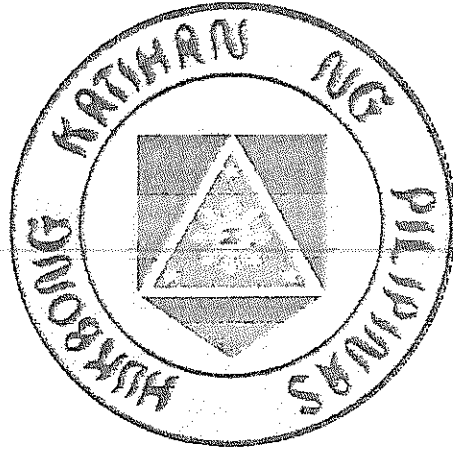


Army Vision: By 2028, a world-class Army that is a source of national pride



TEAM ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

24 September 2017

Sunday

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

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www.panahon.tv /PanahonTV

BALANCED NEWS + FEARLESS VIEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | SEPTEMBER 24, 2017 | SUNDAY

PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)

CELEBS SEA

SOUTHWEST MONSOON AFFECTING WESTERN SECTION OF SOUTHERN LUZON AND OF VISAYAS LOW PRESSURE AREA ESTIMATED AT 40 KM NORTH NORTHEAST OF ALABAT, QUEZON (As of 4:00 AM - September 23, 2017)

LADAG CITY 28 - 33 °C	TUGUEGARAO CITY 25 - 34 °C
BAGUIO CITY 16 - 25 °C	TAGAYTAY CITY 22 - 29 °C
SBMA/CLARK 25 - 32 °C	METRO MANILA 25 - 32 °C
LEGAZPI CITY 25 - 32 °C	ILOILO/BACOLOD CITY 25 - 31 °C
TACLOBAN CITY 24 - 32 °C	METRO CEBU 25 - 32 °C
CAGAYAN DE ORO 24 - 32 °C	ZAMBOANGA CITY 24 - 32 °C
METRO DAVAO 25 - 34 °C	

SUNRISE 5:45 AM	SUNSET 5:51 PM
MOONRISE 8:58 AM	MOONSET 8:52 PM
NEW MOON SEP 20 1:30 PM	FIRST QUARTER SEP 28 10:54 AM
LOW TIDE 6:41 AM 0.24 Meter	HIGH TIDE 12:02 AM 0.88 Meter

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

Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms

	SEP 23	SEP 24	SEP 25	SEP 26	SEP 25	SEP 26
METRO MANILA	25 - 33 °C	25 - 32 °C	22 - 29 °C	22 - 29 °C	24 - 31 °C	24 - 32 °C
TUGUEGARAO	26 - 35 °C	25 - 34 °C	25 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 31 °C
LAOAG	25 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C
BAGUIO	17 - 26 °C	17 - 25 °C	25 - 30 °C	25 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C	24 - 32 °C
SBMA/CLARK	25 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C	24 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C		

MONDAY - FRIDAY
11 AM & 5 PM

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

SAGOT KO, PADALA MO!

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THOUSANDS GATHER FOR 'MARCOS MILLIONS'

STORY BY KIMMY BARAIDAN AND MARICAR CINCO

Waving Marcos booklets as proof of membership, people from as far as Marinduque flocked to the UP Los Baños campus yesterday to claim the P1 million promised to each of them by One Social Family Credit Cooperative. Former Sen. Bongbong Marcos said it was 'a scam, pure and simple.'

A10

By **Kimmy Baraidan and Maricar Cinco**
@InquirerSLB

"A scam, pure and simple." This was how former Sen. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, Jr. described the Saturday event at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), Laguna campus that attracted thousands of people on the promise that they would each be given P1 million or gold bars from the controversial Marcos wealth.

But the younger Marcos disavowed any connection to the general assembly called by One Social Family Credit Cooperative. "We have just received reports of people gathering because of promises of gold from the Marcoses. We do not know of, nor have any involvement (in), any of these gatherings. It's a scam pure and simple. I have repeatedly warned the public against unscrupulous individuals who have been using our family to advance their personal interests. Today's event is a classic example of that," Marcos said in a statement.

Thousands of people ferried on rented jeepneys and vans showed up on the UPLB campus yesterday, clutching plastic-covered booklets that had a picture of former President Ferdinand Marcos on the front cover and the words Bullion Buyer Ltd. on the back.

The booklet, which cost P30 each, contained writings about the alleged achievements of the late strongman.

From Calabarzon

The crowd, some with children in tow, had come mainly from Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon), with a few coming from as far as Marinduque. Some had to leave their homes Friday evening to be able to make it to the whole day assembly.

According to documents submitted to UPLB, the group, which was founded in 2004, holds office at 182 Camerino Street, Barangay Lapidario, in Trece Martires City, Cavite. But the person who answered the Inquirer's call to the phone number provided to UPLB said the number belongs to a private household in Naic, Cavite.

A search on the website of the Securities and Exchange Commission also yielded nothing on the organization formerly known as Bullion Buyer Ltd.

The cooperative's "pay master" who wanted to be referred to only as "PD" or "Pink Diamond," said the group had P150 billion ready for distribution to its members. At least \$15.2 trillion was also deposited in various accounts abroad, she claimed.

Manuel Cereno Jr., the group's regional coordinator, said each family would get P500,000 to be given in tranches of P10,000 per month over four years.

He added that the other half of the million promised them would go to the cooperative that, in turn, would provide the members with livelihood opportunities.

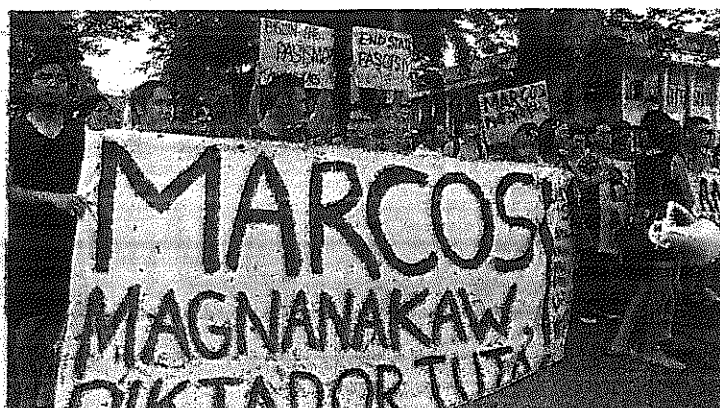
"I think we can start (the distribution) before the year 2017 ends," Cereno said.

Lightning rally

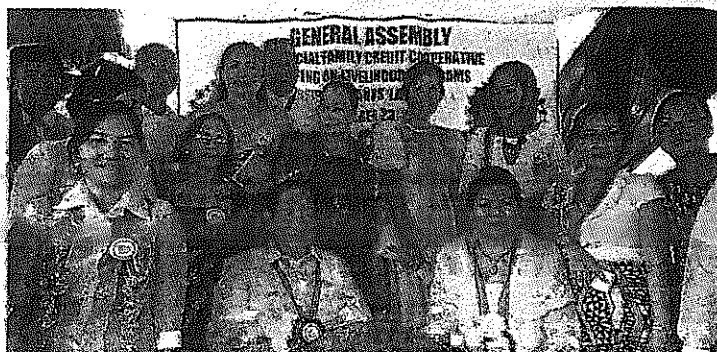
Yesterday's event, which virtually paralyzed traffic in the town, shocked the UPLB community as the campus was where hundreds of activists went missing or were killed during Marcos' martial law years.

The UPLB Student Council responded with a lightning rally in the afternoon, denouncing the "pro-Marcos" assembly and demanding accountability from the university for allowing the event.

UPLB vice chancellor for academic affairs Dr. Serlie Jamias said the activity was approved in "good faith," and that university officials did not



STOP THIEF Students at UPLB hold a lightning rally to protest a gathering that indirectly promoted Marcos' achievements through a P30 booklet.



