

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



**TEAM ARMY**

Serving the people. Securing the land.

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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

# NEWS CLIPPINGS

02 February 2018

Friday


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

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# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



**PANAHON TV**  
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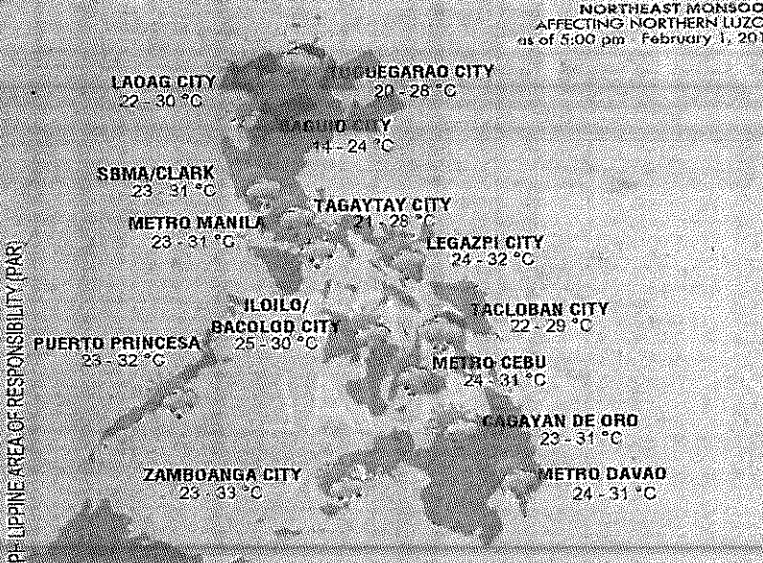


BALANCED NEWS • FEARLESS VIEWS

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**TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | FEBRUARY 2, 2018 | FRIDAY**

NORTHEAST MONSOON AFFECTING NORTHERN LUZON as of 5:00 pm February 1, 2018






PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)

SUNRISE	SUNSET
6:24 AM	5:55 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
7:45 PM	7:41 AM
FULL MOON	LAST QUARTER
JAN 31 8:27 PM	FEB 7 11:54 PM
LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
MANILA SOUTH HARBOR	
6:39 AM	11:12 PM
-0.33 Meter	1.16 Meter


- Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with minishower
- Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rain/showers and/or thundershowers
- Cloudy skies with rain/showers and/or thundershowers
- Light rains

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	FEB 2	FEB 3	FEB 4	FEB 5	FEB 6	FEB 7
<b>METRO MANILA</b>	22 - 30 °C	22 - 30 °C	21 - 27 °C	21 - 27 °C	22 - 28 °C	23 - 29 °C
<b>TUGUEGARAO</b>	20 - 28 °C	20 - 27 °C	23 - 31 °C	23 - 31 °C	22 - 30 °C	22 - 30 °C
<b>LAOAG</b>	21 - 29 °C	21 - 29 °C	24 - 32 °C	24 - 32 °C	23 - 30 °C	22 - 30 °C
<b>BAGUIO</b>	13 - 23 °C	13 - 23 °C	25 - 31 °C	26 - 32 °C	22 - 32 °C	23 - 33 °C
<b>SBMA/CLARK</b>	22 - 29 °C	22 - 29 °C	24 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	 <b>SAGOT KO, PADALA MO!</b> 	



**MONDAY - FRIDAY**  
**11 AM & 5 PM**



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

07 February 2018

**Malaya**  
The National Newspaper

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# Communist leader nabbed

## Reds say arrest has no basis

BY RAYMOND AFRICA

A LEADER of the communist group and a companion were arrested Wednesday in Quezon City in an operation conducted by military and police forces led by the PNP Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

Rafael Baylosis, 69, a consultant of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP), is the first communist leader to be arrested since President Duterte scrapped peace talks with the Reds in November last year.

