

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



TEAM ARMY
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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

01 October 2017

Sunday

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

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THE PHILIPPINE STAR
TRUTH SHALL PREVAIL

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DZRH NEWS
MONDAY - FRIDAY
11 AM & 5 PM

PILIPINASH
WEEKDAYS
6 AM, 8:30 PM & 9 PM
WEEKENDS
6 AM

AIR 21
SANDY KR. PUMBLA NG

Panahon TV

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST OCTOBER 01 2017 | SUNDAY

LOW PRESSURE AREA
290 KM EAST NORTHEAST OF
GUILUAN, EASTERN SAMAR
(As of 4:00 AM - September 30, 2017)

LAOAG CITY 26 - 31 °C	TUGUEGARAO CITY 25 - 31 °C
BAGUIO CITY 17 - 22 °C	SEBASTIAN CITY 26 - 31 °C
SMAR KLARK 26 - 31 °C	METRO MANILA 25 - 31 °C
TAGAYTAY CITY 22 - 28 °C	LEGAZPI CITY 25 - 31 °C
ILOILO/BACOLOD CITY 25 - 31 °C	TACLOBAN CITY 24 - 31 °C
PUERTO PRINCESA 25 - 31 °C	METRO CEBU 25 - 31 °C
ZAMBOANGA CITY 24 - 32 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 23 - 31 °C
	METRO DAVAO 25 - 33 °C

TIME	WIND	WAVE	MOON
5:46 AM	5:46 PM	2:35 PM	1:33 AM
LOW TIDE	LOW TIDE	LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
MANILA SOUTH HARBOR			

EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST	OCT 2 MON	OCT 3 TUE	OCT 4 WED	EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST	OCT 2 MON	OCT 3 TUE	OCT 4 WED
METRO MANILA	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C
TUGUEGARAO	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 30 °C	ILOILO/BACOLOD	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C
LAOAG	26 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C	METRO CEBU	25 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C
BAGUIO	17 °C 23 °C	17 °C 23 °C	17 °C 21 °C	TACLOBAN	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C
SBMA/CLARK	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	23 °C 31 °C
TAGAYTAY	22 °C 29 °C	21 °C 29 °C	21 °C 29 °C	METRO DAVAO	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C
LEGAZPI	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	ZAMBOANGA	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C

☁️
Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rain showers and/or thunderstorms

☁️
Cloudy skies with rain showers and/or thunderstorms

01 October 2017

THE DAILY
tribune
Established 1945

Page: 01

DU30 to form body to probe

Ombudsman

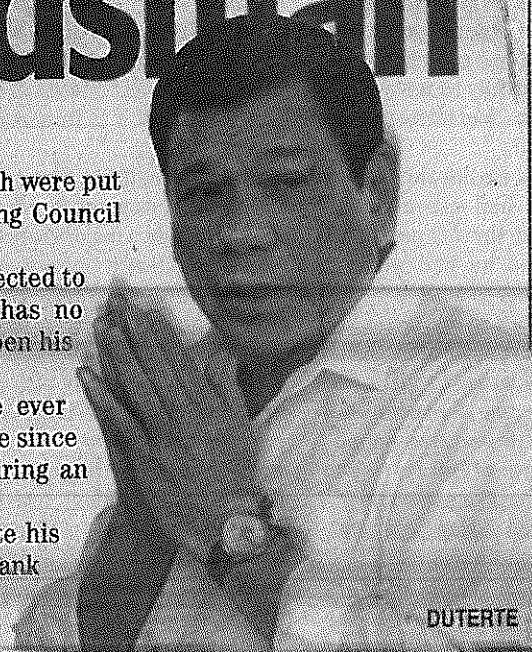
Antonio Trillanes IV the authenticity of which were put in question after the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) denied being the source of these.

Mr. Duterte said he is willing to be subjected to the Ombudsman's probe, saying that he has no problem allowing the anti-graft agency to open his books for scrutiny.

"The Ombudsman has investigated me ever since. It never stopped which is fine with me since we're in government," Mr. Duterte said during an interview on state-run PTV 4 last Friday.

The President said he would even donate his wealth if it is proven that he had undeclared bank

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DUTERTE

By **Ted Tuvera**

"What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander," President Duterte said in baring a plan to form a commission to investigate irregularities at the Office of the Ombudsman which escapes scrutiny due to its nature as an independent Constitutional body.

The Ombudsman has launched a probe into his and his family's alleged hidden wealth based on documents furnished mostly by Mr. Duterte's arch-nemesis Sen.

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From page 1

deposits worth P211 million as alleged by Trillanes.

He said, however, the Ombudsman should also allow itself to be subjected to an inquiry.

The President said corrupt practices also plague the agency but it has so far dodged investigations because of its status as an independent body.

