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**01 October 2018**

**Monday**



*Honor. Patriotism. Duty*

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01

# INDONESIA DEATH TOLL MAY REACH THOUSANDS

STORY BY AP AND REUTERS

Disaster officials say the 7.5-magnitude earthquake and 6-meter-high tsunami may have left more than the 832 confirmed dead because the damage in several large towns on the island of Sulawesi remains unknown. **AG**

## FROM A1

**PALU, INDONESIA**—Rescue officials fear the full scale of Indonesia's 7.5-magnitude earthquake and 6-meter-high tsunami may climb far past the more than 800 already confirmed dead, as several large coastal towns remained cut off on Sunday by damaged roads and downed communication lines.

The country's disaster agency said the death toll more than doubled to 832, and nearly all of those were from the hard-hit city of Palu on the island of Sulawesi.

Damage to the towns of Donggala, Sigi and Parigi Moutong—with combined populations of 1.2 million—has yet to be fully assessed.

"The death toll is believed to be still increasing since many bodies were still under the wreckage, while many have not been reached," said agency spokesperson Sutopo Purwo Nugroho.

Vice President Jusuf Kalla said the death toll could rise into the thousands.

Bodies covered in blue and yellow tarps lined the streets of Palu, while rescuers dug through rubble in hopes of finding survivors from the twin disasters that struck on Friday evening.

### Screams for help

There was particular focus on the eight-story Roa-Roa Hotel, where voices from underneath the rubble could be heard calling out for help on Saturday.

The cries from beneath the hotel, which appeared to have toppled over with its walls splintered like pickup sticks, had gone silent by Sunday afternoon. Officials had estimated some 50 people could be inside.

"We are trying our best. Time is so important here to save people," said Muhammad Syaugi, head of the national search and rescue team. "Heavy equipment is on the way."

Metro TV showed about a dozen rescuers in orange jumpsuits climbing over debris with a stretcher carrying the body of a victim from the modest business hotel.

### Survivors evacuated

Nugroho said 61 foreigners were in Palu at the time of the disaster. Most of them had been accounted for, but one South Korean was believed to be trapped in the ruins of the Roa-Roa Hotel, while three others from France and one from Malaysia were missing.

The survivors were to be evacuated to the Sulawesi city of Makassar in the island's far south.

In Donggala, the site closest to the earthquake's epicenter, aerial footage aired on Metro TV showed the sugary blond sands of beaches swept out to sea, as were some buildings.

A Metro TV reporter at the scene said the town had been extensively damaged, with houses swept into the sea and bodies trapped in debris.

The Red Cross said it had heard nothing from the Donggala region. "This is extremely worrying. This is already a tragedy, but it could get much worse," it said in a statement.

Damage to some buildings in the town was severe, with plywood walls shredded and chunks of concrete scattered on the pavement. Much of the damage, however, appeared limited to the waterfront.

### 6-meter-high waves

Palu, which has more than 380,000 people, was strewn with debris from the earthquake and tsunami.

A mosque heavily damaged by the quake was half sub-

merged and a shopping mall was reduced to a crumpled hulk. A large bridge with yellow arches had collapsed.

The city is built around a narrow bay that apparently magnified the force of the tsunami waters as they raced into the tight inlet. Nugroho said waves were reported as high as 6 meters (20 feet) in some places.

According to disaster officials, the tsunami traveled across the sea at speeds of 800 kilometers per hour before striking the shore and people could have been killed along the 300-km stretch of Palu's coast.

Hundreds of people had gathered for a festival on Palu's beach when the water smashed onshore at dusk.

Looters were stealing from the badly damaged shopping mall, which was not being guarded on Sunday. They did not appear to be concerned about their safety, despite ongoing aftershocks and the structure's questionable stability.

Residents were also seen returning to their destroyed homes, picking through waterlogged belongings, trying to salvage anything they could find.

More than half of the 560 inmates in a Palu prison fled after its walls collapsed during the quake, according to warden Adhi Yan Ricoh.

Ricoh said there was no immediate plan to search for the inmates because the prison staff and police were consumed with the search and rescue effort.

#### 'No time to save ourselves'

Hundreds of people were injured and hospitals, damaged by the 7.5-magnitude quake, were overwhelmed.

Some of the injured, including Dwi Haris, who suffered a broken back and shoulder, rested outside Palu's Army Hospital, where patients were being treated outdoors due to continuing strong aftershocks.

Tears filled Haris' eyes as he

recounted feeling the violent earthquake shake the fifth-floor hotel room he shared with his wife and daughter.

"There was no time to save ourselves. I was squeezed into the ruins of the wall, I think," Haris said, adding that his family was in town for a wedding.

"I heard my wife cry for help, but then silence. I don't know what happened to her and my child. I hope they are safe," he said.

Nina, a 23-year-old woman who goes by one name, was working not far from the beach when the quake hit. She said the quake destroyed her workplace, but she managed to escape and quickly went home to get her mother and younger brother.

"We tried to find shelter, but then I heard people shouting, 'Water! Water!'" she recalled, crying. "The three of us ran, but got separated. Now I don't know where my mother and brother are."

Power and telecommunications were cut in the badly hit areas, hampering search and rescue efforts. Most people slept outdoors, fearing strong aftershocks.

Indonesia is a vast archipelago of more than 17,000 islands that span a distance that would stretch from New York to London. It is home to 260 million people. Roads and infrastructure are poor in many areas, making access difficult in the best of conditions.

#### Questions about warning

The archipelago is frequently struck by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis because of its location on the "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines in the Pacific Basin.

In December 2004, a massive 9.1-magnitude earthquake off Sumatra island in western Indonesia triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries. Last month, a powerful quake on the island of Lombok killed 505 people.

Questions are sure to be asked why warning systems that were set up around the country after the Sumatra disaster appear to have failed on Friday.

The meteorological and geophysics agency BMKG issued a tsunami warning after the Friday quake but lifted it 34 minutes later. Officials said they estimated the huge waves had hit while the warning was in force.

Questions also have been raised about what caused the tsunami, with speculation an underwater landslide was to blame.

The BMKG said its closest sensor, about 200 km from Palu, had only recorded an "insignificant" 6-centimeter (2.5-inch) wave, while researchers said it was surprising the quake, which was recorded as a "strike-slip" event, when tectonic plates move horizontally against each other rather than vertically, had generated a tsunami.

"It may be that the shock of the quake triggered a landslide underwater, but we don't have any proof yet," Abdul Muhari, head of a tsunami research team advising the government, told Reuters.

Video footage on social media showed a man on the upper floor of a building shouting warnings of the approaching tsunami to people on the street below moments before the wave crashed ashore. Reuters was not able to authenticate the footage.

#### Airport runway cracked

The disaster agency said essential aircraft could land at Palu's airport. But AirNav, which oversees aircraft navigation, said the runway was cracked and the control tower damaged.

AirNav said one of its air traffic controllers, aged 21, died in the quake after staying in the tower to ensure a flight he had just cleared for departure got airborne safely. It did.

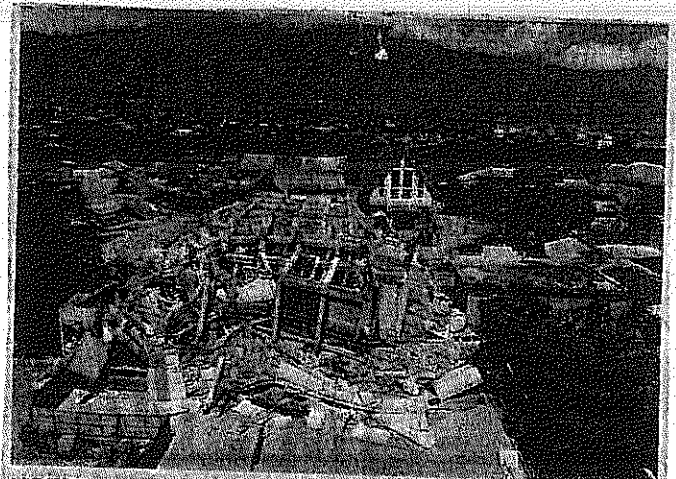
Aid and supplies were being sent to the area via military and commercial aircraft, including helicopters, to reach badly affected areas.

Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo was set to visit the area on Sunday.

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said he had contacted President Widodo overnight to offer support and deep sympathies.

"It is horrifying... if he (Widodo) needs our help, he'll have it," Morrison told ABC TV's Insiders program.

In Manila, the Philippine government also offered prayers to those who had died and promised to provide assistance to Indonesia. —REPORTS FROM AP AND REUTERS



HOTEL RUINS Aerial photo shows what remains of the eight-story Roa-Roa Hotel, where voices from underneath the rubble could be heard calling out for help on Saturday. —AFP

# Tsunami toll soars

*832 dead in Indonesia; Pinoy safe*

**PALU** — Rescue officials feared the full scale of Indonesia's earthquake and tsunami could climb far past the more than 800 already confirmed dead, as several large coastal towns remained cut off yesterday by damaged roads and downed communication lines.

The Indonesian Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPB) yesterday said the death toll more than doubled to 832, and nearly all of those were from this hard-hit city of Palu.

The regencies of Donggala, Sigi and Parigi Moutong with combined populations of 1.2 million — had yet to be fully assessed.

"The death toll is believed to be still increasing since many bodies were still under the wreckage, while many have not been reached," said BNPB spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho.

Meanwhile, Philippine

Ambassador to Indonesia Lehtong Wee said the only Filipino in the area is safe — a detainee serving his sentence at the Lapas Penitentiary.

"We grieve with our Indonesian brothers and sisters and stand hand in hand with them in praying for all of those who lost their lives in this tragedy," said Foreign Affairs Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque Jr. also said in a statement yesterday that "the Philippines is ready to respond and extend assistance to Indonesia."

