

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

23 April 2018

Monday

PGS



Honor. Patriotism. Duty

TABLE OF CONTENTS

23 APRIL 2018

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather Forecast	-	PDI p.A16
NATIONAL NEWS			
2-3	60 days for peace talks	Christina Mendez	The Phil Star p.1
4-5	Rody wants Joma back for talks		The Daily Tribune p.1
ARMY RELATED NEWS			
6	2 NPA rebels killed in Davao clash	Michael Punongbayan	The Phil Star p.18
7	NPA commander slain in Davao encounter	Mario J Mallari	The Daily Tribune p.3
8	Lider ng NPA, 1 pa, patay sa pakipagbakkaban sa militar	Mark Obleada	Police Files p.1
9	Govt troops seize IEDS froms Reds	Leander C Domingo	The Mla Times p.A7
10	Ex-tserman, 3 kaanak itinumba sa Basilan	Jeff Gallos	Remate p.2
11	Maguindanao leaders yield 25 more loose firearms	Ali G Macabalang	Mla Bulletin p.7
12	Military truck nahulog sa bangin; sundalo patay, 27 sugatan	Mary Anne Sapico	Remate p.1
AFP RELATED NEWS			
13	Duterte opens 60-day peace window	Ralph Edwin U Villanueva	The Mla Times p.A1
14	Rody gives Joma 60-day ultimatum	PNA	Mla Standard p.A2
15	AFP says NPA has downgraded a major guerilla front	Mike U Crismundo	Mla Bulletin p.7
16	AFP looking at NPAs as barangay candidates		Tempo p.1
17	'Nice' treatment sa NPA, ipinangako ni Duterte	Argyll Cyrus B Geducos	Balita p.1
18	New PNP chief. AFP CoS named; no crackdown on critics-Palace	Fred M Lobo	Mla Bulletin p.10
ONLINE NEWS			
19	Gov't troops drive away NPA rebels in Cagayan	Priam Nepomuceno	www.pna.gov.ph
20-21	PRRD urges Sison to come home, sets 60-day window for talks	Jelly Musico	www.pna.gov.ph
22	Galvez to focus on improving PH internal, external security	Priam Nepomuceno	www.pna.gov.ph
23-24	NPA rebel killed, female companion captured	Eldie Aguirre	www.inquirer.net

23 April 2018



Page: Alb

PANAHON TV
www.panahon.tv /PanahonTV

www.panahon.tv /PanahonTV

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS + FEARLESS VIEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | APRIL 23, 2018 | MONDAY

EASTER LIES AFFECTING THE COUNTRY
as of 4:00 am - April 22, 2018

PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)

SUNRISE 5:38 AM	SUNSET 6:11 PM
MOONRISE 12:07 PM	MOONSET 12:19 AM
NEW MOON APR 16 9:57 AM	FIRST QUARTER APR 23 5:46 AM
LOW TIDE 11:03 PM -0.15 Meter	HIGH TIDE 2:46 PM 1.05 Meter

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

	APR 24	APR 25	APR 24	APR 25	APR 24	APR 25		
METRO MANILA	24 - 34 °C	24 - 33 °C	TAGAYTAY	21 - 31 °C	21 - 30 °C	TACLOBAN	24 - 33 °C	24 - 32 °C
TUGUEGARAO	23 - 35 °C	22 - 35 °C	LEGAZPI	25 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	24 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C
LAOAG	24 - 33 °C	23 - 33 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	25 - 33 °C	25 - 32 °C	METRO DAVAO	25 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C
BAGUIO	16 - 25 °C	16 - 26 °C	ILOILO/BACOLOD	26 - 32 °C	26 - 32 °C	ZAMBOANGA	24 - 33 °C	24 - 32 °C
SBMA/CLARK	25 - 34 °C	24 - 34 °C	METRO CEBU	25 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C			

DZRH NEWS TELEVISION

MONDAY - FRIDAY
11 AM & 5 PM

PILIPINASH

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

SAGOT KO, PADALA MO!



23 April 2018



Page: 1

60 days for peace talks

By CHRISTINA MENDEZ

President Duterte has set a 60-day timeframe for the peace talks he is seeking to revive with the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), urging its leaders to accept the new negotiations he has offered.

“Take advantage of that 60 days. If it succeeds, I would like to thank God first, and the Filipino people and the military and the police for their understanding,” Duterte said in a speech at a motorcycle clubs’ convention in Legazpi City, Albay on Saturday.

But the President did not say when the 60-day period would start. He also wants the CPP’s armed wing the New People’s Army (NPA) to lay down its arms during the negotiations – a condition that the rebels are likely to reject.

Duterte reiterated his invitation to exiled CPP-founder Jose Maria Sison to come home to hammer out a deal.

“I am talking to Sison now. It is an off-and-on thing and probably the military and the police have misgivings,” Duterte said.

He stressed that he is neither a soldier nor a policeman, and his “fundamental” duty as President “is to see to it that my country is peaceful.”

“Just recently I created a small window of 60-day proposal to Jose Maria Sison. I need not go there, but I invite you to come here and I will answer your traveling (expenses) including fare, billeting and food,” Duterte said.

Sison has been in exile in

the Netherlands since his release from prison in the late 1980s.

Duterte promised the safety of NPA members during the new negotiations.

“Those members of the guerrilla fronts can designate a place where you can keep your firearms and inform us where they are and you are free to go anywhere you want without carrying arms,” the President said.

“I will give you complete freedom to move. I will not harass anyone and I will order the military and the police to be nice to you,” he added.

