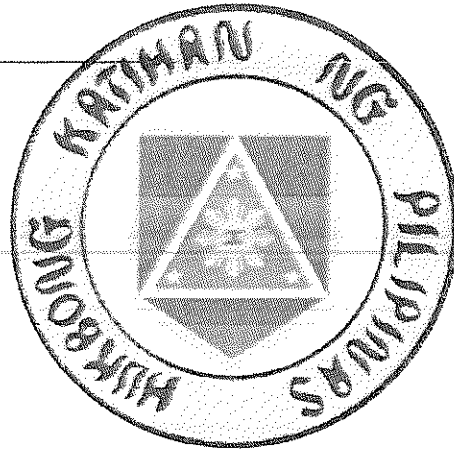


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**OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

# **NEWS CLIPPINGS**

**06 April 2018**

**Friday**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

06 APRIL 2018

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather Forecast	-	Phil Star p.15
<b>NATIONAL NEWS</b>			
2-3	Duterte nmes new heads of DOJ, PNP, AFP	Leila B Salaverria	PDI p.A1
<b>ARMY RELATED NEWS</b>			
4	Manhunt on for NPA extortionists	Joseph Jubelag	Mla Bulletin p.14
5	NPA rebels kill tribal leader	John Unson	The Phil Star p.19
6	Photo:		Abante p.10
7	Photo: Lauded		Mla Standard p.A7
8	Photo: Well Done		Malaya p.C2
<b>AFP RELATED NEWS</b>			
9-11	Joma demands gov't drops terror tag	Mario J Mallari	The Daily Tribune p.1
12-13	Gov't won't remove CPP-NPA terror tag		The Phil Star p.1
14-15	Sison seeks talks on Duterte conditions	Inquirer Satff	PDI p.A15
16-17	Lorenzana wants conditions to talks, Joma disagrees	Dempsey Reyes	The Mla Times p.A1
18	AFP backs restart of talks with Reds	Jaime Laude	The Phil Star p.4
19-20	Albayaalde replaces Bato; Galvez takes over AFP	Emmanuel Tupas	The Phil Star p.8
21-22	Rody picks Albayaalde as top cop; Galvez tapped as AFP Chief of Staff	Mario J Mallari	The Daily Tribune p.1
23	Lt. Gen. Galvez bagong AFP Chief	Vans Fernandez	Police Files p.2
24	NCIP: Benguet ancestral lands along path of PMA expansion	Kimbirle Quitasol	PDI p.A11
<b>COMMENTARY/ OPINION</b>			
25	Defeating Terrorism	Jumel Estrañero	The Phil Star p.13
<b>ONLINE NEWS</b>			
26	FIRST REGULAR MEETING   10ID Holds Multi-Sector Advisory and Action Group Meeting	Alvin Santiago	www.dwdd.com.ph
27	IMPROVE CAPABILITY   TOG 3 Airmen enhance skills in WASAR Operations	Alvin Santiago	www.dwdd.com.ph
28-29	Duterte appoints new DOJ, AFP, PNP chiefs	Azer Parrocha	www,pna.gov.ph

6 April 2018



Page: 15

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST APRIL 06, 2018 (FRIDAY)		EASTERLIES AFFECTING THE COUNTRY on 24 & 29 Apr - April 5, 2018			EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST			EXTENDED WEATHER FORECAST		
		APR 7 SAT	APR 8 SUN	APR 9 MON	APR 7 SAT	APR 8 SUN	APR 9 MON	APR 7 SAT	APR 8 SUN	APR 9 MON
LAOAG CITY 24-32°C	TUGUEGARAO CITY 22-31°C	METRO MANILA 24°C / 31°C	METRO MANILA 24°C / 30°C	METRO MANILA 24°C / 31°C	PUERTO PRINCESA 26°C / 31°C	PUERTO PRINCESA 24°C / 30°C	PUERTO PRINCESA 25°C / 31°C	PUERTO PRINCESA 26°C / 31°C	PUERTO PRINCESA 24°C / 30°C	PUERTO PRINCESA 25°C / 31°C
BAGUIO CITY 15-24°C		TUGUEGARAO 21°C / 29°C	TUGUEGARAO 21°C / 28°C	TUGUEGARAO 22°C / 29°C	ILOILO/BACOLOD 26°C / 31°C	ILOILO/BACOLOD 25°C / 31°C	ILOILO/BACOLOD 26°C / 31°C	ILOILO/BACOLOD 26°C / 31°C	ILOILO/BACOLOD 25°C / 31°C	ILOILO/BACOLOD 26°C / 31°C
SBMA/CLARK 25-33°C	METRO MANILA 24-32°C	LAOAG 23°C / 30°C	LAOAG 23°C / 31°C	LAOAG 23°C / 32°C	METRO CEBU 24°C / 31°C	METRO CEBU 25°C / 32°C	METRO CEBU 25°C / 32°C	METRO CEBU 24°C / 31°C	METRO CEBU 25°C / 32°C	METRO CEBU 25°C / 32°C
TAGAYTAY CITY 22-29°C	LEGAZPI CITY 23-31°C	BAGUIO 14°C / 23°C	BAGUIO 14°C / 22°C	BAGUIO 15°C / 23°C	TACLOBAN 24°C / 30°C	TACLOBAN 24°C / 30°C	TACLOBAN 24°C / 31°C	TACLOBAN 24°C / 30°C	TACLOBAN 24°C / 30°C	TACLOBAN 24°C / 31°C
ILOILO/BACOLOD CITY 25-32°C	TACLOBAN CITY 24-31°C	SBMA/CLARK 24°C / 32°C	SBMA/CLARK 24°C / 32°C	SBMA/CLARK 25°C / 33°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 24°C / 31°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 24°C / 32°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 24°C / 31°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 24°C / 31°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 24°C / 32°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 24°C / 31°C
PUERTO PRINCESA 26-32°C	METRO CEBU 25-32°C	TAGAYTAY 21°C / 28°C	TAGAYTAY 21°C / 27°C	TAGAYTAY 21°C / 28°C	METRO DAVAO 24°C / 34°C	METRO DAVAO 25°C / 34°C	METRO DAVAO 25°C / 34°C	METRO DAVAO 24°C / 34°C	METRO DAVAO 25°C / 34°C	METRO DAVAO 25°C / 34°C
ZAMBOANGA CITY 24-34°C	CAGAYAN DE ORO 24-32°C	LEGAZPI 24°C / 30°C	LEGAZPI 24°C / 29°C	LEGAZPI 24°C / 30°C	ZAMBOANGA 24°C / 33°C	ZAMBOANGA 24°C / 33°C	ZAMBOANGA 24°C / 33°C	ZAMBOANGA 24°C / 33°C	ZAMBOANGA 24°C / 33°C	ZAMBOANGA 24°C / 33°C

April 2018

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
**INQUIRER**

Page: A1

# DUTERTE NAMES NEW HEADS OF DOJ, PNP, AFF

STORY BY LEILA B. SALAVERRIA

**Menardo Guevarra replaces Vitaliano Aguirre II as justice secretary, Director Oscar Albayalde takes over as the country's top police chief, and Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez rises to become the new military chief of staff.**

**By Leila B. Salaverria**  
@LeilasINQ

President Duterte on Thursday accepted the resignation of Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II, appointed Director Oscar Albayalde as the new chief of the Philippine National Police, and named Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez as the chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Mr. Duterte announced Aguirre's departure from the Cabinet in a speech during the awarding of outstanding farmers, fishermen and coastal communities in Malacañang.

He gave no reason for letting go of Aguirre, but it came at a time of widespread media speculation he would be sacked over his performance.

Mr. Duterte appointed Senior Deputy Executive Secretary Menardo Guevarra as the new justice secretary.

Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque said Mr. Duterte signed Guevarra's appointment and swore him into office on Thursday.