SCAMMERS? Chair Emmanuel Destura Jr., or "Red Dragon" (center, seated), with other officials of One Social Family Credit Cooperative, which announced plans of distributing the Marcos millions in a scheme that former Sen. Bongbong Marcos had described as a "scam."

know that the event was somehow connected to the Marcoses.

The coop's chair, Emmanuel Destura Jr., whom members referred to by his code name "RD," or "Red Dragon," defended Marcos Sr. and his "quintillion dollars" worth of wealth that, he said, the late strongman had wanted

to give to the Filipino people.

"We've been keeping this (a secret) for a while but President Duterte himself had already announced (it)," Destura said.

In one of his speeches, the President said the Marcoses had expressed willingness to return some of their wealth to

the government.

"Even before he became President, Apo (Marcos) was already wealthy," Destura said. "He had four (offshore) accounts and his wealth grew with the addition of the Solomon treasure and the Yamashita treasure."

It was "an utter lie" to call Marcos' wealth "ill-gotten," the coop official said. "What's ill gotten were the treasures looted by the Japanese that they left buried in the Philippines. The national treasury was not even enough, (and Mr. Marcos) had to fund the (government) projects himself," Destura said.

In an interview after the event, Destura admitted that the group was in no way connected to the former senator and younger Marcos. He also has yet to talk to President Duterte about their program, said this son of a former Bicol politician.

"But you know, the President also needs the money now for his war on drugs," Destura told the Inquirer.

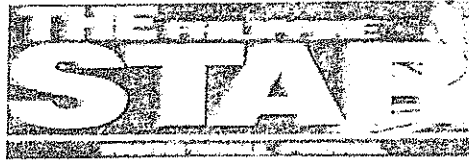
Asked how he knew that the Marcoses would have wanted to distribute their wealth, the coop official said: "(Marcos Sr.) himself (told) my father."

Tricycle driver Tommy Malimban, 55, from Maragondon, Cavite, said he joined the cooperative in the hope of getting some money.

"If it's a scam, I don't have much to lose," he said.

Said another attendee, Nita Isaias, 64: "At least we got to travel to UPLB. This is my first time (here)," she said. INQ

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Phil on HR record: Nothing to hide

By JANVIC MATEO

Despite the Duterte's government's refusal to let the United Nations special rapporteur on summary killings conduct an independent probe in the country, Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano insisted that the Philippines has nothing to hide in connection with its human rights record.

Cayetano, who is in New York to attend the UN General Assembly – lauded the adoption of the Philippine report of its third Universal Periodic Review (UPR) during the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) session in Geneva, Switzerland on Friday.

"The final adoption of our UPR Report during the 36th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva demonstrates that the Philippines has nothing to hide with its human rights record," Cayetano said in a statement yesterday.

"The Philippines will remain resolute in its respect for and protection of human rights as it strives to improve the lives and welfare of each and every Filipino by protecting them from the scourges of drugs and criminality," he added.

Cayetano issued the statement even as the Philippines received criticism for accepting only 103 of the 257 recommendations made by UN member-states during the dialogue held in May.

Among those that the country did not accept were recommendations to allow UN special rapporteur on

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Phi From Page 1

extrajudicial Agnes Callamard to conduct an official visit without any conditions.

Also rejected were recommendations urging the country to investigate reported summary killings in connection with the government's campaign against illegal drugs.

The Philippines also said it could not fully support those that urge the country to refrain from reinstating the death penalty and lowering the minimum age of criminal liability.

Evan Garcia, Philippine Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva, said the country could not fully support 55 recommendations because these "were sweeping, vague and even contradictory, especially in the context of the Philippines' democratic processes."

With regard to the remaining 99 recommendations, Garcia said the Philippines could not fully commit to them as these are beyond the sole control of any of the branches of the government.

"This is specifically true for recommendations that pertain to legislative action, which would require consultative

processes with stakeholders," he said.

On extrajudicial killings, the Philippines has claimed that the cases have been fully addressed before, referring to the government's repeated denial that such cases exist.

The delegations of the United States and United Kingdom were among those that expressed regret over Manila's decision not to accept recommendations involving the thousands of deaths in connection with the war on drugs.

But Cayetano maintained that the dignity of the Filipino people is a priority of the Duterte government.

"The Philippines remains fully committed to meeting its human rights obligations in compliance with the Constitution and international human rights obligations," he said.

Garcia said the Philippine participation in the review shows its commitment to engage the UN HRC and take part in international human rights mechanisms.

"The accepted recommendations mirrored the recommending States' understand-

ing of the current human rights situation in the Philippines, recognized and respected the State as currently implementing or having implemented them, and were supportive of the Philippines' pursuit of human rights aimed at uplifting human dignity," he added.

The Philippines fully accepted recommendations that pertained to the sustainable protection of family and society in general, including preservation of the sanctity of family life, effective advocacy of economic and social rights through development, mitigation of the adverse effects of climate change, eradication of poverty and improvements to access to health care and public education.

Also accepted were those aimed at enhancing the current capacities of the country to protect the right to life, liberty and property through the rule of law and accessibility of victims to justice in pursuit of anti-abortion initiatives, eradication of all forms of slavery, counter-terrorism efforts and the anti-illegal drugs campaign.

The rest of the recommendations that were fully accepted include strengthening international cooperation with human rights mechanisms for

the protection of the most vulnerable sectors in Philippine society and the formulation of the national human rights action plan.

Palace welcomes Phi report adoption

Malacañang yesterday welcomed the adoption of the Philippine report of its third UPR.

"The unanimous adoption of the UPR Report in Geneva signifies the UN's recognition of the country's human rights record under the leadership of President Duterte," presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said.

"This likewise reaffirms our respect for the dignity of the Filipino people and the protection of the Filipino family as we strive for a better life in a society free of illegal drugs and other crimes," he added.

The Palace also congratulated the efforts of Cayetano, Senior Deputy Executive Secretary Menardo Guevarra, Undersecretary Severo Catura of the Presidential Commission on Human Rights and the rest of the members of the Philippine government UPR team, Garcia and the team at the Philippine Mission to the UN in Geneva.



Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano answers questions from former Australian Prime Minister and president of the Asia Society Policy Institute Kevin Rudd in an event at the Asia Society in New York City last Sept. 21.

Abella lauded the team "for their tireless efforts in explaining to the world our policies, practices, commitments and obligations in the area of human rights."

Malacañang is also upbeat on the recent survey of the Pew Research Center, an American think tank, which showed that the administration's campaign against crime and illegal drugs continues to get unwavering support from the public.

According to the survey, 86 percent of Filipinos have a favorable view of President

Duterte while 78 percent of Filipinos approve of his handling of the illegal drugs issue.

The survey also showed that 62 percent of Filipinos believe that the government is making progress in its campaign against illegal drugs.

"The campaign against illegal drugs, as the President said, would be relentless until the drug apparatus is dismantled, the last drug pusher is out of the streets and the last drug trafficker is behind bars," Abella said.

– With Christina Mendez

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MANILA BULLETIN
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44 narco execs fund Marawi siege

By ARGYLL CYRUS B. GEDUCOS and ZEA C. CAPISTRANO

President Duterte released late Friday evening a matrix of 44 incumbent and former local chief executives who are alleg-

edly funding the Daesh-inspired Maute Group in Marawi City through their links to the illegal drug trade.

matrix, labeled "LDS (Lanao del Sur) Drug Trade Linked Diagram," a day after his fifth visit to Marawi during which he stated that slain Ozamiz City mayor Reynaldo Parojinog was involved in the drug trade that had funded the siege.

Duterte hosted a "media night" with reporters at the Matina Enclave in Davao City late Friday night at which occasion he declassified a copy of what he had been brandishing as a drug matrix, declaring there was no use hiding it from the public anymore.

"That's for public consumption already. Yung (The details on) how they operated the drug campaign in Marawi and the entire of Mindanao," Duterte said as he released a copy of the diagram.

"Sabi ko, bitawan na natin (I told them that we should make it public already); there's no use keeping it a secret, for what? That would explain really, the so many killings here," he added.

Duterte said his intelligence people worked on the matrix for the last two to three months when he said the government troops were able to "penetrate the entrails of the city."