Indonesia, like the Philippines, is prone to earthquakes because it is located

along the so-called Pacific Ring of Fire, a horseshoe-shaped area, which has a total of 452 active and dormant volcanoes.

On Dec. 26, 2004, a magnitude 9.1 earthquake off Indonesia's Sumatra island triggered a tsunami in the Indian Ocean that killed over 230,000 people in 14 countries, most of them in Indonesia's Banda Aceh. Last month, a powerful quake on the Indonesian island of Lombok killed 505 people.

Bodies covered in blue and yellow tarps lined the streets here, while rescuers dug through rubble in the

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# Tsunami From Page 1

hopes for finding survivors from the twin disasters that struck Friday evening.

There was particular focus on the eight-story Roa-Roa Hotel, where voices from underneath the rubble could be heard calling out for help on Saturday.

The cries from beneath the hotel, which appeared to have toppled over with its walls splintered like pickup sticks, had gone silent yesterday afternoon. Officials had estimated some 50 people could be inside.

"We are trying our best. Time is so important here to save people," said Muhammad Syaugi, head of the national search and rescue team. "Heavy equipment is on the way."

Metro TV showed about a dozen rescuers in orange jumpsuits climbing over debris with a stretcher carrying the body of a victim from the modest business hotel.

Aid and supplies were being sent to the area via military and commercial aircraft, including helicopters, to reach badly affected areas.

Indonesian President Joko Widodo was set to visit the area later yesterday.

Nugroho said 61 foreigners were in Palu at the time of the disaster. Most of them had been accounted for, but one South Korean was believed to be trapped in the ruins of the Roa-Roa, while three others from France and one from Malaysia were missing.

The survivors were to be evacuated to the Sulawesi city of Makassar in the island's far south.

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Damage to some buildings

in the town was severe, with plywood walls shredded and chunks of concrete scattered on the pavement. Much of the damage, however, appeared limited to the waterfront.

This chartered city, which has more than 380,000 people, was strewn with debris from the earthquake and tsunami.

A mosque heavily damaged by the quake was half submerged and a shopping mall was reduced to a crumpled hulk. A large bridge with yellow arches had collapsed.

Since the city is built around a narrow bay, this apparently magnified the force of the tsunami waters as they raced into the tight inlet.

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structure's questionable stability.

Residents were also seen returning to their destroyed homes, picking through waterlogged belongings, trying to salvage anything they could find.

## Squeezed into wall's ruins

Hundreds of people were injured and hospitals, damaged by the magnitude 7.5 quake, were overwhelmed.

Some of the injured, including Dwi Haris, who suffered a broken back and shoulder, rested outside the Army Hospital, where patients were being treated outdoors due to continuing strong aftershocks.

Tears filled his eyes as he recounted feeling the violent earthquake shake the fifth-floor hotel room he shared with his wife and daughter.

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ding. "I heard my wife cry for help, but then silence. I don't know what happened to her and my child. I hope they are safe."

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"We tried to find shelter, but then I heard people shouting, 'Water! Water!'" she recalled, crying. "The three of us ran, but got separated. Now I don't know where my mother and brother are."

Communications with the area were difficult because power and telecommunications were cut, hampering search and rescue efforts. Most people slept outdoors, fearing strong aftershocks.

Indonesia is a vast archipelago of more than 17,000 islands that span a distance

that would stretch from New York to London. It is home to 260 million people.

Roads and infrastructure are poor in many areas, making access difficult in the best of conditions.

BNPB has said essential aircraft can land at the airport here, although AirNav, which oversees aircraft navigation, said the runway was cracked and the control tower damaged.

AirNav said one of its air traffic controllers, aged 21, died in the quake after staying in the tower to ensure a flight he had just cleared for departure got airborne safely. It did.

More than half of the 560 inmates in a prison here fled after its walls collapsed during the quake, said its warden, Adhi Yan Ricoh.

Ricoh said there was no immediate plan to search for the inmates because the prison staff and police were consumed with the search and rescue effort. — AP, Pia Lee-Bravo, Alexis Romero

**MORALE BOOSTER**

# PRESIDENT TO GIVE ROLEX WATCHES TO TROOPS FOR FUTURE ACTS OF VALOR

By **Germelina Lacorte**  
and **Christine O. Avendaño**  
@Team\_Inquirer

DAVAO CITY—President Duterte on Saturday night tried to further boost the morale of Army soldiers by promising them Rolex watches for future acts of valor after gifting their brigades P100,000 each.

Speaking at a military camp in Prosperidad town, Mr. Duterte heaped praises on the 401st and 402nd Infantry Brigades for securing Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur provinces, respectively, from illegal drugs and communist rebels.

"I would like to commend men and women for the wonderful performance," he told the troops at Camp Datu Lipus Makapandong.

Buoyed by the accomplishment of the troops in the campaign against illegal drugs and communist insurgency, Mr. Duterte announced after his speech that he was giving P100,000 each to the two brigades.

### P100,000 for blowout

"Here is P100,000 for your blowout when you go back to your camp," he said.

"If all of you commit acts of valor, you will all get Rolex," he added.

The President had already ended his speech but he decided to go back to the podium and speak to the troops again after talking with his special assistant, Christopher Go.

During the visit, Mr. Duterte led the donning of ranks of 20 newly promoted officers and the awarding of medals, amid



**PROMOTED** President Duterte leads the donning of ranks of 20 newly promoted military officers at Camp Datu Lipus Makapandong amid military claim of an ouster plot against him. —MALACANANG PHOTO

military claim of an ouster plot against him.

He lauded the soldiers for the surrender of hundreds of rebels and their militias and some 500 members of underground organizations, which led to the recovery of hundreds of firearms and explosives, and the discovery of rebel camps.

He cited the troops' steadfast support for the illegal drug campaign, saying this did not only lead to the seizure of illegal drugs worth P11 million but also to the "neutralization" of drug traffickers.

### Protection from charges

The President reiterated his promise of protection to soldiers who would face criminal charges in the performance of their duty.

"You need not worry, I will

take the blame," he said. "I will not allow a single soldier to stay in prison even for one day. So continue doing your part."

The President also mentioned the implementation of martial law in Mindanao, which he said kept people safe but came at a price.

"In a move to rid society of evil, many have been wounded and lives have been lost. I share their grief," he said.

The President will visit another military camp in Samar province next week.

Last week, he flew to Jolo, Sulu province, to visit wounded soldiers. He admitted there that he was hurt by reports of soldiers conniving with the opposition and the communist movement to topple him.

The opposition and the movement have denied his charges. INQ 14

# Duterte woos soldiers with promises of luxury watches

BY JOCELYN MONTEMAYOR

PRESIDENT Duterte on Saturday night visited a military camp in Agusan del Sur, his third visit in a month amid talks that some soldiers are involved in alleged outer plots against him, and wooed them with promises of luxury watches if they display exceptional bravery in performing their duties.

Duterte donned ranks and awarded medals to some members of the 401st and 402nd Infantry Brigade during his visit to Camp Ditu Lapus Makapandong in Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur.

He thanked and lauded the soldiers anew for their contributions in the success of the government's war against illegal drugs and campaign against insurgency and announced that the 401st and the

402nd Infantry Brigades would receive P100,000 each which they can use to celebrate when they return to their camps.

"Each brigade we'd give you P100,000 so you can celebrate when you return to your camps," adding Rolex watches will be given to soldiers who display valor.

Rolex watches are some of the most expensive, with prices ranging from \$5,400 to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

He also reiterated his vow to support and protect the soldiers should they face any charges in the performance of their duty.

"I assure you that you are not alone in this fight. As long as you perform your mandate in accordance with law, this administration

See DUTERTE ► Page B6

## DUTERTE

will remain steadfast in supporting your organization and provide you with the necessary tools and resources that enable you to effectively fulfill — as defenders of the nation," he said.

"If it is in the performance of your duty and you face charges, criminal and all, you need not worry. I will take the blame personally and I will protect you. And I would never, never allow you to go to jail. Performing a duty for a nation is a noble job. I will not allow a single soldier to stay in prison even for one day. That is my promise to you," he added.

Duterte had already visited the soldiers in Agusan in June 2017.

He said he is set to visit Samar this week, but it's not yet sure if the trip would include another camp visit. He visited Camp General Vicente Lukban in Cathalogan City in Samar in August 2016.

He added that while he does not wear nor accept such luxury watches as a gift, he has no qualms in giving out such timepieces to the

soldiers for their bravery.

Last September 18, Duterte visited the personnel of the 5th Infantry Division in Camp Melchor E. De la Cruz in Gama, Isabela and, on September 20, attended the 12th Activation Anniversary of the Mechanized Infantry Division (MID) of the Philippine Army in Camp O'Donnell in Capas in Tarlac.

Last August, he visited troops detailed at Camp Teodulfo Bautista Headquarters in Jolo, Sulu and attended the 12th Eastern Mindanao Command Anniversary of the Naval Forces Eastern Mindanao (NFEM) at the Naval Station Felix Apolinario in Patacan, Davao City.

Duterte had earlier said that some active members of the military are sympathetic and supportive of opposition Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, a staunch critic of Duterte.

Trillanes, a former Navy officer, had recently been ordered arrested by the court for his role in the Manila Peninsula siege in 2007. He posted bailed for his temporary liberty.



# Despite coup rumors, Rody still all praises for troops

By ALEXIS ROMERO

President Duterte heaped praises anew on soldiers and assured them of legal protection amid claims that his critics are conspiring with some military personnel to oust him.

Speaking before the Army's 401st Brigade in Agusan del Sur on Saturday, Duterte lauded the troops for facilitating the surrender of communist rebels, supporting his war on illegal drugs and implementing martial law in Mindanao.