### Full-fledged secretary

Roque said that since Congress was on recess, Guevarra's appointment was a "valid ad interim" (temporary) appointment. This makes Guevarra a full-fledged secretary, he said.

"What the President declared to Guevarra was that the Department of Justice is one of the most sensitive departments because justice is at stake," Roque told reporters.

Roque earlier said there were no indications Mr. Duterte would fire Aguirre, who attended a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

Rumors about Aguirre's departure from the Cabinet went into overdrive in recent weeks after the Department of Justice, due to insufficient evidence, dropped charges against several drug kingpins who had admitted their involvement in the illegal drug trade.

The dismissal of the complaint sparked widespread public outrage, forcing Aguirre to have the charges brought by the police investigated by a new panel of prosecutors, although he blamed it all on the "outrage of the ignorant."

Mr. Duterte was one of those angered by the dismissal of the complaint.

He has vowed to jail or kill what he calls "drug lords" as part of his war on drugs in which small-time peddlers and users have borne the brunt of a crackdown on narcotics, with police killing thousands of people.

Aguirre was also dragged into a controversy over an attempt to bribe two officials of

the Bureau of Immigration, which comes under his remit, and a proposal to make businesswoman Janet Lim-Napoles, the alleged mastermind of the P10-billion pork barrel scam, a state witness.

#### **Competence, integrity**

Roque said Guevarra had proven his competence, knowledge of the law, and integrity.

Guevarra, a lawyer, served as deputy executive secretary for legal affairs in the Office of the President during the Aquino administration.

He was a member of the Philippine Competition Commission before he joined the Office of the Executive Secretary.

Mr. Duterte said he consulted people from his hometown, Davao City, on whom to appoint as new PNP chief.

#### **‘The stricter, the better’**

He said he mentioned two names that drew favorable reactions. But when he mentioned Albayalde, he said the people he was consulting balked, saying the chief of the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) was “too strict.”

“Then Albayalde is the man for you,” he said he told them. “[T]he stricter, the better.”

Albayalde will replace PNP Director General Ronald “Bato” dela Rosa, who was supposed to have retired on Jan. 21 but had been extended in office twice.

Dela Rosa is expected to be transferred to the Bureau of Corrections after leaving the PNP.

As NCRPO chief, Albayalde had been in charge of security during the Philippines’ hosting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit in Manila last year.

Among the world leaders

who attended the summit were US President Donald Trump and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

“Thank you to the President. I have nothing to say except thanks. I will continue to serve the Filipino people,” Albayalde told reporters.

Albayalde will head the PNP until his retirement on Nov. 8, 2019.

He will take his oath on April 18, the same day that Galvez will be sworn in as chief of staff of the AFP, Roque said.

#### **Westmincom chief**

Galvez is the chief of the military’s Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom). He was in charge of military operations in Marawi when the city fell to Islamic militants last year.

He will replace Lt. Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero, who will retire on April 18 after a six-month extension in office.

Galvez is a 1985 graduate of the Philippine Military Academy. He will retire on Dec. 12, when he reaches the mandatory military retirement age of 56.

“I’m happy,” he told the inquirer in a phone interview.

Asked how his experience in the government’s peacemaking efforts would contribute to his role as chief of the military, Galvez said he believed being a “peacemaker would be an advantage.”

He also said recent military achievements such as the liberation of Marawi from terrorists and the recent surrender of Nhurhassan Jamiri, the Abu Sayyaf group subleader in Basilan, which were attributed to Westmincom, were probably among the reasons why President Duterte chose him as the new AFP chief of staff.

—WITH REPORTS FROM NIKKO DIZON, MATTHEW REYSIO-CRUZ AND REUTERS INQ

6 April 2018

MANILA BULLETIN  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 14

## Manhunt on for NPA extortionists

By JOSEPH JUBELAG

ALABEL, Sarangani — Government troops have launched manhunt operations against New People's Army rebels who figured in an encounter with Army soldiers in Barangay Alegria, here last Wednesday.

1Lt. Darryl Cansancio, Alpha company commander under 73rd Infantry Battalion, said patrolling soldiers clashed with some 15 NPA rebels who were extorting money from local residents in Purok Tobias, Barangay Alegria

which resulted in the wounding of an army enlisted personnel.

Cansancio said the soldiers rushed to the area amid reports on the presence of NPA rebels belonging to the NPA Guerilla Front 71 who were extorting money from local villagers.

"The NPA rebels are running out of logistics which prompted them to extort money from civilian residents in the village," Cansancio said.

The NPA rebel group had been decimated after government troops intensified their offensives the past month against the NPA guerillas in the provinces of Sarangani and Davao del Sur.

"The NPA rebels are on the run and running out of supplies to fight against the government troops," Cansancio said.

6 April 2018



Page: 19

### **NPA rebels kill tribal leader**

**NORTH COTABATO** – A leader of the Manobo tribe was killed in an ambush allegedly staged by communist rebels in Magpet town on Wednesday. Antonio Takinan, 50, died at the scene. His companions Robello Tambunan, 64, and village watchman Rene Soriano were wounded and taken to a hospital for treatment.

Takinan was an ex-officio member of the Sangguniang Bayan, representing indigenous communities.

The victims were on their way home when they were waylaid by six men armed with caliber .45 pistols and M16 rifles, Chief Inspector Aldrin Gonzalez, Soccsksargen police spokesman, said.

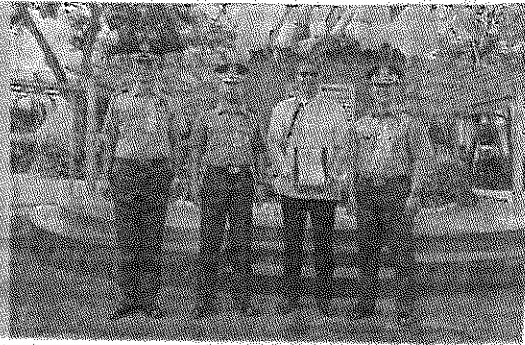
– John Unson

5 April 2018



Pahina. 10

Hinatagan ng plake si Olympian at dating Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) chairman Eric Buñain bilang pagkilala sa suporta sa Philippine Army cycling team sa pamamagitan ng Bicycology shop, sa flag raising ceremony nitong Lunes sa PA Headquarters sa Fort Bonifacio, Taguig. Kasama niya sina (mula sa kaliwa) Col. John Divinagracia, Brigadier General Roy T. Devesa, Camp Commander Phil Army, at Major General Chad D. Isleta, Chief of Staff Philippine Army. Ang Army-Bicycology Shop ay first runner-up sa Ronda Pilipinas kamakailan.





6 April 2018

# Manila Standard

Page: A7



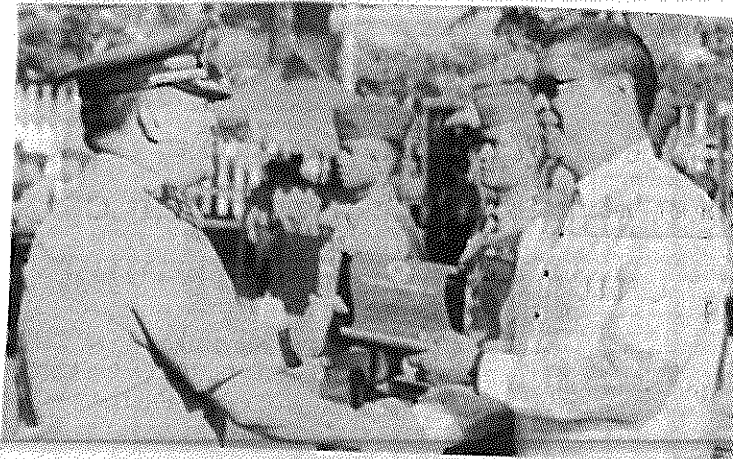
**LAUDED.** Swimming Olympian Eric Buhain shakes hands with Major General Chad D. Isleta (left), Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army, as he was honored during the flag-raising ceremony at the PA Headquarters in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig on Monday for helping the Philippine Army Cycling Team through his Bicycology Shop in its pursuit for sports excellence. The Army-Bicycology Shop placed first runner-up in recent Ronda Pilipinas.

