

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

11 September 2017

Monday

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

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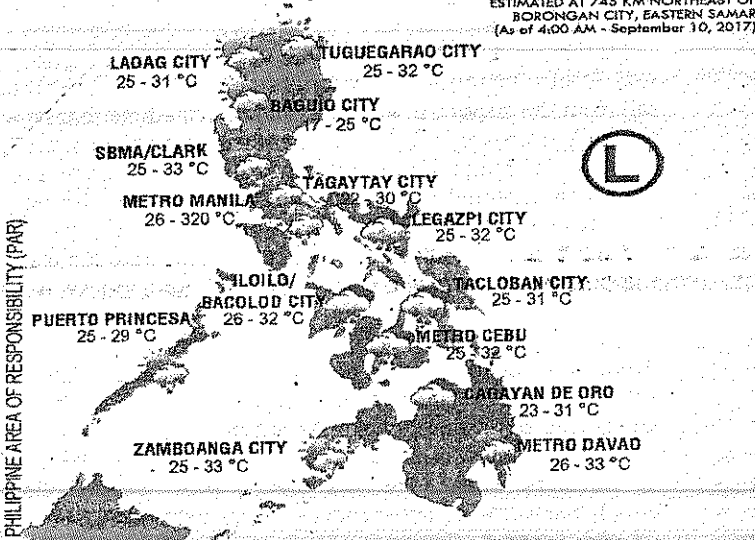
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PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS • FEARLESS VIEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | SEPTEMBER 11, 2017





LOW PRESSURE AREA ESTIMATED AT 745 KM NORTHEAST OF BORONGAN CITY, EASTERN SAMAR (As of 4:00 AM - September 10, 2017)

LADAG CITY 25 - 31 °C	TUGUEGARAO CITY 25 - 32 °C
BAGUIO CITY 17 - 25 °C	TAGAYTAY CITY 26 - 30 °C
SBMA/CLARK 25 - 33 °C	LEGAZPI CITY 25 - 32 °C
METRO MANILA 26 - 32 °C	TACLOBAN CITY 25 - 31 °C
PUERTO PRINCESA 25 - 29 °C	METRO CEBU 25 - 32 °C
ILOILO/BACOLOD CITY 26 - 32 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 23 - 31 °C
ZAMBOANGA CITY 25 - 33 °C	METRO DAVAO 26 - 33 °C


SUNRISE 6:45 AM	SUNSET 6:01 PM
MOONRISE 10:01 PM	MOONSET 10:03 AM
FULL MOON SEP 6 3:03 PM	LAST QUARTER SEP 13 2:26 PM
LOW TIDE 7:34 AM 0.28 Meter	HIGH TIDE 12:57 AM 0.87 Meter

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

	SEP 12	SEP 13	SEP 12	SEP 13	SEP 12	SEP 13		
METRO MANILA	25 - 32 °C	25 - 31 °C	TAGAYTAY	21 - 31 °C	21 - 30 °C	TACLOBAN	25 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C
TUGUEGARAO	24 - 31 °C	24 - 31 °C	LEGAZPI	26 - 32 °C	25 - 31 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	24 - 32 °C	23 - 32 °C
LAOAG	24 - 30 °C	25 - 30 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	25 - 29 °C	25 - 29 °C	METRO DAVAO	26 - 32 °C	26 - 33 °C
BAGUIO	16 - 24 °C	17 - 23 °C	ILOILO/BACOLOD	26 - 31 °C	26 - 30 °C	ZAMBOANGA	24 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C
SBMA/CLARK	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C	METRO CEBU	25 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C	 SAGOT KO, PABALA NIKI		

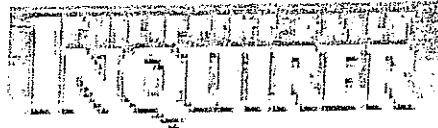


MONDAY - FRIDAY
11 AM & 5 PM



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

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Trillanes to issue waiver on 'foreign bank accounts'

By Christine O. Avendaño
[@10avendanoINQ](https://twitter.com/10avendanoINQ)

Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, accused by President Duterte of hiding money in bank accounts overseas, is issuing a waiver for the foreign bank accounts he supposedly owns.

Trillanes on Sunday said he would present to the media today the waiver that would allow the Office of the Ombudsman and the Anti-Money Laundering Council to look into the "approximately" 16 foreign bank accounts ascribed to him.

He dismissed as "fake news" reports that he maintained bank accounts abroad.

He said his office was able to identify his supposed bank accounts from the social media blogs of Mr. Duterte's ardent supporters—Assistant Press Secretary Mocha Uson and broadcaster Erwin Tulfo—as well as from a

pro-Duterte website.

Trillanes announced that he would issue the waiver a day after Mr. Duterte claimed that the senator was keeping money "all over," including Hong Kong, Australia and the United States.

Trillanes said he had never opened an offshore account. The last time he opened a bank account, he said, was before he was jailed for launching a coup attempt against President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in 2003.

Trillanes wished Mr. Duterte would give him the details of his supposed bank deposits overseas so he could issue a waiver.

But the senator said he would initially issue a waiver on the 16 foreign bank accounts that were mentioned in social media blogs.

"I will sign and present the waiver to disprove the allegation against me," he said.

Trillanes said he would even go to the foreign bank to see if there was indeed an account



President Duterte and Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV: Who is telling the truth? —INQUIRER PHOTO

under his name.

"I will ask for a bank statement if they have it. If they have none, I will ask for a certification that there is none and I will display it prominently. I will slap it on the face of (Mr.) Duterte," Trillanes said.

Harassing opposition

The senator said he would go this far so he could "prove that (Mr.) Duterte is a liar and he is using the power of [the] government to malign and harass a member of the political opposition."

The President made the accusation just as photos of supposed bank documents circulated showing remittances of \$50 to accounts supposedly owned by Trillanes in Switzerland and Canada.

The same photos appeared

in the blog of Uson.

Mr. Duterte on Saturday said Trillanes owned the accounts jointly with a Chinese businessman whom he did not identify. The businessman is reportedly engaged in trucking and has a business address in Metro Manila.

"President Duterte is doing this to destroy my credibility," Trillanes said.

The senator noted that this was the same tactic the Duterte camp adopted whenever he made corruption allegations against Mr. Duterte and his family.

The senator's latest accusation came on Thursday at the Senate blue ribbon committee hearing on the P6.4-billion "shabu" (crystal meth) shipment from China.

He said Davao City Vice

Mayor Paolo Duterte, a son of the President, was a member of the Chinese drug syndicate.

The senator also claimed that the younger Duterte and Manases Carpio, a son-in-law of the President, were part of the "Davao Group" that facilitated smuggling in the country and that the two men had huge bank deposits.

Trillanes also claimed that the vice mayor had a tattoo of a dragon on his back that indicated he was a member of an international drug and crime syndicate.

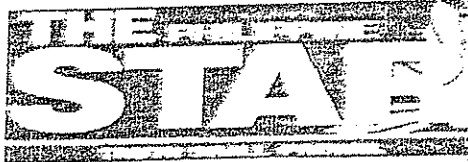
The younger Duterte admitted he had a tattoo but refused to show it, invoking his right to privacy.

Trillanes recalled that he accused Mr. Duterte during the 2016 presidential campaign of hiding at least P227 million in an account in a bank branch in Pasig City but the latter did not prove him wrong.

Just as the administration invented the case against Sen. Leila de Lima, now detained in Camp Crame for alleged illegal drug trading, it has come up with his alleged offshore accounts, Trillanes said.

He said this "fake news" came from the Office of the President and was the "sloppy" handiwork of senior classmen of the Philippine Military Academy. INQ

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'I destroy Trillanes or he destroys me'

By ALEXIS ROMERO and EDITH REGALADO

A similar threat was once issued to Sen. Leila de Lima, who is now in jail. This time, President Duterte has threatened to "destroy" his critic Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV as he vowed to expose the lawmaker's alleged irregularities including the hiring of hundreds of consultants and maintainance of offshore bank accounts.