The communist insurgency has raged for half a century and killed more than 40,000 people. On-off negotiations to end the revolt have been brokered by Norway since 1986.

In February, a Norwegian diplomat met Duterte to try to persuade him to restart the negotiations that Duterte had scrapped in anger over what he considered the duplicity of the communists.

Earlier this month, Duterte ordered his Cabinet to work on a truce to enable talks, but the communist rebels have rejected any preconditions.

Ending the conflict was among Duterte’s priorities

Turn to Page 14



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

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

when he took office in 2016. But he abandoned peace efforts in November, infuriated by repeated NPA's attacks during the talks.

In early April, Duterte said

the rebels must agree to a ceasefire, stop extortion activities and abandon their proposal of a coalition government, before resuming talks.

– With Celso Amo, Reuters

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



Honor. Patriotism. Duty.

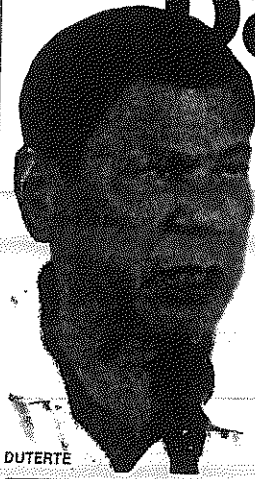
23 April 2018



Page: 1

CPP URGES REVOLUTION VS GOVT PURSUED

Rody wants Joma back for talks

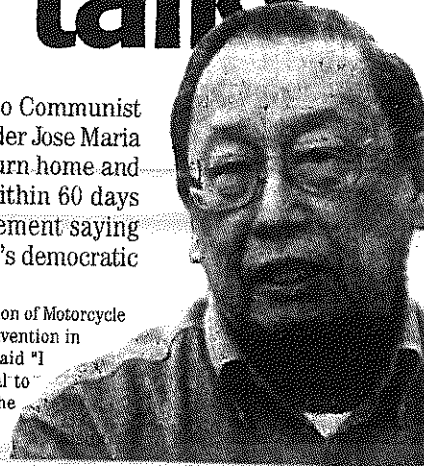


DUTERTE

President Duterte reached out to Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) founder Jose Maria “Joma” Sison by asking him to return home and resume the peace negotiations within 60 days which the CPP repaid with a statement saying that it will carry forward the people’s democratic revolution.

In a speech during the 24th National Federation of Motorcycle Clubs of the Philippines (NFMCP) Annual Convention in Legazpi City on Saturday night, Mr. Duterte said “I created a small window, 60 days. My proposal to Sison, I will not go there. We’re fighting for the Philippines, so you come here.”

Turn to page 2



From page 1

In a statement, however, the CCP's Central Committee said "the Filipino people are currently suffering gravely under the tyranny and terrorism of the US-Duterte regime."

The statement was issued by the CPP "to its allies in the National Democratic Front of the Philippines on the occasion of the NDFP's [National Democratic Front of the Philippines] 45th founding anniversary."

"By waging revolutionary resistance, both in the urban underground as well as in rural armed struggle, the NDFP helps strengthen the people's determination to fight and defeat the despicable regime," the statement read.

It added that the basic revolutionary forces must be resolutely strengthened to serve as "solid foundation, rampart and scaffolding for building the broadest anti-fascist united front against the Duterte regime."

The CPP sought the mobilization of the broad masses of workers and peasants "in a big way to expose and actively resist the fascist attacks of the Duterte regime against the people."

It said solid blows by New People's Army (NPA) against Duterte's fascist machinery will rouse widespread resistance against the regime's tyranny and terrorism.

The statement said all revolutionary forces allied with the NDFP must help in building the broadest anti-fascist united front against the Duterte regime.

"They must exert effort to link up the struggles against Duterte's fascist terrorism with the people's

anti-imperialist and antifeudal struggles. By doing so, the NDFP is being further strengthened as a united front for advancing the people's democratic revolution," the statement added.

Sison went into exile in the Netherlands after the two-decade regime of former president Ferdinand Marcos ended in 1986.

Recently, Sison expressed openness and readiness to resume peace negotiations, which Duterte cancelled in November last year due to the series of attacks launched by the New People's Army on civilians and government troops.

Rody to Joma: I will pay for your fare

In response, Mr. Duterte said he is ready to give the communist rebels another chance to resume peace talks.

The President said the National Democratic Front-CPP-NPA could set up a camp where he could talk to them "minus arms."

"I will pay for your (Sison) fare, billeting and food. And your guerrilla front, you stay in one place, set up a camp. Bring your arms inside the camp, you tell us where you are, you can go out of the camp, minus the arms," Duterte said.

Duterte said he will give Sison the complete freedom to move, adding that he will order the military and the police to "be nice to you."

"Take advantage of that 60 days. If it succeeds, then I would like to thank God first and the Filipino people and the military and the police for their understanding," he said.

Mr. Duterte said he cannot fight with communist rebels forever, "same with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and Moro National Liberation Front.

"But the threat of terrorism remains very high. We are not fighting against our Moro brothers and sisters," Duterte, who traced his Maranao roots from his grandmother, said.

"You know, if you (NPA) can do it, whatever it is, I can do it better, 100 times better than what you can do. So let us respect each other. Anyway, civilians are not part (of the fight). But once you start to mess up with... I will not back out," he added.

Duterte said his administration is "well on its way" towards eliminating the social ills that prevent the country's march toward progress.

"I seek your proactive participation in nation-building by upholding peace and order, preserving national security and eliminating misfits in our society," he said in his speech.

"Remember that your greater participation in our fight against illegal drugs, criminality and corruption is crucial to our goal of uplifting the lives of the Filipino people," he added.

