

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

17 October 2017

Tuesday

Army Core Purpose: Serving the people. Securing the land

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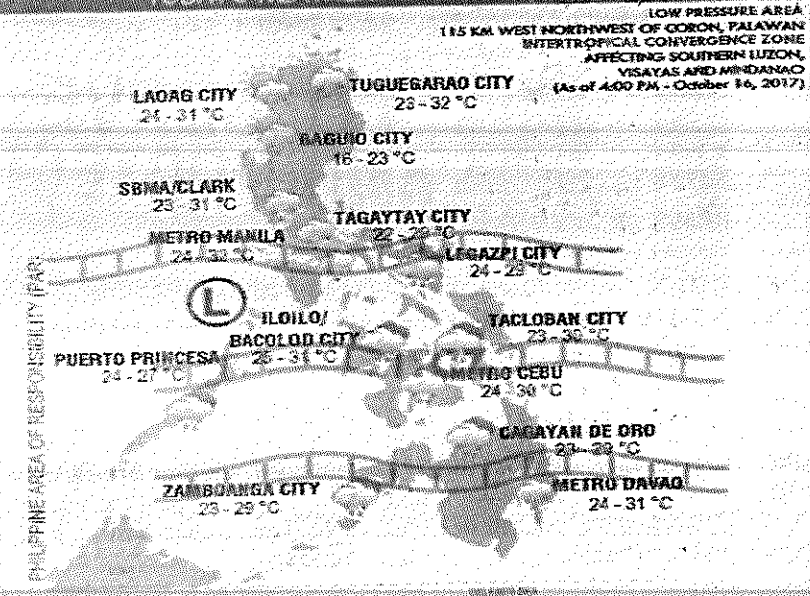


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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS - FEARLESS VIEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | OCTOBER 17, 2017 | TUESDAY



SUNRISE 5:48 AM	SUNSET 5:35 PM
MOONRISE 3:26 AM	MOONSET 4:01 PM
LAST QUANTER OCT 12 6:25 AM	NEW MOON OCT 20 1:00 PM
LOW TIDE 3:00 PM 0.15 Meter	HIGH TIDE 7:40 AM 0.84 Meter

Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with squalls
Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with intermittent squalls and/or thunderstorms
Cloudy skies with rain showers and/or thunderstorms

	OCT 17	OCT 18	OCT 19	OCT 20	OCT 21
METRO MANILA	23-31 °C	23-31 °C	22-29 °C	22-29 °C	22-29 °C
TUGUEGARAO	23-31 °C	22-30 °C	23-28 °C	22-28 °C	23-26 °C
LADAG	23-31 °C	22-29 °C	24-28 °C	24-31 °C	24-31 °C
BAGUIO	15-22 °C	14-22 °C	24-26 °C	25-31 °C	23-30 °C
SBMA/CLARK	23-31 °C	23-31 °C	23-29 °C	23-30 °C	23-31 °C
TAGAYTAY	22-29 °C	22-29 °C	22-29 °C	22-29 °C	22-29 °C
LEGAZPI	23-28 °C	22-28 °C	23-28 °C	22-28 °C	23-31 °C
PUERTO PRINCESA	24-28 °C	24-31 °C	24-28 °C	24-31 °C	23-31 °C
ILOILO/BACOLOD	24-26 °C	25-31 °C	24-26 °C	25-31 °C	23-31 °C
METRO CEBU	23-29 °C	23-30 °C	23-29 °C	23-30 °C	23-31 °C
ZAMBOANGA	23-30 °C	23-31 °C	23-30 °C	23-31 °C	23-31 °C

DZRHNEWS TELEVISION

MONDAY - FRIDAY 11AM & 5PM

PILIPINAS HD

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



17 October 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATIONAL LEADING NEWSPAPER

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Bloody end for Hapilon, Maute



MARAWI SIEGE LEADERS' END - Photos of the slain Isnilon Hapilon (left) and Omar Maute released by the Philippine National Police.

Termination of Marawi crisis seen – Lorenzana

page

845-9555 Local: 5285 5295

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PU

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD and AFP

The head of the Islamic State group in Southeast Asia and one of the leaders of the IS-inspired Maute Group were killed by troops mounting a final assault to reclaim Marawi City, officials confirmed on Monday.

The death of Abu Sayyaf leader and Islamic State's anointed "emir" in Southeast Asia Isnilon Hapilon and Omarkhayam Maute, one of two brothers who led the Maute Group, came during a ground assault to end the four-month siege of Marawi, a

battle that has claimed more than 1,000 lives and raised fears that IS was seeking to set up a regional base in Mindanao.

President Duterte and security analysts said Hapilon has been a key figure in the jihadist outfit's drive to establish a Southeast Asian caliphate as they suffer battlefield defeats in Iraq and Syria.

"(Our troops) were able to get Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute. They were both killed," Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told reporters.

▶6

Bloody end for Hapilon... ◀1

DNA tests will be carried out on the two bodies because of the reward offer from the US and Philippine governments, he added.

"The implication of this development is that the Marawi incident is almost over and we may announce the termination of hostilities in a couple of days," Lorenzana said.

"We will announce the termination of hostilities once government forces have ensured that there are no more terrorists-stragglers in the city and we have cleared all structures of IEDs and other traps," he added.

A top Malaysian militant, Mahmud bin Ahmad, who uses the nom de guerre Abu Handzalah and is a close associate of Hapilon, has not been found and military operations are currently ongoing to capture him. There are reports he is still hiding in one of the buildings.

Omar's brother, Abdullah Maute, was reported by the military to have been killed in August, though no body was found to prove his death.

Lorenzana said Hapilon carried a \$10-million reward from United States and another ₱10 million from the Philippine government, while Maute carried a P5-million reward for his capture.

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff General Eduardo Año said five other terrorists were killed but their identities were not immediately known.

17 hostages rescued

Lorenzana also said that government troops were able to rescue 17 more hostages, leaving more than 20 hostages still in the hands of the terrorists.

AFP Joint Task Group Lanao deputy commander Col. Romeo Brawner said 17 more hostages were rescued from the main battle area in Marawi City.

Those rescued were a mix of men, women, and children. They were already taken to a safe zone where they are undergoing medical examination debriefing, Brawner said.

Lorenzana said he was supposed to go to Marawi City with President Duterte on Monday, but this did not push through after they were prevented by military ground commanders due to the planned assault.

The troops were able to locate Hapilon and Maute through the information provided by a female hostage who earlier escaped.

"It was an operation. Because yesterday (Sunday), they were able to get a testimony from a hostage who was able to escape and she, kasi babae sya (she is a woman), was able to confirm the presence of Isnilon and Maute in that particular building. So that's the building that we assaulted this morning, early this morning," Lorenzana said.

The fighting was "very intense," Año said of the exchange of gunfire between the soldiers and the enemy during the ground assault that lasted for about four hours.

Brawner said at least 20 soldiers were wounded during the intense firefight to liberate Marawi City that started at around 2 a.m. and ended at around 6 a.m. Monday.

But Brawner said fighting continues in an area covering around two hectares.

"Two hectares na lang natira (there are two hectares left). Sa number of hostages (On the number of hostages), there are more or less 40 remaining but we are still verifying this number," he said.

Brawner said fighting is still raging at the main battle area.

Lorenzana said once fighting stops, "We will refocus our efforts on the challenging task of rebuilding and rehabilitating Marawi." (With reports from Argyll B. Geducos, Reuters, and AP)

17 October 2017

Malaya
The National Newspaper

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Maute leaders killed



Año says it's dead end for terror group

BY VICTOR REYES

TWO remaining leaders of the armed conflict in Marawi City were killed yesterday, together with seven of their followers, as government troops assaulted the lairs of the terrorist Maute Group.

The assault also led to the rescue of 20 hostages, including a two-month-old girl born inside the battle area.

"This is the end of this Maute Group," said AFP chief Gen. Eduardo Año who flew to Marawi City hours after the killing of Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon, senior leader of the Abu Sayyaf and reportedly the anointed leader of the Islamic State for Southeast Asia.

"They (Hapilon and Omar) are the centers of

gravity and everything will crumble. The other areas of the Maute-ISIS, they will also crumble," Año said.

As to the effect of the death of Hapilon on the establishment of an ISIS caliphate in the Philippines, Año said: "This is a major debacle to the ISIS being established here in the Philippines."

"They cannot find another leader immediately, including the infrastructure. In fact, what will happen is since they are leaderless, a lot of their followers will abandon this cause or this movement," said Año.

Año said government troops assaulted two structures inside the main battle area around 2 a.m. to rescue

Año shows photos of Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon.

See AÑO > Page B6

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AÑO

hostages. "A firefight broke out, and the two were among those killed," he said.

The assault ended at around 6 a.m. The bodies of Hapilon and Maute were retrieved in one of the structures.

"The firefight was so intense and this was apparently their last stand," Año said.

He said Hapilon was hit in the chest while Omar was hit by sniper fire in the head, causing his head to be disfigured.

The US government has a \$5-million reward offer for the neutralization of Hapilon, on top of the P17.4 million offered by Philippine government. Omar has a P5-million bounty for his neutralization.

Last month, the military confirmed the death of Omar's brother and Maute Group leader co-leader, Abdullah, who was killed along with two other brothers who are also members of the group.

Experts say Hapilon was an Islamist ideologue who took fighters from his faction to join forces with the Maute clan, a well-funded extremist group that emerged only last year.

Año said another key operative, Malaysian Mahmud Ahmad, was believed to be in the battle zone.

The leaders have been central to rebels regrouping, re-arming and recruiting after previous clashes over the past two years, growing stronger each time. The alliance, Dawla Islamiya, has been bolstered by fighters from Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and the Middle East, among other countries. Experts say foreigners have aided funding and recruiting, preying on vulnerable youth, as shown by the presence of teenagers and child soldiers in Marawi.

Año said the Hapilon and Omar will be given a decent burial, in keeping with the Muslim tradition, but the military will not disclose their burial place "because we don't want this to be a symbol of

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martyrdom or be used by their sympathizers and supporters to advance their interest."

MAUTE STRAGGLERS

Año also said about 30 Maute men remain in the main battle area, including eight foreigners led by Malaysian Mahmud bin Ahmad alias Dr. Mahmud. He said 22 hostages are left in the area, excluding 39 Maute family members who were brought to the battle area.

"We are now calling them (Maute remnants) stragglers because they don't have leaders anymore. They are on their own, so they are stragglers," said Año.

As to end of the Marawi conflict that broke out on May 23, Año said: "This is really very near... I cannot say when but I believe this is going to be over before the end of the week."

"It will be just a matter of days before it can finally be declared that Marawi has been liberated from the clutches of the terrorists," said Año.

The fighting has killed 824 Maute members and 162 soldiers and policemen, and 47 civilians.

"The Marawi crisis will be over sooner than later. The resistance or what is left of it, the terrorists will crumble. It is the dead end, there is nowhere else to go for them. Needless to say, the remaining terrorists should as well free their hostages," said Año.

RETALIATION

Año said the military has been checking reports about possible retaliatory attacks from the terrorists. "Don't worry. We will nip them in the bud... We are prepared for that, any backlash or whatever that they will do," he said.

Año said the neutralization of Hapilon and Omar "is the last straw that has broken the camel's back."

Año said President has been already informed of the accomplishment. "Actually, he is very happy. The news was already relayed to

him and he is congratulating our troops," he said.

Año said the military will focus its attention on the Abu Sayyaf and the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters after the Marawi conflict finally ends. Like the Maute Group, the Abu Sayyaf and the BIFF pledged allegiance to the ISIS a few years back.

"After this Marawi crisis is over, we will run after the Abu Sayyaf in Sulu and Basilan and also the BIFF in Maguindanao. Our (objective) is to finish all these Maute ISIS, Abu Sayyaf and BIFF until the end of 2017, December 2017. So this will continue and there will be no let-up. It's about time to end these terrorists here in Mindanao," he said.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said he and President Duterte were supposed to visit Marawi City but they were prevailed upon by commanders on the ground to postpone their trip.

Lorenzana said a female hostage who was rescued last Saturday provided information on the whereabouts of Hapilon and Omar. "That's the building that we assaulted early this morning," he said.

He also said: "The implication of this (death of Hapilon and Omar) is the end of the Marawi incident is nearing its end, and we may announce the termination of hostilities in a couple of days."

MARTIAL LAW

Lorenzana said the defense and military establishments will still have to assess the situation in the entire Mindanao to determine if there is a need to lift martial law which was declared by President Duterte hours after the Maute attacked Marawi on May 23.

"We are not talking about lifting martial law yet. Let's see. We are looking at the immediate aftermath of the killings of these two leaders," said Lorenzana.

"We may be announcing the cessation of hostilities within this week and after that, we will find out, we

will assess what's the situation in the entire Mindanao if there is a need to recommend to the President the lifting of martial law."

Rep. Gary Alejano (PL, Magdalo), a former Marines officer, said the President should consider lifting martial law "sooner than later" as the Maute leaders are now dead.

