

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



TEAM ARMY

Serving the people. Securing the land.

oacpa.army2012@gmail.com

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

30 September 2017

Saturday

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

30 SEPTEMBER 2017

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
	Weather	-	
HEADLINE NEWS			
1-2	It's Duterte vs Ombudsman	Nikko Dizon & others	PDI p.A1
3-4	Phi drug war alarms 39 countries in UN	Helen Flores	Phil Star p.1
ARMY RELATED NEWS			
5-6	Bicol airport site attacked	Ma. April Mier & others	PDI p.A1
7	Troops overrun camp of BIFF	Edwin Fernandez	PDI p.A3
8	NPA launches simultaneous attacks in Albay	Jaime Laude	Phil Star p.9
9	NPA rebels stage attacks in 2 barangay in Bicol	PNA	Tribune p.3
10	BIFF executes 4 members for disloyalty	PNA	Tribune p.3
11	NPA rebels urged to give up fighting	Al Jacinto	Mla Times p.A7
12-13	AFP scores big against NPAs	Mike Crismundo & Nonoy Lacson	Mla Bulletin p.14
14	NPAs torch equipment in building Albay airport	Niño Luces	Mla Bulletin p.7
15	Construction site in intake ng NPA rebels	Joy Cantos	PM p.2
16	Photo- Tour of Children from Marawi	Ted Aljibe	People's Journal p.1
17	Photo- Tour of Children from Marawi	AFP	Tribune p.3
AFP RELATED NEWS			
18	'Fighting in Marawi not yet over'	Jaime Laude	Phil Star p.9
19	Terrorism, drugs top defense chief's meeting agenda	Jaime Laude	Phil Star p.9
20	Jolo councilor's captors identified	Roel Pareño	Phil Star p.9
21-23	Creation of defense university pushed	Rene Acosta	Business Mirror p.A1
24	More Maute fighters neutralized-AFP	Mario Mallari	Tribune p.1
25-26	Marawi war ends this September, Duterte says	Catherine Valente & Dempsey Reyes	Mla Times p.A1
27	Sayyaf ties with drug 'gangsters' bared	John Paolo Bencito & Rio Araja	Mla Standard p.A1
28	Marawi heroes' dependents get P2.75-M aid from DPWH	Bethena Unite	Mla Bulletin p.14
29	Abu Sayyaf has illegal drugs franchise-Duterte	Genalyn Kabiling	Mla Bulletin p.1
30	PRRD loses interest in talks with Reds	Genalyn Kabiling	Mla Bulletin p.1

31	End of Marawi war seen	Genalyn Kabling & Francis Wakefield	Mla Bulletin p.1
32	Rody says 'Bamboo Triad' has teamed up with ASG	Genalyn D	Tempo p.2
33	Duterte sees end of Marawi war this month	Genalyn Kabling	Tempo p.2
34	Maute gusto nang sumuko; Marawi siege tatapusin na	Fer Taboy & others	Abante p.2
35	Todas sa Marawi umakyat na sa 936	Red Fortaleza	Abante p.3
COMMENTARY			
36-37	Duterte gov't adopts US 'war on terror' plan	Satur Ocampo	Phil Star p.9
38	Can s cyber attack justify a military response?	Amado S Tolentino Jr	Mal Times p.A5
39	'Maute: Huwag kaming patayin'	Tony Calvento	PM p.3
ONLINE NEWS			
40-45	Army, SAF engage in encounter with rebels	-	www.sunstar.com
	New People's Army admits killing of RPA-ABB leader	-	www.sunstar.com
	AFP troops seize large NPA camp	-	www.mb.com.p
	Off Limits- Main Battle Area in Marawi restricted to civilians even if fighting ends	<u>Alvin Santiago</u>	www.dwdd.com
	Emergency Response- EMC activities Joint Reserve Task Force	<u>Alvin Santiago</u>	www.dwdd.com



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Department of Science and Technology
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and
Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)
Weather Division
ISO 9001:2008 Certified
Registry No. 01 100 1534769

24- HOUR PUBLIC WEATHER FORECAST

Issued at: 4:00 AM 30 September 2017
Valid until: 4:00 AM Tomorrow

SYNOPSIS: At 3:00 AM today, the Low Pressure Area (LPA) embedded along the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was estimated based on all available data at 250 km East Northeast of Guiuan, Eastern Samar (12.1N, 127.7E).

FORECAST WEATHER CONDITIONS

Place	Weather Condition	Caused by	Impacts
Metro Manila, Visayas, Zamboanga Peninsula, Northern Mindanao, Caraga, ARMM, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, Bicol and Aurora	Cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms	LPA and ITCZ	Possible lightning, light to moderate to occasionally heavy rains, strong winds and flashfloods
Rest of the country.	Partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers mostly in the afternoon or evening	Localized Thunderstorms	Possible occasional lightning / strong winds / heavy rains

FORECAST WIND AND COASTAL WATER CONDITIONS

Place	Winds		Coastal Waters
	Speed	Direction	
Northern Luzon	Light to Moderate	East to Northeast	Slight to Moderate
Visayas and Rest of Luzon	Light to Moderate	Northeast to Northwest	Slight to Moderate
Mindanao	Light to Moderate	Northwest to West	Slight to Moderate

EXTREMES OF TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY FOR THE 24-HOUR PERIOD ENDING AT 8:00 PM YESTERDAY

Recorded at PAGASA Weather Station, Science Garden, Diliman, Quezon City

Yesterday							
Temperature (°C)	Maximum	30.4	3:00 PM	Relative Humidity (%)	Maximum	94	6:00 AM
	Minimum	25.4	6:00 AM		Minimum	70	3:00 PM

TIDES AND ASTRONOMICAL INFORMATION
Over Metro Manila

Tidal Predictions for Manila Bay (m) (Courtesy of NAMRIA)		Today		Tomorrow			Today	Tomorrow
		Low	High	Low	High		Time	Time
	Low	-	-	-	-	Sunrise	5:46 AM	-
	High	4:21 AM	0.91	-	-	Sunset	5:46 PM	-
	Low	1:51 PM	0.09	-	-	Moonrise	1:49 PM	-
	High	-	-	-	-	Moonset	-	1:33 AM
						Illumination	65%	-

PREPARED BY: RPG

CHECKED BY: SFB

"Tracking the sky ... helping the country"

WFFC BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City

Tel/Fax +632927154



Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Science and Technology
**PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC, GEOPHYSICAL AND
 ASTRONOMICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (PAGASA)**
 Weather Division
 ISO 9001:2008 Certified
 Registry No. 01 100 1534769

WFS-02
Rev.1/05-06-2016

24-Hour Weather Forecast and Extended Weather Outlook for Selected Cities:

ISSUED AT : 4:00 AM 30 SEPTEMBER 2017
 VALID BEGINNING : 4:00 AM TODAY

CITIES	24-Hr Weather, Winds and Sea Condition Forecast from 4AM today until 4AM tomorrow		Extended Weather Outlook Duration: 4AM until 4 AM of the following day			
	30 SEP		1 OCT	2 OCT	3 OCT	4 OCT
Metro Manila	25 °C 30 °C	Light to Moderate: Northeast Manila Bay: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C
Tuguegarao City	24 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: East to Northeast	25 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 30 °C
Laog City	26 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: East to Northeast Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	26 °C 31 °C	26 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 33 °C
Baguio City	17 °C 22 °C	Moderate: East to Northeast	17 °C 22 °C	17 °C 23 °C	17 °C 23 °C	17 °C 21 °C
SBMA(Olongapo) / Clark Zone (Angeles City)	25 °C 30 °C	Light to Moderate: Northeast Subic Bay: Slight to Moderate	26 °C 31 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 31 °C
Tagaytay City	21 °C 28 °C	Light to Moderate: Northeast	22 °C 28 °C	22 °C 29 °C	21 °C 29 °C	21 °C 29 °C
Lipa City	24 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Northeast	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 33 °C	24 °C 33 °C	24 °C 32 °C
Legazpi City	25 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: Northeast Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C
Puerto Princesa City	25 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: Northwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C
Iloilo City / Bacolod City	26 °C 30 °C	Light to Moderate: North to Northwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C
Metro Cebu	24 °C 30 °C	Light to Moderate: North to Northwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 31 °C	25 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C
Tacloban City	24 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: North to Northwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C
Cagayan de Oro City	23 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: Northwest to West Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	23 °C 31 °C	24 °C 31 °C	24 °C 32 °C	23 °C 31 °C
Valencia City	21 °C 31 °C	Light to Moderate: Northwest to West	20 °C 30 °C	21 °C 29 °C	21 °C 29 °C	21 °C 29 °C
Metro Davao	24 °C 33 °C	Light to Moderate: Northwest to Southwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	25 °C 33 °C	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C	25 °C 32 °C
Zamboanga City	24 °C 32 °C	Light to Moderate: Northwest to Southwest Coastal Waters: Slight to Moderate	24 °C 32 °C	25 °C 33 °C	25 °C 32 °C	24 °C 32 °C

LEGEND:

	Clear Skies		Partly Cloudy to at times Cloudy with Rainshower and/ or Thunderstorms		Occasional Rains		Rains with Gusty Winds
	Partly Cloudy Skies		Cloudy Skies with Rainshower and/ or Thunderstorms		Monsoon Rains / Rains		Stormy
	Partly Cloudy to at times Cloudy with Rainshower		Light Rains				

END OF FORECAST

PREPARED BY: *RPG*

CHECKED BY: *SPB*

30 September 2017



Page: A1

DUTERTE, OMBUDSMAN WAGE WORD WAR

STORY BY NIKKO DIZON, JOCELYN R. UY AND LEILA B. SALAVERRIA

Under probe for alleged ill-gotten wealth, President Duterte says he will form a commission to investigate corruption in the Office of the Ombudsman. But the antigraft agency says it will not be intimidated.

A2

It's Duterte vs Ombudsman

If the President has nothing to hide, he has nothing
to fear, says Office of the Ombudsman

FROM A1

By Nikko Dizon, Jocelyn R. Uy
and Leila B. Salaverria
@Team_Inquirer

The Office of the Ombudsman remains unfazed by President Duterte's threat to create a commission that would probe supposed corruption in the antigraft agency and insisted it would continue its own investigation of the President and his family.

"Sorry, Mr. President, but this office shall not be intimidated," the agency said in a statement on Friday, adding it would pursue its probe of the supposed ill-gotten wealth of Mr. Duterte and his family.

"The President's announcement that he intends to create a commission to investigate the Ombudsman appears to have to do with this office's ongoing investigation into the issues that involve him," the agency said.

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"This office, nonetheless, shall proceed with the probe, as mandated by the Constitution," the statement added.

Sauce for the goose

After the Ombudsman issued the statement, Mr. Duterte appeared on government television and called on aggrieved government officials to testify about their experience with Ombudsman lawyers.

"Now is the time for you to seek revenge, and I will pin them down," the President

urged government officials who supposedly paid Ombudsman officials to dismiss the cases against them.

Mr. Duterte said he would seek the arrest of Ombudsman officials who would refuse to show up in investigations to be conducted by his proposed commission.

"That's the only way. That's not being a dictator. Justice for one, justice for all. Sauce for the gander, sauce for the goose," he added.

Quiet probe

The probe is led by Overall Deputy Ombudsman Melchor Arthur Carandang, whom Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales authorized after she inhibited herself from handling the case.

Morales inhibited herself because her nephew, lawyer Manases Carpio, is married to the President's daughter and Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio.

Carandang earlier told the Inquirer that the agency had been quietly investigating Duterte and his family after receiving information from Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV.

Trillanes claimed the President amassed over a billion pesos worth of unexplained wealth.

Bank records

Carandang said the probe was based on bank transaction records of Duterte family members purportedly from the Anti-Money Laundering Coun-

il.com - T



President Duterte



Conchita Carpio Morales

cil (AMLC).

But the AMLC said it had not “provided the Office of the Ombudsman with any report as a consequence of any investigation of subject accounts for any purpose.”

The council confirmed it received a request from Carandang on Sept. 6 to investigate the finances of Mr. Duterte, but the AMLC had not taken action on the request.

“We have yet to evaluate the request, and the initiation of an investigation, as well as the release of any report on the subject will depend on such evaluation,” the AMLC said.

Not the source

“We have categorically stated before that the AMLC is not the source of the documents and information attached by Sen. Antonio F. Trillanes IV in his complaint,” the council said.

“We cannot make further comments considering the confidential nature of the matter,” the AMLC said.

Instead, the council cast doubt on the document attached to Carandang’s letter, saying “the alleged debits and credits representing outflows and inflows of funds were added together, thus, the resulting total amounts are wrong and misleading.”

But the Ombudsman maintained, in its statement, that it stood by the documents it had in its possession.

Nothing to fear

“As to the documents in its possession, the Office stands by its word,” it said. “If the President has nothing to hide, he has nothing to fear.”

In an interview on Tuesday, Carandang declined to show any document he had in

his possession.

But when shown the transaction records Trillanes distributed to media, Carandang said “more or less, it has the same details.”

However, Carandang also earlier said that he approved the request of the Deputy Ombudsman for Mindanao to obtain an AMLC final report on the Duterte family’s bank transaction records.

Final report

He said his office had the bank transaction records but not AMLC’s final investigation report.

Carandang’s admission that he did not have a final investigation report spurred Trillanes to criticize the AMLC for making unnecessary statements instead of completing its report.

“As to the content, the supposed AMLC statement is improper. In its necessity for release and in its tenor, which sounded like the AMLC was defending and absolving Duterte,” Trillanes said.

