapos ang may kalahating oras na labanan. Isa pang 22-anyos na babae na may tama ng bala sa kaliwang kamay ang natagpuan ng mga sundalo.

Inaalam pa ng mga awtoridad kung bakit nasa lugar ng labanan ang babae na 'di muna pinangalanan.

Nakarekober din ang militar ng apat na baril na kinabibilangan ng dalawaang AK-47, isang armalite rifle at isang M203 grenade launcher.

(Ronilo Dagos)

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

## Gov't troops capture NPA rebel in Quezon

From the Philippine News Agency (Mar 8): Gov't troops capture NPA rebel in Quezon

In pursuit of their intensified military offensives, government troopers captured a New People's Army (NPA) rebel and recovered M-16 rifles firearms during a follow-up operation Tuesday in San Andres, Quezon.

2ID Public Affairs Chief 1Lt. Xy-zon M. Meneses reported Wednesday the intensified operations were carried out by the 2nd Jungle Fighter Company of the 85th Infantry Battalion of the 201st Brigade under the Philippine Army's 2nd Infantry Division (2ID) based here.

Colonel Lenard Agustin, commander of the 201st Brigade said around seven high-powered firearms consisting of two AK 47, four M16 rifles and M203 were already recovered by the army troopers.

Agustin said the captured NPA rebel will be turned over to the Quezon Police Provincial Office (QPPO) on Wednesday for validation.

The 201st brigade commander further reported that one civilian was wounded during the encounter.

The victim was identified as 22 year-old Jennifer Yuson, resident of Camflora in San Andres, Quezon, who sustained gunshot wound on her left arm and was immediately brought to the Camp Nakar Station Hospital.

Major General Rhoderick Parayno, 2ID commander said the troops are currently conducting reconnaissance operations to check if there were still other firearms, ammunition and explosives left at the encounter site.

Parayno stressed that the military offensives and the capture of the NPA rebel are the results of the 2ID's continuous operations since the termination of the ceasefire.

He assessed that "the defeat of the enemies shows the NPAs are slowly getting hard up especially now that the communities are reporting their presence."

1Lt. Meneses also cited 2ID record following the ceasefire termination that the army division here has already neutralized seven NPAs and has recovered 11 high-powered firearms along with various ammunition and explosives.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=2&sid=&nid=2&rid=969983>

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

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

## NPA members in Negros Oriental urged to surrender, avail of P300,000 cash aid

From the Philippine News Agency (Mar 8): NPA members in Negros Oriental urged to surrender, avail of P300,000 cash aid

Members of the insurgent group, the New People's Army (NPA) in Negros Oriental, are encouraged to lay down their arms and surrender to authorities and avail of a P300,000 cash assistance offered by Negros Occidental Governor Alfredo Marañon.

Lt. Col. Roderick Garcia, commander of the 79th "Masaligan" Infantry Battalion of the Philippine Army based in Tanjay City, Negros Oriental, explained Wednesday that the offer of Gov. Marañon is not only limited to NPA members in Negros Occidental.

Both provinces belong to the Negros Island Region (NIR), and so, therefore, to attain lasting peace, all NPA members in the island are covered by Marañon's offer, said Garcia.

Gov. Marañon had earlier announced his offer to all active members of the NPA in NIR of a maximum of P300,000 per rebel who will surrender to government with a high-powered firearm.

Those without a firearm will receive cash assistance of up to P100,000.

Lt. Col. Garcia pointed out that the Negros Occidental governor's offer is on top of the P65,000 aid that government, through its Comprehensive Livelihood Integration Program (CLIP), is giving per rebel who will surrender to authorities.

The CLIP is being implemented through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).

Those who will surrender will undergo a process prior to being listed as a beneficiary to the program, as well as to the offer of Gov. Marañon, said Garcia.

According to the 79th IB commander, there are more or less 50 NPA rebels still reported in Negros Oriental to date.

They are mostly sighted in the first district of the province, particularly in Guihulngan City, Canlaon City, Tayasan and Ayungon.

However, many of them are mobile as they cross boundaries to the other side of the island, the Army commander said.

Lt. Col. Garcia is hoping that the NPA rebels will take the offer of Gov. Marañon while there are no peace talks at the local and/or national level.

Once a peace agreement is reached, the offer will no longer stand, Garcia said, because there will be certain arrangements all packaged as part of the agreement, such as livelihood, housing and others similar to those

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

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

offered to the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade.

Following the failure of the peace negotiations between the Philippine government and the NPA at the national level, officials in Negros Island have announced considering holding local peace talks.

NPA members wishing to surrender may send feelers to authorities, especially the Philippine Army, so their papers can be processed, said Lt. Col. Garcia.

Garcia assures them of their security and safety as they return to the folds of the law and be integrated into mainstream society.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=2&sid=&nid=2&rid=969973>

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



09 March 2017

THE BULLETIN  
**MANILA BULLETIN**  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 12

# Bloody week in Zambo

## 2 Maute gang, 3 suspected terrorists, KFR leader killed

NONOTE LACSON

**Z**AMBOANGA CITY — It was a bloody first week of March in Lanao and Zamboanga del Sur as two suspected Maute gang members, two terrorists, and a kidnap-for-ransom leader were killed in separate incidents here.

Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WestMinCom) spokesman Capt. Jo-Ann Pefinglay said the operation against the Maute group resulted in the wounding of two soldiers who sustained gunshot wounds and the recovery of firearms and suspected shabu.

According to Pefinglay elements of the Joint Task Force ZamPeLan, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, Criminal Investigation and Detection

Group of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, and Lanao del Sur Police Provincial Office served the search warrant for illegal drugs against the Maute-linked group in Barangays Bato-bato and Malingon in Maguing, Lanao del Sur at around 3 a.m. Tuesday.

Seven armed members of the Maute-linked group engaged the composite team in a firefight resulting in the deaths of the two gang members. Their cadavers were retrieved by the troops in the area of engagement. The soldiers also recovered an M16 rifle, 230 rounds of M16 ammunition, an M16 magazine, and two sachets of shabu.