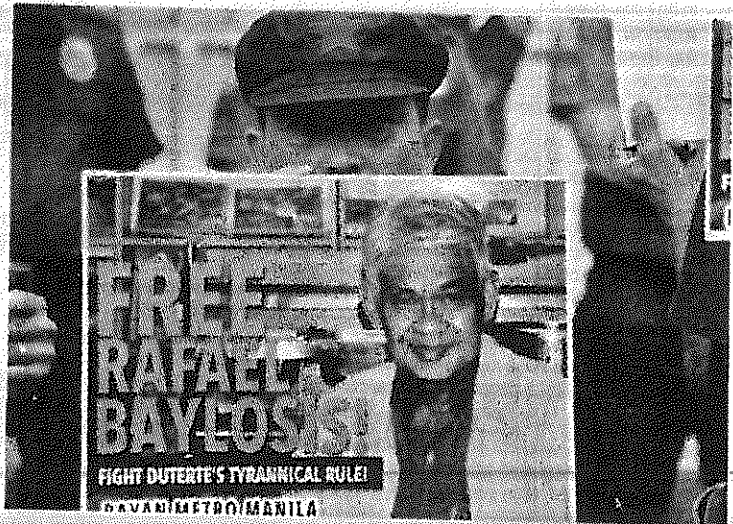
The NDFP said it “strongly condemns the illegal arrest” of Baylosis who, it said, is a member of the “NDFP Reciprocal Working Group on Political and

Constitutional Reforms.” It said government should abide by all binding agreements like the Joint Agreement on the Safety and Immunity Guarantees (JASIG) with the NDFP and the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque said Baylosis could not hide behind the JASIG because the peace talks have been scrapped. He also said the NDFP could file a petition for habeas corpus if it deems the arrest illegal.

Leftist lawmakers Rep. Antonio Tinio and France Castro (PL, ACT) said the arrest is a violation of the

See REDS > Page B3



**Nabbed.** A poster of captured NDFP consultant Rafael Baylosis is displayed by one of the activists who staged a rally Thursday in front of the PNP headquarters in Camp Crame, Quezon City.

PHOTO BY ROLLY SALVADO

### REDS

JASIG and accused the President of “persecuting peace consultants instead of pushing for peace and addressing the people’s clamor for social justice and peace.”

Baylosis was nabbed with Roque Guillermo, alleged member of the New People’s Army, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

The two are now detained in Camp Crame.

In 2016, President Duterte ordered the release of about 20 communist personalities, including couple Benito and

Wilma Tiamzon, to allow them to participate in formal peace negotiations between government and the NDFP-CPP-NPA, which his administration resumed in August that year. Duterte in December ordered the re-arrest of the communist leaders and declared the CPP and NPA as terrorist groups.

Baylosis was first jailed for his alleged involvement in the purging of former New People’s Army rebels whose remains were found in a mass grave in Leyte in 2006.

Lawyer Rachel Pastores of the Public Interest Law Center said Baylosis and Roque were arrested supposedly for possession of loaded .45 caliber pistols.

She said the two came from a dental clinic and had just alighted from a tricycle on Katipunan avenue and Aurora boulevard in Quezon City when combined government agents pounced on them at around 3:45 p.m. Wednesday.

### POLICE VERSION

A sketchy police report said Baylosis and Guillermo were arrested based on intelligence reports that two suspicious-looking men with guns tucked in their waists were spotted at the boundary of Manila and Quezon City Tuesday, prompting the police to form a composite team from the CIDG-National Capital Region, Quezon City Police District, PNP Intelligence Group, Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces, Manila Police District, and the National Capital Region Police Office's regional intelligence division, to conduct surveillance operations.

The report said the two men were again sighted in the area early Wednesday, prompting the operatives to tail them, which eventually led to their arrest at the corner of Katipunan avenue corner Aurora boulevard.

The police report said: "The said suspects sensed the presence of the detectives in the area who even tried to run. This prompted the detectives to conduct interdiction as they are visible with short firearms tucked on their sides."

It said two caliber 45 pistols, each loaded with seven bullets, were recovered from Baylosis and Guillermo, together with assorted documents.

Pastores said the government agents tried to get hold of the bag Baylosis was carrying. It was when Baylosis refused to hand over the bag that the agents allegedly found a gun tucked in his waist.

### 'INCREDIBLE'

Asked if Baylosis and Guillermo were indeed carrying guns at the time of their arrest, Pastores said: "Granting that they have guns, Mr. Baylosis should have hidden it inside the bag which he was carrying. Why would he display it on broad daylight? ... That's incredible."

Pastores also said the arrest has no basis because "there was no warrant for his arrest issued by the court at the time of his arrest."

Pastores said what is clear is that government agents could not wait for a court's resolution regarding the cancellation of her client's bail. – *With Jocelyn Montemayor and Wendell Vigilia*

02 February 2018

Manila  
**Standard**

Page: A1

# NPA leader arrested

## Baylosis top rebel to fall after terrorist tag on Reds

By Vito Barcelo and Francisco Tuyay

**A** TOP communist guerrilla was arrested in Quezon City in the first swoop on the rebel leadership since President Rodrigo Duterte ended peace talks in November 2017, security forces said Thursday.