According to the President, he would order the agency to open its records and direct accused corrupt personnel to execute their affidavits.

"In the name of public interest and in the name of justice and fair play, there ought to be a body (which) will investigate you also

because the Ombudsman cannot investigate itself. Obviously, it is an anomaly," Duterte said, adding that he wants to create a commission to perform such task.

"So what is the remedy of the Filipino if you keep on asking for bribes? You don't fool me. Do not force my hand into it," he said.

Mr. Duterte cited the rampant extortion activities within the agency. He revealed that some police, soldiers, and local politicians were forced to fork out money to have cases filed against them dismissed.

"Ask any military who had a case on how much did they pay (to have it dismissed). Policemen, mayor, governors, ask all of them, they all paid," he said.

According to the President, he would order the agency to open its records and direct accused corrupt personnel to execute their affidavits.

"Now, if I do not have the power to summon you, I can always go to the courts to apply for a... as an administrative remedial measure," he said. "Now, if you refuse to appear in obedience to that summon, I will move for your arrest, contempt of court, and will order the military or the police to arrest you," Mr. Duterte added.

President Duterte also decried the apparent selective justice in the Ombudsman's investigation of government officials.

He questioned why the body would not conduct probes on

corruption accusations hurled against members of other political parties.

"The case against Trillanes, don't forget that. If not, that would be a different story. They engage in politicking, nobody who is a (member of the) Liberal (Party) was charged even if I knew that all of them have DAP (Disbursement Acceleration Program) cases. Are you beholden to the Liberals?" the President asked.

No sacred cows

Duterte's threat to launch a crackdown on corrupt elements in the Office of the Ombudsman shows that there are no sacred cows in government, Malacañang said.

Presidential spokesman

Ernesto Abella said the Chief Executive is not trying to avenge himself over the Ombudsman's move to investigate the Duterte family's alleged ill-gotten wealth.

Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales, in a statement, shot back at Duterte saying that what the President is doing is a form of retaliation and intimidation.

Abella, in a statement yesterday, challenged the Ombudsman to be open for investigations.

"As the protector of the people, the Ombudsman is expected to act promptly on complaints filed against officers or employees of the government. The sad reality, however, is that the Ombudsman is not exempt from allegations of corruption, which the President

said, need to be investigated," Abella said.

"The Ombudsman should be open to any probe that would check into alleged corrupt practices among its officials and employees to underscore that there are no sacred cows in the government," he added.

"The President's announcement that he intends to form a commission to investigate the Ombudsman appears to be a retaliation to our ongoing investigation. We will, nonetheless proceed with the probe, as mandated by the Constitution," the Ombudsman said.

"If the President has nothing to hide, he has nothing to fear," Morales said.

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MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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Gun ban starts today

Election period for Barangay, SK polls set from October 1 to 30

By LESLIE ANN G. AQUINO

Carrying of guns and other deadly weapons is banned effective today, October 1, 2017, as the election period for Ba-

rangay and SK elections starts.

The Senate has already passed on third and final reading a bill postponing the elections, an act adopted by the House of Representatives, but the measure has yet to be signed into law ▶2

Gun ban starts today

◀1

In the absence of a law postponing the barangay and SK elections set for October 23, 2017, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) reminded the public of election-related prohibitions, including the gun ban.

Prohibited acts from Oct. 1 to 30 (election period) are the alteration of territory of a precinct or establishment of a new precinct; the carrying, bearing, and transport of firearms and other deadly weapons, unless authorized

by the Commission; the use of security personnel or bodyguards by candidates, unless authorized by the Commission; coercing, threatening, intimidating or terrorizing any election official or employee in the performance of his election functions or duties; the transfer or detail of officers and employees in the civil service including public school teachers; and organizing or maintaining reaction forces, strike forces or similar forces and suspension of any elective provincial, city, municipal, or barangay officers.

In a statement, Comelec spokesman James Jimenez said violation of the above mentioned prohibited acts constitutes an election offense which carries with it a punishment of one to six years imprisonment, disqualification to hold public office and deprivation of the right to suffrage.

With the election period, checkpoints shall be established nationwide to effectively implement the firearms ban.

Comelec Resolution No. 10198, promulgated September 14, 2017, states that there shall be at least one Comelec checkpoint in each city or municipality.

Additional checkpoints, including those from the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the

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Philippines commands outside the city or municipality, shall be established in coordination with the election officer having jurisdiction over the locality.

Based on the revised calendar, the filing of certificates of candidacy will commence on Oct. 5 and ends on Oct. 11. The campaign period, on the other hand, will run from Oct. 12 to 22.

The Comelec rescheduled the activities for the barangay and SK elections last September 19 to give the public more time to prepare for participation in the upcoming polls should the elections not be postponed.

As of Saturday, the law has been signed to postpone the elections.