CPP claims Rody isolated

The CPP said in its statement that Mr. Duterte was forced to reopen negotiations with the communist groups as a result of his increasing isolation brought about by strong resistance to his tyranny.

Duterte has recently made overtures to revive peace talks, but has yet to make substantive measure to bring the talks back on track, it added.

It said the NDFP asserted the cause of fundamental social reforms and sought the broadest support of all progressive and positive forces.

"The NDFP came up with a

more detailed program which addresses the central socio-economic and political issues of the civil war. The NDFP's draft on Comprehensive Agreement on Socio-Economic Reforms (CASER) is a practical blueprint of necessary and applicable reforms. It was able to further strengthen and broaden its ties with various patriotic and democratic classes and sectors, as well as with elements of the ruling classes," the statement read.

It accused Mr. Duterte of turning "his back against his own declarations of reform and mounted an increasingly brutal and cruel war of suppression under Oplan Kapayapaan, targeting unarmed peasants and minority peoples defending their land."

It said aerial bombing, curtailment of rights to travel and engage in commerce, food and aid blockades, illegal arrests, torture and killings were "the norm under Duterte's martial law in Mindanao and virtual martial law across the country, especially in the rural areas."

"Duterte refused to fulfill his promise to issue a general amnesty proclamation to release all political prisoners. He stubbornly demanded the NDFP to commit itself to a prolonged ceasefire prior to any agreement on substantive issues, contrary to the established agenda and succession of issues," it added.

"Failing to use the peace talks to tie the hands of the revolutionary forces, Duterte declared the termination of peace negotiations with the NDFP in November last year, and subsequently declared the Party and NPA as terrorists and ordered the arrest of the NDFPs' peace consultants," it said.

23 April 2018



Page: 18

2 NPA rebels killed in Davao clash

By MICHAEL PUNONGBAYAN

Two suspected New People's Army (NPA) rebels, one of them a ranking member, were killed in an encounter with government security forces in Davao del Sur on Saturday.

An alleged NPA amazon was arrested after the encounter that occurred in Barangay Astorga in Sta. Cruz town, according to Maj. Ezra Balagtey, spokesperson for the Eastern Mindanao Command.

The slain NPA leader was identified as Julito Pueblas, alias Taghoy, said to be the head of the Sentro de Grabilidad of the NPA-Guerrilla Front 51.

The unit was said to be operating in the towns of Sta. Cruz and Bansalan as well as in Digos City, all in Davao del Sur, and some parts of Toril district in Davao City.

The name of the other fatality was not immediately available. The arrested female rebel was identified as Jessa Lumana.

She was taken to a hospital for medical checkup before she was turned over to the local police.

Pueblas and the guerrilla's remains were turned over to the municipal social welfare office.

Cpl. Kenneth James Balicot of the 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion was wounded in the firefight, Balagtey said.

Security forces recovered from the site of the encounter

an M16 rifle, four improvised explosive devices, two rifle grenades, ammunition, two-way radios, seven backpacks, revolutionary flags, medical supplies and personal belongings.

The firefight broke out at around noon in Sitio Bayongon between the rebels and a joint team of the Army's 39th Infantry Battalion (IB) and 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion.

Pueblas was severely wounded when found by pursuing troopers at around 5 p.m. of the same day.

The soldiers treated Pueblas' wounds but he died as he was being taken to a helicopter landing point.

Pueblas and his group were tagged in the ambush of a group of police officers in 2017 and of a government ambu-

lance in 2014, both in Bansalan town.

The military said Pueblas was also responsible for the killing of a certain Raul Alang in Sta. Cruz town in February this year.

Meanwhile, an Army trooper was killed in another encounter in Mahaplag, Leyte on the same day.

Authorities withheld the names of the slain trooper until after his family is notified.

Reports said the troopers were conducting patrols in Sitio Canayan, Barangay San Juan when they encountered at least seven guerrillas.

The military expressed belief the rebels suffered casualties in the firefight that lasted 30 minutes.

– With Edith Regalado, Cecille Suerte Felipe



6

23 April 2018



Page: 3

NPA commander slain in Davao encounter

By Mario J. Mallari

Two New People's Army (NPA) rebels, one of them a local commander, were killed while another one was captured following a clash with Army troops in Davao del Sur province on Saturday, the military said yesterday.

Maj. Ezra Balagtey, spokesman of the military's Eastern Mindanao Command (Eastmincom), said that joint elements of the Army's 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion (SRB) and 39th Infantry Battalion (IB) engaged the NPA rebels along Sitio Bayongon, Barangay Astorga, Sta. Cruz, Davao del Suron.

During the firefight, a rebel was killed and his body was recovered by the operating troops. An amazon, identified as Jessa Lumana, was also captured.

Lumana was brought to a hospital in Sta Cruz, Davao Del Sur for medical checkup before she was turned over to the police.

Balagtey said that a soldier identified as Cpl. Kenneth James Balicot was also wounded during the firefight.

Pursuing government troops subsequently captured Julito Pueblas, alias Taghoy, leader of the Sentro de Grabidad of the

NPA's Guerilla Front 51 that reportedly operates in Davao del Sur and in Toril, Davao City.

"The troops exerted all efforts to administer first aid and save the groaning and severely wounded NPA leader while evacuating him to a helicopter landing point. Unfortunately, alias Taghoy expired while in transit," Balagtey said.

The military tagged Pueblas and his group as responsible for the ambush of policemen who responded to a crime in March 2017 and the ambush of an ambulance in March 2014, both in Managa, Bansalan, Davao del Sur.