Instead of issuing unnecessary statements, the council should just expedite its final report on Mr. Duterte’s bank transactions as requested by the Office of the Ombudsman, he said.

“The results of this investigation could now be reported out and be used for a basis of an impeachment complaint,” Trillanes told Agence France-Presse (AFP).

But in an interview aired

over government-run PTV 4 on Friday night, Mr. Duterte lashed back at Trillanes and said the senator only wanted to “destabilize the government.”

Mr. Duterte said Trillanes had amassed funds to support such a plot in offshore accounts, including one in DBS of Singapore.

After Trillanes went to Singapore to disprove the existence of a bank account under his name, Mr. Duterte claimed Trillanes closed the account days before the senator went to Singapore to show that the account was nonexistent.

“He terminated it online on Sept. 8, 2017 past 10 p.m., then left for Singapore after that to show his waiver to the bank teller,” he said.

Trillanes flew to Singapore on Sept. 19 to disprove Mr. Duterte’s allegation that he had an account at a DBS branch there.

“Based on analysis, the funds being laundered by Trillanes and his group may not be for their personal use,” Mr. Duterte read from a report that was described as an “intelligence report.”

Instead, the funds were “being used for their cause and possibly to destabilize government by paying for witnesses and funding destabilization operations,” the President said.

Mr. Duterte said the funds came from many parties and “clients,” including large corporations that Trillanes was dunning for funds. —WITH A REPORT FROM AFP INQ

30 September 2017



Page: 1

Phl drug war alarms 39 countries in UN

By HELEN FLORES

Thirty-nine countries, including the United States, have expressed alarm over what they described as a rising "climate of impunity" in the Philippines as drug-related killings continue to increase.

In a joint statement delivered by Iceland through representative Högni Kristjánsson on Thursday, the countries noted that the human rights situation in the Philippines continues to be of serious concern, particularly in the light of killings associated with the Duterte administration's war on drugs.

The states called on the Philippines "to cooperate with the international community to pursue appropriate investigations into these incidents, in keeping with the universal principles of democratic accountability and the rule of law"

They also expressed concern over threats against human rights defenders and urged the government to ensure they are accorded full protection.

They also called for a safe environment for journalists and indigenous communities.

The joint statement came as the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Philippines was adopted at the 36th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) last week.

Thousands of drug-related killings have been recorded by non-government organizations

Turn to Page 10

Phl drug From Page 1

since the Duterte administration took over in July last year.

According to the Children's Legal Rights and Development Center, some 54 minors have been killed in connection with the administration's war on drugs during the same period.

The Senate is currently conducting an inquiry into the recent surge of police killings, including those of minors.

Aside from the US, the countries that signed the joint state-

ment were Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, United Kingdom and Ukraine.

The Philippines did not ful-

ly accept more than half of the recommendations it received during the 36th session of its UPR at the UNHRC.

R. Inyan Ilango of the Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) said the Philippine government's failure to fully accept and implement nearly 60 percent of the recommendations it received during its UPR is "deeply concerning," especially given that these include most of the recommendations by over 40 states on its so-called "war on drugs."

"A growing chorus of

voices is speaking out at the United Nations' top human rights body to condemn the thousands of killings in the Philippines perpetrated in the name of President Duterte's so-called war on drugs," John Fisher, Geneva director of Human Rights Watch, said.

"The Philippines has so far shown itself unwilling to heed the calls to end this murderous campaign and hold those responsible to account. The Human Rights Council should step in and do all that it can to end the violence, support an international investigation

into the deaths and demand accountability for all unlawful killings," he added.

More than 3,800 Filipinos have been killed by police in anti-drug operations since President Duterte came to office 15 months ago and launched what he promised would be a brutal and bloody crackdown on drugs and crime.

Human rights groups say the figure is significantly higher and accuse police of carrying out executions disguised as sting operations, and of colluding with hit men to as-

sassinate drug users.

Opinion polls show Filipinos are largely supportive of the war on drugs as an antidote to crime the government says is fueled by narcotics.

The latest survey by Social Weather Stations, however, suggests that Filipinos are not convinced of the validity of official police accounts of the killings, with about half of 1,200 people polled doubting that victims were involved in drugs, or had violently resisted arrest as police maintain - With Rhodina Villanueva Reuters

30 September 2017



Page: 11

Reds attack Bicol airport project

The latest attack by New People's Army guerrillas on the construction site of the Bicol International Airport in Daraga town, Albay province, was expected to further delay the project, a brainchild of Rep. Joey Salceda. "Twelve years of work. So sad," Salceda said in reaction to the attack. —STORY BY MA. APRIL MIER, MICHAEL JAUCIAN AND MAR ARGUELLES

A13

Bicol airport site attacked

NPA guerrillas demanding revolutionary tax set fire to heavy equipment

LEGAZPI CITY—Armed men believed to be communist guerrillas attacked the site of an airport under construction in a town in Albay province, setting fire to heavy equipment and drawing condemnation from military and civilian officials.

At least 30 suspected members of the New People's Army (NPA), the armed component of the Communist Party of the Philippines, raided the construction site in Daraga town, in an attack that some of the guerrillas were heard as saying was punishment for the project contractor's refusal to pay revolutionary taxes.

Driver Ronaldo Austria, a witness to the attack, said he was parking his truck when the guerrillas approached him and ordered him out of his vehicle.

"They told us to lie face-down and leave crawling," Austria said. "After several minutes, I smelled gas."

He said he then saw heavy equipment being used for the airport project burning.

A list of the burned equipment prepared by the town's Bureau of Fire Protection office said that among those set on fire were dump trucks, a mixer, a grader, a mini-dump truck, a service vehicle and a crane owned by E.M. Cuerpo Inc.

A jeep owned by Sunwest Construction and Development Corp. was also burned.

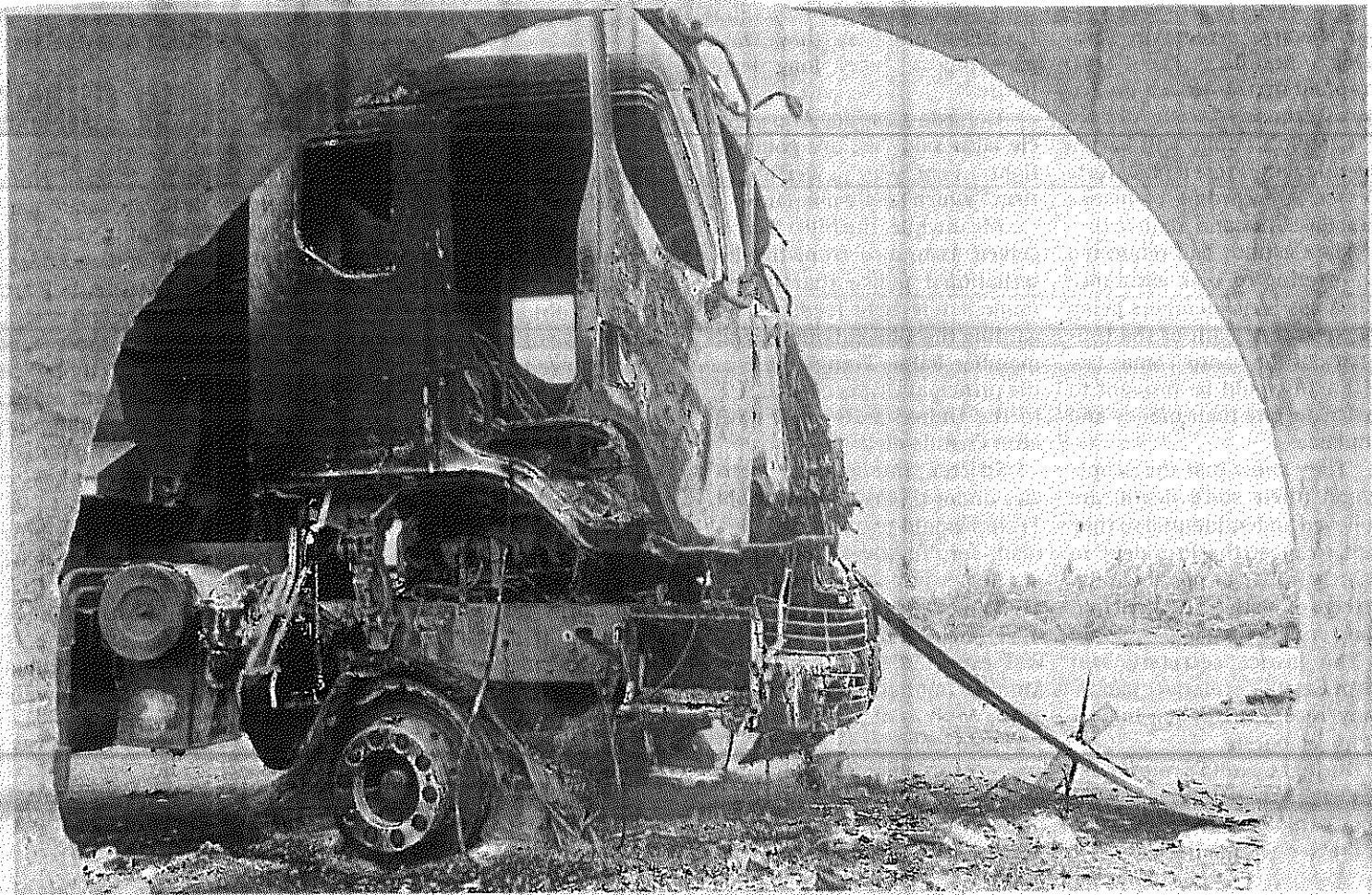
Project delay

Joe Naz, E.M. Cuerpo liaison officer, said at least P40 million in equipment and vehicles were destroyed.

E.M. Cuerpo was one of the project's contractors.

Naz said the attack set back the timetable for the completion of the project.

Chief Insp. Arthur Gomez, information officer of the Al-



A truck is among those burned by communist guerrillas during an attack on the site of construction of Bicol International Airport in Daraga town, Albay province, which would be like the drawing in top photo if finished. –MICHAEL JAUCIAN

bay police, said another group of guerrillas fired at police in the village of Bascaran in Daraga around 8 p.m.

It was a diversionary tactic, according to Gomez.

Gomez said that while police were in the gunfight in Bascaran, which lasted for up to 30 minutes, a loud explosion ripped through the airport project site, which was some 3 to 4 kilometers away.

Ernesto Responde, E.M. Cuerpo foreman, said workers heard gunshots in an Army encampment and ran for cover.

Workers asleep in some of the trucks were ordered out by

the guerrillas, he said.

Supt. El Cid Roldan, chief of the Daraga police, said at least three groups of guerrillas took part in the simultaneous attacks on the Army position, police in Bascaran and the airport project site.

Too steep a price

Capt. Jomar Clavel, operations officer of the Army's 901st Brigade, said the guerrillas held workers briefly at gunpoint as they set fire on the construction equipment.

Some of the workers quoted guerrillas as shouting: "This is your company's fault because

they do not pay us! Kill them!"

Clavel said a house owned by Saldy Morta near the construction site was shot by the guerrillas with a grenade launcher, causing trauma to the family and neighbors.

Gomez quoted the project contractors as saying they could not afford the amount being demanded by the guerrillas.

Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, also a proponent of the Bicol International Airport (BIA) project, said the attack would further delay the project.

"So sad. Another big setback after 12 years of effort. But we

are not giving up," Salceda said.

"This flagship project is a pillar of our development aspirations since tourism is our biggest potential," he added.

Salceda asked the military and police to tighten security in the construction site.

BIA's passenger terminal building was in its final stage of construction.

The attack was the guerrillas' second on the airport project site.

In May 2012, guerrillas burned heavy equipment worth at least P75 million

–MA. APRIL MIER, MICHAEL JAUCIAN AND MAR ARGUELLES INQ

30 September 2017



Page: 43

FIERCE FIGHTING

**TROOPS OVERRUN
CAMP OF BIFF**

COTABATO CITY—A combined force of government troops and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) fighters have captured a camp of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) after fierce fighting in Datu Salibo, Maguindanao province, the military said on Friday.

Maj. Gen. Arnel dela Vega, commander of the 6th Infantry Division and Joint Task Force Central, said the camp of the Islamic State (IS)-inspired Esmael Abdulmalik faction of the BIFF fell on Thursday, more than a month after the terrorists set it up.

Dela Vega said elements of the Army's 57th Infantry Battalion and their MILF allies recovered the body of a notorious BIFF fighter, four improvised explosive devices, two M14 rifles, an M16 Armalite rifle and IS flags. —EDWIN O. FERNANDEZ
INQ

30 September 2017

Page: 9

STAR

NPA launches simultaneous attacks in Albay

By JAIME LAUDE

Suspected New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas harassed military and police outposts and torched several equipment used in the construction of an airport in Daraga, Albay on Thursday night.

The Southern Luzon Command (Solcom) said an undetermined number of guerrillas first attacked an Army patrol base in Barangay Alobo at around 7:30 p.m.

Thirty minutes later, the group split and attacked the 2nd Maneuver Platoon of the Albay Provincial Police in Barangay Bascaran.

At the same time, another group of guerrillas barged into a construction site and burned equipment owned by EM Cuerpo Builders Inc., contractor of the airport in Daraga.

The rebels reportedly fired their guns as they torched six dump trucks, a pickup, a grader, a mixer, a crane and an owner-type jeep, according to Superintendent Arthur Gomez, spokesman for the Albay police.

