

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



TEAM ARMY
Serving the people. Securing the land.

oacpa.army2012@gmail.com
OFFICE OF THE ARMY CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEWS CLIPPINGS

29 January 2018

Monday

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

29 JANUARY 2018

PAGE NR.	TITLE	WRITER	NEWSPAPER
1	Weather Forecast	-	PDI p.12
HEADLINES NEWS			
2-3	CBCP to PNP: Please, no more 'Tokhang' kills	Tina Santos	PDI p.A1
ARMY RELATED NEWS			
4	CAFGU detachment inatake ng NPA	Tony Sandoval	Ngayon p.6
5	Motorbike vs. Army truck: Gasoline boy dedo, 1 kritikal	Raymund Catindig	Ngayon p.6
AFP RELATED NEWS			
6	PH, US air force officials agree to strengthen military ties	Francis Wakefield	Mla Bulletin p.1
7	PSG airs concern on Duterte's security	Genalyn Kabling	Mla Bulletin p.14
8	Guerrero thanks the US support during Marawi City battle	Rene Acosta	Business Mirror p.A3
9-10	Solons favor BBL ahead of cha-cha	Angie Rosales	Tribune p.1
11	Phl on guard vs militants' fresh moves in Mindanao	Christina Mendez	Phil Star p.5
12	Tribal leaders denounce Communist extortion	Mike Crsimundo	Mla Bulletin p.14
13	Biazon warns vs trusting China on Benham Rise	Gerry Baldo	Tribune p.3
14	Leftist group blasts Rody over crackdown vs CPP legal fronts	Mario Mallari	Tribune p.3
15	NHA assures Marawi of temporary shelters	Rio Araja	Mla Standard p.2
16	AFP downs 18 reds this month alone	Francis Wakefield	Tempo p.4
17	ISIS gustong maghiganti kay Duterte	Kris Jose	Remate p.2
18	Paghihiganti motibo ng ISIS sa banta kay Digong	-	Abante p.9
19	30 vintage bombs, nahukay sa iskul sa Batangas	-	Police files p.3
20	30 bomba nahukay sa eskwelahan	Mary Anne Sapico	Remate p.3
NEWS/EDITORIAL/COMMENTARY			
21-22	Ricky Razon, Diokno and the PMA	Ramon Farolan	PDI p.A15
ONLINE NEWS			
23-34	Duterte says Left-wing groups are next targets	-	www.retiredanalyst.blog spot.com

29 January 2018



Page: 412

www.panahon.tv /PanahonTV

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS • FEARLESS VIEWS

TODAY'S WEATHER FORECAST | JANUARY 29, 2018 | MONDAY

PHILIPPINE AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (PAR)

CELEBES SEA

NORTHEAST MONSOON AFFECTING LUZON
TAIL-END OF A COLD FRONT AFFECTING EASTERN SECTION OF VISAYAS
as of 5:00 am - January 28, 2018

SUNRISE	SUNSET
 6:25 AM	 6:54 PM
MOONRISE	MOONSET
 3:34 PM	 3:47 AM
FIRST QUARTER	FULL MOON
JAN 25 6:20 AM	JAN 31 8:27 PM
LOW TIDE	HIGH TIDE
3:44 AM -0.20 Meter	7:50 PM 1.10 Meter

- Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers
- Partly cloudy to at times cloudy with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms
- Cloudy skies with rainshowers and/or thunderstorms
- Light rains

	JAN 30	JAN 31	JAN 30	JAN 31	JAN 30	JAN 31		
METRO MANILA	24 - 31 °C	24 - 30 °C	TAGAYTAY	19 - 29 °C	20 - 29 °C	TACLOBAN	24 - 31 °C	24 - 30 °C
TUGUEGARAO	23 - 30 °C	23 - 30 °C	LEGAZPI	24 - 30 °C	24 - 30 °C	CAGAYAN DE ORO	23 - 31 °C	23 - 31 °C
LAOAG	23 - 33 °C	24 - 32 °C	PUERTO PRINCESA	25 - 31 °C	25 - 31 °C	METRO DAVAO	25 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C
BAGUIO	16 - 26 °C	16 - 26 °C	ILOILO/BACOLOD	25 - 31 °C	25 - 30 °C	ZAMBOANGA	25 - 32 °C	25 - 33 °C
SBMA/CLARK	24 - 31 °C	24 - 31 °C	METRO CEBU	25 - 32 °C	25 - 32 °C			

DZRH NEWS TELEVISION

MONDAY - FRIDAY
11 AM & 5 PM

PILIPINASHO

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

29 January 2018



Page: A1

CBCP to PNP: Please, no more 'Tokhang' kills

By Tina G. Santos and Philip C. Tubeza @Team_Inquirer

Catholic bishops have appealed to the authorities to ensure that a fresh crackdown on narcotics will not lead to a further "waste" of human life as the Philippine National Police relaunches "Oplan Tokhang" on Monday for a more active role in President Duterte's ruthless war on drugs.

In the old "Oplan Tokhang," police visited homes of drug users and suspected drug dealers any time and sought their surrender.

This time, however, the visitations will be carried out only during daytime and under new guidelines aimed at preventing the killing of suspects, such as the carnage that characterized the first 18 months of the war on drugs.

In a statement issued in Cebu during the plenary assembly of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines on Sunday, Archbishop Romulo Valles, the new CBCP president, urged the police to always follow the law in

dealing with drug suspects.

"We pray that the police follow the prescribed steps in implementing the law ... steps that should be done in exercising their responsibility as policemen," Valles said.

"Let us inspire them to follow the necessary steps when they need to apprehend and as much as possible, we make sure that we do not waste any lives," he added.

