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



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# NEWS CLIPPINGS

20 September 2017

Wednesday

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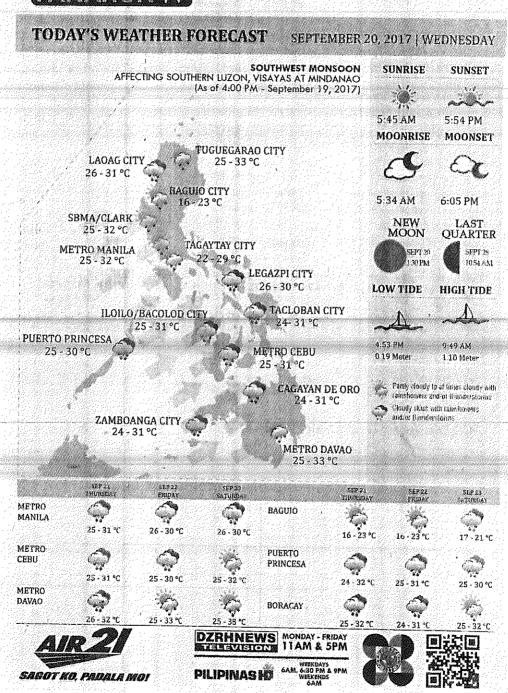
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# The Manila Times

## **PANAHON TV**



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# New armed group emerges

# Demands that Maute Group leave Marawi and free all hostages

By VALERIE ANN P. LAMBO

OTABATO CITY – A new armed group in Marawi City emerged Monday night to demand the Islamic State

(IS)-inspired Maute Group to leave the besieged city at once and free all their hostages – Muslims and Christians alike.

In a 14-minute video posted online, the group introduced themselves >7

as Meranaw Victims Movement (MVM), a group composed of armed Maranao evacuees from Marawi City.

The new group said their emergence is deeply rooted to their relationship to civilians who perished in the fight and whose remains have yet to be retrieved.

"The group is dedicated to help in fighting for the rights of the Bangsa Meranaw whose dignity was trampled upon because of this crisis," the group said in their Facebook post.

The group, whose leaders and members have not yet been identified, said they do not conform with the use of Marawi City as sanctuary for the Maute Group, which "ignited the war in Marawi City that has brought about sufferings to the Meranaw people."

"We hold our local leaders, past and present alike, responsible for failing to prevent the ISIS-inspired Maute Group from carrying out their plan since they were fully aware of the group's presence in the city prior to the siege and for literally forsaking the civilians like orphans in the midst of great danger during the onset of the siege on May 23, 2017," the group added.

#### Demand

The new group is also demanding from the government that civilians be allowed to return to their homes in areas in Marawi City that were already cleared by the military; to stop the aerial bombings and the abuses of some military and police personnel at checkpoints; and accord respect to civilians, especially the women.

It is also asking for an easier access to and from Marawi City, especially roads through Barangay Maliwanag so the people in the First District of Lanao del Sur will have better and convenient access.

MVM also wants to secure the remains of the civilian victims and to provide financial support to all wounded civilian victims similar to the support being provided by the government to wounded military and police personnel.

It also seeks compensation for the damage to their properties, the rehabilitation of mosques, madrasahs, and other destroyed structures that represented the Meranao culture and heritage.

The government, according to the group, should not make any hint that it would occupy the land of the Meranaws on the basis of military reservation, instead it should help legitimate owners to have their respective land titles.

#### Jihad: A last resort

And if their demands will fall on deaf ears, the MVM said it would be compelled to face the Maute Group and "that Jihad becomes our legitimate recourse."

"To our leaders, should we find out that you defraud or corrupt the assistance and support intended for the evacuees, we will unrelentingly pursue until we take them for the people in whatever means possible," the group warned.

#### Call to MILF

The new armed group is also enjoining the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) to support their demands by ensuring that it reaches all those concerned.

"To the MILF, take note that the demand for the approval of the BBL (Bangsamoro Basic Law) becomes irrelevant if the key area where it should be implemented would no longer be in the hands of the Meranaw, and that by then the support of the people of Lanao becomes weak in times that you need it," the group said.

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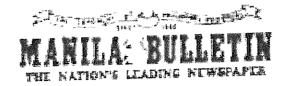


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BARBER'S CUT - Soldiers from the Civil Military Operations Regiment give free haircut to young evacuees in Barangay Nangkain, Balo-I, Lanao del Norte, where hundreds of families from war-torn Marawi City have sought refuge. (Keith Bacongco)

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# 7 ASG bandits surrender in Sulu

By NONCY E LACSON

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Seven members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) surrendered to the military in Sulu, early Saturday night, as the military continued its relentless campaign against the bandit group in the province.

Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WestMinCom) Spokesman Army Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay said the seven ASG surrendered to Lt Col Jesse Montoya, commanding officer of the 2nd Special Forces Battalion, in Barangay Likod Pata, Pata Island, Sulu at 8:30pm, Saturday.

Petinglay said the seven ASG members were operating under the late subleader Alhabsy Misaya.

Petinglay identified them as Aldin Hadil Akmad, 25, Willing Ibba Jaabal, 45, Ijal Samsain Sadjal, 25, and Emar Ladjar Udjah, 17, and Musoy Elani – all from Tayong Bahala of Barangay Likud; and Muknan Basir of Barangay Daongdong, Pata, Sulu. "Through the joint efforts of the 3rd Sulu Civilian Active Auxiliary Company \ and the Special Intelligence Team, Akmad and his companions decided to return to the fold of the law," Petinglay

"The ASG members also turnedover an M16 rifle and three Garand rifles, added Petinglay.

"Documentation is currently being undertaken at the headquarters of the Second Special Forces Battalion in Talipao, Sulu," the spokesperson said

At the start of the year, intensified conduct of focused military operations were undertaken to contain the ASG, and with the offensives of the Joint Task Forces in the ZamBaSulta (Zamboanga, Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi) area, these have resulted in a series of surrenders by ASG combatants.

"I commend the recent accomplishment of JTF Sulu under Brigadier General Sobejana," said Lt Gen Carlito G. Galvez, Jr., commander of the AFP-WestMinCom.

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# 7 sa Abu Sayyaf sumuko

#### NI NONOY E. LACSON

ZAMBOANGA CITY -Sumuko sa militar ang pitong miyembro ng Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) sa Sulu habang patuloy na umiigting ang opensiba ng mga awtoridad laban sa mga bandido sa lalawigan.

Sinabi ni Armed Forces of the Philippines-Western Mindanao Command (AFP-WestMinCom) Spokesperson Army Capt. Jo-Ann Petinglay na sumuko ang pitong bandido kay Lt. Col. Jesse Montoya,

bandido kay Lt. Col. Jesse Montoya, commanding officer ng 2nd Special Forces Battalion, sa Barangay Likod Pata sa Pata Island, Sulu, bandang 8:30 ng gabi nitong Sabado.

Ang pitong bandido ay pawang tauhan ng napatay na Abu Sayyaf sub-leader na si Alhabsy Misaya, ayon kay Petinglay.

Kinilala ni Petinglay ang mga sumuko na sina Aldin Hadil Akmad, 25; Willing Ibba Jaabal, 45; Jjal Samsain Sadjal, 25; at Musoy Elani; Tayong Bahala; isang 17anyos, pawang mula sa Bgy. Likud; at Muknan Basir, ng Bgy. 'Daongdong, Pata, Sulu.

Daongdong, Pata, Sulu.
"Through the joint efforts of the 3rd Sulu Civilian Active Auxiliary Company and the Special Intelligence Team, Akmad and his

companions decided to return to the fold of the law," sabi ni Petinglay.

Dagdag pa ni Petinglay, isinuko rin ng mga bandido ang isang M-16 rifle at tatlong Garand rifle

Simula Enero ngayong taon, may kabuuang 111 miyembro ng Abu Sayyaf ang sumuko na sa militar. Sa nasabing bilang, 65 ang sumuko sa Basilan, 23 sa Sulu, 21 sa Tawi-Tawi, at dalawa sa Zamboanga City.

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# 4 ASG men surrender

Four Abu Sayyaf members said and three Garand rifles. to be identified under the slain Alhabsy Misaya surrendered and laid down their arms in Sulu over the weekend.