Also on Tuesday, two suspected terrorists were killed and several high-powered firearms and ammunitions were seized by soldiers during a fo-

cused military operations launched by the Joint Task Force ZamPeLan in Lanao del Sur Tuesday morning.

Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WestMinCom) Commander Major General Carlito G. Galvez Jr. said elements of the 14th Division Reconnaissance Company were conducting combat operations when they encountered about 30 terrorists operating under commander Afgan in Barangay Ragayan, Poon Bayabao, Lanao del Sur.

Galvez said a 45-minute gun battle ensued, killing two local terrorists, based on the cadavers recovered by the engaging troops.

No casualty was reported on the government side and hot pursuit operations are being conducted by the ground troops.

Joint Task Force ZamPeLan also recovered three M14s, one Garand, one M16 with M203 attached, one RPG with three ammunition, two Improvised Explosive Devices, two Garand magazines, one M16 magazine, one Rohner Group Solar with battery, and three bandoleers belonging to the said group.

In Lapuyan, Zamboanga del Sur, a notorious leader of a Kidnap for Ransom Group (KFRG) was killed during a 30-minute encounter with the police and military authorities on Monday.

Pefinglay identified the slain KFRG leader as Fahad Andi, leader of the Andi group.

Two policemen were also wounded in action and were evacuated by responding troops to a hospital for medical treatment.

09 March 2017



Pahina. 7

### 3 'Maute' todas sa militar!

Umiskor ang tropa ng militar kasunod ng kanilang pagkakapatay sa tatlong hinihinalang miyembro ng Maute terrorist group nang salakayin ng tropa ng Joint Task Force ZamPelan (Zamboanga Peninsula, Lanao) ang baluwarteng lugar ng mga kalaban at nagkabakbakan sa Lanao del Sur kamakalawa.

Ayon kay Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay, spokesperson ng AFP Western Mindanao Command, bandang alas-9 ng umaga nang magsagawa ng FMO (focused military operations) ang tropa ng militar laban sa grupo ng mga terorista.

Sinabi ni Petinglay, nasa 30 terorista sa pamumuno ng isang alyas Afgan ang nakasagupa ng security forces sa kanilang kuta sa Brgy. Ragayan, Poona Bayabao na tumagal ng 45 minuto na ikinasawi ng tatlong kalaban. Narekober ng militar ang katawan ng dalawang miyembro ng Maute na napatay habang ang isa ay binitbit umano ng nagsitakas na grupo.

Narekober sa encounter site ang tatlong M14 rifles, isang garand rifle, isang M16 rifle na may nakakabit na M203 grenade launcher, dalawang improvised explosive device at sari-saring bala.

Pinuri naman ni Major Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., commanding general ng AFP Western Mindanao Command ang militar dahil sa pagkakapatay sa Maute members at sa pagsisikap ng mga sundalo na mapanumbalik ang kapayaan sa Mindanao. **Joy Cantos**

69 March 2017



Pahina. 3

## ASG leader sugatan sa bakbakan

**NASUGATAN** nang maka-engkuwentro ng militar ang itinuturing na mataas na lider ng Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) na si Isnilon Hapilon sa Poona Babayao, Lanao del Sur.

Sinabi ni Col. Nixon Fortes, commander ng 103rd Brigade ng Philippine Army, partikular na nasapul ang kanang binit ni Hapilon nang makipagbakbakan ang grupo nito sa mga elemento ng 51st Infantry Battalion at 15th Division Reconnaissance Company sa magubat na bahagi ng Poona Babayao kamakalawa.

Nakumpirma ang kondis-

yon ni Hapilon batay sa rin sa nakalap na impormasyon mula sa mga residente at sa intelligence community ng militar. Una nang inihayag ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) na nasugatan din sa Hapilon sa air strike noon sa bayan ng Butig, ang tukoy na baluarte ng Maute group.

Pinaniniwalaan ng AFP na nakipag-alyansa na ang grupo ni Hapilon sa Maute.

Samantala, tatlo umano sa mga nagsisilbing bodyguard ni Hapilon ang napatay sa labanan na nagsimula alas-9 ng umaga.

Nasamsam naman ang

tatlong M-14 rifle, isang M-16 rifle na may M203 grenade launcher, isang Garand rifle, propelled grenade at mga improvised explosive device.

Samantala, isang Najib Pondo na bomb-maker, ang kasaiukuyan umanong nasa Poona Babayao at sumanib sa grupo ni Hapilon.

Plano umano ni Hapilon na sa tulong ng Maute group ay makapagiatag ng wilayat o lokal na teritoryo ng ISIS sa Lanao del Sur.

"Hindi lang ito sa Lanao del Sur kung hindi sa buong bansa and this we don't want to happen," ani Fortes. JG

09 March 2017



Pahina. 6

## ASG leader Hapilon, nasapul sa bakbakan

Sugatan umano matapos maka-engkuwentro ng militar ang itimuturing na mataas na lider ng Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) na si Isnilon Hapilon sa Poona Babayao, Lanao del Sur. Sinabi ni Col Nixon Fortes, commander ng 103rd Brigade ng Philippine Army, partikular na nasapul ang kanang binti ni Hapilon nang makipagbakbakan ang grupo nito sa mga elemento ng 51st Infantry Battalion at 15th Division Reconnaissance Company sa magubat na bahagi ng Poona Babayao kamakalawa. Nakumpirma ang kondisyon ni Hapilon batay na rin sa nakalap na impormasyon mula sa mga residente at sa intelligence community ng militar. Una nang inihayag ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) na nasugatan din si Hapilon sa air strike noon sa bayan ng Butig, ang tukoy na baluarte ng Maute group. Pinaniniwalaan ng AFP na nakipag-alyansa na ang grupo ni Hapilon sa Maute. Samantala, tatlo umano sa mga nagsisilbing bodyguard ni Hapilon ang napatay sa labanan na nagsimula alas-nuebe ng umaga. Nasamsam naman ang tatlong M-14 rifle, isang M-16 rifle na may M203 grenade launcher, 1 Garand rifle, propelled grenade at mga improvised explosive device. (JG Tumbado)

09 March 2017

**POLICE FILES**

Page. 3

## **2 Abu Sayyaf todas sa bakhakan sa Basilan**

**ZAMBOANGA CITY** – Napatay ang dalawang lalaking hinihinalang mga kasapi ng teroristang Abu Sayyaf habang arestado naman ang isa pa na siyang target sa operasyon ng mga otoridad sa Tabuan Lasa sa lalawigan ng Basilan.

