

## Massive peace rallies launched

THE NATIONAL PEACE Assembly was successfully held in Barangay Lumiad, Paquibato District in Davao City last December 26, 2016 to demonstrate the people's unity for a just and lasting peace. The Communist Party of the Philippines' 48th anniversary was also celebrated that same day. Massive gatherings in other regions of Mindanao were held simultaneously with the assembly in Davao.

**Davao City.** At the peak of the program, up to 20,000 joined the gathering, which was filled with colorful and militant performances and speeches. The whole-day activity commenced with a tactical inspection of Southern Mindanao Region's 1st Pulang Bagani Battalion presided by NDFP Consultant Porferio Tuna, Jr. The Red fighters were warmly greeted with applause and chants as six platoons of the people's army marched into the open field. Tuna praised the people's army as the true soldiers of the people—full of determination, disciplined and staunch defenders of the people. Ka Parago, who was martyred in Paquibato last 2015, was likewise given honors.

Afterwards, everyone proceeded to the barangay gym where the program was held. One of the performances highlighted the occasion's theme "People's War is for People's Peace". In a written statement, NDF-SMR's Ka Rubi del Mundo said that the only way to end the roots of armed conflict is to

...continuation on page 3



EDITORIAL

## The people's clamor for just peace is unequivocal

**T**he Communist Party of the Philippines congratulates the peace rallies successfully launched last December 26 in guerrilla fronts across the country, including the national assembly held in Davao City.

A hundred thousand people joined in the assemblies which coincided with celebrations of the 48th anniversary of the Party's reestablishment. These mobilizations manifest the revolutionary strength of a united people, of their army and Party, and of the democratic people's government that covers their particular areas.

The people's declaration of support for the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) is very clear, as well as to its peace negotiations with the reactionary Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) under the Duterte regime.

Along with this support for peace talks, the demonstrators strongly castigated the Duterte re-

gime for reneging on its peace vows, most especially the continuous detention of around 400 political prisoners.

The peasants and impoverished sectors in the countryside which comprised the majority of delegates to the assemblies also issued equally very clear demands. They demand genuine land reform as the just foundation for peace. They vehemently assailed the continuing and widespread landgrabbing in the form of expansion of plantations and operations by large-scale mining companies.

The peasant masses likewise strongly condemned the ongoing AFP operations being conducted despite a prevailing unilateral ceasefire declaration reciprocally

issued by the GRP and the CPP. They gave accounts to the representatives of the Party, the NPA and the NDFP of the oppression, hardships, distress and fear that they undergo whenever armed AFP troops maintain their presence in their communities and occupy civilian structures.

The rallyists assailed the AFP for exploiting the NPA ceasefire in order to impose its power over villages which are covered by guerrilla zones and bases. Across the country, up to 800 villages were occupied and controlled by armed units of the AFP since August. No less than half a million peasants were affected.

The foremost objective of the AFP's armed operations is to smash the democratic political structures being established by the revolutionary masses assisted by the Party and the people's army. Leaders and organized masses in the villages are being hunted, targetted, terrorized and hounded by operating AFP troops.

The NPA likewise reported its

utmost efforts to abide by the Party's ceasefire declaration through undertaking evasive maneuvers in order to avoid engaging operating armed AFP units. This is the only reason why the ceasefire persists.

However, the NPA and the Party also clearly hear the people's clamor for action to be taken to defend and protect the interest of the peasant masses. Indeed, in the face of the Duterte regime's refusal to end armed AFP operations, armed clashes are bound to erupt as the NPA is duty-bound to defend the welfare and interest of the people in the face of the AFP's abuse and intimidation.

Nonetheless, the NPA's active

defense of the people's welfare is within the framework and spirit of the ceasefire declared by the Party. On the other hand, the Party has previously announced that it is ready to withdraw its ceasefire declaration if the AFP will insist on carrying out its repressive armed operations.

