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**TEAM ARMY**

Serving the people. Securing the land.

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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

# NEWS CLIPPINGS

14 February 2018

Wednesday

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

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# BusinessMirror

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## BusinessMirror

A broader look at today's business



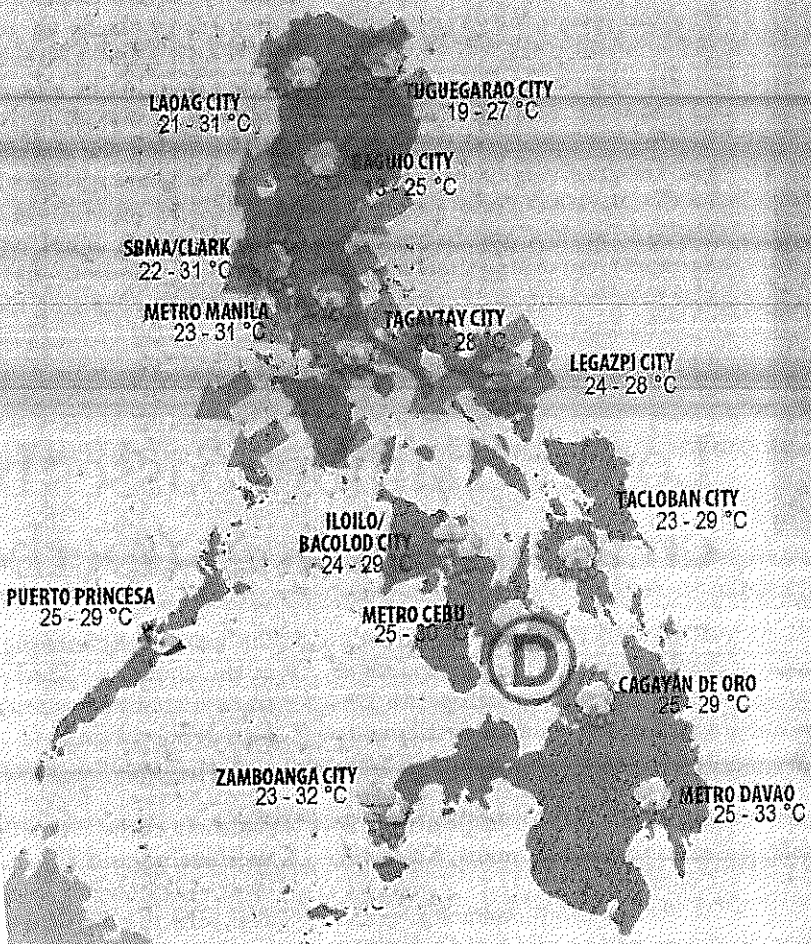
### 3-DAY EXTENDED FORECAST

	FEB 15 Thursday	FEB 16 Friday	FEB 17 Saturday
<b>METRO MANILA</b>	24-32 °C	24-32 °C	24-32 °C
<b>TUGUEGARAO</b>	20-29 °C	21-30 °C	23-30 °C
<b>LAOAG</b>	23-32 °C	24-32 °C	24-32 °C
<b>BAGUIO</b>	15-26 °C	15-27 °C	15-28 °C
<b>SBMA/CLARK</b>	23-31 °C	23-31 °C	23-31 °C
<b>TAGAYTAY</b>	21-27 °C	21-27 °C	21-27 °C
<b>LEGAZPI</b>	25-30 °C	25-31 °C	25-31 °C
<b>PUERTO PRINCESA</b>	25-30 °C	26-31 °C	26-31 °C
<b>ILOILO/BACOLOD</b>	25-29 °C	25-30 °C	25-30 °C

### Y'S WEATHER

FEBRUARY 14, 2018 | WEDNESDAY

TROPICAL DEPRESSION "BASYANG"  
25 KM SOUTHEAST OF TAGBILARAN CITY, BOHOL  
NORTHEAST MONSOON  
AFFECTING LUZON  
as of 5:00 pm - February 13, 2018



Watch PanahonTV on DZRH News Television  
from Monday to Friday at 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM,  
and via Pilipinas HD at 6:00 AM, 6:30 PM and 9:00 PM.

