

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



TEAM ARMY

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OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

27 February 2018

Tuesday

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

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

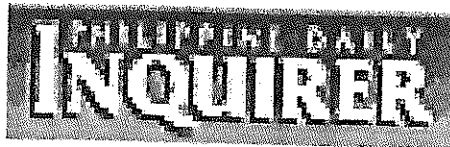
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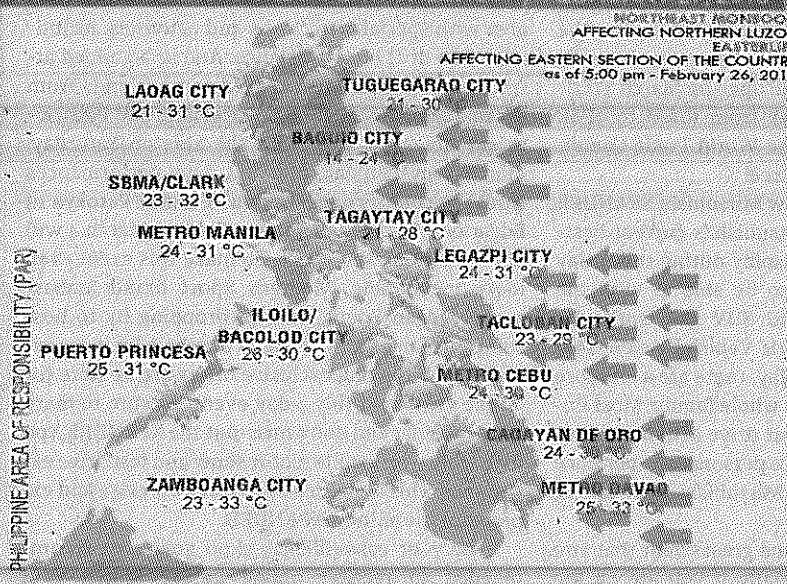
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BALANCED NEWS • FEARLESS VIEWS

PHILIPPINE WEATHER SERVICE - PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE - TUESDAY

NORTHEAST MONSOON AFFECTING NORTHERN LUZON EASTERN VISAYAS
AFFECTING EASTERN SECTION OF THE COUNTRY
as of 5:00 pm - February 26, 2018



LAOAG CITY 21 - 31 °C
TUGUEGARAO CITY 24 - 30 °C
BAGUIO CITY 14 - 24 °C
SBMA/CLARK 23 - 32 °C
TAGAYTAY CITY 21 - 28 °C
METRO MANILA 24 - 31 °C
LEGAZPI CITY 24 - 31 °C
ILOILO/ BACOLOD CIT 26 - 30 °C
TACLOBAN CITY 23 - 29 °C
PUERTO PRINCESA 25 - 31 °C
METRO CEBU 24 - 30 °C
CAGAYAN DE ORO 24 - 30 °C
ZAMBOANGA CITY 23 - 33 °C
METRO DAVAO 25 - 33 °C

SUNRISE 6:14 AM
SUNSET 6:04 PM



MOONRISE 3:23 PM
MOONSET 3:34 AM

FIRST QUARTER FEB 21 4:59 PM
FULL MOON MAR 2 8:51 AM

LOW TIDE 3:29 AM
HIGH TIDE 7:32 PM

MANILA SOUTH HARBOR
-0.23 Meter / 1.06 Meter

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

METRO MANILA	24 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	TAGAYTAY	21 - 29 °C	22 - 29 °C	TACLOBAN	23 - 30 °C	23 - 30 °C
TUGUEGARAO	22 - 30 °C	23 - 32 °C	LEGAZPI	25 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	24 - 30 °C	24 - 30 °C
LAOAG	22 - 32 °C	23 - 33 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	25 - 31 °C	26 - 32 °C	METRO DAVAO	25 - 33 °C	25 - 33 °C
BAGUIO	14 - 24 °C	15 - 25 °C	ILOILO/ BACOLOD	26 - 31 °C	26 - 31 °C	ZAMBOANGA	23 - 33 °C	24 - 33 °C
SBMA/ CLARK	23 - 32 °C	23 - 32 °C	METRO CEBU	24 - 31 °C	25 - 31 °C	 		

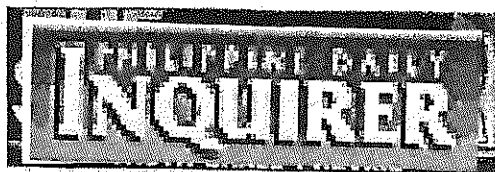
DZRHNEWS TELEVISION

MONDAY - FRIDAY
11 AM & 5 PM

PILIPINAS HD

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

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PALACE: NO STOPPING BARANGAY ELECTIONS

STORY BY LEILA B. SALAVERRIA, GABRIEL CARDINOZA AND CHRISTINE O. AVENDAÑO

According to Malacañang spokesperson Harry Roque, President Duterte does not want to rush Charter change, while Senate President Aquilino Pimentel III says it's too late to postpone the village and SK polls.