"Overall, I would like to commend the men and women of the Eastern (Mindanao) Command for a wonderful performance... You have done good to the nation and I give you my salute," the President said during his visit to Camp Datu Luptis Makapandong in Prosperidad town.

"It was only June of last year when I visited your brigade at Camp Bancasi. A year has passed and since then, I have proudly witnessed the hard work, dedication and bravery of the men and women of the 401st brigade in maintaining law and order in your operations," he added.

Duterte reiterated his promise to protect soldiers who would face charges connected to their duty. He said performing a duty for a nation is a "noble job" so he would "not allow a single soldier to stay in prison even for one day."

"I assure you that you are not alone in this fight. As long as you perform your mandate in accordance with law, this administration will remain steadfast in supporting your organization and provide you with the necessary tools and resources that enable you to effectively fulfill (your duty) as defenders of the nation," Duterte said.

"If it is in the performance of your duty and you face charges, criminal and all, you need not

worry. I will take the blame personally and I will protect you. And I would never, never allow you to go to jail," he added.

Duterte's visit to the camp came four days after he revealed that some soldiers are in cahoots with the opposition Liberal Party to overthrow him.

The military has also accused communists of hatching an ouster plot, saying they are behind "Red October," a plan that reportedly seeks to destabilize the Duterte administration this month.

Members of the opposition and the communists have dismissed the claims as paranoia and have accused Duterte of trying to divert attention away from rising commodity prices.

Officials have expressed confidence that any plan to grab power from Duterte would not succeed because he enjoys the Filipinos' "overwhelming support."

Duterte also visited military camps in Cagayan de Oro and Sulu late last month.

The President said the 401st brigade's efforts led to the surrender of more than 500 communist militias, local party members, and underground mass organization members. He also credited the military unit for the recovery of hundreds of firearms and explosives, the discovery of a number of enemy encampments and the confiscation of more than P11 million worth of shabu.

"To this day, your cooperation with concerned government agencies, especially in the implementation of martial law in Mindanao, has not only made our *kababayans* (countrymen) safer in these challenging times, but also paved the way for the collective advancement of our communities," Duterte said, referring to the military rule he imposed in the region after terrorists attacked Marawi City last year.

- With Edith Regalado

## Duterte hails AFP, showers soldiers with praises

BY ARGYLE CRUZ B. BENDICO

President Duterte hailed members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) for their efforts in securing the country from threats. ▶ 6

## Duterte hails AFP...

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Addressing the Army's 401st Infantry Brigade Saturday night, the President did not hide his admiration for the troops.

"I would like to commend the men and women of the Eastern Command for a wonderful performance. You were able to dismantle one, two — Maganda ang pinakita niyo sa bayan (you have served your country well) and I give you my salute," he said.

The President recalled it has been a year since he last visited the 401st IB in Camp Bancasi. "I have proudly witnessed the hard work, dedication, and bravery of the men and women of the 401st brigade in maintaining law and order in your operations," he said.

He cited the success of the AFP, particularly in fighting insurgency and illegal drugs.

"Through your valiant and relentless efforts, you have neutralized, apprehended and facilitated the surrenders of the regulars, Militia ng Bayan members, Sangay ng Partido Lokal members and more than 500 underground mass organization members. This led to the recovery of hundreds of firearms and explosives, and the discovery of enemy encampments," he said.

"Your steadfast support in the campaign against illegal drugs has not only resulted in the confiscation of shabu worth over P11 million, but also led to the neutralization of drug personalities, securing the provinces of Agusan del Sur and Surigao del — Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur," he said.

Duterte also honored the troops who

died while performing their duties.

"These accomplishments, however, came at a price. Many have been wounded and lives have been lost. I share my grief with you," he said.

"I, together with the Filipino people, are truly grateful for the gallantry of our wounded and fallen comrades and the courage of our troops to continue to make great sacrifices to defend our land, uphold peace, and secure the freedom we now enjoy," he added.

Despite this, Duterte said there is still much more to be done to fully quell the "ills that plague" the country.

"I assure you that you are not alone in this fight. As long as you perform your mandate in accordance with law, this administration will remain steadfast in supporting your organization and provide you with the necessary tools and resources that enable you to effectively fulfill your duties as defenders of the nation," Duterte said.

"If it is in the performance of your duty and you face charges, criminal and all, you need not worry. Performing a duty for a nation is a noble job. I will not allow a single soldier to stay in prison even for one day. That is my promise to you," he added.

The President also announced a financial assistance to the brigades so they can celebrate.

"Each brigade will get, we have to give you P100,000 each para pang-blowout niyo pag-uwi niyo sa kampo (so you can celebrate when you return to your camps)," he said.

Duterte promised to give the soldiers Rolex watches next time.

# Duterte thanks troops for securing country

By ARGYLL GEDUCOS

President Duterte on Saturday cited members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines for their efforts in securing the country from threats.

Duterte, in a speech before the Army 401st Infantry Brigade, admired the troops and showered them with praises. "I would like to commend the men and women of the Eastern Command for a wonderful performance. You were able to dismantle one, two, maganda ang pinakita niyo sa bayan and I give you my salute," he said.

According to Duterte, it has been a year since he last visited the 401st IB in Camp Bancasi and he is happy to see how well they have been performing their duties. "I have proudly witnessed the hard work, dedication, and bravery of the men and women of the 401st Brigade in maintaining law and order in your operations," he said.

The President cited the success the AFP accomplished with their help, particularly in addressing the threats of insurgency and il-

legal drugs. "Through your valiant and relentless efforts, you have neutralized, apprehended, and facilitated the surrenders of the regulars, Milibang Bayan members, Sangay ng Partido Lokal members, and more than 500 underground mass organization members. This led to the recovery of hundreds of firearms and explosives and the discovery of enemy encampments," he said.

"Your steadfast support in the campaign against illegal drugs has not only resulted in the confiscation of shabu worth over P11 million, but also led to the neutralization of drug personalities, securing the provinces of Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur," he added.

"Your cooperation with concerned government agencies, especially in the implementation of martial law in Mindanao, has not only made our kababayans safer in these challenging times, but also paved the way for the collective advancement of our communities," he said.

Meanwhile, Duterte on Saturday

conferred the Order of Lapu-Lapu, Rank of Kampilan on a wounded police officer in Butuan.

Duterte visited PO1 Retchell Golandrina at the Philippine National Police-Police Regional Office 13 Hospital in Camp Rafael C. Rodriguez after his speech before the 401st IB.

Golandrina was wounded when their camp in Barangay San Mateo, Butuan was "harassed" by members of the New People's Army on Sept. 18.

Duterte personally checked Golandrina's condition and assured him of full recovery under the government's care. "Basta tandaan mo, while I am President, hindi kita pababayaan," he promised.

Malacañang said Golandrina was given financial aid, a smart phone, and a gun certificate.

The Order of Lapu-Lapu, Rank of Kampilan is conferred by the President to recognize exemplary service by workers of the government and private individuals who are wounded, injured, or suffered great loss of property for their participation in the advocacy of the President.

## PH joint naval exercises with US, Japan open today in Subic

By FRANCIS I. WAREFIELD

The Kaagapay ng mga Mandirigma ng Dagat (KAMANDAG) Exercise involving naval and marine troops from the Philippines, the United States, and Japan will formally open today at Subic Bay International Airport, Subic Bay

Freeport Zone, Olongapo City. Captain Jerber Anthony Belonio, the Director of the Marine Corps Public Affairs Office, said KAMANDAG 2018 will be held on October 1-10, with an estimated 1,000 local and foreign troops from the Philippines, United States, and Japan taking part ▶6

## PH joint naval...

in the said event at multiple locations around Luzon.

Among the exercise venues are Crow Valley, Tarlac; Camp Gregorio Lamin in Ternate, Cavite; and the Naval Education Training Command in San Antonio, Zambales.

Belonio said Inspector General, Maj. Gen. Nathaniel Y. Casem will be the guest

of honor during the opening ceremony at Subic Bay International Airport at about 9:30 a.m. today.

He said this event will mark the 2nd iteration of the KAMANDAG Exercise.

The highlight of KAMANDAG 2018 is an Amphibious Landing at the Naval Education and Training Command on October 6.

◀1 The closing ceremony will be held in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City on October 10, 2018.

The purpose of the Philippines-led military exercise is to conduct exchanges both with the US and Japanese forces. Exercise training will enhance cooperation and interoperability between the Philippines and the US, consistent with the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) and Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA), as both countries continue their commitment to

share information and provide support to each other throughout a range of military operations.

KAMANDAG will enable military-to-military exchanges between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and its counterparts in the US and Japan, with a focus on enhancing counterterrorism capabilities, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief capabilities, and conducting humanitarian and civic assistance projects.

Military service members from both

countries will also work together during combined events in order to develop improved techniques and procedures, enabling them to learn and grow both through tactics and personal relationships.

KAMANDAG is an acronym for the Filipino phrase "Kaagapay Ng Mga Mandirigma Ng Dagat," which translates in "Cooperation of Warriors of the Sea," highlighting the partnership between the Philippine and United States militaries.

10

# DILG backs AFP call for TF vs insurgency

By JUN I.  
LEGASPI

**DAYS** after the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) discovered the Red October plot of the CPP/NDP/NPA, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has declared its support for the AFP's call for the creation of an inter-agency task force to quell the communist insurgency.

DILG OIC-Secretary Eduardo M. Año said that nipping communist recruitment in the bud entails a whole-of-government approach in order to address the socio-politico-economic problems that threaten the stability of the country.

"The government is cognizant that effectively ending insurgency requires not only police and military response but necessitates a triad of development, governance and security efforts," he stated.

Año added that he concurs with AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr. that civilian agencies and other stakeholders must be aware of and integrated in the whole-of-government strategy of quashing communist recruitment.