"While it is unfortunate that alias Taghoy expired after he was rescued, and that he can no longer face his charges in proper court for his atrocities, we hope that this will give closure to the families of his victims," said Lt. Gen. Benjamin Madrigal Jr., commander of Eastmincom.

"On our part, as soldiers of peace, our doors will continue to be open, and we are very much willing to facilitate the surrender of those who want to return to the folds of the law. Do not miss this golden opportunity that our government under President Duterte is offering you," he added.



23 April 2018

POLICE FILES

Page. 1

Lider ng NPA, 1 pa, patay sa pakipagbambakan sa militar

NASAWI ang dalawang miyembro ng New People Army (NPA) kabilang isang mataas lider ng mga rebelde habang nadakip ang isang amasona sa naganap na engkwentro sa pagitan ng militar at rebelde sa Sta Cruz, Davao Del Sur.

Nakilala ang napatay na lider na si Julito Pueblos alias Taghoy, opisyal ng Sentro de Grabilidad, Guerrilla Front 51, Southern Mindanao Regional Committee. Inaalam pa ang pagkakakilan ng isa pa nasawing rebelde.

Nakilala naman ang nadakip na amasona na si Jessa Lumana.

Ayon kay Maj Ezra Balagtey, spokesman ng Eastern Mindanao Command, dakong 11.25 ng umaga nang maka-engkwentro ng mga elemento ng 39th Infantry Battalion at 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion ang di nabatid na bilang ng mga rebelde na pinamunuan ni Pueblos sa Sitio Bayongon, Brgy Astora, Sta Cruz, Davao Del Sur.

Nagsagawa ng operation ang militar matapos na makatanggap ng mga report hinggil sa pag-iikot ng mga rebelde sa nasabing lugar.

Tumagal ang bambakan ng mahigit isang oras.

Narekober ng mga sundalo sa pinangyarihan ng engkwentro ang isang M16 rifle, 4 IED, 2 rifle grenades, 2 icom radio, 2 bandolier, 7 back pack, medical supplies at mga personal na gamit at subersibong dokumento.

(Mark Obleada)



23 April 2018

The Manila Times

Page: A7

GOVT TROOPS SEIZE IEDS FROM REDS

TROOPS from the Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) on Saturday seized four improvised explosive devices (IEDs) from communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels in Rizal, Cagayan province after a one-hour firefight. Lt. Col. Isagani Nato, Nolcom public information chief, said a caliber 22, a radio communication gadget, three backpacks, medicine packs, subversive documents and personal belongings were also confiscated. According to Capt. Jeffrey Somera, 5th Infantry (Star) Division public information chief, local "informants" had tipped them off about the presence of the NPA guerrillas in the area. "The [Nolcom] will continue to conduct FMO [focused military operations] in its area of responsibility to make the communist terrorist group insignificant, allowing development in NPA-affected areas in Northern Luzon and Central Luzon in cooperation with the people, civil society organizations and local governments," he said.

LEANDER C. DOMINGO

23 April 2018



Pahina. 2

Ex-tserman, 3 kaanak itinumba sa Basilan

NASAWI matapos pagbabilin ng hindi nakilalang armadong grupo ang dating kapitan ng barangay at tatlong miyembro ng kanyang pamilya sa Ungkaya Pukan, Basilan kahapon.

Nabatid mula kay Brigadier General Juvymax Uy, commander ng Joint Task Group Sulu, nangyari ang insidente sa Barangay Camamburigan dakong alas-5:20 ng madaling araw kung saan napatay sina Usan Asani, 45-

anyos, dating kapitan sa naturang barangay; Andatun Asani, 47; Jannalun Matindo, 60; at Nadzmi Matindo, 19.

Ayon sa mga testigo, tinarget lang ng mga suspek ang bahay ni Usan na naghain na rin kamakailan ng kanyang certificate of candidacy para sa Barangay at Sangguniang Kabataan elections.

Ilang oras matapos ang insidente, lumutang naman sa headquarters ng 8th Infantry Battalion ng Philippine Army sa Ungkaya Pukan si Hernie Asao, ang kasalukuyang tserman ng Brgy. Camamburigan, na may bitbit na M16

rifle. Agad inaresto si Asao dahil sa paglabag sa gun ban at iniimbestigahan din sa posibleng kaugnayan nito sa pagatake kay Usan at sa pamilya nito.

Samantala, sinisiyasat na ng mga otoridad ang anggu-long personal na alitan sa motibo ng pagpatay kay Danilo Daanton, presidente ng Association of Barangay Captains, sa Monkayo, Compostella Valley kamakalawa.

Alas-5 ng hapon nang rataratin si Daanton, 44, matapos maglaro ng basketball sa Barangay Poblacion. Kasalukuyang kapitan ng Barangay Banlag si Daanton at wala umano itong makakalaban sa eleksyon. **JEFF GALLOS**

23 April 2018

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Page: 7

Maguindanao leaders yield 25 more loose firearms

By ALI G. MACABALANG

COTABATO CITY – Maguindanao leaders yielded 25 more high-powered loose firearms to the military last Saturday, further bolstering the government's "Balik Baril" program in this conflict-gripped southern part of Mindanao.

Talitay town Mayor Abdulwahab M. Sabal handed over the 25 various types of weapons and ammos to Sixth Infantry Division (6ID) Deputy Commander Brig. Gen. Cirilo Thomas Donato, and 90th Infantry Battalion head Lt. Col. Crisaldo Fernandez in a symbolic ceremony at the Talitay municipal hall.