**DZRHNEWS TELEVISION** PILIPINAS HD





4 February 2018

INQUIRER

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# DENR TO CLOSE 51 BORACAY POLLUTERS

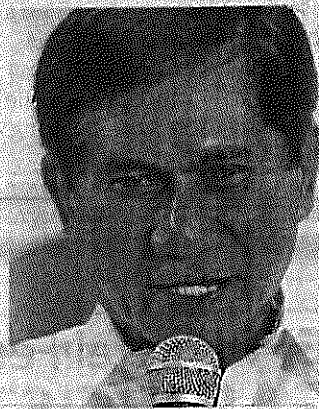
STORY BY JAYMEET. GAMIL AND NESTOR P. BURGOS JR

The establishments on the island were found to be dumping sewage into the sea in violation of the Clean Water Act, says the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

A6

FROM A1

By Jaymee T. Gamil  
and Nestor P. Burgos Jr.  
@Team\_Inquirer



Roy Cimatu

Fifty-one establishments operating on Boracay Island are facing closure after being found to have no wastewater treatment facilities and dumping sewage into the sea, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The announcement of the move against the erring establishments came days after President Duterte directed the environment department to clean up Boracay, which he compared to a "cesspool," or he would shut down the world-famous island in six months.

Mr. Duterte ordered Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu to "destroy" establishments in Boracay that violated environmental and health regulations.

He also warned that charges would be filed against local offi-

cial in Boracay for neglect of duty in connection with the island's environmental problems.

## Clean Water Act

The 51 establishments were served notices, dated Feb. 13, for violating Chapter 5, Section 27 of the implementing rules and regulations of Republic Act No. 9275, or the Clean Water Act of 2004, the DENR Western Visayas said in a report to the central office in Quezon City.

Under the law, establishments

and households are mandated to dispose of their septic waste through a treatment facility.

In a statement on Tuesday, Cimatu said that while 50 to 60 percent of all establishments in Boracay appeared to be compliant with the requirement, "all the rest direct their pipes to the canals, which drain to the sea."

Cimatu said the notices of violation would be issued to establishments that were illegally connected or not connected at all to the sewage treatment plant of Boracay Island Water Co.

## 5 days to respond

"We will give these establishments three to five days to respond. Otherwise, we will cut their water connections," Cimatu said.

He said the erring establishments would be given two months to either connect to the sewage treatment plant or install their own wastewater treatment facilities. "Otherwise, we will close them," he said.

The DENR did not identify the 51 erring establishments.

Aside from the sewage problem, Cimatu said the DENR would go after resort owners who had constructed buildings within areas classified as no-build zone forest lands.

Cimatu has ordered that no new environmental compliance certificates will be issued in Boracay to prevent the construction of new buildings.

## 'Corrupt officials'

In Boracay, the President's warning to charge local officials has drawn support from residents, including expatriates.

"I agree. Most of them (local officials) are corrupt. They never think of the consequence and keep on issuing building permits," said one resident, who requested not to be named for fear of reprisal.

At the inauguration of a help desk at Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center in Cebu City on Monday, Mr. Duterte said, "I will charge you with serious neglect of duty for making Boracay a sewer pool."

He blamed the "local governments and the people" in Bo-

racay for the environmental problems of the 1,032-hectare island

"You allowed the building of structures overlapping the coastline and already reaching the sea, which is not really allowed," he said.

An expatriate, who has been living on the island for more than 20 years, said Mr. Duterte's threat could help in the short run in dealing with the perennial problems of the island.

#### **Complacent, votes**

"The local officials, including those at the local and provincial levels, have been complacent, helpless and easily impressed by big businesses," said an expatriate, who asked not to be named for his safety. "They come from a few intertwined clans who are easily blackmailed by interest groups because they need their votes to stay in power."

Tourist arrivals on the island reached 2,001,974 last year, 16 percent higher than the 1,725,483 tourists in 2016.

A former tourism official said the local officials "have been extremely remiss in their duties," adding that "there is a great deal of corruption there that has piled up since four decades ago."

But the former official said cases should be filed not only against corrupt and negligent local officials but also against those in the DENR for "sleeping on the job."

#### **Governor, mayor**

The Inquirer tried to reach for comment Akian Gov. Florencio Miraflores and Mayor Ciceron Cawaling of Malay town, where Boracay Island is administered, but they did not respond.

Amid the President's threat to close down Boracay, a group of business owners on the island called on the national government to close down establishments that violated laws and regulations.

But the Boracay Foundation Inc. is against shutting down the entire island, saying Mr. Duterte is being given wrong information. INQ

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## Military tags South Cotabato official as NPA supporter

BY JOSEPH JUBELAG

**GENERAL SANTOS CITY** – The military has tagged a board member from South Cotabato as a supporter of the Communist New People's Army (NPA), citing testimonies given by former NPA members who earlier surrendered to authorities.

Lt. Col. Harold Cabunoc, 33rd Infantry Battalion commander, accused South Cotabato Board Member Romulo Solivio as an NPA supporter, saying that he used his position to mobilize indigenous

peoples (IP) to support the NPAs in the hinterland villages of Lake Sebu, South Cotabato.