Duterte said Trillanes has gone too far with accusations against him and his family.

Trillanes has accused Duterte of amassing ill-gotten wealth and has linked his son Davao City Vice Mayor Paolo

Duterte and son-in-law Manases Carpio to the smuggling controversy in the Bureau of Customs. Last week, Trillanes said Paolo has a tattoo on his back that would prove membership in the Chinese triad or

organized crime ring.

President Duterte has dismissed the allegations as "garbage."

"He has been at it against me, my son and my family

Trillanes to issue bank waiver today. See Page 6.

since election. The campaign period is over and I thought all the while, politics is just like that," the President told reporters in Cagayan de Oro last Saturday, referring to Trillanes. "But he is bent on

destroying me. So I destroy him or he will destroy me. That's the way it is."

Duterte had made a similar threat against another critic, De Lima, who is now in jail on drug-related charges.

Last year, Duterte vowed to "destroy" De Lima, who had ordered a Senate investigation into the spate of killings linked to the government's crackdown on illegal drugs.

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I destroy

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He then accused De Lima of having an illicit affair with her married driver, accepting bribes from drug lords and allowing the proliferation of narcotics at the Bureau of Corrections.

De Lima denied the allegations and has accused the Duterte administration of political persecution.

Duterte claimed that Trillanes has offshore bank accounts in Hong Kong, Chi-

na, Australia and the United States.

“He got garbage, but what I got is not garbage. I am from the government. Why would I need garbage? All we have to do is to get the goods on him... *Matagal na 'yan hawak ko* (I gathered that information a long time ago). But you know, *medyo sumosobra na kasi* (he has gone a bit too far),” he said.

another opposition lawmaker, are embarrassing themselves by showing their supposed ignorance of the law.

“The government is wasting money on you. You do not know the law yet you continue with your tirades. You are all idiots,” the President said, noting that the two were graduates of Philippine Military Academy being funded by the government.

Duterte mocked Trillanes for asking Paolo to show his tattoo during a Senate hearing on drug smuggling. The

senator had claimed that a tattoo on the vice mayor’s back proves that he is a member of a Chinese triad. But the younger Duterte refused to show his tattoo, invoking his right to privacy.

The President showed reporters his rose tattoo and his number as a member of the Guardians Brotherhood. He said his daughter Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte and youngest son Sebastian also sport tattoos.

He said Sen. Gringo Honasan, a member of the Reformed

the senator of hiring more than 200 consultants in relation to his Disbursement Acceleration Program funds.

“I am a lawyer. Just looking at it, *inubos niya sa pami-gay* (he gave it all away) and he will have to answer also,” Duterte said.

Trillanes has denied the allegations and accused Duterte of spreading “fake news.”

Duterte calls critics ‘idiots’

Duterte said Trillanes and Magdalo Rep. Gary Alejano,

the Armed Forces Movement, also has a tattoo on his hand. RAM is a group of rebel soldiers that launched coups against former president Corazon Aquino.

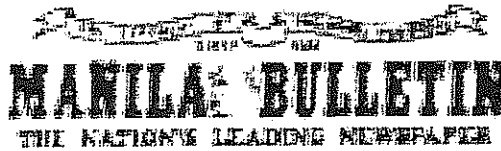
“I was once a member of RAM in the early days... Look at the tattoo of Greg Honasan. Have it decoded. Tell Greg that b**** wants to have those drawings decoded,” Duterte said.

“You brought those issues in the Senate... You cheapened the institution,” he added.

Duterte claimed that Trillanes has been using the Senate hearing to spread hearsay.

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Humane treatment for Maute

President assures terrorists who will decide to surrender

By ARGYLL CYRUS B. GEDUCOS

President Duterte said that members of the Maute Group who will choose to surrender will be treated as criminals,

but will be given humane treatment.

This as the war in Marawi City, Lanao del Sur against the pro-Islamic State (ISIS) Maute group nears its fourth month.

Duterte, during his visit to ►6

wounded soldiers in Camp Evangelista Station Hospital in Cagayan de Oro City Saturday evening, however told reporters that if they will keep on fighting, then the government has no choice but to kill them.

"They will be treated as criminals. If they surrender, they will be prosecuted. But they will be treated as human being," Duterte said.

"We will try them, give them due process, provide them with a lawyer, and there will be no oppression or harassment, or anything. No violence will be inflicted upon them if they surrender," he added.

"Nothing of the sort. I will not also allow it. That is not the way how we treat people, especially even they're criminals," he continued.

"[But] if they choose to fight, then the State has the right to kill them. Simply, they are rebelling," he said.

Duterte earlier said that there will be no negotiations with the rebels in Marawi City due to the number of casualties the government had suffered.

The latest count from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) showed a total of 145 government troops have been killed by the terrorists.

No combat for Aussie troops

Meanwhile, the Australian military would provide training assistance to Filipino troops to enhance the counter-terrorism campaign but would not be allowed to engage in combat operations in the country.

Presidential Spokesman Ernesto Abella clarified yesterday that Australia's deployment of troops to the country comes with certain limitations in compliance with the country's laws amid government efforts to quell a rebellion by local terror groups in the south.

"The sending of Australian Defense Force (ADF) members to assist our military forces forms part of the offer of Australia to train the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Such training

will be limited within the confines of our military bases," Abella said.

"These and other joint military exercises with Australia will not involve any boots on the ground in accordance with our law prohibiting the direct participation of foreign troops in combat operations," he said.

At present, Australia's military assistance to the Philippines has been limited to technical assistance to the Filipino soldiers fighting the Maute terror group in Marawi City.

"The Australians, for sometime now, have been providing technical assistance though their P3 Orion aircraft in the ongoing battle against the Daesh-inspired Maute Group still holed up in Marawi," Abella said.

No negotiations

As to whether there will be no negotiations with former Marawi City Mayor Omar Solitario after the latter proposed to let the Maute Group leave the camp in exchange for the release of the hostages, the President's reply was: "No way."

"He proposed many things, mostly about talking peace to the Mautes or bargaining for the hostages. I confirm that it really happened," he added.

The AFP earlier said that Solitario should be held accountable or the loss of lives in Marawi City, saying the latter instigated the whole thing.

"Itong si Solitario ay dapat hindi tinatratong seryoso. Kasi ito po'y supporter na matagal na ng mga bandido diyan sa loob ng Marawi (Solitario should not be taken seriously because he supports the bandits in Marawi)," AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla had said.

"At dapat nga po ituloy 'yung pagaresto sa kanya dahil isa po siya sa mga nag-instigate ng mga nangyayari ngayon diyan (We should pursue his arrest because he is one of the people who instigated this whole thing)," he added. (With a report from Genalyn D. Kabiling)

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Malaya

The National Newspaper

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Army ready for protests on FM bday

BY VICTOR REYES

THE military has alerted an “adequate” number of soldiers to deal with rallies that might be held today at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (Heroes’ Cemetery) in Taguig City, where the family of former President Marcos will celebrate his 100th birthday.

“The security inside Libingan is the same security that we are providing. We have contingencies in place to support the PNP if necessary in the event that there will be rallies,” said Army spokesman Lt. Col. Ray Tiongson.

The Army is the custodian of the Libingan.

Tiongson declined to say, for se-

curity reasons, how many soldiers will be tapped as augmentation.

The military earlier said the Marcos family has requested permission to hold a “private” birthday celebration, but the family has reportedly sent invitations to government officials and foreign dignitaries.

The celebration comes amid speculations about the real reason for the Marcoses offer to give part of their wealth to government, and Duterte’s willingness to accept the offer. Victims of abuses committed during martial law imposed by Marcos are saying all ill-gotten wealth should be returned.

Militant groups, including the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, have said they would stage mass protests today to condemn abuses under the Marcos dictatorship.