'Reign of terror'

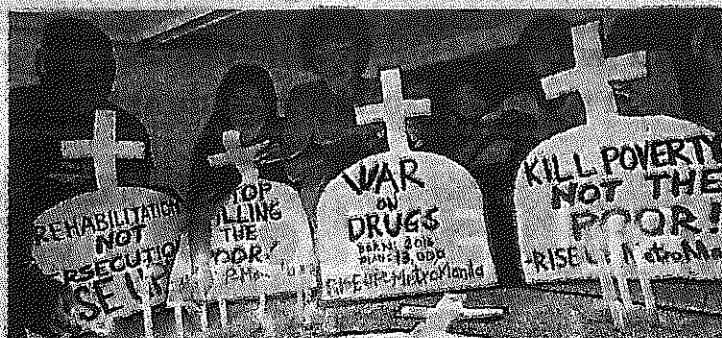
The CBCP has sharply criticized Mr. Duterte's war on drugs, calling it "reign of terror" in poor communities.

The US-based Human Rights Watch (HRW) has said the drug war has taken the lives of more than 12,000 people since the launch of the campaign in June 2016.

The PNP disputes the HRW figure, saying only 3,987 people have been killed in antinarcotics operations, while 11 percent, or 2,235, of the total 19,560 murders under police investigation are drug-related.

The bishops appealed for an end to the killings while calling for the country to "start healing."

The killings abated after Mr.



PROTEST VS. KILLINGS. Relatives of slain drug suspects light candles to remember their loved ones at a Church-sponsored gathering in Manila. —RICHARD A. REYES

Duterte demoted the PNP from the lead role in the drug war last October after the execution of three minors in Caloocan City sparked widespread public anger that pulled down his ratings.

The President also disbanded the PNP antinarcotics force after several officers from the unit were involved in the kidnapping and killing of a South Korean businessman in an operation disguised as a Tokhang visit.

Mr. Duterte gave the pursuit of the drug war to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), a small force that PNP Director General Ronald dela Rosa had openly doubted could

effectively handle the country's drug problem.

The President allowed the PNP to back up the PDEA. It's unclear, however, why he has allowed the relaunch of Tokhang.

Killings never stopped

Caloocan Bishop Pablo Virgilio David earlier expressed concern that the daily killings might happen again with the relaunch of the police campaign.

"Tokhang was suspended but the killing of alleged drug suspects never really stopped. What to expect with [this] relaunching? Your guess is as good as mine," David said in a post on Facebook.

David demanded an update on the cases of thousands of killings during the first two editions of Tokhang.

He said the lack of credible findings on those cases would only make the third iteration of Tokhang a cause for concern.

Police, however, are promising changes in the pursuit of the campaign.

Director Oscar Albayalde, chief of the National Capital Region Police Office, on Sunday said police officers would no longer conduct "One-Time, Big-Time" (OTBT) operations this time.

Thirty-two people were killed in 24 hours when the PNP launched the first OTBT operation in Bulacan province last Aug. 15.

In Metro Manila, 25 people were killed in similar operations two days later.

'Oplan Galugad'

This time, however, "[t]hat 'One-Time, Big-Time' operation term is no more," Albayalde said in a radio interview. "What we have is 'Oplan Galugad.'"

"Galugad" means "search." In police operations, it refers to the search for contraband or illegal drugs, Albayalde said.

He also said the list of suspected drug users used in Tokhang should not be considered an "order of battle."

Lists of suspected addicts come from barangay antidrug abuse councils and are validated by the police and the PDEA every three months, Albayalde said.

"It does not mean that if you are [on] the list, it is like you are in the order of battle. It's just a watch list. You are not guilty if you are included in the list," he added.

Oplan Tokhang, he said, is different from the actual undercover antidrug operations like buy-busts.

"Oplan Tokhang now is when you go to the houses with drug dependents who are [on] the watch list. This is unlike before when you go anywhere and you knock on all the houses," he said.

Only officers designated as "Tokhangers" may conduct Tokhang operations, Albayalde said.

"They should be in uniform and they are accompanied by barangay officials. If possible [reporters] and sometimes [members of human rights groups] or our churches [should also join]," he said. —WITH A REPORT FROM REUTERS INQ

29 January 2018



Pahina. 6

CAFGU detachment inatake ng NPA

LOPEZ, QUEZON - Pinaulanan ng punglong mga hinihinalang miyembro ng teroristang New People's Army (NPA) ang CAFGU detachment sa Barangay del Rosario bayang ito kamakalawa ng gabi.

Wala namang nasugatan sa mga miyembro ng 46th Quezon Civilian Active Auxilliary Company sa ilalim ng 85th Infantry Bridage ng Philippine Army at tanging mga puno ng mahogany na nasa loob ng patrol base ang tinamaan ng mga bala dakong alas-10:30 ng gabi.

Hinihinalang nais lamang manakot ng mga NPA sa pagsasagawa ng panibagong harassment gayunman ay nakahanda ang tropa ng pamahalaan at nakipagpalitan sila ng pitok sa mga rebelde na nakapwesto sa timog kanluran at 100 metro ang layo sa patrol base.

Sa clearing operation ng mga miyembro ng PA, narekober nila sa lugar na iniwan ng mga NPA ang 6 piraso ng baterya, 30 basyo ng M-6 armalite rifle at isang improvised explosive device (IED). **Tony Sandoval**

29 January 2018



Pahina. 6

Motorbike vs. Army truck: Gasoline boy dedo, 1 kritikal

TUGUEGARA O CITY, Cagayan – Tigok ang isang gasoline boy habang kritikal naman ang isang 15-anyos na binatiyo matapos salpukin ng kanilang motorsiklo ang Army truck na kagagaling na maghatid ng tropa ng sundalo sa liblib na lugar sa Barangay San Isidro, Baggao, Cagayan noong Sabado.