Police said they arrested Rafael Baylosis and another armed man, said to be a member of the New People's Army, on Katipunan Avenue and Aurora Boulevard in Quezon City Wednesday afternoon. Both are detained in police headquarters in Camp Crame.

Baylosis headed the Communist Party of the Philippines during the 1980s peak of the insurgency to overthrow a capitalist system that has created one of Asia's biggest rich-poor divides.

Police described the 69-year-old as the "acting secretary" of the communist party's guerrilla wing, the NPA, which the military says has shrunk to 3,800 members from a high of more than 20,000.

Talks to end the conflict, which the military says has claimed 30,000 lives, were conducted sporadically over three decades.

The military said Baylosis was the first high-profile insurgent arrested since Duterte called off efforts to broker a political solution to one of Asia's longest-running communist insurgencies.

### NPA...

From A1

Baylosis pleaded not guilty to the charge in 2016 and was bailed, after which the rebels said he acted as a consultant in the peace talks.

The communists denounced the arrests Thursday, saying Baylosis enjoyed immunity under the terms of the peace negotiations. They demanded the immediate release of the two men.

Duterte had blamed the NPA for deadly attacks against soldiers and police despite the peace talks. In December, he designated the party and its armed wing "terrorist organizations."

The election of the self-declared socialist in 2016 initially revived hopes for successful negotiations as Duterte said it was his "dream" to forge peace in the country.

Various leftist groups led by Karapatan condemned Baylosis' arrest and called for his immediate release in line with the government's obligations under Jasig.

But Presidential Spokesman Harry Roque said JASIG was no longer operative because peace talks had already been cancelled.

The Palace said the arrest of Baylosis was legal because the Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees signed by the government and the communist rebels was no longer in effect after the President scrubbed peace talks in November last year.

Security officials said they were executing an arrest warrant for Baylosis over a series of 1985 purges for which he and several other top rebel leaders were charged with murder.

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“Why do they cry Jasig now?” he said.

He also disputed allegations by the managing counsel of the Public Interest Law Center, Rachel Pastores, who said there was no pending arrest warrant against Baylosis.

But Philippine National Police chief Ronald dela Rosa said Baylosis was arrested for illegal possession of firearms.

Police confiscated two cal. 45 pistols, 14 bullets, two magazines, cellphones and assorted documents from Baylosis and his companion, a Guillermo Roque.

Police said they were acting on a tip when they made the arrest.

Dela Rosa rejected claims by leftist groups that the government is harassing National Democratic Front of the Philippines consultants.

“There is no politics here. They are enemies of the state and we have to prevent them from just wandering [around], creating problems in the country,” Dela Rosa said.

Luis Jalandoni, senior ad-

try,” Dela Rosa said.

Luis Jalandoni, senior adviser of the NDFP negotiating panel, said the arrest violated the Jasig.

“President [Rodrigo] Duterte must be held accountable for this trampling upon a valid peace agreement that assures all consultants and those participating in peace negotiations immunity from surveillance, harassment, search, arrest, detention, prosecution and interrogation or any other similar punitive action,” he said in a statement.

Baylosis is a member of the NDFP reciprocal working group on political and constitutional reforms. **With AFP**

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02 February 2018

**MANILA BULLETIN**  
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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## NPAs told: Surrender and live a peaceful life

By **MIKE U. CRISMUNDO**

**CAMP BANCASI, Butuan City** – Field unit commanders of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) on Thursday disclosed that communist-New People's Army (NPA) regulars and their mass base supporters and followers continue to surrender to them in order to live a peaceful life.

Maj. Gen. Noel S. Clement, commanding general of the Army's 10th Infantry (Agila) Division (10th ID) also revealed that the NPA terrorists are already tired of hiding and evading the troops who are relentlessly pursuing them.

On Tuesday, a squad commander of SYP 2-SRC 2 of guerilla-Front Committee 2 and another regular member of his unit voluntarily surrendered to the Army's 28th Infantry Battalion in the vicinity of Poblacion, Pantukan, Compostela Valley (ComVal) province. The two NPAs also yielded two handcuffs, improvised grenades, improvised explosive devices and 82 pieces of explosives (Super dyne), he said.