Aldin Hadil Akmad, 25; Willing Ibba Jaabal, 45; Ijal Samsain Sadjal, 25; and Emar Ladjar Udjah, 17, yielded to Lieutenant Colonel Jesse Montoya, the commanding officer of the 2nd Special Forces Battalion, in Barangay Likod Pata, Pata Island, Sulu at 8:30 p.m., Saturday.

Brigadier General Cirilito Sobejana, Commander of Joint Task Force Sulu, said Akmad and his companions turned-over an M16

"I commend the recent accomplishment of JTF Sulu under Brigadier General Sobejana," said Lieutenant General Carlito G. Galvez, Jr., the commander of the Western Mindanao Command. "The unit is very successful in their coordination and stakeholders engagements that yielded this positive result."

In all, a total of 111 Abu Sayyaf members have already surrendered to authorities, with 65 yielding to troops in Basilan, 23 in Sulu, 21 in Tawi-Tawi, and two in Zamboanga City. (Francis

T. Wakefield)

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# NPA rebel killed in Albay clash

By NIÑO N. LUCES

CAMP ANGELES, Camarines Sur
— A New People's Army (NPA) rebel
was killed in a clash with government
troops in Sitio Tagas, Barangay Mamlad, Jovellar in Albay last Monday, the
military confirmed yesterday.

Captain Joash Pramis, chief of the 9th Infantry Division Public Affairs Office, said that they are still verifying the identity of the slain rebel.

He said that the encounter happened while the government troops were conducting an operation following the report that rebels were in the area.

"Based from the initial report, about 20 NPAs are encountered by our troops, and at about 25 minutes is the duration of the encounter. Immediately, the rebels fled and a lifeless body of a suspected rebel was left at the site," Pramis said. Gathered from the encounter site were a .357 pistol and a grenade.

"There's no casualty or wounded in the government side while we are still coordinating with authorities and the local officials for the proper disposition of the rebel's cadaver," he said.

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# Rody: Congress, AFP nod needed for my resignation

By CHRISTINA MENDEZ

As critics and political foes of the admin-

istration prepare to launch mass protests on Sept. 21, President Duterte said last night he would not hesitate to step down if he

feels he has lost the confidence of the public.

But Duterte emphasized that his resignation should be approved by both houses of Congress and the military.

"I was elected constitutionally, I did not cheat, so I will submit my resignation to Congress, but subject to the concurrence of

the military, because the military will see to it that the succession under the Constitution will be followed," he said in a late night interview over state-run PTV-4.

He said losing the confidence of his 16 million voters should be enough to convince him to quit the presidency to prove he's not clinging to power.

In the interview, the Chief Executive also urged all those who want to join tomorrow's rallies to peaceably assemble and practice their constitutional right to seek redress from government.

He has decreed tomorrow as National Day of Protest, which is also the 45th anniversary of the declaration of martial law by the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

"I don't know if you want a joint voting or not, I don't care. As long as it is subject to the concurrence of the military," Duterte said, referring to a condition for his quitting.

Asked why he was declaring his readiness to resign, Duterte said it's "because I want everybody to understand, including the supporters, lindi ako hangal sa (I'm not mad about the) presidency. na hindi ako mamatay (I won't die), as a matter of fact I never thought that I would win," Duterte said.

Leftist groups, political opposition and critics have vowed to mobilize on the martial law anniversary to dramatize their protest against Duterte's veering toward dictatorship as well as the rising cases of human rights violations in the conduct of his war on drugs.

Duterte said he does not care if the protests last three days, a week or even a year.

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## 7 Sayyaf men surrender in Sulu

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Seven Abu Sayyaf bandits have surrendered in Sulu.

Musoy Elani, Tayong Bahala and Muknan Basir yieldec to soldiers of the 2nd Special Forces Battalion (SFB) on Pata island on Monday.

Aldin Hadil Akmad, 25; Willing Ibba Jaabal, 45; Ijal Samsain Sadjal, 25; and Emar Ladjar Udjah, 17, surrendered to Lt Col Jesse Montoya in Barangay Likod Pata also in Pata town on Saturday night.

Brig. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana, Joint Task Force Sulu commander, said the bandits turned over six high-powered firearms and a hand gun.

Sobejana said the surrenderees were followers of slain Abu Sayyaf leader Alhabsy Misaya. "They decided to surrender due to continuous military operations in Sulu," he said.

A total of 107 bandits have surrendered, 122 killed and 74 arrested since January.

Sobejana said search and rescue operations for the remaining Abu Sayyaf hostages – six Vietnamese, five Indonesians, a Dutch man and four Filipinos – are ongoing.

— Roel Pareño

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## CAFGU member dinukot sa bahay

CALAPAN CITY, Oriental Mindoro - Dinukot ang isang miyembro ng Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) ng 10 hindi nakilalang armadong lalaki sa Sta. Cruz, Occidental Mindoro, nitong Lunes ng gabi.

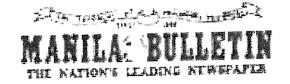
Sa kanyang report, sinabi ni Brig. Gen. Antonio G. Parlade, Jr., commander ng 203rd Brigade ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) na nakabase sa Mindoro, na dinukot si Jemuel F. Manlabao, miyembro ng CAFGU Civilian Active Auxillary (CAA) sa harap ng pamilya nito.

Aniya, dakong 6:00 ng gabi at naghahapunan si Manlabao kasama ang asawa at tatlong taong gulang na anak nitong babae sa loob ng kanilang bahay sa Sitio Landing Pinagturilan, Sta. Cruz, nang pasukin sila ng mga armadong lalaki na nakasuot ng bonnet at puwersahang tinangay ang biktima.

Nagbanta pa umano ang mga suspek sa misis ni Manlabao bago lisanin ang lugar.

Jerry J. Alcayde

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# CAFGU member slain in ambush in N. Cotabato

By MALU CADELINA MANAR

KIDAPAWAN CITY - Unidentified gunmen shot dead a 39-year-old member of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) in the hinterlands of Arakan town in North Cotabato, Monday.

Authorities identified the victim as Jeffrey Bitonio, CAFGU member assigned at Barangay Anapolon in Arakan

Reports from Arakan Police said the victim was on his way to the town's Poblacion when waylaid by at least five armed men believed to be members of the New Peoples Army (NPA), around 720 a.m., Monday.

Bitonio sustained several gunshot wounds in different parts of his body, killing him instantly.

The NPA has yet to claim responsibility for the incident.

Bitonio was the second CAFGU member the NPA killed in Arakan town since July this year.

On July 19, the communist guerillas executed a certain Ben Padian, CAFGU member assigned at Paquibato district, after he was flagged down by alleged insurgents along the national highway in Arakan town, taken into a secluded area of Barangay Gambodes and shot dead.

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# Gunmen abduct CAFGU member in Occ. Mindoro

By JERRY J. ALCAYDE

ALAPAN CITY, Oriental Mindoro – A member of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) was forcibly abducted by 10 unidentified armed men in Sta. Cruz, Occidental Mindoro the other night.

Brigadier General Antonio G. Par-

lade Jr., commander of the Philippine Army's 203rd Infantry Brigade (203rd IB) based on Mindoro Island, identified the victim as CAFGU member as Jemuel F. Manlabao of the CAFGU Active Auxiliary (CAA).

Parlade said Manlabao was having a dinner with his wife and a three-yearold daughter inside their house in Sitio Landing Pinagturilan, Sta. Cruz when about 10 armed men barged in past 6 p.m. last Monday.