Ayon sa impormasyon, nagsagawa ng joint operation ang militar kasama ang kapulisan sa lugar para isilbi ang arrest warrant sa kasong arson sa naarestong suspek na si Haji Hassan.

Subalit nanlaban umano ito at ang iba pa niyang mga kasamahan na nagresulta sa ilang minutong palitan ng putok.

Kasunod nito, napatay ang dalawang kasamahan ni Hassan na hindi pa napangalanan ngayon ng mga otoridad.

Wala namang napaulat na nasugatan sa panig ng tropa ng pamahalaan.

Nabatid na mayroon pa sa kasamahan ni Hassan ang sugatan din sa nasabing engkuwentro.

69

March 2017



Page: 4

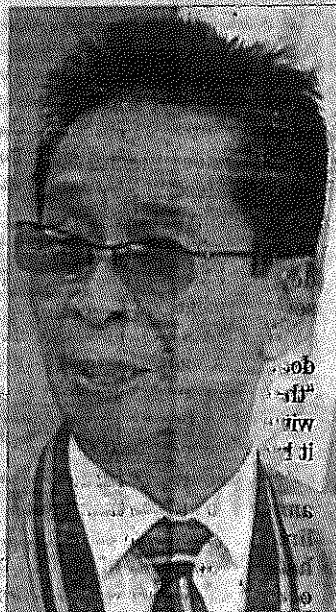
# Palace welcomes Leila's tirade vs government incapacity to crush AbuS

By Ted Tuvera

Even if they have political differences, Malacañang yesterday welcomed detained Sen. Leila de Lima's initiative to probe why the government is yet to finish terrorist group Abu Sayyaf.

Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador Panelo, at a press conference, said there's nothing malicious to the intention of de Lima, who is currently behind bars, to probe apparent state inefficiency in crushing the Islamist bandits.

"There's nothing wrong with de Lima's move to have a Senate investigation on the Abu Sayyaf," Panelo said.



PANELO

"It could even help the government," he added.

President Duterte, in most of his speeches, had ordered the Armed Forces of the Philippines to intensify its offensives against the terrorist bandits mostly based in Sulu and Basilan.

In an earlier assessment made by presidential peace adviser Jesus Dureza, there are more or less 25 captives currently held hostage by the Abu Sayyaf.

Notably, under the last six months of de Lima's former boss, President Benigno Aquino III, the terrorists were able to collect some P353 million (\$7.3 million) from kidnap-for-ransom activities, a report from the Associated Press took note last January.

Moreover, Panelo laughed at opposition attack dog Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV's whistle-blower against the President retired Davao City police chief SPO8 Arturo Lascañas' claim that Mr. Duterte allegedly ordered the killing of Trillanes.

"What a claim, it's too incredible," Panelo said, adding Trillanes is "so full of himself."

Meanwhile, presidential sister

Jocellyn Duterte-Villarica's dance instructor who was said to have been "abducted and killed" on orders of the President turned out to be alive and well.

Ruben Borja Baguio, who was said to have been killed by the Davao Death Squad as claimed by Lascañas at a Senate hearing earlier this week, surfaced on Facebook saying he was alive.

Lascañas was quoted as saying last Monday: "90% sa sinabi ni Edgar Matobato ay totoo. Andoon ako pag-abduct sa dance instructor na nanloka sa kapatid ni Mayor (President Duterte) na si Jocellyn Duterte."

Baguio's social media account has been active and maintains friendship with the President's sister, Jocellyn, who called Trillanes and Lascañas a bunch of liars.

"Senator Trillanes, pag kumaha na naman kayong ibang witness, siguradong mong certified, true and correct. Mukha na kayong tunga," Duterte-Villarica said in a Facebook post.

09 March 2017



Page: A12

## Phl to seek joint border patrol vs Abus

JOLO – Defense and security officials will propose the creation of a task force to provide security at the common borders of Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines against Abu Sayyaf bandits.

Armed Forces of the Philippines chief Gen. Eduardo Año said they would raise the issue during the Association of Southeast Asian Nations tripartite task force meeting next

month in a bid to enhance security in the common borders.

"We would propose how to improve border security, and if possible form a tripartite task force that will patrol the common borders," Año said.

He said there is limited security in the border despite coordination among concerned countries.

A number of Malaysian, Indonesian and Vietnamese

sailors had been victimized in recent cross-border kidnappings.

The Malaysian-based International Maritime Bureau had expressed concern over the kidnappings. It declared the border of eastern Malaysia and southern Philippines as a dangerous area for merchant shipping.

Año said a security system should be in place, citing an at-

tempt by Abu Sayyaf bandits to hijack a Panama-flagged vessel in the Sulu Sea on Feb. 22 that was foiled when the crewmembers sent a distress call to a monitoring station of the Navy in Bongao. The Navy deployed patrol boats to the area.

Año said commercial vessels passing through common borders should cooperate and follow the designated sea-lane for security. – Roel Pareño

04 March 2017



Page: 10

## Brit who wanted to join Abus gets 8 years

A British man, who tried to join terrorist group Abu Sayyaf in Mindanao some time last year, was found guilty and sentenced to eight years in prison by a court in the UK.