Cabunoc said Solivio and his staff have also been using vehicles and government resources in organizing and mobilizing the Kilusang Revolutionary Barangay composed of IP organizations which serve as a front of the NPA in establishing a shadow government.

Cabunoc said that, based on the information provided by former rebels, Solivio was behind the organization of KALUAHAMIN, a federation of tribal

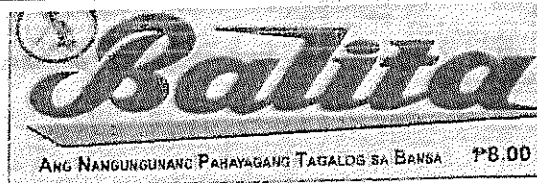
organizations in Mindanao. Cabunoc claimed that the organization serves as legal front of the NPA in recruiting members of local tribal groups to join the communist underground movement.

The military official said Samuel Dalimbang, chairperson of KALUAHAMIN was reportedly working under

the office of Solivio.

Dalimbang had lambasted soldiers belonging to 33rd IB and 27th IB who were tagged responsible for the massacre of Datu Victor Danian, a Manobo-Dulangan tribal leader, and seven other relatives last December 3, 2017 in Barangay Ned in Lake Sebu.

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## Sabwatan ng bokal sa NPA, nabunyag

**GENERAL SANTOS CITY** - Ibinunyag ng militar na isang bokal mula sa South Cotabato ang sumusuporta sa New People's Army (NPA), batay sa mga ebidensyang isiniralat ng ilang rebelde na una nang sumuko sa mga awtoridad.

Inakusahan ni Lt. Col. Harold Cabunoc, 33rd Infantry Battalion commander, si South Cotabato Board Member Romulo Solivio bilang tagasuporta ng NPA na umano'y ginagamit ang kanyang posisyon upang pakilusin ang Indigenous People (IP) sectoral na suportahan ang organizational machinery ng NPA sa liblib na barangay sa Lake Sebu, South Cotabato.

Inihayag ni Cabunoc na si Solivio, kasama ang kanyang mga tauhan, ay gumagamit umano ng mga behikulo at iba pang kagamitan ng pamahalaang panlalawigan sa pag-organisa at pagpapakilos sa Kilusang Revolutionary Barangay, na binubuo ng organisasyon

ng IP, at nagsisilbing front ng NPA sa pagtataguyod ng pailalim na gobyerno sa Barangay Ned sa Lake Sebu.

Aniya, batay sa impormasyon na ibinigay ng mga sumukong rebelde, si Solivio umano ang nasa likod ng organisasyong KALUHAMIN, na binubuo ng samahan ng mga tribo sa Mindanao, na nagsisilbi umano ng legal front ng NPA sa pagre-recruit ng mga miyembro mula sa mga tribo.

Isiniralat din ng militar na si Samuel Dalimbang, chairperson ng ALUHAMIN, ay nagtatrabaho umano sa ilalim ng pamamahala ni Solivio.

Samaritang himling ni South Cotabato Gov. Daisy Fuentes sa militar na magkasa ng kasong kriminal laban kay Solivio, sa oras na makakalap ng sapat na ebidensiyang magdiditin sa bokal, at magpapatunay na ito ay direktang sangkot sa NPA.

**Joseph Jubelag**



A February 2018



Pahina. 16

### 17 NPA sumurender

Nasa labingpitong miyembro ng mga teroristang New People's Army (NPA) ang sumuko sa pinagsanib na elemento ng militar at pulisya sa Brgy. Gagabutan, Rizal, Cagayan kamakalawa ng hapon

Sinabi ni Lt. Col. Camilo Saddam, Commander ng Army's 17th Infantry Battalion (IB), bandang alas-3 ng hapon nang magsisuko ang naturang grupo ng mga teroristang komunista.

Ang mga nagsisuko ay pawang taga-Brgy. Masi, Rizal ng lalawigang ito na nagbalik-loob sa tulong ni Rizal Vice Mayor Joel Ruma

"We expect more batches of surrenderers in the coming days, since the first group had already convinced their relatives to surrender as well," pahayag ni Saddam

Pinapurihan naman ni Brig. Gen. Perfecto Rimando Jr., Commander ng Army's 5th Infantry Division (ID) si Vice Mayor Ruma sa malaking natulong nito upang kumbinsihin ang mga teroristang NPA na sumuko sa batas

Inihayag ng mga sumukong NPA terrorists na pagod na sila sa hirap at gutom na tinitis sa pamumuhay

sa kagubatan at nais na rin nilang magbagumbuhay kaya nagdesisyong sumuko sa pamahalaan.