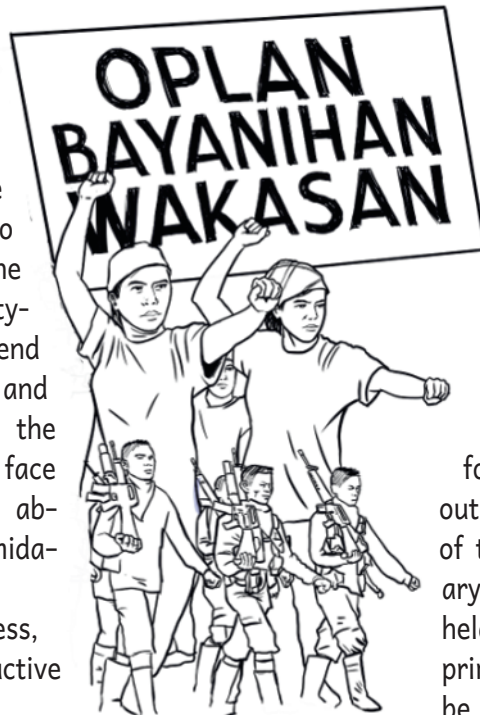
With or without a ceasefire, the revolutionary movement remains ready to proceed with talking peace with the Duterte regime as long as the latter is open to discuss key issues on socio-economic and political reforms which are at the root of the armed struggle and civil war.

In this regard, the revolutionary forces keenly await the outcome of the third series of talks this coming January 18-24 which will be held in Rome, Italy. The primary agenda here will be socio-economic reforms. Representatives

and consultants of the NDFP take along with them the appeals aired by the various sectors who attended the different assemblies.

The NDFP expects that the upcoming talks will not be smooth, considering that these will discuss the basic programs and policies that represent conflicting class interests. While the NDFP will exhaustively push for the demands for genuine land reform and national industrialization, it is likewise willing to negotiate with the Duterte regime on a program that upholds the people's interest which may be undertaken collaboratively.

In this light, it is but right that while talking peace the Filipino people and their revolutionary forces intensify their mass struggles and resolutely advance the people's war. AB



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## Contents

<b>Editorial:</b> The people's clamor for just peace is unequivocal	1
Massive peace rallies launched	1
Widespread peace rallies held	4
2016 NCMR's revolutionary victories	5
Revolutionary strides in NEMR	6
Level 3 medical training in Samar	7
AFP's ceasefire violations persist	7
Daily trainings inside NPA companies	8
Lapanday evicts MARBAI members	9

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*Massive peace...from page 1*

implement land distribution for the millions of peasants in the country, to respect the ancestral domain of indigenous people and Moro people, to end the exploitation of workers, and to attain justice for all victims of human rights abuses and oppression.

The National Peace Assembly's principal guests included NDFP Senior Adviser Luis Jalandoni and consultants Connie Ledesma, Concha Araneta, Porferio Tuna Jr., Ariel Arbitrario and Eduardo Genelsa. They welcomed questions from the media and the audience at a press conference and open forum. Ka Luis Jalandoni's statement that the NPA will not surrender was fervently received. He said that the NPA is necessary to defend whatever gains may be achieved from the talks, particularly on socio-economic reforms, and also in establishing a genuine people's government. Also present were DAR's Rafael Mariano, Anakpawis Partylist's Ariel Casilao, Liza Maza of NAPC, Usec. Joel Maglunsod of DOLE, Luz Ilagan of Gabriela and Carlos Zarate of Bayan Muna. GRP Peace Panel Chief Silvestre Bello III and DILG Sec. Mike Sueno likewise graced the occasion. In his message, Moro Islamic Liberation Front Deputy Chief of Staff Sonny Muñoz said that capabilities and determination should be strengthened to achieve benefits for the Filipino people.

NDFP Chief Political Consultant Jose Maria Sison sent a message wherein he condemned the Duterte government for reneging on its commitment to the peace negotiations, particularly on declaring amnesty for all political prisoners. Two videos by Sine Proletaryo discussing the peace talks were shown on two large screens

in the gym.

On December 23, the PNP Paquibato conducted anti-drug operations in the area where the National Peace Assembly was to be held.