Ryan Counsell, 28, sat emotionless in the dock as the verdict was passed, according to reports in UK newspapers *The Daily Mail* and *The Daily Sun* on Monday.

Counsell was said to be "in the advanced stages of planning to travel to a remote part of the Philippines in order to join and fight with an Islamic terrorist group."

Counsell is also accused of owning copies of bomb-making manual and instructions on how to join the Islamic State.

On the morning of his arrest in July last year, Counsell and his family were stopped at Stansted Airport while waiting for a flight to Eindhoven in the Netherlands.

Counsell, who worked part-time at a supermarket in Nottingham, had booked a week

off work and was due to leave for the Philippines two days later. But police raided his home after they were alerted to his purchases of military equipment from a website called *UKMC Pro Ltd.*, beginning in August 2014.

Counsell denies preparing acts of terrorism by obtaining information about Islamic terrorist groups in the Philippines, arranging to travel to the Philippines to join and fight for an Islamic terrorist group and purchasing equipment and clothing for use when having joined such a group.

He said the documents were for academic research with a view to countering extremism.

Counsell said the military equipment was for use in airsoft, a shooting game similar to paintballing, although he had only played once, seven years earlier.

Counsell claimed that he planned to travel to Zamboanga to do charitable work in a camp and denied any intention to join Abu Sayyaf or support for Islamic State.



09 March 2017



Page. 13

## CACHE OF WEAPONS, DRUGS SEIZED

# Troops raid Maute lair in Lanao del Sur, 2 killed

SECURITY forces on Tuesday raided several hideouts of high-value drug targets in Lanao del Sur, one of them a mayor said to be connected with the notorious Maute Group, and shot dead two heavily-armed suspects and seized a cache of high-powered weapons and drugs, Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Police Regional Office director Chief Supt. Reuben Theodore Sindac said yesterday.

Sindac said two members of the Joint Special Operations Group of the Armed Forces were wounded during a gunbattle with the suspects in a village in Maguing, Lanao del Sur, where two of the targets identified as Cairodin Anto and Panto Anto were killed.

Members of the ARMM Regional Public Safety Battalion, the Philippine National Police Special Action Force, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, Lanao del Sur Provincial Police Office and the Marawi City Police Station raided their targets in Bgys Malutlut and Raya Saduc in Marawi City on the strength of a search warrant for illegal possession of drugs, firearms and explosives issued by Judge Alandex Betoya of the Marawi City Regional Trial Court.

The raid conducted before 4 a.m. on Tuesday targeted a number of big-time drug suspects in the ARMM, who were monitored to have direct links with the Maute Group and are providing financial support to the armed group.

Recovered in the house of one of the targets identified as Hakim Abinal in Bgy Basak were one M16 automatic rifle with a short magazine, one cal. 45 pistol with four magazines, one cal. 25 pistol, a rifle grenade, a night vision scope, a hand-held radio, an infrared laser, one magnifier scope, 20 bonnets, dozens of assorted live ammunition and two plastic sachets containing suspected shabu.

A Toyota Hilux pick-up with plate no. AAD-6408 was also impounded for verification by the police.

Sindac said that three suspects, Noralidine Macausog, Pundato Potawan and

Al Rashid Dagdagan, were arrested during the operation.

Potawan was identified as the father-in-law of Abinal.

The raid at the house of Mayor Gamba Molok Abinal of Maguing, Lanao del Sur in Bgy Raya Saduc resulted in the seizure of one M-16 rifle, a cal. 40 STI pistol, a cal. 45 pistol, assorted magazines and ammunition, a night vision scope, three mobile phones and a camera, one bandolier with pistol and magazine holsters, two rifle bags, two plastic sachets of shabu and two hand-held radios.

Sindac said that also confiscated by the raiders was one Philippine National Bank (PNB) passbook under the name of Mona Zaman Delna Molek, with account no. 5630647400000016, and with outstanding balance of P29,804,484.52.

The ARMM police director said nine other search warrants were served by the authorities in Bgys Bato-Bato, Sultan Abdullah Pundogar and Maligon in Maguing town. The raids particularly targeted Baulo Anto and Cairodin Anto, who were monitored to be engaged in large-scale drug trafficking activities in the region and are said to be funding the activities of the Maute Group.

Sindac said that during the raid, the suspects fired shots at the lawmen injuring Seaman 2nd Class Jay Hanzel Rebadonia and Seaman 1st Class Jomar San Agustin, who were taken to a local hospital for treatment.

Troops shot and killed Cairodin and Panto Anto during the gunbattle.

The official said that Baulo Anto was found in possession of five M-14 magazine assemblies, a rifle grenade, two sachets of shabu and three live 7.62mm ammunition while Cairodin Anto yielded an M-16 rifle with two magazines and a rifle grenade.

The arrested suspects will be facing charges for violation of Republic Act 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, RA 10591 or the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulations Act of 2013 and RA 9156 or Illegal Possession of Explosives.

Alfred Dalizon

March 2017

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
**INQUIRER**

Page: AK

## KIN INSPIRE TOP PMA CADETS TO PURSUE MILITARY CAREER

By the Inquirer Bureaus  
@Team\_Inquirer

Eight women achieved a rare feat of dominating the top 10 graduating cadets of the Philippine Military Academy's Salaknib (Sanggalang ay Lakas at Buhay na Alay Para sa Kalayaan ng Inang Bayan) Class of 2017.

Some of them pushed themselves to attain that feat because of their families.

Cadet First Class Cathleen Jovi Santiano Baybayan, who ranked fourth, dropped out of the University of the Philippines in Los Baños, Laguna province, and entered the PMA in 2013.

"Her father [Alfredo] was a frustrated PMayer who wanted to be a pilot. Without him demanding, Cathleen promised she would continue his unfulfilled dream," said Baybayan's mother, Jovita. Alfredo is a security officer of a car manufacturing firm.

Baybayan, the second of three daughters, was also inspired by her grandfather, Adriano, who was a retired lieutenant of the Philippine Army.