“Rallies are allowed outside but not inside the LNMB to main the solemnity of the place,” said

Tiongson.

As to number of guests, Tiongson said, “That is for the family to answer.”

Pressed if the Marcos family can bring in as many guests as possible, Tiongson said, “Yes. It also applies to other families with loved ones buried inside the LNMB.”

A military official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said an Army company (about 120 soldiers) had been alerted for deployment in case the protesters become unruly.

“The task given to the Army is to prepare one CDM (civil disturbance management) company, to deal with the rallyists, for crowd control. We are on standby alert, on call... The deployment actually depends on them turning unruly. They are free to rally, they should not just turn violent,” the source said.

AFP public affairs chief Col. Edgard Arevalo has said the military had been informed by the

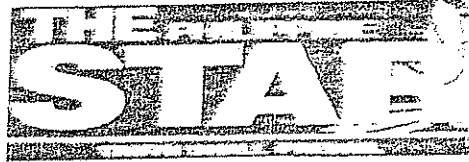
Marcos family of the celebration.

Arevalo said the Marcos family wants the celebration to be a “private” one, “They want it to be a private event among family members, meaning it will not be covered by media,” he said.

President Duterte has declared this day a special non-working holiday in Ilocos Norte, Marcos’ hometown, to recognize the strongman’s contribution to national development as a World War II veteran, legislator and a former president.

Marcos died in Hawaii in 1989, three years after he was ousted. His remains were flown to the Philippines in 1993 and kept had been at a mausoleum in Ilocos Norte until he was finally buried at the LNMB in November last year, on the approval of President Duterte who has said Marcos can be buried at the LNMB because he was a soldier and a former president. The Supreme Court also upheld the LNMB burial.

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Handout photo shows soldiers in Marawi City unloading sacks of rice donated by the government of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao over the weekend.

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The Manila Times

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Duterte fetes soldiers injured in Marawi

BY LLANESCA T. PANTI

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte feted 76 soldiers who were injured while fighting the Maute group in Marawi City.

The Commander-in-Chief awarded the Order of Lapu-Lapu medals to the 76 military personnel when he visited the Camp Evangelista Station Hospital in Cagayan de Oro on Saturday.

"Fight for the country. Our duty here is to protect the people and to preserve our country. It is a little chaotic, that's why you are making sacrifices," Duterte said.

"You are making the toughest and greatest contribution to our country," he added.

The President also gave the 76 soldiers mobile phones, cash and new service firearms.

"I'm giving you these cellphones because I want you to have access to the Commander-in-Chief. I want you to have a direct line to me in the event that you need it. We'll solve your problem," Duterte said.



BRAVERY REWARDED President Rodrigo Duterte pins medals on soldiers injured in Marawi City. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"We will end this chaos. We won't stop until the last terrorist is taken out. That has been my vow to the people, and we have to fulfill it." The President reiterated his promise to provide a P50 billion trust fund for soldiers' family

members. The fund will be used to provide hospitalization, livelihood and scholarships to children of military personnel.

"You won't need to worry about these things. I will take care of your family," Duterte said.

As of September 7, at least 653 Maute terrorists have been killed by government troops. At least 45 civilians and 145 government troops have died since the Islamic State-linked group seized Marawi in May.

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INQUIRER

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WAR ON TERROR IN CENTRAL MINDANAO

MILF EYES MORE COMBAT OPERATIONS VS IS-LINKED GROUP

DAVAO CITY—The Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) was expanding its role in the war on terror and prepared to launch more combat operations against Islamic State (IS) followers in Central Mindanao that included former MILF guerrillas.

Mohagher Iqbal, chair of the MILF panel overseeing the implementation of the peace pact with the government, said the MILF was stepping up its armed offensives against IS-linked groups which Iqbal said espoused ideals that contradicted Islam.

The groups included the previously unheard of Jamaatul Mujahireen Wal-Ansar, led by an Abu Torife. Jamaatul was composed of members of Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, a group that broke off with the MILF over disagreements with the government.

Jamaatul had since pledged allegiance to IS.

Emissary attacked

Weeks of combat operations, led by MILF's



MILF fighters prepare to deploy to areas of combat against terror groups in Central Mindanao. —KARLOS MANLUPIG

Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF), in the towns of Datu Salibo, Mamasapano and Shariff Saidona Mustapha in Maguindanao province were targeted at Jamaatul.

The MILF said the combat operations came after Abu Torife's group attacked an

emissary sent by the MILF to Shariff Saidona Mustapha town to talk with Jamaatul leaders.

In the MILF statement, Iqbal said it was "necessary for the MILF to protect its identified areas and communities from groups or individuals that pose any threat."

The MILF position against terror, Iqbal said, was "further affirmed" by an edict issued by the Dar-ul Iftah "that every Muslim has the responsibility to defend and protect his people once an individual or group intrudes his village to cause damage and pain."

No joint operations

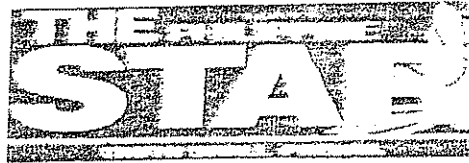
The MILF also clarified that while the military was providing assistance, including air support, there were no joint combat operations between the BIAF and the Armed Forces.

"Officially and formally, there is no such thing as joint operation to be conducted by the MILF forces and government forces in Maguindanao," Iqbal said.

But Iqbal said combat operations were not the solution to the spread of terror in Mindanao.

"It is a must to find all other peaceful solutions to problems of what the Bangsamoro is facing nowadays," he said. —KARLOS MANLUPIG INQ.

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Duterte threatens martial law if Reds take to streets

He once called the policy "stupid," but President Duterte has floated anew the possibility of declaring martial law in the entire country, saying he may be forced to do so if communist rebels bring their

armed struggle to the streets. Duterte said while he allows leftists to hold meetings and rallies, he would not think twice about arresting those who would cause infighting. "They are not hiding. Their

meetings are in public. I just let them be. Even their leftist organizations are holding meetings. I said let them be. But do not commit the mistake," the President told reporters in

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Duterte threatens From Page 1

Cagayan de Oro last Saturday.

"I am not scaring you. Do not commit the mistake of staging a rebellion, say that there is fighting in the streets. I will not hesitate to impose martial law all throughout the country and order the arrest of everybody," he added.

Duterte placed the entire island of Mindanao under martial law on May 23 after Islamic State-inspired terrorists from the Maute group laid siege to Marawi City.

He had vowed to be harsh against terrorists, even claiming that the martial law he imposed would be no different from the one declared by former president Ferdinand Marcos, whose presidency was tainted by allegations of human rights violations.

Months before the siege,

which has so far left more than 800 people dead, Duterte called martial law a "stupid" policy that did not improve the lives of Filipinos.

Duterte warned the communists of the possibility of declaring martial law in the entire country as prospects of the talks between the government and the rebels remain uncertain because of opposing views on a ceasefire, among other issues.

The President scrapped the peace negotiations last July after members of the New People's Army, the armed wing of the rebels, launched a series of offensives against government forces.

"I am not scaring you. But I will really use the armed forces and the police. I do not want to kill but if you do that, I will arrest all of you. All of you. I am not frightening you. I'm just telling you

that," Duterte said.

"Do not commit a mistake. You can demonstrate in the streets in the coming days. I am ordering the military to stay in the barracks, but be prepared for war," he added.

Duterte said he does not mind if leftist protesters occupy the city as long as they do not create trouble such as burning or vandalizing properties.

"Ask those in the field to go down. I don't mind. But I will declare that day a holiday. No government time. Stay at home. Students, if you want to join, you are free (to do so)," the tough-talking President said.

"You can have the city. But do not create trouble. That is my warning. Do not resort to destruction and trouble because I will order the military and the police to go against you.