The Senate, last September 21, approved on third and final reading its version of the bill postponing the barangay and SK elections.

Voting 17-1, the Senate passed Senate Bill No. 1584 seeking to defer the synchronized barangay and SK polls on October 23 to the second Monday of May, 2018 and allow incumbent officials in a holdover capacity.

On Sept. 26, the House of Representatives voted to adopt and enroll for President Duterte's signature the Senate bill proposing to postpone the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan

elections to May, 2018.

In its regular session, congressmen adopted Senate Bill 1584 as an amendment to House Bill 6308, thereby making it unnecessary for the House and the Senate to form a bicameral conference committee to resolve disagreeing provisions of their respective bills. House Bill 6308 will now contain exactly the same provisions contained in the Senate bill.

The consolidated version of the bill provides that all incumbent barangay officials will remain in their posts in holdover capacity until they are replaced by successors to be elected in May.

Subsequent elections will also be held on the second Monday of May, 2020, and every three years thereafter.

Barangay officials holding ex-officio positions in their respective city or municipal councils will also continue to serve the same position until May, 2018, when they are replaced in regular Liga elections.

The current budget allocation of P6.09 billion for the conduct of this year's polls will remain earmarked for barangay and SK elections as continuing allocations for the May polls. (With reports from Ben R. Rosario and Vanne P. Terrazola)

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2 soldiers hurt in NPA ambush

Two soldiers were injured in an ambush allegedly perpetrated by local communist rebels in San Vicente town of Palawan yesterday morning, police said.

Chief Insp. Imelda Tolentino, spokesperson of the MIMAROPA (Mindoro Occidental and Oriental, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan) regional police said the attack on Marine commandos occurred some two kilometers away from the camp of the Marine Battalion Landing Team 12 based in Palawan.

Tolentino identified the wounded soldiers as Technical Sergeant Restituto Selvino and Corporal Christian Rentillo.

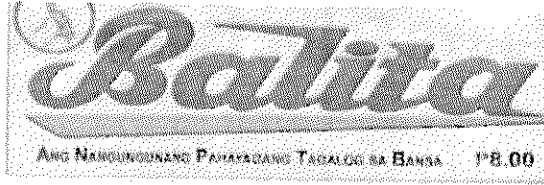
The soldiers were reportedly on board a military truck when gunmen started shooting them in Barangay Itabiak in San Vicente town at around 6:30 a.m. yesterday.

The soldiers came from a mission in El Nido, Palawan.

Tolentino said the soldiers were able to retaliate and drive away the attacking rebels after a few minutes of gunfight. **(Aaron Recuenco)**

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2 sundalo sugatan sa NPA

Sugatan ang dalawang sundalo makaraang ma-ambush ng mga hinihinalang rebelde sa bayan ng San Vicente sa Palawan, kahapon ng umaga.

Ayon kay Chief Insp. Imelda Tolentino, tagapagsalita ng Police Regional Office (PRO)-4B, nangyan ang pag-atake sa mga Marine commando may dalawang kilometro ang layo sa kampo ng Marine Battalion Landing Team 12 sa Palawan.

Kinilala ni Chief Insp. Tolentino ang mga nasugatang sundalo na sina Technical Sergeant Restituto Selvino, at Corporal Christian Renuilo.

Nabatid na sakay sa military truck ang mga sundalo nang pagbabarilin sila ng mga hinihinalang miyembro ng New People's Army (NPA) sa Barangay Itabiak, San Vicente, dakong 6:30 ng umaga kahapon.

Aaron Recuenco

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POLICE FILES

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3 sundalo sugatan sa pananambang sa Palawan

TINAMBANGAN ng hindi pa nakikilalang grupo ang tropa ng Philippine Marines sa Brgy. Itabiak, San Vicente, Palawan kabapon ng umaga.

Ayon sa Joint Task Group North, pasado 6:30 ng umaga, tinambangan ang tropa ng MBLT 12 na sakay ng M35 military truck at isang ELF truck.

Tatlo katao naman ang naitalang sugatan sa insidente kabilang sina TSgt Restituto Selvino, 30-anyos, Corporal Melvin Villa, 44 at Corporal Christian Day Rentillo.

Agad namang dinala sa Roxas District Hospital ang mga biktima para lapatan ng pangunahing lunas bago inilipat sa Puerto Princesa City.

Patuloy ang hot pursuit operations ng militar dahil sa ambush.

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NPA strikes back with attacks in 3 provinces

By JOSEPA INDELAG
AND MIKE U. CRISMUNDO

GENERAL SANTOS CITY - A few days after the military seized a vital camp and secured the surrender of 10 insurgents, the New People's Army (NPA) went on the rebound and launched two major assaults on government targets in Sarangani, South Cotabato and Surigao del Sur.