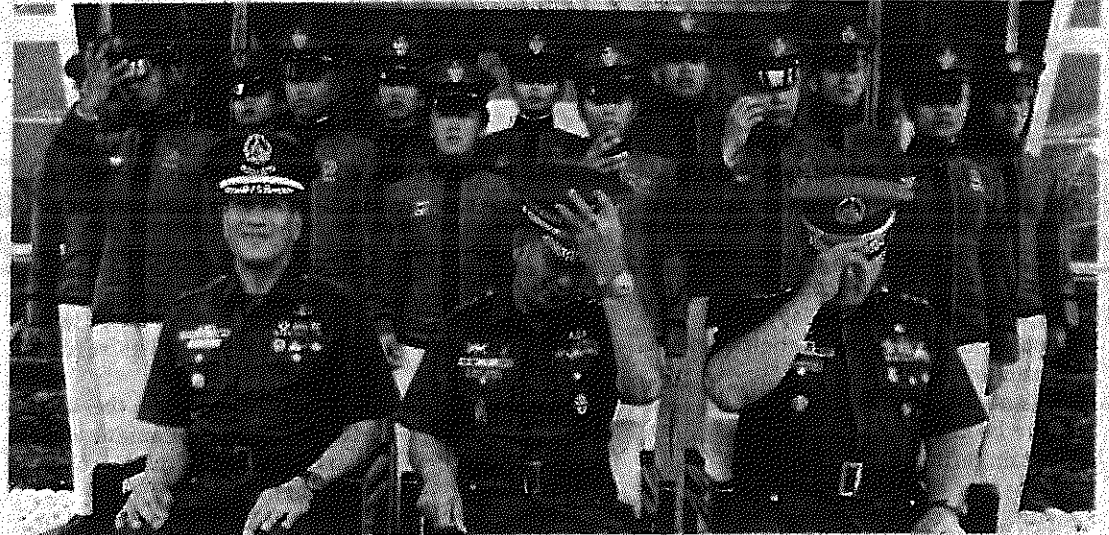
Her uncles are still active in the military service. Col. Arthur Baybayan is a member of the Philippine Air Force while Col. Albert Baybayan serves in the Army.

While all men of the clan supported Baybayan's decision to train at the PMA because it was "for the country," Jovita admitted she had reservations because she feared for her safety.

"I was crying for a year because I could not talk to her while she was in the academy. I missed her so much," said Jovita, a social worker at the Jose B. Lingad Memorial Regional Hospital in the City of San Fernando.

Baybayan's youngest sister is a member of the PMA Class of 2020.

In Nueva Vizcaya province, the family of Cadet First Class



CREAM OF THE CROP Philippine Military Academy officials, led by superintendent Lt. Gen. Donato San Juan II (seated, center), present this year's top graduating cadets. —EV-ESPIRITU

Sheila Joy Ramiro Jallorina of Bagabag town is celebrating the achievement of Salaknib's sixth ranking cadet, saying soldiering runs in her blood.

Jallorina's grandfathers retired as captains in the United States Army, said her mother, Leonida. Her youngest brother is a policeman while her second brother, a member of PMA Class of 2005, is an Army captain at Camp O'Donnell in Capas town in Tarlac province. A third brother is a police trainee at the Philippine National Police Academy.

Jallorina studied for a year as an accountancy student at St. Mary's University in Bayombong town before she entered the PMA. Her mother used to be an overseas contract worker in Hong Kong and Taiwan while her father is a farmer.

In Compostela Valley province, the mother of Cadet First Class Resie Jezreel Hucalla saw in her daughter the desire to excel even in a field dominated by men.

"At first I was apprehensive, she might not be able to withstand the rigors of [military

training] but she was persistent," said Daisy Hucalla, 54, the cadet's mother. The family lives in Nabunturan town.

Daisy said she did not know that her daughter ranked ninth among the graduating cadets until reporters called her and her husband on Monday.

"It's a sort of dream come true," the mother said. "She's a consistent achiever from elementary up to high school. In college, she was on the dean's list."

She recalled how Hucalla skipped the graduation rites at the University of Mindanao in Tagum City in April 2012, when she got a call from the PMA for an interview.

She said her daughter's decision to enter the PMA was well-received by family members.

Hucalla, who is joining the Philippine Air Force, has two siblings serving the PAF—an older sister and a brother. Her father, retired Army T/Sgt. Renato Hucalla, said he was proud of his daughter's feat.

In Zamboanga City, Salvador Gonzales Jr. and his wife Evelyn

were surprised to find out that their daughter, Cadet First Class Catherine Mae Gonzales, was 10th in the graduating class.

The Gonzaleses, who used to live in Pagadian City, had moved to Zamboanga City when Catherine decided to take up engineering in college.

Salvador, a carpenter, said life for the family of eight in Zamboanga was "harder than we thought it would be."

Her parents failed to attend the reception ceremony in Baguio City when she was admitted to the PMA because they did not have money for transportation and other expenses. "This is the second time we will see her. The first was during her recognition, and this time, her graduation," Salvador said.

Catherine said she did not expect to graduate among the class' top 10.