5 April 2018

# Malaya

The National Newspaper

Page: C2



**WELL DONE:** Olympian Eric Buhain (right), the former chief of the Philippine Sports Commission, shakes hand with Major General Chad D. Isleta, Philippine Army chief, after being honored during the flag-raising ceremony at the PA Headquarters in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig for helping the Philippine Army cycling team through his Bicycology Shop in their pursuit for sports excellence. The Army-Bicycology Shop placed first runner-up in the recent Ronda Pilipinas.

6 April 2018



Page: \_\_\_\_\_

## RODY ORDERS TALKS TO RESUME

# Joma demands gov't drops terror tag

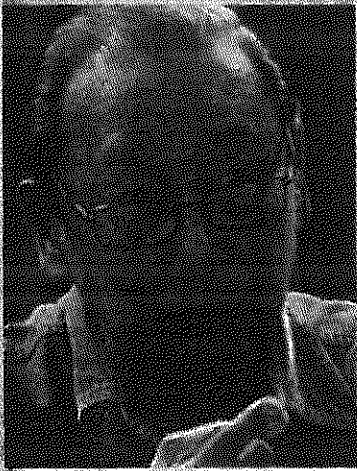
**By Mario J. Mallari and Ted Tuvera**

Contrary to an earlier statement of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) expressing willingness to resume negotiations with the government without preconditions, Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) founder and chairman Jose Maria "Joma" Sison said

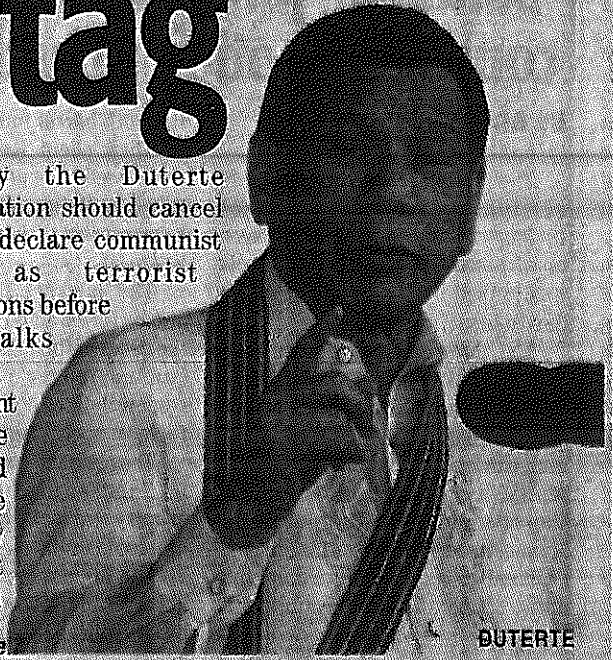
yesterday the Duterte administration should cancel its bid to declare communist groups as terrorist organizations before the talks resume.

President Duterte directed late Wednesday the Cabinet to work on

*Turn to page*



SISON



DUTERTE

**From page 1**

Cabinet to work on resuming peace negotiations with the NDFP, the CPP's legal front, four months after the talks were called off.

NDFP chief negotiator Fidel Agcaoili said in a television interview that the communist rebels can go back to the negotiating table anytime.

"No preconditions. We sit down and talk on basis of the three agreements, the drafts for which we have prepared in October and which should have been discussed in November," Agcaoili said.

In a television interview, Sison said the Department of Justice (DoJ) petition on the terrorist tag poses "a problem" since it will bar NDFP consultants from participating in peace negotiations.

"That kind of obstacle or hindrance must be dealt with properly in a timely manner," Sison said.

"If the GRP (government of the Republic of the Philippines) side is really serious in aiming for big results, the obstacles and hindrance should be done away with," he added.

Mr. Duterte laid down two conditions for the revival of peace negotiations which are the CPP-NPA-NDFP to agree to a ceasefire and that communist rebels stop collecting "revolutionary taxes".

Sison, however, said the rebels will "gladly" declare a ceasefire if "what was promised since a long time ago by President Duterte, the amnesty and release of the political prisoners, is fulfilled."

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque added that Mr. Duterte has authorized the resumption of the peace talks subject to the conditions.

Roque added that Sison's demand to discard the terrorist tag may happen.

"If the talks continue, the government can file a manifestation to hold the petition in abeyance pending the outcome of the peace talks," Roque said.

"I think it will be withdrawn if there is a final peace agreement signed," he added.

Sison added Duterte's offer of providing support to the rebels if they stop collecting revolutionary taxes should be

placed on the negotiating table.

"Without a formal meeting of the panels, there can only be an acrimonious public exchange of complaints and demands, which appear or sound like the preconditions prohibited by The Hague Joint Declaration," he added.

Sison is also the chief political consultant of the NDFP.

The government and the rebel panels were in their fifth round of talks on November 25 to 27, 2017 but it was aborted when Duterte issued Presidential Proclamation 360 on November 23, cancelling the talks following a series of NPA attacks including an ambush of a police patrol car in Bukidnon on November 9 that killed four-month old Walysa Manchorao.

**Give peace a chance – Rody**

"Let's give this another last chance" Mr. Duterte said as he directed the government to resume the stalled peace process during the six-hour Cabinet meeting in Malacañang that adjourned late Wednesday night.

Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Jesus Dureza, in a text message to reporters, said the Chief Executive gave the directive to "work on the resumption of the peace talks with the GPP-NPA-NDFP."

Reiterating the President's orders, Dureza said Mr. Duterte gave "clear instructions on the importance of forging a ceasefire agreement to stop mutual attacks and fighting while talks are underway."

Dureza even hinted that the Chief Executive is "also committed to provide support" for the rebels to replace the funds they collect from "revolutionary" taxes.

Both the government and the CPP leaderships are upbeat over President Duterte's decision to give peace negotiations another chance.

Sison cited the already prepared drafts on three major issues left hanging last November following the cancellation of the formal talks.

Among these were the consensus on the general principles, on agrarian reform and rural development and national industrialization and economic

development, which are the most important parts of the Comprehensive Agreement on Social and Economic Reforms (Caser), the draft amnesty proclamation to release all the political prisoners listed by the NDFP in compliance with the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL), and the draft agreement on coordinated unilateral ceasefires, which is under the watch of a joint national ceasefire committee.

"When the GRP and NDFP negotiating panels meet, they can be confident of achieving substantial success. Without a formal meeting of the panels, there can only be an acrimonious public exchange of complaints and demands, which appear or sound like the preconditions prohibited by The Hague Joint Declaration," said Sison.

"This framework agreement requires that no side shall impose on the other side preconditions that negate the character and purpose of peace negotiations. The conflicting parties become negotiating parties precisely to thresh out serious differences and complaints and seek the solutions to achieve a just and lasting peace," he added.

Sison said that as a matter of course, the two panels shall reaffirm all the existing agreements by way of ending the previous termination of the peace negotiations. It logically follows that the two panels shall cooperate in doing away with the obstacles and hindrances to the agreements and to the entire peace process.

The GPP founding chair stressed that the draft agreement of coordinated unilateral ceasefires shall end the hostilities between government troops and the New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the CPP.

"This draft agreement is in effect the start of a bilateral ceasefire agreement. It is a significant step toward the Comprehensive Agreement on the End of Hostilities and Disposition of Forces," Sison explained.

#### **Lorenzana looks for sincerity**

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana stressed the military's commitment to peace but reiterated his call to the CPP-NPA-NDFP to show sincerity by stopping all their illegal activities.

Lorenzana blamed the communists for blocking development in the rural areas by conducting atrocities, extortion and other forms of criminalities that prevent investments to come in.

"They are not stopping with their depredations so as far as we are concerned, they are not sincere to pursue the peace," said Lorenzana.