The NPA was reportedly demanding money, which the construction company could not afford to pay.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or injuries from both sides, the military said.

Albay Rep. Joey Salceda asked the police and military to intensify security and prevent another attack on the

construction site.

The attacks occurred as Solcom troopers were pursuing insurgents who launched attacks in Batangas on Sunday.

4 Reds arrested

Four suspected communist rebels were arrested at a police checkpoint in Bambang, Nueva Vizcaya yesterday.

Marilyn Lango, Vicente Ollagon, Ferdinand Pakiwon and Jogiemar Wayas were brought for inquest at the Bambang Municipal Trial Court.

The Bambang police set up checkpoints in Barangay Mabuslo after receiving reports that a Mitsubishi Pajero with suspected rebels on board would pass through the village, Senior Superintendent Remus Medica, intelligence division chief of the Police Regional Office 2, said.

Authorities said they recovered from the Pajero a grenade, a rifle, ammunition, power cord, a switch, electric tape, a communist flag and a notebook containing a sketch of a map – Celso Amo, Cet Dematera, Emmanuel Tupas, Gilbert Bayoran, Non Alquitran

30 September 2017



Page: 3

NPA rebels stage attacks in 2 barangays in Bicol

DARAGA, Albay – Two groups of suspected New People's Army (NPA) rebels on Thursday night carried out separate attacks against a police detachment in Barangay Bascaran and minutes later set fire on the heavy equipment at the construction site at the Bicol International Airport (BIA) in Barangay Alobo in this town.

Reports reaching the Philippine National Police (PNP) in Albay said yesterday that a 30-minute firefight ensued between policemen and an undetermined number of suspected rebels.

Chief Insp. Arthur Gomez, PNP Albay spokesman, said the gunfight at the PNP Public Safety Command detachment lasted for 30 minutes but no casualty was reported on both sides.

He added it appeared that the attack at the Bascaran police detachment is a diversionary tactic for the NPA guerrillas to torch 11 construction machineries such as BIA. The attackers burned five heavy equipment trucks, mini dump truck, a cement mixer, crane among others, owned by the EM Cuerpo

Builders.

He said it was the second attack staged by the rebels at the BIA. The first was in 2005 when a group of NPA men barged in at the construction site and torched several equipment of the Sun West Construction after the firm denied the extortion demands from the rebels.

Barangays Bascaran and Alobo in Daraga town are 20 kilometers away from Legazpi City.

Albay 2nd District Rep. Joey Salceda yesterday expressed dismay over the reported attack at BIA.

"So sad. Another big setback after 12 years of effort. But we are not giving up," he said.

The Albay solon has asked the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the PNP to fully secure the ongoing construction work of the BIA passenger terminal building which is currently in its final stage.

"We remain hopeful and the entire government is resolute that the President's commitment of completion in three years will still be met by early 2020," Salceda said.

PNA

30 September 2017



Page: 3

BIFF executes 4 members for disloyalty

CAMP SIONGCO, Maguindanao – Four members of an ISIS-inspired terrorist group in Maguindanao were executed by its commanders after they were found conniving with the rival Moro armed group and the military, the Army here said yesterday.

Lt. Col. Gerry Besana, chief of the Army's 6th Infantry Division Civil Military Operations (CMO) Battalion, said the four Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) members were followers of Ustadz Esmael Abdulmalik whose group pledged allegiance to the ISIS.

The execution, according to Besana, came after joint Army and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) recovered the BIFF stronghold in Barangay Tee, Datu Salibo, Maguindanao following several days of artillery and air strikes from the Philippine military.

Major Gen. Arnel dela Vega, commander of the 6th Infantry Division and Joint Task Force Central, said the BIFF camp, where the Esmael Abdulmalik faction has been hiding since last month, was captured Wednesday afternoon. It was located at sitio Dagaring, Barangay Tee, Datu Salibo, Maguindanao.

At the camp, dela Vega said in statement that elements of the 57th Infantry Battalion recovered the body of a slain BIFF fighter, four improvised explosive devices, two M-14 rifles, an M-16 Armalite rifle and ISIS flags when troops set in at past 5 p.m. Wednesday.

The slain BIFF member was later identified by villagers as Ansari Alimama, a Maranao from Butig town in Lanao del Sur and believed to be allied with the Maute terrorist group, according to Senior Supt. Agustin Tello, Maguindanao police director.

Barangay Tee had been the object of occasional air strikes when the MILF provided the information to the Army about the BIFF Abdulmalik faction's location.

Lt. Col. Gerry Besana, spokesperson for Task Force Central, said the Army is verifying reports from the locals that four BIFF members were executed by Abdulmalik on suspicion that they were providing the Army and the MILF their location through text messages.

"The barangay and local leaders have been providing us information about it and we are validating it," Besana said.

He could not say where the cadaver of four slain BIFF members now, but their mobile phones can no longer be reached, according to information provided by the MILF. **PNA**

30 September 2017

The Manila Times

Page: 17

NPA rebels urged to give up fighting

ZAMBOANGA CITY: The Philippine Army has urged communist insurgents to peacefully surrender and take advantage of the government's amnesty offer and livelihood package for them to start a new life with their family.

President Rodrigo Duterte, in his recent public speeches, even offered New People's Army (NPA) rebels their own houses and join the military as soldiers should they lay down their weapons and surrender to the government.

On Wednesday, seven rebels surrendered to the Philippine Army in the town of Ipil in Zamboanga Sibugay province, according to Major General Rolando Joselito Bautista, 1st Infantry Division and Joint Task Force ZamPelan (Zamboanga Peninsula at Lanao) commander.

He identified those who yielded as Henry Bawan Becsala, Benbin Gumandag Mandaw, Mario Ok-sik Maghanaoy, Lauravel Obaran Niadas, Villa Neadas, Marcelino Gumangay Lavares and Joseph Gumangay Lavarez. They also

handed over two AK-47 assault rifles and a 45-caliber pistol to the 102nd Brigade which facilitated the surrender.

"This recent surrender is a result of the combined intelligence and combat operations being launched by our troops on the ground to employ more pressure and compel the communist terrorists to lay down their arms. There is an ongoing facilitation on the resolution of two surrendered NPA members, and the CLIP benefits will be done after this will be resolved," Bautista said, referring to the government's Comprehensive Local Integration Program.

The NPA, armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines and the National Democratic Front, has been fighting for many decades now in an effort to overthrow the democratic government and install a Maoist state in the country.

Government peace talks with the rebels has failed and fighting continues in many areas in the country.

AL JACINTO

30 September 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 14

AFP scores big against NPAs

By **MIKE U. CRISMUNDO**
and **NONDY E. LACSON**

CAMP BANCASI, Butuan City – The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) scored major victories over the New People's Army (NPA) when government troops seized a major rebel camp in Compostela Valley (ComVal), and secured the release of 10 insurgents in Zamboanga Peninsula (ZamPen).

According to Second Lt. Honeylee Joy S. Maunahan, acting Civil Military Operation (CMO) officer of the Army's 66th Infantry Battalion (66th IB) here, soldiers were able to over-run a one-hectare NPA camp in Sitio Side 4, Barangay Mangayon in ComVal, following a fierce encounter with about 50 rebels Thursday.

In Zamboanga City, Joint Task Force ZamPeLan Commander Maj Gen Rolando Joselito Bautista reported that seven NPAs surrendered in Zamboanga Sibugay, while three oth-

ers gave up their arms in Zamboanga del Sur.

The NPAs surrendered to the government last Thursday and Friday, according to Bautista.

Those who surrendered in Zamboanga Sibugay were Henry Bawan Becsala, alias Natoy; Benbin Gumandag Mandaw, alias Lito; Mario Oksik Maghanaoy, alias Rex; Lauravel Obaran Niadas, alias Maribel; Villa Neadas, alias Sandra; Marcelino Gumangay Layares, alias Ruben; and Joseph Gumangay Lavarez, alias Michael.

Those who surrendered in Zamboanga del Sur were Roselyn Terez and Dolly Terez of Dinas town Paulino Laurete, Jr., of San Miguel town.

Maunahan said a team from the 66th IB was dispatched to the area of Dash 7 in Sitio Side 4 to confirm reports about the presence of a large number of rebels from the guerilla-Front Committees 20 and 25, and Pulang Bagani Company (PBC) 8 of the CPP-NPA

Southern Mindanao Regional Committee.

A firefight erupted at around 10 a.m. when the soldiers chanced upon three rebels planting landmines along a road in the area.

"The team was able to hold and sustain the hour-long firefight where they served as forward observer for

the artillery fires towards the enemy location," she said.

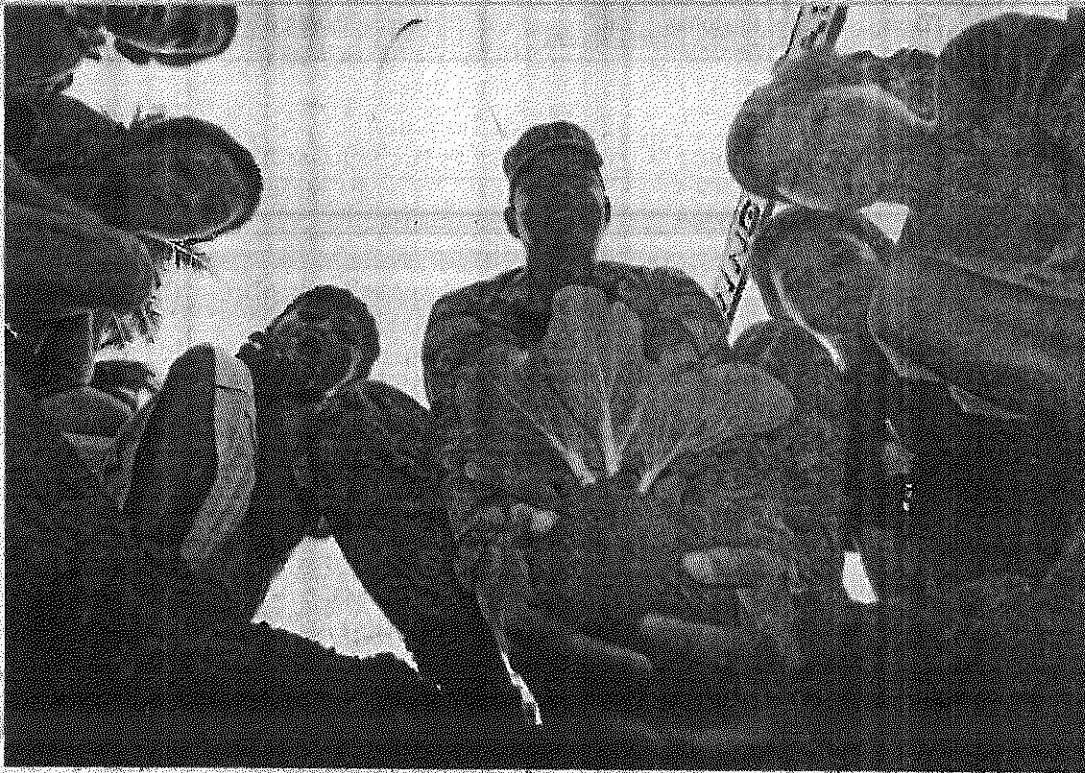
The 66th CMO Officer also said the delivery of accurate artillery fires and the bravery of the team members despite being outnumbered forced the rebels to withdraw and abandon their camp.

Recovered in the encounter site

were one M16A1 rifle, two Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), assorted enemy personal belongings, food stuff and other war materials, she said.

There was no casualty on the government side while the communist rebels were believed to have incurred casualties as per reports received by the unit from the civilians, she added.

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295



PLANTING SEEDS OF PEACE – Maj. Gen. Rolando Joselito Bautista, commander of the Army's First (Tabak) Division leads children at an evacuation center in Marawi City in planting vegetables as he spearheads the completion of a green community that will eventually be permanently occupied by evacuees currently in temporary shelters because of the four-month-old conflict. (Photo courtesy of First Tabak Division)

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

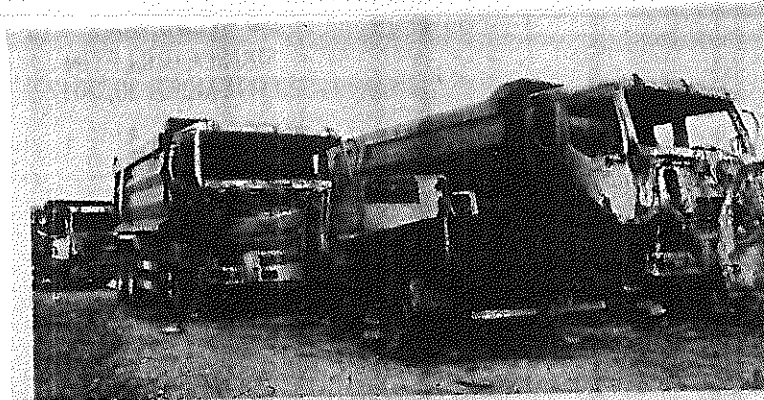
30 September 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 7

NPA's torch equipment in building Albay airport

By NIÑO N. LUCES



BURNED EQUIPMENT — Work stops at the site of the new Bicol International Airport in Barangay Alobo, Daraga, Albay yesterday after suspected New People's Army (NPA) rebels torched these dump trucks and construction equipment owned by contractor, E.M. Cuerpo, Inc., the night before. (Niño N. Luces)

DARAGA, Albay — About 30 armed New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas swooped down on the construction site of the Bicol International Airport in Barangay Alobo, this town, last Thursday night and torched at least 11 dump trucks and heavy equipment.