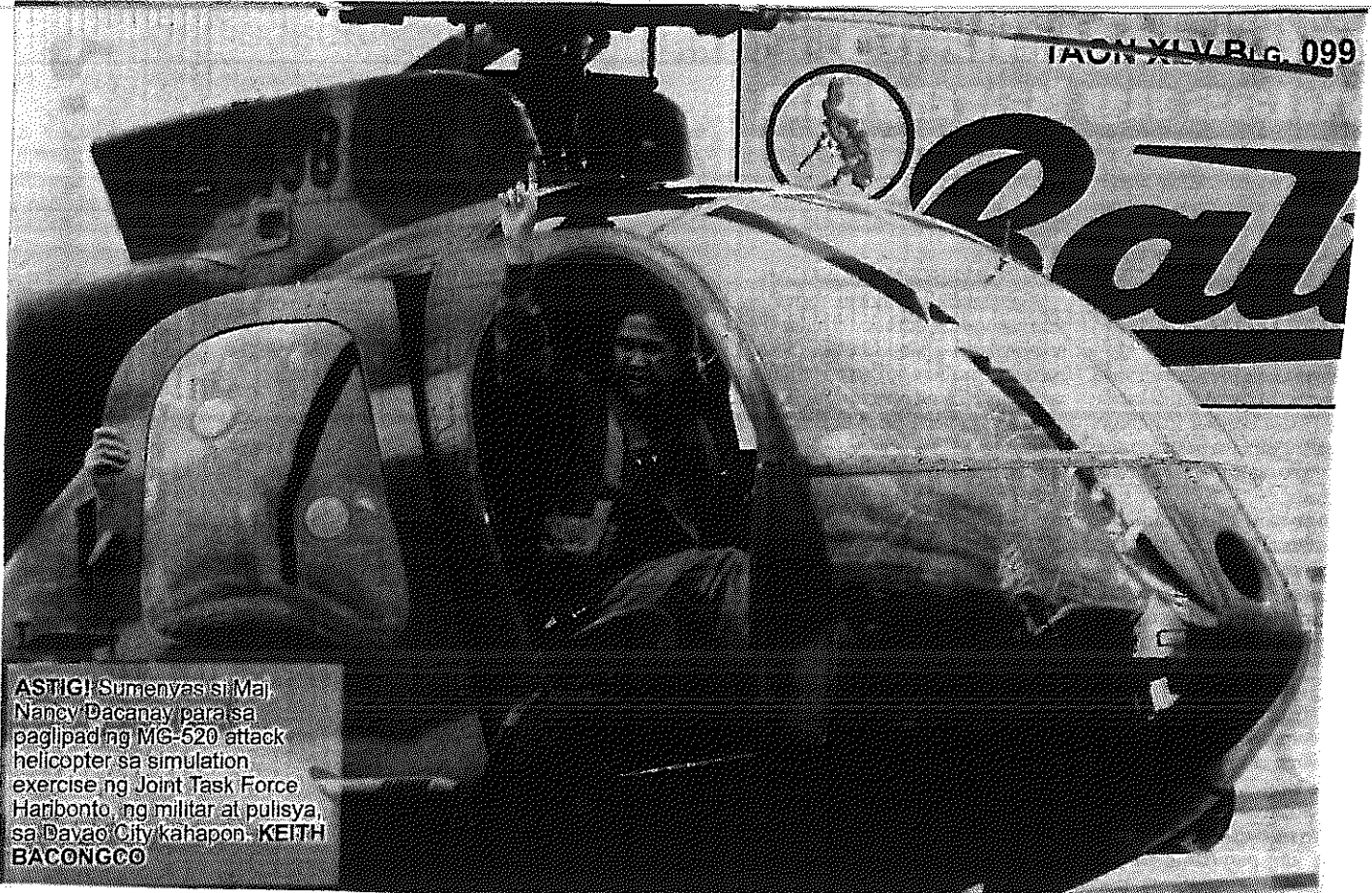
"We are poor, but we are one big happy family," she said. "I thank God for making me strong." —REPORTS FROM TONETTE

OREJAS, VILLAMOR VISAYA JR., JULIE S. ALIPALA AND FRINSTON LIM INQ

09 March 2017



Page. 1



**ASTIG!** Sumenyas si Maj. Nancy Dacanay para sa paglipad ng MH-60 attack helicopter sa simulation exercise ng Joint Task Force Haribonto ng militar at pulisya sa Davao City kahapon. **KEITH BACONGCO**

09 March 2017



Page: 10

# MILF, MNLF, Abu Sayyaf, and peace in Mindanao

**A**RMED Forces of the Philippines (AFP) troops have stepped up their drive against the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu. They have killed 17 of the outlaws, including two relatives of Abu Sayyaf leader Radullan Sahiron, while 18 soldiers have been wounded, the AFP said this last weekend.

The troops pushed their drive against the Abu Sayyaf in the hinterlands of Sulu as well as in Basilan and Tawi-Tawi after the body of German hostage Jurgen Kantner was recovered in sitio Talibang, barangay Buanza, in Indanan, Sulu. He had been beheaded last February 26, 30 minutes after a deadline set by the outlaw group for the payment of P30-million ransom. The body was recovered Saturday night in Indanan.

We would have preferred to hear of the all-out drive against the Abu Sayyaf before the beheading of Kantner. It might have – just possibly – harassed the outlaws enough to save the German even for just a few days more. But it was not to be and now we are back to where we were before.

The outlaw group is said to be holding around 21 other hostages of various nationalities. Any day now, we may hear of a new beheading threat and

a new deadline which the government will answer with the usual statement that payment of ransom is against government policy. Stepped-up military operations will be launched, especially if the hostage is a foreigner, like the two Canadians kidnaped in Samal Gulf in 2015 and the German Kanter who was seized from his yacht off the coast of Sabah last November.

The government is moving decisively to deal with major outlaw groups in Mindanao, such as the New People's Army (NPA), the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). Peace talks are expected to resume soon with the NPA through the National Democratic Front, while the MNLF and MILF may soon have an autonomous region under a federal system of government being pushed by the Duterte administration.

That leaves the smaller outlaw groups like the Abu Sayyaf, which the AFP has pledged to wipe out in six months. The beheading of Kantner was a big setback for the Armed Forces, but we continue to hope and expect that they will make that six-month deadline which they assured President Duterte they would meet.

09 March 2017



Page: A16

## How to uproot Abu Sayyaf

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon met the other day with local officials in Sulu province led by Gov. Sakur Tan II.

They should have warned the Sulu officials that continuing to support the Abu Sayyaf would no longer be in their best interests.

And the warning should have been relayed in no uncertain terms: If there are reports that they're consorting with the bandits, they're dead.