Kasalukuyan nang sumasailalim sa masusung tactical interrogation ang mga nagsisukong teroristang komunista. **(Joy Cantos at Victor Martin)**

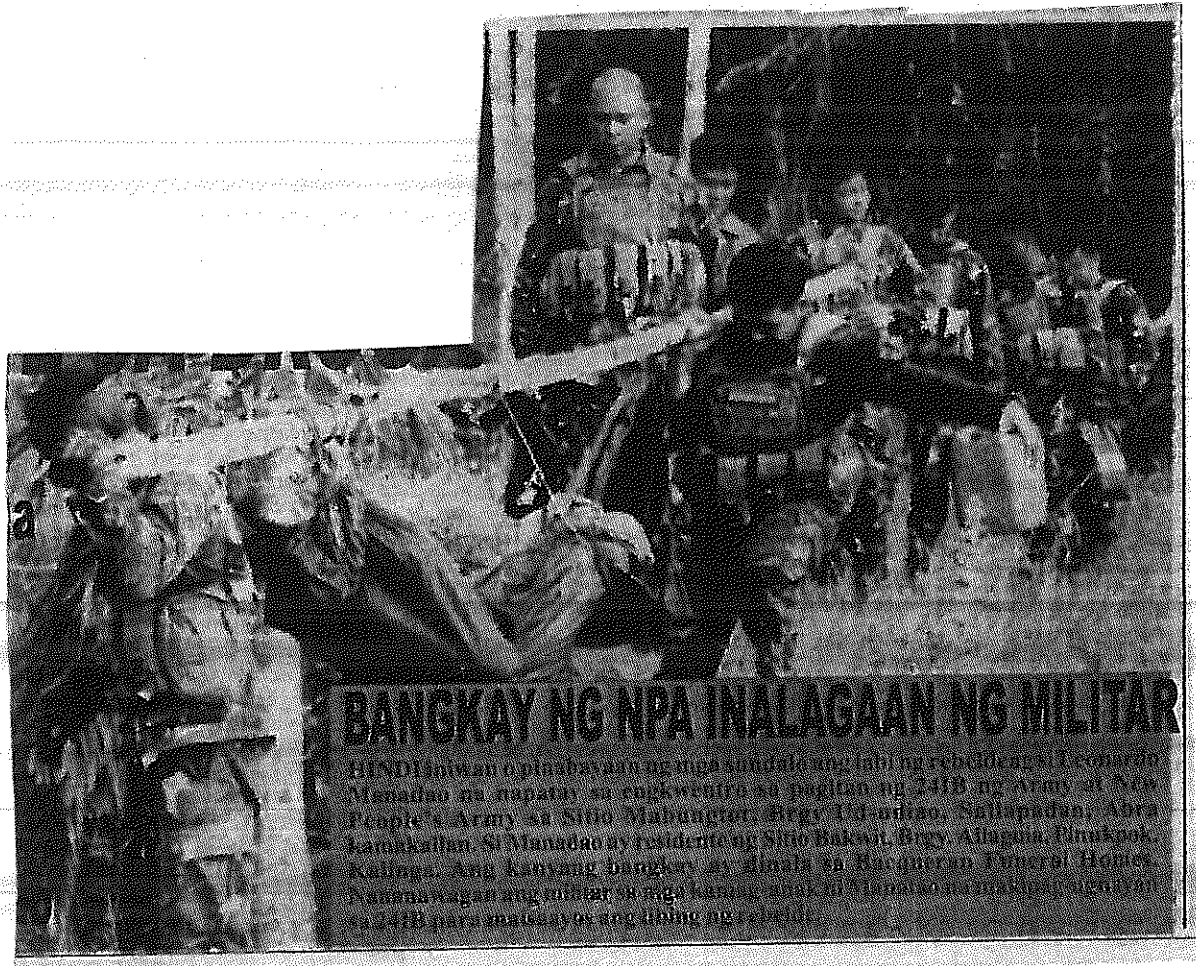
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**POLICE FILES**

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**BANGKAY NG NPA INALAGAAN NG MILITAR**

HINDI ito isang opisyal na mensa ng militar, ang larawan ng rebeldeng NPA sa Marikina na napatay sa kanilang mga pagtitigil sa 241B ng Army at New People's Army sa Sitio Mabuhay, Brgy. 1, Ilog, Marikina, Bulacan. Ang kamakailan, si Manada ay residente ng Sitio Bakaw, Brgy. Alapagan, Marikina, Bulacan. Ang kanyang bangkay ay dinala sa Bagumbayan General Hospital. Nasa harap ng bangkay ay mga kumakatawag na mga batang bata ng Marikina na nagmamangayon sa 241B para sa mga rebeldeng NPA.