Sa report na nakarating kay Chief Insp. Emil Pajarillo, hepe ng Bag-

gao Police, kapwa galing sa isang laktakan sina Adnan John Herrero, 15 at angkas nitong si Aries Leonillo, 18, nang matumbok nila ang kasalubong na Army truck sa kurbadang bahagi ng highway dakong alas-11:20 bago mag hating-gabi.

Kapwa tumilapon sa ere at nagpagulong-gulong sa kalsada ang mga biktima sa lakas ng pagkakasaipok nila sa truck na minamaneho

ni Pfc. Romulo Crisostomo Jr., 28, na noon ay pabalik sa kanilang kampo sa bayan ng Alcala, Cagayan.

Namatay habang ginagamot sa Baggao District Hospital si Leonillo habang naghihingalong inilipat si Herrero sa Cagayan Valley Medical Center sa lungsod na ito.

Sumuko naman ang drayber ng trak sa mga nagrespondeng Pulis matapos ang insidente. **Raymund Catindig**

29 January 2018



Page: _____

PH, US air force officials agree to strengthen military ties

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

The Philippine Air Force (PAF) and the United States Air Force are looking at holding bilateral training, including live-fire exercises to enhance their

military cooperation.

During a meeting between Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero and the US Pacific Air Force Secretary Heather Ann Wilson at the ▶6

Hall of Flags at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City on Friday, the two discussed ways on how to further strengthen the strong military relationship between the Philippines and the United States.

The meeting was part of Secretary Wilson's three-day country visit, which started on January 25, 2018 and includes calls on Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and top Philippine Air Force (PAF) officers.

In their meeting, General Guerrero thanked the Secretary for the United States' support in the successful operations against the Maute-IS group in

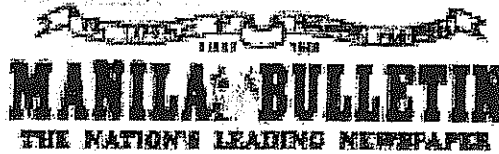
Marawi City, especially in capability and technical cooperation.

The AFP Chief also expressed his appreciation for US military assistance in further developing the PAF's capabilities.

Gen. Guerrero and Sec. Wilson also agreed that peace and security are essential in Southeast Asia.

Secretary Wilson is the 24th Secretary of the Air Force, one of the three components of the US Department of Defense. She is responsible for organizing, training, and equipping 660,000 air force personnel.

29 January 2018



Page: 14

PSG airs concern on Duterte's security

The Presidential Security Group (PSG) is determined to provide full protection for President Duterte but has reminded him to avoid going to unscheduled events.

PSG commander Brig. Gen. Lope Dagoy said the PSG would continue to coordinate with the President's office about his daily activities and deploy personnel depending on the threat level.

"We always presume that all threat groups are always after our President including particularly the ISIS group following their debacles in Marawi," Dagoy said.

"The deployment of our forces will depend on the threat level of the areas of engagement. Maximum is full protection," he added.

The President's security team is also hopeful that Duterte would stick to his official schedule for his own safety.

"That is why we always discourage the President in going to unscheduled events to avoid breach of his security and protection," Dagoy said.

On whether the President's engagements outside the Palace will be reduced due to threats, the PSG commander said: "As to his activities. It will depend on the schedules prepared by his office in coordination with PSG."

The President earlier said he was ready to die amid reports he has become a target of the Islamic State.

"When my time comes, it will come. I will stick to what destiny has given me," he said.

Duterte admitted that his tendency to get close and interact with the public has become a nightmare for the PSG.

But he told the PSG not to stop his spontaneous public interaction, insisting he would not be deterred by security threats.

Duterte said he has been living with death threats since he worked as state prosecutor several years ago.

"It was a dangerous life then as it is now," he said. (Genalyn D. Kabiling)

29 January 2018

BusinessMirror

A brand new look at today's business

Page. 13

Guerrero thanks US for support during Marawi City battle

BY RENE ACOSTA
@reneacostaBM

ARMED Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Rey Leonardo Guerrero met with United States Air Force Secretary Heather Ann Wilson over the weekend wherein both discussed wide-ranging issues.

The meeting was part of Wilson's three-day visit in the country, which included calls on Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana and top Philippine Air Force (PAF) officials.

During their meeting, Guerrero thanked Wilson for US support in the successful operations against the Maute-IS Group in Marawi City, especially in capability and technical cooperation.

The US provided technical support to the operating troops during the five months of operations that freed Marawi from the clutches of local and international terrorists.

Among others, the US provided

a surveillance plane and a drone during the operation, which helped Filipino troops monitor the movements and identify the locations of the terrorists.

During their meeting, Guerrero also thanked Wilson over the US military's continuing assistance to the Armed Forces, especially in developing the capabilities of the PAF.

Two of the Philippine Navy's latest addition to its frigates, the BRP *Gregorio del Pilar* and the BRP *Ramon Alcaraz*, came from the US.

Wilson talked about the mutual benefits of bilateral training between the United States and PAF, including live-fire exercises.

Both officials agreed that peace and security is essential in Southeast Asia.

Wilson is the 24th secretary of the Air Force, one of the three components of the US Department of Defense. She is responsible in organizing, training and equipping of the 660,000 US Air Force personnel. *With a report from PNA*

8

29 January 2018



Page: _____

Solons favor BBL ahead of cha-cha

By Angie M. Rosales

Enacting the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) ahead of the shift to Federalism is a good option.

At least two upper chamber members, Senators Juan Miguel "Migz" Zubiri and Richard Gordon tried to soothe apprehensions of

President Duterte in approving the BBL ahead of the charter change (cha-cha) to allow the change to the a Federal state.

Given that the BBL is hampered by questions concerning its constitutionality, the President said such constitutional provisions might be corrected if there is federal

setup coming.

Zubiri, chairman of the Senate subcommittee on local government handling the BBL measure, does not see a problem if there will be Cha-cha later on, after the new law replacing the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) is enacted.