By Leila B. Salaverria,
Gabriel Cardinoza
and Christine O. Avendaño
@Team_Inquirer

The barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) elections will be held as scheduled in May, Malacañang said on Monday, disputing Senate Minority Leader Franklin Drilon's warning that President Duterte's allies in the House of Representatives are plotting to postpone the two ballotings as a first step to extending their terms.

Drilon said in a radio interview on Sunday that the term extension would be accomplished by postponing the barangay and SK elections and holding them simultaneously with a plebiscite on a railroaded federal Constitution in October or November.

For the plot to succeed, Drilon said the Senate had to agree to the postponement, but there was no more time to pass a law that would authorize it because Congress was going on Lenten recess in two weeks' time.

'Strange, speculative'

Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque said in a press briefing on Monday that Drilon's comments on Sunday were

"strange" and "very speculative."

Roque said Senate President Aquilino Pimentel III himself said in an event on Friday that the Senate had no plans of postponing the barangay elections for a third time.

"While there is a pending bill in the House filed by Congressman Johnny Pimentel (of

Surigao del Sur) to suspend anew the barangay elections, Senator Pimentel declared before the audience of 4,000 that there was no support in the Senate for another postponement of the barangay elections. That means, as far as Congress is concerned, barangay elections will push through," Roque said.

'No more time'

Following Drilon, Pimentel reiterated on Monday that there was no more time to pass a law that would allow the postponement of the village and youth elections, as there were only 12 days left before Congress went on recess.

Pimentel said there was no compelling reason to postpone the barangay and SK elections and that was why he did not file

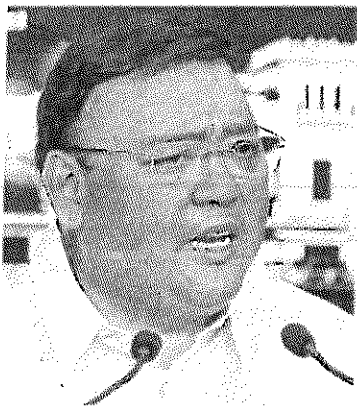
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Local: 5285, 5295

a bill that would authorize the postponement.

“Everyone is prepared, the Commission on Elections is ready [for the elections] and so are the candidates and the voters,” Pimentel told reporters.

The two elections have al-



Harry Roque

ready been postponed twice, from May 2016 to October 2017, then to May this year.

Postponement bills filed

Davao City Rep. Karlo Alexei Nograles confirmed on Monday that two measures had been filed in the House for the postponement of the barangay and SK elections.

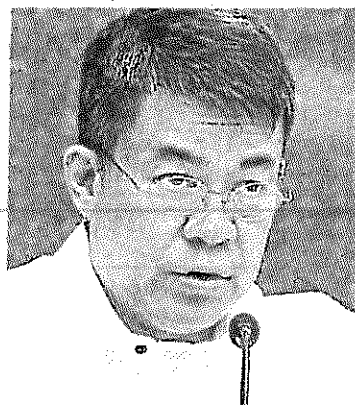
Nograles, chair of the House appropriations committee, said the measures were pending on the committee on suffrage.

He said one of the bills proposed to postpone the barangay elections to October, while the other would move the balloting to May next year.

“One of the reasons [for the postponement] is to hold it simultaneously with ... the ratification of a new Constitution,” Nograles said.

He denied, however, that the postponement was aimed at canceling the midterm elections next year.

Caloocan Rep. Edgar Erice, in a radio interview on Sunday, said the synchronization of the barangay and SK polls with a plebiscite



Aquilino Pimentel III for a railroad federal Constitution would allow the cancellation of the midterm elections.

Erice explained that the proposed new Constitution would have transitory provisions that would authorize the term extension of incumbent congressmen and local officials.

If the new Constitution is ratified in the plebiscite, no midterm elections will be held because the terms of congressmen and local officials will be extended until the election of new, federal officials.

Sought for comment on Monday, Erice said he agreed with Roque that the proposal to postpone the barangay and SK elections wouldn't fly in the Senate.

“I agree with him. I think the effort is just in the House,” Erice said.

Roque said President Duterte did not want to rush the amendment of the 1987 Constitution.

He said Mr. Duterte wanted a thorough discussion on any proposal to amend the Constitution for a shift to federalism.

He said Mr. Duterte wanted a thorough discussion on any proposal to amend the Constitution for a shift to federalism.

Consultative committee

The President has formed a consultative committee that will propose amendments to the Constitution, Roque said.

“That means the President would prefer that Congress await the outcome of the work product of the [consultative committee] before it is even

tackled in Congress,” he said.

“It is not the President’s purpose to railroad it knowing how important it is, revising no less than the fundamental law of the land, and the people will be given ample time and opportunity to debate and ponder ... the proposed revisions, whatever they may be,” he added.

The consultative committee, headed by retired Chief Justice Reynato Puno and composed of other legal luminaries, has six months to complete its recommendations, which the President is expected to submit to Congress.

Congress may or may not follow the proposals.

Tighter timetable

Drilon said he remained convinced that the House wanted the barangay and SK elections held simultaneously with the plebiscite for a new Constitution, noting the filing of two bills for that purpose.

Rep. Johnny Pimentel’s bill which was filed on Jan. 31 sought to synchronize the two elections with the plebiscite in October, Drilon said.