"There they discovered that the Maute was really preparing for a long haul. Until now, they (have) never ran out of ordnance, explosives, ammunition, and all. I really do not know the extent now of the contamination," Duterte said.

Drug links

Listed in the matrix are the names of incumbent and former mayors and vice mayors, board members, and barangay captains listed either as drug lords or drug dealers.

The document also contained names and aliases of 19 drug dealers and 11

drug lords.

It showed the links of a former Marawi mayor to 10 of the 11 drug lords, including one drug lord who is allegedly based in Manila.

The document contained a note which said all drug transactions in Lanao del Sur are passed to two former mayors through a barangay chairman and a vice mayor.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año, when asked about the local executives in the drug matrix, said one is a mayor in Maguindanao who currently hiding from authorities.

"The report of the PNP is different. When we tried to dig up everything about the information about this and how the Maute got this enormous money... part of those funds are from drugs. So we made the study, we analyzed, evaluate and this is what came out from the report," Año said.

Año also did not discount the possibility that the bundles of money and cash worth P79 million which was seized in one of the houses inside Marawi City last June could have also come from illegal drugs.

Wiretapping

On the night of the National Day of Protest, Duterte admitted to have ordered the wiretapping of some government officials allegedly involved in the illegal drug trade.

"Whoever he was talking to, I was listening to him. Don't ask me how I (and) what kind of listening device (I had). It was a whisper from God I was listening to," he said, referring to the alleged involvement of Parojinog and Iloilo Mayor Jed Mabilog.

When asked if what Duterte was

doing was within legal bounds, Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella said the President is a person who always adheres to the law.

“I’m sure that being a lawyer, he was operating within (the) bounds of legality,” Abella said Friday.

Republic Act No. 4200 prohibits the wiretapping or recording of any private conversation unless it is done pursuant to a court order. Violators could face imprisonment from six months to six years. If the offender is a public official, he shall also suffer the penalty of perpetual absolute disqualification from public office.

The war in Marawi City started on May 23, 2017. In the last update from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) last September 17, it said a total of 1,730 civilians had been rescued by the government troops.

The AFP also recorded a total of 673 enemies killed in the war, 47 civilians killed by the terrorists, and 149 troops killed by the enemies.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año also said the conservative estimates that the military has already spent for ammunitions and fuel in the war in Marawi is P2 billion.

‘News blackout’

Meanwhile, Malacañang was advised not to disclose details about the Marawi siege in the wake of the rescue of Catholic priest Father Teresito (Chito) Soganub in order not to compromise the operations in Marawi City.

Maj. Gen. Restituto Padilla, AFP spokesperson, had earlier apologized to the media for not being able to give details but assured that rescuing hostages

was still high among the priorities of the troops.

“Karamihan po sa atin, maaaring isang balita lamang itong mga lumabas na ito. Pero sa sundalo pong nagtatrabaho sa kaguluhan diyan sa Marawi, buhay ho ang pinag-uusapan. Buhay ng sundalo, buhay ng hostage. (Most of us may treat this as a simple news. But for the soldiers in Marawi, this is life we’re talking about. Lives of the soldiers and the hostages),” Padilla said.

“Kaya ipagpaumanhin ninyo na po kung may mga panahon na ayaw naming magbigay ng impormasyon. Hindi po maibibigay ‘yan dahil ang pinangangalagaan ho ay ang kapakanan at safety nung mga hostages na ating sinisikap na ma-rescue (Please excuse us if there are times that we don’t want to give information because we are trying

to protect the welfare and safety of the hostages that we are trying to rescue),” he added. (With a report from Francis T. Wakefield)

24 September 2017

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Page: 1

Soldiers win hearts and minds with mobile kitchens in Lanao

By **KEITH BACONGCO**

BALO-I, Lanao del Norte – While their brothers in arms were engaged in

a fierce firefight against the terrorists holed up in Marawi City, another group of Philippine Army soldiers took to a different type of warfare: winning the ▶ 4

hearts and minds of the civilians.

Instead of assault rifles, this unit was armed with ladles, knives, cooking utensils, microphones and information materials.

On a sunny Tuesday morning of Sept. 19, two KM450 military trucks ferried about 20 soldiers to an evacuation center situated beside a barangay hall.

As the soldiers disembarked from the vehicles, smiles were on the faces of the internally displaced people (IDPs) who had fled Marawi City, their home. Even the assault rifles they carried did not seem to bother the villagers, who helped the troopers unload huge cooking pots, a liquefied petroleum gas tank, baskets of vegetables and few bags of rice.

For about three months now, this is what the Civil Military Operations Regiment of the Philippine Army has been doing – providing health-care programs, moral recovery for adults and psychosocial interventions for children and meals from the mobile kitchen.

At least 250 soldiers belonging to the CMO Regiment have been deployed to initiate non-combat activities following the conflict in Marawi City.

Guns to ladles

In this non-combat activity, rifles were substituted with ladles and knives, while battle uniforms were replaced with aprons.

Under a makeshift tent, the soldiers started peeling sweet potatoes, boiling water and chopping garlic and onions. In a little while, four Maranao women began to help the soldiers peel the sweet potatoes for the vegetable stew.

At another part of the camp, two soldiers, armed with scissors and razors, gave free haircut to the male evacuees.

Mobile kitchen

Maj. Jeffrex Molina, of chief of public affairs of Task Force Tabang, told Manila Bulletin that they conceptualized the mobile kitchen to provide hot meals to at least 78 evacuation centers – 43 evacuation centers in Lanao del Sur, 34 in Lanao del Norte and one in Misamis Occidental.

The CMO is part of the joint Task Force Tabang, which aims to rebuild the embattled city.

“Under the mobile kitchen project, the CMO personnel provide hot meals to the evacuees. The mobile kitchen project is supported by the Marawi City government since these evacuees are their constituents,” Molina said.

While the meals are being prepared, some soldiers initiate parlor games for the children. After every event, the soldiers gave school supplies and other food items.

Not an easy task

Molina admitted that extending services to the evacuees is not an easy task, saying they have to extend their services to all the evacuation centers.

“The first two weeks of our deployment were the most difficult because the evacuees were not used to interact with us. There were instances that our soldiers were being humiliated by the evacuees. This task requires a lot of patience,” he said.

In Barangay Lumbaca Toros in Saguiaran town of Lanao del Sur, Capt.

Rommel Panganiban said it is fulfilling to see what they accomplish each day.

“Mas masarap mapagod ng ganito pagkatapos ng buong araw na trabaho,” said Panganiban, who spent about a decade in the infantry before joining the CMO Regiment.

Special request

While they are grateful for the hot meals being prepared by the soldiers, 57-year old Anisa Panimba admitted to Manila Bulletin that they are already missing their native delicacies.

“Sana yung mga pagkaing Maranao naman. O di kaya adobong manok, bihon, mga pritong tilapia at may palapa. Nami-miss na rin naming kainin ang mga lutong Maranaw,” pleaded Panimba, a fruit vendor back in Marawi City.

She added that they are willing to teach the soldiers prepare Maranao cuisine.

Soldier, social worker

While the soldiers are preparing the vegetable stew, a group of adult males gathered beside the makeshift kitchen.

Panganiban set up a 40-inch TV for film screening on the ongoing conflict in Marawi.

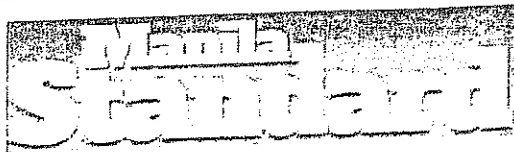
After about 10 minutes, the CMO officer stood before the evacuees and explained the current situation in Marawi.

Moreover, Panganiban also urged them to prevent their children from joining a terror group. “Magkano lang yang P20,000 na ibabayad para sumali sa kanila, hayaan natin silang maging bata.”

Molina explained that these are just among the many tasks the CMO Regiment, whose personnel were specially trained aside from undergoing basic military training.