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#### REGIONS BRIEFS

##### **5 Abus slain, 7 soldiers wounded in Sulu clash**

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Five suspected members of the bandit group Abu Sayyaf were killed while seven government soldiers were wounded in a clash in Panamao town, Sulu province, on Sunday, military reports said. Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr., commander of the Western Mindanao Command, said government troops were on a mission to rescue kidnap victim Jade Quimpo, who was reportedly being held by Abu Sayyaf leaders Sansibar Bensio and Hatib Munap Binda, when they ran into about 30 members of the bandit group on Bud (Mt.) Pawis early Sunday.

—JULIE ALIPALA

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**POLICE FILES**

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## **2 CAFGU NAGDWELO SA LOOB NG KAMPO SA COTABATO: 1 PATAY**

**PATAY** ang isang tauhan ng Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) sa nangyaring pamamaril kamakalawa ng gabi sa probinsya ng Cotabato.

Nakilala ang biktima na si Noel Sauldan, Cafgu na nasa ilalim ng 38th Infantry Battalion Philippine Army.

Ayon kay 602nd Brigade chief B/Gen Nolly Samarita, nagkasagutan umano ang biktima at kasama nitong Cafgu na nakilalang si Wilson Esonsa dahil sa personal na alitan.

Nagkapalitan pa ng maaanghang na salita ang dalawang Cafgu na humantong sa suntukan sa loob ng kaniyang detachment sa Barangay Simsiman, Pigcawayan, Cotabato.

Natalo sa suntukan ang suspek dahil malaki ang biktima kaya kinuha nito ang kanyang carbine rifle at binaril si Sauldan.

Naisugod pa sa pagamutan ang Cafgu ngunit hindi na ito umabot ng buhay nang magtamo ng apat na sugat sa kanyang katawan.

Agad nahuli ang suspek ng kanyang mga kasamahan at nakatakang sampahan ng kasong pagpatay.

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Manila  
**Standard**

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## Army brokers 'rido' settlements, yields 154 high-powered firearms

MALABANG, Lanao del Sur—The recent Marawi siege has brought to the authorities' attention that the proliferation of loose firearms definitely contributed to the intensity of the battles in that city.

Through the initiative of the 6th Infantry (Redskin) Battalion, 6th Infantry (Kampilan) Division, Philippine Army at Barangay Malling here and the Ranao-Ragat Inter-Agency Task Force, seven more firearms were surrendered by residents, adding to the 147 high-powered firearms already secured from warring local clans.

The economic growth and other developmental activities in the five coastal towns of Malabang, Marugong, Kapatagan, Picong and Balabagan, have always been hampered by hostilities due to family feuds or "rido," the Army said.

The latest rido in the area is among the Dimatingkal, Manalocon and Cadayon families of Barangay Tiongcop, Ma-

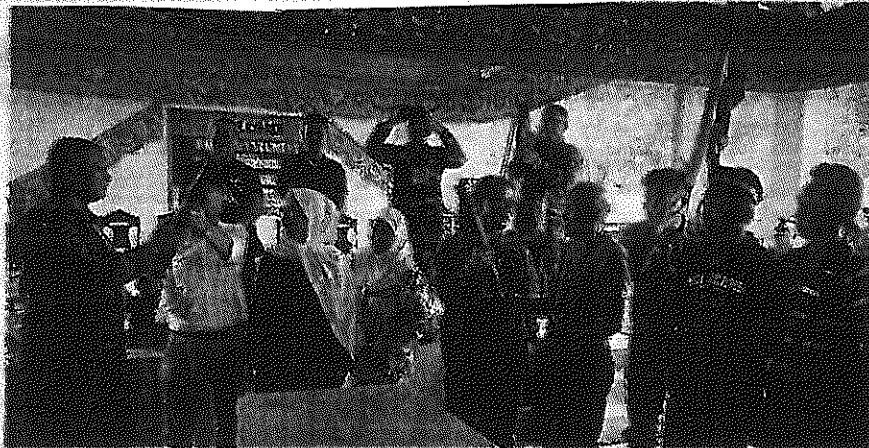
labang versus the Oting, Bacaraman and Pandato families of Barangay Diragun, Marogong, all of Lanao Del Sur.

Last Dec. 30, a firefight happened at the mountainous area of Maranao Planters Inc. at Brgy Diragun that led to one death on each opposing family.

The motive of the clash, the Army said, was of retaliation of the families of a certain Opaw Musa of Barangay Tiongcop, who was killed in Barangay Diragun Nov. 9.