The surrender of the firearms followed meetings held between the 603rd Infantry Brigade, thru the 90IB, and the Talitay local officials led by Sabal and Vice Mayor Kamid Buisan, and barangays leaders, 6ID-led Task Force Central spokesman Lt. Col. Gerry Besana said Sunday.

"I am glad that you are here to witness the Balik Baril Program of Duterte's government. This is not only the program of Talitay but of

the whole nation. We are in support of this program because we shun violence and extremism. We also support other government's programs in order to get rid of illegal drugs and terrorism," Besana quoted Sabal as saying in the Saturday morning ceremony.

As a reply, Fernandez said the military was pursuing "three issues" in Talitay town – the presence of loose guns, reports on illegal drug trade and the need for the safe and orderly conduct of the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections on May 14.

The incumbent Talitay mayor, who is actually the town's elected vice mayor, had to succeed his brother Mayor Montaser Sabal, who went into hiding following charges of involvement in a string of crimes, including illegal drug trade.

Donato, who is also chair of the government's committee on cessation of hostilities, said Saturday's event would hopefully be a "first step" in bringing normalcy in Talitay town, in particular, and Maguindanao, in general.

23 April 2018



Pahina. 1

Military truck nahulog sa bangin; sundalo patay, 27 sugatan

NAMATAY ang isang kasapi ng Philippine Army (PA) habang sugatan ang 27 iba pa nang aksidenteng mahulog sa bangin ang sinakyan nilang military truck, iniulat kahapon sa national highway ng Purok 5, Barangay Mirangan sa bayan ng Siay sa lalawigan ng Zamboanga Sibugay.

Sa inisyal na ulat mula sa 1st Infantry Tabak Division (11D) ng Philippine Army, napag-alaman na 20 sundalo ang malubha ang kalagayan habang pito ang sugatan kabilang ang limang sibilyan na dependents.

Ayon sa ulat ng Police Regional Office (PRO-9), dead-

on-the-spot si Pfc. Glen Lumacad habang hindi naman binanggit ang pangalan ng ibang mga biktima dahil kinokontak pa ang pamilya ng mga ito.

Sa inisyal na imbestigasyon, bumiyaheng mga sundalo ng 35th Infantry Battalion sa pangunguna ni 2Lt. John Paul Bacsain kasama ang lima nilang dependents mula sa lalawigan ng Sulu at papunta sana sa headquarters ng 11D para sumali sa pagsasanay ng Squad Challenge na sisimulan ngayong araw ng Lunes.

Ang Squad Challenge ay taunang competition na sinasalihan ng mga tropa tuwing ika-31 ng Mayo, ang araw ng anibersaryo ng 11D.

Nagpapatuloy ang imbestigasyon ng militar at pulisya upang matukoy kung ano ang dahilan ng aksidente.

MARY ANNE SAPICO

23 April 2018

The Manila Times

Page: A1

Duterte opens 60-day peace window

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte has opened a 60-day window for peace and urged the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF) to seize the chance to resume negotiations to end their decades-long war.

The President prodded CPP leader Jose Maria Sison to come home and participate in the peace negotiations.

He also promised to give NPA rebels the freedom to move around unmolested if they surrender their firearms.

"Take advantage of the 60 days. If it [negotiation] succeeds, then I would

like to thank God first, and the Filipino people, and the military and the police for their understanding," Duterte said. "I cannot do anything [other than this]. I have to seek peace that is to be sought. That [peace] will not come if I am just here telling stories."

"This is a proposal to Sison. I will

not go [to The Netherlands] since what we are fighting over is the Philippines. You come here."

Duterte made the statements on Saturday in a speech at the 24th National Federation of Motorcycle Clubs of the Philippines Annual

➤PeaceA8

Convention in Legazpi City.

Sison has been in exile in The Netherlands since the 1980s.

Duterte said he would shoulder Sison's airfare and other expenses if he will come home to talk peace.

He also called on NPA rebels to surrender their arms.

"You in the guerilla front, you stay in one place, you camp. Bring your guns in your camps, tell us where you are, you can go out of the camp minus the arms," Duterte said.

"I will give you the complete

freedom to move. I will not molest anyone. I will order the military and the police to be nice to you," he added.

Duterte terminated the peace talks with the communist rebels in November last year after signing a proclamation declaring the CPP and NPA terrorist organizations.

Last month, the President gave in to calls for peace and decided to give the peace talks with communists another chance.

RALPH EDWIN U. VILLANUEVA



23 April 2018



Page: A2

Rody gives Joma 60-day ultimatum

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte has called on Communist Party of the Philippines founder Jose Maria Sison to return home and resume the peace negotiations with the government within 60 days.

“I created a small window—60 days. My proposal to Sison, I will not go there. We’re fighting for the Philippines, so you come here,” Duterte said during the 24th National Federation of Motorcycle Clubs of the Philippines’ Annual Convention in Legazpi City on Saturday night.

He made the statement even as soldiers from the 17th Infantry Battalion’s Joint Task Force Tala clashed with an estimated 30 New People’s Army rebels and forced them to retreat to Rizal,

Cagayan, on Saturday morning.

Northern Luzon Command spokesman Lt. Col. Isagani Nato said the encounter took place around 6:30 a.m. in Sitio Tallat in Barangay Masi.

The firefight lasted about 45 minutes and resulted in the retreat of the rebels who suffered an undetermined number of casualties.

Sison went into exile in The Netherlands in 1986.

Recently, Sison expressed openness and readiness to resume the peace nego-

tiations that Duterte canceled in November last year due to the series of attacks by the New People’s Army on civilians and government troops.