The defense chief also questioned the CPP leadership's control over the NPAs on the ground.

"They have to prove that they can control their people on the ground...they have to assure that they have control," said Lorenzana, who has been very vocal against the resumption of the peace talks with the communist group.

Lorenzana also stressed that a mutual ceasefire should be implemented and that the NPA should not use to strengthen its forces.

"There should be no movement...the ceasefire should be complemented by stopping with their revolutionary tax, which to me is extortion, no attacking of government troops, no kidnapping of civilians and soldiers, no more expansion of influenced areas," said Lorenzana.

The President announced on Wednesday his desire to give peace negotiations between the government and the CPP-NDFP a final last chance.

#### **Alejano: 'Just for show'**

The sincerity of the Duterte government in resuming peace talks with communist rebels is being questioned by a member of the opposition.

Magdalo Party-List Rep. Gary Alejano charged that the order of President Duterte to sit in the negotiating table with the communist is just "for show."

"I want to be optimistic but there are signs that this is for a show. I bet it will surprise the security forces of this unpredictable and lack of clear directions from the President," he said.

Duterte has ordered Secretary Jesus

Dureza, chief of the government's negotiating panel, to work for the resumption of peace talks with the NDFP.

Duterte has tagged the NDF-CCP-NPA as terrorist organizations.

He had terminated the peace talks.

Alejano posited that Duterte is feeling the pressure of the growing tactical operations of the left and has therefore decided to resume the peace talks.

"Duterte saw the growing protests from leftists, who have coalesced with other groups. One way to stop these alliances from forming is the resumption of the peace talks," he explained.

"Do you think the Makabayans will not cease from protesting against the Duterte administration?" Alejano added.

Some 60 lawmakers had signed a resolution urging President Duterte to resume peace talks.

Meanwhile, Alejano confirmed that he is being groomed for the Senate in the next national elections.

Alejano said that the decision to run for the Senate rests on the Magdalo Executive Committee which is now in the process of a nationwide consultation to determine the degree of the group's participation in the electoral exercise.

"I confirm that the Magdalo Executive Committee is in the process of deciding our degree of participation in the 2019 elections. There is an ongoing consultation on a national level among Magdalo chapters and other allied groups and organizations. We are awaiting the results of this exercise," Alejano said.

Sen. Antonio Trillanes', Alejano's colleague in Magdalo, third term in the Senate is going to expire in 2019.

"I am grateful for Senator Trillanes' trust and belief in my qualifications, especially given the importance of the position in question and the responsibilities it bears. On my part, I believe that the cause we started in 2003 for the country is a lifetime commitment, and I strive to always act in line with the principles Magdalo has stood for. Henceforth, whatever decision the group will have, I will adhere to the wisdom of the body," Alejano said.

**Gerry Baldo**

6 April 2018



Page: 1

## Gov't won't remove CPP-NPA terror tag

The Duterte administration will withdraw the court petition seeking to declare the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and New People's Army (NPA) as terrorist groups only when a peace agreement is signed, Malacañang said yesterday.

But the government can ask the court to put on hold the petition once negotiations between the government and the communists start, according to presidential spokesman Harry Roque.

"If the talks resume, the government can file a manifestation to hold in abeyance the petition filed before the court pending the outcome of the peace talks," Roque said in a press briefing.

Turn to Page 4

## Gov't From Page 1

"I think it will be withdrawn if there is a final peace agreement signed. But while the peace talks are ongoing, what we can do is to just let it remain there," he added.

The terrorist tag on communists caused the collapse of the peace talks during the time of former president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Last November, Duterte scrapped the talks with the communists, accusing them of bad faith by attacking security forces and civilians while negotiations were ongoing.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has asked a Manila court to declare about 600 persons, including communist peace consultants, as terrorists, citing their violent acts.

DOJ Undersecretary Erickson Balmes said they will pursue the petition unless there is a desist order from the government.

"The peace talks have not actually resumed. We will comply with any new directive of our President on this matter. For the time being, there being no order to the contrary, we will pursue the petition as filed," he said.

On Tuesday, Duterte expressed readiness to resume talks with the communists, saying he no longer wants to fight with fellow Filipinos.

He also offered to shoulder the expenses of the National Democratic Front (NDF), which negotiates on behalf of the communist movement.

Duterte has also authorized the resumption of peace talks subject to certain conditions like the forging of a ceasefire agreement and stopping the collection of the so-called revolutionary tax.

"Number three is that the CPP-NPA would not insist on a coalition government because that is absolutely not part of the bargain," Roque said.

"So if the CPP-NPA would agree to these conditions, then peace talks could resume," he added.

CPP founding chairman Jose Ma. Sison, on the other hand, said they are willing to return to the negotiating table and "to meet as soon as possible."

OFF

Sison wanted the terror tag on the communist rebels dropped so that they could participate in the peace talks with the government.

"Of course, proscription of the CPP-NPA as terrorist filed in Manila RTC, well that is a problem because it bars the NDF consultants from participating in the peace negotiations. So that kind of obstacle must be dealt with properly in a timely manner because most of the NDF panel has been incapacitated by this case," Sison said. "If the (government) side is really serious in aiming for big results, which is the attainment of peace and even truce or ceasefire in the meantime the obstacles and hindrance should be done away with," he said. Sison stressed the peace talks should resume without preconditions. He said the two sides could resolve any differences during negotiations.

In a radio interview, the exiled leftist leader said both sides should "bring different positions on issues to the table in order to thresh out the differences and arrive at agreements."

"The (government) and NDF as nego-

tiating parties must comply with agreements already signed and approved by them... In resuming the peace negotiations, these agreements must be reaffirmed and followed," Sison said.

Roque said the President is also willing to grant Sison an assurance that he can come home without being arrested so he can join the negotiations.

Roque said former Pangasinan representative Hernani Braganza has been instructed to meet with communist negotiators to relay the information to them.

If the talks resume, communist peace consultants would again enjoy immunity from arrest, Roque added.

Roque, however, clarified that security operations against the rebels would continue until a ceasefire deal is forged.

Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Jesus Dureza said there should be no attacks from either side before talks resume and the rebels have to stop their practice of extortion.

These were not conditions, he stressed, only moves to create an "enabling environment."

ail add: oacpa.army2012@gmail.com – Tel no. (02) 845-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

### Trust issues

The government peace panel is set to reconvene today to discuss preparations for the resumption of peace negotiations with the communist rebels.

Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III, chairman of the government peace panel, will meet with Dureza to discuss the ceasefire agreement and other matters concerning the resumption of talks.

"The issue of ceasefire agreement will have to be discussed, whether it will be a bilateral ceasefire or a coordinated unilateral ceasefire," Bello said.

Bello expressed hope that the negotiations for ceasefire agreement will be faster this time since the government panel and the NDF will just be revising an agreement signed last year.

The government and NDF panels had forged an agreement on an interim joint ceasefire. The guidelines and ground rules had yet to be drafted when the President ordered the suspension of talks.

The agreement provides for the formation of a Joint Ceasefire Committee and the prospective role of a third party in the ceasefire monitoring and other mechanisms.

"We just need to make minor revisions to address the concerns of both panels," Bello said.

The President on Wednesday directed officials to work on the resumption of peace talks and give importance on forging a ceasefire agreement to stop mutual attacks while talks are underway.

Bello earlier said the resumption of talks appeared dim due to recent attacks by the NPA.

"Honestly I don't know what changed the decision of the President, probably he saw some indication or sign the other party is eager to discuss the talks on peace again," Bello said.

Bello said the NDF has not made any precondition in the resumption of peace talks, thus the government does not need to stop efforts to put back in detention the communist negotiators who were allowed bail.

Bello noted Sison's pronouncement that they are willing to resume talks without preconditions.