Musa was allegedly killed by a certain alias "Baby Orak" Mamantal of Barangay Diragun, the Army said. The conflict between the clans has been on and off for the last 25 years, it added.

Major Gen. Arnel Dela Vega, Commander of the 6th ID, and local government officials believe the effects of rido on peace and security, governance and economic development were overly emphasized.



Major Gen. Arnel Dela Vega, Philippine Army 6th Infantry Division commander (center), and local government officials of Lanao de Sur receive the assorted high-powered firearms surrendered by warring clans in Malabang and Marogong towns in a ceremony that ended their 'rido' (clan warfare) over the weekend. **Mark Navales**



14 February 2018

**Malaya**  
The National Newspaper

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## Helicopter purchase

**P**RESIDENT Duterte has stopped the purchase of military helicopters from Canada, following the stance of Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to review the contract of sale over human rights concerns.

Earlier, the Canadian ambassador expressed the same sentiment, although not directly criticizing the war against illegal drugs which is the centerpiece of President Duterte's government.

Once again, Duterte displayed his characteristic angst and sensitivity whenever extra judicial killings and the drugs war are being criticized.

The President had the same reaction when members of the European Union aired the same concerns. Now, it is Canada's turn to get his goat.

**'The DND's clarification that the choppers would be used for the military's internal security operations as well as search and rescue during disaster does not hold much water with Canada's leadership.'**

On instruction of the President, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana announced that they are stopping the process of buying helicopters from Canada, and looking at other buy options in China, South Korea, Russia and Turkey.

The aircraft deal is worth \$233 million, and would have been a good one for the supplier-state.

"We are eyeing other countries for the medium lift helicopters in lieu of the Bell 412," said Lorenzana. Earlier, the Canadian ambassador expressed concern over the intended use of these new helicopters, because while the government says it would be used as transport vehicles especially during natural disasters, the Canadian official thought the choppers might be used to attack rebels and civilians.

It is well that Lorenzana said he will prepare the formal letter to Canada scrapping the purchase of 16 Bell 412 combat utility helicopters which are supposed to be delivered early next year.

The DND's clarification that the choppers would be used for the military's internal security operations as well as search and rescue during disaster does not hold much water with Canada's leadership.

In the wake of these developments, Duterte's instruction to find another supplier is most welcome. This is because the process of specification, inspection, investigation, bidding and the like is long, and as it is, the Philippines has lost valuable time already with the scrapping of the original purchase.

Now we have to start the process of purchase all over again.

But it is well worth it. The Philippines is the buyer, and Canada is the seller. In the sale of military aircraft and other vehicles, the buyer's interest must prevail. Especially so when there are several suppliers available in the market.

It is welcome news that President Duterte is pushing now the long-delayed modernization of the Armed Forces, starting with the needs of the Navy and the Air Force.

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## GOTCHA JARIUS BONDOC



### Being Red not illegal, but armed rebelling is

Government must proceed with care in “crushing” the communist fronts of the “terrorist” New People’s Army. It no longer is a crime to be a communist. The repeal of the Anti-Subversion Law, R. A. 1700, saw to that. It was one of the first acts of the Ramos administration in 1992. As a result, communist sympathizers joined the “parliamentary struggle” by running for congressional seats. To a large extent, they forsook armed revolution.

Before that the Cold War-inspired law had been used to hound duly elected Communists from Congress and the academe. It took the enlightened tenure of a former military general to figure out that one cannot legislate thinking.

Today the government can ill afford to crack down on Left-thinking groups on mere suspicion of communist leanings. Such suppression would only multiply their numbers, just as stifling of Christians by the Romans only further spread the religion outside the borders.

**Jose Maria Sison’s call for the NPA to slay one soldier a day is terrorist, by standards of Europe where he is in self-exile.**

What the government can go after are NPA rebels who actually participate in criminal acts: murder, arms procurement, kidnapping, serious illegal detention, extortion – even robbery in band of houses meant for soldiers and policemen. Those who merely advocate “to each according to his ability, to each according to his need” should be tolerated as a matter of free speech and expression. At worse they can only be called dreamers, as in John Lennon’s “Imagine”

As for Communist Party of the Philippines founder Jose Maria Sison, the government can take action. His latest call from self-exile in The Netherlands for the NPA to slay one soldier or policeman per day can be classified as terrorist. More so since the usual targets are

off-duty servicemen on the way home, or in civvies unarmed to buy food at the wet market. The foreign office can ask the Dutch government to censure and perhaps expel Sison for breaking European laws and the terms of his asylum. On the other hand, bothering with Sison might accord the ageing revolutionist undue importance.