In response, Duterte said he was ready to give the communist rebels another chance to resume the peace talks.

He said the rebels could set up a camp where he could talk to them “minus arms.”

“I will pay for your [Sison’s] fare, billeting and food. And your guerrilla front, you stay in one place, set up a camp,” Duterte said.

“Bring your arms inside the camp, you tell us where you are, you can go out of the camp minus the arms.”

Duterte said he would give Sison the complete freedom to move and order the military and the police to “be nice to you.”

“Take advantage of that 60 days. If it

succeeds, then I would like to thank God first and the Filipino people and the military and the police for their understanding,” Duterte said.

He said he could not fight the communist rebels forever, “same with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and Moro National Liberation Front.

“But the threat of terrorism remains very high. We are not fighting against our Moro brothers and sisters.”

Duterte said his administration was “well on its way” toward eliminating the social ills that prevent the country’s march toward progress.

“I seek your proactive participation in nation-building by upholding peace and order, preserving national security and eliminating the misfits in our society,” Duterte said. PNA

OFFICE OF THE

15-9555 Local: 5285, 5295

PGS



Honor. Patriotism. Duty.

14

13 April 2018



Page: 7

AFP says NPA has downgraded a major guerilla front

By MIKE U. CRISMUNDO

CAMP BANCASI, Butuan City – The government's all-out war against the New People's Army (NPA) continued to gain ground after the military disclosed that one of the terrorist group's major Guerilla Fronts (GF) in Southern Mindanao had to be downgraded to a Section Committee (SC).

According to Capt. Jerry S. Lamosao, chief of Public Affairs Office (PAO) of the Army's Southern Mindanao 10th Infantry (Agila) Division (10th ID), the NPA had to

downgrade GF 25 to a mere SC because most of its combatants have already surrendered to the government.

"Guerilla Front 25 (GF25) is now downgraded to just a Section Committee as majority of the fighters have surrendered to the 66th 'Kabalikat' Battalion and 23 members of GF25 are now under the care of the 66th IB," further claimed the 10th ID PAO chief.

Lamosao also disclosed that a commanding officer of the NPA and a fighter were killed, while another was apprehended, in fresh clashes in Southern Mindanao.

He said troops of the 39th Infantry Battalion engaged the NPA terrorists in Sitio Bayongon, Barangay Astorga in Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur after they received reports that the group was extorting "revolutionary tax" from businessmen in the town.

Lamosao said the firefight lasted for an hour, and, when the smoke cleared, the troops saw the NPAs dragging with them wounded comrades.

But they left behind two others who were killed in the combat.

23 April 2018



Page. 1

AFP looking at NPAs as barangay candidates

ILOILO CITY (PNA) – There are allegedly members of the New People's Army (NPA) in Panay who have filed their certificates of candidacy (CoCs) for the May 14 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections.

Brigadier General Pio Diñoso, the commanding officer of the 301st Infantry Brigade based in Dingle, Iloilo, said they have gathered some of identities based on reports and from what they heard from the locals. However, he said they do not have evidence to confirm it.

He said they have recorded not more than 10 but he refused to divulge more information about

them.

"With the absence of concrete evidence and case, we cannot prevent them from joining the election," he said.

But he said the participation of the alleged rebels in the election is "good."

"If they join our democratic process, it is good. It is also our wish for them to join the parliamentary activities and democratic principles," Diñoso said.

However, he said that if they are already in the government but they will still support the activities of the armed revolution, it will be a different thing.

"Once they are already elected, they could be dismissed from service," he said.

Meanwhile, Dennis Ausan, the Regional Director of the Commission on Elections, said that "as long as your CoC is complete, we will receive that."

"With the picture, with the documentary stamp, with the signature," he said.

Stating the qualifications for the local polls, Ausan said that candidates should be a Filipino citizen; 18 years old and above; resident of the place where he or she intends to run; a registered voter and able to read and write.



23 April 2018



Page. 1

'Nice' treatment sa NPA, ipinangako ni Duterte

Ni ARGYLL CYRUS B. GEDUCOS

Sinabi ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na iniutos niya ang pagpatuloy sa peace talks sa Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF) dahil obligasyon niyang tiyakin na maging isang mapayapang bansa ang Pilipinas.

Ito ang ipinahayag ni Duterte sa kanyang pagtatalumpati sa 4th annual convention ng National Federation of Motorcycle Clubs of the Philippines (NFMCP) sa Legazpi City, Albay nitong Sabado.

Sa kanyang talumpati, hiniling ng Chief Executive sa mga puwersa ng gobyerno ang pang-unawa at ipinaalala sa kanila ang mandato niya bilang Pangulo na tiyaking mapayapa ang bansa.

"I'm talking to [CPP Chairman] Joma Sison now. It's an off and on thing. Probably, ang mga military pati mga pulis may misgivings, but sinabi ko naman sa inyo, I am not a President who is a soldier and

I am not a President who is a policeman," ani Duterte.

"My duty, my fundamental basic duty, is to see to it that the country is peaceful," dagdag niya.

Idiniin ni Duterte na binigyan niya ng 60 araw ang panibagong pagsisikap para sa kapayapaan, at hinimok ang mga komunistang rebelde na samantalain ang ibinigay na panahon.

"Take advantage of that 60 days. If it succeeds, then I would like to thank God una, and the Filipino people and the military and the police and – for their understanding," aniya.

"Eh wala akong magawa eh, I have to seek peace that is to be sought," dagdag niya.

Idiniin niya na sa pagkakataong ito, kailangang magbalik sa Pilipinas si Sison dahil ito ang bansang pinaglalaman ng gobyerno at ng mga rebelde.