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April 2018

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
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Page: A15

# Sison seeks talks on Duterte conditions

By Inquirer Staff  
@Team\_Inquirer

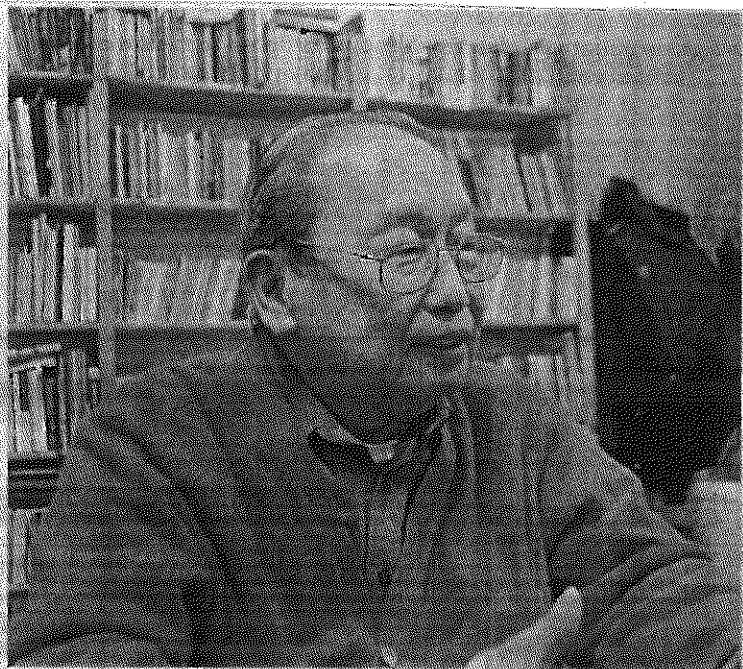
Exiled communist leader Jose Maria Sison on Thursday welcomed the possible reopening of peace negotiations, and urged the government and rebel negotiators to formally convene soon to thresh out disputes hampering the resumption of the talks.

President Duterte had directed his peace adviser, Jesus Dureza, to find ways to resume the talks, which the former halted last November because of continued attacks by the New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP).

As his conditions for the resumption of the talks, Mr. Duterte wants a complete stop to NPA attacks and the collection of revolutionary taxes and for the rebels to drop their demand to be part of a coalition government.

These terms are "not subject to negotiation," presidential spokesperson Harry Roque said.

By holding a formal meeting, the negotiating panels of the government and the communist-led National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) "can be confident of achieving substantial success," said Sison, the CPP founding



Jose Maria Sison

chair and the rebels' political consultant in the talks.

#### 1992 agreement

"Without a formal meeting of the panels, there can only be an acrimonious public exchange of complaints and demands, which appear or sound like the preconditions prohibited by The Hague Joint Declaration," Sison said in a statement.

He was referring to the 1992 agreement that reopened the

talks under then President Fidel Ramos following the collapse of the negotiations under Ramos' predecessor, Corazon Aquino.

That agreement provides, among other things, that "no precondition shall be made to negate the inherent character and purpose of the peace negotiations."

Edre Olalia, a legal consultant to the NDFP, said that clause in The Hague declaration meant that there should be "no



surrender or capitulation.”

Dureza said in a radio interview that the terms set by the President were not conditions, only moves to create an “enabling environment.”

Sison said the resumption of the Norwegian-brokered talks “is needed precisely to deal with substantive issues and complaints” by both sides.

He said before the talks were scrapped last year, there already was a draft agreement on coordinated unilateral ceasefires that would have effectively been the start of a bilateral ceasefire agreement, he added.

#### **Bilateral ceasefire**

But Sison said it would be better for the resumption of the talks if Mr. Duterte did not make the bilateral ceasefire agreement a precondition.

“The NDFP is firm that bilateral ceasefire, which is protracted and indefinite, is unacceptable if it runs ahead of the amnesty and release of all the political prisoners in compliance with the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (Carhrihl) and the signing of Caser (Comprehensive Agreement on Social and Economic Reforms),” Sison said.

Opposition lawmakers in

the House of Representatives urged the two sides to immediately resume the talks.

Bayan Muna Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate expressed “guarded optimism” about Mr. Duterte’s order to resume the talks.

“This is a very crucial opportunity and we hope both parties, as well as the third party facilitator, the Royal Norwegian Government, the peace consultants, cooperators and staff, can immediately buckle down to work and resume this tedious but necessary process,” Zarate said in a statement.

Mr. Duterte should “rein in his pro-US, militarist secretaries and officials who are openly blocking any progress in the peace negotiations” and stop the police and the military attacks on rural communities, he said.

#### **Confidence-building**

“There is no other way but to talk peace,” said Magdalo Rep. Gary Alejandro. “Peace can not be achieved by military solution alone. The root causes must be addressed through peaceful, sincere and meaningful talks.”

Ifugao Rep. Teddy Baguilat Jr. said both the government and the communists should tone down their rhetoric.

“I hope both sides reflect on

the lessons of past failures; think of more confidence-building initiatives and propose to Congress measures that address the root cause of insurgency,” Baguilat said.

#### **Resolution**

Last month, 61 congressmen, or one-fifth of the House members, passed a resolution urging Mr. Duterte to resume the talks and complete the agreements that would “lay the basis for a just and lasting peace.”

Mr. Duterte had promised to end the nearly 50-year Maoist rebellion, which has killed more than 40,000 people, by finding a political solution but he abandoned peace efforts in November complaining of repeated rebel attacks.

His administration later petitioned a court to declare the CPP and the NPA terrorist organizations. It also sought to declare about 600 people, including about two dozen rebel consultants in the talks, terrorists.

Roque said the government may ask the court to put the petition on hold if the talks resumed.

If final peace agreements are signed, the petition could be withdrawn, he said. —WITH REPORTS FROM DELFIN T. MALLARI JR., NIKKODIZON, VINCE F. NONATO, LEILA B. SALAVERRIA, ALLAN NAWAL AND REUTERS INQ

April 2018

The Manila Times

Page: A1

## Lorenzana wants conditions to talks, Joma disagrees

PRECONDITIONS should be observed before the peace negotiations between the Philippine government and the National Democratic Front (NDF) are resumed, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said on Thursday,

echoing the stand of President Rodrigo Duterte for the "last chance" of the talks.

Exiled Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) founder Jose Maria "Joma" Sison however countered this,

saying that setting of preconditions would not follow The Hague Joint Declaration signed in 1992 by former president Fidel Ramos and former NDF chairman Manuel Romero.

Lorenzana raised at least seven

conditions: a bilateral ceasefire, no coalition in the government with the communists, no attacks of New People's Army (NPA) rebels on government forces and civilians, no extortion

► Joma A8

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■ JOMA FROM A I

## Lorenzana

tion activities, no destruction of properties; no recruitment by the NPA, and no roaming around with firearms.

These were the same conditions laid down by the Defense chief on Wednesday, hours before Duterte ordered the "last chance" for peace talks with the communists.

Lorenzana had softened his stand on the peace negotiations but maintained that there should be a ceasefire from both parties.

During the Cabinet meeting on Wednesday night, the President ordered the resumption of the peace talks with the communists, with Presidential Peace Adviser Jesus Dureza saying Duterte was also committed to provide support, "if necessary," in replacement with the armed rebels' revolutionary taxes.

The move was welcomed by Sison, the chief political consultant of the NDF, saying there was a need for the resumption of talks on "substantive issues and complaints."

"In the same round of formal talks, as well as in preceding

consultations, the panels can present conflicting positions and subsequently seek to solve the problems on mutually acceptable grounds," the communist leader said in a statement.

### Three agreements

Sison, who is in self-exile in The Netherlands, emphasized three agreements drafted before the peace negotiations stalled last year.

The first one was the "substantial consensus" between the two peace panels in terms of the agrarian reform, rural development, national industrialization and economic development, which Sison described as the "most important parts" of the Comprehensive Agreement on Social and Economic Reforms (Caser).