"Pero huwag kayong magkamali na magsunog dito, magvandalism (But do not com-

mit the mistake of burning or vandalizing properties). I will not accept it. *Ang kaha-rap ninyo baril, sigurado 'yan. Sigurado 'yan.* (You will face the gun. I'm sure of that)," he added.

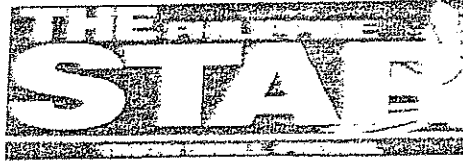
Duterte chided the communist rebels anew for attacking government forces, warning them that he is prepared for any eventuality.

"If you want something to happen, let it happen *para magkaalaman na ano ba talaga itong bayan natin* (so we will know what is in store for this nation). You want to destroy it? Fine. So we can start anew. Let us go into spasm. I don't have any problem with that," the President said.

"You keep on raiding stations. You do not have stations so I have no one to get back at. But I am really waiting for that. An overt act to destroy government and I will decide how far we will go. I am prepared," Duterte said.

- Alexis Romero

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Rody: Peace needed for Mindanao to grow

By GERRY LEE GORIT

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY – For Mindanao to achieve its full potential, the island must have peace and order first, President Duterte said over the weekend.

Efforts to promote business, trade and investment in Mindanao, Duterte said, would

be in vain if people and the government could not ensure stability and order as well as secure lasting peace.

“That is why the government is intensifying the fight against illegal drugs, crime and corruption as it creates an enabling and nurturing business environment in Mindanao,” Duterte told partici-

pants in the 26th Mindanao Business Conference at the Xavier Sports and Country Club on Saturday.

He said the government is committed to wipe out local terrorists and other threat groups that hinder peace and development efforts.

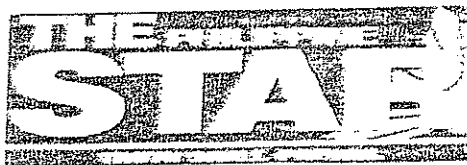
“I assure all investors and businesses in Mindanao that

the government will do everything to help Marawi City recover and flourish again.”

The President said the government is fast-tracking the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Marawi City.

Mindanao has been beset by insurgency and extremism, especially the ongoing Marawi conflict.

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'No Aussie boots on the ground'

Meanwhile, Malacañang yesterday confirmed reports that Australia is supporting government forces flushing out the terrorists in Marawi City.

Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said Australians have been providing technical assistance by sending their P3 Orion aircraft, which allowed government troops to increase their situational awareness in the battlefield.

"The sending of Australian Defense Force members to assist our military forces forms part of the offer of Australia to train the Armed Forces of the Philippines," Abella said.

"Such training will be limited within the confines of our military bases. These and other joint military exercises with Australia will not involve any boots on the ground in accordance with our law prohibiting the direct participation of foreign troops in combat operations," he added.

76 soldiers awarded

Seventy-six soldiers who were wounded in the battle against Maute militants were awarded the Order of Lapu-Lapu medals.

Duterte earlier ordered the granting of the awards which he bestowed on the soldiers who were confined at the Camp Evangelista Station Hospital in Cagayan de Oro the other day.

The President also gave each of the awardees a cellular phone, cash gift and brand-new service firearms.

Duterte acknowledged the importance of the servicemen's efforts and reiterated the administration's commitment to improve their lives and increase their benefits due them for the service to the country.

"Try to be alive and fight for the country. Our duty here is to protect the people and to preserve the Philippines, our country," Duterte said.

"Let's just finish off this chaos. It will not stop until the last terrorist is taken out. That's what I have told the nation, that's what we have to follow," he added.

The President assured that the troops would have everything that they need, including the education of their children through the P50-billion trust fund that he is currently raising for them.

He also encouraged the soldiers to make use of their direct access to him.

- Alexis Romero, Edith Regalado

Rody ready to extend Marawi operations to save hostages

President Duterte is ready to extend the operations in Marawi City by one year if it would mean saving even just one of those who are being held hostage by Maute militants.

Duterte said launching a full assault on the mosque that serves as the last stronghold of the terrorists would offend Muslims and place the lives of the captives in danger.

"If you destroy that, you'd have wounded the feelings of the entire Muslim world... The moment they rush up there, there will be clashes, and the captives will be beheaded. These are terrorists," he told reporters in Cagayan de Oro last Saturday.

Duterte said he is not setting a timetable for the operations in Marawi but admitted that the siege has to end.

"If they say 'Well, we need another six months,' then we'll just have to wait it out," the President said, referring to government forces.

"If I can save one life there, I am willing to wait one year. If I save one life, that is the job of the soldier, then, they just surround the place and camp there until kingdom come if it could save a life," he added.

More than 800 people have died since the Maute terrorists, which have professed loyalty to international extremist group Islamic State, laid siege to Marawi City last May 23.

The terrorist attacks prompted Duterte to place the entire island of Mindanao under martial law.

"I was the one who declared martial law. I was the one who ordered them to go there and to clash, to be wounded, even to die. That's why I am sensitive when it comes to that issue," Duterte said.

"So, how do I explain to the people? I mean, we could do that as a last resort but it's a very horrendous thing to do," he added.

Duterte said terrorists who surrender would be given due process and treated as human beings.

"We will... provide them with a lawyer, and... there will be no oppression or harassment, or anything," he said, adding that no violence will be inflicted upon them if they surrender.

"I can guarantee that... That is not the way we treat people, especially even they're criminals. They are not (prisoners of war) to me. They're simply criminals. Period," he added.

Duterte ruled out the possibility of allowing the Maute leaders to escape in exchange for the release of civilians.

"No way," the President said when asked if he would accept such an offer from the terrorists.

Duterte confirmed that former Marawi mayor Omar Solitario tried to negotiate with the Maute group. The former mayor is in the arrest order issued by the defense department after Duterte declared martial law in Mindanao.

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Peace needed for growth – Duterte Mindanao

By **CANCER ORDONEZ IMAM**

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY – President Rodrigo Duterte said that the development of Mindanao greatly hinges on the attainment of peace and stability in the region during the closing plenary of the 26th Mindanao Business Conference and assured that Marawi will rise again along with the rest of Mindanao.

Efforts to promote business, trade, and investment in Mindanao will be in vain if there is no assurance of a stable peace and order situation that is just and lasting.

“That is why the government is

intensifying the fight against illegal drugs, crime and corruption, even as it creates a more enabling and nurturing business environment in Mindanao,” the President said during the conference’s closing ceremony at the Xavier Sports and Country Club.

“The government remains firmly committed to wiping out local terrorists and other threat groups that continue to hinder our peace and development efforts, especially the ISIS-inspired ones who have attempted to take over the city of Marawi,” Duterte said.

“I assure all investors and businesses in Mindanao that the govern-

ment will do everything to make sure that Marawi City recovers and that it will rise again as a thriving and flourishing city,” he added.

The Chief Executive said the government is now expediting preparatory works for the implementation of the Marawi City Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Plan.

Thousands of Mindanaoans have been displaced by ongoing war caused by insurgency and extremism which also killed many people and destroyed properties worth millions of pesos in Marawi City.

The President said more funds will be forthcoming for the infrastructure

projects that will benefit Mindanao under the government’s Build, Build, Build program.

The Department of Budget Management (DBM) has allocated ₱643.3 for infrastructure from the country’s total budget of ₱3.767 trillion for 2018, which has been placed under the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), as the second highest share in the 2018 budget, among other agencies.

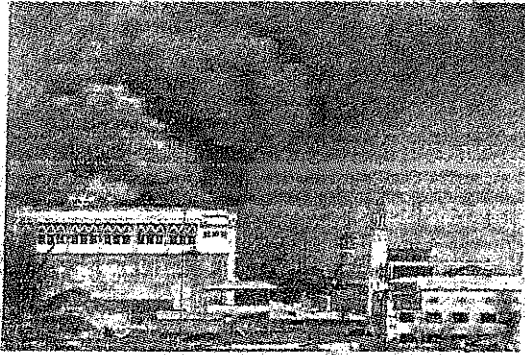
New roads and highways will be built through an allocation of ₱19.4 billion, a whopping 185.6 percent increase from the previous budget of ₱55.4 million.