Apart from the 1st Pulang Bagani Battalion, more than 500 Red fighters and revolutionary forces were involved in the preparations for the activity, which started last December 8. One platoon of the people's army, augmented by another platoon of the militia, constantly reconnoitered the area to secure the whole activity. Around 400 barrio folk were organized and positioned in one of the barrio's sub-villages to ensure food for everyone. Meanwhile, up to 100 Red fighters and youth activists participated as dancers, chorale members, designers and artists, and managers of the whole production.

In the evening, delegates flew lighted lanterns before a shining 7-foot hammer and sickle. After this, members of ARMAS (People's Artists and Writers), NPA fighters and progressive cultural workers performed until 11 o'clock.

Separate gatherings in Southern Mindanao's other subregions were also held.

**Misamis Oriental.** Up to 20,000 also gathered in Brgy. Mananum Bag-o, Medina to launch the regional peace rally. The assembly's principal guest was Alfredo Mapano (Ka Paris), an NDFP peace panel consultant from the region. Local officials of the reactionary government also attended the rally, including the provincial governor Yevgeny Emano and others. Bishop Felixberto Calang of IFI Cagayan de Oro, Bishop Rudy Juliada of the

Philippine Ecumenical Peace Platform and others from the religious sector also paid their visit. The main bulk of the guests came from the areas of Bukidnon, Agusan del Norte, Misamis Oriental and Lanao del Norte.

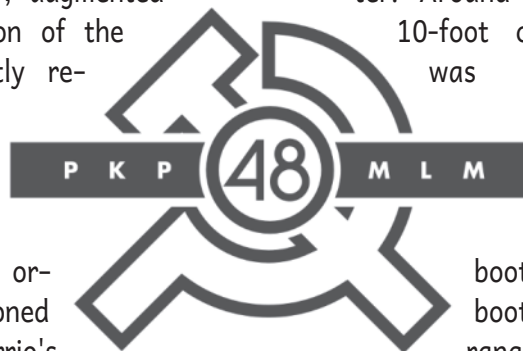
The celebration's highlight was the parade of five platoons of Red fighters, with one platoon of women fighters marching in the center. Around the venue, a 10-foot colorful mural was on display, alongside a freedom wall and a medical booth. Also, a booth was arranged for sharing revolutionary songs, videos and literature. In the afternoon, the visitors were treated to a simple meal. Assemblies were also held in various parts of the region. These include the peace forum at Purok 12 Mainaga, Brgy. Iba, Cabanglasan, Bukidnon which was participated in by 4,000 people.

**North Eastern Mindanao.** In NEMR, peace rallies were held in seven areas: San Luis, Agusan Del Sur; Barangay Anomar, Surigao City; Bunawan, Agusan del Sur; Bacuag, Surigao del Norte; Anticala, Butuan City; Cayale, Tago, Surigao del Sur and Marihatag, Surigao del Sur.

In Butuan City, more than 7,000 supporters from nearby towns gathered to join the activity. The Red fighters' call: Struggle to Achieve Just Peace.

An estimated 25,000 joined in the celebrations and assemblies in the whole region.

Assemblies were also held in North Cotabato, Misamis Occidental and Zamboanga Sibugay. AB





## Widespread peace rallies held

The CPP's 48th anniversary celebrations and peace rallies at various levels were held in different parts of the country.

**Samar.** More than 3,000 peasants, women, youth and allies from eight towns in Northern Samar attended the celebration. The Rodante Urtal Command and the Party section committee covering the cluster of barrios made the event possible and ensured the needs of the attendees. Around one battalion of people's militia were mobilized to secure the area and coordinate with the nearby barrios.

**Negros.** Last December 22, NPA-Apolinario Gatmaitan Command (AGC) held a peace forum in a guerrilla zone in Central Negros. Around 3,000 people joined the occasion.

According to Juanito Magbanua, one of the commanders of NPA-AGC, this was the largest event they have organized in years.

Frank Fernandez, spokesperson of NDF-Negros, arrived at the activity.

Fernandez told the media that the military has declared him either dead or suffering from a serious illness, but his attendance proves that he is alive and still serves as the voice of the revolutionary movement in Negros island.