"There is already a draft amnesty proclamation to release all the political prisoners listed by the NDFP in compliance with the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL)," Sison said.

Another deal, he said, was the draft agreement on the coordinated unilateral ceasefires, which he said is under the monitoring of a

joint national ceasefire committee.

"This draft agreement is in effect at the start of a bilateral ceasefire agreement. It is a significant step towards the Comprehensive Agreement on the End of Hostilities and Disposition of Forces," Sison emphasized.

Contrary to the suggestion of Lorenzana, he maintained that there should be no preconditions as it would not be in compliance with The Hague Joint Declaration of 1992.

Under the declaration in The Hague, the NDF and the government stated that the holding of the peace negotiations must be in accordance with "mutually acceptable principles" including national sovereignty, democracy and social justice.

"[N]o precondition shall be made to negate the inherent character and purpose of the peace negotiations," the declaration read.

This was echoed by Sison, adding that the two "conflicting" parties have become negotiating parties to thresh out differences and complaints, and to seek solutions in achieving a "just and lasting peace."

"As a matter of course, the two panels shall reaffirm all the existing agreements by way of ending

the previous termination of the peace negotiations," he said.

"It logically follows that the two panels shall cooperate in doing away with the obstacles and hindrances to the agreements and to the entire peace process," Sison added.

### 'No surrender'

Lorenzana again expressed his openness as well to the possible resumption of the peace talks, saying that he would support the "last chance initiative" of Duterte.

NDF legal consultant Edre Olalia pointed out that The Hague declaration does not indicate any surrender or capitulation.

"[The peace talks] shall be able to resolve the roots of the armed conflict for a negotiated political settlement, the negotiations should have no submission or dictation by one party to the other's jurisdiction or system, among others," Olalia said.

"In short, no prior or pre-set condition before the talks or the negotiations are held. Precisely, such matters are the proper subject of negotiations, not the other way around," he added.

**DEMPSEY REYES**

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6 April 2018



Page: 4

## AFP backs restart of talks with reds

By JAIME LAUDE

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) expressed full support for President Duterte's decision to resume the peace talks with communist rebels.

But while things are still being sorted out for the talks to proceed, the military is not yet ready to suspend its operations against the insurgents.

"The military is an instrument of national power and we fully support the decision of our political leaders," said Lt. Gen. Benjamin Madrigal, commander of the Armed Forces of the Philippines-Eastern Mindanao Command.

Army spokesman Lt. Col. Louie Villanueva said the troops deployed for anti-insurgency operations would continue performing their mission.

"The Army shall by all means abide and support the government stand and thrust on the renewed peace talks. It shall continue to perform its mandate and contribute to the permanent and peaceful closure of all armed conflicts by adhering to the primacy of peace process," Villa-nueva said.

He gave assurance the Army will remain steadfast in performing its task and will always be on guard to prevent the communist insurgents from exploiting the peace talks.

The communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels have used the peace talks as an opportunity to recruit, rearm and reorganize their ranks while attacking

government forces.

Duterte had suspended the peace talks, accusing the rebels of bad faith by attacking soldiers and civilians while negotiating peace with the government.

For his part, Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV warned of a possible demoralization among the ranks of security forces if the government pushes through with its peace talks with the communist rebels.

Trillanes said the resumption of peace talks with the communists would nullify the gains made by the government forces against the NPA which, he said, faced a huge setback when the negotiations broke down last year.

Instead of dealing with the rebel leadership, Trillanes said the better move would be to localize the peace process.

Trillanes, a former Navy officer, explained localized peace talks involve the government dealing with the different communist fronts and not the personalities hiding in the Netherlands.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson, a former national police chief, also aired his apprehension about resuming the peace talks with the communists, saying past experience showed efforts to forge peace with them would ultimately fail.

"History will tell us it has become a vicious cycle. Peace talks, violations, then the blame game, and then peace talks again," Lacson said.

"So the government should seriously consider other strategies to resolve this decades-long, four decades (communist insurgency)," he said.

6 April 2018



Page: 8

# Albayalde replaces Bato;

# Galvez takes over AFP

By EMMANUEL TUPAS

Incoming Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Director Oscar Albayalde vowed to continue the government's war on drugs and weed out scalawags from the police organization.



Albayalde

"We will continue what we started in the war on illegal drugs," he told reporters yesterday.

He promised to continue implementing Oplan Tokhang, the government's anti-drug campaign where 1.3 million drug pushers and users have surrendered.

"It's very successful and we have this momentum and we will continue with the momentum," Albayalde said.

President Duterte yesterday announced that Albayalde is the next PNP chief, replacing Director General Ronald dela Rosa.

Duterte also designated Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez as the new head of the 130,000-strong military, replacing outgoing Armed Forces of the Philippines chief Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero.

Albayalde, who is set to retire on Nov. 8, 2019, promised to continue with their internal cleansing program to instill discipline among police ranks.

Albayalde had caught several police officers sleeping on the job during his surprise inspections of police stations in Metro Manila.

According to Albayalde, he is elated and overwhelmed by the trust and confidence Duterte gave him in leading the police organization.

"I will continue and fully support the advocacy of the administration of our President," he said.

Asked what was his edge over other contenders, Albayalde said it could have been the endorsement of Dela Rosa, his classmate at the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1986, and his accomplishments as head of the NCRPO.

Albayalde said he had been told by fellow police officers that he was being considered by Duterte as the next PNP chief.

"They told me I'm being considered but not really I will be the next, nothing like that," he said.

Albayalde also promised to remain accessible to members of the media.

"Nothing will change except my rank and my position."

Duterte said he has ordered Albayalde to expand the prison cells because he would put more criminals in jail.

"Do not buy food. Do not feed those b\*\*\*\*. They should buy their own food," the President said.

"I am not the pardoning type. I am not a priest and I do not want to listen to mouths that are close to my ears," he added.

Duterte said he chose Albayalde because he got feedback that the police official is competent and strict.

"I asked those from Davao I mentioned two other names. They said 'choose him sir, he is competent sir, he is kind,'" the President said.

Meanwhile, the PNP welcomed Albayalde's appointment.

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“The 190,000-strong PNP uniformed and non-uniformed personnel will give its full support to his leadership,” PNP spokesman Chief Supt. John Bulalacao said in a statement.

“His proven track record of service assures us that the policies of the government relative to public order and safety shall be sustained,” he added.

### **New AFP chief**

Duterte picked Galvez, former commander of the AFP Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom), from the list of three key contenders that were recommended by the AFP Board of Generals.



**Galvez**

The two other contenders were Davao City-based Eastern Mindanao Command (Eastmincom) commander, Lt. Gen. Benjamin Madrigal and Army chief Lt. Gen. Joselito Bautista.

Galvez, Bautista and Madrigal belong to the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class of 1985.

“I would like to thank the President for the trust and confidence and I would do my best with honor, integrity and loyalty. I will serve the best that I can,” Galvez said when asked for comment over his new designation.

Galvez, if his term is not extended by the President, will be serving as AFP chief for eight months as he is slated to be retired from the service on Dec. 12 this year.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said that the AFP will be in good hands under Galvez.

“I am happy for General Galvez. I know he will make a good chief AFP. I knew him since he was a lieutenant, very professional and competent,” Lorenzana said.

He added that most of Galvez’s assignments have been in Mindanao – western, central and eastern – and he knows the area and the people well.

With his designation as the new AFP chief, Galvez will be bringing along with him his rich combat and administrative experiences, having commanded key military field units in Mindanao, as well as protector of the government’s peace process with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Prior to his current post as Westmincom commander, Galvez served as the Army’s 104th Infantry Brigade commander in Basilan before his designation to the government’s peace process with the MILF as Coordinating Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH).

During his CCCH stint, Galvez worked with then Office of Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process head Teresita Deles in preventing the escalation of hostilities between government forces and the MILF rebels at the height of the Mamasapano police-led anti-terror operations.