Insurgency is rooted in poverty, inequality, and grievances that could

be addressed by respective mandates of various government institutions. We have all the mechanisms to face these issues but all government agencies have to perform our roles in a concerted manner," he pointed out.

The DILG Chief, who is a former AFP chief of Staff, says that communist insurgency is not

primarily a military or police problem but a governance problem. "In fact we are winning the battle in the mountains.

There are 50 many surrenderees now. It's in the propaganda war and parliamentary battle that we are losing. The National Task Force will ensure that other government agencies help

the DND and DILG in this effort," he said.

He stressed that civilian government agencies must be aware of the real situation and fulfill their mandates so as to prevent build-up of public grievances that communist terrorist rebels exploit to stir anti-government sentiments such as corruption, price hikes,

and labor sector and Indigenous Peoples concerns.

"Communists are using as propaganda the inefficiencies of government to advance their aspiration of toppling democracy. Thus all instrumentalities of the government have to recognize their role in addressing this urgent and long standing

problem," Año said.

He assured that the DILG is instilling good governance among local government units (LGUs) who are at the forefront of public service delivery.

Año also assured there is no need for a loyalty check among the ranks of the Philippine National Police (PNP)

"whose allegiance is to the Constitution and the people."

The DILG and the Department of National Defense (DND), as well as the PNP and AFP, are one in preserving the stability of the state. Our police and soldiers are ruled by law and accountable to the sovereign people only," he said.

## DILG: Interagency task force vs Reds' recruitment gaining ground

By CECILLE SUERTE FELIPE

The proposal to establish an Interagency Task Force Against Communist Insurgency is gaining ground after the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) expressed support for it, days after the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) discovered the purported "Red October" plot of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front to oust President Duterte.

DILG officer-in-charge Secretary Eduardo Año said that nipping communist recruitment in the bud entails a whole-of-government approach in order to address the socio-political-economic problems that threaten the stability of the country.

"The government is cognizant that effectively ending insurgency requires not only police and military response but also a triad of development, governance and security efforts," he said.

Año concurs with AFP chief of staff Gen. Carlito Galvez Jr. that civilian agencies and other stakeholders must be aware of and integrated in the whole-of-government strategy of quashing communist recruitment.

"Insurgency is rooted in poverty, inequality and grievances that could be addressed by respective mandates of various government institutions. We have all the mechanisms to face these issues but all government agencies have to perform our roles in a concerted manner," Año said.

Communist insurgency is not primarily a military or police problem but a "governance problem," according to the DILG chief, who is a former AFP chief of staff.

"In fact, we are warring the

battle in the mountains. There are so many surrenderers now. It's in the propaganda war and parliamentary battle that we are losing. The National Task Force will ensure that other government agencies help the (Department of National Defense) and the DILG in this effort," he said.

Civilian government agencies must be aware of the real situation and fulfill their mandates, Año said, so as to prevent build-up of public grievances that communist terrorist rebels exploit to stir anti-government sentiments such as corruption, price hikes, and labor sector and indigenous peoples' concerns.

"Communists are using as propaganda the inefficacies of the government to advance their aspiration of toppling democracy. Thus, all instrumentalities of the government have to recognize their role in addressing this urgent and long-standing problem," he said.

As to the part of the DILG, he assured the public that the department is instilling good governance among local government units at the forefront of public service delivery.

He also said there is no need for a loyalty check among the ranks of the Philippine National Police (PNP) "whose allegiance is to the Constitution and to the people."

"The DILG and the DND as well as the PNP and AFP are one in preserving the stability of the state. Our police and soldiers are ruled by law and accountable to the sovereign people only," he said.

Meanwhile, DILG Assistant Secretary Jonathan Malaya said that the department is assisting in addressing communist insurgency through the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program, the government's flagship program for its reintegration effort for former communist rebels.

01

# RIGHTS GROUP: 'Red October' a ploy to attack opposition

THE so-called "Red October" ouster plot against President Rodrigo Duterte is an administration tactic to justify attacks against staunch critics, a rights group said on Sunday.

Karapatan Secretary General Cristina Palabay said the alleged destabilization plot was "an underhanded move to justify further repression and rights violations" against organizations and personalities who criticize the Duterte government.

"If October passes without much ado, we are almost sure 'Red November,' 'Red December' and 'Red 2019' will be this regime's next conspiracy theory. Ridiculous!" Palabay added.

The group also slammed House Speaker Gloria Macapagal Arroyo for urging the public to believe the threat, days after military's assistant operations chief, Brig. Gen. Antonio Parlade, said Red Octo-

ber would be led by communist leaders and supporters composed of Magdalo members and key officials from the Liberal Party.

Palabay said Arroyo only "wants to share the spotlight by backing Duterte's outbursts of paranoia."

Labor groups claimed state agents have harassed workers and union leaders.

"State intelligence agents threatened Joseph Pausal at his house in Caloocan City this morning. According to Pausal, the agents identified themselves as elements of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and warned him against continuing to organize workers," Jerome Adonis, secretary general of the labor group Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), said in a statement.

Pausal is the national coordinator of contractual workers' organization Kilos na Manggagawa, Adonis said.

**GEE JALEA**

B

01

## 'Reds stepping up attacks vs military and police'

BY VICTOR REYES

COMMUNIST New People's Army rebels are planning to step up attacks against military installations throughout the country this month as part of their Red October plot to oust President Duterte, according to the military.

In a phone interview yesterday, Brig. Gen. Antonio Parlade Jr, the assistant AFP deputy chief of staff

for operations, said the military has alerted its units and troops against the planned rebel attacks.

Officials earlier said the communist-led Red October plot calls for "social unrest" and conduct of massive rallies, similar to the February 1986 People Power that ousted then President Ferdinand Marcos.

"Along with the social unrest,

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### REDS

they are going to launch tactical offensives, coordinated attacks nationwide, targeting police stations and Army posts," Parlade said.

Parlade said the military has evidence to prove the NPA got a memorandum from communist party leaders to launch the attacks in line with the Red October plot.

"It's nationwide," Parlade said. They are planning to execute it in a decentralized manner. That is in their memorandum, they have a memorandum for that (attacks)."

Parlade said the communists intend to escalate their attacks on AFP and PNP targets on Oct. 17.

"Their target is Oct. 17, that's when they intend to reach the peak of their activity," he said.

Asked what the military is doing in response to the plot, Parlade said: "Our units are already on alert and our troops are hunting them (NPA rebels). They are already near (AFP and PNP posts), we are monitoring them.

"They are already near so the AFP is on the offensive now. We are not going to wait for us to be on the defensive," said Parlade.

Parlade said the Red October plot is still a go for the communists despite its exposure to the public and despite the political opposition and the church backing out of the plan.

Parlade said the communist movement is trying to create social unrest among workers and peasants under "Daluyong Mangagawa" that he said one of the phases of Red October.

Parlade said Red October is bound to fail, noting the communists have so far failed to generate support.

"Many backed out, including the schools because they (communists) failed to convince (Manila) Archbishop (Luis Antonio) Tagle to join the original plan. They know the communists are behind this," he said.

He said he is inclined to believe the assurance of the political opposition and of the Magdalo Group, led by Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, that they are not conniving with the communists to oust the President.

"They should not take part in the plot because it's doomed to fail. This is the last hurrah of Joma (communist party founder Jose Maria Sison), that's why they are insisting on it," said Parlade.

"If they (opposition and Magdalo Group) will participate, it's our economy that will suffer," Parlade also said.

Parlade said top military officials are due to face House and Senate during budget hearings today and tomorrow, respectively.

"We are going to brief them of their (communist) plan...We are prepared," he said, adding the military expects the lawmakers to inquire about the Red October plan during the budget hearings.

Asked if they are ready to identify those involved in the plot, other than those already mentioned, Parlade said they might if the House and Senate leaderships agree on executive sessions.

Aside from Sison, others being linked by the military to the plot were former Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo and National Democratic Front of the Philippines consultant Rey Casambre.

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# NBI submits initial findings on 'Red October' plot

By HECTOR LAWAS

THE National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) is set to submit today its initial findings on the "Red October" plot against President Rodrigo Duterte.

This as the NBI has already started its investigation since Malacañang received information about the supposed plot.

"The probe started immediately after talks about the plot started circulating," Guevarra

said.

"We take this matter seriously as 'Red October' may actually involve commission of crimes punishable under our penal laws," Guevarra said.

Military officials earlier said there was a

"broad" coalition of communist rebels and critics of the President plotting to oust him this October.

The said coalition includes communist rebels, and critics of Duterte including supporters of ousted chief justice Ma Lourdes Sereno, and

"Tindig Pilipinas" whose members include leaders of the Liberal Party.

Mr. Duterte also previously urged the public to watch out for his critics' supposed move to oust him, which he said would "go into a high gear" in October.

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# AFP: Oust try on but DU30 foiled it

By Mario J. Mallari and Kristina Maralit

Plotters of the so-called Oplan Aklasan targeted for launch last 21 September, the anniversary of the martial law declaration under former President Ferdinand Marcos, were ready to initiate

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the attempt to grab power when President Rodrigo Duterte preempted it a few days before the target date, Brig. Gen. Antonio Parlade Jr., Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) assistant deputy chief of staff for operations, said.

Parlade told *Daily Tribune* that the Commander in Chief's exposing the sinister plan to the public took the gas out of the plotters—prompting them, particularly the political opposition, to pull back.

## The President's public announcement served as a huge blow to the plotters.

In a one-on-one with Presidential Legal Adviser Salvador Panelo last 11 September, Mr. Duterte said the plotters included the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), the Liberal Party (LP)-led supporters of former President Benigno Aquino and the Magdalo Group of Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV were the key actors of the plot.