Molina said they are now doing what the humanitarian organizations are doing in times of crisis, thus, making the soldiers CMO Regiment as the “social workers” of the Philippine Army.

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MEN IN BLACK FIRE AT ARMY POST; 3 MARAWI HOSTAGES FREED

By Francisco Tuyay

ARMED men in black uniforms attacked an army post in the sleepy town of Bayang, Lanao del Sur, just hours after government forces, closing in against the Maute terrorist group in Marawi City, rescued three more hostages.

Bayang Mayor Aslani Pangarungan Balt, in a radio interview Saturday, said around 20 armed men lobbed grenade launchers at an army post adjacent to the townhall, immediately sparking a brief gunfight.

The military validated the incident, saying nearly a dozen armed men were involved in the attack, but described this as a mere harassment, but they were taking stricter security measures.

Citing witnesses accounts, Col. Romeo Brawner, Task Group Ranao deputy commander, said only five to seven armed men figured in the fighting lasting for a minute Wednesday.

"The firefight only lasted for one minute. The troops on the ground were expecting the fighting to last long, but the attackers immediately retreated,"

In the Marawi City fighting, AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año said three hostage victims were pulled out from the main battle ground, which already claimed the lives of 151, 689 terrorists and 47 civilians.

"The other night, three civilian hostages were rescued," Año said Friday in Camp Aguinaldo during the culmination of the AFP's Public Affairs Off-

Brawner said.

Brawner said they were closely coordinating with local leaders in Bayang to possibly establish the armed men's identities.

Bayang is a fifth class town near Marawi City, bounded by Butig town, an enclave of the Maute brothers and the site of fierce gun battle between security forces and the extremist group.

Shortly after the Bayang attack, Brawner said troops from the 65th Infantry Battalion conducted intensified patrols in nearby areas surrounding Bayang.

Reports said 20 to 30 armed men were spotted during the attack.

However, another group of some 60 rebels were seen in the outskirts of Bayang.

Two days after the attack, armed men were seen in the same area as Bayang local government officials vowed to challenge the armed men into a fight.

"We are taking this seriously, but based on our initial assessment, it's just a nuisance group and is not connected to the Marawi terrorist," Brawner said. **Turn to A2**

cers and spokespersons summit.

But he refused to provide details on the circumstances of the rescue of the hostages whose identities have yet to be established.

Año projected the rescue of captive priest Fr. Chito Suganob and Lordvin Ocopio last Sunday, indicated the closing of the Marawi City episode.

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CAFGU man, 2 NPAs killed in Arakan attack

By JOSEPH JUBELAG

ARAKAN, North Cotabato – A militiaman and two suspected Communist rebels were killed Friday after a group of New People's Army (NPA) insurgents attacked a Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) Auxiliaries detachment in Barangay Sto. Niño here, near the border of northern and southern Mindanao, Thursday afternoon.

First Lt. Silver Belvis of the 39th

Infantry Battalion (39IB) said CAFGU member Joel Batawan was killed, while another militiaman Jonathan Lasoy was wounded in the attack launched by an undetermined number of heavily armed NPAs.

The attack at the CAA Salang detachment occurred at 2:20 p.m. Thursday.

But he said government forces were also able to recover the bodies of two men believed to be NPA rebels as they pressed pursuit operations on the attackers.

Troops recovered from the slain rebels two .45 caliber pistols, fatigue uniform and subversive documents.

Belvis said the cadavers of the slain rebels were recovered by the pursuing security forces.

Government troops have stepped up offensives against communist rebels who continue to harass government and civilian targets in the province.

Security forces had earlier seized a cache of explosives in an encounter with NPA rebels in nearby Magpet town.

• Maguindanao encounter

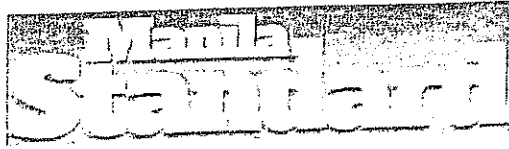
COTABATO CITY – Government forces and suspected elements of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) clashed Friday afternoon, a military spokesperson said on Saturday. Capt. Arvin Encinas, 6th Infantry Division spokesperson, said the encounter occurred at 1:30 p.m. in Barrio Muslim in Guindulungan, Maguindanao.

"The troop saw a consolidation of more or less 70 BIFF fighters when the firefight erupted.

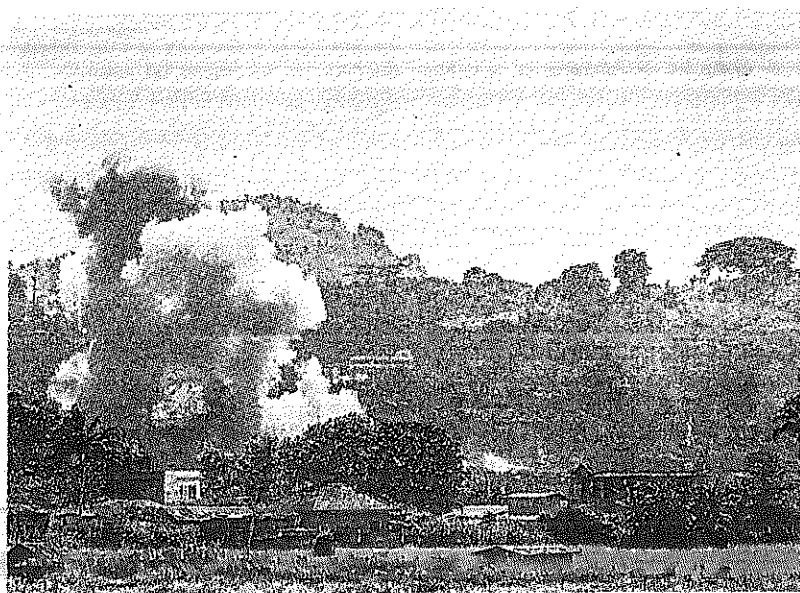
Nagkaroon ng pagputok ng mga artillery fires," he said. There was no casualty recorded from the government or BIFF side.

(Valerie Ann P. Lambo)

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FRESH OFFENSIVE. Smoke billows from houses following aerial bombings recently by Philippine Air Force planes on Islamist positions in the lakeshore provincial capital of Marawi City, with military authorities claiming troops had captured the command center of Islamic State group supporters who have besieged Marawi since May 23. **AFP**

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SOURCE OF FUNDS

NEW MATRIX SHOWS MAUTE DRUG LINKS

DAVAO CITY—President Duterte on Friday showed to reporters a new matrix with the names of and connections between drug personalities in Lanao del Sur province and other areas, saying these were the people who had helped the Islamic State (IS)-inspired terrorists survive a military onslaught in Marawi City.

Mr. Duterte said the politicians and other personalities in the matrix funneled funds to the Maute group and their allies before and during the battle, which entered its fourth month on Saturday.

"I have something for you tonight. I'll just pass it on to—*Listahan ng... yung paano* (the list...how it's done)," Mr. Duterte said, handing out the matrix to reporters over dinner here.

"That's for public consumption already—how they operated the drug campaign in Marawi and the entire of Mindanao," he added.

Based on 3-month intel

The President said the operation of the group and the others linked to the drug operation was the reason "I said Mindanao and the Visayas almost fell into the hands of [a] narcostate."

"Luzon remains a volatile area," he said.

The matrix, which included the name Parojinog, supposedly that of slain Ozamiz City Mayor Reynaldo, was the product of "intelligence for the last three months or two."

Parojinog was killed along with his wife Susan, brother Octavio Jr., sister Mona and 11 others in a police raid in Ozamiz on July 30.

The President said he was

considering giving his "narcologist" to priests and bishops so they could help talk to the drug personalities "who are their parishioners."

"These priests, they easily condemn [the government's war on drugs]. You [priests] go to these people and tell them to stop already. You have the money to do that. That's your job [also]," he said.

Mr. Duterte said the matrix was prepared after government forces managed "to penetrate the ... insides of the entrails of the city (Marawi)."