In a press statement Ka Dencio Madrigal, spokesperson of the NPA-Far South Mindanao Region, said NPA rebels were able to disarm village officials and members of the civilian volunteers organization in Kiamba, Sarangani and T'boli, South Cotabato who were active in the government's counter-insurgency campaign.

He said NPA guerillas stormed the village of Maligang in Kiamba, Sarangani last September 27 where they were able to disarm the village chair of his firearms, including Garand rifle, 12-gauge shotgun and .380 caliber pistol.

The NPA also took responsibility for the disarming of a barangay secretary and CVO members in Barangay Tudok, T'boli, South Cotabato last September 27.

The NPA rebels stormed the houses of CVO leader Mario Palau and barangay secretary Imion Inngo who yielded M-16, Garand and carbine rifles.

In Surigao del Sur, a Manobo tribe leader, and a member of the Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit Active Auxiliary (CAA) were abducted Thursday night by about 20 heavily Communist insurgents in Sitio Hayon, Barangay Libas Sud, San Miguel town, military and police report on Saturday said.

Capt. Francisco P. Garello Jr., Civil Military Operations (CMO) officer of the 36th Infantry (Valor) Battalion (36th IB), identified the abducted victims as Datu Saturnino Gallego of

Manobo tribe and CAA Danny Rivas, assigned in Mam-on Patrol Base in Barangay Tubo-tubo, Cagwait, Surigao del Sur.

The 36th CMO officer said the victims were abducted by the members of guerilla-Front Committee 19 of the CPP-NPA Northeastern Mindanao Regional Committee (NEMRC) under certain "Ka Tuloy."

Datu Gallego and Rivas were abducted at 10 p.m. on Thursday in their home at Sitio Hayon, Barangay Libas Sud, in San Miguel town of that same province.

Members of their family were shocked when the armed men barged into their house and snatched Datu and Rivas for no apparent reason, Garello said.

Mayor Dibu Tuan said the firearms seized by rebels are not owned by the local government but the victims' personal service firearms.

He asked the military for the deployment of additional troops in the area.

Lt. Col. Benjamin Leander, 27th Infantry Battalion commander, said manhunt operations were launched against the NPA rebels who were targeting barangay officials of their personal firearms.

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Marawi terrorists use looted coins as shrapnel in IEDs – AFP

D. FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

The Armed Forces now know why coins, nails and bolts were among those recovered from the wound of soldiers injured in the main battle area

in Marawi city.

Lt. Col. Emmanuel Garcia, the 4th Civil Relations Group-CRS Commander said the Daesh-inspired Maute Group terrorists have been using coins and other kinds of metals as shrapnel

in making improvised explosive device (IEDs).

"In previous incidents, we are wondering why some wounded (government forces) have coins in their wounds. Ito pala yun (this is it)," ▶2

Marawi terrorists...◀1

Garcia said.

"Now we have established that they have been using coins as shrapnel," he added.

On Friday, the AFP Joint Task Force Marawi showed an undated aerial footage of Maute/Abu Sayyaf terrorists looting from structures in the main battle area (MBA) in Marawi.

The video showed items like boxes and sacks being taken from a residential building.

Army Colonel Romeo Brawner, the Deputy Commander of Task Force Ranao, said the video reinforced the revelation of rescued hostages that the terrorists looted from houses inside the main battle field amid the gunfight.

Brawner said aside from the video footage, they likewise recovered six sacks filled with a third of coins.

"This (video) is undated and the exact location is still being studied with the help of local officials," he added.

Garcia said the recovered coins were part of the loot of the terrorists but cannot say where it was from.

"Obviously, they can't take the coins so they put them to other use," Garcia said, referring to the shrapnel.

On Thursday, government troops also recovered four ATM machines taken from a Landbank branch. The money vaults have been formally turned over to the security manager of the bank Friday.

On the third week of fighting in Marawi, Marine 1st Lt. John Frederick Savellano and his team were able to recover P52 million cash and P27 million in cheques from a Maute/ASG machine gun position.

Former hostages said they were ordered to loot houses and were given daily looting schedules. Among the items they took from houses they ransacked were firearms, ammunition, money, jewelry and other important items.

"If they were able to pillage, loot, collect, gather coins, then it is not farfetched that they were also able to get, loot, pillage, collect money in other denominations, say from P20 to P1,000 pesos in large amounts. Some terrorists were even hiding inside the main vault of Landbank during airstrikes. The question now is, what did they do with the items inside?," Garcia asked.

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The Manila Times

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2 soldiers, 13 Maute killed as Marawi siege nears end

TWO more soldiers of the Philippine Army and 13 Maute terrorists were killed on Friday in Marawi City after President Rodrigo Duterte predicted the end of fighting.

Col. Romeo Brawner of Joint Task Force Lanao said in a statement on Saturday the government death toll in the Marawi battle had risen to 155.