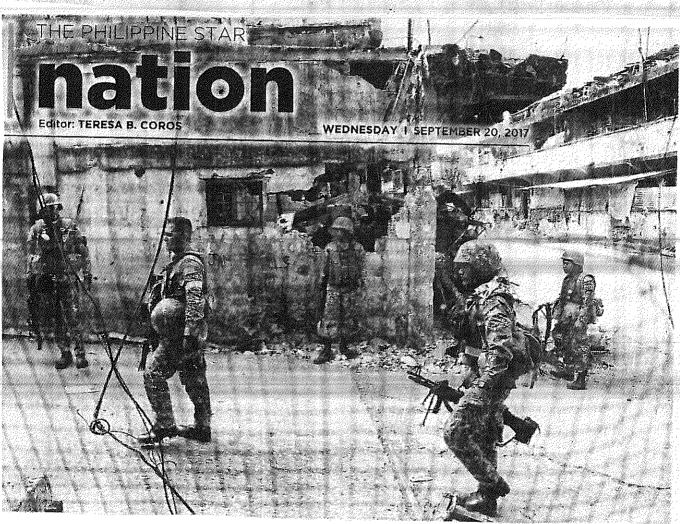
Wearing bonnets and kamisa de tsino (shirts), held them at gunpoint and dragged Manlabao out of the house. They also threatened the victim's wife, Anarose, before leaving, said Parlade, quoting Manlabao's superiors in the army's 76th Infantry Battalion based in Occidental Mindoro.

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# 300 buildings still to be cleared in Marawi



Marines conduct clearing operations in Marawi in this photo taken last week.

#### By JAIME LAUDE

Government security forces still have to clear around 300 buildings in Marawi believed occupied by Maute militants.

The military said these buildings are within a 10-hectare area where continuing airstrikes and ground assaults are focused.

Most of the buildings are either occupied by snipers and machine gunners or laden with booby traps, Col. Edgard Arevalo, Armed Forces of the Philippinespublic affairs office chief, said yesterday.

"The terrorists are now left with a 10-hectare maneuvering area ... Overall, there are still 15 to 18 hectares that should be cleared," Arevalo said.

He clarified reports that the

terrorists are holed up in only a 500-square-meter area." I think there was a confusion. It has been corrected," Arevalo said.

He said military operations to defeat the terrorists are gaining ground.

However, Arevalo declined to give a timeline on when the fighting will end, saying that the matter is in the hands of ground commanders.

Armed Forces of the Philippines chief Gen. Eduardo Año had earlier expressed confidence the military offensive in Marawi will be over before he retires from the service.

Año will reach the mandatary retirement age of 56 on Oct. 26.

## Marawi rehab

Meanwhile, Valenzuela Rep. Wes Gatchalian said the budget of the Road Board should be realigned to rehabilitate Marawi.

Gatchalian said he supports the move of the Senate and House of Representatives to abolish the agency and divert its proposed budget of P1.2 billion next year to more noble causes.

"I would be more comfortable seeing that money go to the Free Higher Education Act or the rehabilitation of Marawi City. There is no cogent reason why this body should still exist," he said.

"Whatever function or man-

date (the agency) is currently performing could be handled by the DPWH (Department of Public Works and Highways). Adding another layer of bureaucracy ...increases the chance of inefficiency and irregularities in government," Gatchalian said.

The Road Board was created under Republic Act 8794 to ensure the maintenance of national and provincial roads. Its budget is sourced from road users tax.

House Bill 6236 filed by Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez seeks to abolish the agency and transfer its functions to the DPWH and Department of Transportation.

Alvarez cited allegations that the agency misused more than P90 billion in road users' tax. – With Delon Porcalla

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# Duterte: Marawi conflict could end this month

## BY JOCELYN MONTEWAYOR

PRESIDENT Duterte yesterday said the conflict in Marawi City, which started on May 23, might end this month as government troops are now focused on locating the leaders of the Maute Group.

"Mukhang ganun (It looks like it)," the President said during the "Totoo Lang" program over government-run PTV4 when asked if he agrees with a military assessment that the operations might be over by the end of the month.

"Mopping up na iyan, actually and they are just trying to really... hinahananap lang talaga nila kung saan ang mga liders (They are conducting mopping up operations and they are just... looking for the leaders)," he added.

Armed Forces chief Gen. Eduardo Año has expressed confidence the conflict will end before his retirement on October 26.

Duterte reiterated he does not want any celebration once the siege is over or any statement of victory

See DUTERTE: MARAWI➤ Page B6

## **DUTERTE: MARAWI**

in deference to those who died.

The fighting has so far resulted in the death of 673 Maute members, 149 soldiers and policemen, and 47 civilians.

Duterte said every Filipino lost in Marawi as the fighting involved

Filipinos.

"Let us just pray to God and thank the Lord na tapos na ito, sana maalala ni Allah ang mga tao diyan sa Marawi. Let us raise the money to start the rebuilding of Marawi (Let us just pray to God and thank the Lord that it is finished, hopefully Allah will remember those who died in Marawi. Let us raise the money to start the rebuilding of Marawi)," he said.

The Armed Forces sought to rectify an error on the size of the battle ground between government forces and the Maute Group in

Marawi City.

AFP public affairs chief Col. Edgard Arevalo said the current size of the main battle area is 10 hectares or 100,00 square meters, and not 500 square meters as the military leadership earlier said.

Año said on August 29 that the main battle area has been reduced

to 500 square meters.

"The confines where they are moving is around 10 hectares," Arevalo said of the battle ground. "To make it easier to imagine, one hectare is 10,000 square meters."

Arevalo said the error was brought about by "confusion" but did not elaborate.

Arevalo also said 10 hectares is "relatively a big area." However, he said "the operational tempo plus the gains we have achieved have a great impact on the capability of our enemy."

Arevalo cited the "critical and key structures" that were recently

seized by government forces from the control of the Maute Group, including the Grand-Mosque and the Bato Mosque.

He also said the number of buildings yet to be cleared is about 300.

Asked if a projection to finish the armed conflict in about a month is still feasible, Arevalo said the military is not setting a deadline "because we do not want to pressure (the troops)."

"As what the chief of staff said, the enemy --- once we set a deadline --- they are doing everything to frustrate us, embarrass us on the deadline that we set," said Arevalo.

On Monday, AFP spokesman Brig, Gen. Restituto Padilla said there about 40 to 60 Maute members still in the main battle area. They are holding about 45 to 50 hostages.

#### FR. SUGANOB'S RETURN AWAITED

In the remote town of Norala in South Cotabato province, the family of Fr. Chito Suganob, together with other relatives and friends, are rejoicing over his rescue and are eager to see him back.

Younger brother Raqueto "Boyet" Suganob said the entire Suganob clan and friends in the town are "very happy" because after more than 100 days, God answered their prayers.

Suganob had been held hostage by the Maute Group until he was rescued last Saturday.

"Sabik na kaming makita siya ng personal. Gusto naming mayakap at makausap siya ng personal (We are excited to see him in person. We want to embrace him and talk to him)," Boyet Suganob said in a radio interview.

Boyet said his brother wants to

lead the "thanksgiving mass" when he gets home in Norala, one of the remote towns located in the upper Valley area of South Cotabato.

He said their relatives and friends from other places are extending their appreciation to the government troops for rescuing Fr. Suganob from the hands of ISIS-inspired Maute militant group.

Also, the relatives of Fr. Suganob in Iloilo province are "very thankful" to the Armed Forces for ending their worry about the safety

of the priest.

Fr. Suganob's fellow members in the Socsksargen-based Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV) were surprised but very happy after hearing about his rescue.

Rep. Ferdinand Hernandez (South Cotabato, 2nd District), deputy speaker for Mindanao, said the rescue of Fr. Suganob proves that the tactical strategies implemented by the military are "effective" in dealing the Marawi situation.

"It's the will of Allah that I'r. Suganob be rescued!" said Mangudadaru, who is known in Central Mindanao region for his strong stand against terrorism and illegal drugs.

Marawi Bishop Edwin dela Peña sought to defend Fr. Suganob from allegations that he was forced to convert to Islam while in captivity.

Dela Peña said he would verify the information with Fr. Suganob himself when they meet.

"We do not have any confirmation about that and there is no compulsion in religion if there's something like that... It is within the context of the war in Marawi," he said.

"It doesn't have any significance. It doesn't mean anything to us. He remains a Catholic priest," he added. — With Victor Reyes, Gerard Naval, and Ramil Bajo

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# The Manila Times

# Armed group emerges, warns of new'holy war'

BY JULMUNIR I. JANNARAL

ARIFF AGUAK, Maguindanao: Chaos in Marawi City is seen by residents Zas never ending even after government troops will have wiped out all members of the terrorist Maute Group.