Chief Inspector Arthur Gomez, chief of the Police Provincial Office's (PPO's) Investigation Division, said five dump trucks, a mini-dump truck, a double cab, a grader, a cement mixer, and a telescopic crane burned to a total wreck.

All the construction equipment are owned by Manila-based contractor E.M. Cuerpo, Inc. while a jeep that was also burned was owned by Sunwest Construction.

E.M. Cuerpo foreman Ernesto Responde Jr. said the armed men swooped down on the construction site at 8:20 p.m. while firing shots in the direction of the Philippine Army Patrol Base around

two kilometers away.

Farther from the construction site — three kilometers away in Barangay Bascaran — were elements of the 2nd Maneuver Platoon of the Albay PPO's Provincial Public Safety Company (PPSC) who were also harassed by the rebels, said Gomez.

Albay 2nd District Representative Joey Salceda bewailed the incident as "another big setback after 12 years of effort" to keep the peace in the province.

"So sad, so bad," Salceda said of the incident. "We ask the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines) and PNP (Philippine National Police) to fully secure the ongoing construction of Bicol International Airport in Daraga now on its final stage — the passenger terminal building," he added.

The governor-turned-congressman also expressed hope that despite this setback, the government would be resolute through the President's commitment completing the international airport in three years will still be met by early 2020.

14

30 September 2017

Pahina. 2

Construction site inatake ng NPA rebels

Sinalakay ng mga rebeldeng New People's Army (NPA) ang isang construction site na pagtatayuan ng Bicol International Airport sa Brgy. Alobo, Daraga, Albay at sinunog ang nasa 11 heavy equipments kamakalawang gabi.

Batay sa ulat, dakong alas-7:30 hanggang alas-8:00 ng gabi ay nagulantang na lamang ang mga residente sa lugar sa pagsalakay ng tinatayang 80-100 NPA rebels na pinaputukan pa upang hindi agad makaresponde ang Army Patrol Base sa Brgy. Alobo, Daraga at ang 2nd Maneuver Platoon ng Albay Provincial Police Safety Company na nakabase naman sa Brgy. Bascaran, Daraga ng lalawigan.

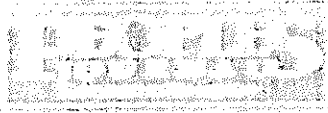
Habang abalang-abala sa pagdedepensa na nakipagpalitan ng putok sa mga umaataakeng kalaban ay agad namang pinunturya ng mga armadong kasamahan ng mga rebelde ang panununog ng mga construction equipments ng EM Cuerpo Builders Inc. na siyang kinontrata sa tinatayong Bicol International Airport sa lugar.

Kabilang sa sinunog ng mga rebelde sa nasabing construction site ay limang heavy trucks, isang mini dump truck, isang unit ng double cub, isang unit grader, isang unit mixer, at isang owner type jeepney.

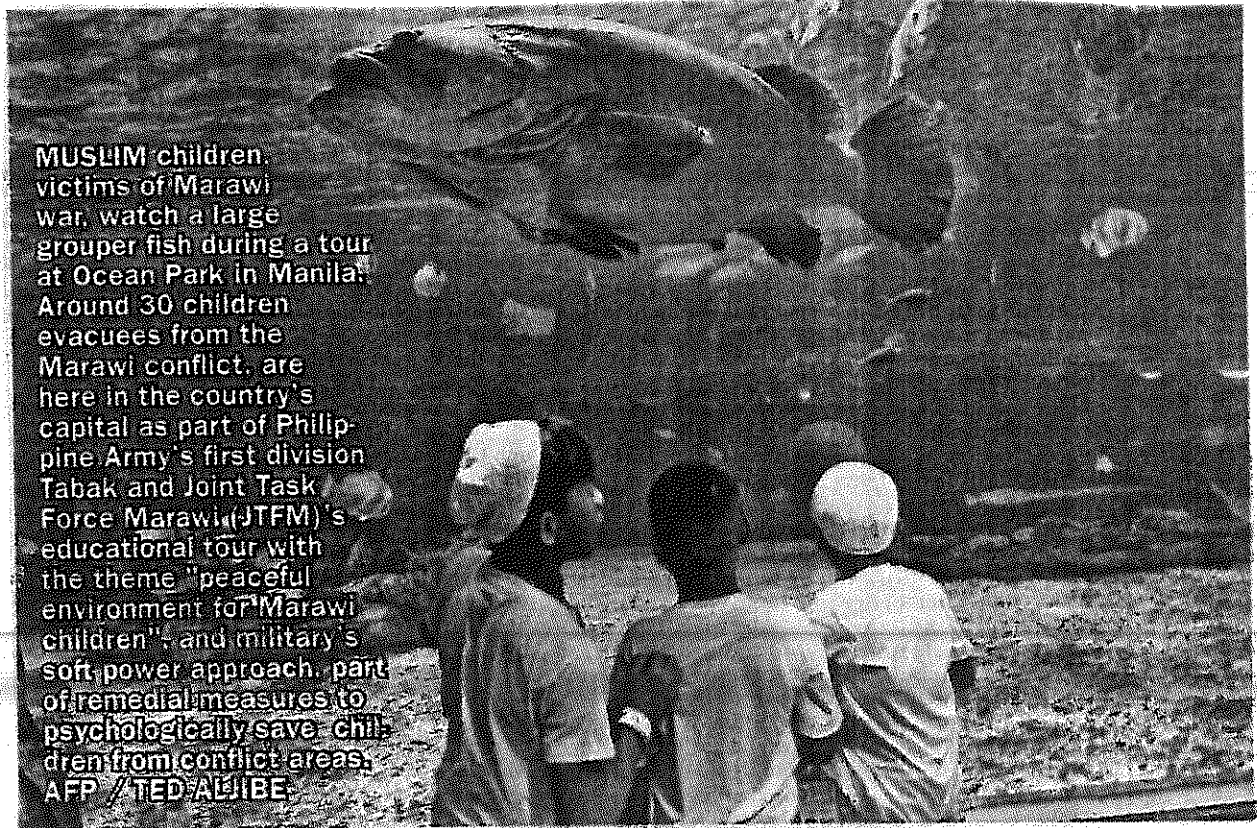
Tumagal ang pangharass ng mga rebelde ng halos 30 minuto bago tuluyang nagsitakas na sumigaw pa ng "Mabuhay ang Kilusang Komunista ng Pilipinas, mabuhay ang armadong pakikibaka".

-Joy Cantos-

30 September 2017



Page. 1



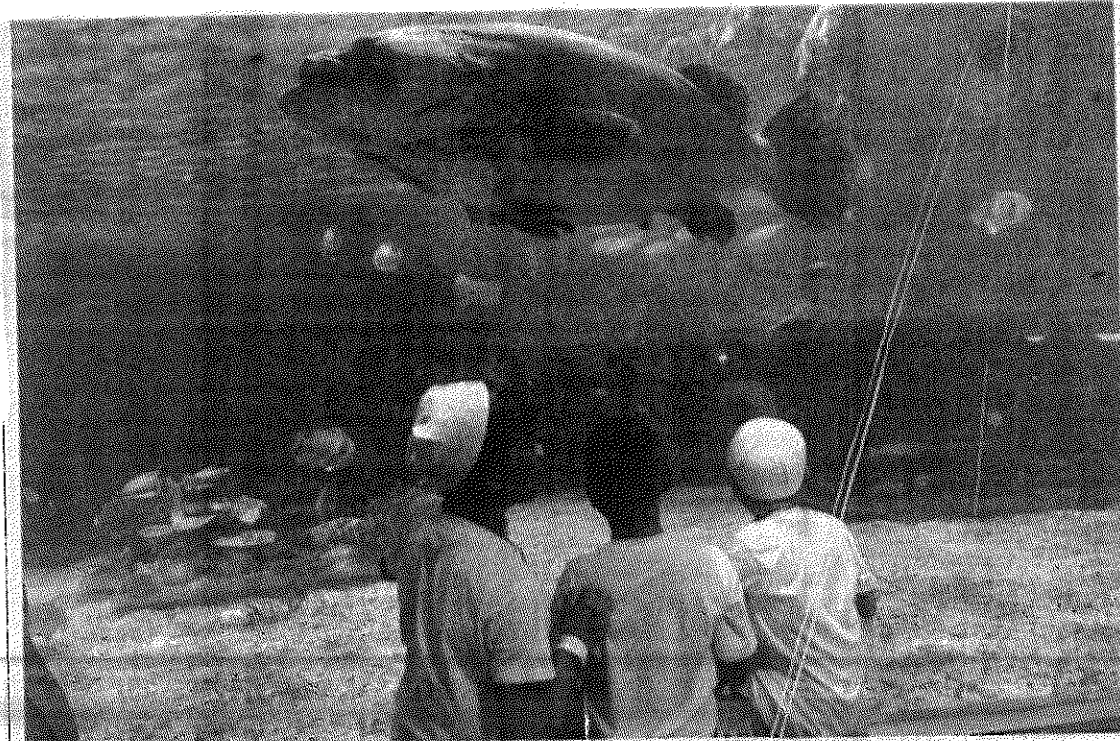
MUSLIM children, victims of Marawi war, watch a large grouper fish during a tour at Ocean Park in Manila. Around 30 children evacuees from the Marawi conflict, are here in the country's capital as part of Philippine Army's first division Tabak and Joint Task Force Marawi (JTFM)'s educational tour with the theme "peaceful environment for Marawi children", and military's soft power approach, part of remedial measures to psychologically save children from conflict areas. AFP // TED ALIBE

66

30 September 2017



Page: 3



Relief Muslim children, victims of Marawi City siege, watch a large grouper fish during a tour at Ocean park in Manila yesterday. Around 30 children evacuees from the Marawi conflict, are here Manila as part of Philippine Army's First Division Tabak and Joint Task Force Marawi's educational tour with the theme "peaceful environment for Marawi children," and military's soft power approach, part of remedial measures to unwind children away from conflict areas. AFP

30 September 2017



Page: 9

'Fighting in Marawi not yet over'

By JAIME LAUDE

Intense fighting erupted in Marawi City between government troops and the Islamic State-inspired Maute terror group as officials expressed hope that the conflict that started last May 23 would end yesterday as earlier projected.

On Wednesday, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana told reporters at the House of Representatives that reports he received from the ground indicated that the fighting could end on Sept. 30.

Last Thursday, President Duterte said he was hoping the conflict would finally be over by "the end of the month."

Aside from the continuing ground fighting at the main battle area in the city, the military launched an airstrike Thursday and yesterday on Balt Island in Lake Lanao against heavily armed men who have reportedly landed on board four boats.

"As we are getting closer and closer, we are encountering heavy resistance," one of the military commanders said yesterday.

He said that he could definitely say that the conflict will be over today as all efforts are now being directed at the group of Basilan-based Abu Sayyaf commander Isnilon Hapilon who has joined forces with the Maute.

Military forces have pushed the terrorists into a small area near the shorelines of Lake Lanao, where escape is almost impossible.

"Once we get him (Hapilon) it's game over," the official said.

The Armed Forces of the

Philippines (AFP) also reported yesterday to have killed 736 terrorists and recovered 789 firearms, 82 of which were recovered in last Thursday's fighting.

The more than four months of clashes that have reduced portions of Marawi City to rubble had also resulted in the deaths of 153 soldiers and 47 civilians.

Col. Edgard Arevalo, AFP Public Affairs Office chief, said that in the fighting Thursday soldiers were also able to clear 36 additional buildings previously used as sniper and machine gun nests by the militants.

The Joint Task Force Marawi, on the other hand, presented to the media undated aerial footage and photos taken by military drones, showing how the terrorists looted banks, key financial institutions and pillaged residential houses of cash and jewelry.

The Task Force also presented half a sack of coins that the troops recovered from the terrorists' position in the main battle area following intense fighting.

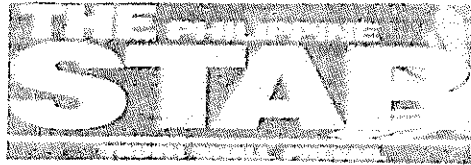
These coins, in various denominations, were being used

as shrapnel by the terrorists in their manufactured IEDs (improvised explosive device).

"They (terrorists) collect all sorts of metals from nails, bolts and coins to be used as an IED component," said Lt. Col. Emmanuel Garcia, Civil Relations Service chief of the Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom).

Government security forces have also turned over yesterday to Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) officials four bank vaults recovered in the Marawi battleground.

30 September 2017



Page: 9

Terrorism, drugs top defense chiefs' meeting agenda

The territorial dispute in the South China Sea is expected to take a back seat at the Association of Southeast Asia's Defense Ministerial Meeting (ADMM) next month.

Terrorism, illegal drugs and climate change will be priorities at the meeting, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said yesterday.

The ADMM will be held at Clark Field in Pampanga and will be attended by defense ministers of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Representatives of the US, China, Russia, Australia,

Japan, South Korea and New Zealand are also expected to attend as observers.

"We will discuss common interests like terrorism, drugs and disaster management," Lorenzana said.

He said the defense chiefs are expected to come up with a resolution on matters pertaining to the West Philippine Sea.

In previous ADMMs, the Philippines was keen on advancing its maritime and territorial claims in the South China Sea.