However, the CPP, whose founding chairman Jose Maria Sison was tagged as "conductor" of the foiled attempt, remains hell-bent on plotting against the Duterte administration.

Parlade said the President's public announcement served as a huge blow to the plotters.

The ouster plot last 21 September was all laid out and was ready to be launched until the "last minute withdrawal" of Tindig Pilipinas, an umbrella group of organizations and personalities identified with the LP, he said.

## Scuttled plan

"Those involved withdrew in the last minute. The commitment by the groups to produce wide-scale rallies diminished," said Parlade when asked by the *Daily Tribune* on the impact of the Commander in Chief's public announcement of the plot.

The President first bared the ouster plot last 9 September—at the height of the arrest order against Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV following the issuance of Proclamation 572 ordering the revocation of the amnesty granted to the Magdalo leader.

The LP, since then, denied any involvement in the plot. Magdalo Rep. Gary Alejano also met with top officials of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to dismiss participation in the ouster plan.

Parlade, however, subsequently confirmed the plot was initially scheduled for 21 September—apparently to muster mass support from anti-Marcos rallyists as it coincided with the 46th anniversary of the declaration of martial law.

The plot was made up of two operation plans which are Oplan Aklasan, designed to agitate labor and student groups to go to the streets for protest rallies that would eventually led to the final phase called Oplan Talsik to oust the President.

## FQS as model

"However, many groups broke away from the plot after learning that the communists were behind it," Parlade said, adding the anti-Duterte groups want to revive the "First Quarter Storm" of 1970



that led to the declaration of martial law.

Parlade said the CPP has a second plot slated 11 October dubbed "Red October Project" in commemoration of the Russian Revolution of Lenin.

The plot, Parlade said, also did not muster enough support after the AFP revealed the sinister plan.

"The CPP is now calibrating a new plan because of its failure on 21 September and Red October Project," Parlade said.

According to Parlade, the CPP is planning something big for its 50th founding anniversary on 26 December.

"The plan intends to destabilize and even paralyze and sabotage the economy," Parlade added.

## Not a bad reward

Mr. Duterte promised to reward soldiers' bravery with a luxury watch brand should they show exceptional bravery while performing their duties.

Speaking before the soldiers of the 401st and 402nd Infantry Brigades at Camp Bata Lipus Makapandong in Agusan del Sur on Saturday night, Mr. Duterte gave P100,000 for each brigade and then floated the idea of gifting each soldier and official with a Rolex watch.

"Each brigade, we'll give you P100,000 for you to spend when you go back to the camp. And to those who already received watches, I'll give you a Rolex next time. I don't wear expensive watches, but if you get a valor (award) next time, all of you will receive a Rolex. That's for sure," Duterte said during his "Talk to Troops" event.

The President also lauded the military for its hard work, bravery and dedication in securing the country from threats.

"I would like to commend the men and women of the Eastern Command for a wonderful performance. I give you my salute," stated the President during awarding of medals to military personnel.

"Through your valiant and relentless efforts, you have neutralized, apprehended and facilitated the surrenders of the regulars, Militia ng Bayan members, Sangay ng Partido Lokal members and more than 500 underground mass organization members," he added.

### Rody gets big support

The President also recognized the troops' support and cooperation to his administration's campaign against illegal drugs, as well as the martial law in Mindanao.

### Those involved withdrew in the last minute.

"Your steadfast support in the campaign against illegal drugs has not only resulted in the confiscation of shabu worth over P11 million but also led to the neutralization of drug personalities, securing the provinces of Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur," Duterte said.

"To this day, your cooperation with concerned government agencies, especially in the implementation of martial law in Mindanao, has not only made our *kababayan* safer in these challenging times but also paved the way for the collective advancement of our communities," he added.

The President also personally checked the condition of police officer in Butuan City who was wounded during an encounter with insurgents.

Police Officer I Retchell Golandrina sustained injuries when their camp in Barangay San Mateo, Butuan City was attacked by members of the New People's Army last 18 September.

Duterte told Golandrina that the government will extend full recovery assistance.

"Remember, as long as I am President, I will take care of you," he said.

Golandrina was awarded the Order of Lapu-Lapu Rank of Kampilan which is granted to individuals for their extraordinary acts of service in advancing the advocacy of the President. He also was given financial aid, a smartphone and a gun certificate.

## BOC, PDEA, PNP connived in P6.8B shabu smuggling: Gordon

BY JOAN DAIRO

THE smuggling of the P6.8 billion shabu was perpetrated by a syndicate that involves personnel from the Bureau of Customs (BOC), Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and the PNP, with the connivance of Chinese drug traders, Sen. Richard Gordon said on Sunday.

Gordon, chairman of the Senate blue ribbon committee, also said evidence gathered during the

investigation into the smuggling incident unraveled loopholes in the BOC's inspection processes, gray areas in the operation and management of customs-accredited warehouses, and serious cracks in intelligence gathering processes.

Gordon said the committee has so far identified Jimmy Guban, from the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS), and Ismael Fajardo

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## BOC

Jr., former PDEA Deputy Director General for Administration, as among those involved in the modus operations of the syndicate.

"We now have a suspect from the PDEA, a former police official and one Customs personnel pretending to be an intelligence officer, but is actually only working as a spy. He gets paid for this job, he even went to Hong Kong," Gordon said in an interview with DzBB radio station.

He said the committee will zoom in on the role of dismissed police Senior Supt. Eduardo Acierito role in the smuggling of the P6.8 billion estimated worth of approximately one ton of shabu stashed inside four magnetic lifters that slipped past the BOC and ended in a warehouse in Cavite.

Acierito has repeatedly been tagged by Guban, whom he claimed to be his "handler," as the

police official who instructed him to tap the SMYD Trading as the consignee-for-hire for the shabu shipment.

"He will explain in the next hearing," Gordon said, noting the police officer's track record while he was still on active duty. "Marami siyang kinakasangkutan (he has been involved in a number of anomalies)," he added.

Acierito, a veteran police anti-drug operative, was suspended by the Office of the Ombudsman for his participation in the anomalous issuance of licenses to 1,487 AK47 rifles that were later found to have been sold to the New People's Army (NPA).

He was the deputy director of the former PNP Anti-Illegal Drugs Group that was dissolved after its member police officers were linked to the abduction and killing of South Korean businessman Jee Ick Joo inside the PNP headquarters in Camp Crame.

Guban has admitted during a

parallel hearing at the House of Representatives that he received a P10,000 to P15,000 "commission" from the SMYD Trading. He is now detained at the Senate after he was cited in contempt for lying. He has also been cited in contempt by the House committee investigating the shabu smuggling incident.

Fajardo was sacked by PDEA chief Aaron Aquino after it was determined that he knew of the shabu shipment and has been allegedly conniving with Guban in the smuggling of illegal drugs.

Gordon said the committee has also established that the smuggling syndicate is working in cahoots with Chinese who illegally operate their drugs trade in the country.

The Chinese allegedly serve as the group's financier, shouldering the payment for the consignees-for-hire and the warehouses where the shipments are deliv-

ered.

Gordon said the committee is now preparing a partial report on its investigation, and would recommend the allocation of additional funding to the BOC for the acquisition of modern X-ray machines that could penetrate steel and metal containers; the hiring of expert X-ray technicians and their training for illegal drug detection in shipments; and the overhaul of the BOC's inspection system.

"We will propose that they be given appropriation for better X-ray machines and for better training of technicians. We will also look into making stricter the guidelines for the operations of warehouses," Gordon said.

He added: "There are many more Gubans in the Bureau of Customs. I will recommend that the leadership overhaul the whole inspection and intelligence gathering systems and ensure stricter guidelines are followed."

# Gov't, MILF forces clash in sports events

By BONITA L. ERMAC

LINAMON, Lanao del Norte — Members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), once fearless foes on the battlefield, clashed anew Saturday, but in the sporting arena as they saw action in the Sports Peace activity at Linamon Sports Plaza here.

According to peace advocate Musa Mohamad Sanguila, chair-Civil Society Organization Lanao del Norte Partnership for Peace and Development, the activity was held with the theme "Mithung kapayapaan, saina-samang isakatuparan."

"Diri mapakita nga dili mi maggyera tungod kaming duha ka pundok nagkasinabot para sa trabaho sa kalinaw (Here we can show that we will not resort into war because we two parties agreed to work together for peace)," said Sanguila.

"We will together show to the people that we don't want war, now that the MILF and the military are together," he stated.

As such, protagonists, who once faced off in the frontlines of violent conflicts, met anew with an entirely different objective - to forge sustainable peace.

Elements of the AFP and MILF were mixed among each other before they were broken up into two teams, led by Lt. Col. Bernardo Taqueban of the Fourth Mechanized Infantry Battalion, and Lt. Col. Ronel Manalo of the Fifth Mechanized Infantry Battalion.

The two teams then squared off in games aptly called "Tug of Peace," "Centi-Peace," and Basketball for Peace.

After the sporting events, both teams shared lunch called "boodle for peace." 13

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01

## Comelec to hold dry run on plebiscite

By ANALOU DEVERA

The Commission on Elections (Comelec) is planning to conduct a simulation activity of the plebiscite on the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL).

"We are planning to conduct a simulation of voting in the BOL. Nasa early stages pa lang tayo ng planning (We are in the early stages of planning), but that is something that we intend to do," said Comelec Spokesman ▶6

## Comelec to hold...

◀1

James Jimenez.

Jimenez emphasized that they intend to conduct the simulation "because there will be many different kinds of ballots" that will be used during the plebiscite.

"The reason we need to simulate is we want to see how usable those ballots are. Again, it's not a simple question of yes or no. The questions are taking into consideration iyong constitutional requirement that when you conduct a plebiscite," he explained.