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Military readies for Marawi rehab



By Mario J. Mallari and Ted Tuvera

Signaling the start of massive government rehabilitation efforts in Marawi City, a Navy ship carrying heavy equipment and relief goods arrived at

Iligan Port Saturday.

Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., commander of the military's Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom) welcomed the arrival of *BRP Lanao del Sur* after three days of sea travel from South Harbor Pier 15 in Manila.

"With the arrival of these additional equipment, we can now proceed with the reconstruction of iconic structures which were damaged due to the fighting," he said.

Earlier, military engineering personnel and some of their equipment were sent to Marawi City to make initial assessments of the destruction brought

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by the siege laid by the Islamic State-inspired terrorists.

Apart from reconstructing destroyed or damaged government infrastructures, the military engineers will also assist putting up houses for displaced people.

Aboard the Navy ship were four heavy equipment of the Army Engineers and the Navy Seabees that will be utilized during the rehabilitation phase of Marawi City.

The two pay loaders and two back hoes will temporarily be kept at Balo-i area so that it will be in close proximity to Marawi City when the construction work starts.

"These equipment will also be utilized during the construction of temporary houses for the IDPs (internally displaced persons) in Barangay Sagongsongan and in other shelters that will be identified," said Galvez.

Also shipped with the equipment are boxes of relief goods intended for the IDPs from Marawi City who are now temporarily staying at the different evacuation centers in Saguilaran, Balo-i, Pantar and Iligan City.

"The relief goods will be turned over to the appropriate agency responsible for distribution through the Joint Task Force Bangon Marawi. We will assist JTF Marawi during the distribution of these relief goods," the military official added.

Malacañang, meanwhile, has expressed its gratitude to the Australian government for supporting the Duterte administration's bid to recover Marawi City from the hands of a handful of highly-armed Islamist bandits.

Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella, in a statement, yesterday stressed the Australian assistance will not involve its troops to actually join local state security forces in tactical operations against the IS-inspired Maute group.

"The Australians, for sometime now, have been providing technical assistance though their P3 Orion aircraft in the ongoing battle against the Daesh-inspired Maute Group still holed up in Marawi," he said.

"Their assistance helps us increase our situational awareness of the battlefield and helps save lives," the Palace official added.

Australian Defense Force (ADF) operatives were also sent to assist local troops as part of Australia's offer to train the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

"These and other joint military exercises with Australia will not involve any boots on the ground in accordance with our law prohibiting the direct participation of foreign troops in combat operations," Abella stressed as he cited the importance of both domestic and foreign assistance in fighting terrorists and in reconstructing the damages caused by the war.

"The fight against terrorism - to reiterate - is not only the concern of the Philippines, but it is a concern of many nations around the world, especially those around the region," he said.

"The Philippines has on many occasions expressed its willingness to work with other countries in the fight against the evil brought about by terrorism," Abella added.

Last week, Malacañang also thanked the United States for pledging P730 million in the Philippine government's bid to rehabilitate war-torn Marawi City.

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CPP: Duterte purging administration of Reds

By YAS D. OCAMPO

DAVAO CITY - The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) has called out the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte and accused it of "purging" the government of Left-leaning activists.

It also said that the President has lost moral ground in asking CPP members and the New People's Army to surrender which they called "unacceptable."

This CPP issued the statement after the rejection by the Commission on Appointments (CA) of the appointment of Rafael Mariano as secretary of the Department of Agrarian Reform. Mariano's rejection by the CA came in the heels of the non-confirmation of former social welfare secretary Judy Taguiwalo.

The CA had also rejected the confirmation of former environment secretary Gina Lopez.

In a statement dated Sept. 7, the CPP said that Duterte's government "has completely purged his cabinet of Left activists and mass leaders."

The CPP lamented the rejection of one of the advocates of the implementation of agrarian reform programs.

"Mariano and Taguiwalo were among the recommendees of the National Democratic Front (NDF) who were appointed by Duterte as part of initial positive efforts to boost the NDFP-GRP peace negotiations. A few

The group said that negotiations may still push through, at least from their end.

"As a matter of principle, the revolutionary forces remain open to negotiations as a means to attain a just and lasting peace even as it wages people's war, conduct tactical offensives and confront the US-Duterte regime's

other activists and leaders appointed in other positions face the same threat of expulsion from the Duterte regime," the CPP said.

"Mariano and Taguiwalo are arguably the most genuine and competent people's servants ever to have headed a GRP agency," the CPP said.

The party added that the two had "performed their duties outstandingly and with full adherence to the interests of the downtrodden."

"By having them removed, Duterte has displayed complete devotion to the interests of big landlords, big bourgeois compradors and bureaucrat capitalists," the CPP said.

The CPP also suspected Duterte of renegeing on his campaign promise of reconciling with the Left.

"The removal of Mariano and Taguiwalo makes it more starkly clear to the Filipino people that Duterte's pretensions and promises of change are nothing but empty bluster," the CPP said.

However, the CPP said it would continue hoping for the continuation of talks.

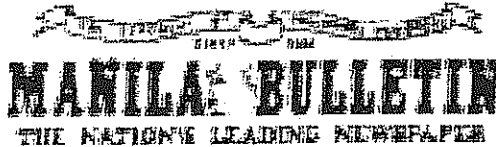
"As a matter of principle, the revolutionary forces will remain open to peace negotiations in the event that the Duterte regime (or any succeeding regime) will display genuine interest in addressing the issues at the root of the civil war," the CPP said.

Oplan Kapayapaan all-out war," the CPP said in a statement.

"The NDFP-GRP negotiations, however, cannot be fruitful while Duterte remains obsessed with Oplan Kapayapaan and demanding NPA capitulation."

Duterte, the CPP said, demanded the surrender of the NPA but waged an all-out war against them.

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AFP, PNP urge businessmen not to give extortion money to NPA

By MIKE U. CRISMUNDO

CAMP BANCASI, Butuan City - Field commanders of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Philippine National Police (PNP) on Sunday urged the business community, particularly rural business groups and individuals to refrain from giving extortion money to the New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP).

Instead, field unit commanders asked the business community to closely coordinate with the nearest AFP and PNP headquarters or units in their respective area to report alleged forced taxation imposed by the underground movement to put an end to the practice.

"Cutting off the lifeline of the NPA will be a factor in solving the insurgency problem in the countryside," the field commanders said.

They also urged farmers in the countryside to continue extending vital information on the movements of the communist insurgents so that these will be immedi-

ately acted upon by the field units.

"Giving financial aid to the rebels will give them more strength and this must be stopped," they said.

Combined military and police intelligence sources disclosed that some ₱1.5-billion extortion money is allegedly collected by the NPA from the agricultural (banana, pineapple), construction and mining companies every year in northeastern, southern and northern Mindanao regions alone.

But the Surigao-Agusan NPA command denied that it received money from the business community.

It was learned that these companies are forced to give in to the alleged extortion money for fear of reprisal or punishment from the NPAs.

Millions of pesos worth of equipment and agricultural plantations were destroyed in 2015 and 2016 alone in Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte, Compostela Valley and Bukidnon, claimed the field military and police intelligence commanders.

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MILF denies joint ops with gov't in Maguindanao

By ZEA C. CAPISTRANO

DAVAO CITY – A high-ranking leader of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) clarified that there are no joint operations between its Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces and government troops in Marawi and Maguindanao.

“Officially and formally, there is no such thing as joint operation to be conducted by the MILF forces and government forces in Maguindanao,” said Mohagher Iqbal in a statement on Sunday, Sept. 10.