Under the Duterte administration, the country has eased up in pressing maritime claims. – Jaime Laude

30 September 2017



Page: 9

Jolo councilor's captors identified

By **ROEL PAREÑO**

ZAMBOANGA CITY — The military has identified the Abu Sayyaf bandits who seized a councilor in Sulu on Wednesday.

Intelligence reports showed that Radzkan, Ajang, alias Sambas, and Najid, all followers of Abu Sayyaf sub-leader Alden Bagadi, alias Sayning, were behind the kidnapping of Jolo Councilor Ezzeden Suod Tan.

Early reports said that Tan, nephew of former Sulu vice governor Sakur Tan Sr., was forcibly taken in front of his 12 companions in Barangay Tagbak, Indanan town.

Tan and his friends were biking in the area when the kidnappers pulled over in a Tamaraw FX.

The kidnappers dragged Tan toward their vehicle and fled toward Talipao town.

The military said that before the kidnapping, a broth-

er-in-law of suspected Abu Sayyaf supporter and financier Abdusalam Baridji, alias Rambo, was spotted in Barangay Timbangan.

Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., chief of the Western Mindanao Command, said the Joint Task Force Sulu is pursuing the kidnappers.

Sources from the provincial government said local leaders have established contact with the kidnappers for the possible release of the victim.

30 September 2017

BusinessMirror

Page. A1

Creation of defense university pushed

BY RENE ACOSTA

AN official of the National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) is pushing for the creation of a National Defense University (NDU), which is envisioned to produce a greater number of Filipinos with defense and security backgrounds and elevate the subject of security to a national level.

The establishment of an NDU could not be more timely and appropriate, as the country is facing both internal and territorial threats, with the domestic challenge coming from a three-pronged threat, including terrorism.

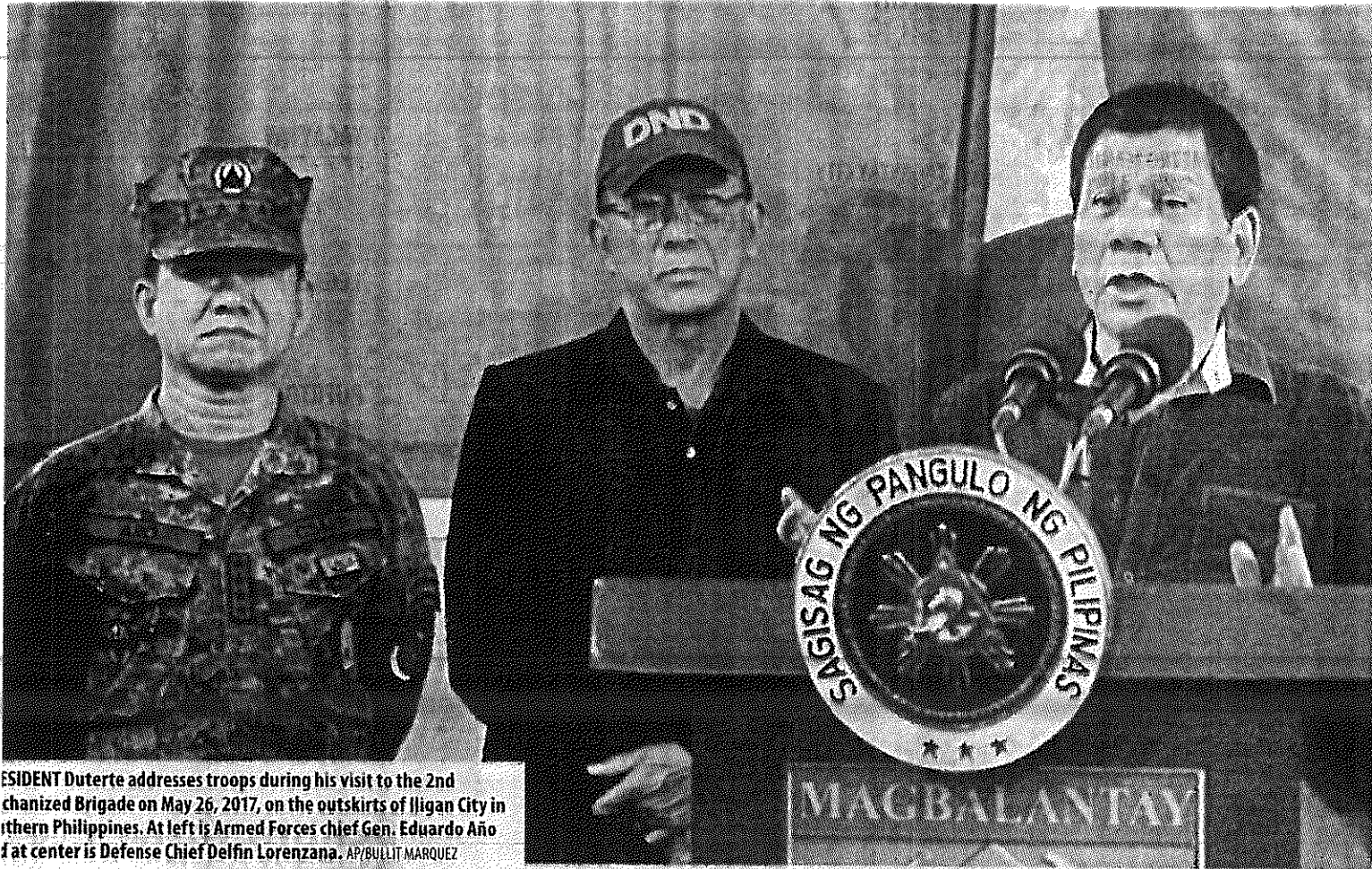
NDCP Executive Vice President, retired Major Gen. Rolando Jungco, said a draft on the creation of the proposed NDU has already been submitted to Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana for review prior to congressional submission.

This early, the proposal already earned the support of several legislators, including Sen. Loren Legarda and Rep. Rozzano Rufino "Ruffy" Biazon of Muntinlupa.

Legarda, like a few number of lawmakers, is a graduate of the NDCP and is a reserve officer of the Philippine Air Force. Biazon, on the other hand, is a former Customs commissioner under the Aquino administration and son of retired Armed Forces Chief of Staff Rodolfo

CONTINUED ON A2

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295



PRESIDENT Duterte addresses troops during his visit to the 2nd Infantry Division (ID) on May 26, 2017, on the outskirts of Iligan City in Northern Philippines. At left is Armed Forces chief Gen. Eduardo Año and at center is Defense Chief Delfin Lorenzana. AP/BULLIT MARQUEZ

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – Email add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

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

Creation of defense university pushed

CONTINUED FROM A1

Biazon, also a former senator

The proposed NDU, if approved by Congress, shall offer baccalaureate and postgraduate degrees in defense and security courses. It is eyed to initially rise at the compound of the NDCP inside Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City.

'Unique'

IN pushing for the creation of an NDU, Jungco noted that the Philippines is the only country in the region without such a school, which is an irony, as the country counts the most number of security challenges among the states in Southeast Asia.

Jungco said that in Indonesia and Thailand, you cannot be a lawmaker unless you have gone through their defense universities.

China, on the other hand, has two defense schools—one for defense and another for science and technology.

The Thai and Indonesian examples are what Jungco and the other proponents of the NDU want the Philippines to emulate.

Jungco said the NDU should have as students members of Congress, noting that some lawmakers do not have a full grasp of, or could not fully understand, national security and its surrounding issues.

He said its intention is to develop, harness and encourage the lawmakers to think strategically for defense and security.

Defense Act revision

WHILE there may have been support for the creation of an NDU from members of Congress, it may take time, however, before it could be set up, as the proposal has to be incorporated into an updated National Defense Act of 1935.

Jungco said the law only talks about the military. The Department of National Defense (DND) along with its other attached agencies are not even mentioned in the law.

The military, or the Armed Forces of the Philippines, falls under the DND.

In revisiting the Defense Act through the creation of the NDU, Jungco said they also proposed the inclusion of the DND and its agencies, including the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office, the NDCP, Office of Civil Defense and the Government Arsenal, in the law.

The National Defense Act of 1935 is the only defense law in the country.

If the creation of the NDU materializes, it will have a mixture of civilian and military students.

Jungco said the students of the university should include lawmakers, all generals of the AFP with no exemption, and others in the civilian sector, including businessmen.

"Ideally, it would be under the Commission on Higher Education, but focusing more on defense and resource management," Jungco said.

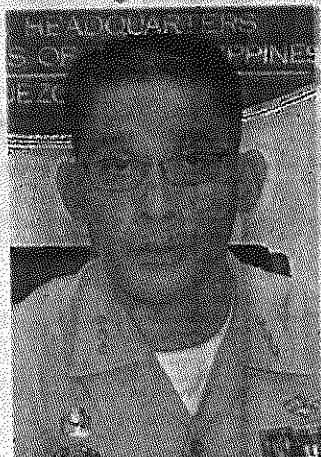
30 September 2017



Page: 1

More Maute fighters neutralized – AFP

By Mario J. Mallari



AREVALO

Twenty-one more Islamic State-inspired terrorists were killed on Thursday while two more government troops were added to the military casualties as the Marawi City siege dragged on its 130th day yesterday.

Col. Edgard Arevalo, Public Affairs Office chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), said a total of 736 terrorists had been killed since the Marawi City siege erupted last May 23.

“Twenty-one (terrorists) were either neutralized or remains

recovered in yesterday's (Thursday) tally of the ongoing offensives,” he added.

The military said it was checking if Omar Maute — one of the key leaders behind the attack on Marawi — was among those killed.

A total of 789 firearms had been recovered from the battle area — 82 of which were seized during Thursday's operation that led government troops retaking the White Mosque.

Two more government troops, however, were added to the list of

Turn to page 3

More Maute fighters neutralized – AFP

From page 1

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said White Mosque was taken over by government forces after heavy resistance from the terrorists since Wednesday.

Arevalo said a total of 36 buildings in the battlefield were cleared on Thursday.

Last week, the military said Isnlon Hapilon, the designated emir or leader of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in Southeast Asia, and Omar Maute were still leading to main terrorist groups in the main battle area in Marawi City.

Several hostages are still being held by the terrorists.

Relatedly, Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) chief Lt.

Gen. Carlito Galvez said three Maute fighters surrendered in Marawi as troops continue to advance and gain ground in the battle area in Marawi City.

“I believe they can't anymore stand the intense fighting,” he told a press briefing.

According to the military official, they are “regular fighters” or the recruits of the Maute Group.

Galvez, however, refused to give more details, citing operational security.

“We are still withholding the information because of some critical matters. We still have a lot of operations ongoing,” he stressed.

Lorenzana has earlier said the lives of surrendering Maute Group terrorists will be spared provided

they surrender peacefully.

He made this statement after Lanao del Sur Rep. Mauyag Papandayan told him that some of the surviving terrorists have expressed willingness to surrender.

“I told him no problem. In fact, Western Mindanao Command troops are going around with bullhorns daily in Marawi City (urging them to surrender). If they want to surrender, then they must come out with their hands up and our soldiers will not kill them, our troops don't kill surrendering people,” he said.

Once these terrorists surrender, the DND chief said it is up to the courts to determine what kind of charges and sanctions would be meted against them. **With PNA**

30 September 2017

The Manila Times

Page: A1

DEATH TOLL HITS 900 Marawi war ends this September, Duterte says

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

In Eastern Samar on Thursday, Duterte again admitted that the government underestimated the capabilities of the Maute terrorists.

"Actually, it is the SA; the Special Action

> **Page A2**

■ ENDS FROM A1

Marawi war ends this September, Duterte says

Force, which were organized to meet urban terrorism. *Nabigla lang talaga tayo doon* (We were caught off-guard). We knew that they were stacking arms. We knew that there were arms going around and passing around. But we never realized the extent of their ordnance and bombs, explosives and guns and ammunition," he said in remarks marking the 116th anniversary of the encounter between Filipinos and American troops in Balangiga.

"Today, we are still fighting but I hope that by the end of the month, we'd be able to resolve the issue," the President said.

Duterte reiterated that there was no need for celebration.

"And my orders to the military is that *kung manalo man tayo* (if we win), we do not celebrate any victory in Mindanao, simply because we are waging a war actually against our own people and it would not look good, especially people who have adopted other religions," he said.

Duterte then assured the Maranao people of Marawi and the Lanao provinces that he would rebuild the city.

Fighting in Marawi City started on May 23 when military and police personnel tried to arrest Abu Sayyaf subleader Isnilon Hapilon, who was supposedly named "emir" of the Islamic State in Southeast Asia.

Government troops encountered stiff resistance from Islamist terrorists belonging to the Maute and Abu Sayyaf groups. This led Duterte to declare martial law in Mindanao.

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

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

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

After this, the military said it would seek to liberate the town on June 12, the 119th anniversary

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC

of Philippine independence from Spain. This goal was also not met as clashes persisted and casualties mounted.

12@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

Coins and IEDs

On Friday, the military said the Maute terrorists placed coins inside improvised explosive devices, with currency looted from war-torn Marawi. This explains why coins were found in the wounds of some soldiers.

Citing aerial footage, Col Romeo Brawner, Task Group Ranao deputy commander, said Maute members were "pillaging" and "looting" structures inside the main battle area.

"We can see items/boxes/sacks being taken from a seemingly residential building. This reinforced the revelations of rescued former hostages that the terrorists were looting important materials inside the MBA (main battle area)," Brawner said in a statement. On Thursday, military troops recovered four ATM money vaults from a Land Bank of the Philippines building, Brawner said. These were turned over to the security manager of the state-owned bank.

"The money vaults were not opened. Some were obviously burned but were intact," he said.