This scenario surfaced after a new shadowy group that calls itself as Meranaw Victims Movement (MVM) was bom on Monday and posted online several demands for restoration of normalcy in Marawi City and in the province of Lanao del Sur.

The members of the MVM introduced themselves to fellow Meranaw, instead of the usual spelling Maranao, as sons and brethren who are among evacuees from Marawi City.

They said some of them have relatives among the civilians who perished in clashes that began on May 23 and what is more hurting, according to them, is that their kin's remains are yet to be retrieved from the war zone

"It's almost four months now that we have been seeking shelter in evacuation centers or among our relatives' homes in different towns," the MVM said in a statement.

It added that some of the evacuees have passed away while many others fell sick, prompting its members to unite and call the group as the Meranaw Victims Movement.

The group said their movement is dedicated to help in fighting for rights of the Bangsa Meranaw whose dignity was trampled upon by the siege of Marawi by the Maute Group.

The MVM added that it does not approve the use of Marawi City as sanctuary by any group.

It said that it finds unacceptable the actions of the government that caused the displacement of tens of thousands and deaths of several civilians from aerial bombings and use of heavy armaments, which are among the prohibited practices under International Humanitarian Law.

#### Local leaders blamed

The MVM said its holds past and

present local leaders responsible for failing to prevent the Maute Group from carrying out its plan since they were fully aware of the group's presence in the city prior to the siege and for literally forsaking civilians.

It added that it is dismayed by the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) since nothing has been heard from the group, nor has it made a categorical position on the current Marawi crisis.

The MVM's demands:

"First, we would like to ask our kinsfolk from among the so-called IS/Maute Group to leave Marawi City at once and free their hostages, Muslims and Christians alike."

Second, we would like to ask the government, especially President Rodrigo Duterte, the following:

- 1. Allow the civilians to return to their homes in areas in Marawi City that were already cleared by the military:
- 2. Stop the aerial bombings of Marawi City if only to salvage houses or buildings that may not have been destroyed yet;



military and police personnel at checkpoints and accord respect to civilians, especially the women;

- 4. Ease access to and from Marawi City, especially the roads through Barangay Maliwanag so that people in the First District of Lanao del Sur would have better and convenient access.
- 5. Secure the remains of civilians so they may not be mixed with the garbage in the process of military clearing operations and so that they may be given proper burial even if only skeletons are left of them:
- 6 Provide immediate appropriate material and financial support to all wounded civilian victims similar to the support being provided by the govern-

ment to wounded military and police personnel;

- 7. Compensate for the damaged houses and buildings, wasted goods and merchandise of civilians and provide for their livelihood as well;
- 8 Rebuild or rehabilitate the mosques and madrasahs and other destroyed structures that represented the Meranao culture and heritage;
- 9. Importantly, the government should not make any hint that it would occupy the land of the Meranaws on the basis of military reservation, instead it should help legitimate owners to have their respective land titles, and

10. For the military and PNP [Philippine National Police] personnel to avoid occupying mosques and madrasahs.

Third, we demand from our local political leaders to account for all the relevant government funds such as the calamity fund and all assistance and donations and ensure transparent and equitable implementation or spending of the same.

Fourth, we are enjoining the MILF to support the foregoing demands by ensuring that these reach all those concerned.

#### 'Heed our call' or else

The MVM warned that in case IS/ Maute Group kinsfolk "would not heed our call, we would be compelled to face you because by then you no longer care for the welfare of the people and you did not only fail to realize but have violated the essence of jihad in Islam.

It also warned the government, "This will be the last time that we will ask in relation to previous demands of various sectors of the Meranaw society, and that if the foregoing demands will fall on deaf ears, likewise, we will be compelled to fight for our rights that have been trampled upon and that Jihad becomes our legitimate recourse."

To Maranao leaders, the MVM said, "Should we find out that you defraud or corrupt the assistance and support intended for the evac-

uees, we will unrelentingly pursue until we take them for the people in whatever means possible."

To the MILF, it said, "Take note that the demand for the approval of the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) becomes irrelevant if the key area where it should be implemented would no longer be in the hands of the Meranaw, and that by then the support of the people of Lanao becomes weak in the time that you need it."

Finally, this is what it asked from fellow Meranaw:

"For the longest time, our people had not experienced this kind of most demeaning crisis, especially the utter destruction of Marawi City, a rendezvous for the Four Principalities/Royalties of Lanao

"Indeed, let us accept this crisis as a tribulation for our sins and omissions. Let's go back to Allah and seek atonement for our sins, and let us stop all our wrong or evil ways, small and big alike.

"It's almost four months now that we have been waiting for any groups or individuals who would take the cudgels for our land and our people but it seems none is coming.

"Henceforth, even we are weak in terms of arms and less in number, we leave our fate in the power of Allah for He knows what's in our hearts and that we are just following His commands. We find it unacceptable to have a future history of Marawi City being lost by the Meranaw people of this generation, hence our conviction to stand for it and fight for the rights of the people now."

The MVM tried to boost the morale of all Maranao.

"Do not lose hope. For us, we will not stop until we are able to go back home to Marawi and be able to avail of our rights in full.

"The fate of this effort depends on you, especially those who truly care for our land and the people.

"Please help us with your prayers so that Allah will help us because no one has control over anything except Him and that all powers come from Him."

WITH REPORT FROM AL JACINTO

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# Palace: //laute forces continue to weaken

#### By Ted Tuvera and Mario J. Mallari

Malacañang is confident that the force and influence of Islamic State (IS)-inspired fanatics is slowly dying.

At a briefing yesterday, presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said the recent developments in Marawi City prove that the terrorists' capacity already needs a little push

"The successful rescue of Fr. Chito Soganub and the government forces' takeover of Bato Mosque, a previously Maute occupied position, signifies that the enemy's final defensive stand continues to weaken," Abella said

"Their area is shrinking as we

go f()r the final push against the Daesh-inspired terrorist group," he ad() ed.

'The Catholic priest was secured by soldiers at around 11 p.m. on Saturday near the Bato mosque invide the way zone.

The said mosque is the second st ronghold then held by the IS fanatic bandits that has been finally secured by government forces.

Suganob, the Marawi Diocese's vicar, was abducted by the Maute terrorist group last May 23, day one of the siege, during a prayer service inside the desecrated St. Mary's Cathedral.

More than 300 buildings and about 18 more hectares within Marawi City proper have yet to be cleared of Islamic State-inspired terrorists - almost four months after the siege started.

And for the nth time yesterday, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) hinted that the siege may be over soon.

"We are going there, we are getting there. Just a little patience," said AFP-Public Affairs Office chief Col. Edgard Arevalo.

Arevalo clarified that the military is not setting up a deadline to finally clear Marawi City from IS-inspired terrorists.

ever since because we do not want to pressure...once we set deadline; the enemies are doing everything to frustrate us, and embarrass us...maybe, at the very least, what we can hear from

our officials is they are hopeful. But no one could really say," Areyalo said.

As the military starts to wrap up its operations in Marawi City, Task Force Bangon Marawi continues to provide relief assistance to affected communities and at the same time trains individuals to provide them livelihood, an Office of Civil Defense official said in a Palace briefing.

"Relief operations are still ongoing through the Office of Civil Defense, our Social Welfare and Development Department and the Philippine Army in Iligan City," said Office of Civil Defense spokesman Romina Marasigan said.

Marasigan said the Task Force

is assisting not only the internally displaced persons in evacuation centers, but also those that are home based.

Meanwhile, opposition senators yesterday lambasted government's decision, allowing former Marawi City Mayor Omar Solitario Ali, who had been reported to be included in President Duterte's list of narco-politicians, to negotiate with the Maute group.

"Why is the government appointing an alleged drug lord to negotiate with the Maute group which is behind the months-long Marawi siege?" they asked.

Minority Leader Franklin Drilon, Sen. Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan and Sen. Bam Aquino joined in assailing the Palace move even as they demanded transparency from the administration in its dealings with Ali, who was included in the arrest order issued by the Department of National Defense against those who have alleged links to the Marawi siege.

Aquino emphasized that such dealing by Ali with the Maute group should not allow him to escape liability in connection with his illegal drug case.