Iqbal clarified that on August 2, Abu Toraiife's Jamaatul Mujahiren Wal-Ansar “declined and opened fire at the emissary sent by the MILF for a peace negotiation” in Barangay Pusaw, Shariff Saidona Mustapha, Maguindanao, prompting the MILF to defend its communities against violent extremism.

The Jamaatul Muhajiren Wal-Ansar is a breakaway group of the Bangsamoro Is-

lamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF).

The MILF has previously stated that the incursion of the ISIS-inspired faction of the BIFF in MILF territories prompted them to launch tactical operations.

Iqbal said it is necessary for the MILF to protect its identified areas and communities from groups or individuals that pose threats.

This responsibility, he said “echoes the religious ruling of the Dar-ul-Iftah by Sheikh Abu Huraira Odasan against violent extremism.”

“The stand of the MILF was further affirmed by the issuance of the religious edict from the Dar-ul-Iftah, under the guidance of Islam and teachings of Prophet Muhammad, that every Muslim has the responsibility to defend and protect his people once an individual or group intrudes his village to cause damage and pain,” he added.

Iqbal also warned of the risk among the youth to get enticed with violent and extremist ideologies.

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Duterte: No deal with Maute Group

BY JOCELYN MONTEMAYOR
and VICTOR REYES

PRESIDENT Duterte has rejected any deal with the Maute Group which reportedly wants its members to be allowed to leave Marawi City in exchange for the release of its hostages.

"No way," he told reporters Saturday during a visit to wounded soldiers in Camp Evangelista Station Hospital in Cagayan de Oro City, when asked about a rumor that Maute leader Omarkhayam Maute has proposed releasing hostages in exchange for the safe exit of the terrorists.

The military estimates about 20 to 30 hostages are being held by about 50 Maute men remaining in the city and confined in a 500-square meter area in the main battle area. Government forces are clearing around 300 structures where the Maute had planted explosives.

Since the Maute attacked the city on May 23, 655 Maute men have been killed together with 145 soldiers and policemen and 45 civilians.

While conducting clearing operations, the military has also been preparing for the city's reconstruction and rehabilitation.

The Armed Forces on Saturday transported more heavy equipment on board the BRP Davao del Sur, a strategic sealift vessel of the Philippine Navy, together with non-food items such as undergarments, sanitary napkins, diapers, hygiene kits, slippers, blankets, art materials, toys and medicines for the internally displaced persons.

Duterte on Saturday assured those who would surrender that while they would be treated as criminals, they would be given due process and accorded humane treatment.

He there would be "no oppression or harassment."

He acknowledged the Marawi conflict has been dragging for so long but said he would not impose a deadline to end it.

"I am not placing any timetable. Because pagsabi nila na (if they say), 'well, we need another six months'... we'll just have to wait it out. If I can save one life there, I am willing to wait one year," he said.

The President said there would be no negotiations with the Maute even if he earlier allowed former Marawi City mayor Omar Solitario Ali to talk with the group about the release of the hostages.

Duterte said Ali was commissioned by Peace Adviser Jesus Dureza. Ali is in the arrest order list issued by the Department of National Defense for alleged links to the Marawi attack and in Duterte's list of politicians involved in the illegal drugs trade.

He said he agreed to allow Ali to deal with

DUTERTE

the Maute only for the release of the hostages.

"I confirm that it really happened," he said adding that the remaining Maute group members continue to stay with the civilian hostages in a mosque inside the battle area.

Army spokesman Col. Edgard

Arevalo said saving hostages was the priority of the military's mission.

"We are still very mindful of the presence of civilians -- guns against their heads -- who were made human shields or ordered to wield firearms and ammunition, were converted to become fighters and shoot at our troops," he said in a statement.

The military has launched its final push to retake Marawi, and is coming under heavy fire from gunmen as troops try to secure buildings and navigate through mines and booby-traps.

AFP chief Gen. Eduardo Año has said the conflict would not go beyond his retirement date which is on October 26. – *With Reuters*

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Duterte warns Reds against street violence

BY JOCELYN MONTEMAYOR

PRESIDENT Duterte has warned he would impose martial law in the whole country if communist rebels and their left-leaning allies would take their rebellion to the streets.

The President, in an interview Saturday during a visit to wounded soldiers at the Camp Evangelista Station Hospital in Cagayan de Oro City, said the members of the New People's Army, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), are more active nowadays and are often seen in public attending assemblies or having meetings with left-leaning groups.

Duterte said he would not stop these activities, including street protests led by leftist groups, as long as they do not engage

See DUTERTE WARNS > Page B6

in violence or fighting in public.

"Do not commit the mistake of staging a rebellion. Yung sabihin mo na (where there will be) there's a fighting on the streets. I will not hesitate to impose martial law all throughout the country and order the arrest of everybody," he said.

The President reiterated he would allow demonstrations to be held, and is even open to declaring a holiday to enable even the students to join the protest actions. He said he may even order the soldiers and police to stay in their camps during rallies.

"You can have the city. But do

not create trouble... Do not resort to destruction and trouble because I will order the military and the police to go against you... Huwag kayong magkamali na magsunog dito, mag-vandalism (Do not engage in arson, vandalism). I will not accept it. Ang kaharap ninyo baril, sigurado iyan (You will be faced with a gun)," he said.

He also warned the NPA which continues to ambush government forces, saying government, while it is losing soldiers and policemen, is prepared for everything, including ending rebellion.

Duterte, prior to assuming

the presidency last year, started informal negotiations with communist rebels, which resulted in the resumption of formal peace negotiations and a short-lived unilateral ceasefire.

The ceasefire, however, has been lifted and the peace talks were eventually this year suspended because of continued NPA attacks.

The Communist Party of the Philippines told the NPA to step up attacks against government forces right after Duterte declared martial law in the entire Mindanao on May 23 because of the attack by the Maute terrorist group on Marawi City. The Marawi conflict is now on its third month.

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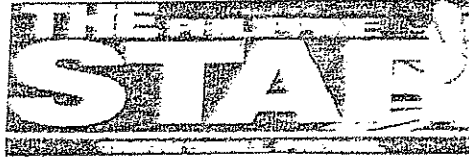


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Rice, letters for Marawi troops

The Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) headed by Governor Mujiv S. Hataman has received the donated sacks of rice to the soldiers of Joint Task Force Marawi on Saturday. Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WestMinCom) chief, Captain Jo-Ann D. Petinglay, said the 100 sacks of rice were delivered at Camp Ranao, Marawi City and received by the soldiers of the Joint Task Group Ayuda, the unit in charge of logistical goods and supplies. The rice bags will be brought to the different units inside the main battle area tomorrow morning. Lieutenant General Rolando Josefito Bautista, commander of Joint Task Force Marawi said soldiers are "more motivated to do their duties with all these kindness we are receiving from our fellow government organization." Meanwhile, letters of support and chocolates sent by the Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSP) Zamboanga Chapter were received by the troops in the MBA or main battle area. (Francis T. Wakefield)

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Ex-NPA leader slain in ambush

BACOLOD CITY – A former commander of the New People's Army (NPA)'s break away group was killed in an ambush in Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental on Saturday.

Jovanie Banista, alias Ka Amor, of the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade, was on his

way home in Barangay Locotan when he was ambushed by his former comrades, according to acting Negros police director Superintendent Rhea Santos.

Banista died at the scene from several gunshot wounds.

Probers recovered bullet shells for M16 and AK-47 from the scene. – Gilbert Bayoran

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Army to secure 'private' Marcos birthday bash

By: Jeannette I. Andrade

07:07 AM September 10, 2017

The Philippine Army will secure the "private" celebration of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos' birth centennial at Libingan ng mga Bayani on Monday.

The Marcoses have invited government officials, family friends and diplomats to the birth centennial of the strongman.

Col. Edgard Arevalo, the Armed Forces of the Philippines public affairs division chief, explained on Friday that the Army, as the physical custodian of the heroes' cemetery, would have to handle the security measures for the "private event."