The military also said former Maute hostage Lordvin Acopio, who was rescued alongside Fr. Teresito Soganub on September 16, had disclosed that some terrorists hid inside vaults while the Air Force conducted air strikes.

Death toll

More than 900 persons have already been killed in the Marawi battle, the Armed Forces of the Philippines said on Friday.

At least 736 Maute members have been killed in clearing operations conducted by state forces, and 789 firearms were seized.

Fighting has also claimed the lives of 153 uniformed men and 47 civilians.

Arm A total of 1,733 civilians have been rescued, the military said. people. Securing the land.

OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC

12@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

CATHERINE S. VALENTE
AND DEMPSEY REYES

30 September 2017



Page: A1

Sayyaf ties with drug 'gangsters' bared

CHINESE gangsters are to blame for the proliferation of illegal drugs in the Philippines, and they have even licensed the terrorist Abu Sayyaf to manufacture and distribute the drugs here, President Rodrigo Duterte claimed Thursday.

"They cook the substance inside a ship and then they just throw it to the sea," Duterte said in his speech during his visit to Balangiga town in Eastern Samar.

"They are able to manufacture and distribute because they are armed. They

are intentionally doing that."

Duterte made his statement even as Aaron Aquino, director general of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, said three drug syndicates were behind the proliferation of drugs in the Philippines.

He said the syndicates were from Taiwan, mainland China and Hong Kong, and that they could ship three tons of shabu to the Philippines.

Aquino said the open sea was the drop-off point for the illegal drugs, and that divers retrieve them and transport them from smaller boats.

Detailing the operations of two international drug syndicates who had turned the Philippines into their "client state," Duterte said the members of these drug groups would put the drugs in tin cans and then throw them into the sea. The cans would have Chinese markings and a global positioning system to locate them.

While Duterte absolved China of being the new source of illegal drugs in the Philippines, he said there were also Filipino members of the drug triad. *Next page*

Sayyaf...

From A1

"China's government has nothing to do with it. The Chinese people has nothing to do with it. It's the gangsters of the Philippines and China," Duterte said.

"It's the gangsters of the Philippines and China combined. They combined to make the life of the Filipinos miserable," he added.

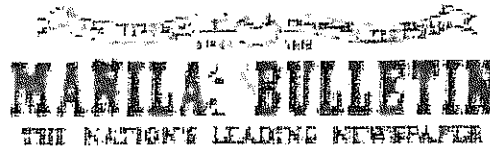
In his speech on Tuesday, Duterte said two international drug syndicates were engaged in large-scale drug trafficking activities in Southeast Asia and the Americas. The Hong Kong-based 14K and the Taiwan-based United Bamboo Gang, also known as UBG.

He said the Philippines was being used as a transshipment point of these groups. He said he had sought help from the United States to help control drug smuggling.

Chinese ambassador to the Philippines Zhao Jianhua earlier denied that he was aware of a Chinese Bamboo Triad, a drug ring operating in the Philippines, and assured local officials that China will not protect criminals.

Taiwan has also denied the President's claims that it is a source of the drugs in the Philippines, with its representative in Manila, Gary Song-Huann Lin, saying he would like to get information on the President's allegations. **John Paolo Bencito and Rio N. Araja**

30 September 2017



Page: 14

Marawi heroes' dependents get ₱2.75-M aid from DPWH

By **BETHEENA KAE UNITE**

Dependents of soldiers and policemen, who were killed while fighting in Marawi City, have received ₱2.75 million as assistance from officials and employees of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)

The cash donation was handed over to Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) officials to aid dependents of the Marawi siege heroes, DPWH Senior Undersecretary Rafael C. Yabut said yesterday.

"This is our small way of giving thanks and honor to the valiant soldiers and policemen who have sacrificed their lives to bring peace in Marawi," Yabut said.

Yabut further said that the ₱2.75-

million cash aid was generated from voluntary financial contributions of officials and employees of the agency nationwide.

DSWD Assistant Secretary Jose Antonio Hernandez expressed gratitude to the DPWH which has also provided latrines and water supply facilities in DSWD-managed evacuation centers for internally-displaced persons (IDPs) from the Marawi conflict.

Hernandez also noted that DPWH was the first government agency to donate financial aid to the bereaved dependents of Marawi fallen troops through DSWD.

DPWH has also provided employment opportunities to qualified dependents of fallen heroes, through its Regional and District Engineering Offices.

30 September 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 1

Abu Sayyaf has illegal drugs franchise – Duterte

BY GENALYN D. KABILING

An international crime syndicate has given the Abu Sayyaf Group a “franchise” to manufacture and sell illegal drugs in the country and make life miserable for Filipinos, President Duterte revealed last Thursday

The President said the “Bamboo Triad” has taken over local drug operations and joined forces with the Abu Sayyaf and other local gangsters in illegal drug activities.

“They had franchises. They have a franchise given to the Abu Sayyaf in – kasi may armas, eh at nakapag- ▶ 6

Abu Sayyaf has illegal... ◀ 1

trabaho. Nakakapagluto, distribute, kasi may armas. Sinasadya nila ‘yan [because they have arms and could do the work. They can cook and distribute drugs because they have weapons. They’re doing it deliberately],” the President said during his visit to Eastern Samar last Thursday.

“It’s the gangsters of the Philippines and China combined – they combined together and making the life of the Filipinos miserable,” he added.

The Abu Sayyaf has been previously linked to notorious activities such as beheading of hostages and bombings in some parts of the country. The bandit group led by Isnilon Hapilon is also involved in raging rebellion in Marawi City alongside the Maute terror group.

Apart from the Bamboo gang reportedly based in Taiwan, the President had earlier identified another crime group, the 14K Triad allegedly based in Hong Kong, for taking control of the illegal drug trafficking in the region.

Duterte has also called for closer,

cooperation between the Philippines and the United States after the country has become a drug transshipment point to America.

Malacañang maintained that the President has “credible international sources” to back allegations that two international drug syndicates are behind the proliferation of illegal substance in the country.

The President, meantime, pledged anew to enforce the country’s laws against those involved illegal drug trade regardless if they are rich and poor.

He also warned policemen against getting involved in the illegal drugs, saying they will be first to be held accountable before the law.

“When I became President, I swore to you and to God that I will enforce the law against all criminals,” he said.

“Wala doon sinabi na [I did not say], ‘I, Rodrigo Duterte, will enforce the law and the shabu – laws against shabu, but only those who can afford it or who are rich. The poor, pakawalaan ko [I will release them],” he added.

30 September 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 1

PRRD loses interest in talks with Reds

By GENALYN D. KABILING

President Duterte is not interested in resuming peace negotiations with the communist rebels due to waste of government funds.

"Gastos lang 'yan. Wala talagang mangyayari dyan [That's just another expense. Nothing will happen there anyway]," the President said in an interview with PTV-4 television Friday night.

The President gave the candid remarks when asked if he would send Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Secretary Jesus Dureza and Labor Secretary and chief government negotiator Silvestre Bello III to Norway for the revival of the stalled talks with the communist group.

Peace talks between the government and the communists bogged down last May after a series of attacks by ►6

PRRD loses interest...

◀1

the New People's Army against government forces.

The President, in the television interview, chided anew the communists for rushing to get what they want in the peace process.

He claimed that the rebels have been "impatient" with the peace process, adding he would need "almost three years to hammer (out) something."

"Nakakadala kasi kung ano pinag-sasabi... They are almost dreaming," he said about the peace talks with the communists.

"When you come to a negotiation and you bring along a dream, sometimes it's really impossible. You do not go to the hard reality of life but you start to dream of things that are unreachable

stars. Mahirap 'yan," he added.

If the rebels want another 50 years of fighting, Duterte said this would be "fine" with him.

He said he plans to recruit 20,000 soldiers to keep the country safe and five battalions of Special Action Force troopers to combat urban terrorism.

The President had earlier said he was "not averse" to resuming the peace talks with the communist group but would still consult his security cluster and other branches of government. He said the rebels must agree to a ceasefire before the negotiations are resumed.

The President has been furious over the rebel attacks, that claimed the lives of many soldiers and policemen, prompting him to suspend the talks with the Reds.

30 September 2017

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 1

End of Marawi war seen

Duterte, Lorenzana hopeful conflict would end by this weekend

By GENALYN D. KABILING and FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

After four months of fighting between government troops and Islamic State-linked rebels in Marawi City, President Duterte is hopeful that the conflict would be over by the end of the month.

"Today, we are still fighting but I hope that by the end of the month (September 30), we'd be able to resolve the issue," the President said about the Marawi situation during his visit to Balangiga, Eastern Samar last Thursday.

"As I have said, we are all Filipinos and if by the grace of God, we're able to finish everything, the business of stopping the rebellion, not necessarily killing, we will be happy," said Duterte who has placed Mindanao under martial law to quell the rebellion.
Defense Secretary Delfin Loren-

zana, on the other hand, said he is not discounting the possibility that the conflict in war-torn Marawi City could end by Sunday (October 1).
"Kausap ko kagabi si Lt. Gen. (Carlito) Galvez, AFP Western Mindanao Command chief, at sabi niya isang block na lang na malaki, one block. I think

mukhang by Sunday tapos na ito, eh. Kaunti na lang, it's just clearing up operation (I just talked to Lt. Gen. Galvez and he told me there is only one block. I think by Sunday, this is already finish. There's a few left, we just need clearing operations)," Lorenzana said.
The President said he has vis- ► 6

End of Marawi war seen ◀1

ited Marawi five times and intends to make another trip to the war zone.

"I'm going back there, almost on a regular basis, until such time that peace is attained," he said.

No victory celebration

Once government troops have cleared Marawi of the rebel threat, the President insisted that there was no need to hold a victory celebration. He said the soldiers would just pack up and quietly leave the area.

"My orders to the military is that kung manalo man tayo [if we win], we do not celebrate any victory in Mindanao simply because we are waging a war actually against our own people and it would not look good, especially people who have adopted other religions," he said.

"So I said na, "Kung manalo tayo,

matapos na [If we win, when it's over] you just pack up your things and go silently out of the place," he added.

The military engineering brigade, however, will remain "to help rebuild your city," according to the President.

The President said he takes responsibility for the Marawi operations "because I declared the martial law and I sent my soldiers and police there to die."

He admitted that he could have been impeached from office if he did not address the rebellion in the area.

"That is why everyday when I read the briefers, it really breaks my heart. Pero wala akong magawa [But I can't do anything] I could have been impeached kung wala akong ginawa [if I did not take action] about the situation," he said.

Duterte admitted the government was surprised by the huge stockpile of

weapons and ammunition of the Maute terror group in Marawi City.

"We knew that they were stacking arms. We knew that they were arms going around and passing around. But we never realized the extent of their ordnance and bombs, explosives and guns and ammunition," he said.

Government troops have been trying to flush out the Maute rebels from Marawi for the past four months but the enemies have kept a strong resistance. The military earlier claimed that the rebels have been using hostages as human shields and mosques as staging points for attacks.

Humane treatment

Meanwhile, Lorenzana assured that the Daesh-inspired Maute terrorists who wish to surrender or turn themselves in will not be hurt or killed but will be treated properly.

Lorenzana made the remark after re-

ceiving reports that some of the members of the Maute who occupied Marawi City since May 23, 2017 have signified their interest to turn themselves in to government forces operating in the area.

"Kahapon (yesterday), during the Marawi briefing by the Muslim Affairs Committee, ang sabi nila gusto nilang sumurender. Sabi ko walang problema (they said they want to surrender, I told there's no problem)," Lorenzana said.

"In fact, the AFP Western Mindanao Command, our troops in Marawi, everyday they use a bullhorn asking them (the remaining members of the Maute) if they want to surrender. They should come out with their hands up in the air. Anytime they want to surrender, they can get out. They won't be killed as per their request."

"Of course, we will not kill people who are surrendering. Our soldiers are not murderers. We will take them in and it's up to the courts to decide on

the cases we will file against them. But they will not be killed if they surrender," Lorenzana assured.

Meanwhile, Col. Romeo Brawner, deputy commander of the Joint Task Force Marawi, said some Maute fighters are already sending surrender feelers.

Brawner did not give a specific number, but disclosed that Galvez is estimating that the crisis will be over in "10 to 15 days."

"We are dependent on the statement of General Galvez. But on the ground, the police and the military, we are all doing our best," he said.

Brawner said the surrender feelers were sent continuously although he did not divulge how frequent.

"We still have some surrender feelers, we're receiving surrender feelers continuously. But so far wala pang bagong surrenderees," Brawner said. (With a report from Zea C. Capistrano)

30 September 2017



Page. 2

Rody says 'Bamboo Triad' has teamed up with ASG

An international crime syndicate has given the Abu Sayyaf Group a "franchise" to manufacture and sell illegal drugs in the country and make life miserable for Filipinos, President Duterte revealed last Thursday.

The President said the "Bamboo Triad" has taken over local drug operations and joined forces with the Abu Sayyaf and other local gangsters in illegal drug activities.

"They had franchises. They have a franchise given to the Abu Sayyaf in – kasi may armas eh at nakapag-trabaho. Nakakapagluto, distribute, kasi may armas. Sinasadya nila 'yan," the President said during his visit to Eastern Samar last Thursday.

"It's the gangsters of the Philippines and China combined – they combined together and making the life of the Filipinos miserable," he added.

The ASG has been previously linked to notorious activities such as beheading of hostages and bombings in some parts of the country. The bandit group led by Isnilon Hapilon is also involved in a raging rebellion in Marawi City alongside the Maute terror group.