"They think if Frank Fernandez dies, it will affect the revolution. But look around you, look at all the

young Red fighters who are here and the revolutionary masses. They ensure the revolution lives," he added.

**Southern Tagalog.** In a guerrilla zone in Sierra Madre, Quezon, more than 2,000 people gathered to attend the peace assembly organized by the NPA-Melito Glor Command.

Despite typhoon Nina lashing Southern Tagalog last December 26, Red fighters pushed through with the 48th anniversary celebration on December 28, two days after its original schedule. Along with the festivity, Ernesto Lorenzo, NDFP consultant for Southern Tagalog, led the assembly organized by the NPA unit.

Meanwhile, Cleo del Mundo of Melito Glor Command facilitated the enlistment of the NPA's new recruits.

According to Diego Padilla, spokesperson of Melito Glor Command, Red fighters also helped the barrio folk in rebuilding their homes and recovering their crops damaged by the typhoon.

**Panay.** Guerrilla fronts in Panay simultaneously held 48th anniversary celebrations and peace fora. In the program prepared by NPA-Central Panay (Jose Percival

Estocada Command), Ka Mara, political instructor of Igabon platoon, encouraged the youth to join the NPA. This is the first time that the guerrilla front opened their activity to the public. More than 500 arrived, including Tumandoks and members of revolutionary organizations in the region. Another celebration was held in a guerrilla zone of Eastern Front-Panay (Nonito Aguirre Command).

In line with the call to advance peace negotiations between GRP and NDFP, BAYAN-Panay launched "operation dikit" and a candle lighting activity in front of Jaro Cathedral last December 26. The group also condemned the ongoing military operations in barrios and town centers.

**Bicol.** Around 700 supporters and guests arrived at the assembly organized by NPA-Sorsogon (Celso Minguez Command or CMC) in a guerrilla zone in the province. The NPA-CMC expressed its firm adherence to the declaration and mandate of the Party on the ceasefire, even if it is difficult for the Red fighters to avoid continuous attacks of the reactionary forces that do not conform to their own ceasefire.

According to Ka Carlo of CMC, the NPA in the province is determined to strengthen their ranks so they may be able to contribute to other fronts in the entire region. AB

# NCMR's revolutionary victories in 2016



**T**his past year, revolutionary forces in North Central Mindanao Region (NCMR) achieved a string of revolutionary victories in all fields.

In the ideological field, more than 1,040 members and candidate members completed the Basic Party Course in 56 batches. Also, 112 cadres completed the Intermediate Course in nine batches. As a result of these Party courses, the CPP committee in the region upheld the relatively correct and sharp application of Marxism-Leninism-Maoism to the region's revolutionary practice. In the region's 15-year summing up, errors were sharply identified and lessons were correctly drawn.

Successive conferences and assemblies on various fields of revolutionary tasks were also launched in order to solve problems and difficulties in fulfilling tasks. These include addressing the bourgeois elections, military work, the legal mass movement, mass campaigns and others. *Ang Bayan* issues, as well as regional Party and people's army newspapers, served as supplemental readings. Trainings on Basic Platoon Officers Course are likewise held regularly.

In the organizational field, Party membership increased by 31% most especially among the local Party branches. Cadres were promptly promoted and appropriately assigned to various territorial

Party committees, the people's army units, support organs, organs of political power and mass organizations.

Meanwhile in the political field, the number of full time Red fighters increased by 16%, and newly-formed platoons increased by 13%. These are augmented by the equally increasing number of militia fighters which recorded an increase of 41%. Before the unilateral ceasefire last August 21, the NPA-NCMR was able to launch 109 tactical offensives. Corresponding to the increase of platoon formations, there was also a 7%-increase in the number of villages favorable for the people's army operations and maneuver.

During the ceasefire, while keeping on with various tasks, the region was able to hold seven batches of the Basic Politico-Military Training which were attended by full time commanders and fighters, and the militia.

Efforts of the urban revolutionary mass movement have also been constantly supportive of the armed struggle. It was able to expand among workers, the urban poor and petty bourgeois, while taking the lead in their sectoral and class struggles. Enlistment of the youth to the people's army has been con-

tinuous.