Brawner said 13 armed militants from the Maute group were also killed, increasing the toll of slain Maute rebels to 749.

"Despite yesterday's casualties, today the government forces will fight harder to accomplish the following the soonest possible time so that the rehabilitation of

Marawi can continue unhampered: rescue the remaining hostages, neutralize the Maute-ISIS terrorists, and regain control of the whole Marawi City," Brawner said.

Duterte on Thursday said the conflict in Marawi would finally be over by September's end, four months after Islamic State-linked Maute terrorists laid siege to the city.

He reiterated that there was no need for celebration, and assured the Maranao people of Marawi and the Lanao provinces that he would rebuild the Islamic City.

Fighting in Marawi City started on May 23 when military and police personnel

► **Maute A2**

2 soldiers, 13 Maute rebels killed

tried to arrest Abu Sayyaf subleader Isnilon Hapilon, who was supposedly named "emir" of the Islamic State in Southeast Asia.

Government troops encountered stiff resistance from Islamist terror-

ists belonging to the Maute and Abu Sayyaf groups. This led Duterte to declare martial law in Mindanao.

The military has already missed three deadlines to retake the war-torn city.

Security officials originally aimed to finish their operations in Marawi City by June 2. However, this was not met as government troops continued to experience heavy resistance from Maute rebels entrenched in the city.

Duterte then said on June 4 that the Marawi siege would end in "about three days."

After this, the military said it would seek to liberate the town on June 12, the 119th anniversary of Philippine independence from Spain. This goal was also not met as clashes persisted and casualties mounted.

RJ CARBONELL

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Page: 1

2 more soldiers killed in Marawi

By JOHN UNSON

LANAO DEL SUR – Two more soldiers were killed as government forces maneuvered through a four-block area in Marawi City where remnants of the Maute group are still holding out.

Western Mindanao Command chief Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez said the two soldiers were killed in skirmishes Friday with Maute terrorists being flushed out from a small area in the city they still control.

One of the two fatalities was identified as Pfc. Arth Manalang of the Army's

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2 more From Page 1

5th Scout Ranger Company. Col. Romeo Brawner, Joint Task Force Lanao deputy commander, added last Friday's fighting resulted in the killing of 13 more terrorists and the clearing of 25 more buildings previously occupied by the militants.

"In the 131 days of fighting, the number of enemy killed has increased to 749, to include those 13 neutralized last Friday. The number of recovered assorted enemy firearms also increased to 714," Brawner said.

The two additional casualties in last Friday's ground assault brought the total to 155 soldiers killed since fighting started in the city last May 23.

The number of civilians executed by the terrorists remains at 47, while 1,733 others have been rescued, Brawner said.

Sources said no fewer than 17 terrorists perished in last Friday's gunfight.

"Four of them are from Butig, all related to Omar and Abdullah," a senior member of the provincial council said, referring to siblings Omar and Abdullah Maute, founders of the Maute group.

Two of the 17 Maute fatalities were identified as Ekram Padah and Subair Makud.

The intensity of the fighting has increased since

Wednesday following Malacanang's timeline that the more than four months of conflict in Marawi would be over by Sept. 30.

"Despite yesterday's (last Friday) casualties, today (yesterday) government forces will fight harder to accomplish the mission at the soonest possible time so that the rehabilitation of Marawi can continue unhampered," Brawner said.

The main focus of the heightened operations, Brawner said, include the rescue of the remaining civilian hostages, wiping out the Maute-Islamic State terrorists and regaining total control of the whole city of Marawi.

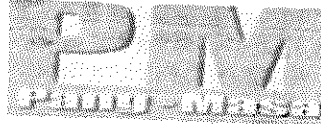
Latest reports said the besieged militants have been pushed towards the shorelines of Lake Lanao where escape is almost impossible.

However, the terrorists are still putting up stiffer resistance as they are now using to their advantage the remaining abandoned buildings, houses and small alleys to stall the advance of the government troops.

Galvez said security units are trying to restore normalcy in Marawi City to accomplish their mission "in the next few days," an assessment premised on calculations of the remaining areas still to be cleared.

– Jaime Laude

01 October 2017



Pahina. 2

Krisis sa Marawi aabutin pa ng 10-15 araw

Aabutin pa ng 10 hanggang 15 araw o dalawang linggo bago tuluyang makamit ang misyong liberation day o pagtatapos ng krisis sa lungsod ng Marawi na pumalo na sa ika-131 araw nitong Sabado.

Ito ang inihayag kahapon ni AFP Western Mindanao Command Chief Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez matapos na ang huling taning nina Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana at Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na hanggang Oktubre na lamang ang bakbakan sa Marawi City.

Sa pagtaya ni Galvez na bagaman nasa isang bloke na lamang ang bakbakan sa lungsod na umabot na ng mahigit apat na buwan ay tatagal pa ito ng 10-15 araw.