We are willing to accept any help that the government can get to end the Marawi siege once and for all. However, this should not be used as reason to exonerate Solitario of the rebellion and drug charges filed against him," Drilon said. With Angie M. Rosales

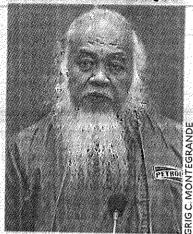
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#### **BATTLE NEAR MOSQUE**



Fr. Teresito Soganub

# PRIEST ESCAPED, SAYS BISHOP OF MARAWI

By Julie M. Aurelio @JMAurelioINQ

Catholic priest Teresito "Chito" Soganub told the bishop of Marawi on Monday that he and another hostage escaped from their Islamic State (IS)-inspired captors during heavy fighting with government forces, and were found and rescued by troops on Saturday.

President Duterte told reporters on Mon-



## FROM A1

day that the military rescued Soganub in a special operation that also led to the rescue of another hostage, Dansalan College teacher Lordbin Noblesa Acopio.

But Marawi Bishop Edwin de la Peña told reporters on Luesday that he was able to talk to Soganub by phone on Monday morning while the vicar general of Marawi was on his way to Manila from Cagayan de Oro.

De la Peña said Soganub related to him "the facts of his escape" at past midnight of Sept. 17 near the Bato Ali mosque in Marawi.

"He said he escaped together with another hostage, a teacher from Dansalan College. They were fleeing an area of the Maute group, the military saw them, they were recognized and were rescued." De la Peña said

"That was all we talked about. I told him, 'I don't want to pressure you too much, I have all the time to talk to you,'" De la Peña said.

The bishop added: "You can always combine escape and rescue."

De la Peña expected to meet Soganub at military headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City on Tuesday afternoon.

The bishop said he was able to talk to Soganub after Col. Romeo Brawner, commander of Joint Task Force Marawi who was accompanying the priest to Manila, called him on his cell phone.

Report of escape

Soganub and Acopio were first reported to have escaped during fierce fighting between government troops and the terrorists near the Bato Ali mosque in Marawi City late on Saturday.

According to the military, they spotted the two captives and rescued them.

Soganub was one of dozens of civilians abducted by hundreds of gunmen from the Maute and Abu Sayyaf terror groups who rampaged across Marawi and laid siege to the city on May 23.

Mr. Duterte on Monday dismissed suggestions that the priest was released after back-channel talks with the terrorists.

He said Soganub was "liberat-

ed through a special operation."

As to claims that the priest was forced to convert to Islam during his captivity, De la Peña said Soganub remained a Catholic priest to the Church.

"We do not have any confirmation about that and there is no compulsion in religion if there's something like that ... It is within the context of the war in Marawi," he said.

#### He remains a Catholic priest

"It doesn't have any significance, it doesn't mean anything to us. He remains a Catholic priest," he added.

The claim that Soganub had converted to Islam came from Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Assemblyman Zia Alonto Adiong.

Adiong said Soganub was forced to convert by his captors.

But even if it was true that Soganub had been forced to convert to Islam, De la Peña said "there is no substance to it if you are under duress."

The prelate added that one must put oneself in Soganub's position, because "it could be difficult to decide one way or the other when you are forced."

"You can't consider that. There's no substance to it if you're under duress. You can't give your full consent. That is what religion is all about. Whatever it is, true or not, it doesn't hold any water," he said.

The prelate said Soganub, the vicar general of Marawi, remained under the Church's care.,

"At any moment we have not abandoned him. We continue to pray for him," he said.

Asked if he was aware of any talks or payment for the release of Soganub, De la Peña said he hadn't heard anything of the sort.

#### Other hostages

He said the Church was not fully happy despite Soganub's escape because there were still many hostages held by the terrorists and thousands of people displaced by the fighting remained in evacuation centers.

"We are hopeful that his (Soganub's) release is just the first step, and will be followed by the rescue of the other hostages, many of them women. We are hopeful that soon the war will be over and that the Maranaos can begin to go back home, rebuild their lives and rehabilitate their city," De la Peña said. INQ

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# NEW ARMED GROUP AFTER IS-INSPIRED TERRORISTS IN MARAWI

By Jeoffrey Maitem and Edwin Fernandez @inquirermindanao

MARAWI CITY—A new armed group has emerged in Lanao del Sur province and challenged Islamic State (IS)-inspired terrorists battling government forces for control of Marawi City.

But provincial officials and the military have declined to comment until they have ascertained who are behind the new group that calls itself Meranaw Victims Movement (MVM).

"Meranaw" is a generic term that refers to the natives of the two Lanao provinces. It means "people of the lake."

## Free hostages

MVM posted a statement on Facebook on Monday demanding that the Maute group and Abu Sayyaf terrorists holed up in Marawi free their hostages and leave the city "at once."

If not, MVM would be "compelled to face" the terrorists, as they "no longer care [about] the welfare of the people" and "did not only fail to realize, but [also] had violated the essence of jihad in Islam."

The statement was signed by Abu Ayla Mawaraw, the group's spokesperson.

The exact number of civilian hostages held by the terrorists is unknown Military officials estimate the number at 40 to 60 after the escape on Saturday by Catholic priest Teresito Soganub and Dansalan College teacher Lordbin Noblesa Acapio.

Zia Alonto Adiong, spokesperson for the Lanao del Sur crisis management committee, said he could not comment on the emergence of MVM, as the local authorities had yet to determine who was behind the new group.

Col. Romeo Brawner, Joint

Task Force Group Marawi commander, said top military officials in the region were trying to determine the identities of the people behind the group, as well as the source of the video that was posted on Facebook.

"We do not belittle this group. We take it seriously because they could encourage people outside of Marawi who have no idea what is really going on here," Brawner said

#### 'We are evacuees'

In a Facebook chat on Tuesday, Mawaraw said MVM was made up of civilians.

"We are all evacuees," he said.
In its statement on Monday,
MVM demanded that President
Duterte stop airstrikes on
Marawi to save "the houses or
buildings that may not have
been destroyed yet" and to allow the return of residents to
areas of the city that had already

been cleared by the military.

The group also urged the government to "[s]ecure the remains of civilians so they may not be mixed with the garbage in the process of military clearing operations and so that they may be given proper burial."

MVM also said the government should ease access to southern Lanao del Sur towns and "(s)top the abuses of some military and police personnel at checkpoints, and accord respect to civilians, especially the women." It also urged the government to provide support to wounded civilians and pay compensation for the damaged houses and buildings and other property

The government, the group said, should also rebuild or rehabilitate mosques, Arabic schools and other damaged structures that represented the Meranaw culture and heritage. INQ

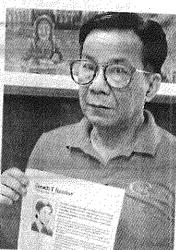
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# Martial law Victims find mojustice in 'moving on'





TORTURED, DISAPPEARED Ruben Manog (left) shows his hands that were chained when he was then 14 years old while he and his father were tortured by soldiers in Western Samar. The picture of Gerry Faustino, then a 21-year-old student activist who disappeared during martial law, is held by his younger brother, Joey.—GRIG C. MONTEGRANDE/OLIVER TEVES



#### By Jhesset O. Enano @JhessetEnanoINQ

(First of a series)

Fourteen-year-old Ruben Manog was alone and crying. His whole body shook with a dreadful thought: This is the day I'm going to die.

That did not happen on that day in 1982. Still, for one year and seven months—in isolation during torture sions-Manog was certain he was good as dead.

Today, the 49-year-old with the calloused hands of a welder feels lucky to have survived the strongman rule of Ferdinand Marcos.

More than 3,200 extrajudicial killings and 35,000 torture cases were recorded from 1975 to 1985, according to American historian Alfred W. McCoy.

Forty-five years since the declaration of martial law on Sept. 21, 1972, martial law survivors like Manog face a new kind of horror-historical revisionism and whitewashing of the suffering under the dictatorship highlighted by Marcos' burial at Libingan ng mga Bayani

"How could Marcos ever become a hero, when thousands of innocent civilians died during his regime?" Manog told the Inquirer. "I wanted to be an architect, a designer. His martial law stole that from me."

#### Family of rebels?

It was in 1982 when the 6th grader and his entire family were tagged by the military as members of the New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) in Western Samar.