The mass base increased by 26%. This percentage comprises the 53% increase in the organs of political power, and the increase in sectoral branches by 36%.

Also, up to a total of 71 anti-feudal actions have been launched. This covers 264 villages in 26 towns and six cities in the provinces of Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Bukidnon and Misamis Oriental. These anti-feudal actions were participated in by over 60,000 peasants and farmworkers, benefitting more than 200,000 individuals. The actions have been advanced to regional levels. Particularly in the struggle against the drought, more than 16,000 sacks of rice were confiscated by the people in their demands for rice subsidy from the reactionary government.

As a form of combatting the militarization of Lumad and farmers' communities, organized evacuations were carried out and were able to gather support overseas. Moreover, it is not only the Lumads who have joined the revolution in the region, but also the Moro people who fight against land-grabbing of their ancestral domain, state fascism, and discrimination.

According to Ka Norsen Mangubat, regional spokesperson for the CPP, while comprehensive victories have been achieved, these fare small compared to the capabilities and potential of the revolutionary forces in NCMR. He said that the comrades' strength has yet to be wielded fully. The Party leadership in NCMR is fully confident that if erroneous tendencies are dispelled and correct methods in arousing, organizing and mobilizing are grasped, these will bring about severalfold advances in the coming years.

AB

# Revolutionary strides in NEMR

The year 2016 marked victories for Northeastern Mindanao as a result of the Communist Party of the Philippines' correct leadership of the revolutionary movement in the region. The comrades have seized the initiative, and the New People's Army, revolutionary forces and the people have effectively and valiantly fought the fierce attacks by the reactionary government and the AFP-PNP.

The region advanced in all aspects, foremost of which is frustrating the Oplan Bayanihan counterinsurgency campaign. Despite the AFP's fierce attacks against the people in order to crush their struggle, not one NPA formation was defeated even with the concentration of ten combat battalions of the reactionary armed forces.

Moreover, the CPP in NEMR said that amidst enemy assaults, the NPA was able to launch counter-attacks through widespread military actions including sniping and harassment operations, sanctions, special operations, capturing of prisoners, and basic tactical offensives. From January to August, the NPA in the region was able to launch up to 191 military actions, including four surges of coordinated attacks, averaging no less than 20 military actions in a day. In total, the enemy suffered no less than 105 killed and 77 wounded, and some firearms of different types were confiscated. Also, five elements of the PNP were captured and treated according to the NPA guidelines and rules of war. On the part of the people's army, nine fighters heroically offered their lives in battles.

Oplan Bayanihan was likewise resisted through organized evacuations of Lumads who stayed in Tandag, Surigao del Sur for one year and exposed the AFP's attacks, particularly the 75th IB, against Lumad schools and communities. Likewise, the people in other parts of the region opposed the "peace and development" operations

through collective confrontation of AFP forces, filing of charges, as well as through the utilization of mass media.

Agrarian struggles have also been intensified and heightened, culminating in the reduction of land rent from 50-50 towards 75-25 sharing favoring the tenants. Other victories were also sustained, such as the elimination of usury, increase in wages for agricultural labor, reduction of irrigation fees, and strengthening cooperativization for direct consumption. In 2016 alone, up to 4,000 families became new beneficiaries of agrarian revolution. These add to the hundreds of thousands who have benefitted in recent years.

Comrades in NEMR also reaped the increase in the number of villages within the scope of NPA operations, as well as in the recovered areas. NPA operations now cover lowlands, communities along highways and shorelines, and town centers.

Enlistment in the people's army has been continuous and recruits undergo training in politico-military, mass work and others. More youth from the cities and the intelligentsia are directly participating in the armed struggle in the countryside and joining the NPA. The number of people's militia members has also increased.

In the field of ideology and organization, there was also an increase in Party membership in the ranks of the local branches and Red fighters. Nonetheless, this ratio is still minimal relative to the breadth

of the mass base. Despite the increase and frequency of trainings for cadres on different lines of work, the number is likewise small compared to the widening revolutionary tasks in the region, an example of which is the increase in new section- and municipal-level local Party committees.