From his CCCH post, Galvez was appointed as AFP deputy chief for operations and he was later reassigned to Mindanao as commander of the Awang, Maguindanao-based 6th Infantry Division.

– With Alexis Romero

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6 April 2018

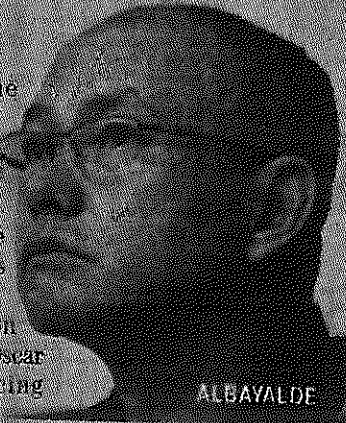


Page: 1

## Rody picks Albayalde as top cop; Galvez tapped as AFP chief of staff

By Mario J. Mallari and Ted Tuvera

In the face of the presidential campaign against illegal drugs and terrorism, President Duterte yesterday named the new heads of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) chief Oscar Albayalde will be replacing



ALBAYALDE

Turn to page 7

From page 1

Office (NCRPO) chief Oscar Albayalde will be replacing outgoing top cop PNP Director General Ronald dela Rosa.

Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom) commanding officer Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez, meanwhile, is going to replace AFP chief Rey Leonardo Guevarra.

Both Albayalde and Galvez will officially take their posts on April 18, Presidential spokesman Harry Roque said.

The Commander in Chief announced Albayalde's appointment in a speech before agricultural workers in Malacañang, saying that he has thoroughly reviewed his background and admits being impressed by Albayalde's reputation.

"I told (the people in Camp) Crame that we have a new (PNP) chief. I'm going to announce it now, it's Albayalde," Mr. Duterte said.

"Albayalde is the man for you. The stricter, the better," he added.

Mr. Duterte instructed Albayalde to "expand prisons."

Last February, Albayalde gained positive publicity after conducting surprise inspections in Police stations around Metro Manila, finding negligent cops on duty.

Albayalde belongs to the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) class of 1986, a mistake of retiring PNP chief dela Rosa who is popularly known as "Bato."

Dela Rosa was set to retire last January but Mr. Duterte extended his stint. He is reportedly on his way to lead the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor).

Albayalde's term could last until November 8, 2019 when he turns 56, the mandatory retirement age for state security officials.

Minutes before saying that he is not yet disclosing who the new AFP chief of staff is, Mr. Duterte instructed Palace spokesman Roque to name Galvez to lead the Armed Forces.

Battle-tested Galvez was the overall commander in the government's recently won campaign against Islamic State (IS)-inspired militants in Marawi City that lasted for five months.

Galvez also gained a favorable reputation after being the youngest commander of the 104th infantry brigade from 2012 to 2013 fighting Abu Sayyaf bandits in Basilan.

The incoming AFP chief is also significant in preventing Sulu-based reinforcements for the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) during the Zamboanga siege in 2013.

He was also responsible for maintaining the ceasefire between state security forces and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) after the Mamasapano massacre in 2015 where 44 PNP elite forces were killed while launching an operation to hunt down top Malaysian terrorists.

Galvez belongs to the PMA Class of

1985, replacing his upper-class senior Guerrero who was promised by the Commander in Chief to lead the Maritime Industry Authority (Marina).

Guerrero was supposed to retire, due to age restraints, last December but was compelled by Mr. Duterte to extend his stint as AFP chief for another six months.

Albayalde yesterday expressed elation over President Duterte's announcement he will be the next chief of tyhe PNP.

"Of course, very very much elated, I'm overwhelmed and thankful first of all to God, to the President and the chief PNP for having trust and confidence in me," said Albayalde.

Albayalde vowed he will do his best to lead the 185,000-strong police organization.

"Rest assured that I will not betray their trust and confidence," Albayalde said.

"I will continue to work with the President, support his advocacy especially the changes the President wants," he added.

Albayalde thanked PNP chief Director General Ronald dela Rosa for his support.

"I would like to thank him for his support. He does not know just how big his endorsement is for me to the president," Albayalde

"So I want to thank him (dela Rosa) from the bottom of my heart, for having given me his trust and confidence. So again, I will not betray his trust and confidence", he added.

Lt. Gen. Galvez Jr., commander of the military's Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom), vowed to do his best as next chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)

A member of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) "Sandiwa" Class of 1985, Galvez bested four other senior AFP officials in the race for the military top post.

"I would like to take this opportunity. I will do my best to serve the President, the best I can with honor, integrity and loyalty," Galvez said.

Malacañang yesterday announced that Galvez will be the next chief of staff of the 135,000-strong AFP.

The announcement came a day after Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana revealed that he already submitted a shortlist composed of five generals to the President.

As commander of Wesmincom, Galvez oversaw the military operations against the Islamic State-inspired terrorists during last year's five-month Marawi City siege.

Prior to his appointment as Wesmincom, Galvez served as military commander in Basilan and head of the government coordinating committee on the cessation of hostilities (GCCGH) with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Galvez said his experience as a peacemaker could be an advantage to him during his tenure as AFP chief.

Galvez is reaching the mandatory retirement age of 56 this December.

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5 April 2018

**POLICE FILES**

Page. 2

## Lt. Gen. Galvez bagong AFP Chief

ITATALAGA m Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte si Western Mindanao Command (WestMinCom) chief Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez bilang susunod na Chief of Staff ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)

Si Lt. Gen. Guerrero ang papalit kay outgoing Chief of Staff Gen. Leonardo Guerrero.

Sinabi ni Presidential Spokesman Harry Roque, si Galvez ay manunumpa sa bagong pwesto sa Abril 18 kasabay na rin ng panunumpa ng incoming PNP Chief na si National Capital Region Police Office (NCR-PO) chief Police Dir. Oscar Albayalde.

"Inappoint na rin po o ma-aappoint na rin po ng Presidente si Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez as Chief of Staff ng Armed Forces of the Philippines at sabay daw po sila ni Gen. Albayalde na manunumpa on April 18. So ang panmilibhan din ni Gen. Bato as

PNP Director General is until April 18," ani Sec Roque.

Si Lt. Gen. Galvez ay nagsilbi na rin bilang commander ng 6th Infantry Division na nakabase sa Maguindanao.

Siya ang head noon ng Coordinating Committee on the Cessation of Hostilities (CCCH) ng gobyerno nang mangyari ang Mamasapano encounter na ikinamatay ng 44 na PNP-Special Action Force sa Maguindanao noong Enero 2015.

Isa rin si Galvez sa mga nangasiwa sa operasyon ng militar sa Marawi City laban sa ISIS-Maute terror group.

Beterano si Galvez sa pakikipaglaban sa Abu Sayyaf Group sa Basilan kung saan siya ang pinakabatang commander ng 104th Infantry Brigade noong 2012 hanggang 2013.

Nagtapos si Galvez sa Philippine Military Academy (PMA) noong 1985.

(Vanz Fernandez)

6 April 2018



Page: All

**NCIP: Benguet ancestral lands along path of PMA expansion**  
BAGUIO CITY—An investigation by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) confirmed that a proposed expansion of the Philippine Military Academy reservation here would intrude into Ibaloy ancestral lands in nearby Tuba town in Benguet province. Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu endorsed the inclusion of 105 hectares within Tuba into the PMA reservation, possibly through a presidential proclamation. But the expansion would affect two ancestral land claims, among them the applications for certificates of ancestral land title by Andrew Pilanta over 501,939 square meters of land in Tuba, and by Paulita Solana for 506,360 sq m, according to a report from lawyer Harriet Abyadang, NCIP Gordillera legal officer. "The referral to the NCIP was deemed necessary and urgent considering that the proposed proclamation is [also] within the ancestral domain of Tuba," Abyadang said in her report to NCIP commissioners in Manila. On Monday, the Benguet provincial board approved a resolution urging Malacañang to allow consultations with Ibaloy residents before it approves the PMA expansion. —KIMBERLIE QUITASOL

6 April 2018



Page: 13

## letters

### Defeating terrorism

Senior Army officers had a gathering recently at headquarters in Taguig City for a two-day conference to address the country's biggest security concerns: the threat of terrorism and violent extremism.