Tiniyak niya sa mga miyembro ng

guerilla front na sila ay itatrato nang maayos ng mga pulis at militar.

"Ako magbigay ng pamasaha, I will pay all your billeting and pagkain," ani Duterte.

"Kayong mga guerilla front, you stay in one place, mag-kampo na kayo. Dalhin ninyo 'yung baril diyan sa loob ng kampo ninyo, you [seek] to tell us where you are, you can go out of the camp, minus the arms," dagdag niya.

"But I will give you the complete freedom to move. Wala akong molestiyahin. I will order the military and the police to be nice to you," patuloy niya.

Ipinahinto ni Pangulong Duterte ang peace talks sa mga komunista noong Nobyembre 2017, dahil sa umano'y mga paglabag sa ceasefire at kawalan ng sensitividad sa mga negosasyon. Sinabi ri niya na nais ng CPP-NPA-NDF ng coalition government, isang bagay na hindi niya mapagbibigyan.

23 April 2018



Page: 10

New PNP chief, AFP CoS named; no crackdown on critics – Palace

By FRED M. LOBO

PRESIDENT Duterte has named and sworn in Director General Oscar Albayalde, erstwhile National Capital Regional Police Office (NCRPO) director, as the new chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Another tough officer to handle the PNP after Director General “Bato” dela Rosa.

The President likewise named and installed Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr. as chief of staff (CoS) of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Changing of the guard to strengthen peace and fight rebels, if necessary.

Duterte installed Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr. as Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief of staff, replacing retiring General Guererro.

I will defend the Filipino people from all enemies of peace and democracy, he vowed.

“It is the best time to walk the path of peace,” Galvez said, inviting all rebels to abandon their “pointless struggles and return to their families and communities.”

“I once again propose to you, brothers and sisters, that you consider returning to the fold of the law and avail of government’s offer to end all conflicts,” he appealed.

“We shall always prefer to take the path of peace... step up our collaboration and... help address the root causes of the conflict,” he added.

Yes to peace for the country! Yes to peace and order for the people!

ONLINE NEWS

23 APRIL 2018

www.pna.gov.ph

Gov't troops drive away NPA rebels in Cagayan

By Priam Nepomuceno

MANILA -- Troopers from the 17th Infantry Battalion's Joint Task Force "Tala" clashed with an estimated 30 New People's Army (NPA) rebels, forcing them to retreat in Rizal, Cagayan Saturday morning.

Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) spokesperson Lt. Col. Isagani Nato said the encounter took place around 6:30 a.m. in Sitio Tallat, Barangay Masi, Rizal, Cagayan.

The firefight lasted for about 45 minutes, which resulted in the retreat of the NPAs after sustaining an undetermined number of casualties.

Recovered from the scene were an improvised .22 caliber weapon; a two-way radio; three jungle packs; four improvised explosive devices, including one 12-volt car battery and wires; medicine pack; and subversive documents.

Nato said the encounter took place as a response to reports provided by residents on NPA presence and atrocities in their barangay.

"Nolcom will continue to conduct focused military operations in its area of responsibility to make the communist terrorist group insignificant, allowing development in NPA affected areas in Northern and Central Luzon, in cooperation with the populace, civil society organizations and the local government units, he added. **(PNA)**



Honor. Patriotism. Duty.

www.pna.gov.ph

PRRD urges Sison to come home, sets 60-day window for talks with Reds

By Jelly Musico

MANILA -- President Rodrigo Duterte has called on Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) founder Jose Maria Sison to return home and resume the peace negotiations within 60 days.

"I created a small window -- 60 days. My proposal to Sison, I will not go there. We're fighting for the Philippines, so you come here," Duterte told Sison in his speech during the 24th National Federation of Motorcycle Clubs of the Philippines (NFMCP) Annual Convention in Legazpi City on Saturday night.

Sison went into exile in the Netherlands after the two-decade regime of former president Ferdinand Marcos ended in 1986.

Recently, Sison expressed openness and readiness to resume peace negotiations, which Duterte cancelled in November last year due to the series of attacks launched by the New People's Army on civilians and government troops.

In response, Duterte said he is ready to give the communist rebels another chance to resume peace talks.

The President said the National Democratic Front-CPP-NPA could set up a camp where he could talk to them "minus arms."

"I will pay for your (Sison) fare, billeting and food. And your guerrilla front, you stay in one place, set up a camp. Bring your arms inside the camp, you tell us where you are, you can go out of the camp, minus the arms," Duterte said.

Duterte said he will give Sison the complete freedom to move, adding that he will order the military and the police to "be nice to you."

"Take advantage of that 60 days. If it succeeds, then I would like to thank God first and the Filipino people and the military and the police for their understanding," he said.



Honor. Patriotism. Duty.

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

The Commander-in-Chief said he cannot fight with communist rebels forever, "same with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and Moro National Liberation Front.

"But the threat of terrorism remains very high. We are not fighting against our Moro brothers and sisters," Duterte, who traced his Maranao roots from his grandmother, said.

"You know, if you (NPA) can do it, whatever it is, I can do it better, 100 times better than what you can do. So let us respect each other. Anyway, civilians are not part (of the fight). But once you start to mess up with.... I will not back out," he added.

Duterte said his administration is "well on its way" towards eliminating the social ills that prevent the country's march toward progress.

"I seek your proactive participation in nation-building by upholding peace and order, preserving national security and eliminating misfits in our society," he said in his speech.