The names included former Marawi mayor Solitario Ali, his brother Fahad Salic, and his son Arafat—three of the men suspected by the military of helping the Maute group prepare for a long battle in the city.

Driving force

The President said the operation of the Lanao del Sur group, which included incumbent mayors, councilors and village chiefs, extended to areas as far as Quiapo in Manila and Novaliches in Quezon City.

"Until now, [the Maute group and their allies] are... they never run out of ordinance—explosives, ammunition and all," Mr. Duterte said.

"You know, in the illegal drug trade, whether or not you want to believe it, always the driving force is greed and power, money," he added.

He said he would determine the extent of the drug operation that allowed the terrorists to survive this long in Marawi.

"Until now, it's still (not clear). It remains to be something, like they are just there

fighting. But there were also a lot of Arabs fighting," he added.

The President dismissed the Maute group's claim that it was fighting for Islam: "That's terrorism, it's not Islam. It is not the work of a believer of Islam. I should know that. You know my roots."

Stressing that "nobody wins" in battle, he said the military's final offensive in Marawi was not directed against Muslims.

'Alien ideology'

"I'd be the last person to condemn the Moro people," Mr. Duterte said, adding that his government continued to talk with Moro rebel leaders Nur Misuari of the Moro National Liberation Front and Murad Ebrahim of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

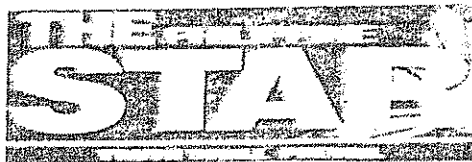
"Just like in Marawi, we will never win there. They're all Filipinos. [But it was] because of an alien ideology, that of the IS, that drove them to some kind of a devil's den."

Expounding on his plan to ask priests and bishops for help in his war on drugs, Mr. Duterte said the clergy also needed to know who among their parishioners were into drugs.

"They (drug personalities) are alive. You talk to them and tell them they would end up in a very serious situation if they continued," he said. "Also talk to the barangay captains (involved in drugs)."

The Catholic Church has been highly critical of the administration's antidrug campaign, which has claimed the lives of thousands. —FRINSTON LIM AND ALLAN NAWAL INQ

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Duterte bares drug matrix of Maute supporters

By EDITH REGALADO

DAVAO CITY - President Duterte bared the other night a matrix of the illegal drug industry prevailing in

Marawi City, Lanao del Sur as well as in Ozamiz City and other areas in Northern Mindanao.

The matrix showed individuals and politicians, including a number of barangay captains and other village officials, who were reported to be involved in the illegal drug trade in those areas.

Turn to Page 5

"I have something for you tonight. I'll just pass it on... That's for public consumption already. (It shows) how they operated the drug campaign in Marawi and the entire Mindanao," Duterte said in a gathering with Davao media at the Matina Residential Enclaves here.

Among those in the matrix were former mayor Mohd Ali "Merikano" Abina of Marantao town, Mayor Pangga Abinal Mulok of Maguing town, former mayors Fahad "Pre" Salic and Solitario Omar Ali of Marawi City and the Parojinogs of Ozamiz City.

Salic was arrested last June. He earlier signified his intention to help the government resolve the Marawi crisis.

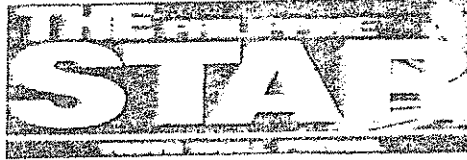
The President said drug money fueled the operation of the terrorist group that attacked Marawi on May 23. He stressed that the matrix shows the reason why local government and barangay officials were not tapped by the Armed Forces of the Philippines in its fight against the Islamic State-linked Maute terrorist group.

"That is the work of the intelligence for the last three months or two when we were able to penetrate the... insides of the... the entrails of the city. There they discovered that the Maute was really preparing for a long haul. Until now, they never ran out of ordnance, explosives, ammunitions and all," Duterte said.

He added that those identified to be linked with the illegal drug trade are "really fighting over supremacy of the supply."

"Whatever is illegal, whether or not you want to believe it, is always the driving force of greed, power and money. But to what extent was this drug used to build up the terrorist activity is something which we have really to find," Duterte declared.

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Duterte again open to grant of amnesty to rebels

DAVAO CITY – President Duterte raised anew the possibility of granting amnesty to communist rebels in the near future.

"I would want to grant general amnesty to the rebels if Congress will approve," the President told mediemen in a gathering at the Matina Enclaves Residences here Friday night.

But the President was quick to point out that the amnesty would not apply to those with criminal charges.

Duterte said he wants to help the rebels improve their lives instead of continuing to fight the government.

The President even offered the rebels jobs should they come down from the mountains and abandon their fighting.

Duterte said he is even considering providing the communist rebels housing units.

Duterte also said he is open to reviving the peace talks between the government and the communists as long the leftist insurgents sign a unilateral ceasefire to ensure there will no longer be any attack on government forces or civilians.

Enabling environment

The lack of skirmishes between the Philippine government and the National Democratic Front-Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (NDF-CPP-NPA) could be a sign of an "enabling environment" that could lead to the resumption of peace talks between the two sides.

"The public will not understand it. They will ask why are you talking (peace) while you are fighting on the ground? What is that? What kind is that? Although we in the negotiations, we can talk and

Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Jesus Dureza said Friday Duterte has openly expressed in the past days his openness to resume the talks that were cancelled in July due to continuous attacks by the NPA.

Duterte had mentioned amnesty in the past as NDF consultants were released to participate in the talks. He also appointed two Cabinet members recommended by the NDF but they were rejected by the Commission on Appointments.

"When he says it, that's it. So why are you still trying to analyze? We will let you know. We cannot disclose it yet. But we take guidance from the President's statements that he is open again to negotiate if the other side is eager also to engage," Dureza said in an interview on the sidelines of the opening of the two-day conference on peace and the prevention of violent extremism in South-east Asia held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Dureza emphasized that part of the work of his office is to continuously find ways and means to continue the peace process. But he refused to elaborate on their moves, saying peace processes were sensitive.

Talking and fighting can be done, he said, but "it is not so welcome to the public."

fight," Dureza said.

"But you also have to take into account how the public will react to it. That is why the President has made very strong decision of cancelling it. And then

right now, you may have observed the fighting has died down. Maybe that is the enabling environment that we are waiting for. Just wait," Dureza said.

– Edith Regalado, Jose Rodel Clapano

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Duterte underscores urgency to pursue talks with Muslim, communist rebels

By ZEA C. CAPISTRANO

DAVAO CITY – President Duterte said the government remains commit-

ted to pursue talks with the Muslim insurgents as well as the local communist rebels.

He said failure to sign a ►20

peace agreement with the Muslim insurgents will mean no end to the injustice against the Moro people.

“We continue to hang on to the talks because we believe historically they are deprived and that is why we continue to talk to Murad and Nur,” Duterte told reporters here Friday night.

Duterte was referring to Moro Islamic Liberation Front chairman Al-Haji Murad Ebrahim and the founder of the Moro National Liberation Front chairman Nur Misuari.

Last September 14, Duterte met with the members of the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC)

in Malacañang and with Misuari on September 16 in Davao City.

The 21-member BTC is the body tasked to craft the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) which will give way for the creation of the new political entity called the Bangsamoro that will replace the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

“I said nobody wins just like Marawi, wala tayong panalo doon... puro Pilipino yun,” he said.

He also blamed the “alien ideology” brought in by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) for spreading terrorism in Mindanao.

Duterte also stressed that terror-

ism is “not the work of a believer of Islam.”

“I should know that. You know my roots. I’d be the last person to condemn the Moro people,” Duterte said.

When he made his fifth visit to Marawi City on Friday, Duterte said lawmakers are expected to file the BBL which he vowed to certify as urgent bill.

House Majority Floor Leader Rodolfo Fariñas on Thursday said the new BBL will be filed by the BTC next week.

Wednesday night, the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC) meeting discussed the BBL after it was not included in the list of the priority bills during the August 29 meeting.