The rise of terrorism and the spread of violent extremism have made our current security situation a very complex issue that demands our utmost attention. It has become the country's top security concern, which the Armed Forces of the Philippines and even the armed forces of other countries are busy preparing to defeat.

Take for example Marawi City. It was the site of a five-month clash between government forces and Islamic State-inspired terrorists, an eye-opener on the increasing threat of terrorism.

The Marawi siege started on May 23 last year when government forces tried to serve a warrant for the arrest of Isnilon Hapilon, the touted leader of the Islamic State (IS) in Southeast Asia. The service of the warrant triggered a bloody conflict between government forces and IS-linked Maute fighters which prompted President Rodrigo Duterte to declare martial law in Mindanao on the same day. The fighting lasted five months and left dead at least 168 security forces,

over 900 Maute fighters, and at least 45 civilians.

In the aftermath Marawi City was left in ruins with more than 300,000 people displaced by the fighting. It was the country's worst security crisis and the longest urban conflict in recent years.

It was a classic example of how terrorism tried to infiltrate a nation. However, it was a resounding victory in liberating the city of Marawi from the hands of terrorists. I hope that not only ASEAN but also all regional blocs will defeat the enemy. Terrorism must not be allowed to ruin the state.

We need to partner-up and collaborate with stakeholders, other agencies and the international community in countering terrorism. Terrorism has been evolving through time. It has grown into a beast, tearing down transnational borders and continuously expanding its reach.

As Filipinos, we need to formulate innovations and strategies that will effectively address these emerging challenges. The government cannot work alone. All of us are targets of emerging threats. Thus, we need to work hand-in-hand with other countries. – **JUMEL ESTRANERO**, Defense Research Analyst and College Faculty

## ONLINE NEWS

06 APRIL 2018

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# FIRST REGULAR MEETING | 10ID Holds Multi-Sector Advisory and Action Group Meeting

Posted by Alvin Santiago

**BGEN MANUEL YAN, Compostela Valley (DWDD)** – The Command of the 10th Infantry “Agila” Division, Philippine hosted the Multi-Sector Advisory and Action Group (MSAAG) First Regular Meeting 01-2018 held at Headquarters 10ID, Camp General Manuel T Yan Sr, Brgy Tuboran, Mawab, Compostela Valley Province on March 4, 2018.



The said meeting was also attended by Major General Noel S Clement, 10ID Commander; Personal and Special Staff and 10ID G-staff Officers, the Brigade and Battalion Commanders under 10ID, Joint Task Force Haribon and Task Force Davao Commanders, Mr Ednar Carlos G Dayanghirang, MSAAG Chairman, Secretary Jesus J Dureza, Chairperson, Committee on Strategic Communication (Represented by Mr Chinot Adao), Mr Jeffrey Jess Mataro, Member, Peace And Development Committee, Hon Allan Rellon-Member, Msaag (Represented by PSSupt Cesar L Azares (Ret), Ms Hope Fernandez, Chairman, Committee on Human Rights, Dr Guillermo Torres Jr, Co-Chairperson, Committee on Strategic Communication (Represented by Mr Roy Geonzon), Fr Juan Macalisang, Member, StratCom & Governance Committee, Mr Randy Ponteras, Chairperson, Assessment & Review Committee and Dr Rhodora Gail T Ilagan, Chairperson, Committee on Peace & Development. Several discussions during the meeting include the Peace and Order situation under 10ID area; Declaration of CPP-NPA as terrorist by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte; Mass Surrenderors, Half way home for FRs; Combat Stress Management Referral System; Senior NCO counselling/mentoring and Strengthening Psychological preparation.

MGen Clement, awarded the plaque of recognition to the outgoing MSAAG member. Likewise, the Governance Strategy Management Office, Office of the Inspector General, Office of the AC of Staff for Operation, G3 and Office of AC of Staff for C4S, G6 were awarded the Plaque of Agila Governance Pathway as “Initiated”. **10DPAO / MCAG**

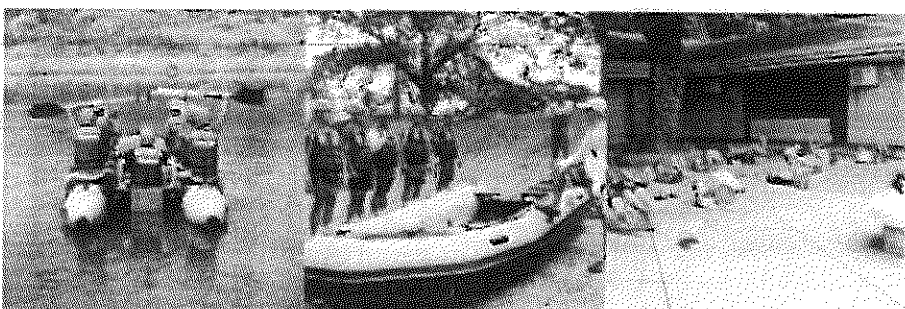
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# IMPROVE CAPABILITY | TOG 3 Airmen enhance skills in WASAR Operations

Posted by [Alvin Santiago](#)

**SAN JOSE, Tarlac (DWDD)** – The Tactical Operations Group 3 of the Philippine Air Force held a two-day Water Search and Rescue Capability Enhancement Training to its personnel from April 2 to 3, 2018 at Tarlac City Recreational Park, San Jose, Tarlac City in order to uplift their level of proficiency and skills, particularly in performing WASAR operations.

The group regularly programs the conduct of capability enhancement training to its personnel to prepare them for emergency situations requiring WASAR operations such as typhoons. **TOG 3 / MCAG**



# Duterte appoints new DOJ, AFP, PNP chiefs

By Azer Parrocha

**MANILA** -- President Rodrigo R. Duterte has appointed new chiefs to lead the Department of Justice (DOJ), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque made the announcement Thursday after Duterte, in a speech in Malacañang, mentioned that he has replaced some of his Cabinet members.

Senior Deputy Executive Secretary Menardo Guevarra was appointed as DOJ Ad Interim Secretary, replacing resigned Vitaliano Aguirre II.

This week, reports circulated that Aguirre had already submitted his resignation letter, while another report said Duterte was likely to fire Aguirre over the dismissal of drug trafficking charges against businessman Peter Lim and self-confessed drug lord Kerwin Espinosa.

"President Duterte has appointed Senior Deputy Executive Secretary Menardo Guevarra as Secretary of the Department of Justice," Roque told reporters in Filipino moments after Duterte's speech.

He said Duterte has already signed Guevarra's appointment papers and he is expected to take his oath "right away".

Roque noted that Duterte did not want to wait until Friday to make the announcement, stressing that the DOJ is among the "most sensitive" departments.

He said Guevarra is the perfect replacement for Aguirre since he has "integrity" aside from extensive legal knowledge.

Guevarra, who holds the post of a cabinet secretary, will simply transfer his appointment from the Office of the President to DOJ.

"Because Congress is on recess, so valid ad interim appointment, he is a full-pledged Secretary," Roque added.

When asked why Aguirre resigned, Roque said he did not see the resignation letter but noted that Duterte said that it was "just a matter of accepting a resignation tendered to him".

Meanwhile, Roque said Duterte also appointed Western Mindanao Command (Wesmincom) chief Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr. as new AFP chief of staff, replacing Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero, who will retire on April 24.

Duterte also announced that he has appointed National Capital Region Police Office chief Director Oscar Albayalde as the new chief of the PNP.

Roque told reporters that Abayalde will take oath on April 18.

PNP Chief Director General Ronald "Bato" dela Rosa will be the next chief of the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) after his term ends on the same date Abayalde takes his oath.  
(APP/PNA)