"We can adopt the BBL of the Bangsamoro Region into the new federal charter. There is no problem there. The Bangsamoro Region can be absorbed," he said.

Gordon, in a separate radio interview, echoed Zubiri's position saying that it's more realistic to come

Turn to page 2

From page 1

up with a BBL than a new Charter for the country.

"I disagree with the President respectfully. If you're from Mindanao, that is what is being sought (a new BBL)," he said.

"I support Muslim development that does not violate the Constitution," he said.

Gordon said the ARMM proved to be failure because there was a problem with the enforcement of the law.

Zubiri also expressed belief that the bill on BBL can be fast tracked and have it ready for third and final reading before the Senate goes on another recess on Mar. 22.

Marathon hearings are being conducted in the Senate and the last leg of public consultation will be on Feb. 8 and 9 which will be in Tawi-tawi, Sulu and Basilan provinces, said Zubiri.

In a related development, Sen. Sonny Angara said Marawi City should become the ground zero of the country's Build, Build, Build program as the bombed out capital of Lanao Sur can be the showcase of the government's promised infrastructure boom.

Let Marawi be reconstruction center

"From center of fighting, let Marawi be the center of reconstruction in the country," said Angara, who visited and inspected the place last week along with five other senators.

He added that Marawi will be harmed again if it will be left out or left behind the infrastructure boom, of which P1 trillion in public spending, will be spent this year.

"If we're building a subway in Manila, or a long bridge in Cebu, let us also repair the roads and bridges in Marawi, which will cost less," Angara said.

Based on latest estimates, the fighting has left 1,100 dead and over 350,000 displaced.

"Residential areas have been totalled, as the city received the greatest brunt of shelling since

Manila in the end of World War II," the senator said.

Angara has filed P.S. Resolution 592 directing the special committee on Marawi City rehabilitation to zero in on formulating policies to improve the welfare of internally displaced persons.

"Rehabilitation efforts must focus beyond physical infrastructure to include the redevelopment of human capital by ensuring the provision of safe shelters, adequate jobs, sustainable livelihood, and improved well-being to all internally displaced individuals," he said.

Angara, who also served as the keynote speaker of the first commencement exercises held last week at the Mindanao State University (MSU) Main Campus right after the Marawi siege, lauded the university for continuing with their classes amid conflict.

"It was essential that the university remained unharmed and operational amid the siege of Marawi because that meant there was still a place where people could feel safe, where they can be reminded of the beauty of your city, and where they can continue to learn, to educate themselves, and hope for a better future.

"Because of your courage, you have all become inspirations and beacons of hope not only for your communities, not only for your tribes, not only for your school, but for the whole nation," Angara said to the graduating MSU students.

Atienza confident on con-com

Buhay Rep. Lito Atienza has expressed confidence that the consultative commission (con-com) created by Mr. Duterte to study possible changes to the 1987 Constitution would not produce self-serving recommendations.

"Since the advisory commission does not include a sitting member of the House or the Senate, they are not expected to advocate possible amendments that might benefit incumbent elected officials. This is very reassuring," Atienza, the senior deputy minority leader,

said.

In previous administrations, Atienza said the public became distrustful of initiatives to introduce possible changes to the Constitution, mainly due to fears that members of Congress might introduce modifications that would further their own interests.

A controversial pitch concerns the possible lifting of the term limits of lawmakers and their family members in local posts.

The existing Constitution restricts the stay in office of House members as well as local executives to three successive three-year terms, and those of senators to no more than two successive six-year terms.

Despite the review panel chaired by retired Chief Justice Reynato Puno, House majority leader and Ilocos Norte Rep. Rodolfo Fariñas Sr. said it will still be up to Congress to decide whether to accept their recommendations.

"That is correct. Only a duly-elected constitutional convention or Congress convening itself into a constituent assembly may finally propose possible amendments to the Constitution that may be submitted to the people in a plebiscite," Atienza said.

In a constitutional convention, the people will elect representatives who will recommend revisions to the Constitution.

In a constituent assembly, Congress itself sits down to put forward the amendments.

In both cases, the proposed changes will require final direct approval by the people in a referendum.

The Puno-led advisory commission, composed mostly of legal experts, will nonetheless be helpful in providing substantial inputs, according to Atienza, former three-term mayor of Manila.

"Nobody has a monopoly of ideas. Whatever recommendations they come up with will surely be valuable," he said.

29 January 2018



Page: 5

Phl on guard vs militants' fresh moves in Mindanao

By CHRISTINA MENDEZ

With the favorite son of terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden taking the helm of al-Qaeda operations abroad, Philippine authorities are not taking chances over renewed moves by Islamic militants to re-establish their position in Mindanao after the Duterte administration quelled the uprising in Marawi last year.

Presidential Communications Secretary Martin Andanar mentioned Hamza bin Laden, who is seen as al-Qaeda's rising star, to illustrate how the Islamic militants are using their resources to fund the extremists' terrorist activities and recruit followers in many countries, including the Philippines.

"These groups really have sources of funding, wherever they come from, and they also have supporters. We also know the son of Osama bin Laden is very active also in al-Qaeda," Andanar said in a mix of English and Filipino in an interview over radio station dzBB.

"And right now, they are also recruiting members of ISIS to join them," he added, referring to the Islamic State.

Andanar accompanied President Duterte during the

India-Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) commemorative summit in New Delhi where the leaders talked about cooperation to combat maritime disputes and security issues.

The Palace official also revealed that the cell of Indonesian-based Dawla Islamiya has been active in recruitment in southern Philippines.

"And we are also aware Dawla Islamiya in Indonesia is also active in recruitment, they are sending recruiters here in the country, particularly in Mindanao," Andanar said.