Apart from the Bamboo Gang reportedly based in Taiwan, the President earlier identified another

crime group, the 14K allegedly based in Hong Kong, for taking control of illegal drug trafficking in the region.

Duterte has also called for closer cooperation between the Philippines and the United States after the country has become a drug transshipment point to America.

Malacañang maintained that the President has "credible international sources" to back allegations that two international drug syndicates are behind the proliferation of illegal substance in the country.

The President, meantime, pledged anew to enforce the country's laws against those involved in illegal drug trade regardless if they are rich and poor.

He also warned policemen against getting involved in illegal drugs, saying they will be first to be held accountable before the law.

"When I became President, I swore to you and to God that I will enforce the law against all criminals," he said. "Wala doon sinabi na, 'I, Rodrigo Duterte, will enforce the law and the shabu – laws against shabu, but only those who can afford it or who are rich. The poor, pakawalaan ko,'" he added. **(Genalyn D.**

30 September 2017



Page. 2

Duterte sees end of Marawi war this month

After four months of fighting between government troops and Islamic State-linked rebels in Marawi City, President Duterte is hopeful that the conflict would be over at the end of the month.

"Today, we are still fighting but I hope that by the end of the month (Sept. 30), we'd be able to resolve the issue," the President said about the Marawi situation during his visit to Balangiga, Eastern Samar last Thursday.

"As I have said, we are all Filipinos and if by the grace of God, we're able to finish everything, the business of stopping the rebellion, not necessarily killing, we will be happy," said Duterte who has placed Mindanao under martial law to quell the rebellion.

The President said he has visited Marawi five times and intends to make another trip to the war zone. "I'm going back there, almost on a regular basis, until such time that peace is attained," he said.

Once government troops have cleared Marawi of the rebel threat, the President insisted that there was no need to hold a victory celebration. He said the soldiers would just pack up and quietly leave the area.

"My orders to the military is that kung manalo man tayo, we do not celebrate any victory in Mindanao simply because we are waging a

war actually against our own people and it would not look good, especially people who have adopted other religions," he said.

"So I said na, "Kung manalo tayo, matapos na you just pack up your things and go silently out of the place," he added.

The military engineering brigade, however, will remain "to help rebuild your city," according to the President.

The President said he takes responsibility for the Marawi operations "because I declared the martial law and I sent my soldiers and police there to die."

He admitted that he could have been impeached from office he did not address the rebellion in the area.

"That is why everyday when I read the briefers, it really breaks my heart. Pero wala akong magawa. I could have been impeached kung wala akong ginawa about the situation," he said.

Duterte admitted the government was surprised by the huge stockpile of weapons and ammunition of the Maute terror group in Marawi.

"We knew that they were stacking arms. We knew that they were arms going around and passing around. But we never realized the extent of their ordnance and bombs, explosives, and guns and ammunition," he said. **(Genalyn D. Kabiling)**

30 September 2017



Pahina. 2

Maute gusto nang sumuko; Marawi siege tatapusin na

Nina FER TABOY at FRANCIS WAKEFIELD

Inihayag kahapon ni Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana na nakatanggap ng surrender feeler ang gobyerno mula sa mga teroristang Maute Group, kasunod ng pagkakahawi ng pamahalaan sa White Mosque na ilang buwang kinubkob ng grupo sa Marawi City, Lanao del Sur.

Ayon kay Lorenzana, idinaan ng Maute Group ang surrender feelers ng mga ito sa House committee on Muslim affairs.

Nagpahayag ng pangamba ang Maute na papatayin sila ng militar kapag sumuko sila.

Gayunman tinuyak ni Lorenzana sa mga susukong terorista na hindi sasaktan ang mga ito.

"Kahapon, during the Marawi briefing by the Muslim Affairs Committee, ang sabi nila (Maute) gusto nilang sumurrender. Sabi ko, walang problema," sinabi kahapon ni Lorenzana.

"In fact the AFP Western Mindanao Command, our troops

in Marawi everyday they use a bullhorn asking them if they want to surrender. They should come out with their hands up in the air. Anytime they want to surrender, they can get out. They won't be killed as per their request," pagtityak pa ng kalihim.

"Of course we will not kill people who are surrendering. Our soldiers are not murderers. We will take them in and its up to the courts do decide on the cases we will file against them. But they will not be killed if they surrender," sabi pa ni Lorenzana.

Kasabay nito, sinabi ni Lorenzana na posibleng matapos na ang giyera sa Marawi City sa mga susunoda na araw, habang nagpapatuloy ang mopping-up operations ng mga tropa ng pamahalaan.

"Kausap ko kagabi si Lt. Gen (Carlito) Galvez, AFP Western Mindanao Command chief, at sabi niya isang block na lang na malaki, one block. I think mukhang by Sunday tapos na ito, eh. Kaunti na lang, its just clearing up operation," ani

Lorenzana. "My statement is based on the assessment of commanders (on the ground) last week. Let's see."

Ito rin ang pinaniniwalaan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte nang sabihin niya nitong Huwebes na posibleng matapos na ang krisis sa Marawi sa pagtatapos ng Setyembre.

"Today, we are still fighting but I hope that by the end of the month, we'd be able to resolve the issue," sinabi ni Duterte nitong Huwebes sa pagbisita niya sa Balangiga, Eastern Samar.

"As I have said, we are all Filipinos and if by the grace of God, we're able to finish everything, the business of stopping the rebellion, not necessarily killing, we will be happy," aniya pa.

Batay sa huling taya ng militar, sinabi ni Lorenzana na hindi na aabot sa 100 ang mga teroristang nananatili sa main battle area sa Marawi.

May ulat ni Genalyn D. Kabiling

30 September 2017

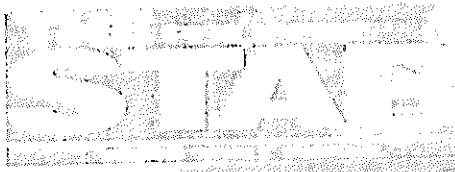


Pahina. 3

Todas sa Marawi umakyal na sa 936

Umabot na sa siyam na raan at tatlumput anim (936) na indibidwal ang napatatay sa nagpapatuloy na giyera sa Lungsod ng Marawi. Ito ay batay sa huling datos ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). Sa bilang na ito'y 736 dito ay mga miyembro ng Maute terrorist group ang nasasawi. Apatnapu't pito (47) naman ay mga sibilyan napatay ng Maute terrorist group at 153 ay sundalo at sibilyan na ang nagbuwis ng kanilang buhay sa nangyayaring giyera. Umakyal na rin sa 1,733 sibilyan ang nai-ligtas ng militar mula sa gulo sa Lungsod ng Marawi. Nasa 707 naman ang narerekober na armas ng military habang 36 na gusali na ang clear o nalinis na ng military. Sa ngayon ay nagpapatuloy pa ang bakbakan sa pagitan ng militar at Maute Group na halos mag-aapat na buwan na. **(Red Fortaleza)**

30 September 2017



Page: 9

AT GROUND LEVEL

SATUR C. OCAMPO



Duterte gov't adopts US 'war on terror' plan

The recently concluded (September 18-26) "low-key" US-Philippine joint military exercise, dubbed "Tempest Wind," signals three interrelated foreboding situations:

First, - after so much presidential anti-US blustering and threat to cut off relations and chart an "independent foreign policy" - it has brought the Duterte government complicitly in closer security/defense alliance with American imperialism under a warmongering Trump administration,

Second, it has tied down the Philippines to the latter's costly (in trillion US dollars and thousands of lives lost) global "war on terror" - as when, in late 2001, the Bush administration similarly tied down the Arroyo regime. Since then, that has enabled, by virtue of the Visiting Forces Agreement, about 600 US Special Forces troops (on three-month rotations) to stay in the country as advisers and trainers of AFP troops in the antiterror campaign against the Abu Sayyaf group; and

Third, it has reincluded the Philippines as a front of such war - this time against the Islamic State, or IS/ISIS - featuring intensively devastating aerial attacks, with less American troops on the ground (The almost daily aerial bombings in Marawi, under US drone guidance, which have flattened a large party of the city, are just a small sampling of this mode of warfare.)

And now President Duterte, obsessed with pursuing till the end of his term a bloody war against illegal drugs to fulfill his electoral campaign promise, has found a convenient rationale for embracing the US global war on terror: he conflates his antidrug campaign with the antiterror war.

He has claimed that the Maute group, which along with Isnilon Hapilon's Abu Sayyaf group has engaged AFP troops in fierce combat in Marawi for over four months now, is being financed by drug lords. His latest narrative was that the Marawi conflict had been triggered by an attempt by state security forces to arrest a "drug suspect" whom he didn't identify. However, the broadly publicized story was that the arrest attempt was directed at Hapilon, for whose "neutralization" as a "high-value terrorist" target the US government has offered a \$5-million bounty (similar to that for "Marwan" in the botched Mamasapano secret PNP operation).

Duterte has also claimed that the Philippines is being used as a transshipment point for shabu (crystal methamphetamine) bound for the US market - following up with the not-so-subtle suggestion that therefore America should "work closely" with his administration "on this serious matter."

Back to the Tempest Wind joint military drill, what did it entail?

In an unusual scenario, up to 1,200 American and Philippine troops were mobilized in a first-of-its-kind drill wherein a Hawaii-bound plane from Sydney, Australia was supposedly hijacked by an Islamic State cell and forced to land at Clark Air Base in Pampanga. More than 400 troops, airport police and hostage negotiators, and unspecified

civilian agencies from both governments were put to work.

No details were provided as to how the mock hijacking problem was resolved. But worth noting is that, as the report said, both the US and Philippine governments stressed that they knew of no such actual plot by the IS or its supporters.

Let's look at the rationalizations, reported in media after the closing ceremonies, of the key officials involved in the exercise.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said Tempest Wind is in line with President Duterte's wish to refocus the 1951 US-RP Mutual Defense Treaty toward counterterrorism and disaster relief. The MDT pertains to mutual defense against external attacks or invasions. Can either party refocus it just like that? Lorenzana was quoted as saying:

"(It) served as a perfect opportunity to assess the needs of the new security environment in the Pacific region, especially now that terrorism has become evident in our current security landscape. The drill was designed to provide realistic scenarios (on) terrorism that demand both high-level engagement from these countries on a tactical level."

How does Lorenzana's statement fit with the two governments' acknowledgment that there's no known plane hijacking plot by the IS?

Provoking more questions was what the US ambassador to the Philippines, Sung Kim, reportedly said at the closing ceremonies: "(Tempest Wind) presented an unprecedented opportunity for comprehensive training for both senior leaders and action officers."

However, Jarrod Gillam, of the US State Department Counterterrorism Bureau, provided a definite reference point: Tempest Wind was a venue for the "whole-of-government approach to crisis resolution." "Whole-of-government approach" is an aspect of the 2009 US Counterinsurgency Guide that the AFP has adopted in its Oplan Bayanihan under the P-Noy (Aquino) government, carried over to the Duterte regime's Oplan Kapayapaan.

The concept, culled largely from US military experiences in their interventionist wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, requires all departments and agencies of government to be involved in the counterinsurgency, or antiterrorism, programs. That this idea hasn't worked is starkly shown by the fact that after 17 years the US war in Afghanistan continues – with President Trump now planning to send more American ground troops there.

Oplan Bayanihan also failed to achieve its goal: to "render irrelevant" the New People's Army. Yet Duterte's defense secretary and AFP generals, who he has acknowledged to be "all pro-US," have mindlessly incorporated those US-designed concepts in its own counterinsurgency Oplan Kapayapaan. Come to think of it, the name ought to be Oplan Todo Gera, not Kapayapaan, given that it is being relentlessly pursued under the rubric of "total war" declared last February and endorsed by Duterte.

★

30 September 2017

The Manila Times

Page: A5

Can a cyber attack justify a military response?

As guaranteed by the UN Charter, a state always has the natural right to defend itself in case of an armed attack. Meaning, if the scale and consequences of the use of force against a state reaches the level of an armed attack, then the victim state may use force to defend itself.

Cyber operations are now a key element of modern warfare and an increasing focus of militaries around the world. The question is: when is a cyber attack an act of warfare? A cyber law pioneer on the subject is *Tallin Manual 2.0*, a product of NATO's Cooperative Cyber Defense Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE) in Tallin, Estonia, which analyzes how international law as it currently stands applies to cyber operations. According to the manual, for a cyber attack to reach the level of an armed attack, the consequences of the attack need to be comparable to those of a kinetic attack. Thus, if a cyber operation seriously injures or kills a number of people or causes significant damage to or destruction of property, it would, under international law, be considered an armed attack. It does not matter whether it is directed against military or civilian personnel or against public or private properties.

A classic theoretical example is when cyber weapons as tools



AMBASSADORS'
CORNER

AMADO S.
TOLENTINO, JR.

or viruses are used and accidentally cuts power to a hospital or medical center endangering civilian lives. Another example is a cyberattack on a country's banking system. If the attack resulted in grave physical damage, then such is an armed attack although, at the moment, consequence as mentioned remains unreported.

The reality of a cyber attack could, perhaps, be illustrated by the reported incident in Iran where a bug wreaked havoc on Iranian uranium centrifuge operations which became widely known because the bug proliferated broadly beyond the Iranian system but did not have an impact on systems outside the country's nuclear program due to the fact that the effects were specifically targeted. This example demonstrates that cyber weapons are still incredibly new compared to the more conventional warmaking counterparts.