Manog recalled that Army

soldiers passing through their village had seized him, branding him-a 14-year-old, though muscular from working in the farm but shorter than most kids his age—an NPA commander.

He could not believe the accusation. "I don't even know how to wear long pants then ... and I barely reached up to their waists," he said.

What followed were daily fist blows and beatings with the butts of M16 rifles he called "frightening massages." Soldiers also burned his hands and feet with cigarettes and once told him to strip and play with his genitals, which he refused to do.

#### Solitary confinement

He was thrown into solitary confinement in various Army camps where his hands, feet and abdomen were tied so that he could hardly move. He said he became "skin and bones" because he was fed only watery rice, much like pig slop, every two weeks.

"With all that torture, what was only left was for them to finally shoot me in the head," he said.

His agonies ended only after a

court ordered him freed from detention in 1984. With his release papers he headed straight home.

"I walked 15 kilometers from the prison to my house, only to see soldiers rain bullets on our home and take my father away," he said.

Manog wept as he recalled how his 42-year-old father, Uldarico Manog, a farmer and businessman, suffered even worse abuse

Soldiers skewered his father's neck with a bamboo stick and flayed the soles of his feet, he said. They found the decaying remains of his father in the middle of a road about a month later.

"I think I was just used as bait to get my father ... It is still so hard to accept that he was killed," he said, wiping his tears. He said he was very close to his father who taught him all he knew about farming.

No body to bury

For Joey Faustino, it was the loss of his brother that had opened his young mind to the horrors of martial law. But unlike Manog, the then 13-year-old from Quezon City had no body to grieve over and bury—up to this day.

In 1977, 21-year-old Gerardo

"Gerry" Faustino, a graduating student from the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), was abducted along with nine others from the university. The "Southern Tagalog 10" was considered the single biggest case of abduction under martial law.

Faustino said his brother was a student activist and was an outspoken supporter of farmers and workers. His brother discussed what ailed Philippine society with him and introduced such concepts as fascism.

"But what is that to a 12, 13year-old?" he said.

The discovery of Gerry's ransacked dorm room and the family's frantic search for him. or his remains, had opened Faustino's eyes to what his brother had been fighting for.

#### Mass graves 1 Quezon

he search for his brother brought them and other families who had sons and daughters also mis ing around that time to two mas; graves in Mauban, Quezon prounce, where soldiers had bur d "young rebels" who were sul osedly killed in an "enc 'ter."

"It was not a sight to see for a 13-year-old boy," Faustino said in an interview, trying to hold back his tears. "All [nine] bodies had smashed skulls... and bullet wounds all over their bodies."

They did not find his brother in the mass graves. "A part of me wanted to see him there, so we can finally end our search. But on the other hand, I also wished he was still alive," he said.

"Right there and then, in front

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS - Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmal.of my eyes, the word [fascism] 285, 5295

came alive—the cruelty of the state, of the military," he added

"The state did not just steal my brother, but also my family ... We were left a wreck, and I was left all alone to deal with his disappearance," he said. "But [what happened to us] never left me. It has practically ruled over my life."

#### 878 disappearances

Faustino is helping others who are in the same situation as secretary general of Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearances (FIND). He is also executive director of the Coconut Industry Reform Movement, which works for the return to coconut farmers of the coco levy funds that were purloined during martial law.

FIND has documented 878 disappearances under martial law out of 1,800 recorded since the Marcos regime.

Faustino said the Marcos family and their fervid defenders deeply insulted the families of the disappeared when they told them to simply "move on."

"How can you move on, when our wounds would not heal because our loved ones are still missing?" he said.

"If you want to move on, move on to seek justice, to fight for justice, to defend human rights, and not let martial law and authoritarian rule to rule over again. That is moving on," he said. INQ

(To be continued)

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Pahina. 3

# Ayuda sa pagbangon ng Marawi, pinasalamalan Ikinagalak ng pama-nagbigay ng tulong para halaang panglalawigan sa rehabilitasyon ng lung-

ng Lanao del Sur ang sod na agad sisimulan sa pagbuhos ng tulong sa sandaling matapos na ang pagbangong muli ng bakbakan. Marawi City. Una n

semblyman Zia Alonto nistrator at Defense Sec. Adiong, spokesperson ng Delfin Lorenzana na na-Provinvial Crisis Management Committee, malaki P1 bilyong ayuda ang ang maitutulong ng mga Australia habang sa maayudang ibinibigay ng higit P700 milyon naman iba't ibang bansa.

salamat si Adiong sa mga Julian)

Una nang inihayag Ayon kay ARMM As- ni Martial Law Admingakong magbibigay ng ang ipinangakong tulong Nagpaabot ng pasa- ng Amerika. (Betchai

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Pahina.

# Duterte atat mag-Martial

#### Ni Dindo Matining

Nahihirapan na umanong lusutan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte ang problema niya sa pulitika kaya't kating-kati na itong magdeklara ng Martial Law sa buong bansa.

Ito ang sinabi kahapon ni Senador Antonio Trillanes IV kasunod nang naunang pahayag ni Duterte na mapipilitan siyang magdeklara ng Nationwide Martial Law ng mga rebeldeng komunista ang kanilang armas sa kalye.

kating-kati na 'tong magdeklara ng Martial Law para malusutan niya ang problema niya sa pulitika," pahayag ni Trillanes at iyong involvement ni sa mga reporters noong Paolo Duterte sa illegal Lunes bago lumipad patungong Singapore para idiscredit ang akusasyon ni Duterte na may accounts siya doon.

Isa umano sa isyung hirap na masagot ni Duterte ay ang pagkakadawit ng kanyang anak na si Davao Čity Vice Mayor Paolo Duterte sa kung dadalhin diumano pagpasok ng ilegal na droga sa bansa.

Kahit ang usapin ng bilyong bank accounts "Itong si Duterte, nito ay hindi rin umano

maipaliwanag ng mabuti ni Duterte.

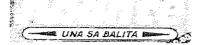
"Hindi niya masagot ang bilyong bank accounts



drug shipment sa bansa kaya ang solution lang niya, mag-declare ng Mar-tial Law," sabi ni Trillanes.

"Hahanap 'yan ng dahilan kaya kailangang maging vigilant tayo. Huwag payagan na patayin nila ang ating demokrasya para maka-survive sila sa poder ng kapangyarihan." dagdag pa nito.

% September 2017



Pahina. \_\_\_\_\_

## 10 ektarya na lang ang ginagalawan ng Maute

Malapit nang matapos ang krisis sa Marawi City.

Ito ang positibong inihayag Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez, commander ng Western Mindanao Command ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) sa pagbisita nito sa main battle area.

Ayon kay Galvez, walang patid ang pagsisikap ng pamahalaan para makuha o mabawi ang mga lugar na inookupahan pa rin ng grupong Maute.

Una nang inihayag ni Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana na nasa mahigit 10 ektarya na lamang ang ginagalawan ng mga Maute sa main battle area.

Ayon naman sa mga sundalo na nasa Marawi na ang ginagalugad nila ngayon ay ang mga maliliit na mga bahay na nasa mga eskinita na pinagigitnaan ng mga naglalakihang mga gusali.

Samantala, sa pakikipag-usap sa nakalayang si Father Teresito 'Chito' Suganob, marami itong mga vital information na naibahagi sa sandatahang lakas na magagamit ng militar laban sa teroristang grupo. (Betchai Julian)

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Page.

# DA sends dressed chickens to Marawi troops

Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary Emmanuel Piffol disclosed the shipment of around 12 tons of dressed chickens to soldiers and policemen who are still fighting it out with the Islamic State-linked Maute Group in the war-torn Marawi City.

"As promised, soldiers and policemen received the first shipment of dressed Halal chicken from President Rody [Rodrigo] Duterte who wanted to provide the fighting men and women better food while in combat," Piñol said in a post on his Facebook account.

"Five more deliveries will follow

carrying a total of 2-3 tonnes, as requested by our troops in Marawi. There will be additional deliveries of chicken until the soldiers and policemen have completed their task in Marawi City," the DA chief added.

According Piñol, the first shiprnent of 11,874 kilograms (11.87 tonnes) of frozen dressed chicken arrived in Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental from Davao City on Saturday.