He made the revelation when asked about reports that Islamist insurgents looted cash, gold and jewelry worth tens of millions of dollars when they occupied Marawi last year. The loot has been used to recruit new members, which make the IS still a potent threat in Southeast Asia.

Not cowed by terrorists

Following Duterte's resolve to stop extremism in Mindanao and the quelling of the Marawi City rebellion, Andanar said the government is ready to face head-on the continuing challenges brought about by terror groups.

Turn to Page 7

"We have already faced them before, and they were defeated... and President Duterte won't retreat from them," he said, referring to the Philippine government's resolve to contain terrorism in Mindanao.

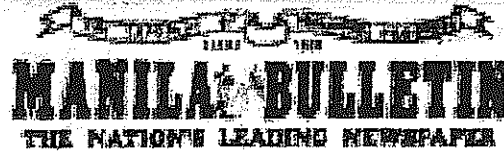
Duterte, according to Andanar, reiterated the need to work together to fight terrorism in the region during his discussions with

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the leaders of the 10-member ASEAN.

"So, this problem is a universal problem, we are not the only ones facing this, but the whole world is also affected by the ISIS and terrorism," Andanar said.

Newsweek cited the latest video footage acquired by the Central Intelligence Agency which showed that Hamza bin Laden has remained active in al-Qaeda's propaganda efforts.

29 January 2018



Page: 14

Tribal leaders denounce Communist extortion

By **MIKE U. CRISMUNDO**

CAMP DATU MAKAPANDONG, New Leyte, Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur – Tribal chieftains and their respective sectoral leaders over the weekend condemned the alleged continuous extortion activities of the New People's Army (NPA), armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP).

In a three-page signed and thumb-marked manifesto, the tribal chieftains and sectoral leaders from the Manobo, Banwaon and Higaunon tribes said that alleged extortion activity of the CPP-

NPA was "condemnable and should be stopped."

"Kami hugot nga nag kondenar sa mga extortion nga ginabuhay sa CPP/NPA ug mga organisasyong ni-suporta niini sa among mga komunidad (We strongly condemned the extortion activities of the CPP-NPA and other organizations supporting this)," their manifesto charged.

They said the forced taxation imposed by the CPP-NPA on villagers and rural businesses had hindered the economic activity of people's organization in the communities and among them is the indigenous political structure.

29 January 2018



Page: 3

Biazon warns vs trusting China on Benham Rise

By Gerry Baldo

A lawmaker from Muntinlupa yesterday warned against trusting China on Benham Rise or Philippine Rise.

According to Rep. Ruffy Biazon, China's record pertaining to its explorations should have been considered before allowing them in the Philippine Rise.

Biazon also took exception to Malacañang's statement that Filipinos are not capable of doing scientific study in the area.

"Well sa aking opinyon, ang una...ang pinanggagalingan ng pangamba kasi ay track record ng China. Alam naman natin na yon ang ginawa nila sa West Philippine Sea (Well in my opinion, first, the source of the apprehension is China's track record. We all know what they did in the West Philippine Sea)," Biazon said.

"Pangalawa, meron kasi silang capability. Alam natin yong kanilang navy and coast guard ay



BIAZON

may sapat na resources para talagang magkaroon ng presence sa mga lugar na yan (Secondly, they have the capability. We know that their navy and coast guard have the resources to be present in those areas)," Biazon added.

He said that the Philippine government should have been wary given China's "creeping invasion" in the West Philippine Sea. It

should not happen again at the Philippine Rise.

He said that before allowing anyone to explore or do research in the area, the government should have, first, asserted its rights over the place which is not part of Philippine territory but part of our exclusive economic zone as ruled by the United Nations on the Law of the Sea or UNCLoS.

Biazon refuted Malacañang's statement that Filipinos do not have the capability to do research in the area.

"Kasi nagkaroon na ng ilang expedition na all Filipino Both yong privately organized and supported at yong merong tulong ang gobyerno. Hindi naman accurate to say na wala tayong kakayahan (We have had several all-Filipino expeditions, both privately organized and supported by the government. It is not accurate to say that we do not have the capability)," he said.

The Muntinlupa lawmaker, who

is an avid underwater photography buff, said that Filipinos do have the capability to explore and do research at the area.

Biazon, who has filed several bills for the protection and security of Philippine Rise, said that the Armed Forces of the Philippines is also capable of securing the resource-rich area, one of which is the proposed Philippine Eastern Seaboard Strategic Defense Plan. Included in the measure is the establishment of a military base in the Eastern side of the archipelago, the establishment of surveillance equipment and on how to defense our rights over the place which is part of AFP modernization.

Biazon stressed that Philippine Rise is an important element of the country's food security and that the government should keep a close watch on China's research in the area.

He said Filipino scientists and intelligence officers should be there watching the Chinese.

13

29 January 2018



Page 3

Leftist group blasts Rody over crackdown vs CPP legal fronts

By Marlo J. Mallari

The militant group Karapatan yesterday lashed out at President Duterte for virtually giving the government troops the “license to kill” non-combatants after he vowed to go after legal fronts of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP).

“Making no distinction between armed combatants and civilians gives state forces *carte blanche* to kill, arrest, threaten and harass any one, including free speech advocates, unarmed activists, peasants, workers, indigenous peoples, church workers, among others,” said Cristina Palabay, secretary general of Karapatan.

Palabay’s statement was in response to Duterte’s pronouncements that he will go after the legal fronts of the CPP as he vowed to crush the New People’s Army (NPA), the armed wing of the CPP.

“These tactics, used by the Marcos dictatorship and subsequent regimes such as that of Benigno Aquino III and Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, are acts of desperation and paranoia,” Palabay said.

According to Palabay, Duterte’s pronouncements only proved his disregard to the basic right to freedom of expression – guaranteed in the Constitution.