Jimenez said that the simulation is tentatively eyed on the second week of October and will most likely be conducted at the Comelec Central Office in Intramuros, Manila or at a chosen school.

"Sa ngayon pinag-uusapan kung dito gagawin sa building (Comelec office) na

ito or bahang ng ibang eskwelahan na gagawan ng simulation (For the meantime, we are discussing whether we will hold the simulation in this building or look for a school... Tentative window sort of coincides with the filing of COC (Certificate of Candidacy)," he said.

The plebiscite on the BOL is scheduled on Jan. 21, 2019.

The proposed Bangsamoro Autonomous Region on Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) covers the provinces of Basilan, Lanao Del Sur, Maguindanao, Sulu, and Tawi-Tawi, which are under the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Also being eyed for inclusion in the proposed region are 39 villages in North Cotabato as well as six municipalities in Lanao del Norte.

# 'The Hunt for Red October'

**N**ow I realize that my friends in the military intelligence community are avid and enthusiastic readers of fiction novels. The code name for an alleged plot to oust the President and Commander in Chief is straight out from one of the most famous and popular fiction stories of our time by the renowned author Tom Clancy.

"The Hunt for Red October" is not about some plot to oust anyone from power or to overthrow an existing government. It is the story of a Soviet submarine captain who plans to defect from his country, taking along a ballistic missile submarine, the Red October. With its cutting-edge silent propulsion system, the submarine is capable of approaching close to the American coastline and launching nuclear missiles with little or no warning.

While the novel takes us through several nerve-racking moments, in the end the renegade naval officer succeeds in bringing Red October safely to Norfolk, Virginia, where he and his crew are given asylum in the United States. The book, written in the short span of four months, was published on Oct. 1, 1984. It became highly popular in the military organization, particularly after President Ronald Reagan endorsed it as "the perfect yarn."

Last week, AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Carlito Galvez and his deputy for operations, Brig. Gen. Antonio Parlade, discussed in various fora the security threat posed by "Red October." With Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) leader Jose Maria Sison allegedly orchestrating the plot, the party is said to be in alliance with certain Liberal Party opposition members and Magdalo Party stalwarts.

Let me offer a few thoughts.

First of all, there is nothing new or sinister about the CPP wanting to oust the President and overthrow his administration. For many years now, the armed wing of the CPP, known as the New People's Army (NPA), has been waging war against every government that has ruled our land. As I mentioned in an earlier column, the NPA problem is today the world's longest-running insurgency.

For some reason, in spite of its superior strength in men and equipment, the AFP has not been able to successfully neutralize this group. Perhaps we should consider changing our tactics and revert back to the aggressive and highly effective small unit operations conducted during the time of Defense Secretary Ramon Magsaysay in defeating the Hukbalahap. We have created brigades and divisions, adding more generals to the AFP payroll, but the situation has not improved appreciably.



**REVELLE**

RAMON J. FAROLAN

As for the Magdalo and the Liberal Party, these are opposition groups vital for any democracy and committed to change by constitutional methods.

If there is such a plot as Red October, why announce it in advance? Why not first arrest the people who are the supposed leaders and then declare that the plot has been nipped in the bud, so to speak, and present the suspects and the evidence? Any plot to overthrow the government is a serious matter and should not be treated lightly.

But there are telltale signs that perhaps the plot is a work of fiction. For one thing, military units are not on heightened alert, a usual measure. Entry into military camps is not restricted; golf at Camp Aguinaldo remains at normal levels. The National Capital Region would be a prime target for any takeover attempt even if the President were in Davao City.

Even more surprising than the absence of strict security measures is the recent foreign trip by some of the most important members of the Cabinet: Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez, Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Ernesto Perma, Budget Secretary Ben Diokno, Trade and Industry Secretary Ramon Lopez, Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade, Public Works Secretary Mark Villar, Tourism Secretary Bernadette Puyat, and a host of lesser officials and assistants. The trip was billed as an investment mission, but, by coincidence, the latest fast-food outlet of Jollibee in London appeared to be very much in their line of sight.

There is absolutely no sense of concern or anxiety over the possible ouster of government, and such a huge delegation only strengthens the impression that something is fishy about Red October. We are facing a serious problem of high inflation, and yet, the economic managers are seen to be having a great time in Europe.

Under these circumstances, it is difficult not to suspect that Red October serves as a convenient distraction from the soaring costs of basic commodities and a declining peso. And it is the poor and lower classes of society that suffer the most.

Attention Parañaque City officials.

A senior citizen, Manny Ligaya, writes that Goldlocks in Sucat-Parañaque branch refuses to give senior citizens discounts for their products. Please remember we have elections coming up soon and senior citizens have long memories especially when it comes to food.

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01

# Truth serum-induced tête-à-tête, Episode 1

It's been widely condemned as a brazen attempt to brainwash the young generation into believing that the late president Ferdinand Marcos Sr. was a compassionate dictator. It's been denounced as a barefaced misrepresentation of the Marcos regime's martial law period as the best of times for our country.

I am referring to the one-on-one video interview between former senator Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. (BBM) and Marcos-era Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile (JPE) which was uploaded to social media as a two-part episode.

There were more than 100,000 victims of the Marcos dictatorship who were either killed, tortured, imprisoned, or disappeared. There is a huge possibility that among the personnel involved in the production of the Marcos-Enrile video interview—directors, cameramen, lighting technicians, security guards, publicists, caterers, janitors—are one or two who sympathize with the human rights victims of the Marcos regime because of blood relations, friendship, or simply by being a keen follower of history.

If one such sympathizer had the chance to inject BBM and JPE with a truth serum, or lace their drinks with a similar concoction, the interview result would have been completely different. Here's how I imagine that tête-à-tête would have turned out:

**BBM:** Why did you plot to oust my father? Why? Why? Why? I could have been president ahead of North Korea's Kim Jong-un!

**JPE:** *Ano ka, sinuswerte?* (You can't be that lucky.) You were nothing but a dictator's spoiled brat gallivanting in London. I was



## FLEA MARKET OF IDEAS

JOEL RUIZ BUTUYAN

sweating it out barking orders to the military, and each time I had to suffer hearing them loudly answer, "Sir, yes sir." Every day, my right arm was painfully stiff, because I had to return their salutes. Besides, the North Korean model of succession from grandfather-to-father-to-son is undemocratic. What's best for the Philippines is the Myanmar model of a military junta with me as supreme leader, because Myanmar has its Aung San Suu Kyi, and we had Cory Aquino.

**BBM:** But my father gave you so many juicy and powerful positions. He made you Bureau of Customs commissioner, insurance commissioner, finance secretary, justice secretary, and defense minister! And you still had the gall to usurp my father's position?

**JPE:** Your father had the gall to rule as president for 21 years! Your mother was planning to succeed him, and your sister Imee was also being groomed for power. You were only fourth in line to the throne, boy. But that's how selfish your family was, you wanted to

rule as royalty in the Philippines.

**BBM:** My father declared martial law because you claimed you were ambushed by my father's enemies. But when you shifted loyalty to Cory Aquino, you turned around and said that you faked the ambush story to justify the declaration of martial law. And then, recently, you somersaulted for the third time by claiming that the ambush story was the real truth. How do you get away with all your blatant lies?

**JPE:** Simple, you fool! You change your story in order to get into the good graces of whoever is in power. That's how I've survived politically and economically all these years!

**BBM:** After my father declared martial law, there were no more criminals in the streets, the entire country was so peaceful, do you confirm that?

**JPE:** That's true, there were no more criminals in the streets. The criminals were inside police stations and military camps. The military and police monopolized crime; they were the ones committing extrajudicial killings, torture, illegal detention and disappearances. That's why the Bantayog ng mga Bayani has a list of thousands of names of victims during your father's rule. And that's also why I personally signed the law giving compensation to all those human rights victims. The country became so peaceful because the noisy opposition were sent to prison, and several thousands were killed. My God, I don't know why I'm saying all these, I can't stop my mouth from telling the truth! My mouth has a life of its own I can't control. It has regained freedom!

To be continued in Episode 2...

Comments to fleamarketofideas@gmail.com





## Hoy, Enrile, I accept your challenge, liar

In imposing martial law on Sept. 21, 1972 Ferdinand Marcos invoked the presidential powers vested on him by the 1935 Constitution. He then proceeded to mangle that Constitution. He closed down the Legislature and gagged the Judiciary that the fundamental law set as co-equals of the Executive. He suppressed basic freedoms - of speech, choice, and of the press, to assemble, and for redress of grievances. He went on to rule by decree for 14 harrowing years. During that one-man rule at least 3,240 were sworn to have been killed and 7,000 jailed and tortured for being political dissenters. That is according to Amnesty International.

The soul of any Constitution is the Bill of Rights. Article III, Section 1 of the 1935 Charter stated: "No ex post facto law or bill of attainder shall be enacted." Simply put, it forbade retroactive criminalizing of any action. No law may declare a person guilty of crime and punish him without trial.

Yet that is what Marcos did in Presidential Proclamation 1081. By generic self-legislation he outlawed youth, labor, farmer, professional, even church-based organizations, for supposed "subversive" aims. No objector was tolerated. He linked nationalists and liberals, democrats and moderates to the armed rebellion of the communist New People's Army. Thus did he justify the arrest and imprisonment of non-conformists without court warrant or hearing.

With that backdrop I accept the challenge of Juan Ponce Enrile. He taunts people to name anybody who was killed or jailed for political or religious beliefs under martial law. Belatedly I have learned about his online video with Bongbong Marcos Jr. His is a crude attempt to fool millennials 46 years after Marcos Sr. imposed harsh military rule. Enrile architected that dictatorship for Marcos.