Last July, Duterte said he needed Congress to extend martial law for the city's rehabilitation and to prepare for the expected "retaliation" from the ISIS-inspired Maute Group and its allies.

CLEAR VICTORY

Alejano congratulated the AFP and the Department of National Defense for neutralizing Hapilon and Maute, saying it is a clear victory for the people.

"To those who went ahead, my snappy salute. You will forever be remembered. You did not die in vain," he said.

Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said the development in Marawi is a "clear victory against terrorism."

Senators commended government forces.

Sen. Juan Miguel Zubiri, who is from Bukidnon which is adjacent to Lanao del Sur, said while Russian and allied forces took two years to take over Mosul in Syria, "it only took our brave and gallant soldiers five months to retake Marawi city from the terrorists."

Zubiri also said he supports the implementation of martial law until December 31 "so that human, material and financial resources can be fully utilized and rehabilitation will be achieved at a shorter time, sooner than later."

Senators Francis Pangilinan, Sherwin Gatchalian, Juan Edgardo Angara, Paolo Benigno Aquino, JV Ejercito, Joel Villanueva, and Antonio Trillanes IV commended the soldiers and policemen involved in the operations. - *With Wendell Vigilia, Jocelyn Montemayor and JP Lopez*

17 October 2017

The Manila Times

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MAUTE, HAPILON DEAD

BY DEMPSEY REYES

MARAWI CITY: A dawn military offensive signaled the end of the road for the two top leaders of the five-month long terrorist siege of Marawi City on Monday.

Military troops killed Isnilon Hapilon, *emir* or chieftain of the Islamic State (IS) in Southeast Asia, and Omarkhayam "Omar" Maute, leader of a well-funded terrorist group that wanted to establish an IS province in Mindanao, in one of the buildings in the war-torn city.

It was a symbolic blow to regional militancy, considering Hapilon was also on the US "most wanted" list of terrorists, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told reporters.

The Maute Group overran Marawi, the country's Islamic capital, on May 23, forcing President Rodrigo Duterte to cut short a visit to Moscow and declare martial law over Mindanao.

Fighting has killed more than 1,000 people, including 831 terrorists, and displaced 400,000 residents. There were still 22 hostages left along with 39 relatives of the militants, authorities said.

Troops were still pursuing dozens of fighters in the battle zone including Indonesians and Malaysians, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief Gen. Eduardo Año said, after rescuing 20



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►DeadA2

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DEATH AT DAWN

Photo from the military shows the bodies of Omarkhayam Maute (above) and Isnilon

Hapilon, killed on the 147th day of fighting in Marawi City.

Inset: Troops pose in front of the destroyed buildings in the Islamic City after Monday's offensive, in one of several photos uploaded to the 'Inside Military Forum' Facebook group.

■ DEAD FROM A1

MAUTE

hostages over the weekend with a two-month-old baby among them.

Malaysian militant leader Mahmud Ahmad was still in Marawi, with authorities describing him as the “conduit” between IS and local militant groups.

Tip from a hostage

A tip from one of the rescued hostages at about 2 a.m. on Monday gave away the location of Hapilon and Omar Maute, Lorenzana said.

“We were supposed to go to Marawi with the President but we were prevailed upon by the commanders on the ground to postpone our trip because they were going to conduct the assault today,” he said.

“[Troops] were able to get a testimony from a hostage that was able to escape, and the hostage was able to confirm the presence of Hapilon and Maute in a particular building, so that was the building we assaulted this morning,” he added.

Fighting lasted until 6 a.m. Seven other terrorists were killed in the fire-fight while 20 soldiers were wounded.

AFP spokesman Maj. Gen. Restituto Padilla Jr. said that Maute was hit at the back of the head while Hapilon’s cause of death had yet to be confirmed by military officials on the ground.

Año said the original purpose of the operations in the establishment where Hapilon and Maute were found was to retrieve hostages.

“It’s an early morning encounter... because we already cornered [the Maute] in just one block and there were two buildings with hostages remaining, so the hostages were rescued and then fighting ensued which led to the killing of the two leaders,” he said.

\$5M reward from US

The remains of Hapilon and Maute will still be subjected to DNA testing.

Monetary rewards for their capture or death, specifically from the US, will be forthcoming, Lorenzana said.

“I think Omar has a P5-million reward on his head and Isnilon has a \$5-million reward on his head plus another P10 million from the [Philippine] government. So, it’s huge money,” the Defense chief said.

With the killing of the two terrorist leaders, Lorenzana said hostilities in Marawi City could end “in a couple of days.”

“This will help eradicate them once and for all, [although] they (IS) still have cells inside the country. We believe that they still have cells in Basilan, Sulu, also in Central Mindanao, but we will also get them,” he said.

Año also said the siege could end this week. The terrorists have been cornered within a two-hectare area, the AFP chief said.

As for the martial law declaration, military commanders still needed to assess the situation before making any recommendation to President Rodrigo Duterte, Lorenzana said.

Duterte ‘happy’

Lorenzana also said the military was prepared for revenge attacks. The burial place of the two slain terrorists will not be disclosed, he said.

In September, Año confirmed that three Maute brothers—Abdullah, Maddie and Ottoh—were among the casualties of military operations in Marawi City.

He made this confirmation on September 18 after the rescue of Catholic priest Fr. Teresito Soganub and Dansalan Collage teacher Lordvin Acopio, who were both retrieved from the Bato Ali Mosque.

The AFP chief however said the deaths of the two Maute leaders signaled the end of the Maute terror group.

“This is the end of this Maute group. It means that their center of gravity is already crumbling... We are already saying that this war is nearing its end, we just needed to get these two leaders so we can assure ourselves that their leadership has already ended and the Maute-ISIS in other areas will crumble,” Año said, using another acronym for IS.

President Duterte was immediately informed of the developments and was “happy” with the news, according to Año.

“Actually, he (Duterte) is very happy. The news was already relayed to him and he is congratulating our troops. *Sabi nga niya nagbunga na* (As what he said, it bore fruit).” he said in a news conference in Marawi City.

The day of the deaths of Hapilon and Maute “marks the triumph of good over evil,” Año declared.

‘Not the end of IS in the region’

Kumar Ramakrishna, a terrorism expert from Singapore’s S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, agreed that Hapilon’s death was a major blow to IS, but cautioned that it was far from the end of radical group in the strife-torn southern Philippines or Southeast Asia.

“Just because the Marawi siege is coming to an end does not mean the threat is over. ISIS-linked militants there will regroup... and lay low for a while, while rebuilding their strength,” he said, using another acronym for IS.

He said the leading Malaysian militant involved in the Marawi siege, Mahmud Ahmad – would if he is still alive likely rise up to lead the IS-linked fighters in the southern

Philippines and stay in contact with the jihadists in the Middle East.

Ahmad is reported to be a university lecturer in his home country who was in charge of raising finances from abroad for the jihadists and recruitment.

It is not clear how many IS-supporting militants there are in Southeast Asia, a region of more than 600 million people, but many local militant outfits have pledged allegiance to the group.

Hundreds of militants are believed to have flocked to the Middle East to fight with IS - particularly from Indonesia, which has the world's biggest Muslim population, and the Philippines.

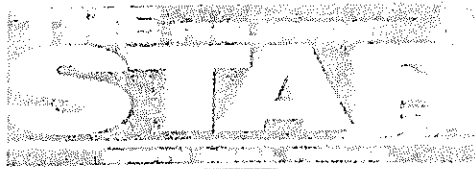
Sidney Jones, head of Jakarta-based security think-tank the Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict, warned authorities now faced a growing threat of battle-hardened fighters returning to Southeast Asia as the noose closes on IS in the Middle East, with their former stronghold of Raqqa close to being captured.

Authorities have been particularly concerned about a Southeast Asian unit of IS fighters in Syria, Khatibah Nusantara.

"I think the attention is going to shift back again to the return of fighters from Syria and Iraq," she said.

WITH AFP

17 October 2017



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Hapilon, Maute killed

By JOHN UNSON

LANAO DEL SUR – Military sharpshooters killed two leaders of the Marawi siege before dawn yesterday as security forces made their final push to retake the city from militants linked to the Middle East-based Islamic State (IS).

Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon and the Maute terror group's acknowledged head Omarkhayam Maute were killed one after the other at separate locations by elite Army Scout Ranger snipers using long-range rifles fitted with night-vision scopes.

Malacañang hailed the deaths as a "clear victory against terrorism."

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief Gen. Eduardo Año said President Duterte was "very happy" about the development and expressed his wish to go to the battle-scarred city yesterday morning.

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Hapilon From Page 1

"The President (wanted to) here this morning but we expect heavy fighting today," he said in Marawi.

Another high profile militant still in the main battle area in Marawi is Malaysian Dr. Mahmud Ahmad, reportedly recruiter and financier of IS in the Philippines.

Eight other foreign terrorists - mostly Indonesians and Malaysians - were believed to be still holed up in Marawi, authorities said.

The Marawi battle, which broke out on May 23, has so far left more than 800 militants, 52 government forces and 47 civilians dead, according to authorities.

President Duterte had ordered aerial bombing of the militants' positions, sending them into retreat but leaving the city in ruins.

Malacañang earlier announced a P10-million bounty for Hapilon and P5 million each for Maute brothers Omar and Abdullah.

Abdullah was believed to have been killed in September.

The United States had a \$5-million bounty for Hapilon, said to be the anointed emir of the IS "caliphate" in Southeast Asia.

Combatants of the Army's 7th Scout Ranger Company found the remains of the two terror leaders at separate locations, according to senior members of the League of Mayors in Lanao del Sur and incumbent officials of the provincial gov-

ernment.

Military sources said the two were among the more than a dozen gunmen killed in battle in the past days by the elite Rangers, who reportedly used remote-controlled devices to locate the militants' exact locations.

Año said seven bodies - presumably those of militants - were recovered yesterday from the main battle area.

The STAR received text messages from relatives of Hapilon in the nearby Maluso and Lantawan towns confirming his death.

"Wafat neh Sir. Sure ne teed," texted a cousin of the terrorist in the Yakan dialect, which meant Hapilon's clan had confirmed his death.

Año described yesterday's battle as intense. "This is the end, this Maute group. This is their center of gravity and everything has crumbled," he said in Filipino and English.

In a statement, Presidential Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said, "We look forward to raising Marawi from the ashes of conflict and building in a new era where people from the farthest reaches of this Republic can share in the boon of progress."

He added the development "proves the Duterte administration's resoluteness in delivering on its promise of peace and prosperity to the people of Mindanao."

The death of the two notorious militants is seen to hasten

the liberation of the country's only Islamic city, he said. "Despite the criticisms of his detractors, President Duterte pushed on an unrelenting campaign to take back Marawi City through all means at his disposal," Andanar said.

Hostages rescued

Aside from the killing of Hapilon and Maute, yesterday's military operations also led to the rescue of 17 hostages.

"We will also announce the termination of hostilities once government troops have ensured that the remaining terrorists holed up in the city are neutralized or captured and that they have cleared all structures of improvised explosive devices and other traps," presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said.

"Once the fighting stops and the clearing operations end, we will put our efforts and energies on the challenging task of rebuilding and rehabilitating Marawi," he added.

Duterte had visited Marawi six times to express his support for the troops.

Año said the President wanted to go to the city yesterday but was advised not to do so until the operations against terrorists are completed.

At Camp Aguinaldo, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said information from a rescued female hostage helped the military trace the building where the two terror leaders were hiding.

"They were able to get Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute. They were both killed.

In fact, their faces have already been splashed in the internet and in the websites, plus they were able to recover 17 hostages," Lorenzana told reporters.

While the end of the Marawi battle is on the horizon with the death of Hapilon and Maute, Lorenzana said security forces would have to be very careful in their final push as the militants were still holding some 20 hostages.

Moreover, some militants may have established cells in Basilan, Sulu and in Central Mindanao, he said. "But we will also get them," he added.

Meanwhile, AFP spokesman Maj. Gen. Restituto Padilla said it's not for the military to decide who should be given the reward for the elimination of Maute and Hapilon.

"The Armed Forces is not thinking about the rewards here. What we have struggled to do is fulfill our mission, which is to rescue all the hostages," he explained. "We don't know if the rewards should go to the soldiers, to the policemen or to the informant," he said in Filipino.

The Marawi conflict began when armed militants blocked government security forces from serving an arrest warrant on Hapilon, linked to high profile Abu Sayyaf terror activities including the kidnapping and beheading of US national Guillermo Sobero in June 2001. Sobero was among a group of foreign and local hostages taken by the bandits from the Los Palmas hotel in Palawan a month earlier. - Alexis Romero, Michael Punongbayan, Roel Pareño

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INQUIRER

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Abu, Maute leaders are dead—AFP

FROM A1

By Jaymee T. Gamil,
Jeoffrey Maitem
and Richel Umel
@Team_Inquirer

The battle for Marawi may finally be ending with the killing of the last two leaders of the Islamic State-inspired terrorists holed up in the city early on Monday.