"They were convinced by their relatives to surrender in order to live a peaceful life. Their surrender was recorded in the blotter of the Lupon Police Station and they were brought to the Lupon Health Center to undergo medical exam," Clement said. He added that the returnees are undergoing custodial debriefing at the headquarters of 28th IB.

"The two surrenderees made the right decision when they sur-

rendered and brought along with them their explosives. With this, the terrorists' planned atrocities are preempted. We are grateful to the people who answered our call to encourage their relatives and members of their families who are struggling already in the hands of NPA terrorists," Maj. Gen. Clement said.

On Monday, five regular CPP-NPA terrorists, among them a team leader, also voluntarily surrendered to the 25th IB under Lt. Col. Oscar B. Balignasay Jr. at Camp Kalaw, in Monkayo town of that same province, said 10th ID Spokesperson Capt. Jerry S. Lamosao.

He said the surrenderees were all regular members of Primera, Baking Force-SDG of guerilla-Front Committee 25 of the CPP-NPA Southern Mindanao Regional Committee.

"They are also tired of hiding, running and evading the government troops who relentlessly pursue them," Lamosao said.

Also on Monday, six unarmed mass-base supporters of the NPA also voluntarily surrendered to 71st IB commander Lt. Col. Esteyven Ducusin in Purok 8, Barangay Nueva Visayas, Mawab town of that same province, Capt. Lamosao said.

All the NPAs who yielded their firearms will be given cash money aside from the livelihood program that will be extended to them under the government's Comprehensive Local Integration Program (CLIP).



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## 2 killed in Sulu ambush

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Two civilians were killed in an ambush staged by suspected Abu Sayyaf bandits on the island province of Sulu, the military reported yesterday.

Brig. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana, Joint Task Force Sulu commander, identified the victims as Muksin Kaidin and his brother, Mukim.

Sobejana disclosed the incident occurred at around 7:40 a.m. Thursday along Kalimatahayan Road in Barangay Latih, Patikul town.

He said the victims were aboard a private-owned jeep when a group of Abu Sayyaf bandits ambushed killing them instantly.

He said the bandits, one of them was identified as Sony Sajerin, boarded on a Sports Utility Vehicle and sped toward the hinterlands.

There were information that the victims were military informants but Sobejana did not confirm the report.

Sobejana said troops had been deployed to track down the suspects behind the incident.

PNA

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2 February 2018



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### **Ex-NPA pinugutan ng mga dating kabaro**

Pinugutan ng ulo ng mga miyembro ng NPA terrorists ang isa nilang dating kasama na tumiwalag at naging miyembro na CAFGU Active Auxiliary (CAA) sa San Miguel, Surigao del Sur.

Bago ang pagpugot sa biktima na kinilalang si Mar Acebedo Morales na isang Manobo ay dinukot ito noong Enero 30 at dinala sa bulubunduking lugar sa San Miguel, Surigao del Sur.

May palatandaan na bago pinugutan ang biktima ito ay tinorture muna ng mga suspek.

Ayon naman kay AFP Public Affairs Office Lt Col. Emmanuel Garcia na kanilang kinokondena ang pag-torture at pagpugot sa biktima na isang ama na ang hanapbuhay ay mangaso ng mga hayop sa gubat para buhayin ang pamilya.

"This is yet again proof of the numerous atrocities of the NPA and of their barbarism that is comparable to the Abu Sayyaf and Daesh-Inspired Maute terrorists who behead their helpless victims," anang- opisyal - *Joy Cantos*.

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# Moros oppose new AFP camp in Marawi

**Duterte says gov't to compensate families who will lose land to military base**

**By Jigger Jerusalem  
and Divina Suson  
@inquirermindanao**

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Moro groups slammed the government's plan to build a second military camp in Marawi City, saying money intended for this purpose should instead go to the needs of people displaced by the five-month war with terrorists.

Aida Ibrahim, spokesperson for the Marawi evacuees' group, Tindog Ranao, said they could not understand why the government was building another camp in Marawi when more than 140,000 people were still staying in 67 evacuation centers and relatives' houses in

Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte provinces and Iligan City, unable to return home.

Ibrahim said the number did not include those who left Northern Mindanao at the height of the Marawi siege, when Islamic State-inspired militants took over sections of the city from May 23 to Oct. 17 last year.

President Duterte, during his visit to Marawi on Tuesday, announced the plan to build the military camp in the city.