The frozen chicken, he said, were donated by Jonathan Suy of Ana's Breeder Farm, Inc., the company owner of Farmers Fresh Chicken Brand from Lanang, Davao City

The DA Secretary said broiler chickens were also supposed to be distributed to the Marawi evacuees but Maranao leaders apparently opposed the move claiming these (poultry products) may have come from areas hit recently by bird flu.

He stressed that the claims are "unfounded" as he assured the public that all of the chicken in the bird flu affected areas were already killed and disposed of properly.

Early this month, agriculture and health authorities assured that it is already safe to eat chicken as the crisis from the bird flu is over. (Franco G. Regala)

7p September 2017



Pahina.

## Martial law ipinairal ni Empiso vs media!

NAGBABANTA pa lang si Pres Digong na ideklara ang martial law sa buong bansa kapag nagkagulo Ang protest rally ng mga opposition sa paggunita ng martial law ni Macoy sa Luneta grandstand bukas Habang nag-aantay ang sambayanan ng resulta ng protest rally bukas mukhang iniimplement na ni Chief Supt Clifton Empiso, hepe ng Northern Police District (NPD), ang martial law sa kan-yang nasasakupan. Ang tinutukoy ko mga kosa ay Ang kautusan ni Empiso na wag bigyan ng summaries ng daily reporters na kumukuber sa Camanaya area. Nagulat lang ang mga kakosa ko sa Camanaya as bagong direktiba ni Empiso dahil nasanay na sila na pinadadalhan sila ng summaries at spot



reports nga noon panahon pa ni Mahoma at biglang naging bawal na ito. Maliban sa itinatago ang spot reports sa media, ang kautusan pa ni Empiso kung makita man ito ng mga reporters hindi nila ito puwedeng Empiso kung makita man ito ng mga reporters hindi nila ito puwedeng kopyahin o kunan ng camera o cell phone. Kailangan i-memorize lang ng reporters ang date, time, at place of occurrence o sa police parlance ay DTPO. Hak hak hak! Parang balik eskuwela lang ang taga-media ac Camanava kung puro memorize ang trabaho nila, no mga kosa? Pabor ito sa mga batang reporters pero paano na lang ang mga gurang na tulad ni Charlie Calalo, ang president ng Camanava press corps? Hehehe! Peace kosang Charlie!

Hindi lang 'yan! Ayaw din ni Empiso na istorbohin siya ng media kaya ang mga request for interview ay la pansin sa kanya. Ang problema, nakasentro sa ngayon ang mga malalaking istorya sa Caloocan City na sakop ni Empiso kaya palaging kailangan ang side niya sa mga ilalabas na balita, di ba mga kosa? Ang mangyayan nito kapag hindi masilayan

na balita, di ba mga kosa? Ang mangyayari nito kapag hindi masilayan ng mga taga-media ang summaries at spot reports baka mali-mali ang ilalabas nilang balita atat sa bandang huli tiyak sila ang sisisihin. May ilalabas nilang baita atat sa bandang huli tiyak sila ang sisisihin. May punto nito ang mga kosa ko sa Camanava ah! May isang beteranong journalist naman ang nag-request ng interview kay Empiso at naganap lang pagkatapos magpasa ito ng tatlong request. Ano ba 'yan? Hak hak hak! Dapat siguro damihan n' yo ang request ng media interview para pagbigyan kayo ni Empiso. Get's n' yo mga kosa ko d'yan sa Camanava?

Kung sabagay naging kontrobersyal itong spot reports dahil sa kautusan ni PNP chief Dir. Gen. Ronald dela Rosa na 'wag na itong maging ayallable sa media. Kinondena ito ng mga samahan ng media.

kautusan ni PNP Chief. Dir. Gen. Konaid deta Kosa na wag na itong maging available sa media. Kinondena ito ng mga samahan ng media. Ialo na ang Manila Police District press corps sa pamumuno ni kosang Mer Layson ng Pilipino Star NGAYON. Nag-backtrack naman ang liderato ng PNP at kung anu-anong dahilan ang itinuro nila at sa ngayon naging maayos naman ang relasyon ng mga pulis at media people. Subalit mukhang eager beaver lang si Empiso at isinulong ang martial law sa taga-madia sa NPD. Hindi ko paman masahi na martial law baba. law sa taga-media sa NPD. Hindi ko naman masabi na martial law baby law sa taga-media sa NPD. Hindi ko naman masabi na martial law baby si Empiso dahil miyembro siya ng PMA Class '87. Ang mga tinatawag na martial law baby ay ang klase ni Sen. Gringo Honasan, ng PMA Class '71. Nakalimutan 'ata ni Empiso na bukas pa malalaman kung idideklara ni Digong ang martial law kapag nangggulo ang mga raliyista sa Luneta at demokrasya tayo sa ngayon at dapat ang lahat ng reports ay iladlad sa media, maliban sa intelligence matters, di ba mga kosa? Ay hadiad sa media, mandan sa menigence madeis, di da mga kosa. Kaya ang panawagan sa ngayon ng taga-media sa Camanawa kay Bato ay ibalik na lang sa puwesto si Chief Supt. Roberto "Padye" Fajardo dahil kahit istrikto ay nakahalubilo naman nila, lalo na kapag may malaking istorya. Hak hak! Sana magkatotoo ito, di ba mga kosa?

malaking istorya. Hak hak hak! Sana magkatotoo ito, di ba mga kosa? Kung sabagay, hindi lang si Empiso ang inireklamo ng taga-media sa NPD area kundi maging si Sr. Supt. Jemar Modequilo, hepe ng Caloocan City, na mahilig sa TV at ayaw ng print at radio. Kahit anong tawag at text ng taga-print at radio reporters kay Modequillo, aba ayaw sagutin subalit kapag taga-TV, lalo na kung bebot ang reporter, aba tuluy-tuloy ang mga ito sa opisina ni hepe.

Kung si NCRPO chief Dir. Oscar Albayalde ay very accommodating sa media, mukhang taliwas naman itong sina Empiso at Modequillo, no mga kosa? Hak hak! Di ba may kasabihan tayo sa hanay ng

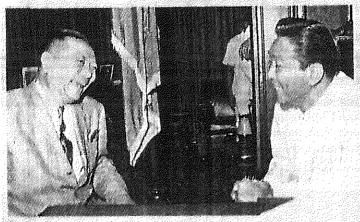
no niga kosa? Hak hak hak! Di ba may kasabihan tayo sa hanay ng pulis at militar na follow the leader? Mukhang wala sa bokabularyo nila Empiso at Modequillo ito. Abangan!

P September 2017

# The Manila Times

Page: A

# (Martial law) history is the propaganda of the victors



IN HAPPIER
TIMES: Former
Marcos ally
Vice President
Fernando
Lopez (left). In
1972, Marcos
wrote the
history. In
1987, it was
the Lopez
clan's turn.

## BY RIGOBERTO D. TIGLAO Columnist

N a span of a lifetime, and with regard to the Marcos era, we are seeing the truth of a quote attributed to Bavarian playwright Ernest Toller. "History is the propaganda of the victors."

Winston Churchill revised that to the more well-known: "History is written

by the victors.

That itself is in a way proof of the adage: The notion is almost always attributed to Churchill, one of the leaders of the victors of World War II who rule the world to this day. A Jew and a communist, Toller was driven to exile by

>TiglaoA6

the Nazis, and then to suicide, forgotten. Consider what happened right after EDSA I in February 1986.

The Marcos camp was so stunned at how quickly the US, as well as military leaders Juan Ponce Enrile and Fidel Ramos, abandoned the strongman they supported for more than two decades, that they had to abandon their dinner and leave Malacañang. Even Eduardo Cojuangco, the most capable to lead the Marcos camp, joined the strongman in his flight out of Manila, to their Ilocos redoubt they very mistakenly thought.

They ended up in Hawaii, all treated as stateless refugees, with Marcos given a small slip of paper by the Immigration Service declaring he was the "State Department's guest" Gratitude isn't a value in US foreign policy.

Enrile and Ramos led the defection of the entire armed forces to Cory Aquino's camp. Without a leader (except perhaps for the aging Arturo Tolentino, who won the vice-presidential post in the 1986 elections), the "Solid North" acquiesced to the victors. After a few days insisting he was Marcos' legitimate successor, as he had been elected prime minister by parliament, Cesar Virata just stayed home, and started asking his World Bank and big-business cronies for consultancy jobs.