Killed in fighting with government troops that started at 2 a.m. and ended at 6 a.m. were Abu Sayyaf leader Isnlon Hapilon and Maute terror group leader Omarkhayam Maute. Both had pledged allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) group, whose self-proclaimed "caliphate" in Iraq and Syria is crumbling under attack by US-backed Syrian and Iraqi forces.

Hapilon, who is listed among the US Federal Bureau of Investigation's most wanted criminals, was said to be the "emir" of IS in Southeast Asia.

Hard push

The deaths of the two terrorist leaders came during a hard push by the military to end the nearly four-month siege that had killed more than 1,000 people, displaced more than 400,000 others, and reduced much of Marawi to rubble.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana confirmed the

deaths of Hapilon and Maute.

"Yes, they are confirmed dead," Lorenzana said, adding the bodies had been recovered by troops and DNA tests would be done on the remains to clear the way for the payment of huge US and Philippine bounties offered for the two terrorist leaders.

The US state department has offered a reward of up to \$5 million for Hapilon, whom Washington blames for the kidnappings of several Americans, one of whom was beheaded in 2001 in Basilan.

Hapilon had been indicted in the District of Columbia for his alleged involvement in terrorist acts against Americans and other foreigners.

The Philippine government has offered a P17.4-million reward for the capture of Hapilon and P5 million for Maute.

Rescued hostage

The military's informer was a hostage rescued on Sunday.

"Yesterday, we were able to get a testimony from a hostage. She was able to confirm the presence of [Hapilon] and Maute in that particular building. That's the building that we assaulted early this morning," Lorenzana said.

He said other Maute group members were also killed in the fighting. Seven bodies had been recovered, including those of the



Isnlon Hapilon

two terrorist leaders, he said.

The troops also rescued 17 hostages, he said.

The deaths of Hapilon and Maute will be a major victory for the military, which has been criticized for its slow progress in retaking Marawi and the ease at which the terrorists laid siege to the city on May 23.

Other terrorist leaders, Maute's brothers Abdullah and Madi, had been reported killed, though no body had been found to prove their deaths.

Those leaders had been central to the terrorists regrouping, rearming and recruiting after previous clashes over the past two years in Mindanao.

Resilience

The terrorists had surprised the military by their ability to

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Omarkhayam Maute

endure more than 130 days of airstrikes, compounding fears in the Philippines and the region that the radical IS ideology and its advanced recruitment methods were more prevalent than was previously imagined.

As of Monday, clashes between the military and the terrorists have killed 822 terrorists, 163 soldiers and policemen, and 47 civilians.

More than 1,700 troops have been wounded in the fighting.

A top Malaysian militant, Mahmud bin Ahmad, who uses the nom de guerre Abu Handzalah and is a close associate of Hapilon, has not been found and is among the remaining terrorists being hunted by the military, Lorenzana said.

With the deaths of Hapilon and Maute, Lorenzana said the

end to the Marawi crisis was imminent.

"The indication here is that the Marawi incident is close to the end. We may announce the termination of hostilities in a couple days," he said.

The government forces were prepared for any "diversion" or "retaliation" by the terrorists, he said.

Lifting martial law

Lorenzana said the lifting of martial law in Mindanao was up to President Duterte.

"We will assess the entire Mindanao if there is a need to recommend to the President the lifting of martial law," he said.

The military missed an Oct. 15 "target" for the end of the conflict. It had missed a number of previous deadlines, all attributed

to caution to avoid harm to the hostages.

Army Col. Romeo Brawner Jr., deputy commander of the military's Task Force Lanao, said on Sunday that about 40 terrorists were still fighting in a small hilly residential area by Lanao Lake, including 100 relatives of the gunmen and civilian hostages.

On Saturday, troops attempted to rescue several hostages but only snatched a 16-year-old girl because of intense terrorist fire, which wounded an Army battalion commander and 20 other soldiers, Brawner said.

It was that girl who provided the crucial information that allowed troops to locate Hapilon and Maute in one building, Lorenzana said.

Escape attempt

Gen. Eduardo Año, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said Hapilon and Maute attempted to escape but were cornered by government troops.

"They were attempting to go out to the street to escape. In fact, there were four boats ready on the lake. They had it built by the hostages so they really planned to get out," Año said.

He said the military had wanted to get the two men alive, but they fought it out with the troops and were killed.

—WITH REPORTS FROM AP, AFP AND REUTERS INQ

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POLICE FILES

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2 BIFF todas sa engkwentro sa Maguindanao

COTABATO CITY – Dalawang miyembro ng Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) ang nasawi at isa ang nasugatan sa militar sa engkwentro sa probinsya ng Maguindanao.

Ayon sa ulat ng 6th Infantry Division ng Philippine Army, nagsasagawa ng combat patrol operation ang mga tauhan ng 57th IB sa Barangay Mita, Datu Unsay, Maguindanao nang makasagupa nila ang mga terorista.

Tumagal ng isang oras ang palitan ng bala sa magkabilang panig dahil kaya nagsilikas ang mga sibilyan.

Umatras naman ang mga rebelde nang paputukan sila ng mga sundalo gamit ang 105mm howitzers cannon.

Dalawa sa BIFF ang binawian ng buhay habang isa ang sugatan sa panig ng mga sundalo na nagtamo ng minor injury.

Sa ngayon patuloy na tinutugis ng mga sundalo ang mga rebelde sa bayan ng Datu Unsay.

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The Manila Times

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Soldier dies, 1 wounded in Ilocos Sur NPA attack

A PHILIPPINE Army soldier was killed while another was wounded after New People's Army (NPA) rebels fired upon troops doing repair works at a public school in Quirino, Ilocos Sur.

Lt. Rey Gaezell Anfone, spokesman of the Army's 81st Infantry Battalion (81IB), said two NPA rebels from the Kilusang Larangang Gerilya Montes shot at the soldiers conducting *bayanihan* activities with the civilians in Patiacan Elementary School at about 2:45 p.m. on Sunday.

According to Anfone the troops, acting as "human shields," immediately secured the teachers and several students who were with them re-

sulting in the wounding of the two soldiers.

One of the wounded soldiers later died.

Lt. Col. Eugenio Julio Osias 4th, 81IB commander, said identities of the two soldiers are being withheld until their families are informed of the incident.

For two months now, no NPA atrocities have been reported as soldiers continue to block the communist rebels to prevent them from getting closer to the village.

Major Gen Felimon Santos Jr., 7th Infantry Division commander, condemned the harassment by the NPAs operating in the tri-boundary of Mountain Province, Ilocos Sur and Abra.

**DEMPSEY REYES
AND THOM F. PICAÑA**

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Malaya
The National News Paper

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Soldier dead in NPA attack in Ilocos Sur

A SOLDIER was killed and another was wounded Sunday in an attack staged by New People's Army rebels in a school in Quirino town, Ilocos Sur.

Lt. Rey Gaezzel Anfonc, civil military operations officer of the Army's 81st Infantry Battalion, yesterday said the two communist rebels opened fire at the soldiers who, in the company of teachers and students, were then helping fix and "beautify" the Patacan Elementary School in Barangay Patacan.

No civilian was harmed in the attack that occurred at around 2:45 p.m.

Anfonc said the soldiers briefly clashed with the rebels who later withdrew. Anfonc declined to name the fatality pending notification of the family. The wounded was airlifted to the AFP Medical Center in Quezon City.

Further operations are ongoing, said Lt. Col. Eugenio Julio Oslas IV, commander of the 81st IB.

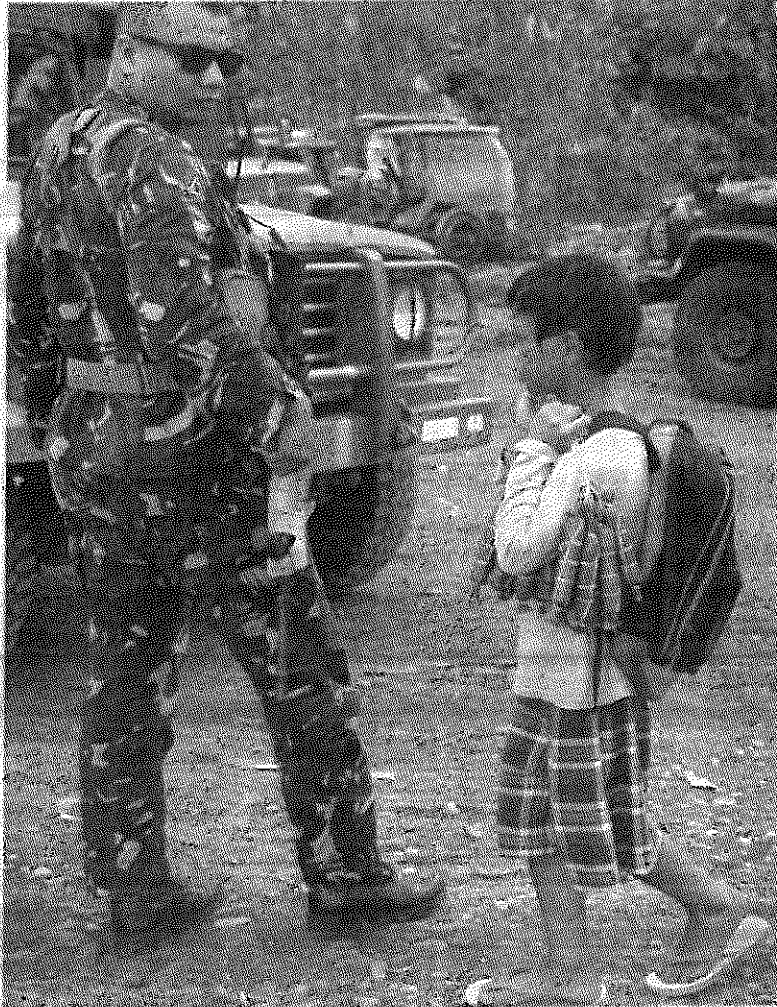
In Davao City, a militiaman was killed in a firefight with communist rebels in Barangay Mapula in Paquibato District on Saturday, said the military's Joint Task Force Haribon.

JTF Haribon's civil military operations officer, Maj. Ezra Balagrey, said troops were conducting security operations in the area when they encountered the undetermined number of rebels. — Victor Reyes

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BusinessMirror

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WARTIME ENTREPRENEURSHIP A Maranao lad peddles his rice-cake merchandise to soldiers and evacuees alike inside an evacuation site in Marawi City, amid a bloody siege that has claimed about 1,000 lives. Defense and military officials announced on Monday the slaying of Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute, a development which may finally bring an end to the four-month siege. NONIE REYES

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Pahina. 2

Itinuro ng babaeng bihag kung saan nakatago... **HAPILON, OMAR MAUTE NAPATAY**



Nanay patay sa pagmartilyo ng anak na babae

Nakabalot na sa kumot ang bangkay ng isang ginang nang ito ay datnan ng mga otoridad sa kanilang bahay matapos patayin ng anak nitong babae sa pamamagitan nang pagpalo ng martilyo sa ulo kamakalawa ng gabi sa Brgy. Buro I Main, Dasmariñas City, Cavite.

Ang nasawi ay kimilalang si Ma Margarita Belleza, nasa hustong gulang, ng Blk 27, Lot 14, Aberbin St. Chester Place Subdivision ng nasabing barangay.

Sumuko naman ang anak ng biktima na si Maybelle Belleza, 39, kasamang nakatira ng biktima sa nasabing bahay.

Sa ulat, dakong alas-7:45 ng gabi nang makatanggap ng tawag ang pulisya na may naganap na pagpatay sa nasabing lugar matapos sabihin ng suspek sa kanyang mag-inang kapitbahay na sina Cristy Brucal at John Paul Saizon na napatay nito ang kanyang ina.

Kaya't tumawag ang mag-ina sa barangay na rumesponde sa lugar at nadatnan ang bangkay ng biktima na nakabalot sa kumot.

Narekober sa tabi ng bangkay ang martilyong ginamit ng suspek na nagsabi sa pulisya na sila ay nagkaroon ng mainitang pagtatalo ng kanyang ina na nauwi sa pagpatay. *-Cristina Timbang-*

Nina JOY CANTOS, RUDY ANDAL at RHODERICK BENEZ

Sa ika-147 araw ng krisis sa Marawi City ay napatay na ng tropa ng sundalo sa isinagawang assault operation ang dalawang mataas na lider ng ekstremistang Maute terror group na sina Omar Maute at Isnilon Hapilon kahapon ng madaling araw.

Kinumpirma ni Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana na patay na nga sina Hapilon at Maute nang salakayin ng mga sundalo ang lugar na pinagtataguan sa isang gusali sa lungsod matapos itong ituro ng nakatakas ng 16-anyos na babaeng bihag.

"Nakakuha ng testimonya ang tropa mula sa babaeng bihag na nakatakas at itinuro kung saang partikular na gusali nagtatago sina Isnilon at Maute kaya't isinagawa ang assault operation at napatay ang dalawang terorista at narekober ang bangkay ng dalawa" wika ni Lorenzana sa isang press conference.