The bandit group cannot thrive without the support of those local officials, who may even have Abu Sayyaf members as bodyguards.

Security forces have been ordered to wipe out the bandit group responsible for kidnapping foreigners and locals and releasing them only after ransom was paid.

President Digong has ordered the Abu Sayyaf annihilated by June.

There is only one way to completely destroy the bandit group and that is to eliminate its roots.

The roots are the local officials—*purok* leaders, *sitio* leaders, town mayors and the governor.

Like weeds that keep growing back after they're cut down, the Abu Sayyaf must be



### ON TARGET

RAMON TULFO

uprooted and its supporters "neutralized with extreme prejudice," to use military jargon.

You know why the local populace coddle the bandits?

Because they are Robin Hoods to the local people.

Whenever they earn big money from ransom payments they share the loot among the people.

During the Sipadan hostage incident in the early 2000, the barrio folk in Sulu enjoyed the generosity of the Abu Sayyaf.

Some national and local officials who acted as go-between became instant dollar millionaires because they skimmed money from ransom payments.

Reports about Abu Sayyaf bandits killed in encounters

with government troops should be backed up with evidence: the bodies of bandits.

I nearly fell off my chair at a report by the Armed Forces that the number of Abu Sayyaf KIAs (killed in action) totaled 18 in Sulu, but near the end of the report the military said there were no bodies recovered.

I'm reminded of the late Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Canieso who was a nemesis of the Moros in Sulu in the 1970s.

Canieso, then a battalion commander, would not believe that the rifles and ammunition pouches his men brought back to camp belonged to dead rebels.

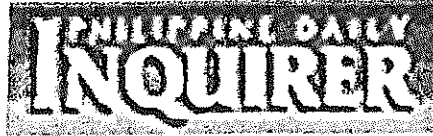
"That's bullsh\*t! Where is the evidence those rifles belonged to the rebels? For all I know they were left behind by rebels who retreated in haste," he once told his men.

So, Canieso told his soldiers who killed rebels in an encounter not to bring the bodies back to camp as these were too cumbersome—but only their left and right ears.

The more pairs of ears his troops could bring back (along with the confiscated rifles), the more believable their story, said Canieso.

If Canieso were alive today he, too, would be laughing at reports of rebels killed without bodies being recovered from the site of the battle. INQ

09 March 2017



Page: A14

## ONLY ROTC GRADS IN UNIFORMED SERVICES, BUT KEEP ROTC VOLUNTARY

**T**his is a reaction to Ramon Farolan's column titled "Men of ROTC" (Opinion, 2/27/17) which cited some ROTC graduates who distinguished themselves in combat during World War II and, later, rose to the top leadership of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

In doing so—indeed those success stories are true—Farolan advanced his advocacy to restore the ROTC as mandatory college requirement rather than having it under the present system where it is voluntary.

Lest the public be mesmerized, the names mentioned were commissioned at least 50 years ago. The retirement system then was determined by years of service, which was 30; today, retirement is determined by calendar age, which is 56. Because of this system, PMA (Philippine Military Academy) graduates are favored, and this is the reason why, today, only PMA graduates occupy the high positions in the AFP. ROTC graduates are second-class citizens in the AFP, and unless the present retirement

system is changed, they will remain so.

Here is why.

Student A and Student B are honor graduates of high school in 2017. Both are 18 years old. Student A enters the PMA and Student B enters UP. Come March 2021, both students graduate.

A is immediately commissioned in the regular force of the AFP as second lieutenant. B, who finished ROTC, wants to be commissioned in the AFP. It will take B about two years to get his commission. By then A will be already ahead of B many files in the lineal list.

In 2055, A and B shall have reached the mandatory retirement age of 56. A might be a major service commander or higher, but B, who is many files lower, might have reached only the position of a brigade commander.

Going back to the major issue as to whether the ROTC should be mandatory or voluntary, I say that it should be voluntary. But to make it attractive, enact a law that says only ROTC graduates shall qualify for

enlistment in the uniformed services like the AFP, Philippine National Police, and Coast Guard.

The slots for enlistment in the uniformed services are coveted and will be far below the number of ROTC takers. Therefore, there will be competition among the students for the slots, thereby creating a situation where the uniformed services can select the best people to enlist.

For the officer corps, I think it is best to scrap the advanced ROTC program and create schools for the uniformed services patterned after the PMA, where high school graduates are admitted for a free education. That will eradicate the unjust system existing in the AFP today.

To begin with, how will the advanced ROTC course be managed when the basic ROTC is in high school?

ANTONIO E. SOTELO,  
retired lieutenant general, AFP,  
antonio.e.sotelo@gmail.com

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

## ONLINE NEWS

08 MARCH 2017

### Govt execs share PDU30's view on war with Reds

From the Philippine Information Agency (Mar 8): Govt execs share PDU30's view on war with Reds

Government career executives have expressed that they share the same sentiments as President Rodrigo Duterte when it comes to a war with the communist rebels.

Career executive service officers, career executive service eligibles (CESEs), and career service Executive Eligibles (CSEEs)—who attended the recently concluded inaugural session of the 2017 CES Leadership Conclave series organized by the Career Executive Service Board (CESB) share the President's point of view when he said over the weekend, "If we Filipinos fight against fellow Filipinos, nobody wins. The nation, the Philippines loses. I do not want war. It's a waste of money. Instead of bullets I can buy machines and give it to help others."

According to the tabulation of responses to the questions posed by Yes for Peace-Bayanihan ng Bayan, prepared by Paul de Leon of the Professional Development Division of the CESB, 97.72% agreed to the permanent cessation of hostilities between government forces and armed groups so that resources spent on the internal armed conflicts may be channelled to education, health, women empowerment, rural development and other social services.

Likewise, 93.18% of the concerned government executives agreed to the conduct of peace talks here in the country instead of abroad to make the peace process transparent and participative and enable the Filipino people as well as legislators to participate in the formulation, approval and implementation of peace agreements.