The many, many businessmen, local politicians, and government officials that made up the political base of Martial Law all went home or abroad to enjoy their wealth.

#### The victors

Enter the victors, led by the houses of Cojuangco and Lopez.

Having run the biggest media empire before martial law—the



ABS-CBN/Manila Chronicle behemoth—as well as having been consummate politicians, the Lopezes were experts in propaganda, or rather, how to mold a nation's consciousness for its benefit.

Even Marcos had not been as skilled in, or as appreciative of, the value of propaganda as the Lopezes. When he was the victor after declaring Martial Law, his accusation that the Lopezes led the "extreme Right" that allied itself with the "extreme Left" never got traction.

The Lopezes in contrast were propaganda masters. The Marcos era was portrayed as an Asian equivalent of Nazi Germany, so that Filipinos forgot that it was oligarchs like the Lopezes who gave the strongman the excuse to impose martial law, and that it has been, and still is, a greedy oligarchy that is the root problem of the country

The Lopezes financed the building of the Bantayog ng mga Bayani, which supposedly is where the heroes of the anti-Marcos struggle are commemorated in a monument mimicking the US Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Commission on Human Rights chairman Chito Gascon wants it to be converted into a P500 million museum on anti-Marcos "atrocities," to ape the many Holocaust Museums all over the world

The root of the Philippine quagmire is the Marcos era, and now his ideological descendant, which President Duterte allegedly is, not the rule of oligarchs. That has been the Martial Law history as written by the Yellow Cult.

## 'Never Again'

The Yellows, "Never Again" slogan is even copied from the Jewish Defense-League's now universal chant to protest the Holocaust in which six million Jews were exterminated by the Nazis. The principle of propaganda of course is to exaggerate to the extreme.

The heyday of the Marcos era—from 1972 to roughly 1979—when GDP grew at an average of 6 percent, rice self-sufficiency was achieved, and massive infrastructure never before seen built was deleted from Filipinos' memory.

The Lopez-Cojuangco elite didn't find it so difficult to write their martial-law history as propaganda, thanks to three groups.

First was the US "Deep State", who had scrambled to oust Marcos on the calculation that a grateful Cory Aquino would extend the presence of US military bases, when it expired in 1991.

The Philippines' "People Pow-. er Revolution" also became its "Down-with-Dictators" template for getting the former Soviet Union satellite states to its camp: Poland's Lech Walesa and his Solidarity movement wrested power in 1989, Singing Revolutions broke out in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in the Baltic states, an East German democracy movement surged that finally tore the Berlin wall down, and Czechoslovakia's Velvet Revolution erupted in late 1989 The template even nearly toppled Chinese Communist Party rule through the so-called Democracy Movement that peaked in the Tiananmen protests, also in 1989.

US media and academia fol-

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lowed the US Deep State's wishes, with nearly all books on Martial Law—except for those of Carmen Pedrosa and Primitivo Mijares—written by Americans.

## Manufactured figures

In much the same way that the foreign-linked website Rappler spread its manufactured figure of 7,087 killed in Duterte's war against drugs as at September last year, it was an American scholar Alfred McCoy who had succeeded for three decades in propagating the lie that 3,257 people were summarily executed during Martial Law, McCov fabricated that figure, pretending to use empirical data. I have totally debunked his claim in my column, "Human rights abuses under Cory as bad as dictator's record -Marcos critics' own data" (Manila Times, April 17, 2016).

Philippine academia has mostly been US academia's monkey, since those who occupy the highest posts in universities, get their PhDs in US universities, and you don't get that degree, and have your dissertation approved if you don't subscribe to their worldview. Strangely though, no Filipino academic has managed to write a history of the Martial Law period.

The second group that has helped the oligarchs in the manufacture of anti-Marcos history is media, more precisely a group of media men of the last generation. Media men, especially columnists, who occupied high standing in society suddenly found themselves out of work when Marcos closed down their newspapers and TV stations, with a few fleeing abroad, even to Australia. Several wouldn't have reached such high standing in the profession after martial law,

and would have been only feature or life-style writers, if they had not boldly written anti-Marcos articles during martial law.

Can you blame them if, after the dictator fell, they would come back to media with a vengeance? From 1987 to just a few years ago, Philippine print media has been dominated by the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* and the *Philippine Star*, both founded by anti-Marcos journalists and whose editors don't hide how much they hate Marcos.

The third group responsible for the anti-Marcos propaganda is the Communist Party and its fronts, whose dogma is that Marcos was the ruthless dictator in the mold of Hitler, Mussolini and bananarepublic strongmen.

I frankly cannot understand why after three decades after Marcos fell, these leftists continue to be so fixated on Marcos. Is it because most of those they claim were human rights victims were in truth their members who were in , or advocated an, armed struggle to topple Marcos – like myself? Is it because they think that by invoking Marcos as a ruthless tyrant they fought, they can claim to be patriots and lead this generation of Filipinos?

Blame of course also the Marcos family itself for the continuing demonization of its patriarch.

Imelda mostly has tried to live her life as if it was still the Marcos era, enjoying the life of a sought-after member of the social elite. While becoming politicians to prove that the DNA they got from their father is not of a thief, but of a patriot who served the people, the strongman's children seemed uninterested in history, to have it paint a balanced portrait of their father.

Maybe we are a people after all

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

# ONLINE NEWS

20 SEPTEMBER 2017

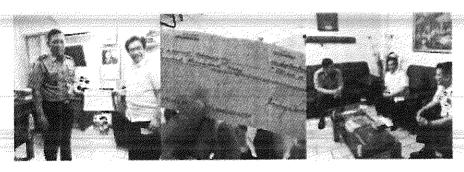
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# SUPPORT OUR TROOPS | Villarica Pawnshop donates for soldiers in Marawi

CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD) – Atty. Henry R. Villarica, President of Villarica Pawnshop, graciously donated P200,000 for the benefit of soldiers and policemen fighting to free Marawi City for the Daesh-inspired Maute terror group.

Atty Villarica personally handed the check to Major General Ronnie S. Evangelista. Commander of the Civil Relations Service, AFP.

Atty. Henry is also the Mayor of Camalig, Meycauayan City in Bulacan. AES/LQG



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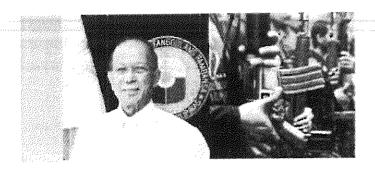


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# SUPPORTED | SND backs PRRDs plan to reopen talks with CPP

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CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD) – Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana fully supports the plan of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to re-open the suspended Peace Talks with the communist Party of the Philippines – New People's Army – National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF).

According to Secretary Lorenzana, he would be convening the administrations Security Cluster soon to discuss the issue.

He added that they would insist with the CPP-NPA-NDF panel to retain as a condition to the talks the imposition of a bilateral ceasefire as a pre-condition to the resumption of the peace talks.

It can be recalled that the peace talks between the government and the CPP-NPA-NDF was already on its fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) round when it was cancelled by Pres Duterte because of the NPA's continued atrocities, like attacks on AFP and PNP personnel and civilian targets. **AES/ALS** 

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# FORCED | Fr Soganub converts to Islam?

Alvin Santiago de Leccestro.





CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD) - Father Teresito "Chito"

Soganub, the Vicar General of Marawi City, held hostage by the Daesh-inspired Maute terror group was said to have been forced to convert to Islam.

According to Marawi Crisis Management Committee Head Zia Alonto Adiong, Fr Chito was forced to convert to Islam based on the pressure made by his captors.

He was held captive by the Maute group for the last 118 days.

Adiong clarified that Fr Chito is not to be considered a full Muslim convert since according to the teachings of Islam, the conversion must be made voluntarily and not forced.

That is why, Adiong added, that they still consider Fr. Soganub to be a priest under the Catholic church.

Fr Chito was formally presented yesterday by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to the media at the General Headquarters in Camp Gen Emilio Aguinaldo after he was recovered recently. **AES/ALS** 

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