"Yes, I confirm the killing of Hapilon at saka Omar Maute, early this morning. We were supposed to go to Marawi with the President pero were prevailed upon by the Commanders on the ground to postponed our trip because they are going to conduct the assault today," pahayag ni Lorenzana.

Nagresulta ang pagkakapaslang sa dalawang lider ng terorista ang pagkakaligtas ng 17 pang mga hostages sa battle zone.

Ayon naman kay AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año, dakong alas-2:00 ng madaling araw nang maglunsad ng assault operation ang Joint Task Force (JTF) Marawi sa battle zone na ikinasawi ng pitong terorista kabilang sina Hapilon at Omar.

Inamin ni Año na pakay pa ng kanilang operasyon ang nasa 40 Maute-ISIS kabilang si Dr. Ahmad Mahmoud, isang Malaysian ISIS terrorist na kasa-

mang nakikipagbakkakan.

Isasailalim sa DNA test ang mga bangkay nina Hapilon na may patong sa ulo ng \$ 5-M mula sa US at karagdagang P5-M mula sa gobyerno habang si Omar ay may patong sa ulo na P5-M.

Magugunita na una nang inianunsyo ng AFP nitong Setyembre base sa intelligence reports ang pagkamatay ng tatlong Maute brothers na sina Abdullah, Otto at Maddie Maute, pawang hindi narekober ang bangkay sa encounter site.

Sa pagkamatay nina Hapilon at Omar, sinabi ni Lorenzana na tatapusin na nila ang operasyon sa Marawi City sa mga susunod na araw.

"We will announce the termination of hostilities in the coming days once government forces have ensured that there are no more terrorists-stragglers in the city and we have cleared all structures of IEDs (Improvised Explosive Device) and other traps," ani Lorenzana.

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Balita

Page. 2

ANG NANGINGUNANG PAHAYAGANG TAGALOG SA BANSA P8.00

Omar Maute at Isnilon Hapilon, tepok!

Nina FRANCIS WAKEFIELD at FER TABOY

Kinumpirma kahapon ni Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año na pitong terorista ang napatay sa Marawi City, kabilang ang mga leade ng Maute Group na si Omarkhayam Maute at ang pinuno ng Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) na si Isnilon Hapilon, kasunod ng ground assault ng militar sa main battle area sa siyudad kahapon ng madaling araw.

Sa panayam sa telepono, sinabi ni Año na bukod sa mga bangkay nina Hapilon at Maute ay may limang bangkay ng terorista pa silang narekober, bagamat hindi pa natutukoy ang pagkakakilarlan ng mga ito.

Kasabay nito, kinumpirma rin ng AFP ang pagkakaligtas sa 17 bihag ng mga terorista kasunod ng apat na oras na matinding bakbakan, na sumuklab bandang 2:00 ng umaga.

SIMULA NG WAKAS

"It's an early morning encounter. Actually ang purpose ng tropa natin is to rescue the hostages," sabi ni Año. "Kasi naipon na natin sila sa isang block lang, dalawang buildings 'yung kinalalagyan, so 'yung mga hostages ang iire-rescue then nagkaroon ng bakbakan doon. So, kasamang napatay 'yung dalawa."

Sinabi rin ni Año na tuluy-tuloy ang isinasagawa nilang operasyon dahil may mga nalalabi pang terorista sa Marawi, na tinantiya niya sa "40 na lang"

"This is the end of this Maute

Group. Ibig sabihin nun, ito 'yung center of gravity nila, crumble na 'yan lahat," sabi ni Año. "Malapit na malapit na malapit na talaga ito."

MARTIAL LAW DI PA BABAWIIN

Kaugnay nito, sinabi naman ni Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana na hindi kaagad na babawiin ang ipinatutupad na batas militar sa Mindanao sa pagkakapatay kina Maute at Hapilon.

"No, we are not talking about lifting martial law yet, tingnan pa natin. We are only looking in the immediate aftermath of the killing of these two leaders. We may see, sabi ko nga, we may be lifting, i mean announcing the cessation of hostilities within this week and then after that we will find out," ani Lorenzana. "We will assess what the entire Mindanao if there is a need to recommend to the president the lifting of martial law."

'BRAVO ZULU'

Pinuri naman ng Malacañang ang pagkakapatay kina Hapilon at Maute makalipas ang halos limang buwang bakbakan sa Marawi.

Sinabi kahapon ni Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanar na matututukan na ngayon ng gobyerno ang rehabilitasyon ng siyudad.

"Bravo Zulu to the AFP. We look forward to raising Marawi from the ashes of conflict and building in a new era where people from the farthest reaches of this Republic can

share in the boon of progress," saad sa pahayag ni Andanar.

Ang Bravo Zulu, o "BZ", ay isang naval signal na kumbinasyon ng Bravo at Zulu nautical signal flags. Karaniwan itong ipinahahayag sa pagtataas ng bandila o sa voice radio at nangangahulugang "well done" ang isang operasyon, aktibidad, o pagtatanghal.

Isa namang welcome development para kay Marawi Bishop Edwin Dela Peña ang pagkamatay ng dalawang pasimuno sa Marawi crisis, at sinabing hudyat na ito ng nalalapit nang pagtatapos ng digmaan.

TERORISMO, TULDUKAN

Umaasa rin ang bispo na sa sandaling magtapos ang digmaan sa kanilang lungsod ay magsisimula na agad ang rehabilitasyon sa lungsod upang makabalik na roon ang mga residente at makapamuhay muli nang normal.

Samantala, sinabi naman ni Father Jerome Secillano, executive secretary ng Permanent Committee on Public Affairs ng Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), na hindi magtatapos ang terorismo sa Mindanao sa pagkamatay nina Hapilon at Maute – iginit na tanging ang pagbibigay-tuon ng pamahalaan sa edukasyon at pagpapaulad ng Mindanao ang susi paramahadlangan ang terorismo.

May ulat nina Argyll Geducos at Mary Ann Santiago

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TONIGHT

NEWS

Isnilon Hapilon, Omar Maute, 5 others killed, 17 civilians rescued in Marawi

By EFREN MONTANAO & ZAIDA DELOS REYES-PALANCA

SEVEN members of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)-inspired Maute Terror Group, including their hardcore leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute, were killed while 17 civilians were rescued by government troops shortly after they assaulted a building inside the main battle area yesterday morning in Marawi City.

This was confirmed yesterday by Presidential Spokesperson Ernesto Abella and Defense (DND) Secretary Delfin Lorenzana.

"We confirm that government forces killed Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon early morning today, the 16th of October, in Marawi City," Presidential Spokesperson Ernesto Abella said in a statement.

"Our operating units

have already recovered their bodies. Mopping up operations are now underway. Details of the operation will be released by the AFP as soon as permissible," Abella said.

"Yes, I confirm the killing of Hapilon at saka Omar Maute this morning (Monday)," Lorenzana said in a separate press briefing in Camp Aguinaldo.

Lorenzana said the troops conducted assault operation yesterday morning based on the account of a female hostage who was able to escape from the hands of the enemy, saying that the two leaders of the terrorist group were hiding in a particular building.

"She was able to confirm the presence of Isnilon and Maute in that particular building that we assaulted this morning," the DND chief said.

"Following their operational plan, they were able to get Hapilon Isnilon and Omar Maute; they were both killed. In fact, their

faces have already been splashed on the Internet and in the websites, plus they were able to recover 17 hostages," Lorenzana added.

AFP Chief of Staff General Eduardo Año said the operation started at around 2 a.m. yesterday and lasted at around 6 a.m.

With the death of Hapilon and Maute, Lorenzana said they are expecting that the crisis in Marawi will end soon.

"Ang implication nito ay malapit nang matapos yung Marawi incident natin, and we may announce the termination of hostilities in a couple of days," he said.

Año, on the other hand, said the death of two leaders of ISIS-Maute group will mean that the end of the crisis is near.

As of press time, Lorenzana said there are still terrorists in the area and the troops are still looking for another personality, identified as Dr. Mamud, a

Malaysian national who was reportedly hiding in one of the buildings in the main battle area.

Lorenzana said there were at least more than 20 more hostages left in the hands of the enemies.

In line with this, Lorenzana explained that bodies of the two terrorists leaders will be subjected to DNA examination for confirmation.

President Duterte has offered a P10-million reward for any information leading to the capture of Hapilon prior to his death.

The President also approved a P5-million reward each for the capture of Maute brothers Abdullah and Omar Abdulla and another sibling named Madie have been killed in the fighting in Marawi.

The new P10-million reward is in addition to the US\$5-million bounty offered by the United States government for Hapilon's head.

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Pahina. 2

LAST MEN DOWN

NAPATAY na sa pinatinding operasyon ng tropa ng pamahalaan ang lider ng Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) at nag-sisilbing emir ng ISIS sa Timog-Silangang Asya na si Isnilon Hapilon at ang isa sa mga lider ng Maute terror group na si Omar Maute.

Kinumpirma ni Defense Secretary Dellin Lorenzana na napalay sa operasyon ang dalawang lider-teronista kahapon ng umaga sa Marawi City.

Nakatakdang isailalim sa DNA test ang mga bangkay ng dalawang bandido para makumpirma ang kanilang pagkakakilanlan bunsod na rin ng malaking halaga na nakapatong sa kanilang mga ulo o reward money.

"Yes they will be subjected to DNA test because there are rewards coming from (a) foreign country and also from us. I think Maute has a P5 million reward on his head, Isnilon has a \$5 million reward on his head plus another P10 million yata from the government, so it's a huge money," ani Lorenzana.

Kasabay nito ay nailigtas ang tinatayang 17 bihag ng Maute-ISIS.

Nabatid kay Lorenzana na inilunsad ang opensiba batay sa testimonya ng isa sa mga babaeng nakaligtas sa pagkakabihag ng bandidong grupo na positibong itinuro ang pinagtataguang gusali nina Hapilon at Maute.

MARTIAL LAW TULOY PA RIN

Sa kabila ng pagkakapatay sa mga lider ng Maute na magbibigay tuldok sa karamihan sa Marawi City, sinabi ni Lorenzana na hindi pa rin napanahong bawiin ang Martial Law sa Mindanao at kaka-ilanganin munang suriin ang sitwasyon sa rehiyon.

"Ang implication nito ay malapit nang matapos 'yung

Marawi incident natin and we may announce the termination of hostilities in a couple of days. We are not talking about lifting martial law yet, tingnan pa natin. We are only looking in the immediate aftermath of the killing of these two leaders," ayon sa kalihim.

ISIS SA SEA LUSAW NA

Umaasa ang kalihim na ang pagkamatay nina Hapilon at Maute ay tatapos na rin sa ISIS sa Timog-Silangang Asya kasabay ng pagtiyak na dudurugin din nila sakaling may matukoy na terror cell ang mga

ito sa Basilan, Sulu at Central Mindanao.

"That will help eradicate them once and for all. Meron pa silang mga cells diyan, we believe that they still have cells in Basilan, Sulu, also in Central Mindanao but we will also get them," ani Lorenzana.

Ang itinuturing na financier ng Maute-ISIS terror group na si Dr. Mahmoud Ahmad ang tinutugis naman ngayon ng tropa ng gobyerno.

"According to some reports, he is still hiding in one of the buildings there and that's what they are trying to do now," pahayag ni Lorenzana.

Sinabi pa ni Lorenzana na may iba pang mga miyembro ng Maute ang napalay sa operasyon bukod kina Hapilon at Maute subalit hindi na muna ito nagbigay ng detalye.

Tiniyak pa ng kalihim na nakahanda rin ang militar at pulisya sakaling maghiganti ang mga natitirang miyembro ng Maute-ISIS terror group.

"We are prepared, our troops are prepared. Alam naman natin that it is the modus operandi of the enemy to make, to create diversion dito, diversion diyan, retaliation din, so our troops are prepared," diin ng kalihim **JEFF GALLOS**

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Pahina. 2

Sa pagkakapatay kina Hapilon at Omar Maute

Militar umani nang papuri

Binati kahapon ng Malacañang ang lahat ng magiging na sundalong naging bahagi ng operasyon sa Marawi City sa matagumpay na pagkakapaslang kina Omar Maute at ISIS Emir Isnilon Hapilon sa Marawi City kahapon ng madaling-araw.

Ayon kay Presidential Communications Sec. Martin Andanar, muling umangang nahayag ang malasakit at pagtupad ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa kanyang mga ipinangako sa tagumpay ng militar na mapaslang sina Omar Maute at Isnilon Hapilon sa Marawi City.

Ang tagumpay na ito ay nagpapakita lamang na totoo ang pangako ng Pangulo na dadalhin nito ang

kapayapaan at kaunlaran sa mga taga-Mindanao," ani Sec. Andanar.

Sa ngayon, itutuon na aniya ng pamahalaan ang pansin sa rehabilitasyon at rekonstruksyon sa Marawi sa oras na matapos ang clearing operations ng militar upang maging kabahagi na ang lungsod sa patuloy na pag-unlad ng buong bansa.