"Remember that your greater participation in our fight against illegal drugs, criminality and corruption is crucial to our goal of uplifting the lives of the Filipino people," he added. **(PNA)**



Honor. Patriotism. Duty.

www.pna.gov.ph

Galvez to focus on improving PH internal, external security

By Priam Nepomuceno

MANILA -- Newly-appointed Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief-of-staff Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez is focused on improving the country's internal and external security aside and helping law enforcement agencies in their fight against illegal drugs and other forms of criminality.

This is aside from promoting transparency, good governance, and fighting corruption in AFP ranks.

These goals were enumerated by military spokesperson Brig. Gen. Bienvenido Datuin Saturday.

"Decisively end insurgency. Put an end to violent extremism. Safeguard the country's territorial waters. Support law enforcement agencies in the fight against illegal drugs and criminality and promote transparency, good governance and fight against corruption in our ranks," he said.

Galvez, a member of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1985, replaced Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero, a member of PMA Class of 1984, who was honored with a testimonial parade and review and the prestigious award of the Philippine Legion of Honor (Rank of Commander) on April 18.

Guerrero was appointed as AFP chief last Oct. 26 replacing Gen. Eduardo Año, who stepped down after reaching the mandatory retirement age of 56.

The former was supposed to retire last Dec. 17 but his term as AFP chief was extended by another four months by President Rodrigo Duterte. **(PNA)**

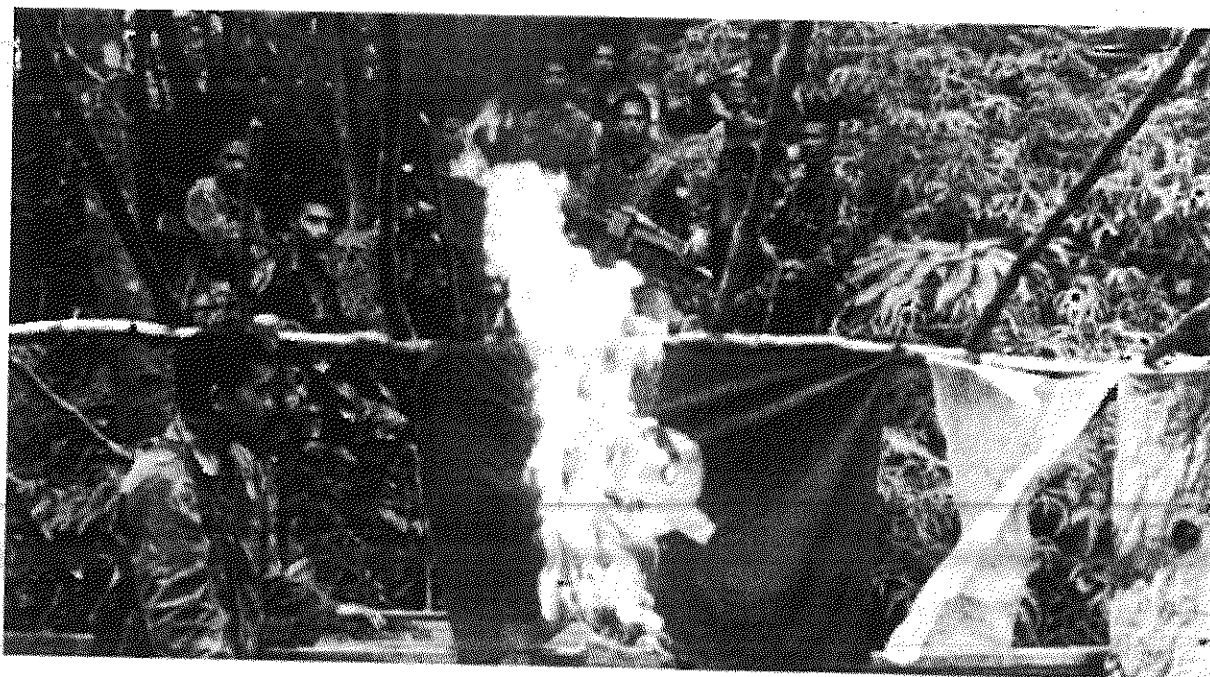


Honor. Patriotism. Duty.

www.inquirer.net

NPA rebel killed, female companion captured

By: Eddie Aguirre



INQUIRER FILE PHOTO

DIGOS CITY – A still unidentified New People's Army (NPA) member was killed, while an alleged female rebel was captured after a clash with soldiers in Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur, on Saturday, a military commander reported on Sunday.

Lt. Col. Rhojun Rosales, commander of the Army's 39th Infantry Battalion, identified the captured rebel as Jessa Lumana.

She said Lumana was found by soldiers hiding in the bushes during the clearing operations that also led to the recovery of the body of the slain rebel.

Rosales said soldiers also recovered an M-16 assault rifle, three improvised explosive devices, two rifle grenades, and flags of the National Democratic Front (NDF) and the Bagong Hukbong Bayan.



Honor. Patriotism. Duty.

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

He said soldiers were responding to a report of armed men massing in Sitio Bayongon in Barangay Astorga in Sta. Cruz when the clashed ensued at about 11:25 a.m., Saturday.

Rosales said the armed men turned out to be members of the Guerrilla Front 51 of the NPA's Southern Regional Committee under Greg Magbanua alias Macky. Saturday's clash in Sta. Cruz was the third firefight that took place between soldiers and NPA rebels in Davao del Sur since March.

On Good Friday, soldiers also clashed with the rebels in Barangay Goma in Digos City. On April 18, two suspected NPA rebels were killed during a firefight with soldiers in Barangay Upper Bala in Magsaysay town. /cbb



Honor. Patriotism. Duty.