Si Galvez bilang Commander ng AFP Western Mindanao Command ang pangunahing nagsusuperbisa sa Joint Task Force (JTF) Marawi at JTF Ranao na ang tropa ay sumasabak sa Maute-ISIS.

Sa kasalukuyan sina Commander Isnilon Hapilon, itinalagang Emir ng ISIS sa Southeast Asia at si Omar Maute ang nagsisilbing lider ng tinatayang nasa 100 pang terorista sa battle zone. Una nang napatay sa air strike at ground assault operation ang Maute brothers na sina Abdullah, Maddi at Otto.

Kaugnay nito, inihayag naman ni JTF Ranao Deputy Commander Col. Romeo Brawner Jr. na umaabot na sa 749 o karagdagan pang 13 ang napaslang sa Maute-ISIS sa patuloy na bakbakan sa lungsod.

Samantalang, dalawa ring sundalo ang nadagdag sa mga nagbuwis ng buhay na security forces na umaabot na sa 155 ang death toll. Nasa 47 namang sibilyang hostage at mga naipit sa bakbakan ang namatay.

Aabot naman sa 1,733 sibilyan ang nasagip ng tropang gobyerno at 45-50 pang hostages ang nalalabi sa target ng misyon na magagip sa kamay ng mga terorista.

Joy Cantos

01 October 2017

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Embattled BIFF purges ranks

By JOSEPH JURELAG

MAGUINDANAO – Leaders of the Islamic State (IS)-inspired Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) have reportedly begun purging the ranks of the ter-

rorist group, on suspicion that some of members are working as either deep-penetrating agents of the government, or informants of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Lt. Col. Gerry Besana, spokesperson of the Army's Joint Task Force Central, said the leadership of the

BIFF faction led by Esmael Abdukmalik alias Comander Abu Toraiife, reportedly executed Friday four of its members on suspicion that they were government spies and informants of the MILF.

The MILF has forged a tactical alliance with government forces

in launching offensives against the BIFF.

He said the victims, identified only as Omar, Rasul, Asraf and Hamodi, were reportedly executed by their BIFF comrades in Barangay Tee, Datu Salibo, Maguindanao.

He said Abdulmalik reportedly or-

dered the execution of the victims after they were suspected of providing information to the military which assaulted the rebel's main stronghold in Barangay Tee recently.

Government troops seized several firearms and IS flag at the Barangay Tee BIFF camp.

The military said the BIFF leadership has come to conclusion that the four victims worked as spies after several text messages were intercepted from their mobile phones.

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4 BIFF pinatay ng sarili nilang kumander

COTABATO CITY – Pinatay umano ng lider ng ISIS-inspired BIFF faction na si Esmael Abdulmalik alyas Abu Toraife ang apat na mga tauhan nito sa Barangay Tee, Datu Salibo, Maguindanao.

Ito ay matapos na mabisto ang mga ito na nakikipag-ugnayan sa mga sundalo at Moro Islamic liberation Front (MILF).

Sinabi ni Task Force Central spokesperson Lt. Col. Gerry Besana na napag-alaman nila ang naturang ulat mula sa mga residente sa lugar.

Ayon sa report, nadiskubre ng grupo na mayroong mga non-Muslim names na nakarehistro sa cellphone ng apat na mga pinaslang na hinihinalang mga contacts ng mga ito sa mga otoridad at MILF.

Hinala kasi ni “Abu Toraife”, ang apat ang nagsusumbong sa mga sundalo at MILF kaya natunton ng mga ito ang kanilang kampo noong Miyerkules.

Kinilala ng mga miyembro ng municipal peace and order councils ng Maguindanao ang apat na mga napaslang na sina Hamodi, Omar, Rasul at Asraf.

Nabatid na si Abu Toraife ay lider ng pangatlong faction ng outlawed Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters at gumagamit ng watawat ng Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

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ASG fugitive recaptured in Basilan

AN Abu member who escaped from jail in 2009 on Friday was recaptured in a police and military operation in Lamitan, Basilan.

Armed Forces of the Philippines – Western Mindanao Command (WestMinCom) spokesperson Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay identified the Abu fugitive as Boy Indama. Indama was arrested by members of the Philippine Army's 74th Infantry Battalion and the local police in Lamitan City.

Indama is a notorious member of the Abu Sayyaf Group headed by commander Furuji Indama. He was able to escape from the Basilan Provincial Jail on December 13, 2009.

The suspect has pending warrant of arrest for kidnapping and serious illegal detention in Al Barka, Basilan.

Meanwhile, members of the 4th Special Forces Battalion of the Philippine Army on the same day arrested two camappers in a checkpoint in Bgy. Cabunbata, Isabela City, Basilan.