Bukod sa Palasyo, umani ng papuri mula sa mga senador ang militar sa pagkakapatay Hapilon at Omar.

Ayon kay Senator Juan Miguel Zubiri, dapat lamang na papurihan ang lahat na kasali sa military at police operations sa Marawi City, kabilang na ang mga civilian intelli-

gence assets.

Ayon pa kay Zubiri, inabot ng dalawang taon bago nabawi ng Russian forces ang Mosul sa Syria pero sa loob lamang ng limang buwan ay nabawi ng militar ang Marawi City mula sa mga terorista.

Sinabi naman ni Senator Gregorio Honasan na bagaman ay napatay na sina Hapilon at Omar Maute, hindi pa rin matuturing na tapos na ang labanan.

Pinuri rin ni Senator Antonio Trillanes ang militar sa pagkakapatay sa dalawang lider ng Maute group. Aniya, nangangahulugan ito ng pagtatapos ng kaguluhan sa Marawi City. (Rudy Andal/Maique Escudero)



Nagbunyi ang tropa ng pamahalaan na sumasabak sa bakbakan sa Marawi City laban sa Maute/ISIS inspired extremists matapos nilang mapatay sa assault operations ang dalawang lider ng naturang teroristang grupo na sina Isnilon Hapilon at Omar Maute kahapon ng madaling araw sa battle zone ng lungsod. (Kuha ni Capt. Monroe Bongyard/3rd Scout Ranger Battalion)

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FILE FILES

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Malakanyang pinuri ang militar sa pagkakapatay kina Omar Maute at Hapilon

IKINALUGOD ng Malakanyang ang nagawa ng magigiting na sundalo na nagsakripisyo sa naganap na giyera sa Marawi City

“This clear proves the Duterte administration’s resoluteness in delivering on its promise of peace and prosperity to the people of Mindanao,” sinabi ni Presidential Communication Operations Secretary Martin Andanar.

Nagpaabot din ng pagbati si Secretary Andanar sa lahat ng magigiting na sundalong naging bahagi ng operasyon sa Marawi City sa matagumpay na

pagkakapaslang kina Omar Maute at ISIS Emir Isnilon Hapilon.

Ayon kay Andanar, muli umanong nahayag ang malasakit at pagtupad ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa kaniyang mga ipinangako sa tagumpay ng militar na mapaslang sina Omar Maute at Isnilon Hapilon sa Marawi City.

Aniya ang tagumpay na ito ay nagpapakita lamang na totoo ang pangako ng pangulo na dadalhin nito ang kapayapaan at kaunlaran sa mga taga-Mindanao.

Sa kabila aniya ng mga kritisismo na ibinabato sa

administrasyon, hindi nagpatinag ang presidente at ipinagpatuloy ang pagbawi sa Marawi City gamit ang kaniyang buong magagawa.

“Despite the criticism of his detractors, President Duterte pushed on unrelenting campaign to take back Marawi City through all means at his disposal,” wika ni Andanar.

Gijit pa ni Andanar, muling ipinakita ng pangulo ang madalas nitong ipinapahayag na gagawin nito ang lahat ng bagay, maging ang pag-sasakripisyo sa kaniyang

sarili para protektahan lamang ang sambayanan.

“We have a President who demonstrates in and day out that he will spare nothing even himself for the good of our people,” dagdag pa ni Sec Andanar.

Sa kasalukuyan, itutuon na aniya ng pamahalaan ang pansin sa rehabilitasyon at rekonstruksyon sa Marawi sa oras na matapos ang clearing operations ng militar upang maging kabahagi na ang lungsod sa patuloy na pag-unlad ng buong bansa.

(Vanz Fernandez)

17 October 2017

Pahina. 2

AFP PINAPURIHAN NG KAMARA

BINATI at pinasalamatan ng mga kongresista ang mga opisyal at tauhan ng Armed Forces of the Philippines sa pagkakapatay sa dalawang lider ng pagkubkob sa Marawi City.

"Oorah and Hoohah to the soldiers of the Republic!"

Binigyang-diin ni Muntinlupa Rep. Ruffly Blazon na ang pagkakapatay sa bakbakan kina Isnilon Hapilon at Omar Maute ay malaking tagumpay sa paglaban sa terorismo ng Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Tinaya ng kongresista na ito ang hudyat upang panghi-naan ng loob ang mga terorista na dapat samantalain ng sundalo sa paglugis sa iba pang kasapi ng gupo.

Iminungkahi ng kongresista ang pagtugon ngayon sa mga lumabang sundalo upang bakahin ang Post Traumatic Stress Disorder na marahil ay tinataglay ng ilan.

Umaasa naman si Quezon City Rep. Winston Castelo na ito na ang pagtatapos ng kaguluhahan sa Marawi.

Ang pagkakapastang anya kay Hapilon, na itinalaga bilang Islamic State emir sa Southeast Asia ay tagumpay ng paglaban sa terorismo hindi lang sa bansa kundi sa buong mundo.

CBCP: DIGMAAN MALAPIT NANG MATAPOS

NATUTUWA ang isang obispo ng Mindanao sa ulat hinggil sa pagkamatay ng mga lider ng ISIS-Maute group na sina Isnilon Hapilon at Omar Maute.

Ayon kay Marawi Bishop Edwin Dela Peña, isang welcome development ito, dahil ito'y hudyat anya ng nalalapit na pagtatapos ng digmaan sa Marawi City.

Umaasa rin ang obispo na

sa sandaing magtapos ang digmaan sa kanilang lungsod ay magsisimula na rin ang rehabilitasyon doon upang makabalik na ang mga residente at makapamuhay muli nang normal.

Nanatangin din siya na mailigtas ng mga sundalo ang mga binag ng mga terorista dahil hindi magiging ganap ang kanyang kaligayahan hangga't baid niyang may mga residente pang hawak ang mga bandido.

Naniniwala ang obispo na ang digmaan at kaguluhan ang isa sa dahilan kung bakit maraming lugar sa Mindanao region ang nananatiling mahirap.

Samantala, sinabi naman ni Father Jerome Secillano, executive secretary ng Permanent Committee on Public Affairs ng Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, na hindi magtatapos ang terorismo sa Mindanao sa pagkamatay nina Isnilon Hapilon at Omar Maute.

MGA SUNDALO PINURI NG MALAKANYANG

"Bravo Zulu to the AFP!"

Ito ang pagbali ni Presidential Communications Office Sec. Martin Andanan sa lahat ng magiging na sundalong naging bahagi ng operasyon sa Marawi City sa matagumpay na pagkakapastang kina Omar Maute at ISIS Emir Isnilon Hapilon.

Ang ibig sahihin Bravo Zulu sa military ay "well done".

Ani Sec. Andanan, ang tagumpay ng tropa ng pamahalaan laban sa terorismo ay patunay lang na walang makapipigil kay Pangulong Duterte na tuparin ang kanyang pangako na kapayapaan at kasaganahan sa mga tao sa Mindanao.

Kaya nga anya, nakatuon ngayon ang kanilang pansin sa pagbangon ng Marawi mula sa abo ng glyerang nilikha ng Maute group at pagtaguyod ng bagong era para sa mga ito.

Sa kabila anya ng mga kritisismo na ibinabato sa administrasyon, hindi nagpatinag ang presidente at ipinagpatuloy ang pagbawi sa Marawi City gamit ang kanyang buong magagawa. **MELIZA MALUNTAG, MACS BORJA at KRIS JOSE**

October 2017

Page. 3

Palace hails terrorist leaders' killing

"BRAVO Zulu to the AFP!" Malacañang declared yesterday as Presidential Communications Office Secretary Martin Andanar hailed the Armed Forces of the Philippines following the confirmation that terrorist leaders Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon were killed in Marawi City.

"Bravo Zulu to the AFP," Andanar said in a statement to reporters.

"We look forward to raising Marawi from the ashes of conflict and building in a new era where people from the farthest reaches of this Republic can share in the boon of progress," he added.

Andanar also said the developments in Marawi City would show that the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte is determined to end the crisis.

"This clear victory against terrorism proves the Duterte administration's resoluteness in delivering on its promise of peace and prosperity to the people of Mindanao," he said.

"Despite the criticisms of his detractors, President Duterte pushed on an unrelenting campaign to take back Marawi City through all means at his disposal. We have a President who demonstrates day in and day out that he will spare nothing, not even himself, for the good of our people," he added.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana earlier confirmed that Maute and Hapilon were killed in an operation early Monday.

While the two leaders were killed, he added that government troops are still hunting down alleged Maute financier Dr. Mahmoud Ahmad.

Presidential spokesperson Ernesto Abella said that an initial report from AFP ground commanders in Marawi mentioned that both Maute and Hapilon were neutralized while government troops were conducting

an operation to retake the remaining stronghold of the terrorists in the city.

"Our operating units have already recovered their bodies... Mopping up operations are now underway. Details of the operation will be released by the AFP as soon as permissible," Abella said.

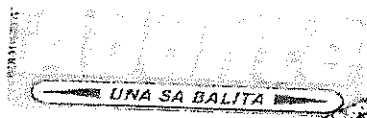
He added that the termination of hostilities would be announced once government troops neutralize or capture the remaining terrorists holed up in Marawi and once they clear all structures of improvised explosive devices and other traps.

"Once the fighting stops and the clearing operations end, we will put our efforts and energies on the challenging task of rebuilding and rehabilitating Marawi," Abella said.

E Montano

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Pahina. 2

Hapilon, Omar patay na! Malaysian financier isusunod

Napatay sa apat na oras ng matinding bakbakan ang Abu Sayyaf leader na si Isnilon Hapilon at Maute Group leader Omar Maute sa Marawi City kahapon ng madaling-araw, ayon kay Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana.

Sa ngayon, isa na lang aniya ang target ng military na tumatayong lider ng mga terorista na si Mahmud Ahmad, ang Malaysian terrorist financier na siyang 'link' ng local militants sa Islamic State group.

Tinutugis na aniya ng military sa main battle area ng Marawi si Ahmad.

Kasama ni Hapilon si Ahmad na pumasok sa Marawi nang sumiklab ang giyera sa lungsod noong Mayo 23, 2017.

Sinabi ni Lorenzana na isasailalim din nila sa DNA test ang mga bangkay nina Hapilon at Maute.

Ayon naman kay Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief of staff Gen. Eduardo Año, alas-dos ng madaling-araw kahapon nang magsimula ang matinding sagupaan sa main battle area ng Marawi na nagtapos ng alas-sais ng umaga.

Bukod kina Hapilon at Maute, may limang terorista pa ang napatay habang 17 mga bihag ang nailigtas.

"Actually ang purpose ng tropa natin kaniyang madaling-araw ay to rescue the hostages, kasi naipon na natin sila sa isang block lang, dalawang building 'yung kinalalagyan, so 'yung

mga hostages ang ini-rescue then nagkaroon ng matinding bakbakan du'n so kasamang napatay 'yung dalawa, sina Isnilon Hapilon at Omar Maute."

pahayag ni Año. Sinabi ni Año na unang na-rescue ng mga tropa ang 17 bihag at sinundan ito ng matinding bakbakan na nagresulta sa pagkakapatay sa grupo nina Hapilon at Maute.

Una nang nag-alok ang Estados Unidos ng \$5 million reward laban kay Hapilon bukod pa sa P10 milyong pabuya na inalok ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte. Nag-alok din ang Pangulo ng tig-P5 milyon para makuha nang buhay o patay si Omar at mga kapatid nito. (Betchai Julian/Red Fortaleza/Al Jacinto)

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POLICE FILES

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Ulo ni Hapilon may halagang P520 milyon

INANUNSYO ni Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana na isasailalim sa DNA testing ang mga bangkay nina Isnilon Hapilon at Omar Maute. Ayon kay Lorenzana, ito ay dahil may mga nalalaang pabuya sa pagkakapaslang sa mga ito na mula sa US at Philip-

pine government. Aminado ang Defense chief na napakalaking halaga ng pera ang makuhanang reward money ng nagsilbing informant.

“Yes they will be subjected to DNA test because there are rewards coming from foreign country and also from US,” ani

Lorenzana.

Nabatid na tumatagting na \$10 million ang nakapatong sa ulo ni Hapilon mula sa US government habang P10 million naman mula sa Philippine government.

Habang kay Maute, nasa P5 million ang reward na nakapatong sa ulo nito.