Meanwhile, the Nona Del Rosario Command (NPA-Ifugao) reaffirmed the continuing leadership of the CPP and the advance of the people's democratic revolution in the province. According to Ka Wigan Moncontad, threats of imperialist plunder are worsening, with the collusion of local bourgeois-compradors and the AFP as their instrument.

In order to resolve the continuing oppression suffered by the people of Ifugao, the revolutionary forces face up to the challenge of thoroughgoing increase and broadening of areas covered by NPA units and the people's militia along with the strengthening of revolutionary bases.

For its part, the Revolutionary Council of Trade Unions, an allied organization of the NDFP, expressed solidarity with the CPP's 48th anniversary. The RCTU said that in the cities, an increasing number of workers are joining the Party and are embracing the proletarian class leadership of the revolution. Likewise, revolutionary trade unions are continuously being established as well as branches of underground revolutionary organizations of the semi-proletariat which serve as the core of revolutionary struggles in the cities. Workers are also continuously surging towards the countryside to take on tasks with the New People's Army. AB

# Level 3 medical training launched in Samar

An advanced medical training was successfully held in a guerrilla front in Samar from November 28 until December 11 last year. Twenty four medics from different units of the New People's Army in Eastern Visayas participated in the training. The Level 3 medical training is part of the revolutionary movement's ongoing development of medical machinery. The training focused on two subjects: Advanced Training Life Support (ATLS) and Mental Health Training, both of which are basic and improving treatment for Red fighters.

The training for life-saving intends to improve the combat medics' readiness and capability in saving the wounded in action. Different workshops and dry-runs were done under ATLS. "The training helped me a lot, it has boosted my confidence as a medic in attending to patients," said Ka Tataw, one of the training's participants.

Ensuring mental health is integral to the Red fighters' medical care. The whole-day discussion on

the subject of mental health guided the cadres in determining the needs for the comrades' healthy mental condition. It is important to stress that despite the comrades' firm ideological, political and organizational consciousness, no one can escape undergoing tension or stress.

"Indeed, some comrades are vulnerable to mental stress, wherein during periods of unpleasant experiences, or when burdened by problems, changes in their behavior and

attitude towards other comrades become manifest. But it must not be misconstrued that they have lost their standpoint," said Ka Botsoy, a psychiatrist invited for the training. For her part, Ka Delia, a cadre who participated in the discussions, said that "The leaders' comprehensive attention to the mental aspect is necessary to fully know the comrades, understand their problems and help in resolving these."

After the training, the graduates conducted medical services for the masses and fellow comrades. A short program was also held in recognition of the newly-trained medics. They are fully-determined to complete all efforts in order to advance and firmly grasp the tasks and contribute to intensify the armed struggle.

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## AFP's ceasefire violations persist

ENCAMPED ELEMENTS of the Special Forces Battalion fired at an NPA unit in White Kulaman, Kitaotao, Bukidnon last December 22 at 6 p.m. This was reported by Porferio Tuna, NDFP negotiating panel consultant, during the anniversary celebration of the CPP in Davao City. This is an outright violation of their own unilateral ceasefire declaration.

Meanwhile, on December 23, 2016, 20 elements of 30th IB positioned themselves at Little Baguio, Payapag, Bacwag, Surigao del Norte, where Red fighters were preparing for the upcoming 48th year celebration of the Party. As a result, 100 families evacuated to Payapag multipurpose hall last December 24.

In Western Uma, Kalinga, residents filed a petition demanding the elements of the 50th IB to leave their community but the AFP ignored their demand and instead, continued and intensified their attacks.

AFP troops also intimidate, threaten and harass

anyone brave enough to expose their violations, residents said.

"Every time we ask them to leave our community, they reply that they will only leave if the Duterte government tells them to do so," they added.

In related news, the Kilusang Mayo Uno strongly condemned the harassment of AFP elements against Antonio Begornia, secretary general of Alliance of Nationalist and Genuine Labor Organizations (ANGLO-KMU). Last December 31, 2016, a number of men forced Begornia to accept a grocery package and an envelope with P2,000 as a gift for his family.