Besides, European leaders also picture President Rodrigo Duterte as a terrorist too, because of the thousands of suspected drug pushers and users killed in his drug war

## ONLINE NEWS

### 14 FEBRUARY 2018

www.dwdd.com.ph

# VOLUNTARY SURRENDER | 17 more Communist Terrorist gives up in Cagayan

Posted by Alvin Santiago

**CAMP MELCHOR F DELA CRUZ, Gamu, Isabela (DWDD)** – As expected, 17 more Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army Terrorist (CNT) mass base supporters and symphatizers voluntarily surrendered to the joint elements of the 17<sup>th</sup> Infantry "Do or Die" Battalion (17<sup>th</sup> IB), 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and the local Police of Rizal, Cagayan at Barangay Gagabutan, Rizal around 3PM on February 11, 2018.

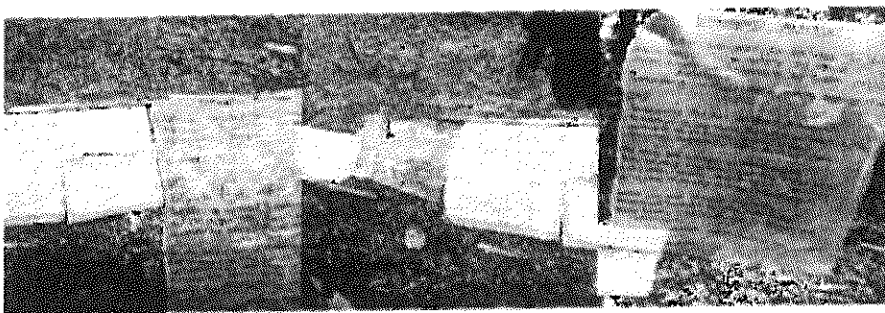
The CNT supporters were all resident of BrgyMasi, Rizal, Cagayan, and the surrender was facilitated by Vice Mayor Joel A Ruma of the same municipality. Among the 17 surrendered, 3 belonged to the "Militia ng Bayan" (MB), the armed territorial elements in the barangay.

According to Lt Col Camilo Saddam, Battalion Commander of 17IB, the mass surrender of CNT supporters from BrgyMasican be attributed to their aggressive information dissemination in the area. Accordingly, the people were already spilling the names of their companions. "We expect more batches of surrenderers in the coming days, since the first group had already convinced their relatives to surrender as well," LT Col Saddam, said.

BGen Perfecto M Rimando Jr, Commander, 5ID commended the effort of Vice Mayor Ruma assisting his constituents to the right path. "In our effort to finish the insurgency and terrorism in our country, what we need are government officials and people who have the courage to stand for righteousness, just like Vice Mayor Ruma." BGen Rimando Jr said.

*"With the surrender of the supporters and symphatizers, we are expecting that in the coming days, CNTS will also come down. The support of the Local Government Units to our focused military operations is really a big factor in legitimizing our action on the ground."* BGen Rimando added.

A couple of days ago, five MB from the same Brgy surrendered to the same unit, after the discovery of a large CNT camp not far from the same Brgy. The troops also encountered MOL 10 CNTs around noon on Feb 10, also in the same Brgy. 5DPAO/MCAG

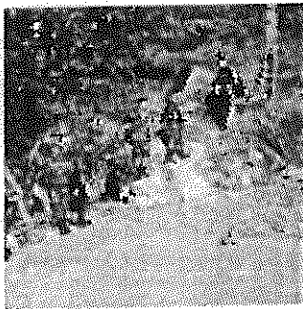


www.dwdd.com.ph

# SUSTAINED OPERATIONS | NPA Killed and Firearms recovered in Abra encounter

Posted by [Alvin Santiago](#)

**CAMP GEN SERVILLANO AQUINO, Tarlac City (DWDD)** – Northern Luzon Command forces spearheaded by the 24th Infantry Battalion (24IB) of the 7th Infantry Division (7ID), Philippine Army, encountered more or less ten (10) members Communist New People's Army Terrorists Group (CNTG), with unknown leader, in Sitio Mabungtot, Ud-Udiao, Sal-Lapadan, Abra at around 7:30 in the morning of February 11, 2018 (Sunday).



The firefight ensued, while the troops were conducting Focused Military Operations (FMO), as a response to the reports provided by the residents of NPA terrorists' presence in their locality. The skirmish, which lasted for about twenty-eight (28) minutes, resulted to the killing of one (1) NPA criminal killed and the recovery of a total of four (4) high-powered firearms consisting of three (3) M16 rifles, one (1) carbine rifle and an ICOM Radio.