The MILF has repeatedly said that the passage of the BBL is a key to address the problem on violent extremism espoused by groups who are frustrated with the historical injustice experienced by the Moro people.

Amnesty for NPAs mullied

In the communist insurgency front, President Duterte appealed to members of the New People’s Army (NPA) to come down as he may give them general amnesty if Congress approves it.

“Bumaba kayo para wala nang away,” Duterte said here late Friday night.

He added: “Maybe, just maybe, Congress will agree with me, I will just declare a general amnesty.”

“I think in the next few months maraming magbabaan. Ito walang harassment, hindi ako mag-account kung ilan ang pinatay ninyo,” Duterte said.

Duterte promised to give housing units to NPA members who will surrender and those who are “qualified” will be hired as government soldiers.

He said even if the communists will fight for another 50 years, they will gain nothing but only suffering.

“Ano pang gawin niyo sa buhay? Magtakbo? Magpapatok? Mamatay? Pati gutom, sakit?” he said.

Duterte, who met the members of the media at the Matina Enclaves, said he will push for land reform next year and will provide additional funds for health.

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New matrix links drugs, terror groups

President Duterte revealed an updated drug matrix last Friday that showed links among leaders of the Maute Group who masterminded the Marawi City siege and narcotics syndicate composed of more than 30 Lanao del Sur officials and a local businessman.

Mr. Duterte showed the

matrix to journalists during a briefing last September 22 at the Matina Enclaves indicating that the connections among the terrorists and the drug lords explain the endurance of the Islamic State (IS)-inspired terror operations in Marawi City.

"I have something for you tonight. I'll just pass it on this

list. That's for public consumption already. It shows how they operated the drug campaign in Marawi and the entire of Mindanao," Duterte said during the briefing.

"I said Mindanao and the Visayas almost fell into the hands of narco-state," Duterte explained the relevance of the new list. "Luzon remains a volatile area," he added.

Mr. Duterte said the creation of the matrix was the product of "intelligence work" for the last three months or since the Maute Group launched the Marawi City siege last May 23.

The names included former Marawi City mayor Solitario Ali, his brother, Fahad Saliq and his son, Arafat.

Other names in the matrix were a certain FM Muslimen Macabatok; Mulondo Mayor Hadji Jamal Abdulsalam; Buadiposo Buntong Mayor Noron Dadayan; Ditsaan, Ramain Vice Mayor Noridin Adiong; Rangaig Mamarinta a Provincial Board Member of the 1st District of Lanao del Sur; Bonbola Radiamoda of

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From page 1

Bayang, Lanao del Sur; Ansari Saripada Radiamoda of Ilod Madava, Marawi City; Parahiman Batawi Ronda of Samar, Butig; Acong Domato and Haj Taha Abdullah of Barangay Baropit, Picong; Gona Romoros Aba Saguiran of Barangay Bubong, Saguiran, Novaliches, Quezon City and a supposed Filipino Chinese businessman whose daughter is married to Johary Abinal, who in turn was the ex-husband of Johaira "Marimar" Abinal.

"You would say there that you would know (the links). That is the work of the intelligence for the last 3 months or two when we were able to penetrate the insides, the entrails of the city," he said.

"They have a trouble drawing up the connections so I said let's reveal it, it's no use keeping it a secret, for what?" he said.

Endless ammunition

In the briefing, Duterte said the

government discovered that the Maute Group "was really preparing for the long haul" in the Marawi City siege.

"From now, they never ran out of ordinance, explosives, ammunition, and all. I really do not know the extent now of the contamination," he said.

Duterte said the names in the matrix were those who have funneled funds to the IS-inspired terrorists fighting government troops.

"You know, (in) the illegal (drugs trade), whether or not you want to believe it, always the driving force is greed and power, money," Duterte added.

"To what extent was this drug used to build up the terrorist activity is something which we have really to find out," he added.

Duterte dismissed claims of the Maute group that they are waging a religious war.

"That's terrorism, it's not Islam. It is not the work of a believer of Islam," Mr. Duterte said.

"I should know that. You know

my roots," he added.

"I'd be the last person to condemn the Moro people," he said.

Duterte said he never wanted war under his administration because "nobody wins."

"Just like in Marawi. We will never win there. They're all Filipino but because of an alien ideology, that of the ISIS, they (Maute group members) were driven to some kind of a devil's den," he added.

"And that would really give me the reason to pursue what would be a peaceful place for all of us. I wouldn't bulge against terrorism. If I do, that is really the end for us, so be it," he said.

No celebration needed

No victory celebration of any kind will be held once the remaining Maute Group terrorists are eliminated from Marawi City, Duterte also told troops engaged in the ongoing clearing operations in Marawi city during his visit Thursday, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief-of-Staff

Gen. Eduardo Año said.

"He (Duterte) also told troops that the end is near and they should persevere further in their efforts to totally liberate the city from the terrorists. And once this is accomplished, he does not want any celebration or party as those killed are also Filipinos," Año said.

Año said that instead of celebrations, the President wanted the military to ensure the security of those involved in the city's rehabilitation so that reconstruction could be conducted without any threat from lawless elements.

Duterte also lauded the troops for their recent successes, especially the recapture of the Bato Mosque and Amaitul Islamiya Marawi Foundation and the rescue of Father Chito Soganob and other hostages, the AFP chief added.

Fighting in Marawi City, currently on its fourth month, erupted after an attempt to arrest Abu Sayyaf leader, Isnilon Hapilon, and his cohorts last May 23.

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The Manila Times

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Returning IS members a threat to Southeast Asia

MUSLIMS from Southeast Asia who went to the Middle East to join the Islamic State (IS) remain a threat to the region especially now that activities of the terrorist group in Syria and Iraq are winding down, a former official of the Association of Southeast Asian Region (Asean) said Friday.

Ong Keng Yong, Singapore ambassador-at-large, said about 1,000 Muslims from Southeast Asia who went to fight with the IS are now on the move and are expected to either go to other parts of the Middle East or come back to their home countries.

"Therefore, we think that these returnees will contribute to the threat to Southeast Asia security if they go back to their home countries," Ong said in a press conference in the sidelines of the Asean conference on peace and the prevention of violent extremism being held in Pasay City.

Ong, who is also the executive deputy chairman of the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, said based on their research, several Malaysians, Indonesians, Filipinos, and Singaporeans had joined IS forces in the Middle East.

"After spending those months and years with the Islamic State and its supporters the aim of course is to establish a wilayat (province) in Southeast Asia," Ong said.

"So it is a significant threat to

our regional security and it is even more important for all national authorities to take serious actions to deal with this," he added.

Unlike in the past when it took a long time for any actions or statements to be transmitted in the region, he said, the use of social media and the internet made it easy for terrorists to spread their message in almost real time.

But technology has also helped authorities in monitoring terrorism movement.

According to Ong, through their research, they were able to follow some of the statements and pronouncements of extremists in social media and share it with government authorities.

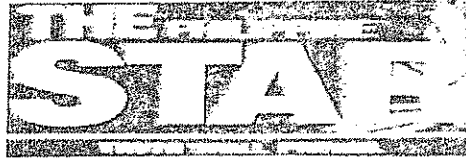
"It is not just simple isolated incident in one part of particular country. There is an overall objective and everyone is committed to achieving this objective for Islamic state," he added, referring to the activities of the extremists his team has monitored.

Ong said took positive note of how Asean ministers consider extremism as a serious threat to peace and security in the region.

National Security adviser Hermogenes Esperon Jr., for his part said, several actions have already been taken to address the threat, including intelligence sharing and intensified coordinated maritime patrols.

JEFFERSON ANTIPORDA

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BREAKTHROUGH

ELFREN S. CRUZ



Cinema on martial law

A generation after the declaration of the Marcos martial law there is an insidious campaign to rewrite that dark period of Philippine history. Marcos turned the Philippine economy from the second richest in Asia – next to Japan – to the economic “sick man” of Asia at the end of his martial law reign. We are again hearing the Marcosian message that in order to “save” democracy, Marcos had to kill democracy.