The bill filed by Oriental Mindoro Rep. Reynaldo Umali on Feb. 13 would have the two elections held simultaneously with the plebiscite in May 2019 he said.

A third bill, similar to that of Pimentel’s, has been filed by ANAC-IP Rep. Jose Panganiban Jr.

“So really there’s a serious effort to postpone the barangay elections and piggyback the constitutional amendments which will be railroad in that kind of timetable,” Drilon said.

The timetable has become even tighter, Drilon said, noting that under the 1987 Constitution, the plebiscite cannot be held earlier than 60 days or later than 90 days after the approval of the amendments.

“The only way to do it is to railroad it,” he said. —WITH REPORTS FROM VINCE F. NONATO, ARMAND GALANG AND ANSELMO ROQUE INQ

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Terror threat keeps soldiers on their toes

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Monday said that it is continuously monitoring and verifying every information related to any alleged movements of terror groups following statements made by Australian authorities that terrorists are regrouping after the Marawi siege.

AFP spokesman and concurrent Civil Relations Service (CRS) chief Brig. Gen. Bievinido Datuin, made the remark during an interview.

"The main concern of the security sector is not only to address the armed component but the financial and logistics line of terrorist organizations," he added.

Datuin said there will always be a gap in the security measures being implemented by every nation in the world, big or small. He said the terrorists will always look into those gaps and take advantage of them.

"(With this in mind) we aim to strengthen our security measures with the help of our citizens in order to fill in those gaps," Datuin said.

"We call on our people to help in the effort against terrorism. The fight against terrorism is not the sole responsibility of the government or the security sector but of every citizen of the republic," he added.

Australian Ambassador to the

Philippines Amanda Gorely was quoted earlier in news reports that terrorists behind the five-month-long Marawi siege which ended in October 2017 are said to be regrouping and intend to strike again in another area.

Gorely said the evidence was based on intelligence information provided to the Philippine authorities.

Meantime three more Abu Sayyaf members on Monday surrendered to the marines of the Joint Task Force Sulu (JTF Sulu) in Jolo, Sulu.

Hajar Abbang, 38, a resident of Barangay Kan Bulak, Luuk, Sulu; Kirah Ainazri Jawad, 20; and Sani S Jawad, 18, both residents of Buanza, Indanan voluntarily surrendered to the Philippine Marine Ready Force 2 of the Joint Task Force Sulu at 9:45 a.m.

According to Abang, he was formerly a follower of the late Abu Sayyaf Group Subleader (ASGSL) Alhabsy Misaya while the other two are followers of the late ASG subleader Abraham Hamid.

"The trio also voluntarily turned over their firearms, an M16 rifle; an M79 rifle; and an M1 Garand rifle to our soldiers," said Brig. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana, commander of the Joint Task Force Sulu.

The three were brought to Kuta General Teodulfo Bautista Station Hospital in Barangay Busbus, Jolo, Sulu for medical checkup and for custodial debriefing.

Sobejana lauded the accomplishment of the marines and said, "with the right combination of focused military operations that pressures the ASG and the nonviolent approach that we are introducing, it is expected that more ASG members will be neutralized which may lead to their eventual downfall."

"It is notable that since our proposal for the ASG surrenderer Comprehensive Reintegration Program, more ASG members now returns to the folds of the law with firearms. This is a welcome development for us since we want to end our campaign against the ASG peacefully. After all, they are just misguided individuals and also Filipinos whom we are bound to serve," he added.

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NPA official, tiklo sa Agusan del Sur

CAMP BANCASI, Butuan City - Nasakote kamakailan ng mga tauhan ng militar at pulisya ang isang mataas na opisyal ng Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA), na nag-o-operate sa Agusan del Sur kamakailan.

Kinilala ni Maj. Gen. Ronald Vilanueva, commanding general ng Northeastern at Northern Mindanao 4th Infantry (Diamond) Division (4th ID) ng Philippine Army (PA), si Pablito Campos, Jr., alyas "Batik" o "Ponsoy", umano'y secretary at political

officer ng Guerilla-Front Committee 21-A (GFC 21-A) at sinasabing tagapagsalita ng CPP-NPA Sub-Regional Committee ng Westland of North Eastern Mindanao Regional Committee (SRCW-NEMRC).

Natuklasan din ng pulisya na may nakabimbing walong warrant of arrest si Campos sa mga kasong rebelyon, frustrated murder, murder, multiple attempted murder, kidnapping, at serious illegal detention mula sa iba't ibang hukuman sa Lianga, Surigao del Sur at Bayugan City, Agusan del Sur.

Isa aniyang dagok sa kilusan ang pagkakaaresto kay Campos at sa pagkakapatay pa ng militar sa iba pang kasamahan nito, dahil na rin sa pinaigting na giyera laban sa mga rebelde sa rehiyon.

Mike U. Crismundo

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2 BIFF men held; 7 guns seized

NORTH COTABATO – Government troopers arrested two members of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) in Midsayap on Sunday.

Ambong Adam, 39, and Endo Sapelon, 48, were collared by personnel of the local police and 34th Infantry Battalion in Barangay Nabalawag based on information provided by local officials and community elders.