I was one of the thousands rounded up and imprisoned after martial law was imposed. I was then a 17-year-old college sophomore. Held incommunicado from my parents, I was punched, kicked, clubbed and deprived of sleep for nights in a row inside Enrile's army camp. At one point, on the night of Dec. 30, Rizal Day, I along with another college stu-

dent was made to dig my own grave. It was part of routine psychological pain infliction. Months later I was released along with several political detainees. It was because, we learned later, certain western parliamentarians were inquiring about the human rights violations under Marcos' dictatorship. Unfortunate others were transferred to years of "rehabilitative" military prison.

The jailing of youth activists was through Enrile's fiendish counsel. He boasted in his video with Bongbong that Marcos had tasked him as justice secretary to prepare the legal grounds for martial law. To him can thus be blamed in part the mangling of the basic law of the land. He then administered that military rule as defense minister of Marcos. There is blood on Enrile's hands.

National leaders have criticized Enrile for lying. Ex-senator Heherson Alvarez recounted the killing of his brother Marsman, and Rep. Edel Lagman the abduction of his brother Hermon, both by Marcos thugs. Former Senate president Aquilino Pimentel Jr. reminded Enrile of his political imprisonment several times for opposing Marcos. In the annals of history was the 1983 assassination of opposition leader Ninoy Aquino at the Manila International Airport while in military custody. Countless others - millennials and elders - voiced indignation against the Enrile-Bongbong online video.

Ironically it was during Enrile's Senate presidency in 2013 that a law was passed to recompense the families of victims of martial law atrocities. That law, which he signed, is the basis for the updated figure of 11,103 victims killed, tortured, and jailed under him.

Some say that Enrile at age 94 might be senile. In 1972 one of Marcos's justifications for martial law was the ambush days before of Enrile's convoy. When Enrile broke from Marcos in Feb. 1986, supposedly because fed up with Marcos's abuses, he confirmed that the ambush was staged. Recently in his commissioned biography, he claimed that it was genuine. That is not senility. That is outright "manufacturing of facts, lying to the people, manipulating of events," that he tries in vain to dispel in the video.

## **BONDOC** From page 15

At the start of his break from Marcos, Enrile cried to the public that he would be killed. Cardinal Jaime Sin rallied Filipinos to surround the camp and defend him from Marcos's reprisal. Enrile owes his life to the people. The least he can do is stay loyal to them, not to his former patron.

Marcos's martial law atrocities were accompanied by his plunder of the national wealth, estimated at \$10 billion. Before and after his death in 1989, the government has recovered at least a third of it. Martial law victims who filed suit in the Honolulu court continue to discover hidden Marcos estates and looted artworks. Enrile at 94 can still be held culpable for crime.

He's on trial for multi-million-peso plunder of state funds through pork barrels during his Senate presidency. He is out on bail only on humanitarian grounds of agedness.

The Tagalogs have a saying: "*Mabuti pa ang linta, kapag nabusog sa pagsisip ng dugo ay kusang bumibitaw.*" Some people's greed is insatiable.

Catch Sapul radio show, Saturdays, 8-10 a.m., DWIZ (882-AM).

Gotcha archives on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jarius-Bondoc/1376602159218459>, or The STAR website <https://beta.philstar.com/columns/134276/gotcha>

★

# The hunt



Dinah S. Ventura

Red is the color associated with the Left, the Comrades, the socialists. October is this month, and together they form a term that points to an alleged destabilization plot.

The revelation of this plan that the authorities say was hatched by the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) was the reason it fizzled out, some say. And now the "hunt" is on for the people supposedly in on it — this cloak-and-dagger deal that should oust the President.

According to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), nine plans were actually cooked up, and these they discovered from laptops in a raid.

What's confusing is that the alleged plotters seem confounded by the whole thing!

Consider the revelations made by AFP Assistant Deputy Chief for Operations Brig. Gen. Antonio Parlade in CNN's *The Source* a few days ago.

Parlade revealed the plot has existed since September last year. The cat leapt out of the bag when the military, he added, "retrieved nine laptops from alleged CPP members during a General Santos raid in July," CNN's online report mentioned.

In response, the CPP said "they were not even aware of such a raid."

In the same report, the AFP official disclosed the Kadamay occupation of government housing in Pandi, Bulacan was also included in one of the plans.

“Parlade revealed the plot has existed since September last year.”

"They still have this plan, Okupasyon. In Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, all these housing projects of the government — they intend to occupy (that)," Parlade said.

Upcoming "indigenous mobilization, Lakbay Lumanad Europe," he added, was also scheduled in November. He implied that Bayan secretary general Renato Reyes may have been in Europe for that purpose.

For his part, Reyes told CNN in a follow-up report that he had just "returned from Europe after the International People's Tribunal in Belgium found Duterte guilty of violating human rights."

He added that "Lakbay Lumanad and raising concerns at international tribunals" were legitimate actions and well within people's rights.

Among other things, the military also revealed the destabilization plans include sabotage rallies where violence could erupt so the whole thing can be blamed on President Rodrigo Duterte.

Recently, the military also held a press conference to present alleged New People's Army (NPA) sympathizers in whose property an arsenal of weapons had been found.

Meanwhile, NPA rebels are reportedly surrendering left and right.

President Duterte is determined to one-up his enemies. He seems fed up and tired, but as the country careens into another year — we have only three months left of 2018 — he has no choice but to see his promises through.

The past months had seen many uncertainties brought about by big changes he instituted. Many times, the President hinted he would be able to do much more, much faster if he were given the kind of powers needed to make things happen.

This line has been translated time and again by those opposed to him a desire to stay in power. In fact, this Red October issue is also said to be another stab at martial rule justification.

It's really hard to tell at this point and hard to believe anybody. All this talk of Reds and Yellows is way over people's heads when they are blue because of recent calamities and oil price hikes and food supply scares. And it's already October!

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01

# Red October

It's a nice name for an ouster plot. A little better than, say, Fried Squid if I was given the chance to christen the supposed coup against President Rodrigo Duterte supposedly by the communists, the opposition and his critics.

**“ EDSA, however, gave the moderates their power. They felt there was no longer a need to ally with the radical Left.**

**Yummy!**  
The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) could have come up with a better version of such a story. Linking the Maoist Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its armed group - the New People's Army (NPA) - to attempts to unseat Duterte is passé.

The CPP and the NPA have been at it since 1969. They have not been hiding their aim to overthrow government since Ferdinand Marcos and up to Duterte.

It's not news. We knew it then, we know it now.

Truth is, the CPP-NPA will welcome all opportunities to unseat Duterte, or any other president, through whatever means. The Maoists have missed their chance at sharing power in 1986 when the then China-lined Comites thumbed down overtures from the legal opposition to kick Marcos out of Malacañang.

But then, EDSA happened. The Catholic Church had persuaded the then sleeping middle-class forces to come out and take the forefront of what the winking forces then had branded as a bloodless revolution.

The Maoists were missing in action in all four days of EDSA. What they sent were token forces, mostly self-initiated from contingents from their above-ground organizations.

EDSA, however, gave the moderates their power. They felt there was no longer a need to ally with the radical Left to grab power. If the Left was no longer needed then, there is no longer a need for the Left's support now. That was what we have gathered from the tremendously weakened opposition.

It could not trust the Left, it said. They were once partners of Duterte, it reiterated.

And so, the ghosts of their past have kept catching up on them.



Aldrin Cardona

Even more so with the Chief Executive.

Mr. Duterte had long relied on the Left for support and peace in Davao City. The Maoist Left was even fractured in 2016, when its Mindanao forces went with Duterte, while those in Manila and some parts of the Visayas rooted for Grace Poe.

Duterte had even tapped quite a number of Left personalities to lead his Cabinet. They were the closest he could name to keep his touch with the masses.

Cory also once appeased her Left supporters by naming moderate leftists to her Cabinet. They were quickly dropped when pressure tightened up on her.

The same happened with Mr. Duterte. Only that his honeymoon with the Maoists had been longer.

The AFP and the mostly ultra-right elements in the military and government knew the Duterte-Left partnership would not last. They have the template to ensure it will not.

And on to another step to break it further and farther, came Red October.

Only that it was a bad script and a bad name, an abused one even as it was referred to the Great October Revolution of the proletariat against the Tsarist Russia in 1917. But it happened in November, the aberration due only to the Julian calendar.

But AFP fans can say it was a nice try. This, while the CPP-NPA celebrates golden years of its foundation next year with its protracted war still on.



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01

# A matter of time

**“He wants to exact vengeance on Calida, who he has accused of having ‘stolen’ his amnesty documents.”**

Vengeance appears to consume Sen. Antonio Trillanes, even when he knows that in the end, he would lose out on whatever he plots and plans on doing against those who he thinks have done him wrong, even when it is he who is at fault.

His latest prey is Solicitor-General Jose Calida, whom he and his camp are preparing to call to the witness stand and testify on his role in the revocation of amnesty that was granted Trillanes by then President Noynoy Aquino, better known as the “Yellow President.”

“We are contemplating in getting the court to summon Mr. Calida so he can be placed under oath and testify on what he did in relation to this bogus proclamation of Duterte,” Trillanes said at a press conference after a Makati court deferred the issuance of a resolution on the motion of the Department of Justice for the issuance of an arrest warrant and hold departure order against him.

President Duterte admitted that it was Calida who had initiated the move to revoke the senator’s amnesty, which the President voided, due to Trillanes’ failure to produce the documents related to his application for amnesty and his admission of having committed the crimes of rebellion and *coup d’etat* during the Arroyo regime—two essential requirements before the presidential grant of an amnesty.



**FRONTLINE**  
Ninez Gachio-Olivares

Forces of the Philippines (AFP) spokesman Col. Edgard Arevalo said it was Calida who was looking for the amnesty papers of Trillanes.