Books have been written about martial law; and, the oppression, tortures and human rights violations of that period. Perhaps, for the millennials and the new video-oriented generation, another way of understanding the oppressive environment of that period would be by watching the movies that were made during that period; and the movies about martial law which were produced after the People Power revolution.

Before martial law, Philippine cinema was dominated by romantic musicals, fantasy movies, *komik* based films and teenage romances. When Marcos declared martial law, all aspects of mass media – including film – were subjected to political censorship. Guidelines were issued including no attack on corruption or on any action or aspect of government.

For media and the film industry, it was the worst of times. But, in one strange way the martial law era became also the “best of times” for cinema. Some observers have even said that Philippine cinema reached some kind of artistic peak during the 1970s. It was the flowering of cinema “realism” as directors and scriptwriters sought to depict life under martial law, during the 1970s, while trying to stay away from the clutches of the censors. It was a creative challenge that showcased the best of directors like Lino Brocka, Behn Cervantes, Ishmael Bernal, and Mike de Leon. After the end of the Marcos martial law, several directors came out with movies about that period. There were new names that came out like Chito Rono and Joel Lamangan.

For the millennial generation who want to learn more about the relevant films during the martial law period, I would highly recommend the book *Reviewing Filipino Cinema* by Bienvenido Lumbera, National Artist for Literature. I have not seen all the films during and about martial law. But, I remember those that I would highly recommend.

Maynila sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag is one of the best Filipino film I have ever seen. It was produced in 1975, at the height of martial law. The film was directed by Lino Brocka, still the best Filipino movie director, based on the novel *In the Claw of Darkness* by Edgardo M. Reyes. The movie has a simple plot. Julio, a *provinciano*, arrives in Manila to look for a childhood sweetheart – Ligaya who was lured to the city by a Mrs. Cruz. He finds a job as a construction worker and eventual discovers that Ligaya is working as a prostitute in a brothel. The two meet and plan to escape and return to the province. But Ah-Tek, the brothel owner discovers their plan and causes the death of Ligaya. Joel stalks Ah-Tek and kills him. He is in turn chased by

a mob who witnessed the crime and is himself killed.

Because this is the martial law period, symbolism was the creative tool used by directors like Brocka. Julio Madiaga is the Filipino common man trying to patiently eke out a living and resorting to violence out of desperation. Ligaya Paraiso is the *Inang Bayan*, the Filipino concept of the motherland. Ah-Tek is slang for *atik*, the Tagalog slang word for cash which symbolizes greed and corruption.

Dekada 70 was produced in 2002 but is about the story of a Filipino family during martial law. The essential story is about Amanda (Vilma Santos) and Julian (Christopher de Leon) who are raising their five sons during the repressive dictatorship of Ferdinand Marcos. The parents are apolitical but their sons turn to various forms of activism as a result of life under martial law. Eventually, the family becomes the victim of extremist violence and Amanda soon becomes a dissident. The film director was Chito S. Rono.

Sister Stella L. was produced in 1984 when martial law was being publicly challenged on the streets of Metro Manila and all over the Philippines. I remember that when I watched it, I was surprised that Vilma Santos had accepted the role. She was then considered as the most glamorous star of Philippine cinema, and her role in *Sister Stella L.* was so different from her usual movie roles.

Sister Stella Legaspi is a pacifist religious who is challenged by an older colleague and a concerned journalist to respond to the injustice being perpetrated on a group of factory workers. She leaves the convent to help the workers and to preach the teachings of Christ. She joins the workers in their picket line when they go on strike; and, she begins to identify with them. Then the workers' leader is abducted, tortured and killed by para-military agents. Sister Stella L. and the journalist rally the workers and resolve to carry on the fight.

Perhaps, there should be a Martial Law Film Festival that can showcase all these films. The other movies that I would recommend are *Sakada*, directed by Behn Cervantes; *Batch 81* by Mike de Leon; *Bayan Ko, Kapit sa Patalim* by Lino Brocka; *Eskapo* by Chito Rono; *Sigwa* by Joel Lamangan; and *Batas Militar*.

There is no question that in today's digital world, people – students, laborers, rich, poor – prefer film to reading books. Film has become the most powerful means of recreation; but, they can also be a means for education. Film may be the best medium to teach millennials and future generations about the true and unrevised version of Philippine history.

Creative writing classes for kids and teens

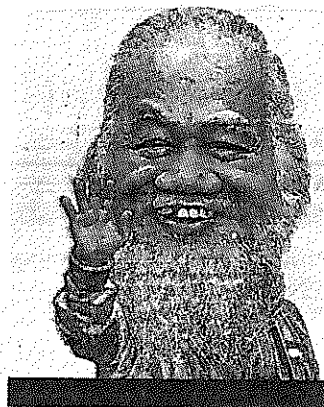
Young Writers' Hangout for Kids & Teens on October 7 and October 21 (1:30-3pm / independent sessions). All sessions are at Fully Booked Bonifacio High Street. For registration and fee details text 0917-6240196 or email writething-sph@gmail.com.

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Email: elfrencruz@gmail.com
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INQUIRER

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Fr. Chito Soganub

The name of Fr. Teresito Soganub, the vicar general of Marawi City, first appeared in the news following the siege of Marawi City, when he was reported to be among those taken from the cathedral by the Islamic State-inspired Maute group on May 23, the day the local terror group took over sections of the city. Eight days later, an undated video circulated online, showing a black-clad, bearded man appealing to President Duterte to stop the military operations in Marawi for the sake of over a hundred hostages with him. An ensuing silence after that led people to speculate whether he was dead or alive. Until last weekend when a smiling Fr. Soganub faced the media, assuring people he was in good health and asking them to pray for him. A bishop said Fr. Soganub escaped from his captors. But the military said he was rescued.

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NEVER ON A SUNDAY

'Martial Law 1'



By **ATTY. RENE ESPINA**
FORMER SENATOR

THE declaration of President Ferdinand E. Marcos (PFEM), last September 21, 1972, of "State of Emergency" Martial Law throughout the Philippines was unprecedented. Today, even after 45 years it remains controversial with pro and contra advocates in heated debate and public demonstrations.

I remember years ago when I visited Malacañang to inform PFEM that I had been invited by the German government to be one of their official guests in the Munich Olympics. Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos seemed reluctant to give me her blessings, that I should leave the country at that particular time. After Martial Law was declared I was in Munich with my wife, I realized that she wanted to discourage me from leaving, because she knew that Martial Law was about to be declared.

Anyway, it is relevant to go back to some of the events of history. At that time the most significant was the Plaza Miranda bombing of the Liberal Party rally (Miting de Avance) on August 21, 1971. The grenade throwing attack at that LP Rally almost killed the whole leadership of that political party, from Senator Gerry Roxas (LP president)

to Senators Jovito Salonga, Sergio Osmeña (defeated LP presidential candidate), Genaro Magsaysay (defeated LP candidate for vice president), Senators Eva Estrada Kalaw, then Congressmen Sonny Osmeña, Eddie Ilarde, Mayor of Manila Bagatsing, and others. The only missing LP VIP was Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino (LP secretary general). Mr Aquino's excuse was that he had to attend the pre-wedding party of Suzie, a daughter of Senator "Doy" Laurel, who was getting married to Mr. Delgado.

The grenade throwing incident that almost killed the LP leadership was saved due to timely medical intervention and the fact that the first grenade fell on the crowd in front of the stage. It was only one grenade that hit the stage where the VPs were seated. Six wounded LP candidates for senator won that election, namely Jovito Salonga, Magsaysay, Eva Kalaw, Osmeña, Ilarde, and Ramon Mitra. Only two Senators won for the NPs—Senator Almendras and Maceda.

President Ferdinand Marcos with his Vice President Fernando Lopez had just won their re election. Marcos was on a second term and could no longer run for another term. It was quite obvious that perhaps the opposition LPs had the best opportunity to be elected to power through their

candidates. Senator Gerry Roxas was the incumbent president of the LP. All things being considered, whoever is the party president has the extraordinary advantage of appointing the Convention delegates. Roxas was thus taught to be the next presidential candidate of the LP. Perhaps Senator Ninoy Aquino had the second best chance to be nominated by his party.