Moreover, 93.18% agreed to the amendment of constitutional provisions and laws that block and impede the implementation of agreements between the government and the armed revolutionaries.

Notably, 100% of the respondents committed to help, to the best of their respective abilities, ensure the proper implementation of community-based government programs and projects to alleviate poverty and uplift the lives of the poor.

Department of Agrarian Reform Secretary Rafael "Paeng" Mariano, a former peasant activist, shared his insights and experiences on strategic convergence initiatives that resulted in focused, cutting-edge and grassroots-based interventions that aim for inclusive and equitable development and the enhanced role of public-private and community partnerships in attaining sustainable growth with 113 government executives-- Division Chiefs, Directors, Assistant Secretaries and Undersecretaries--who attended the event.

Aptly themed: "#GoVergence: Cultivating Exemplary Service," the leadership gathering focused on convergence for governance as a catalyst for sustained positive change. It underscored the need to promote synergism within and beyond the Career Executive Service (CES) Community on the premise that amidst diversity lie opportunities to harness unique individual and organizational talents and resources through partnership, collaboration and cooperation.

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

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

Ernesto Angeles Alcanzare, Lead Organizer of Yes for Peace-Bayanihan ng Bayan and himself a CSEE said, "We look forward to the active participation of our CES Community colleagues in facilitating and coordinating the institutionalization of the Bayanihan ng Bayan track of our campaign designed to mobilize people's participation and informed governance toward the convergent, integrated and holistic delivery system of existing community-based government programs through bottom-up and planning budgeting."

Earlier, Lawyer Maria Anthonette Velasco-Aliones, Executive Director of the Career Executive Service Board (CESB) wrote to Alcanzare and Alidon, "The CESB supports your campaign to help the Philippines achieve lasting peace and prosperity. We sincerely wish that through this, we could instill convergence and solidarity to the Filipino people."

For his part, Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Secretary Jesus G. Dureza earlier wrote in a letter to the lead organizer of Yes for Peace that said, "We note with appreciation the peace advocacy efforts of this citizen-led initiative that you are pursuing and congratulate your unwavering efforts to support the peace process."

Yes for Peace–Bayanihan ng Bayan is an offshoot of the Yes for Peace–Bayanihan para sa Kapayapaan, Kaunlaran at Kasaganahan, a peace education and advocacy campaign collectively albeit silently supported and implemented by the DepEd, the Philippine Postal Corporation, the Philippine Information Agency, the News Agency, the Philippine Broadcasting System, the Radio Television Malacanang, the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, the Girl Scouts of the Philippines and the Alpha Phi Omega.

<http://news.pia.gov.ph/article/view/261488855321/govt-execs-share-pdu30-s-view-on-war-with-reds>

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



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

## Notorious Zamboanga Del Sur KFR leader killed in encounter

From the Philippine News Agency (Mar 8): **Notorious Zamboanga Del Sur KFR leader killed in encounter**

**Police and military units shot and killed a notorious kidnap-for-ransom (KFR) syndicate head during operations in Zamboanga Del Sur on Monday morning.**

Belated reports by Western Mindanao Command (WMC) spokesperson Capt. Jo-ann Petinglay said **the incident took place 10:50 a.m. in Barangay Pampang, Lapuyan, of the said province.**

She **identified the slain kidnapping syndicate leader Fahad Andi, head of the Andi KFR Group, which is also notorious for drug pushing, trafficking, and kidnap-for-ransom activities in Dinas, Lapuyan, Margosatubig and other neighboring municipalities in Zamboanga Del Sur.**

Andi is also listed as the Top 2 "High Value Target" and Number 1 most wanted person in the regional level.

His group is also involved in the series of kidnappings, gun for hire, and extortion activities in Baganian Peninsula.

Andi was killed in a 30-minute shootout with Task Force ZAMPELAN (Zamboanga Peninsula) and local police.

Witnesses reported seeing the suspect hit by gunfire and afterwards falling into the wharf area of Barangay Pampang.

Government forces recovered a .45 caliber pistol; a magazine with two live ammunition; a PRB 423 fragmentation grenade; a scooper; a black bandolier back pack and lighter; a PNP camouflage green uniform with the PRO-ARMM logo; and a camouflage sling bag.

Troops are still searching for the body of the slain suspect, Petinglay said.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/index.php?idn=1&sid=&nid=1&rid=969920>

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

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

### 3 Maute rebels dead in Lanao del Sur clash

From the Sun Star-Cagayan de Oro (Mar 8): 3 Maute rebels dead in Lanao del Sur clash

Three suspected members of the Maute group were killed Tuesday, March 7, at around 9 a.m. in a clash with soldiers at the hinterlands of Poona Bayabao, Lanao del Sur.

Philippine Army's 103rd Brigade Commander Nixon Fortes said the operation was a joint undertaking with the units from the 51st Infantry Battalion led by Lieutenant Colonel Mel Brual and soldiers from the 15th Division Reconnaissance Company.

Fortes said soldiers recovered from the encounter site three M14 rifles, one M16 rifle with attached M203 grenade launcher, a recoilless rifle, a Garand rifle, a Propelled Grenade, improvised explosive devices, and assorted ammunition.

Fortes said the Maute group wanted to establish a base in Lanao del Sur "to be controlled by Isis (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria)."

"The three members of Maute group are responsible in kidnapping, carnapping of vehicles, ambush cage and extortion," Fortes said.

Fortes said there is no let up in the conduct of operations against the local terrorists. Earlier, Abu Sayaff Group leader Isnilon Hapilon was reported injured in an airstrike and is believed to be hiding in the forest of Butig closely guarded by Tausug fighters.

Fortes urged the public in the nearby cities of Iligan and Cagayan de Oro to be more vigilant and inform the authorities of the presence of any suspicious personalities in their areas.

<http://www.sunstar.com.ph/cagayan-de-oro/local-news/2017/03/08/3-maute-rebels-dead-lanao-del-sur-clash-529742>

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