The *Tallin Manual 2.0* mentions that cyber operations have become part of modern warfare and are therefore governed by the law of armed conflict. In connection therewith, what comes to mind

are the principles of necessity and proportionality in the law of war which asks whether the amount of force required to repel the armed attack outweighs the anticipated collateral damage to civilian objects and non-combatants. Maarja Nagel of NATO's law branch of its CCDCOE believes a cyber attack could be met by 'countermeasures', a form of self-help in international law, allowing a state to respond by taking actions that would, under normal circumstances be contrary to international law. "There are, however, strict limitations placed on countermeasures and they must be aimed at inducing the other state to resume lawful behavior, rather than as a punishment or revenge. They must also be proportionate." Economic sanctions or expulsion of the responsible state's diplomats are examples. So, too, is suspension of exchange of information or cooperation between national computer emergency response teams.

There are experts from the military, however, who consider cyberspace as the "fifth domain" of warfare after land, sea, air and space. But others are of the view that the latter are "inherently geographical" while the cyber domain is not. Cyber operations could be used to conduct large-scale espionage or subversion

which are hardly new elements in the world of defense. "Weapons systems, decision-making systems are increasingly cyber- and artificial intelligence-enabled and cannot be considered as a fifth domain somehow distinct from others because that is not really how it works." In other words, the digital frontline is not (yet) a warfare domain.

Besides, there are indeed areas of ambiguity in international law that need clarity in order to do legal adjustments. Cyber operations vis-à-vis the law of armed conflict is one of them. Much depend on practice or the process through which international law is interpreted and further developed via actual behavior of states.

As cyber warfare matures and types of attacks evolve and become a threat with increasingly local ramifications, the often quoted Martens Clause in international law—which provides that where the law of war does not address a particular case, reference should be to the "rule of the principles of the law of nations, as they result from usages established among civilized people from the laws of humanity and the dictates of public conscience"—still expects equal application among states in the 21st century.

30 September 2017



Pahina. 3



'Maute: Huwag kaming patayin'

"HINDI naman murderer ang ating mga sundalo," ito ang pahayag ni Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana tungkol sa mga miyembro ng Maute na umano'y nagpahayag ng kanilang kagustuhang sumuko sa mga otoridad.

Maraming buhay na ang nalagas sa hanay ng ating mga sundalo at ganun na rin sa mga nadamay na sibilyan. Maraming namatay sa mga kalaban.

Nagmistulang ghost town ang Marawi dahil sa mga sirasirang establisyamento. Maging ang mga mosque ay ginawang kuta ng mga Maute.

Ipinarating kay Lorenzana ni Lanao del Sur, Rep. Mauyag Papandayan na gusto nang sumuko ng mga natirang mga Maute terrorists sa battle zone.

Hiling lang ng mga miyembrong ito na huwag silang patayin kapag sumuko sila. Dagdag pa ni Lorenzana nag-iikot daw ang mga sundalo gamit ang mga bullhorns sa Marawi City para kumbisihin ang mga Maute-ISIS na sumuko na lang.

Ang tanging kailangan lang gawin ng mga ito ay lumabas na nakataas ang dalawang kamay. Kahit anong oras nila maisipang sumuko ay pwede silang lumabas at inulit pa ni Lorenzana na hindi sila papatayin.

Ikukulong nila ang mga ito at hahayaan na ang korte na magpataw ng karampatang parusa sa mga susukong miyembro ng Maute Group.

Sa ngayon ay humigit kumulang 100 na lamang ang mga Maute na naiwan doon.

Kung iniisip na ng natitirang sumuko malamang nito ay hindi na nila kasama ang kanilang lider dahil paniguradong hindi naman ito magtataas ng kamay kung sa tingin nila ay kakayanin pa nilang lumaban sa pwersa ng gobyerno.

Sa tantiya ni Lorenzana tatlong araw na lang ang itatagal ng bakbakan sa lugar. Isa na sa

(Sundan sa page 4)

CALVENTO Mula page 3

pinakamahirap na sitwasyon ang nangyari sa Marawi hindi lamang para sa gobyerno kundi maging sa mga taong nakatira doon at sa ating mga sundalo.

Marami sa kanila ang nalagas para maipagtanggol

ang ating bansa laban sa terorismo.

SA MGA BIKTIMA NG KRIMEN o may problema ng ligal maaari kayong magtext sa 09198972854, 09051090451 at sa gustong maka-usap ako ng direktso sa

710-3618.

Maaari din po ninyong i-like ang www.facebook.com/tonycalvento o i-type na rin ng direktso sa Facebook sa Tony A. Calvento at mag-iwan ng mensahe para sa inyong mga problema.

ONLINE NEWS

30 SEPTEMBER 2017

Army, SAF engage in encounter with rebels

From the Sun Star-Bacolod (Sep 29):

THE 62nd Infantry Battalion (IB) of the Philippine Army and Philippine National Police -Special Action Force (PNP-SAF) engaged in a firefight with suspected members of New People's Army (NPA) in Barangay San Isidro, Toboso, Negros Occidental early Thursday morning.

Lieutenant Colonel Darrell Bañez, commander of 62nd IB, said yesterday the troops and police were conducting community security patrol in the area when they encountered about 10 armed men around 5 a.m.

"The firefight lasted for about two minutes," Bañez said. No casualties were reported.

Additional troops were sent to the area to track down the armed men.

The joint combat operation of 62nd IB and PNP-SAF is in response to the reports they received from residents about the presence of armed men in the village.

Bañez expressed his gratitude to the community for their full cooperation that helped the government troops ensure peace and order in the province.

Colonel Eliezer Losañes, commander of 303rd Infantry Brigade, said hot pursuit operation is ongoing.

New People's Army admits killing of RPA-ABB leader

From the Sun Star-Bacolod (Sep 28):

THE Armando Sumayang Command South West Negros Guerilla Front of New People's Army (NPA) owned up the killing of a commander of Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) in Kabankalan City, Negros Occidental three weeks ago.

In a press statement dated September 27, Andrea Guerrero, spokesperson of the rebel group, said Jovanie Banista, 50, a sixth district commander of RPA-ABB based in Barangay Locotan, Kabankalan City, had engaged in illegal gambling and illegal drugs as protector, particularly in areas of Bantayan, Magballo and Manduaw in Kabankalan City.

Guerrero added that Banista was also involved in corruption and illegal logging.

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

She said that Banista was hired as a personal bodyguard and hitman of politicians in southern Negros especially during the elections last year.

The rebel group also alleged that Banista was an instrument of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and Philippine National Police in counter-insurgency operations against the revolutionary movement.

They added that he was also involved in human rights violation against civilians, and in hold-up incidents victimizing businessmen.

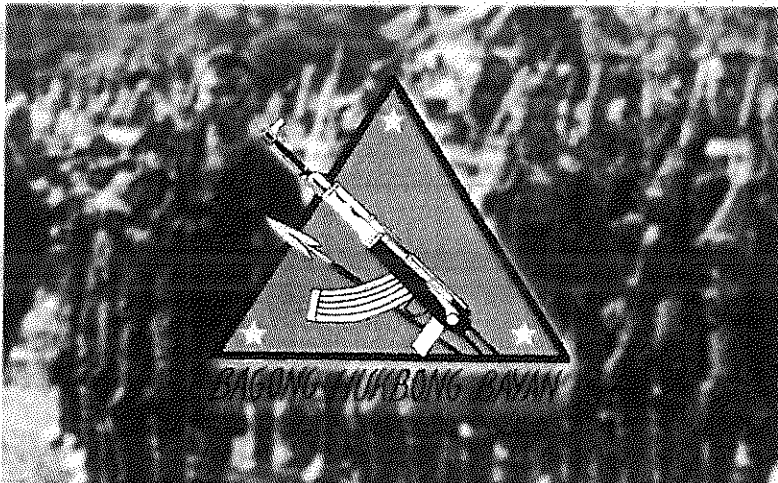
On September 9, Banista was gunned down by about 12 armed men on his way home from Barangay Bantayan.

In August 2014, he was seriously wounded when he was also ambushed by the same assailants at Purok Cubay in the same village.

AFP troops seize large NPA camp

From the Manila Bulletin (Sep 29):

Camp Bancasi, Butuan City – Combat maneuvering troops of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) recently seized a large New People’s Army (NPA) camp in Sitio Side 4, Barangay Mangayon, Compostela town, Compostela Valley (ComVal) province, said 2nd Lt. Honeylee Joy S. Maunahan, acting Civil Military Operation (CMO) officer of the Army’s 66th Infantry Battalion (66th IB) on Friday.



(MANILA BULLETIN)

She said an estimated one-hectare NPA camp was seized by the operating troops of the 66th IB following an armed encounter against some 50 heavily armed NPA rebels Thursday morning.

A small unit team was sent for an operation in the area of Dash 7 at Sitio Side 4, Barangay Mangayon, Compostela town, to confirm the report regarding the presence of a large number of communist rebels composed of guerilla-Front Committee 25 and guerilla-Front Committee 20 and Pulang Bagani Company (PBC) 8 of the CPP-NPA Southern Mindanao Regional Committee. the 66th IB CMO officer said, in a statement sent to The Manila Bulletin on Friday.

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

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

The firefight started at around 10 a.m. when the three NPA terrorists who were laying landmines along a road fired upon the troops, she said.

"The team was able to hold and sustain the hour-long firefight where they served as forward observer for the artillery fires toward the enemy location," she said.

The 66th CMO officer also said the delivery of accurate artillery fires and the bravery of the team members despite being outnumbered forced the rebels to withdraw and abandon their camp.

The reinforcing 1st Platoon Bravo Company, 66IB, and the small unit who was earlier engaged, conducted the assault which resulted in the seizure of the NPA camp, she said.

Recovered in the encounter site were one M16A1 rifle, two improvised explosive devices (IEDs), assorted enemy personal belongings, food stuff and other war materials, she said.

There was no casualty on the government side while the communist rebels were believed to have incurred casualties as per reports received by the unit from the civilians, she added.

"This is a strong statement that 66 th IB will not allow incursion of peace spoilers and we have been continuously winning back the mass bases the NPA have gained during the ceasefire," also said 667th IB commander Lt. Col. Palmer Parungao, in the same statement.

The encounter is an evidence that many people now are against the communist wrongdoings and are willing to sacrifice for the protection of peace in this part of the region, Lt. Col. Parungao added.

<http://news.mb.com.ph>

OFF LIMITS | Main Battle Area in Marawi restricted to civilians even if fighting ends

Report by Alvin Santiago on September 29, 2017 at 7:40 AM

CAMP GEN EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City (DWDD) – Civilians will not be immediately allowed inside the main battle area even if the fighting ends.

This was the statement made by National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana who explained that they will not let civilians inside areas previously held by the Daesh-inspired Maute terrorist group because the situation remains dangerous.

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

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

Buildings and other structures needs to searched and cleared by government forces from possible booby-traps or improvised explosive devices left by the terrorist and from unexploded ordnance.



Even if the shooting ends soon between government troops and the Maute terrorist, the area remains a large danger zone for innocent civilians. To begin with, Lorenzana added that it is a very large area to clear and safety is their main concern.

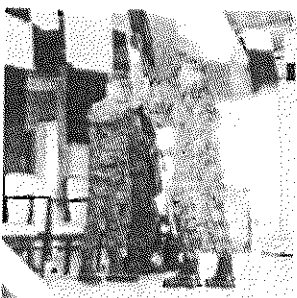
Aside from the danger, there are no more homes or structure to return to in the main battle area because it has been destroyed by the fighting.

But despite this, they have allowed civilians to enter areas outside the main battle area that have been previously searched and cleared by government forces and was not affected by the fighting. AES/ALS

EMERGENCY RESPONDERS | EMC activates Joint Reserve Task Force

Alvin Santiago

NSFA, Panacan, Davao City (DWDD) – Eastern Mindanao Command has formally activated the Joint Reserve Task Force Gen San (JRTF Gen San) in a ceremony presided by Lt. General Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero, Commander of the Eastern Mindanao Command at SAFI Compound, Tambler, General Santos City morning of September 27, 2017.



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

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

Commodore Marfenio Y. Tan, AFP (Res) was designated and assumed as Commander of the JRTF "Gen San" during the said ceremony.

It can be recalled that last September 16, 2017 Joint Reserve Task Force "Metro Davao" (JRTF Metro Davao) was activated at Naval Station Felix Apolinario, Panacan, Davao City with Col. Maning S. Tawantawan of the 11th Regional Community Defense Group, ARESKOM as the JRTF Metro Davao Commander.

Under the JRTF, the Reservists of the Army, Air Force, Navy and the Technical and Administrative Service are organized into one operational command to perform missions during crisis and emergencies like in the conduct of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response.

Likewise, the reservists will be tapped in socio civic activities to assist regular units in Eastern Mindanao in the conduct of Community Support Program and in the awareness campaign on violent extremism to insulate communities from radicalization.



The activation of JRTFs is part of the overall initiative of EMC of enhancing the Reservist Affairs Program in Eastern Mindanao which is in compliance to Republic Act 7077 otherwise known as Reservist Act of 1991.

As an initial step in enhancing the reservist capability, they will be undergoing training in the coming days and months particularly on disaster response and joint planning and operations to develop inter-operability mechanism and protocols.

Lt. Gen. Guerrero during the activation appreciated the spirit of volunteerism displayed by the reservists and their willingness to live up to the core values of soldiery. **PIO EMC/MCAG**

TAGS: [REDACTED]

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