Contrary to the political propaganda (fake news) that it was President Marcos responsible for the almost total massacre of the LPs at Plaza Miranda, from the books written by Senators Jovito Salonga, Eva Kalaw, and Col Victor Corpus, an erstwhile NPA, the public learned that the Plaza Miranda grenade throwers were NPAs.

The only pertinent question to ask is was Ninoy Aquino aware of the NPA plot? If not, why not? After all, the founding of the CPP-NPA-NDF was done inside Hacienda Luisita. The founding head of the CPP was Jose Maria Sison. The head of the NPA was Bernabe Buscayno aka "Commander Dante" who was reported to be the driver of a very close relative of Ninoy Aquino. Ask Nilo Tayag. Tayag was also chosen Sec Gen of that group. From said facts let the public make their own conclusion.

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New Duterte matrix shows Maute drug links

By: Allan Nawal, Frinston Lim - @inquirerdotnet
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President Rodrigo Duterte. ACE MORANDANTE / Presidential Photographers Division (FILE)
DAVAO CITY—President Rodrigo Duterte on Friday showed to reporters a new matrix with the names of and connections between drug personalities in Lanao del Sur province and other areas, saying these were the people who had helped the Islamic State (IS)-inspired terrorists survive a military onslaught in Marawi City.

Mr. Duterte said the politicians and other personalities in the matrix funneled funds to the Maute group and their allies before and during the battle, which entered its fourth month on Saturday.

"I have something for you tonight. I'll just pass it on to—Listahan ng... 'yung paano (the list...how it's done)," Mr. Duterte said, handing out the matrix to reporters over dinner here.

"That's for public consumption already—how they operated the drug campaign in Marawi and the entire of Mindanao," he added.

Based on 3-month intel

The President said the operation of the group and the others linked to the drug operation was the reason "I said Mindanao and the Visayas almost fell into the hands of [a] narcostate."

"Luzon remains a volatile area," he said.

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The matrix, which included the name Parojinog, supposedly that of slain Ozamiz City Mayor Reynaldo, was the product of “intelligence for the last three months or two.”

Parojinog was killed along with his wife Susan, brother Octavio Jr., sister Mona and 11 others in a police raid in Ozamiz on July 30.

The President said he was considering giving his “narcologist” to priests and bishops so they could help talk to the drug personalities “who are their parishioners.”

“These priests, they easily condemn [the government’s war on drugs]. You [priests] go to these people and tell them to stop already. You have the money to do that. That’s your job [also],” he said.

Mr. Duterte said the matrix was prepared after government forces managed “to penetrate the ... insides of the entrails of the city (Marawi).”

The names included former Marawi mayor Solitario Ali, his brother Fahad Salic, and his son Arafat—three of the men suspected by the military of helping the Maute group prepare for a long battle in the city.

Driving force

The President said the operation of the Lanao del Sur group, which included incumbent mayors, councilors and village chiefs, extended to areas as far as Quiapo in Manila and Novaliches in Quezon City.

“Until now, [the Maute group and their allies] are... they never run out of ordnance—explosives, ammunition and all,” Mr. Duterte said.

“You know, in the illegal drug trade, whether or not you want to believe it, always the driving force is greed and power, money,” he added.

He said he would determine the extent of the drug operation that allowed the terrorists to survive this long in Marawi.

“Until now, it’s still (not clear). It remains to be something, like they are just there fighting. But there were also a lot of Arabs fighting,” he added. The President dismissed the Maute group’s claim that it was fighting for Islam: “That’s terrorism, it’s not Islam. It is not the work of a believer of Islam. I should know that. You know my roots.”

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Stressing that “nobody wins” in battle, he said the military’s final offensive in Marawi was not directed against Muslims.

‘Alien ideology’

“I’d be the last person to condemn the Moro people,” Mr. Duterte said, adding that his government continued to talk with Moro rebel leaders Nur Misuari of the Moro National Liberation Front and Murad Ebrahim of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

“Just like in Marawi, we will never win there. They’re all Filipinos. [But it was] because of an alien ideology, that of the IS, that drove them to some kind of a devil’s den.”

Expounding on his plan to ask priests and bishops for help in his war on drugs, Mr. Duterte said the clergy also needed to know who among their parishioners were into drugs.

“They (drug personalities) are alive. You talk to them and tell them they would end up in a very serious situation if they continued,” he said. “Also talk to the barangay captains (involved in drugs).”

The Catholic Church has been highly critical of the administration’s antidrug campaign, which has claimed the lives of thousands.

Inquirer calls for support for the victims in Marawi City

Responding to appeals for help, the Philippine Daily Inquirer is extending its relief to victims of the attacks in Marawi City

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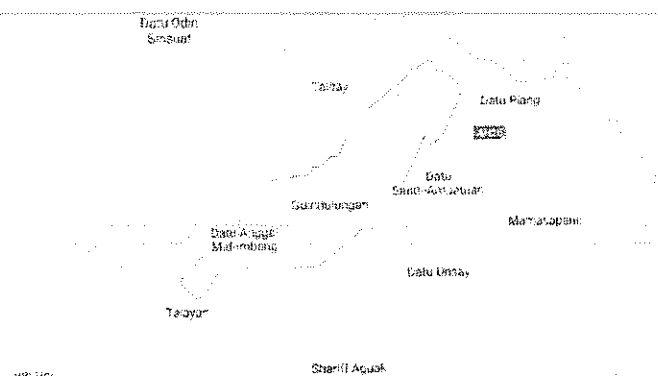
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Military locked in firefight with ISIS-inspired BIFF

By John Unson (philstar.com) | Updated September 23, 2017 - 5:36pm



The military launched a preemptive artillery strike against Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters in Guindulungan town in Maguindanao. [Google Maps](#)

MAGUINDANAO — The military on Friday bombarded militants who were about to attack soldiers in Guindulungan town in an attempt to avenge the deaths of companions in clashes with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Four members of the Islamic State-inspired Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, identified only as Dimas, Sanggutin, Usop and Yasser, were confirmed injured in the artillery barrage, according to local officials.

Captain Arvin Encinas, public affairs officer of the Army's 6th Infantry Division, said on Saturday that the preemptive artillery strike was launched after military units in Guindulungan learned of the suspicious convergence of followers of Imam Bongos in a secluded barangay there.

Imam Bongos is leader of one of three factions in the BIFF, all operating in the fashion of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

His men attacked after dawn Saturday the combined personnel of the Army's 37th Infantry Battalion and 6th ID's 64th Division Reconnaissance Company dispatched to hunt them in Barangay Muslim in Guindulungan, sparking gunfights that spilled over to nearby villages.

There were no reports of casualties in the ensuing firefights yet but the sound of gunfire and explosions that reverberated through the villages caused panic among residents.

Senior police intelligence officials said followers of Imam Bongos planned to harass Army detachments in Guindulungan on Friday night, but scattered away when 105 Howitzer cannon projectiles started falling on their positions.

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Local executives in Maguindanao's Guindulungan, Datu Saudi and Salibo towns said on Saturday that the foiled attacks by followers of Bongos were meant to avenge the deaths of militants in a 3rd BIFF faction led by Esmael Abdulmalik.

Abdulmalik and his men are locked since August 2 in a continuing standoff with pursuing guerillas of the MILF, which has an ongoing cooperation with the national government.

The MILF started attacking Abdulmalik's group last month for attempting to hoist the ISIS flag on strategic spots inside enclaves of the front in Maguindanao that are recognized as "peace zones" by the national government.

The 6th ID and the Tactical Operations Group-12 of the Philippine Air Force are providing support to MILF forces running after the ISIS-inspired group of Abdulmalik.

The MILF already lost more than a dozen guerillas in its continuing offensive against Abdulmalik's group, launched in keeping with its 1997 ceasefire accord with Maibacañang.

The interim truce binds the MILF, the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines to cooperate in maintaining law and order in conflict flashpoint areas in southern provinces.