On the other hand, no casualty or loss was incurred by the government forces. Moreover, additional troops were sent to pursue the remaining NPA terrorists.

The successful support to law enforcement operation was a result of the local community's support to get rid lawless elements from their community. NOLCOM Commander, LTGEN EMMANUEL B SALAMAT AFP, lauded the troops for the successful conduct of this military operation. Further, NOLCOM encourages the remnants of the Communist NPA Terrorist Group to return to the folds of the law, do away with the armed struggle and be able to contribute to nation-building. **NOLCOM / MCAG**

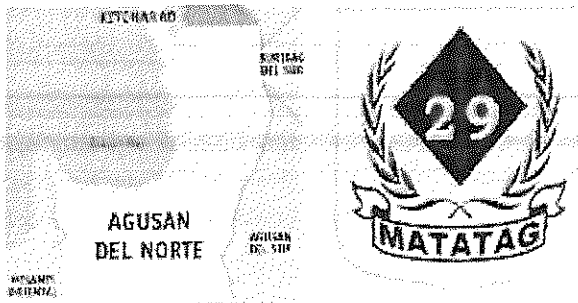
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## SUSTAINED CAMPAIGN | 3 NPA Terrorists Dead during Clash in Agusan del Norte

Reported by Alvin Santiago

**CABADBARAN CITY, Agusan del Norte (DWDD)** – Three (3) New Peoples' Army (NPA) terrorists died in an encounter with 29th Infantry "Matatag" Battalion at Sitio Taiwan, Barangay Bangayan, Kitcharao, Agusan del Norte on Sunday afternoon February 11, 2018.



The 3 dead bodies of the NPAs Front 16 of the North Eastern Mindanao Regional Committee (NEMRC) are yet to be identified.

One (1) M4 Sniper Rifle with Scope, several ammunitions, five (5) improvised landmines, 1 hand grenade, 1 rifle grenade, and a cellphone were among those recovered in the terrorists' encampment that can accommodate 100 persons.

Bloodstains in the withdrawal routes of the terrorist NPAs are still being tracked in the meantime.

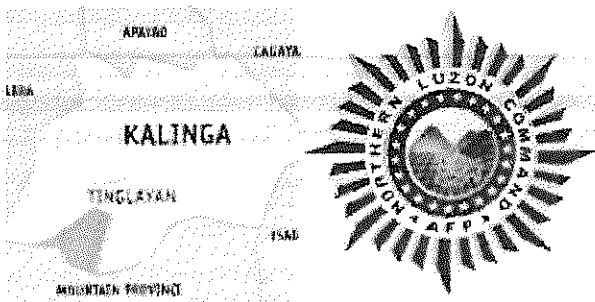
*"We will pursue these terrorists at all cost just to ensure that the people of Northern Mindanao and Caraga Regions will attain the peace they deserve so that economic development that they were long deprived of will come in,"* says Major General Ronald Villanueva of the 4th Infantry Division when he thanked the civilian informants who gave the location of the NPA camp.

General Villanueva also congratulated the 29IB under Lieutenant Colonel Glen Aynera and the 402nd Infantry Brigade under Brigadier General Franco Nemesio Gacal as he also exhorted them to continue the pressure so that the NPAs terrorists will no longer hold their members who are already contemplating of surrender. **4DPAO / MCAG**

# JOINT OPERATION | NOLCOM Troops discover Marijuana plantation in Kalinga

Posted by [Alvin Santiago](#)

**CAMP SERVILLANO AQUINO, Tarlac City (DWDD)** – A Marijuana plantation was discovered and destroyed by the Northern Luzon Command (NOLCOM) troops, in tandem with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) in Kalinga Province, at around 11:30 in the morning of February 11, 2018 (Sunday).



PDEA has coordinated with the 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion (50IB) of the 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (5ID), Philippine Army in seizing the target area, which was located in the mountainous and isolated area of Mount Chumanchil in Barangay Loccong, Tinglayan, Kalinga. A Joint Operation was conducted between the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) Regional Unit Office 2, PDEA Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), Kalinga Provincial Police Office and Tinglayan Municipal Police Office, 50IB of the Philippine Army (PA) and the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Kalinga.

The Joint Operation of the AFP, PDEA and PNP resulted to the seizing of the marijuana plantation, which was estimated to be one hundred (100) square meter area. The marijuana plants, which stood more than six (6) feet in height and ready for harvest, were subsequently uprooted by the authorities. Moreover, marijuana seedlings were also discovered within the plantation area.

NOLCOM will continue to provide support to Law Enforcement Operations with other agencies, in curtailing criminality and illegal drugs, to further contribute to national peace and development efforts of the Philippine Government. **NOLCOM / MCAG**