“Duterte’s nauseating hubris to target legal and progressive organizations which he brands as ‘enemies of the state’ shows his contempt for the exercise of the people’s basic right to freedom of expression, association and assembly, among other civil and political rights, and to any and all forms of opposition to his anti-people policies,” Palabay said.

The Karapatan leader said “pea-brained fascists like him and his minions in the military and police, who made the very same threats

and have employed numerous means to suppress these rights, are the very reasons why majority of the Filipino people strongly distrust government institutions.”

Palabay said that Karapatan has already recorded 84 human rights defenders killed under the Duterte administration, many belonging to local peasant and indigenous organizations working towards advocacies on genuine land reform and defense of ancestral lands from big landlords and businesses.

Since 2001, 697 human rights defenders have already been killed. Many more have been illegally arrested and detained.

Palabay also challenged Duterte in his assertions of illegal financial transactions.

“We are not facing reports of undeclared P100 million in investments, nor are our immediate family members implicated in smuggling \$125 million worth of drug shipment. We are not befriending plunderers like Marcos and making compromise deals with thieves. Unlike Duterte and politicians in the same rotten basket, we are not the ones lacking accountability,” she responded.

“Unlike the Duterte regime which has cowered to the dictates of US lackeys in his Cabinet and has shamelessly surrendered our sovereignty to US and China, progressive organizations have stood firm against State repression, fighting alongside the Filipino people throughout different administrations. The 126 victims of political killings and the thousands more killed in the course of the drug war, the many anti-people policies, compounded by the brazen submission of our territories justified by insulting the capacity of Filipino scientists are indications of the Duterte government’s ineffectivity and inutility,” concluded Palabay.

29 January 2018

Manila
Standard

Page: 2

NHA assures Marawi of temporary shelters

By Rio N. Araja and Macon Ramos-Araneta

THE National Housing Authority will turn over 500 temporary shelters for the war victims in Marawi City on Jan. 30, an official said Sunday.

NHA general manager Marcelino Escalada Jr. said they had built an initial 500 units of the 6,400 temporary shelters for the “internally displaced persons” of Marawi.

“Our mission is to construct 6,400 temporary shelters and 2,700 permanent shelters for Marawi IDPs,” Escalada told reporters.

“These [temporary] shelters located at Barangay Sagongsongan

are constructed in 40-square-meter lots with a 22-square-meter floor area. These are single-detached, pre-fabricated units with individual power and water installations.”

Escalada made his statement even as Senator Juan Edgardo Angara said Marawi City must become ground zero of the country’s Build, Build, Build program.

He said the “bombed-out capital of Lanao del Sur” could be the

showcase of the government’s promised infrastructure boom.

“From the center of fighting, let Marawi be the center of reconstruction in the country,” Angara said.

By March, the NHA is expected to finish another 1,170 temporary shelters in Sagongsongan village, Escalada said.

With site 1’s 50-percent completion, the NHA was now preparing to start site 2 construction, he said.

“For site 2, we will be hosting another 1,000 IDPs. Once we are 50-percent complete with site 2, my instruction is to proceed with sites 3, 4 and 5, so that we shall be able to complete the 6,400 units.”

Escalada said the Marawi City

government, along with the ulama, sultan and beneficiaries, had requested for a much bigger space for site 2.

“We are seriously considering this and we continue to converse with them. Hopefully, after several dialogues, we shall be able to perfectly provide what is best for the people of Marawi,” he said.

As for the permanent shelters, he said, they would start exploring for sites that could accommodate 2,700 units.

“While we are constructing the temporary shelters, I am also trying to explore the possibilities of developing the permanent shelter [sites]. Something that is very secure, something that is stable,” Escalada said.

15

29 January 2018



Page. 4

AFP downs 18 Reds this month alone

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD

A total of 18 New People's Army (NPA) rebels were killed as a result of the Armed Forces of the Philippines' (AFP) focused military operations in the first three weeks of January 2018.

Lt. Col. Emmamuel R. Garcia, the chief of the AFP's Public Affairs Office, said the successful neutralization of NPA rebels is attributed to the close coordination between the security sector and local communities as they inform soldiers on the presence of NPA

fighters especially those conducting extortion.

Just recently, two NPA leaders were killed after they engaged police and soldiers in a firefight in Tarlac while elsewhere especially in Mindanao, several rebels were also killed.

It may be recalled that in a joint command conference in Compostela Valley province last week, President Duterte ordered the AFP to destroy the NPA so that peace and economic progress will be achieved especially in the countryside.

Garcia said the AFP has been recording its gains in the fight against the NPA since the termination of the peace negotiations with the National Democratic Front (NDF) last year, where a total of 163 NPA terrorists were killed in various operations nationwide.

A total of 188 NPAs also surrendered during the first three weeks of January this year who were provided with financial assistance, livelihood, remuneration for their surrendered firearms, and skills training to help them start a reformed life away from armed struggle.

16

29 January 2018



Pahina. 2

ISIS gustong maghiganti kay Duterte

KUMBINSIDO ang Malakanyang na paghiganti ang motibo ng ISIS o IS para pagtangkaan ang buhay ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte habang nasa India.

Sinabi ni Presidential Communications Office Secretary Martin Andanar na malinaw na ang pagkakataon ng Maute-ISIS terror group sa Ma-

rawi City ang dahilan ng tangkang pagganti sa Pangulo.

Pinagmalaki ni Sec. Andanar na sa lahat ng ASEAN heads of state, tanging si Pangulong Duterte ang presidente na nakatao sa paggalaw ng ISIS.

Ayon kay Sec. Andanar, inaasahan na tatarapin ng teroristang grupo ang pinakamatagapang,

pinakamatagapang na leader ng ASEAN.

Kinumpirma naman ni Sec. Andanar na dahil natalo na rin ang ISIS sa Iraq at Syria ay nag-uwiwian na sa kani-kanilang bansa ang mga kasapi nito kabilang ang ilang Pinoy para bumuo ng panibagong violent extremist groups sa kanilang pinagmulang bansa.