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Pahina. 3



**Hapilon at Maute
kahit napatay na**
**TERORISMO SA 'PINAS,
'DI MATATAPOS — CBCP**

HINDI umano sa pagkamatay nina Isnilon Hapilon at Omar Maute natatapos ang terorismo sa Mindanao. Ito ang igmit ni Father Jerome Secillano, executive secretary ng Permanent Committee on Public Affairs ng Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) matapos kumpirmahin ni Defense Sec. Delfin Lorenzana na patay na sina Hapilon at Maute. "Rejoicing in the death of these terrorists will merely be temporary. Their death doesn't mean the end of terror groups in the country," pahayag

ni Secillano. Ayon kay Secillano, tanging ang pagbibigay-tuon ng pamahalaan sa edukasyon at pagpapaunlad ng Mindanao ang susi para mahadlangan ang terorismo. "There must be a wholistic approach to thwarting terrorism. Education, employment, poverty eradication and infrastructure development should only be some of the measures that this government should undertake if only to dismantle, or at least, weaken the influence of terrorist cells," ayon pa kay Secillano. Ayon naman kay Marawi Bishop Edwin Dela Peña, isang welcome deve-

lopment ito dahil ito'y hudvat aniya ng nalalapit nang pagtatapos ng digmaan sa Marawi City. Umaasa rin ang Obispo na sa sandaling magtapos ang digmaan sa kanilang lungsod, magsisimula na rin ang rehabilitasyon doon

upang makabalik na ang mga residente at makapamuhay muli nang normal. Naniniwala ang Obispo na ang digmaan at kaguluhan ang isa sa dahilan kung bakit maraming lugar sa Mindanao Region ang nananatiling mahirap. (Madel Moratillo)

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MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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NPA's shoot troopers at school; 1 dies, 1 hurt

By **FREDDIE G. LAZARO**
and **MAR T. SUPNAD**

CAMP QUIRINO, Ilocos Sur - A soldier was killed and another wounded seriously in an encounter with New People's Army (NPA) rebels who attacked while they were conducting socio-civic activities with residents

at the Patiacan Elementary School in Quirino town, this province last Sunday.

Lieutenant Colonel Eugenio Julio C. Osias IV, the commander of the army's 81st Infantry Battalion (81IB), said the shooting happened at 2:45 p.m. and killed of Private 1st Class (PFC) Peter John Ramos Villanueva of Macabebe, Pampanga and wounded PFC

Ismael Michael Mama, 26, of Butulan, Zambales.

Both troopers were taken to the Primary Health Care Facility, Poblacion, Quirino Ilocos Sur but Villanueva was declared dead on arrival by the attending physician. Dr. Ringo George

B Querer. Mama, on the other hand, was transferred to the Ilocos Training Regional Medical Center, Parian, San Fernando City, La Union for further treatment.

Osias condemned the rebel attack, saying the troopers from the 81IB were conducting "bayanihan" activities together with civilian populace when fired upon by more or less two guerrillas believed belonging to the NPA's Kilusang Larangang Guerilya (KLG) Montes.

"Upon realizing the community was being attacked, our troops were immediately secured the teachers and students who were with them beautifying and fixing the school premises," he added.

He disclosed that the Community Support Program Team of the army's 81st Infantry Battalion was deployed in Barangay Patiacan, Quirino, Ilocos Sur to conduct bayanihan activities and provide basic needs through the support of the LGU that will aid the residents in the socio-economic aspects of the said community.

The firefight came six days after an improvised explosive device (IED) was hurled at the Barangay Hall of Barangay Patungcaleo, Quirino. The IED landed on the building's second floor and did not explode, but caused fear among civilians in the area.

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MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATIONAL LEADER OF THE PHILIPPINES

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Palace hails AFP, eyes immediate Marawi rehab

By ARGYLL CYRUS B. GEDUCOS

"Bravo Zulu!"

Malacañang has commended the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) for finally being able to neutralize terrorist group leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute after almost five months of armed struggle.

According to Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanan, the government is now looking forward to the rehabilitation of the besieged Marawi City. ▶6

Palace hails AFP, eyes... ◀1

"Bravo Zulu to the AFP. We look forward to raising Marawi from the ashes of conflict and building in a new era where people from the farthest reaches of this Republic can share in the boon of progress," Andanan said in a statement.

Bravo Zulu, also referred to as "BZ," is a naval signal, is a combination of the Bravo and Zulu nautical signal flags. It is typically conveyed by flaghoist or voice radio, meaning "Well Done" with regard to actions, operations or performance.

Andanan also noted that the deaths of the two leaders prove the government's resolve to deliver peace in the country.

"This clear victory against terrorism proves the Duterte administration's resoluteness in delivering on its promise of peace and prosperity to the

people of Mindanao," Andanan said in a statement.

Meanwhile, lawmakers expressed relief over the highly probable end to the five-month Marawi city siege following the death of Hapilon and Maute.

Sen. Francis Pangilinan, president of the opposition Liberal Party (LP), said the announcement by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) of the death of the two terrorists is an important development because the AFP lost a big number of soldiers as a result of the terrorists' activities in Marawi city led by the Maute Group.

Sen. Gregorio B. Honasan II, chairman of the Senate National Defense and Security Committee, said the big sacrifice shouldered by Filipino soldiers leading to the neutralization of Hapilon and Omar Maute "is a positive

development."

"But the battle for the hearts and minds of our people is not won by body count," Honasan said.

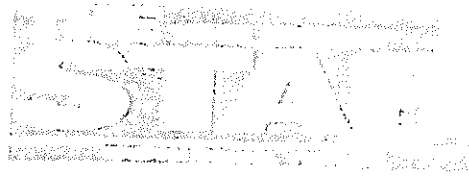
"To fight terrorism, insurgency, secession, injustice, oppression and deeper forms of violence, we need good government, delivery of basic services (such as) food, clothing, shelter, education and health to begin with," he stressed.

Quezon Rep. Winston Castelo said people in the free world, not only Filipinos, should laud the country's soldiers for its significant achievement.

Castelo, chairman of the House Committee on Metropolitan Manila Development, said the confirmation of the death of Hapilon and Maute is one of the most welcome developments achieved by the country's military personnel under the leadership of their commander-in-chief, President Duterte. (With reports from Mario B. Casayuran and Ben R. Rosario)

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'Marawi rehab to start as siege over'

By ROEL PAREÑO

ZAMBOANGA CITY - The death of Isnilon Hapilon and Omarkhayam Maute marked the end of the siege of Marawi City and the beginning of the healing process and rehabilitation of the people in the Islamic city, said Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) Gov. Mujiv Hataman.

"What happened in Marawi is sheer violence and terror rearing its ugly head against true Muslims and Moros, and yet it has failed to break our shared faith and our collective spirit," Hataman said.

Hapilon, Abu Sayyaf leader and the designated emir of the Islamic State (IS) in Southeast Asia, and Maute, the remaining leader of the Maute group, were killed by Army Scout Rangers during pre-dawn operations yesterday that also led to the rescue of 17 hostages.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said he would assess whether to lift martial law in Mindanao.

He said all cities in Mindanao with 22 million residents were vulnerable to attacks, but authorities would remain vigilant.

Sen. Juan Miguel Zubiri, who hails from Bukidnon in Mindanao, called for the continued implementation of martial law until Dec. 31, at least in Marawi, "so that human, material and financial resources can be fully utilized and rehabilitation will be achieved at a shorter time, sooner than later."

Hataman assured the people of Marawi of the immediate rehabilitation of the thousands of residents affected by the fighting.

"Trust that we will remain in the service of the people as we end this dark time of our history, and will continue to provide the necessary resources and assistance to facilitate the transition and return to Marawi City with as much ease as possible," he said.

He also cited the Maranao people's unity that helped reclaim peace in Marawi, the most famous Islamic city in the Philippines.

He said the death of Hapilon would also hamper the operations of Abu Sayyaf bandits in Basilan and Sulu.

The killing of Hapilon left Furuji Indama as the remaining top Abu Sayyaf leader in

Basilan.

Armed Forces chief Gen. Eduardo Año said the end of the fighting in Marawi would allow the military to focus operations against the Abu Sayyaf group in Basilan and Sulu and the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters in Central Mindanao.

Marawi Bishop Edwin dela Peña yesterday said that he feels relieved to hear that the leadership of the terrorist groups is already crumbling.

Ozamiz Archbishop Martin Jumoad said that the deaths of Hapilon and Maute, who have taken control and made Marawi City their stronghold since May 23, signifies the victory for peace and order.

Maranao regional lawmaker Zia Alonto Adiong of ARMM's 24-member Regional Assembly said the bigger challenge now is the rebuilding of Marawi.

The city was devastated by firefights between state forces and combined Abu Sayyaf and Maute gunmen who occupied key areas, dislocating more than 200,000 residents.

Relatives of Hapilon in Basilan told The STAR that his criminal activities have

brought them shame.

"Kahit kaming mga walang kinalaman sa mga gawain niya napag-itan ng pulis at militar. Malaking kahihyan ang kanyang mga pinagagawa (We the innocent relatives are being harassed by the military and police, his activities brought as shame)," said a cousin of Hapilon who works in a government office in Mindanao.

Administration lawmakers commended the Armed Forces of the Philippines for a job well done for the death of Hapilon and Maute.

"Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana's confirmation of the death of Hapilon and Maute validated the gains of the AFP against the Islamic State and the military's vow to end the crisis soon," Quezon City Rep. Winston Castelo said.

"The honest-to-goodness campaign of our soldiers to put an end to terrorism in Marawi finally paid off. We salute our officers and men of the armed forces, especially those directly involved in the killing of Hapilon and Maute," Isabela Rep. Rodolfo Albano III said.

- With Delon Porcalla, Evelyn Macairan, Paolo Romero, John Unson, Reuters

17 October

INQUIRER

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DEATHS OF TERRORIST LEADERS

'ALLAH ANSWERED MY PRAYERS'

By the Inquirer Staff
@Team_Inquirer

MARAWI CITY—"Allah answered my prayers," Nairah Ampaso, 28, a mother of five, said on Monday after learning that government troops had killed Isnilon Hapilon and Omarkhayam Maute, the last two leaders of the pro-Islamic State (IS) terrorists who seized this city nearly four months ago.

"We prayed that these leaders would be killed. I am happy that they are dead," Ampaso told the Inquirer.

"I hope their deaths mean the end of the war and we can return to our homes," she said.

Victory over terrorism

In Manila, Malacañang hailed the deaths of Hapilon and Maute as a "clear victory against terrorism."

Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Martin Andanar lauded the Armed Forces of the Philippines for killing the two terrorist leaders and said the government looked forward to rebuilding Marawi.

"This clear victory against terrorism proves the Duterte administration's resoluteness in delivering on its promise of peace and prosperity to the people of Mindanao," Andanar said.

Lawmakers also lauded the military for killing Hapilon and Maute, who had pledged allegiance to IS and seized large parts of Marawi on May 23 to establish an IS enclave in Southeast Asia.

Sen. Gregorio Honasan II, a former military officer, said the

deaths of Hapilon and Maute were a "positive development" but he emphasized that first there must be an efficient delivery of basic services to the people to fully combat terrorism and other forms of violence.

"The battle [for] the hearts and minds of our people is not won by body count," said Honasan, chair of the Senate special committee formed to assess and review the rehabilitation of Marawi.

End of hostilities

Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, also a former military officer, said he hoped the deaths of the two terrorist leaders signified the end of hostilities.

"This decisive victory is a fitting honor to our soldiers, both fallen and living, who bravely fought in this campaign," he said.

Sen. Miguel Zubiri, who is from Mindanao, said he supported keeping martial law in Marawi up to the end of the year to allow full use of human, material and financial resources and ensure the rehabilitation of the city would be achieved in a shorter time.

Sen. Sonny Angara said rebuilding Marawi was the government's urgent task.

"We must do whatever it takes for the people of Marawi to safely return to their city the soonest possible time and for vital infrastructure to be restored," he said.

Sen. JV Ejercito called on the government to learn from the lessons of Marawi "by strengthening our intelligence and counterterrorism initiatives."

The terrorists surprised the

military by easily seizing Marawi on May 23, laying siege to it, and lasting nearly four months in battling government forces for control of the city.

Beginning of the end

Catholic bishops said they believed the deaths of Hapilon and Maute would lead to the end of the crisis.

"Crumbling leadership signals the beginning of the end," Marawi Bishop Edwin de la Peña said.

Ozamiz Bishop Martin Jumoan said the deaths of the two terrorist leaders meant "the victory of peace and order in our society."

"Praise God. This serves as a lesson that evil must be conquered so that goodness may reign," he said.

Zia Alonto Adiong, spokesperson for the Lanao del Sur crisis management committee, said the deaths of the two terrorist leaders indicated that the war was coming to an end.

"We are very happy. This is what we are waiting for. This is an indication that the war is over," he said.

For Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Gov. Mujiv Hataman, the deaths of Hapilon and Maute meant "the end of the siege of Marawi."

But "it also marks the beginning of a long but necessary process of healing and recovery among our people," he added.

—REPORTS FROM JOFFREY MAITEM, RICHEL UMEL, ALLAN NAWAL, JULIE S. ALIPALA, PHILIP C. TUBEZA, JOCELYN R. UY AND TINA G. SANTOS INQ

17 October 2017

STAR

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'IS still a threat in Southeast Asia'

KUALA LUMPUR - The reported death of Islamic State (IS)'s top leader in Southeast Asia is a major blow to the jihadists, but analysts warn it remains a potent threat, with battle-hardened fighters set to return from the Middle East.

IS regional head Isnilon Hapilon was killed early yesterday during a military offensive to end the months-long siege of the city of Marawi, which has cost hundreds of lives.