Three M1 Garand, an M16, a .50 caliber Barrett and two M14 rifles were recovered from the BIFF men, Chief Inspector Aldrin Gonzales, Soccsksargen police spokesman, said.

– John Unson

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Sinibak na Army, NPA official arestado sa KFR

NI MARTIN A. SADONGDONG

Isang nadismis na sundalo ng Philippine Army (PA) at isang hinihinalang lider ng New People's Army (NPA) ang naaresto ng Philippine National Police (PNP) at iprinisinta sa media sa Camp Crame sa Quezon City kahapon dahil sa kanila umanong pagkakasangkot sa serye ng kidnap-for-ransom (KFR) sa bansa.

Kinilala ni PNP chief, Director General Ronald dela Rosa ang mga suspek na sina Brandall Mark Cacatian, alyas "Cat", nasa hustong gulang, nasibak na sundalo at ikawalo sa most wanted ng PNP; at Donat Jacob, alyas "Jonas" at "Dondon Diego", na umano'y tumatayong lider ng NPA-Sandatahang Yunit Propaganda (SYP) na kumikilos sa Bulacan.

Ayon kay Dela Rosa, si Cacatian ay nahuli nitong Pebrero 21 sa Levi Mariano Street, Barangay Ususan, Taguig City, sa bisa ng arrest warrants para sa kidnapping with ransom at kidnapping with homicide.

Sinabi ni Dela Rosa na nadismis

si Cacatian mula sa 2nd Infantry Division (2ID) ng Army noong 2006, at kabilang umano sa pitong dumukot kay Santy Bryan Ang noong Disyembre 7, 2012 sa Lucban, Quezon.

"In this case, the initial ransom demand of the kidnapers was P7 million which was eventually reduced to P1.069 million through negotiation," pahayag ni Dela Rosa.

Sinabi pa ni Dela Rosa na ang ransom na ibinayad ng pamilya at ni Ang ay inilabas noong Disyembre 10, 2012. Naghain naman ng kaso ang pamilya Ang laban sa pitong suspek na sanhi ng pagkakadakit ng mga ito at ang pinakahuling nadakit ay si Cacatian.

Dawit din umano si Cacatian sa pagdukot at pagpatay kay Jefferson Vince Uy noong Disyembre 12, 2014 sa Barangay Tangob, Padre Garcia, Batangas.

Binanggit pa ng PNP chief na ang 10 miyembro ng grupo ni Cacatian ay humingi ng P7 milyon ransom sa pamilya hanggang sa maibaba ng negosyador sa

P357,000.

"However, despite the payment of ransom, the victim was still killed by the kidnapers," ani Dela Rosa, at anim, aniya, sa mga kidnapper ang natimbog habang apat na iba pa ang pinaghahanap.

Samantala, naaresto si Jacob ng pinagsanib na puwersa ng PNP-AKG, Intelligence Group (IG) at Malabon City Police nitong Sabado sa F. Navarette-Panghulo Road sa Obando, Bulacan.

Si Jacob umano ang nagsilbing kolektor ng NPA-SYP group sa pangangikil umano sa mga pulitiko at operator ng fishpond at quarry sa Bulacan, at naaresto sa bisa ng arrest warrant para sa kasong robbery with intimidation na isinampa ng fish pond operator na si Rodolfo Gaddi, ng Hagonoy, Bulacan.

Lumitaw na si Jacob ay kabilang din umano sa anim na hinihinalang kidnapper ng 27-anyos na si Raziell Esguerra noong Disyembre 22, 2017 sa Biñan, Laguna, isang highly-controversial case na pumatay sa "best man" ng PNP-AKG na si Supt. Arthur Masungong.

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Ex-soldier, NPA leader in kidnappings nabbed

The Philippine National Police yesterday announced the arrest of a dismissed Philippine Army soldier and a New People's Army leader for their alleged involvement in a series of kidnap-for-ransom incidents.

PNP chief Director General Ronald M. dela Rosa presented in Camp Crame in Quezon City the arrested suspects identified as Brandall Mark Cacatian, alias "Cat," a dismissed Army soldier who is No. 8 in the PNP's Anti-Kidnapping Group wanted list, and Donat Jacob, alias "Jonas and

Dondon Diego," the alleged leader of the NPA-Sandatahang Yunit Propaganda operating in Bulacan.

Dela Rosa said that Cacatian was apprehended last Feb. 21 on Levi Mariano St. in Barangay Ususan, Taguig City.

On the other hand, Jacob was arrested by the PNP-AMG, Intelligence Group, and the Malabon City police last Feb. 24 on F. Navarette-Panghulo Road in Obando, Bulacan. **(Martin A. Sadongdong)**

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THE DAILY
tribune
Without Fear and Love

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IS-influenced terrorists regrouping; PNP, AFP on alert status

By Mario J. Mallari

Police and military establishments are now on their toes amid reports that Islamic State-inspired terrorists are currently regrouping after the failed Marawi City siege last year.

Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Director General Ronald dela Rosa, however, maintained that it would be hard for the terrorists to launch attacks similar to the Marawi City siege that erupted from May to October last year.