KRIS JOSE

29 January 2018



Pahina. 9

Paghihiganti motibo ng ISIS sa banta kay Digong

NANINIWALA ang Malacañang na paghihiganti ang motibo ng ISIS o IS para pagtangkaan ang buhay ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte habang nasa India.

Sinabi ni Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanar na malinaw na ang pagkakatalo ng Maute-ISIS terror group sa Marawi City ang dahilan ng tangkang pagganti sa Pangulo.

Ipinagmalaki ni Andanar na sa lahat ng ASEAN heads of state, tanging

si Pangulong Duterte ang presidente na nakatalo sa paggalaw ng ISIS.

Ayon kay Andanar, inaasahan na tatargetin ng teroristang grupo ang pinakamatapang, pinakamatigas na leader ng ASEAN.

Kinumpirma naman ni Andanar na dahil natalo na rin ang ISIS sa Iraq at Syria ay nag-uuwian na sa kanilang bansa ang mga kasapi nito kabilang ang ilang Pinoy para bumuo ng panibagong violent extremist groups sa kanilang pinagmulang bansa.

18

29 January 2018

POLICE FILES

Page. 13

30 vintage bombs, nahukay sa iskul sa Batangas

Aabot sa tatlung vintage bombs ang nahukay ng mga construction workers sa Bayabayan elementary school sa Nasugbu, Batangas.

Ayon sa ulat ng Nasugbu police, aksidenteng nadiskubre ng mga construction worker ang mga bomba habang naghuhukay sa nasabing eskwelahan.

Dinala na sa Explosive and Ordnance Division ng 730th. Combat Group ng Philippine Airforce sa Nasugbu ang mga nahukay na bomba.

Maswerteng wala namang sumabog sa mga nahukay na bomba.

29 January 2018



Pahina. 3

30 bomba nahukay sa eskwelahan

MAHIGIT 30 vintage bombang natagpuan sa isang paaralan nang mahukay-ito ng mga construction worker kahapon ng umaga sa Nasugbu, Batangas.

Batay sa report, dakong alas-8 ng umaga nang mahukay ng mga construction worker ang mga bomba sa Bayabayan Elementary School sa Barangay Aga, Batangas.

Ayon pa sa pulisya, aksidenteng nakita ng mga construction worker ang mga bomba habang sila ay naghu-

hukay sa school grounds.

Kaagad namang umerponde ang mga tauhan ng explosive and ordnance division 730th Combat Group of the Philippine Air Force, Nasugbu sa naturang lugar para kunin ang mga bomba.

Sinabi ng pulisya na ma-but na lamang at walang sumabog o natamaan sa paghuhukay kahit isa sa mga bomba kaya walang napinsala sa mga manggagawa at sa mismong paaralan.

MARY ANNE SAPICO

29 January 2018

INQUIRER

Page: A15

Ricky Razon, Diokno and the PMA

Did you know that Enrique K. Razon Jr., chairman of the board and president of International Container Terminals Services Inc. has poured more than half-a-billion pesos for cadet facilities at the Philippine Military Academy? The barracks complex is home to 1,085 cadets of whom 861 are men and 224, women with bedrooms that accommodate four cadets per room.

In 2016, Razon was honored with a parade and review by the corps of cadets, making him one of the few in the Philippine business community who has been given this rare privilege.

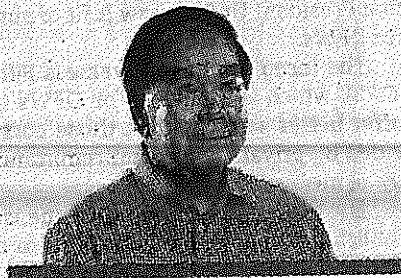
In his remarks before the corps, Razon, the third-richest Filipino with a net worth of \$4.9 billion as of January 2018, said: "In my mind, there is no institution in our country that is held in higher esteem than the Philippine Military Academy. You honor us today for constructing the new cadet barracks, but believe me when I say, the honor is all yours. For those of us in society that are in a position to do so, it is our duty to contribute and do our part, however small, to improve the lives of the men and women of the AFP and PNP who sacrifice so much for our country."

Last Saturday, the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association led by its chairman Gen. Melchor Rosales, and president Deputy Inspector General Police Director Leo Angelo Leuterio, held its annual general meeting at the beautiful Solaire resort by the bay in Parañaque City.

The guest of honor and speaker was Budget Secretary Benjamin Diokno, who came well-prepared and spoke with openness, candor and sincerity. He was brief and went straight to the point. It was the kind of talk soldiers understand and appreciate—no fancy words, no legal gobbledygook.

First, he announced that effective January 2018, President Duterte has doubled the compensation package of soldiers and policemen. It was the fulfillment of a campaign promise made by the President during the last elections.

Second, the pension of retired officers and men of the security forces will be adjusted according to the rates called for by law, starting in 2019.



REVELLE

RAMON J. FAROLAN

Third, Diokno stressed that the present pension system of the Armed Forces of the Philippines is unsustainable, and the administration is determined to come up with a new one that will be sustainable and fair to all. Past administrations simply swept the problem under the rug and did nothing. President Duterte has ordered the Department of Budget and Management to come up with a new pension system that will address the needs of three groups: retired personnel, active service members, and those entering the system when the new program is in place. Diokno laid down the hard facts of life. There is no perfect system and we all must be ready to sacrifice for the common good.

Among the awardees for "outstanding achievement" was the widow of the late Capt. Rommel Sandoval, Class of 2005, a recipient of the Medal for Valor for gallantry in action during the battle to liberate Marawi City last September. Mrs. Ma. Ana Sandoval received a prolonged standing ovation from the audience of close to a thousand PMAYers who gathered at the Solaire Theater. It was their way of paying tribute to their latest hero who fell in close combat with the enemy while attempting to save a wounded comrade.