The military said the lead-

er, who was on the US most wanted terrorists list, died in a dawn offensive alongside Omarkhayam Maute, who allied with Hapilon to plot the takeover of the city.

IS-supporting gunmen had overrun Marawi in May following a foiled attempt by security forces to arrest Hapilon.

Hapilon, a key figure in kidnap-for-ransom outfit Abu Sayyaf, emerged as leader of IS in Southeast Asia in 2016 when a video appeared showing

militants from the group urging extremists to unite under his leadership.

Omar Maute was a leader of the Maute group, a ragtag outfit that emerged from a decades-old Muslim separatist rebellion in Mindanao. His group also pledged allegiance to IS and joined forces with Hapilon to overrun Marawi.

Hapilon and Maute were the final two extremist leaders holding out against a military

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IS still From Page 1

offensive to oust the militants from Marawi. Last month Abdullah Maute - another key leader of the Maute group and Omarkhayam's brother - was killed in the fighting.

Hapilon was key to IS's efforts to establish a base in Southeast Asia as the jihadists increasingly lose ground in the Middle East. His reported killing is undoubtedly a blow for the jihadists, analysts said.

'Symbolic blow'

His death is "a significant operational and symbolic blow to IS-linked groups in Mindanao and to ISIS Central in Syria as well," said Kumar Ramakrishna, a terrorism expert from Singapore's S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, using another name for the group.

But he cautioned that it was far from the end of IS in the strife-torn southern Philippines or Southeast Asia.

"Just because the Marawi siege is coming to an end

does not mean the threat is over. IS-linked militants there will regroup... and lay low for a while, while rebuilding their strength," he said.

He said a Malaysian militant involved in the Marawi siege, Mahmud Ahmad, would if he is still alive likely rise up to lead the IS-linked fighters in the southern Philippines and stay in contact with the jihadists in the Middle East.

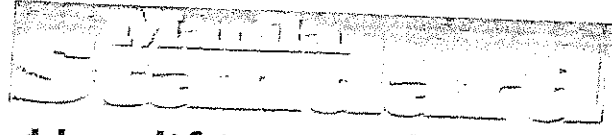
Mahmud Ahmad is reported to be a university lecturer in his home country who was in charge of raising finances from abroad for the jihadists and recruitment.

It is not clear how many IS-supporting militants there are in Southeast Asia, a region of more than 600 million people, but many local militant outfits have pledged allegiance to the group.

Hundreds of militants are believed to have flocked to the Middle East to fight with IS - particularly from Indonesia, which has the world's biggest Muslim population, and the Philippines. -

-AFP

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Martial law lifting eyed; mopping up begins

DEFENSE Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said Monday the military will announce the termination of hostilities once government forces have ensured there are no more terrorists left in Marawi City and once they have cleared all structures of bombs and other traps.

"After the fighting stops, we will refocus our efforts on the challenging task of rebuilding and rehabilitating Marawi," he said.

Lorenzana, as martial law

administrator, said he would discuss the possible lifting of military rule with President Rodrigo Duterte, who imposed it on Mindanao after Maute group terrorists overran Marawi on May 23.

In the House, Magdalo Party-list Rep. Gary Alejano said martial law in Mindanao should now be lifted following the killing of terrorist leaders Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon in Marawi City as confirmed by

the Armed Forces.

"The death of Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon was proof that the Armed Forces succeeded in its fight against terrorism in Marawi," Alejano said as he commended Lorenzana, Armed Forces chief Gen. Eduardo Aro and the military officers and troops who put an end to the crisis in Marawi.

"To those who went ahead, my snappy salute. You will

Next page

Martial...

From A1

forever be remembered. You did not die in vain," Alejano said.

He added: "In view of recent event, I hope that the lifting of martial law in the whole of Mindanao be considered sooner than later, as also promised by the President."

He said the government must now focus on the rebuilding and rehabilitation of Marawi at the soonest possible time.

A task force to oversee the rehabilitation of Marawi City on Monday sent out five teams to assess the damage to 24 barangays in the war-torn city.

In a statement, Task Force Bangon Marawi spokesperson Kristoffer James Purisima said the Office of Civil Defense will lead the post-conflict needs assessment teams comprised of 145 members in total.

Purisima said the teams left the National Emergency Operations Center in Iligan City Monday morning to assess the dam-

age and losses incurred due to the ongoing conflict.

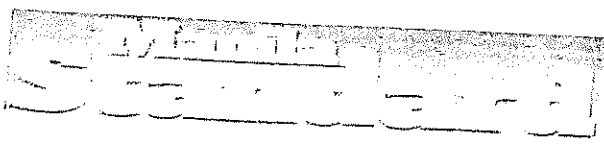
Each team was assigned to assess a number of barangays declared cleared by the Armed Forces, referred to as Zones 0 to 12.

Before the field deployment, security briefings, and reorientation were conducted at the operations center on Oct. 14 and 15.

The teams are expected to complete their field deployment, including data analysis, consolidation, and report development on Oct. 27. Maricel V. Cruz

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Malaysian, 7 other terrorists hold out

By Francisco Tuyay and AFP

SECURITY forces have yet to neutralize eight foreign terrorists, including the Malaysian financier, recruiter and architect of the attack on Marawi City, Armed Forces chief Gen. Eduardo Año said Monday.

In a briefing in Marawi City hours after the death of Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute, Año said government troops were still hunting Mahmud Ahmad, a former lecturer at University Malaya who was believed to have financed and planned the Marawi City siege.

Aside from Mahmud, several Malaysian and Indonesian jihadists are still holed up inside the main battle area, Año said.

"We counted maybe less than eight. Based on the information we gathered, one of the prominent terrorists

is Mahmud, a Malaysian who is still in the main battle area," Año said, noting that the remnants were no longer as aggressive as they were before. "We are very optimistic that we will get all of them."

In the early stages of the siege, the military reported killing seven foreign terrorists.

Mahmud reportedly lured bandits with huge amounts of money to join the terrorist group headed by Hapilon and Maute.

Mahmud was among the five prominent Malaysian terrorists with links to IS who left their country in 2014 after the Malaysia launched a crackdown on Islamic militants.

Malaysian Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Ahmad Hamidi said the five militants were associated with Daulah Islamiya Asia Tenggara, a Southeast Asian terror network with links to IS.

Next page

Malaysian...

From A1

Reports said Mahmud channeled millions of dollars to Mindanao to finance the Marawi attack.

Lorenzana said Mahmud was still hiding in one of the structures within the main battle area.

An expert on terrorism from Singapore's S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Kumar Ramakrishna, said Hapilon's death was "a significant operational and symbolic blow to IS-linked groups," but warned that it was far from the end of IS in Southeast Asia.

"Just because the Marawi

siege is coming to an end does not mean the threat is over. IS-linked militants there will regroup... and lay low for a while, while rebuilding their strength," he said.

He said Mahmud would, if he is still alive, likely rise up to lead the IS-linked fighters in Mindanao and stay in contact with the jihadists in the Middle East.

It is not clear how many IS-supporting militants there are in Southeast Asia, a region of more than 600 million people, but many local militant outfits have pledged allegiance to the group.

Hundreds of militants are believed to have flocked to the Middle East to fight with IS -- particularly from Indonesia,

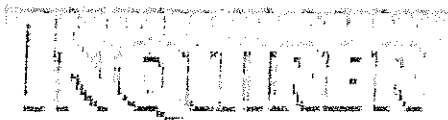
which has the world's biggest Muslim population, and the Philippines.

Sidney Jones, head of Jakarta-based security think-tank the Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict, warned authorities now faced a growing threat of battle-hardened fighters returning to Southeast Asia as the noose closes on IS in the Middle East, with their former stronghold of Raqqa close to being captured.

Authorities have been particularly concerned about a Southeast Asian unit of IS fighters in Syria, Khatibah Nusantara.

"I think the attention is going to shift back again to the return of fighters from Syria and Iraq," she said.

October



Page: AG

OBITUARY

**FINAL SALUTE FOR ROMEO LIM,
OFFICER AND GENTLEMAN**

Retired Col. Romeo Lim, the former chief of staff of the Army's elite First Scout Rangers Regiment and key player in the 1986 EDSA Revolution, died last Sunday.

He was 70.

Lim, a recipient of the Gold Cross Medal and Distinguished Service Star, was mentor to many other officers who excelled in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, including then Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim, who is now chair of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority.

He left behind his children, grandchildren and sisters.

Lim was chief of staff of the late Brig. Gen. Felix Brawner, who headed the elite Army unit during the 1986 People Power revolt.

At the height of the bloodless revolution that toppled the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, Lim prevented the First Scout Rangers Regiment from joining forces loyal to

Marcos which was trying to crush the mutiny led by then Defense chief Juan Ponce Enrile and AFP vice chief of staff Fidel V. Ramos.

This kept the highly trained Scout Rangers from providing support to Marcos' forces.

The regiment, however, was later disbanded after it was implicated in the failed 1989 coup against then President Corazon Aquino.

Lim, a native of Southern Leyte, also headed the 5th Scout Ranger Battalion in San Carlos City, where he won the people's hearts and minds by building a hospital funded by private individuals. The battalion provided the labor.

In 2003, former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo conferred on Lim the Gawad ng Kaunlaran award for his pro-people projects outside combat.

Lim's remains lie at Libingan ng mga Bayani chapel. Interment is scheduled at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

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Army reservist shot dead

AN Army reservist working as a VIP security escort was shot dead by his colleague over an argument about their work in Marikina City Sunday night.

Reports reaching Eastern Police District (EPD) director Chief Supt. Romulo Sapitula identified the victim as Randy Santos, 35, of Tambakan, Pagrai, Antipolo City.

Police are now hunting down the suspect, identified as Jay Jalapadan, also an Army reservist, of PSS Lacolina Santan St., Fortune, Marikina City.

Chief Insp. Eduardo Cayetano, Marikina Police Criminal Investigation chief, said the incident transpired at the house of one Arnold de Torres, 48, married, tricycle driver, of Bgy Fortune at 8:10 p.m.

The victim and the suspect, together with a certain Carandang, were having a drinking spree at the said house, when they talked about their work as VIP security escort of a politician, whose was not given by the police, and ended up in a heated altercation.

However, Cayetano said the two were pacified by De Torres and the suspect decided to go home.

Minutes later, the suspect came back armed with a handgun and shot the victim several times, killing him instantly. He then fled.

Ariene Rivera

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12 October 2017

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DEAD



EDITORIAL

Still most trusted

THE latest independent poll results are decidedly more consistent with the prevailing public confidence in the Duterte administration.

Considering the actual popular mood in the field, the latest Pulse Asia survey outcome is a more reliable barometer of the general public acceptance of President Duterte's policies.

An earlier survey showed opposite result, generating a swift objection from Malacañang and widespread skepticism from the public.

Quite curiously, the head of the other survey outfit is said to be related to former President Benigno Aquino, a fact that is leaving a large segment of the general public unconvinced of its latest poll.

Indeed, the President has retained the general support of the population which believes in his reform agenda.

President Duterte has maintained his big majority approval and trust ratings both at 80 percent despite issues faced by his administration in the latest Pulse Asia Research survey.

In the September 2017 nationwide survey on the performance and trust ratings of top government officials, President Duterte received an approval rating of 80 percent, slightly lower than 82 percent in June.

Seven percent of Filipinos expressed disapproval of his work, while 13 percent were undecided.

Also, a big majority of 80 percent of those surveyed trust the President, 14 percent are undecided and 6 percent distrust him or has small trust.

Across geographic areas and socio-economic classes, Duterte enjoyed majority approval ratings at 72 percent to 92 percent and 75 percent to 86 percent, respectively.

Trust figures were at 72 percent to 93 percent and 74 percent to 85 percent, respectively.

The survey, conducted from Sept. 24 to 30 using face-to-face interviews, said also enjoying majority approval and trust scores, albeit lower ones, are Vice-President Maria Leonor G. Robredo (57 percent and 55 percent, respectively) and Senate President Aquilino L. Pimentel III (55 percent and 52 percent).

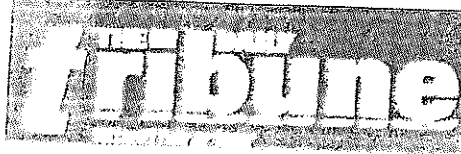
"While the performance and trust ratings of the President and the Vice President are essentially unchanged between June and September 2017, the other top national government officials experience marked movements in their own ratings both at the national level and across geographic areas and socio-economic classes," it said.

Among the key events during the survey period include Senate's investigation into the shipment of illegal drugs worth P6.4 billion, the Senate's hearing into the suspected hazing death of law student Horacio Castillo III, and the sacking of virtually the entire Caloocan City police force in the aftermath of the killing of teenagers Carl Arnaiz and Reynaldo de Guzman.

The nationwide survey is based on a sample of 1,200 representative adults 18 years old and above.

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October 2017



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Hail the heroes of Marawi

It's not over but close to being over, as there is definite proof by way of a picture of Abu Sayyaf Isnilon Hapilon who had claimed to be the emir in a caliphate branch in Mindanao.