"Our campaign against terrorism is very aggressive. We, the PNP, the AFP

(Armed Forces of the Philippines) and all other intelligence agencies of the government are helping each other," said dela Rosa.

Dela Rosa said Director Camilo Pancratious Gascolan, head of the PNP Directorate for Operations, was in Davao City for a meeting on the defense and security of the home-city of President Duterte.

"It will be replicated in other key cities in Mindanao to ensure that there will be no repeat of the Marawi City siege in Mindanao," said dela Rosa, who admitted that other cities are candidates

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IS-influenced terrorists regrouping; PNP, AFP on alert status

From page 1

to be next Marawi if their security operations are not intensified.

The chief PNP is not discounting the possibility that terrorists, who have slipped out of Marawi City, are now recruiting new members.

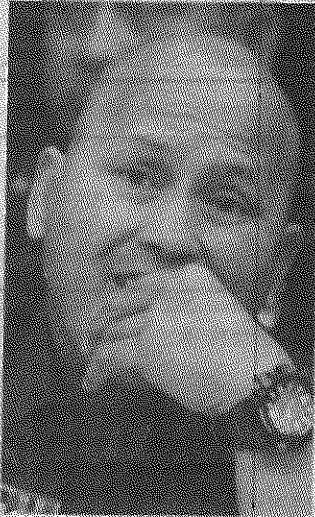
Dela Rosa said that authorities should be able to thwart the recruitment activities to ensure there will be no attacks.

"We should address it from the recruitment made, if they fail to recruit they will not have enough forces to use," said dela Rosa.

AFP spokesman Brig. Gen. Bienvenido Datuin said that the military is closely monitoring the movements of the terrorist groups.

"The AFP is continuously monitoring and verifying every information related to any alleged movements of terror groups. We are in constant coordination with our foreign and local counterparts to address the scourge of terrorism," said Datuin.

"The main concern of the security sector is not only to address the armed component but the financial and logistics line of terrorist organizations," he added.



DE LA ROSA

The Australian government said that there is evidence indicating that the IS-inspired terrorists involved in the Marawi City siege are currently regrouping.

Datuin called on the public to coordinate closely with government authorities to thwart any attempt from the terrorists as he admitted there will always be gaps in the security operations of government troops.

"There will always be a gap in the security measures being implemented by every nation in the world, big or small. Terrorists will always look into those gaps and take advantage

of them." "We aim to strengthen our security measures with the help of our citizens in order to fill in those gaps," said Datuin.

"We call on our people to help in the effort against terrorism. The fight against terrorism is not the sole responsibility of the government or the security sector but of every citizen of the republic," he added.

Palace: Security forces able to deal with new threats

Malacañang on Monday assured that state security forces are "able and willing to deal" with new threats of any terrorist group, following warnings that jihadists loyal to the Islamic State (ISIS) could seize another area in the country.

Residential Spokesman Harry Roque made this remark after Australian Ambassador to the Philippines Amanda Gorely was quoted saying that terrorists behind the Marawi siege are regrouping and are intending to strike again elsewhere.

"We are of course monitoring the situation. We are able and willing to deal with any new threats," Roque said in a Palace briefing.

Roque also pointed out that Gorely's statement merely verified what the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) already knew, which also led to the

decision to extend martial law in Mindanao until the end of 2018.

"I think that has been a shared view of our Armed Forces which prompted in fact the decision to extend martial law in Mindanao," Roque said.

"But I think this latest statement of Australian ambassador only verifies what we already know that they are regrouping and recruiting more people," he added.

Continued vigilance

AFP spokesman Brig. Gen. Bienvenido Datuin earlier said that the AFP remains vigilant on the movement of terrorist groups.

"The AFP is continuously monitoring and verifying every information related to any alleged movements of terror groups. We are in constant coordination with our foreign and local counterparts to address the scourge of terrorism," Datuin said.

Datuin, meanwhile, called on Filipinos to help in the fight against terrorism.

"We call on our people to help in the effort against terrorism. The fight against terrorism is not the sole responsibility of the government or the security sector but of every citizen of the Republic," Datuin added.

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The Manila Times

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Top NPA propagandist, political officer nabbed

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY: A high-ranking officer of the New People's Army (NPA) in Northeastern Mindanao was arrested in El Rio, Sibagat, Agusan del Sur by military and police personnel, a military report said on Monday.

Lt. Tere Ingente, Public Affairs Office chief of the Army's 4th Infantry Division, said arrested was Pablito Campos, alias "Batik" or "Ponsoy," the secretary and political officer of the NPA Guerrilla Front 21A of the Northeastern Mindanao Regional Committee (NEMRC).

She said that Campos, a noted terrorist propaganda expert, was also the spokesman of NEMRC's regional committee of Westland.

Ingente said the operatives from the Army's 401st Brigade in Agusan del Sur and the police also seized from Campos one M4 Rifle with a fully loaded magazine, three mobile phones, one backpack containing a hand grenade and personal belongings.

She added that the Regional Trial Court in Surigao del Sur

and Bayugan City, Agusan del Sur, have issued eight warrants of arrest against Campos for crimes involving rebellion, frustrated murder, murder, multiple attempted murder, kidnapping and serious illegal detention.