When I entered the Philippine Military Academy in 1952, there was only one all-purpose building. It was named Melchor Hall, after Col. Alejandro Melchor. The entire third floor served as the cadet barracks; the second floor was for classrooms; and the first floor served as offices for administrative purposes. Several Quonset huts around Melchor Hall served as the mess hall, the station hospital, and housing for other units of the Academy.

Let me digress a bit. Alejandro Melchor graduated from the University of the Philippines with a degree in civil engineering with highest honors. He is credited with designing pontoon bridges used by the US Army during World War II, and his work "contributed significantly in winning the war for the allied forces." He served as secretary of national defense in President Manuel Quezon's Cabinet, and later as military adviser under President Sergio Osmeña in the Philippine government in exile. He is the father of Alex Melchor, who also served in the defense department and later became executive secretary under President Ferdinand Marcos during the martial law years.

In 1952, the Academy had only some 300 cadets, all male. We were distributed in four companies—Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta—with each company made up of two platoons. In my senior year, I led the last marching unit of the corps, the second platoon of Delta Company. My company commander was Cadet Romeo Soliman David of Pampanga. Romy retired from the service as Philippine Air Force 5th Fighter Wing Commander in 1986.

Today the PMA cadet corps has over a thousand cadets, one-fourth of whom are females. They come from all parts of the country, from Batanes in the north to Tawi-Tawi in the south. Most are from the middle class, and many are products of provincial high schools. All are chosen on the basis of competitive exams held nationwide.

21

In keeping with the K-12 program of the Department of Education, the new cadets will be received at Fort del Pilar on the first of June instead of the traditional April 1 arrival. This means they will have two months of beast barracks (a breaking-in period for the newcomers) before the start of academics in August. This also means that in 2019, graduation exercises will most likely be held in May instead of the usual March week activities.

In the administration of President Duterte, the PMA, more than any other institution in the land, has contributed the most number of key officials in the executive branch of government. The Duterte Cabinet has Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana, Interior and Local Government Secretary-designate Eduardo Año, Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, and National Security Adviser Hermogenes Espéron Jr. Other officials are National Irrigation Administrator Ricardo Visaya, Customs Commissioner Isidro Lapeña, Immigration Commissioner Jaime Morente, Dangerous Drugs Board chief Catalino Cuy, Land Transportation Office chief Edgar Galvante, National Food Authority head Jason Aquino, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency chief Aaron Aquino, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office chief Alexander Balutan, and a host of others holding positions as department undersecretaries and assistant secretaries. The AFP, Philippine National Police, and Coast Guard, are also headed by PMA graduates.

Of course, we also have our share of big-time operators who milked the system for their own personal benefit. They are a disgrace to the Academy, and they have been stricken off the PMA alumni roster.

ONLINE NEWS

29 JANUARY 2018

www.retiredanalyst.blogspot.com

Duterte says Left-wing groups are next targets

From the Philippine Daily Inquirer (Jan 28): Duterte says Left-wing groups are next targets

After declaring the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA) as terrorist groups, President Rodrigo Duterte on Saturday said he would go after left-wing organizations, accusing them of being communist fronts.

Speaking to reporters in Davao City after his return from his trip to India, Mr. Duterte reiterated his order to destroy the apparatus of the communist rebellion, saying the peace talks were over.

"I will go after the legal fronts," he said, referring to groups with alleged ties to the communist underground.

He said these groups were involved in illegal activities like collecting taxes for the rebels and he had long known that they have been supporting the insurgency.

The President said he was just waiting for the decision of the Supreme Court on his proclamation declaring the CPP and its armed wing, the NPA, as terrorists.

Mr. Duterte said the "enemies of the state" could expect the full force of the government because "my orders are really to destroy, to destroy the apparatus."

The leftist fishers group, Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya), expressed fear for its members following his threats.

"We fear for intensified military operations in the rural communities especially those with active local mass struggles," Pamalakaya chair Fernando Hicap said in a statement.

Hicap said the President's order showed that a dictatorship and "open fascist rule" were emerging.

Destroying the communist apparatus meant that "everything, all legal (fronts)" would now be targeted, Mr. Duterte said.

He said the NPA had been fooling members of the indigenous communities where it had been operating all these years, and he questioned the reasons people were joining the rebel movement.

“You die there, separated from your families ... but what did you get in return? Money?” he said.

He said he would cancel the permits of big companies, particularly those involved in banana exports and mining, which were continuing to pay revolutionary taxes to the NPA. He said he would look into their involvement in money laundering.

“If I will catch you, I will give you a hell of a time. Maybe especially those in mining, I’ll just cancel your (permits). You were the ones who gave the largest (amounts),” he said.

“You are funding an organization, which is bent on destroying my country, our country,” he added.

He said his order to the military “to crush” the insurgency meant to destroy it.

“And if you have to kill, do it because the human rights (groups), if our country falls apart, they would not help,” he said.

Responding to the President’s statements, CPP founding chair Jose Maria Sison said leftist groups “are not at all frightened by threats and acts of military and police suppression by any regime, be it that of Marcos or Duterte.”

“Instead, they become challenged and become even more resolute and militant in struggle and become stronger in the process,” he said in an online interview from the Netherlands, where he has lived in exile since 1987.

Sison said Mr. Duterte was wrong in saying “sweepingly” that all left-wing groups were communists or communist fronts:

He said leftist and progressive groups “include people from various walks of life and represent different schools or currents of thought and belief.”

Sison recalled that when Kabataang Makabayan, the youth group that he founded in the 1960s, and other legal mass organizations went underground because of the Marcos dictatorship, they helped to spread the CPP and the NPA nationwide and made them stronger.

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/964165/duterte-says-left-wing-groups-are-next-targets>