The suspects were identified as Salam Aslatan and Nuruddin Duray, who were listed most wanted persons in Basilan.

Seized from Aslatan and Duray were two motorcycles they allegedly taken from Mursid Halikin in Tipo-Tipo town.

AFP WestMinCom commander Lt. General Carlito Galvez commended the troops in the successful operation against three most wanted felons in the province.

"Our troops will never stop supporting other law enforcement agencies in their endeavors for our future generations to savor a life full of amity and tranquility," Galvez said.

Zaida delos Reyes-Palanca

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'Peace talks with Reds still possible'

By JOSE RODEL CLAPANO

Despite the continuous attacks by the communist New People's Army (NPA), presidential adviser on the peace process Jesus Dureza remained confident that the government and the National Democratic Front-Communist Party of the Philippines (NDF-CPP) will hurdle the impasse in peace negotiations.

Dureza issued the statement yesterday during the unveiling of the marker of the first government compliance monitoring station under the Comprehensive Agreement on the Respect of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL).

The marker is located at the Integrated Bar of the Philippines building inside the Hall of Justice Compound in Davao City.

Dureza said he is confident that both parties will be able to hurdle the impasse and will soon resume negotiations.

"Respect for human rights is something we will always have to adhere to and strengthen," Dureza said.

The monitoring station is the first to be established by the Philippine government since it signed the CARHRIHL with the NDF in March 1998.

The NDF is representing the CPP-NPA in the peace negotiations with the government.

The monitor will receive reports and complaints of "non-compliance" of the provisions of CARHRIHL in the 10 conflict-affected regions where the monitoring stations will be established and endorse it to the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC).

CARHRIHL is by far the first and only agreement signed among the five substantive agenda in the peace negotiations.

Dureza said the government would like to see the mechanism of the monitoring committee working on the ground.

"We will test its functionality," he said.

Although CARHRIHL was signed in 1998, the JMC was not formally constituted until the Rome 3rd Round of Talks under the Duterte administration in January this year.

"Perhaps this will encourage our counterpart across the table to also set their own," Dureza said.

Government panel member Antonio Arellano said the setting up of monitoring stations is a "unilateral action" on the part of the Philippine government.

"The document promotes the rights of the Filipino people. It humanizes the ongoing armed conflict. It seeks to protect both combatants and civilians against violations of human rights and international humanitarian law," Arellano explained.

President Duterte said the peace talks with the communists will remain an unreachable dream for now.

He branded the peace negotiations with the CPP-NPA-NDF as a "worthless expense."

Duterte ordered government negotiators to stop the preliminary talks last July following the spate of NPA attacks against government forces.

Duterte earlier expressed readiness to resume peace negotiations with the communist rebels if they stop the attacks.

The NPA, however, continued its attacks against government forces.

Three soldiers were wounded when NPA rebels ambushed a contingent of marines in the outskirts of San Vicente, Palawan early yesterday.

- With Jaime Laude, Christina Mendez

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Duterte: Mga tiwali sa Ombudsman aarestuhin ng PNP at AFP

IPINALIWANAG ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na walang lalabaging probisyon sa Saligang Batas ang gagawin niyang pag-iimbestiga sa Office of the Ombudsman kaugnay sa isyu ng kurapsyon.

Ito ang sagot ng pangulo sa pahayag ng Ombudsman na may halong paghihiganti at kulay ng pulitika ang balak nito na bumuo ng super body para imbestigahan ang Tanodbayan.

Binigyang-din rin ng pangulo na hindi pwede na ang mga opisyal ng Ombudsman ang mag-iimbestiga sa kani-kanilang mga sarili.

Muli ring sinabi ng pangulo na ilang beses na siyang nabiktima ng maling mga akusasyon at imbestigasyon ng Ombudsman.

Nagbanta rin ang pangulo na ipapa-aresto niya sa mga tauban ng Philippine National Police at Armed Forces of the Philippines ang mga opisyal ng Ombudsman na hindi dadalo sakaling umusad na ang mga serye ng imbestigasyon.

Nanindigan din ang pangulo na hindi mauwi sa diktadurya ang gagawing imbestigasyon sa Ombudsman.

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951 na patay sa givera sa Marawi: 2 militar at 13 Maute ang huling nadagdag sa bilang

MARAWI CITY – Labing tatlong Maute fighters at 2 militar ang nasawi sa magkahiwalay na sagupaan sa Marawi City nitong Biyernes ng tanghali.

Umabot na ang bilang ng mga napatay sa tropa ng gobyerno sa 155, sa mga terorista ay 749, at sa mga sibilyan ay 47 civilians, base sa huling report kahapon ng mili-

tar. Labat ay nasa 951 na ang kabuuang nasawi sa bakbakan na nagsimula noong Mayo 23, kungsaan dineklara ni Pangulong Rody Duterte ang martial law sa buong Mindanao.