But Ibrahim said there was "no need" to build another military camp because Camp Ranao, the base of the Army's 103rd Infantry Brigade under the military's 1st Infantry Division, had been established in the city.

## Bias

"His (Mr. Duterte) bias, obviously, is not for the victims of the Marawi siege," Ibrahim told the Inquirer on Wednesday.

With the establishment of the new camp, a number of families would be asked to relinquish their properties be-

cause these would be taken over by the government.

Mr. Duterte confirmed there would be displacements, although it was unclear how many families would be affected by the plan.

The military camp, which would cost the government P400 million, would be built in a 10-hectare area at Barangay Kapantaran, site of the old City Hall complex.

## Payment

"I'm planning to set a camp here but I will pay you," the President said during his Marawi visit.

"This is a military reservation," he said, referring to Proclamation No. 453, issued by former President Elpidio Quirino on Dec. 23, 1953, which declared 6,000 ha of Marawi's 8,000-ha territory as military reservation.

"Whatever they (military) take, we will pay to avoid trouble," Mr. Duterte said.

Drieza Lininding, chair of the Moro Consensus Group,



Tarlac Heritage Foundation cofounder Isa Cojuangco Suntay and Philippine Army officials, led by Lt. Gen. Rolando Joselito Bautista, meet with President Duterte at the unveiling of phase two of Bahay Pag-asa, a housing project for displaced residents of Marawi City in the village of Mipaga.

said putting up another military camp in Marawi would instill fear among displaced Maranao.

"It is a way of suppressing their right to speak out against human rights violations they and their families experienced during the siege," Lininding said.

#### Evacuees' needs

He said money intended for the military camp would have been best spent on evacuees' needs so they could "get back on their feet."

He said some of the lots inside the reservation area had been issued land titles by the Department of Agrarian Reform and the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao government.

But many Marawi residents did not own titles to areas they had come to know as their own, said Zia Adiong, spokesperson for the Lanao del Sur crisis management committee.

Adiong said this was the reason why Task Force Bangon Marawi stopped asking for land titles from evacuees as a require-

ment for them to receive houses in temporary relocation areas.

#### Relocation sites

He said families housed in relocation sites would eventually return to their properties inside ground zero—the area spanning 24 villages where most of the fighting occurred during the siege.

Adiong said residents in 36 villages outside ground zero had already returned to their communities.

Aside from power and water supplies, the transitory areas—including the 11-ha site at Barangay Sagonsongan—will have school buildings, *madaris* (Arabic schools), markets and health care centers, the National Housing Authority (NHA) said.

Marcelino Escalada, NHA manager, said more than 500 families had moved into the Sagonsongan resettlement area. The NHA, he said, would turn over 1,149 units to displaced residents by March. INQ

02 February 2018

The Manila Times

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# Abu Sayyaf kills 2 DPWH workers in Basilan attack

BY AL JACINTO

**Z**AMBOANGA CITY: Abu Sayyaf bandits ambushed a group of Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) employees, killing two and wounding two others in Lamitan City in Basilan.

Police identified the victims as Ahzhar Dakis and Basit Daimun, and the wounded as Abdul Sarabin and Mitoy Estajal.

They said the bandits strafed the victims in Barangay Baas while

the employees were traveling on a truck on the way to work.

The bandits escaped after the attack.

Police investigators are looking into the motive for the

ambush, but the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) was reported to have been demanding money from the DPWH.

The military has not released any statement on why it failed to prevent the attack when the entire southern Philippines is under martial rule.

Only recently, police arrested a notorious Abu Sayyaf bomber Abdulham Ataram in Zamboanga City after escaping military operations in Basilan.

Ataram is being linked to

the October 2007 bombing in Kidapawan City and a string of criminal charges in Basilan.

He was also accused of kidnapping and beheading over a dozen Christian coconut farmers in Basilan in June 2001.

Police said the captured bandit is also a member of the Abu Sayyaf's Special Operations Group which is blamed for a spate of bombings in the southern region. It was unknown how Ataram managed to flee Basilan and hid in Zamboanga.

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# Abus ambush DPWH-ARMM employees

By NONOY E. LACSON

**ZAMBOANGA CITY** – Two employees of the Department of Public Works and Highways in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (DPWH-ARMM) were killed while two others were seriously wounded after members of the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) ambushed them in a remote village in Lamitan City on Wednesday.