Campos was allegedly responsible for the failed ambush of policemen on July 29, 2017 in Sibagat, Agusan del Sur which resulted in the death of one of the police officers.

Ingente said that as ranking NPA terrorist, Campos implements extortion activities against companies and decides on personalities who would be kidnapped.

"With the arrest of Campos, guerrilla front 21A would experience blind leadership that would lead to its eventual downfall," said Major Ronald Villanueva, commander of the Army's 4ID.

Since January this year, the 401st Brigade in Agusan del Sur has captured four NPA terrorists and accepted the surrender of 57 NPAs and the recovered 26 high-powered firearms.

CRIS DIAZ

27 February 2018



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EDSA People Power Revolution celebrated its 32ND anniversary



EDSA People Power Commission (EPPC) and National Historical Commission of the Philippines Chair Dr. Rene Escalenta and EPPC Vice Chair Joey Concepcion handed the People's Power Heroes Award to Former President Fidel V. Ramos.

Presidential Adviser for Entrepreneurship and Go Negosyo Founder Joey Concepcion who co-leads the EDSA People Power Commission shared in his message that the measure of real democracy is the prosperity of all Filipinos.



EDSA People Power Revolution celebrated its 32nd anniversary last February 25, 2018 at the People Power Monument in Quezon City.

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EDSA People Power Commission (EPPC) led the 32nd anniversary celebration of the bloodless uprising which ousted the dictatorship in 1986. The celebration was held in the People Power Monument in Quezon City.

EPPC is now led by National Historical Commission of the Philippines chairman Dr. Rene Escalante and co-chaired by Presidential Adviser for Entrepreneurship and Go Negosyo Founder Joey Concepcion.

Concepcion in his speech related his experience of the revolution.

“In 1986, we all witnessed the most peaceful revolution. I, together with my family, were in the streets here sitting and patiently waiting for change to happen.”

He also recognized his father who is one of the icons of the EDSA revolution because of the foundation of NAMFREL or the National Citizen’s Movement for Free Elections.

Concepcion also added that democracy must be coupled with prosperity in order to be fully enjoyed by the people. He said, *“the real test of democracy is the creation of greater prosperity for all Filipino people.”*

Former President Fidel V. Ramos also joined the celebration. President Ramos was also one of the key figures in the EDSA revolution. He was also given the People’s Power Heroes Award for his invaluable role during the 1986 revolution where he was the Vice-Chief-of-Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

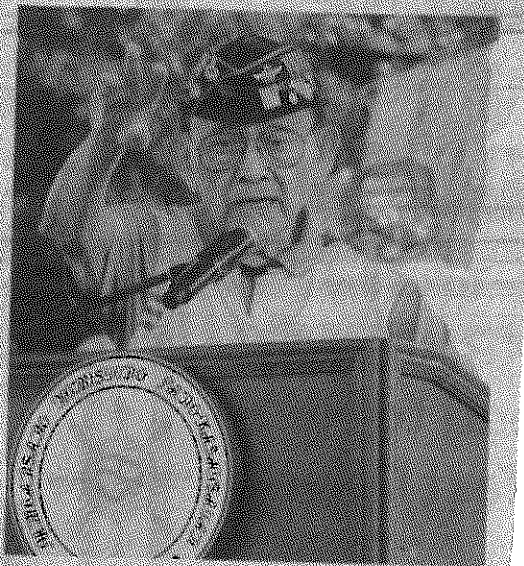
As the guest of honor of the ceremony, President Ramos said,

“Yung 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution ay ang umpisa ng ating pagbabago. Hindi iyan ang katapusan.”

(The 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution is the beginning of change. It was not the end.) He also stated that EDSA has brought 4 important lessons Filipinos must exercise: Unity, Solidarity, Teamwork and Nation-Building.

Other awardees also include Armed Forces of the Philippines represented by Army Captain Michael Asistores for their courageous effort in defending Marawi City, and Philippine National Police- Special Action Force represented by P03 Christopher Lalan who was the sole survivor of the Mamasapano debacle.

NCC Mall employee Melvin Gaa who died while saving others during the fire incident was also recognized with the Good Citizenship Award. Aside from the recognition, Go Negosyo gave 50,000 worth of negosyo and mentorship package to the wife of Gaa.



Former President Fidel V. Ramos was one of the awardees and the guest of honor of the celebration. President Ramos reiterated in his speech that the EDSA Revolution was the start of change for the Philippines.

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4 dead as MILF clashes with MNLF in N. Cotabato

MATALAM, North Cotabato – Clashes erupted over the weekend between two Moro fronts in a remote village here, leaving four fighters dead, police yesterday said.

Chief Insp. Sunny Leoncito, Matalam police chief, said both the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) have suffered two fatalities each in sporadic skirmishes in Barangay Marbel here.

“The fighting erupted Saturday night and continued until Sunday morning,” he said, adding that the two-day fighting also sent several families fleeing now housed at the Barangay Marbel covered court.

He disclosed that the fighting was triggered by a “rido” (clan war) between MNLF Commander Datu Manial and MILF Commander Ustadz Manzur.