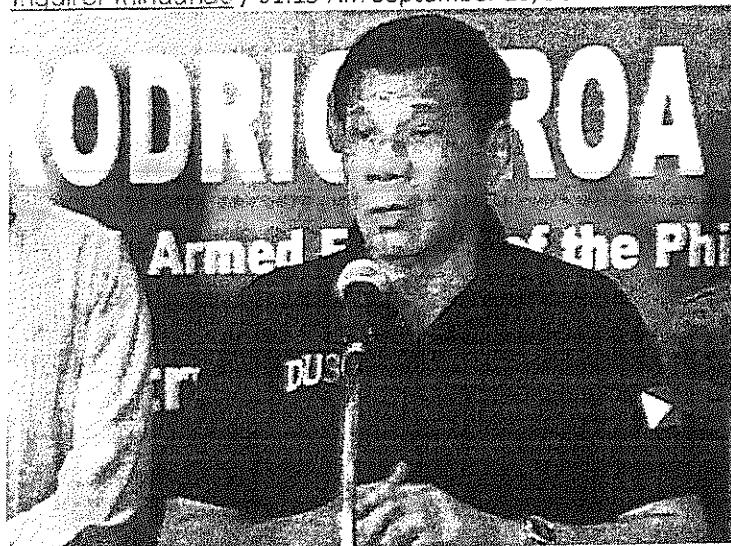
"The Marcos family has formally sent word of their plan to celebrate President Marcos' 100th birthday and they also sent their wish for the event to be private," Arevalo told reporters at a press briefing.

The AFP public affairs chief disclosed that a number of media outfits had asked to set up equipment to cover the celebration, but their requests were "gracefully declined" by the Marcos family.

www.inquirer.net

Duterte rejects Maute proposal to trade hostages for safe exit from Marawi

By: [Divina Suson - @inquirerdotnet](#)
inquirer Mindanao / 01:13 AM September 10, 2017



President Rodrigo Duterte answers questions from the media after visiting wounded soldiers at the Camp Evangelista Station Hospital (CESH) in Cagayan de Oro City on Saturday, Sept. 9, 2017. (Photo from an RTVM video)

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY — President Rodrigo Duterte on Saturday rejected a proposal from Omar Maute for the safe exit for their followers in Marawi City exchange for the freedom of the hostages.

The exact number of hostages remaining in the hands of the Maute Group and its allies remained unclear, but Duterte said they could be between 70 and 300.

At least 40 Maute gunmen and other extremists were estimated to have remained in the main battle area in Marawi City and continued to hold on to the hostages – including the Marawi City vicar general, Fr. Teresito Suganob.

Since the fighting started, 145 military troops and police officer had been killed, while the Maute gunmen had suffered more than 600 deaths, according to the military.

Asked about Omar's reported proposal, Duterte replied: "No way. No way."

He said the only way for the Maute gunmen to get out of Marawi alive was to surrender to the government.

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

"This has to end. This cannot go on," he said. "If they surrender, we will try them. give them due process. provide them with a lawyer."

Duterte assured the Maute gunmen that no violence would befall them if they surrendered.

"There will be no oppression or harassment or anything," he said. "No violence will be inflicted upon them if they surrender. That I could guarantee to you."

Duterte said he would not allow Maute gunmen to be manhandled or starved while in government custody.

"That's not the way how we treat people even if they are criminals," he said. "They are not POWs to me. They are simply criminals."

Duterte arrived here and pinned medals on 74 more troopers, who got injured in the nearly four months of fighting in Marawi City.

The injured fighters who received Kampilan medals from the President were among nearly 1,000 troops who had been injured in the fighting in Marawi since May 23.

They were being treated at the Camp Evangelista Station Hospital (CESH) of the 4th Infantry Division.

Capt. Patrick Martinez, the spokesperson of the 4th ID, said two of the wounded personnel the President visited and awarded on Saturday were officers. He did not provide their ranks though.

Martinez said that, since the fighting started, 1,143 wounded troops had already been treated at the CESH, the main military hospital in Northern Mindanao region.

More than 400 others were also rushed there for various illnesses, including malaria. /atm

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

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

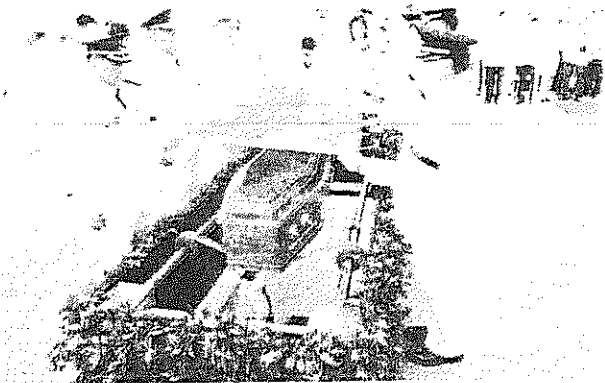
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Martial law survivors to gatecrash 100th birthday anniversary of Marcos

Duterte 'in cahoots' with Marcoses in their bid to return to power – CARMMA

By: Jaymee T. Gamil - Reporter / @jgamilINQ

Philippine Daily Inquirer / 06:46 PM September 10, 2017



Amid protests, the remains of former President Ferdinand Marcos were finally laid to rest at the Libingan ng mga Bayani as family members gather during the private burial rites on Friday, Nov. 18, 2016. (Photo from the Ferdinand E. Marcos Presidential Center)

Survivors of the dictatorship of late strongman Ferdinand Marcos will gatecrash his 100th "birthday party" on Monday at the Libingan ng mga Bayani in Taguig City.

The Campaign Against the Return of the Marcoses to Malacañang (Carmma) and the Samahan ng Ex-detainees Laban sa Detensyon at Aresto (Seida) will hold a protest program at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, where the dictator's remains now lie and where the Marcoses have announced they would celebrate their patriarch's 100th birth anniversary.

The event at the military-run public cemetery is not open to the public or even for media coverage.

"As far as I can remember, it is only now we will protest on the birthday of Makoy," Bonifacio Ilagan, Carmma spokesperson told the Inquirer in Filipino in a phone interview. "Normally, we don't even recognize it."

Makoy is a nickname commonly used by Filipinos, anti-Marcos activist or not, to refer to the late president.

But the groups' outrage have been stoked further after President Rodrigo Duterte issued a proclamation last week making Sept. 21, the late dictator's birthday, a holiday in Ilocos Norte, Marcos's home province.

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

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

"We were surprised," Ilagan admitted, even if their group had earlier slammed Duterte for his active part in the political rehabilitation of the erstwhile exiled Marcos family.

Ilagan conceded that Ilocos Norte was bound to already recognize the strongman's birthday as a local holiday. But he said there was an implied attempt to make the commemoration national "now the President has underscored it."

"We won't be surprised if he turns it into a national holiday next," Ilagan said.

He added that Duterte seemed to be "in cahoots" with the Marcoses in their bid to return to power, Ilagan said.

He cited several reasons for this observation:

- Duterte's proclamation of Sept 21 as a holiday in Ilocos Norte
- his admission that the Marcoses had donated to his presidential campaign
- his moves to allow the dictator's burial at the Libingan ng mga Bayani
- his implementation of martial law in Mindanao in the vein of Marcos' martial law declaration
- his revelation that he had recent talks with the Marcos family to facilitate the return of suspected ill-gotten wealth in exchange for their "immunity"

"How else would we explain his affinity for the Marcoses?" Ilagan said of Duterte, whose own mother, ironically, was a staunch anti-Marcos activist in Davao City.

Ilagan also pointed to Duterte's "emulation and fascination with Marcos ideology."

"We can see the similarities," Ilagan said, noting Duterte's "strongman" tactics, his profession of having "the best intentions for the people and the country," and his vehement responses to criticism.

"It really is disconcerting to say the least, especially to victims of martial law," said Ilagan, who was himself detained and tortured during the Marcos dictatorship.