Halos nabawi na ng tropang pamahalaan ang mga pinagtataguan ng Maute Group pero nagpapatuloy parin ang labanan sa erya malapit sa Lake Lanao

kungsaan umaatras ang mga nalalabing mandirigma ng local terrorist group mula sa kanilang stronghold.

“Despite yesterday’s casualties, today the government forces will fight harder so that the rehabilitation of Marawi can continue unhampered,” sabi ni Colonel Romeo Brawner, Task Group Ranao deputy commander.

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3 Marines wounded in NPA ambush

THREE members of Philippine Marines were wounded when they were ambushed by suspected members of New People's Army (NPA) yesterday morning in San Vicente, Palawan.

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Western Command spokesperson Capt. Cheryl Tindog said the encounter occurred at around 6:30 a.m. in Sitio Itabak, Bgy. New Agutaya, San Vicente.

Taken to the nearest hospital for treatment were T/Sgt. Restituto Selvino, 30, single, Corporal Melvin Villa, 44, mar-

ried, and Cpl. Christian Day Rentillo, 29.

Accordingly, elements of Marine Battalion Landing Team (MBLT) 12 were onboard a military truck and one Elf truck from El Nido Palawan going to their log run mission when they were ambushed by an undetermined number of NPA rebels.

A firefight immediately ensued that resulted in the wounding of three soldiers who were immediately taken to Roxas District Hospital and were transferred to Puerto Princesa City for further medication.

Zaida delos Reyes-Palanca

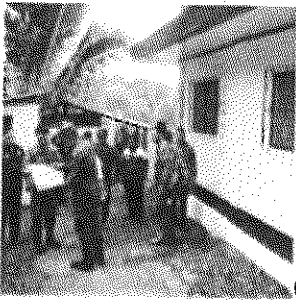
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PREVENT TERRORISM | EMC Improves Border Crossing Stations

Posted by [Alvin Santiago](#) on September 29, 2017 at 1:10 PM

NAVAL STATION FELIX APOLINARIO, Panacan, Davao City (DWDD) – Looking beyond Martial Law, the Eastern Mindanao Command is continuously strengthening border security in its area of responsibility to prevent terrorists and other lawless elements from entering the country via the southern maritime border.



On September 27, 2017, Lt. General Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero inspected the newly renovated Border Crossing Station in Balut Island, Sarangani, Davao Occidental. The renovation of the Station is part of the Command's efforts to strengthen border security. The station serves as an inter-agency observatory and monitoring station for both the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Indonesia on the common border of the two countries in the Celebes Sea.

Presently, there are two Border Crossing Stations situated in the area of the Eastern Mindanao Command. The other Station, which was also renovated, is situated in Cape San Agustin in Tibanban, Governor Generoso, Davao Oriental. It complements the Sarangani Border Crossing Station.

Lt. Gen. Guerrero was received and briefed by Sarangani Mayor Virginia Cawa and personnel from the Bureau of Immigration, Philippine Navy, Philippine Coast Guard and personnel from the Consulate of the Republic of Indonesia aboard and manning the Border Crossing Station.

The Philippines and Indonesia conducts annual coordinated patrols as part of its Joint Border Agreement. It is intended to strengthen the security of the common boundary of the two countries in the southern part of the Philippine Archipelago particularly along the Celebes Sea, and to enhance the inter-operability of the two countries in maritime operations.

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



It can be recalled that Lt. Gen. Guerrero, in his capacity as Commander of EMC, was elected as the Chairman of the newly created Inter-Agency Border Security Coordinating Council in Region XI after a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the member agencies on September 15, 2017 at Naval Station Felix Apolinario Panacan, Davao City.

The Inter-Agency Border Security Council will be a mechanism and venue for member agencies in reporting and assessing border security concerns, and in recommending measures to be undertaken. It also defines the role and task of each member agency in securing the country's border and the territorial waters.

Lt Gen Guerrero has emphasized the need to strengthen border security as a pro-active measure against terrorism.

"We need to continuously strengthen the security of our border to prevent terrorists from using it as a mobility corridor", Guerrero said. PIO EMC/MCAG

TAGS:

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

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BIDA ANG HANDA | WESCOM joins 3rd Qtr NSED

Posted by [Alvin Santiago](#) on September 20, 2017 at 9:07 AM



PUERTO PRINSESA, Palawan (DWDD) – The Armed Forces of the Philippines – Western Command joined in the conduct of the 3rd Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED) last September 27, 2017 at Headquarters, Western Command.

The activity was supported by officials, enlisted personnel, civilian employees and students.

“Laging tatandaan, marami ang makakasalba kung alam ang mga gagawin kung sakaling dumating ang “Big One”. **WESCOM/MCAG**