Accordingly, Manial’s brother

was killed by followers of Commander Manzur, subsequently sparking hostilities in the area. On Saturday, armed followers of two Moro fronts figured in a running gunbattle when they met in adjacent barangay Kidama, also in Matalam.

On Sunday, both sides are still sporadically exchanging bullets. Leoncito said leaders of warring armed groups have been meeting to pacify the warring groups. **PNA**

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MILF ‘sees light at end of tunnel’ in BBL deliberations

By ALIG. MACABALANG

COTABATO CITY – The Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) leadership said on Sunday it is seeing a “bright future” in the commitment of the Duterte government for the passage of the law that will create the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region, ending decades of armed struggle for self-determination in Mindanao.

“We see the light at the end of the tunnel finally,” MILF First Vice Chairman Ghazali Jaafar told The Manila Bulletin.

Jaafar is chairman of the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC) that crafted the draft Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) that is still pending deliberation in the 17 Congress.

The BBL draft version of the BTC defines Bangsamoro people as the Muslim, Christian and lumad residents in Mindanao coexisting for decades.

Jaafar was all praises that the Senate has “adopted the BTC version,” while the House of Representatives is also heeding public clamor to do the same.

Leaders of both Congress chambers were reportedly contemplating to pass their versions for third and final reading next month.

So far, Jaafar said, the trend was heading towards such timeline, adding he had attended all Senate field hearings and has been attending all consultative meetings by the House working committees as BTC chairperson.

“I am thankful to the leaders of both the Senate and the House for giving me a role in their hearings,” Jaafar said.

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Terror group sa Mindanao, muling aatake?

Patuloy ang monitoring ng militar sa pagkilos ng mga terror group sa Mindanao, kasunod ng pahayag ng Australian authorities na muling nagre-regroup ang mga terorista sa bansa makaraang magapi ang mga ito sa Marawi siege noong Oktubre 2017.

Ito ang reaksiyon ni Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) spokesman at kasalukuyang Civil Relations Service (CRS) chief, Brig. Gen. Bienvenido Datuin.

"The AFP is continuously monitoring and verifying every information related to any alleged movements of terror groups. We are in constant coordination with our foreign and local counterparts to address

the scourge of terrorism," ani Datuin.

Hindi lamang, aniya, sinisiyasat ng security sector ang kakayahan ng mga armas ng organisasyon ng mga terorista, kundi iniimbestigahan din ang financial at logistic line ng mga ito.

Lahat, aniya, ng impormasyong nag-uugnay sa grupo ng terorista ay bineberipika nila upang hindi sila malusutan.

Una nang inihayag ni Australian Ambassador to the Philippines Amanda Gorely na bumubuo muli ng grupo ang mga teroristang nasa likod ng Marawi siege, na tumagal ng limang buwan.

Francis T. Wakefield

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Tatlo pang Abu Sayyaf, sumuko

Tatlo pang miyembro ng Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) ang sumuko sa pamahalaan sa Sulu nitong Sabado ng umaga, ayon sa Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Sinabi ni Real Adm. Rene Medina, Naval Forces Western Mindanao Command (NFWMC) commander, ang tatlo ay sina Hajat Abbang, 38, Kirah Ainazri Jawad, 20, at kapatid na si Sansi Jawad, 18, ng Barangay Buanza, Indanan, Sulu.

Si Abbang, aniya, ay tauhan ng napatay na si ASG Sub-leader

Alhabsy Misaya habang ang magkapatid ay tauhan naman ng isa pang ASG sub-leader na si Abraham Hamid.

Isinuko rin ng mga ito ang kanilang mga baril, kabilang na ang isang M16 Rifle, Garand Rifle at ang M79 na may kasamang magazine.

Ang mga ito ay boluntaryong sumuko sa Marine Battalion Landing Team 1 (MBLT1) dakong alas-9:45 ng umaga.

Ang tatlo ay dinala muna sa military hospital sa Jolo, Sulu upang

isailalim sa medical check-up at custodial debriefing.

Kinumpirma naman ni Lt. Gen. Carlito Galvez, Jr., Western Mindanao Command commander, na aabot na sa 181 na miyembro ng ASG ang sumuko sa pamahalaan.

"The command continue to process surrenderees and will not stop exerting effort in reaching out those who are having second thoughts to surrender," sabi pa ng opisyal.

Fer Taboy
at Francis Wakefield

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3 ASG fighters surrender to Marines in Sulu

By **NONOY E LACSON**

ZAMBOANGA CITY – Three Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) fighters surrendered to the Philippine Marines Ready Force 2 of the Joint Task Force Sulu (JTF-Sulu) Sunday.

JTF-Sulu Commander Brig Gen Brigadier General Cirilito Sobejana identified the surrenderers as Hajar Ab-bang, 38, of Barangay Kan Bulak, Luuk, Sulu; Kirah Ainazri Jawad, 20 and Sani S Jawad, 18, of Buanza, Indanan, Sulu.

The trio turned themselves in to the Philippine Marine Ready Force 2 of the Joint Task Force Sulu at 9:45a.m., Sunday.