"Everything we fought for in the 1986 uprising on EDSA has been nullified," he said. "Even the essence [Martial Law Victims Reparation and Recognition Act of 2013] has been set aside by the continuing actions of the President all leading to the rehabilitation of the Marcoses. He has only been giving recognition to the Marcoses."

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Ilagan appealed to the public to keep to the fight against "truth versus lies." for "justice against plunderers."

"The basic message we want to impart to people is to not to forget history," he said. "We have to learn lessons of history... Everybody wants change, but change has to start with a recognition of what we experienced in the past otherwise we will simply be repeating the tragedies of history." /atm

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www.inquirer.net

Joma: No more peace negotiations with Duterte

By: Delfin T. Mallari Jr. - @inquirerdotnet

Philippine Daily Inquirer / 07:27 AM September 10, 2017

LUCENA CITY — Communist rebels could no longer be persuaded to return to the negotiating table, Communist Party of the Philippines founder Jose Maria Sison said on Saturday in reaction to President Rodrigo Duterte's statement that talks would resume only if the insurgents declared a ceasefire.

"The line has been drawn to separate, fight and overthrow the US-Duterte regime. Duterte would have a hard time to act convincing again," Sison said in an online interview from Utrecht, the Netherlands.

"Early on, it has been proven that Duterte is a liar and untrustworthy," he said.

Sison also scoffed at Mr. Duterte's proposal to make New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas who surrendered part of state security forces.

"He wants to convert surrendered NPAs into his soldiers? Duterte has truly gone insane," Sison said.

On Friday, Duterte said there would be no talks until rebel forces declared a cessation of hostilities.

He also enticed NPA rebels to surrender without precondition and become government soldiers with free housing.

Talks suspended

The peace talks to end nearly 50 years of insurgency under the Duterte administration started last year on a high note with four fruitful rounds of negotiations.

But in May, Mr. Duterte suspended the talks because of continued NPA attacks on government forces.

The President became more incensed after communist rebels ambushed a convoy of the Presidential Security Group in Arakan, North Cotabato province, in July.

"Duterte is very confident in using arms and deception. He launched the war against drugs to show his iron fist and capability to kill many to strike fear among the (Filipino) society," Sison said.

Sison said Duterte's drug war had two objectives: "for Duterte, his son and their allies to monopolize the illegal drugs market and transform the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police into private armed groups to enforce fascist dictatorship in the Philippines."

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Australian forces to conduct specialized training for Filipino troops

September 10, 2017 Joel Dizon

"What we've discussed today is the invitation for the support of a small ADF (Australian Defense Force) team that might be able to provide some specialized training to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)," Minister for Defence of Australia Senator Marise Payne said in a press briefing after meeting National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana on Friday, September 8 at Colonel Jesus Villamor Air Base, Pasay City.

"In terms of further details, both Secretary Lorenzana and I will be speaking with our respective leaders and respective leaders of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and Australian Defense Force to ensure that we come together and so we can arrange," Payne added.

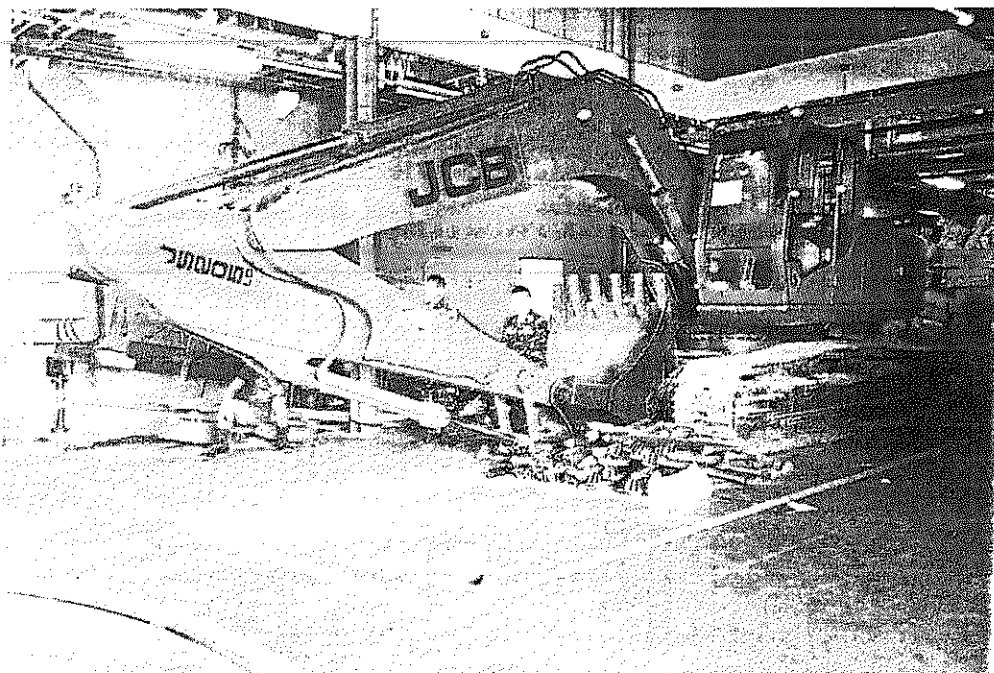
"Not only because we support our friends but because it is important for Australia, as well. This is a threat to the region that we all need to work together to defeat, it is a threat not just here in the Philippines but elsewhere and we know as our defense forces has been engaged in the Middle East for some long time now and particularly watching the potential for returning foreign fighters in the region," she added.

Before meeting Secretary Lorenzana, Minister Payne met with South Korea Prime Minister Lee Nak-yeon and Minister for National Defense Song Young-moo in Seoul to further enhance Australia's bilateral relationship with the Republic of Korea, Australia's fourth largest trading partner.

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BRP Davao del Sur delivers heavy equipment for Marawi rehabilitation



Joint Task Force Marawi photo

Philippine Navy's Tarlac-class landing platform dock BRP Davao del Sur (LD-602) on Sunday, September 10 delivered at the Port of Iligan in Iligan City military heavy equipment to be used for the rehabilitation of Marawi City.

Among the heavy equipment are payloader and back hoe.

According to Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Western Mindanao Command (WESMINCOM) Commanding General Lieutenant General Carlito Galvez these heavy equipment will help in creating temporary shelters for families displaced by the ongoing battle against terrorists in Marawi City.

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Joint Task Force Marawi photo

Presidential Spokesperson Ernesto Abella on Friday, September 8 said the construction of temporary shelters in the 9-hectare Transitional Shelter Site provided by the Marawi City Government started on that day.

He said the team in charge arrived in Marawi City on Thursday, September 7 to facilitate the necessary coordination for the start of the construction.

As of September 7, 7 pm 653 terrorists were already killed. 145 were killed on the government side.

"Those killed by the terrorists from the civilian sector, as well as those rescued remains the same at 45 and 1,728, respectively," AFP spokesperson Brigadier General Restituto Padilla, Jr. said.

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LOOK: Air Force helicopter squadron in action in Marawi



208THS photo

Since the battle between government forces and Maute terrorists erupted in Marawi City, Philippine Air Force (PAF) 205th Tactical Helicopter Wing (205THW) has been providing support “to help the government troops flush out rebels and retake control of the battered city,” the 208th Tactical Helicopter Squadron (208THS) said.

208THS, also known as the Daggers, is a UH-1H helicopter squadron operating under the command of 205THW. 208THS is based in Brigadier General Benito Ebuena Air Base, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu.

“Dagger flight from 208th Tactical Helicopter Squadron was one of the elements deployed and has been present all throughout in helping the troops to perform deliberate operations in the city,” 208THS said.

“As the conflict enters its third month, the Daggers together with other flying units of the PAF continue to be faithful to its mandated tasks to provide heli-lift transport to our operating troops on the ground,” 208THS added.



208THS photo

The said squadron has been performing daily air evacuation of the wounded and killed personnel in the ongoing Marawi conflict.