DPWH-ARMM Basilan province

District Engineer Soler I. Undug reported the ASG renegades involved in extortion activities sprayed with bullets the service dump truck of the DPWH-ARMM at the village of Baas in Lamitan City at about 7 a.m. on Wednesday.

Engr. Undug identified the fatalities as Basit Daimun and Ahzhar Dakis. Wounded and confined at the hospital for treatment of bullet wounds were Mitoy Estajal and Abdul Sarabin.

“Those ASG who ambushed our employees were involved in extortion activities. They were extorting from us and since we didn’t give in to their demand, they ambushed our team,” he said.

Undug said the four were on their way to Lamitan City from Ungkaya Pukan, Basilan province to pick up the transit cement mixer and construction materials for a road concreting project in Ungkaya Pukan when the ambush took place.

DPWH-ARMM employees urged the military in the province to provide them with security particularly the engineers who are implementing infrastructure projects in the province.

The projects are all geared towards uplifting the lives of the people in the province.

In Patikul, Sulu, suspected members’ of the ASG also ambushed a renegade type jeepney killing the driver and his companion while traversing Sitio Hawani, Kalimatahayan road, barangay Latih, Patikul, Sulu at about 7:40 a.m. yesterday.

The military identified the fatalities as Muksin Kaidin and Mukim Kaidin. The military tagged ASG Sony Sajerin and seven of his cohorts as responsible for the attack. The suspects fled towards Latih aboard a gray Tamaraw FX.

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## NDF consultant rearrested

From page 1

which the rebels said he acted as a consultant in the peace talks.

Mr. Duterte had blamed the NPA for deadly attacks against soldiers and police despite the peace talks. In December he designated the party and its armed wing "terrorist organizations."

After the election Mr. Duterte initially revived hopes for the successful negotiations as the President said it was his "dream" to forge peace in the country.

In a speech before indigenous peoples in Davao City, the Chief Executive, however, said the only thing wrong with the leftists is that they incite people to take up arms against the government.

The President said he is still open to talking to the rebels.

"I will talk to the rebels, to the Moro and the communists. After all, the NPAs are my friends. I've been going up to their mountain camps before," Mr. Duterte added.

"I like their group, the (now defunct left-wing) Partido ng Bayan Partido ng Bayan. I even joined them before. What I'm against is is that they are inspiring others to take up arms against government," he stressed.

### 'Free Baylosis'

Meanwhile, the NDF, the political arm of the CPP-NPA, has condemned the arrest of Baylosis -claiming that he is one of its consultants in the peace negotiations with the government.

The NDF said Baylosis is a member of the NDF's reciprocal working group on political and constitutional reforms.

"This illegal arrest and detention of NDF Consultant Rafael Baylosis is a flagrant violation of the GRP-NDFP Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees (JASIG, 1995)," said Luis Jalandoni, member of the NDFP's national executive committee in a statement sent to journalists.

"President Duterte must be held accountable for this trampling upon a valid peace agreement that assures all consultants and those participating in peace negotiations immunity from surveillance, harassment, search, arrest, detention, prosecution and interrogation or any other similar punitive action," he added.

### Invoke writ

But presidential spokesman Harry Roque said Baylosis can no longer use the JASIG to protest his arrest.

"JASIG is already worthless because there is no more peace talks," he told a press conference in Baguio City.

Roque said even the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL) could not be used for immunity from arrest.

"CARHRIHL is human rights and humanitarian law. If a person has warrant of arrest or if there is basis for warrantless arrest, he should be arrested because if not, it will be dereliction of duty," Roque, a lawyer, explained.

"If they think that their arrest, other than on the basis of JASIG, was illegal, then they should file habeas corpus because there is no martial law here in Luzon," Roque said.

He stressed it was the sworn duty of the President to implement the laws.

"And since there is no peace talks, they are not exempt from full compliance with our penal laws," he said.

Roque said it was the communists' fault why Duterte canceled the peace talks "because they killed our soldiers."

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## NDF consultant rearrested

By Mario J. Mallari  
and Ted Tuvera

A consultant of the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDF) and his close aide were arrested by government security forces, the first since President Rodrigo Duterte canceled the peace talks in November.

Nabbed were Rafael Baylosis, also tagged as acting secretary of the New People's Army (NPA) and a member of the Communist Party of the Philippines Central Committee, and his aide Guillermo Roque.

The two were collared by joint elements of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Manila Police District, Quezon City Police District and the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group on Aurora Boulevard corner Katipunan Avenue in Quezon City around 3:45 p.m.