Trillanes and his lawyer certainly know—or ought to know—that there is no crime committed by the solicitor-general who is officially doing his job. What crime is committed by Calida, when, in his official capacity, he seeks out the defense chief and an AFP official to check on documents that are hardly state secrets.

So what if Calida, the solicitor-general and, therefore, the government’s lawyer, ask about the amnesty papers to check these out?

Such a move from the government lawyer on Trillanes’ amnesty documents is no different from Calida’s moves to get information as well as documents from different institutions, to check on whether or not the now ousted chief justice who never was Lourdes Sereno filed her Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Net worth and found that she had not only been remiss in filing her SALN but that she also had been lying and even manufactured fake SALN submitted to the Judicial and Bar Council to be included on the list of candidates to the post of chief justice.

He proved his case against her. He committed

Clearly, Trillanes failed to provide the required documents before the court of Judge Elmo Alameda in getting the charge of rebellion dismissed permanently—should he be acquitted.

The vindictive senator had pointed out much earlier that Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and Armed

no crime. Trillanes knows this, but he wants to exact vengeance on Calida, who he has accused of having “stolen” his amnesty documents, which he said is the reason the documents are missing today, and for which Calida has threatened to file a lawsuit against the senator.

Predictably, Trillanes came up with accusations without having any evidence with which to back up his normally false charges he makes in the media.

It is seriously doubted that Trillanes and his lawyer can prove in court that Calida had stolen the amnesty documents as it was the military custodian who had told Calida that the documents were missing.

**“Clearly, Trillanes failed to provide the required documents before the court of Judge Elmo Alameda**

Lawrence “Bong” Go

“I will ask the Senate leadership to open the investigation on Calida and his anomalies in the Blue Ribbon Committee. I will be asking the Senate on Monday for the investigation on ‘Bong’ Go and the billions in contracts that his family had cornered,” Trillanes said.

But that’s not all he wants by way of what he believes is punishment for Calida and of course those who go against him, and all really to hurt Duterte, in the case of the probe on Go and his family.

He and the yellow and ochre-stained senators filed a resolution calling for a probe on possible conflict of interest in Calida and his family’s security agency’s multimillion-peso contracts with government agencies.

Trillanes never gives up. The law

is fairly clear in the matter of government officials legally resigning from their business interests which Calida has done before he took on the job.

Trillanes may as well give up. Sooner or later, he will have to be arrested, charged and detained. It’s just a matter of time.

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## Two massacres

BECAUSE of the recent controversial dialogue between former senators Juan Ponce Enrile and Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, memories of martial law surfaced anew. Alleged atrocities committed by strongman Ferdinand Edralin Marcos were dredged up.

Enrile, former Senate president, presiding judge of the Senate impeachment court that removed Chief Justice Renato Corona, was also the former justice secretary

“ Let us not forget Mendiola and Mamasapano. ”

and later defense secretary when Marcos declared martial law in September 1972. He is also known as the architect of Marcos' martial law.

Enrile drew flak from those who claimed they were victims of warrantless

arrests, detained and even tortured by their military captors. Some of the survivors and their relatives took Enrile to task for saying no one was arrested and killed during martial law. His contention was that those arrested were not for criticizing Marcos and martial law, but was a preemptive strike against those inciting the masses to rebellion and topple duly constituted authority.

In the outrage over the Enrile statement, these critics forgot that it was JPE's mutiny against Marcos that triggered the People Power Revolution at EDSA that catapulted Cory Aquino to the presidency. Yes, Cory Aquino who was not even at

Turn to A5

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## Two...

From AA

EDSA was proclaimed the heroine and consequently President of the Republic.

What about Enrile and former Philippine Constabulary chief Fidel Valdez Ramos, whom Enrile asked to join him at Camp Aguinaldo lest he is arrested by Marcos chief henchman, Gen. Fabian Ver? Enrile gave way to the people's clamor for the widow of assassinated Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr. to assume the presidency.

Not pleased with how President Cory was running the government, he and another opposition leader, Salvador Huidato Laurel, broke away from the former housewife who found running the government was not as easy as managing a household.

Having established that footnote in Philippine history, let us not also forget two grim episodes that happened during the reign of mother and son Aquino. These are the Mendiola and the Mamasapano massacres. People's memories are short and sometimes selective depending on their political leanings.

Let us first recall the Mamasapano massacre which is more recent. The bloody incident occurred on January 25, 2015 when a combined force of Moro Islamic Liberation Front and Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters

waylaid members of the Philippine National Police Special Action Force. The PNP/SAF commandos were retreating after an operation that took out terrorist bomb maker Marwan. Left in an open corn field in Mamasapano, Maguindanao, the police commandos were easy targets for the Muslim attackers.

Why were the PNP /SAF commandos left vulnerable? A survivor said their officers radioed for reinforcement and rescue from then President Noynoy Aquino and senior AFP officials who were with him in nearby Zamboanga. Noynoy flew to Zamboanga to wait for the head of Marwan did not give the order to send in more soldiers to reinforce the beleaguered Special Action Force. As a consequence of Noynoy's criminal neglect, 44 SAF commandoes met their death at the hands of the Muslim band that butchered them even as their hands were raised in surrender. Mamasapano became known as Black Sunday.

This is the grievous sin of the son. Let us now go to the Mendiola massacre of January 22, 1987. This grim chapter in our nation's history happened less than a year after the February 1986 People Power Revolution that swept Cory Aquino to power. It is not in our nature to speak ill of the dead but history has to be put in proper perspective. While no one can claim it was President Cory Aquino who ordered the Capital

Regional Command security forces to fire and kill 12 protesting farmers, the Capcom was directly under the Office of the President.

Let us recount the circumstances and events that led to the Mendiola massacre. The farmers had been camped eight days and seven nights at the then-Ministry of Agrarian Reform to protest the lack of genuine land reform. Realizing their grievances were not being addressed by the Cory government, the farmers inflamed by the fiery rhetoric of militant leader Jaime Tadeo, called for a march to Malacanang.

At the Quezon Memorial Circle, the farmers were joined by the Kikasang Mayo Uno (KMU), and the League of Filipino Students (LFS). This was the group violently dispersed by a fusillade from the Capcom state security forces who had launched Oplan "God Save the Queen." The Queen of course meant Cory Aquino whose followers were fancying her for sainthood.

Compare the farmer casualties who were only at the Mendiola bridge to the leftist mob who were already storming the gates of Malacanang where Marcos told the Presidential Security Guards to hold their fire. Which brings us to the question of: Were more people killed during the six-year revolutionary reign of Queen Cory or during the nearly 23-year watch of strongman Ferdinand Marcos?

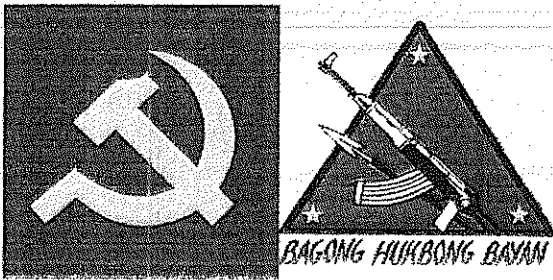
**ONLINE NEWS**  
**01 OCTOBER 2018**

## **CCP-NPA still pushing through with their plan to remove Duterte from power**

Published September 30, 2018, 7:48 PM

**By Francis Wakefield**

Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Assistant Deputy Chief for Operations Brig. Gen. Antonio Parlade Sunday said despite then exposing a plot to unseat President Rodrigo Duterte from power, the communist side is still pushing through with their plan.



CPP-NPA Logo (MANILA BULLETIN)

In an interview, Parlade said that aside from Oplan Aklasan, the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA), are also planning to conduct what he calls Daluyong Manggagawa where peasants and workers will take part in social unrest.

One example of social unrest is rioting or when a large group of people behave in a violent and uncontrolled way. Another example is a rebellion, which is similar to a riot, but is generally planned and more organized. Social unrest can also be expressed through peaceful protesting, also known as nonviolent resistance.

"Tuloy 'yan meron pa silang Daluyong Mangagagawa (That will push through. They also will have what they call Daluyong Manggagawa)," Parlade said.

"Koda nila yan. Meron silang activity na tinatawag na Daluyong Mangagawa. Parang ano ito e, kasama diyan 'yung, parang social unrest among itong mangangawa, mga peasants, meron silang ganun, ngayong October 'yun. (That's their koda. They have this activity what they call Daluyong Mangagawa. It's like, part of it is social unrest among workers, peasants. they have that this October)."

"It will have various phases, that's part of Red October," he added.

Parlade however said that despite their plans to unseat the president, chances of it to become successful is very slim considering that they cannot generate enough support from schools, the church, union members, etc.



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

He added that their plan will have two tracks. Aside from social unrest, the communist side is also planning to conduct tactical offensives or coordinated attacks in the whole Philippines.

Parlade said the tactical offensive will start from October up to November of this year.

"The tactical offensives will be conducted on police stations and army posts. Their objective is to show that they are still a force to reckon with. Fortunately, their previous attacks like in Sorsogon, in Mindanao which are near highways and towns were a failure," he said.

Parlade said government troops are on alert to thwart the planned attacks by the Reds.

Parlade earlier revealed that were able to recover documents that various anti-Duterte groups are plotting to unseat President Duterte from power.

Parlade said their main objective is to oust President Duterte using issues like extrajudicial killings, martial law, inflation, the increase in the prices of basic commodities, and tyranny of the media, including the opposition.

"The plan will always be there because Jose Maria Sison was the one orchestrating. So they weren't successful this September 21 but there will still be a plan this coming October. They call that Red October., the international celebration ng communism, Marxism and then Indigenous People's month. So they will maximize the exploitation of the IPs so they target the Lumads here in the Philippines," he said.

<https://news.mb.com.ph>