Abang was a former follower of the late ASG Subleader (ASGSL) Alhabsy Misaya, while the other two are followers of the late ASGSL Abraham Hamid.

“The trio also voluntarily turned-over their firearms – an M16 rifle, an M79 rifle, and an M1 Garand rifle to our soldiers,” Sobejana said.

The three ASG men were brought to Kuta Heneral Teodulfo Bautista Station Hospital in the village of Bus-bus in Jolo, Sulu for medical check-up and custodial debriefing.

Sobejana said that “with the right combination of focused military operations that pressures the ASG and the non-violent approach that the military is introducing, it is expected that more ASG members will be neutralized.”

“It is notable that since our proposal for the ASG Surrenderor Comprehensive Reintegration Program, more ASG members now returns to the folds of the law with firearms,” he added.

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AFP wants public help in stepped-up fight vs terrorism

By: Frances Mangosing- Reporter / @FMangosingINQ

INQUIRER.net / 04:02 PM February 26, 2018

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) is hoping to intensify its security efforts against terrorism with the help of citizens in the wake of fresh reports that ISIS-inspired Maute terrorist group is reorganizing after the five-month battle in Marawi City last year.

"There will always be a gap in the security measures being implemented by every nation in the world, big or small. Terrorists will always look into those gaps and take advantage of them," AFP spokesperson Brig. Gen. Bievenido Datuin told reporters on Monday.

"We aim to strengthen our security measures with the help of our citizens in order to fill in those gaps," he also said.

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Reports of Maute terrorists rebuilding its forces have been cited by the military after the five-month siege ended in October 2017.

The regrouping of the terrorists to launch another attack was also one of the reasons why the military asked for the extension of martial law in Mindanao until December 2018.

In a news report on Monday, Australia echoed such a possibility of Maute terrorists reorganizing.

Australian Ambassador to the Philippines Amanda Gorely was quoted as saying that they have received evidence of the regrouping based on the intelligence information shared by the Philippine government.

The military, for its part, continues to verify all the information they could get.

"The AFP is continuously monitoring and verifying every information related to any alleged movements of terror groups. We are in constant coordination with our foreign and local counterparts to address the scourge of terrorism," Datuin said.

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

He further said they are also concerned with the "financial and logistics line of terrorist organizations" apart from the armed component of terrorism.

Datuin added that the fight against terrorism is "not the sole responsibility of the government or the security sector but of every citizen of the republic."

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The five-month Marawi City siege displaced thousands of residents, and killed more than 160 soldiers, over 800 suspected terrorists, and 47 civilians. /kga

Inquirer calls for support for the victims in Marawi City

Responding to appeals for help, the Philippine Daily Inquirer is extending its relief to victims of the attacks in Marawi City

*Cash donations may be deposited in the **Inquirer Foundation Corp. Banco De Oro (BDO) Current Account No: 007960018860.***

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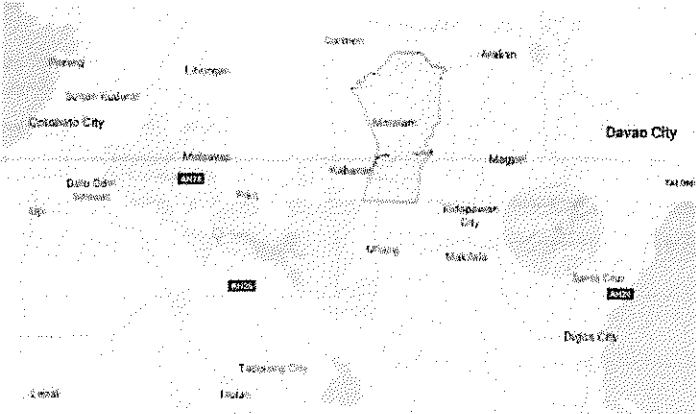
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4 fighters killed in skirmishes between Moro clans in N. Cotabato

By: [Edwin O. Fernandez](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Inquirer Mindanao](#) / 07:33 PM February 25, 2018



Matalam town (outlined in red) in North Cotabato (Image from Google Maps)

MATALAM, North Cotabato – Four fighters were killed in a clash involving members of two Moro fronts in a remote village here over the weekend, police said Sunday.

Chief Insp. Sunny Leoncito, chief of the Matalam Municipal Police Station, said both the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) had suffered two deaths each in sporadic skirmishes in Barangay Marbel here.

Leoncito said the fighting erupted Saturday night and continued until Sunday morning.

The two-day fighting also sent several families fleeing to safer ground. They were now housed at the Barangay Marbel covered court, Leoncito said.

“The conflict was triggered by a ‘rido,’ or clan war, involving leaders of the two Moro fronts,” Leoncito said.

He identified the two warring Moro rebel leaders as Commander Manial of the MNLF and Commander Manzur of the MILF.

Manial’s brother was allegedly recently killed by followers of Commander Manzur.

On Saturday, armed followers of the two Moro fronts figured in a running gunbattle when they met in Barangay Kidama. The clash continued in the adjacent village of Marbel by Sunday.

As of Sunday noon, both sides were still trading bullets, Leoncito said.

Leoncito said MNLF and MILF leaders have been meeting to pacify Commander Manial and Manzur.
/atm