Reports said Baylosis and Roque were monitored in the area since January 30 – thus the deployment of troops in the place.

The two reportedly attempted to evade arrest after sensing that

government security forces were tailing them.

"The suspects sensed the presence of the detectives in the area who even tried to run. This prompted the detectives to conduct interdiction as they are visible with short firearms tucked on their sides," report said.

Recovered from them were two .40-cal. pistols, 14 ammunition and two magazines.

The two are now under the custody of the CIDG-National Capital Region based in Camp Crame.

The military said Baylosis was the first high-profile insurgent arrested since the President finally called time in November on efforts to broker a political solution to one of Asia's longest-running struggles.

Officials added he lost his immunity after the breakdown in talks, saying they were executing an arrest warrant for Baylosis over a series of 1985 purges for which he and several other top rebel leaders were charged with murder.

Baylosis pleaded not guilty to the charge in 2016 and was bailed, after

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## NDF consultant rearrested

From page 1

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The President said he is still open to talking to the rebels.

"I will talk to the rebels, to the Moro and the communists. After all, the NPAs are my friends. I've been going up to their mountain camps before," Mr. Duterte added.

"I like their group, the (now defunct left-wing) Partido ng Bayan Partido ng Bayan. I even joined them before... What I'm against is is that they are inspiring others to take up arms against government," he stressed.

### 'Free Baylosis'

Meanwhile, the NDF, the political arm of the CPP-NPA, has condemned the arrest of Baylosis – claiming that he is one of its consultants in the peace negotiations with the government.

The NDF said Baylosis is a member of the NDF's reciprocal working group on political and constitutional reforms.

"This illegal arrest and detention of NDF Consultant Rafael Baylosis is a flagrant violation of the GRP-NDFP Joint Agreement on Safety and Immunity Guarantees (JASIG, 1995)," said Luis Jalandoni, member of the NDFP's national executive committee in a statement sent to journalists.

"President Duterte must be held accountable for this trampling upon a valid peace agreement that assures all consultants and those participating in peace negotiations immunity from surveillance, harassment, search, arrest, detention, prosecution and interrogation or any other similar punitive action," he added.

### Invoke writ

But presidential spokesman Harry Roque said Baylosis can no longer use the JASIG to protest his arrest.

"JASIG is already worthless because there is no more peace talks," he told a press conference in Baguio City.

Roque said even the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CARHRIHL) could not be used for immunity from arrest.

"CARHRIHL is human rights and humanitarian law. If a person has warrant of arrest or if there is basis for warrantless arrest, he should be arrested because if not, it will be dereliction of duty," Roque, a lawyer, explained.

"If they think that their arrest, other than on the basis of JASIG, was illegal, then they should file habeas corpus because there is no martial law here in Luzon," Roque said.

He stressed it was the sworn duty of the President to implement the laws.

"And since there is no peace talks, they are not exempt from full compliance with our penal laws," he said.

Roque said it was the communists' fault why Duterte canceled the peace talks "because they killed our soldiers."

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## 2 military informants slain in ambush

By ROEL PAREÑO

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Two military informants were killed while four other persons were wounded in an ambush in Patikul, Sulu yesterday.

Muksin Kardin and his brother Mukim were in a passenger jeepney when they were waylaid in Barangay Latih at about 8 a.m.

The wounded passengers have yet to be identified. They were taken to a hospital at Camp Teodulfo Bautista in Jolo.

The alleged gunmen were reportedly led by a certain Sonny Sajerin. It was not immediately known if they are Abu Sayyaf bandits.

Police said the Kardin siblings had provided information to the military on the location of the bandits.

Meanwhile, another Abu Sayyaf bandit surrendered in Sulu on Wednesday.

Abdul Maula Ismula also turned over his M16 rifle to personnel of the Marine Battalion Landing Team 1, Brig. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana, Joint Task Force Sulu commander, said.

"The Marines were conducting a civil-military mission in a village on Pata island when Ismula expressed his intention to surrender," Sobejana said.

At least 60 Abu Sayyaf bandits have surrendered in Sulu since January last year.

"More bandits are contemplating to surrender as the joint task forces under the Western Mindanao Command intensify security operations," Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez, Westmincom chief, said.