Also dead is terrorist group leader Omar Maute – and by the military, that should be commended for his perseverance in not only killing the two IS inspired leaders, but also for having rescued many hostages from the start of the war in Marawi.

Hapilon and Omar Maute were killed as troops assaulted enemy position to rescue the hostages.

“We have received a report from Armed Forces of the Philippines ground commanders in Marawi that the operation conducted by government forces to retake the last remaining Daesh-Maute stronghold in the city has resulted in the death of the last terrorist leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute, and that their bodies have been recovered by our operating units,” Defense chief Delfin Lorenzana said.

The military reportedly rescued 17 more hostages in Marawi City in the decisive operation that also killed the top leaders behind the siege.

“Our troops have rescued 17 civilian hostages and mopping up operations are underway,” Lorenzana was quoted as saying.

These developments signal that the nearly five-month-long war is nearing its end. Lorenzana said military operations will continue to clear the battle zone.

With their deaths having been officially confirmed, it should be fairly easy for the military to get the last batch of supporters of the terrorists and maybe some more hostages who could be freed.

Chances are high that the remaining armed supporters of the now dead terrorist leaders would have to surrender to the military, unless of course, they want to die in the same way

FRONTLINE



Ninez Cacho-Olivares

Isnilon and Omar died.

What should be next for government, and yes, even the military is for them to start work on the rehabilitation process for Marawi and to bring Marawi residents back to normal life, or at least near normal, since it will take some years before Marawi is to be rehabilitated.

What is more important, however, is for government, its military and police, and especially, the local government executives along with Marawi and Mindanao high officials ensure that these types of terrorists should no longer be allowed to thrive.

It cannot be denied that the previous administration of Noynoy Aquino, despite having been made long aware of the proliferation of foreign and local terrorists, did nothing at all, and even denied the existence of these terrorists, which is the reason terrorism thrived during his time. Marwan, the international terrorist who was killed by the Special Action Force (SAF) commandos were in turn massacred, owing to Noynoy's refusal to provide them air assets that could have blown the Moro rebels out. Neither did he send reinforcements.

Noynoy refused to help his own troops, despite their pleas for help as he was said to have feared having the peace talks with the

rebel Moro Islamic Liberation Front collapse, and this despite the fact that the MILF rebels took an active part in butchering the 44 SAF troopers.

Why? Well, Noynoy wanted to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Rody Duterte has shown that terrorism can certainly be defeated through a leader's sheer political will and determination.

And he has also proved that martial law can be declared and imposed without government abuse.

It was not only in Marawi but the entire Mindanao that martial law was declared and effected yet it was clear to one and all that all freedoms were respected. Yet the same destabilizers kept on claiming that Rody was out to impose a dictatorship. This ploy didn't work either.

However, martial law won't be lifted as yet since more work by way of cleaning up and clearing out explosives has to be done first.

It is certain too that terrorism will not end with the deaths of Hapilon and Omar Maute and there is no doubt that the children these terrorists have recruited, have already been indoctrinated.

Still, they can be saved from this ideology that believes in killing those whom these local terrorists, along with their foreign comrades, see as non-believers.

The indoctrinated rebel terrorists, who have probably already killed, would have to be re-educated but still watched carefully by authorities.

Blurred photos were earlier released of children hostages by armed groups that pledged allegiance to international terrorist networks Islamic State.

It is important for these children to shake off the ideology espoused by these terrorists, who have mangled the real interpretation of the Q'uran.

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ONLINE NEWS

17 OCTOBER 2017

www.abscbn.com

Terrorists Isnilon Hapilon, Omar Maute killed in Marawi battle

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Oct 16 2017 11:08 AM



MANILA - Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon, top leaders of Islamic State-inspired extremists Maute group, were killed in a battle in Marawi City. Photos from ABS-CBN sources show the cadavers of Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute. The military, however, has yet to issue an official statement regarding the terrorists' death. The siege of the Islamic City began May this year when Maute, with brother Abdullah, hoisted black flags of the Islamic State group and set Dansalan College on fire. In June, the brothers' parents- father Cayamora and mother Farhana- were arrested in separate police operations. Cayamora died in August. Meanwhile, Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon was said to be the anointed ISIS leader in Southeast Asia. The clashes supposedly started when troops tried to serve an arrest warrant on Hapilon. Since fighting between state forces and the Maute group erupted about 5 months ago, about 753 errorists have been killed. At least 47 civilians and 155 soldiers also died in the conflict. The siege has reduced the once-bustling city of Marawi into ruins, with many buildings and even mosques completely destroyed and riddled with bullets and shrapnel.

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End of Marawi conflict dawns after death of Omar Maute, Hapilon

By Ferdinand Patinio October 16, 2017, 1:49 pm

MANILA -- The head of the Prelature of Marawi believes the reported death of terrorist leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute will pave the way to the end of the conflict in the city.

"Crumbling leadership signals the beginning of the end," said Marawi City Bishop Edwin dela Peña in an interview.

With this, the Catholic prelate admitted that he is feel grateful with the development of the situation in the city.

"I'm beginning to feel relieved," he said.

On Monday, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana confirmed reports from ground commanders claiming the death of Hapilon and Maute.

Fighting in Marawi City erupted between when government forces tried to arrest Hapilon who was declared as the 'emir' of the terror group ISIS in Southeast Asia last May 23.

This prompted President Rodrigo Duterte to declare martial law in Mindanao. (PNA)

www.pna.gov.ph

Isnilon Hapilon, Omar Maute dead: Lorenzana

By Priam Nepomuceno and Christopher Lloyd Caliwan October 16 2017 1:25 pm

MANILA -- Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana on Monday confirmed the death of top terrorist leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute in Marawi City.

"Yes. I confirm the killing of (Isnilon) Hapilon at saka Omar Maute this morning, early this morning," Lorenzana said in a press conference in Camp Aguinaldo.

"They were both killed, in fact their faces have already been splashed in the internet and in the websites," the defense chief added.

Lorenzana said the bodies of the two terrorist leaders would be subject to DNA test, noting that these two have bounties on their heads from foreign countries.

He also said government troops are now chasing a foreign terrorist who is fighting on the side of the Maute group in the city.

"There is still another personality that they are trying to get, si Dr. Mamud, the (Malaysian), according to some reports he is still hiding in some of, one of the buildings there and that's what they are trying to do now," Lorenzana said.

Lorenzana also confirmed the report from the Task Force Ranao saying government troops rescued 17 hostages in Marawi City on Sunday night.

"So may na-rescue tayo na 17 hostages last night. Halo halo ito, may lalaki, babae, mga bata. Wala pa ko breakdown kung ilan ang lalaki at babae, dinala sa safe zone and undergoing medical examination. (So we have rescued 17 hostages last night. These are a mix of men, women and children. I still don't have the breakdown. They were brought to a safe zone and are now undergoing medical examination.) They will also undergo debriefing," Col. Romeo Brawner Jr., deputy commander of Task Force Ranao said.

Brawner added that there are also more than 20 soldiers wounded in the ongoing battle, adding that the main battle area between government troops and Maute terrorist shrunk to two hectares.

As of Monday, the number of slain Maute terrorists are placed at 822 along with 162 troops killed-in-action. Lorenzana said they will announce the termination of hostilities once government forces have ensured that there are no more terrorists-stragglers in the city and have cleared all structures of IEDs and other traps. "After the fighting stops, we will refocus our efforts on the challenging task of rebuilding and rehabilitating Marawi," the Defense Secretary noted.

Meanwhile, Davao City Vice Mayor Paolo Duterte hailed the Armed Forces of the Philippines for the death of Hapilon and Maute. In his Instagram post, VM Duterte thanked the AFP especially those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, to protect the Filipino people from terrorists like the Maute Group.

"I have nothing but my deep respect for you and and your families' sacrifices for the Filipino people," the young Duterte said. (PNA)

17 more hostages rescued in Marawi: AFP

By Christopher Lloyd Caliwan, October 16, 2017, 12:40 pm

MANILA -- Government troops have rescued 17 hostages in Marawi City on Sunday night. Col. Romeo Brawner Jr., deputy commander of Task Force Ranao said on Monday.

This brings down the number of Maute-held hostages to around 40, Brawner noted.

"So may na rescue tayo na 17 hostages last night. Halo halo ito, may lalaki, babae, mga bata. Wala pa ko breakdown kung ilan ang lalaki at babae. Dinata sa safe zone and undergoing medical examination. (So we have rescued 17 hostages last night. These are a mix of men, women and children. I still don't have the breakdown. They were brought to a safe zone and are now undergoing medical examination.) They will also undergo debriefing," he said.

He added that there are also more than 20 soldiers wounded in the ongoing battle.

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AFP still confirming death of Hapilon, Omar Maute

By Christopher Lloyd Caliwan October 16, 2017, 11:27 am

MANILA -- The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) is still verifying reports on the death of top terrorist leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute in Marawi City.

"We have received field reports stating that Isnilon Hapilon and Omarkhayam Maute are dead. But we cannot issue any official statement yet pending the confirmation of such report. We will issue appropriate statements related to this soon," AFP public affairs office chief Col. Edgard Arevalo said in a statement.

"For the meantime, our units in the frontline are continuing with their offensives to neutralize the remaining terrorists and rescue their hostages to end the crisis in Marawi," Arevalo added.

Fighting in Marawi City erupted when government troops attempted to arrest Hapilon who was declared as the 'emir' of the terror group ISIS in Southeast Asia last May 23.

The fighting prompted President Rodrigo Duterte to declare martial law in Mindanao. *(PNA)*

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END OF SIEGE IS NEAR | AFP Chief of Staff Gen Eduardo Año on death of Hapilon and Maute

Alvin Sanaboc



CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD) – “ang purpose ng tropa natin is to rescue the hostages, kasi naipon na natin sila sa isang block lang, dalawang building yung kinalalagyan so yung mga hostages ang inirerescue then nagkaroon ng bakbakan dun.”

This was part of the statement made by Gen Eduardo Año, Chief of Staff, AFP, on describing the events unfolding that led to the death of Daesh-Maute leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute.

According to Gen Año, they so far recovered seven (terrorist) cadavers including that of Isnilon and Omar and they are still clearing the remaining structures in the main battle area for remaining / wounded Maute stragglers or supporters.

He described the dawn operation, that started around 2 am and ended after 6 AM, as very intense since the fighting has been limited to close-quarters combat and they are not yet declaring the conclusion of the siege until they have made sure that there are no more terrorist presence and are clearing the area of IEDs/booby traps and unexploded ordnance.

The last count was there is 40 remaining terrorist and the death of Omar and Isnilon would start the crumbling of forces of the Daesh-Maute since the two were the Center of Gravity. AES/ALS



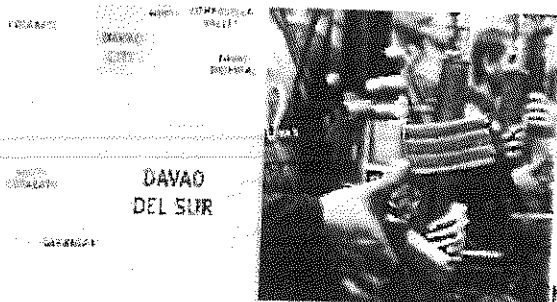
TAGS:

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PREVENTED | NPA atrocities deterred

And Sembrano



NSFA, Panacan, Davao City (DWDD) – Troops

prevented communist/terrorist New People's Army from conducting atrocities over the weekend after troops from 3rd Infantry Battalion captured six (6) firearms at Sitio Ventura, Wines, Baguio District Davao City on the early evening of October 13 2017.

According to Joint Task Force Haribon, the recovery came after an informant informed 3IB of the location of the firearms and the supposed NPA's plans of burning some of the equipments of a certain company along Brgy Gumalang, Baguio District, Davao City.

Seized firearms were:

One (1) Barret rifle without serial number

One (1) M14 rifle with serial number 5776933

One (1) Garrand rifle with serial number 813662

One (1) Thompson without serial number with one (1) magazine

One (1) Shotgun (Armscor) with defaced serial number

One (1) Shotgun (Homemade) without serial number with one (1) magazine

On a separate occasion Damilag Patrol Base located at Sitio Damilag, Brgy Mapula, Paquibato District, Davao City prevented a possible atrocities along the said Barangay when a patrol encountered an undetermined number of the NFAs in the early morning of Saturday October 14, 2017.

The encounter however left one CAA killed identified as CAA Allan Macla Lausan while no casualty were reported on the NPA side.

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MGen. Noel Clement, Commander Joint Task Force Haribon acknowledge the participation of the communities while grieving for the loss of one CAA.

"We recognize the information being provided by the community, this is a manifestation that the NPA's are not welcome in their respective areas and this should be recognized by the NPA's and allow them to live peacefully. We mourn also for the lost of our CAA, his death will not be in vain as we continue to fight for peace a reason why he volunteered to be with our ranks"

MGen Clement said. JTF Haribon/MCAG