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**POLICE FILES**

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# AIRFORCE OFFICER, PINATAY, SINUNOG SA LOOB NG KOTSE

ANG sunog na katawan ng isang lalaki sa loob ng sinunog na kotse nitong Miyerkules ng gabay ipinamihalaang si Staff Sergeant Mark Herbert Oberes ng Philippine Air Force, sabi ng pulisya.

Pantwala ng pulis, ang biktima na pinatay bandang alas-9:00 ng gabí sa Corazon Village sa Barangay San Isidro, Talisay City, Cebu, ay siya nng sinunog sa loob ng sasakyan bandang 10:00 ng gabí sa Barangay Valencia, Carcar City, Cebu.

Ang biktima, ayon sa pulis, ay mlagay ng mga salamin sa loob ng puting kotse. Ang ibang salamin ay sumakay ng kulay grey na sasakyan at tumakas.

Ayon kay Police Officer 2 Joe Marie Villar, Carcar City Police Station desk officer, nakatanggap sila ng tawag sa



telepono mula sa isang residente, ipinaalam sa kanila ang sinunog na kotse.

Matapos mapatay ang apoy ng mga rumespondeng bumbero, nakita ang sunog na katawan na umano'y si SSgt. Oberes ng PAF.

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# ONLINE NEWS

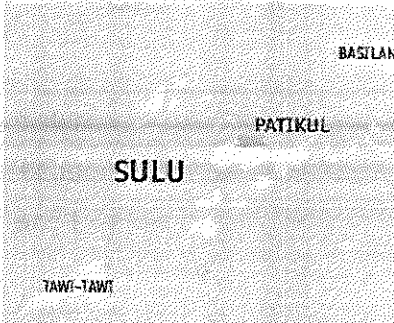
## 02 FEBRUARY 2018

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net>

### 2 die, 4 hurt as Abu bandits ambush jeep in Patikul

By: Julie Alipala- @inquirerdotnet

Inquirer Mindanao / 09:02 PM February 01, 2018



Patikul, Sulu (Wikipedia maps)

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Two people were killed while four others were wounded when suspected Abu Sayyaf bandits waylaid a private vehicle in Patikul, Sulu on Thursday.

Brigadier General Cirilito Sobejana, the Joint Task Force Sulu commander, said the jeep was passing by Barangay Latih around 7:30 a.m. when fired at by at least eight Abu Sayyaf gunmen on a Tamaraw FX.

"Immediately, the JTF units together with the local police rushed to the place of incident to conduct an investigation and pursuit operation. Checkpoint operations around the area were also established to apprehend the perpetrators," he said.

#### ADVERTISEMENT

Sobejana identified the two slain men as Muksin Kaidin and Mukim Kaidin. The injured were Buddiman Abdurahman of Anuling, Patikul; Alsimar Estino of Capitol site, Patikul; Wahid Tinil, of Anuling, Patikul; and Denden Baladji, also of Patikul.

A source said the victims were military assets and on their way to the JTF headquarters.

Sobejana did not directly confirm or deny the information.

"They are just a few of the many concerned citizens, who wanted peace to reign in the province of Sulu," he said instead. /jpv



<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net>

## Army sends Ecija battalion to Mindanao

By: [Tonette Orejas- @ttorejasINQ](#)

[Inquirer Northern Luzon](#) / 05:10 PM February 01, 2018



This photo taken on April 4, 2017 shows Philippine soldiers marching during the army's 120th anniversary ceremony at Fort Bonifacio camp in Manila.

/ AFP FILE PHOTO / TED ALJIBE

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO-The Philippine Army's 7th Infantry Division (ID) is set to deploy its 56th Infantry Battalion (IB) to Mindanao on Feb. 4 to augment troops tasked to seek out terror groups.

Major General Felimon Santos Jr., 7th ID commander, on Thursday confirmed the send-off schedule from its base in Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija province.

According to the 7th ID, the 56th IB recovered 10 camps of the New People's Army in Aurora and Nueva. It was reportedly active in assisting the Department of Environment and Natural Resources stop illegal logging in the Sierra Madre mountain ranges. Its previous base of operations was in Bulacan province.

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Also on Feb. 4, Santos is welcoming back the 69th IB, which had been assigned in Jolo, Sulu for 18 months following seven years of stints in several Mindanao areas.

The 69th IB "played an important role in a joint security operation, monitoring terror plans and actions that limited and hampered the [Abu Sayyaf Group's] maneuver space within their [area of responsibility] and cut the group's support from the local populace," the 7th ID said. The 69th IB used to operate in Pampanga.

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