The same men had already visited his home last December 22 and started intimidating the labor leader to cooperate with the government's counterinsurgency campaign.

According to the KMU, this AFP modus operandi against the people has become widespread nationwide.



## Daily trainings inside NPA companies

The advance of the people's war in some regions has steadily brought about the formation of company-sized guerrilla fronts. In others, independent New People's Army companies have emerged.

In forging the NPA as an invincible army, an important aspect is the absolute leadership of the Communist Party of the Philippines. Within the NPA companies, this leadership is exercised through the Political Section which sets the political line and discipline within the people's army.

In Northeastern Mindanao, Ka Eman commands a regular NPA company which serves as the main fighting unit of one of its subregions. Over a long period, the Political Section has developed a system of administration in order to raise the company's politico-military consciousness and capability.

A regular day in the company sets off with each of the squad's *pasa-bangon* (relay-rousing) before dawn. But more than being a mere reveille by the squad leaders, they pass on a message assigned by the Political Section to fellow fighters. One example, said Ka Eman, is the political message: "An army without training will suffer the enemy's beating." Ka Eman adds that passing on of messages are always

started off with the phrase "message relay" so as to avoid misinterpretations, especially when military messages are transmitted, an example of which is "Be on the alert at Sector Two!"

This message relay is timed by the squad's political guide in order to assess the rate of transmission, and the correct comprehension of the message by each element of the squad. Thus, the comrades are trained on the quick comprehension of a command.

After this, a brief consultation on three points is held by each fire team: How is the physical condition of the comrade? Was sentry task, as well as other tasks for the previous night, complied with? Are there any requests or suggestions?

This consultation among the teams lasts for 15 minutes, and is immediately followed by the squad consultation. Afterwards, the dual leadership at the platoon level simultaneously hold their consultation - the political guides will report to the political instructor (PI), while the squad leaders together with the

vice squad leaders will report to the platoon leader. Subsequently, the platoon's unit command will sum up the circumstances of each squad in order to be reported to the company leadership.

The company's Political Section will then have its consultation—each platoon's PI together with the Political Officer of the company. During this consultation, the Political Section will take the lead on the company's political work throughout the day. Likewise, the platoon leaders and the second platoon leaders will report to the company commander.

The chain of consultations will conclude at the company unit command. The commander, vice commanders and the political officers of the company will assemble to review the outcome of the previous day's tasks, take stock of the general politico-military condition of the company, and set tasks for the current day. From the leadership, the company's agreed direction will revolve back to the teams.

Comrades agree that the development of a revolutionary army cannot be achieved only through formal trainings and classes, but also through the daily activities set



by the Party for such purpose. Ka Eman said himself, "The Basic Politico-Military Course, the Basic Party Course, may be forgotten when not followed through every-day."

This is why the Political Section combines politico-military tasks for each day. Time is apportioned, said Ka Eman. For example, military exercises are done in the mornings, while discussions on the message relay and other political discussions are held in the afternoons. Only recently, the company discussed the definition of guerrilla warfare, as well as the enemy's modern equipment. Political discussions are held by the squads simultaneously but separately so as to avoid putting the people's army in a defensive position. Ka Eman also cited an example one time when the company conducted a pre-dawn dry-run on defense.

Aside from these, Red fighters are also trained to face the public and conduct propaganda. During the discussions, the squad's political guide identifies who among the Red fighters will give the opening speech, the *padasig* or inspirational talk, and the closing remarks. During cultural activities which happen every Sunday, an emcee is picked from the ranks of the Red fighters, aside from the assigned speakers.

Because of these activities, Ka Eman said that even those Red fighters who have attained only elementary level education are being developed to overcome timidity and shyness.

The army is forged by these daily activities. For this reason, Ka Eman said that "The comrades are ready to battle." The company is prepared to respond to programs for intensifying tactical offensives. To a certain degree, NCMR's victories in the revolution for the past few years are brought about by such methods of leadership inside the people's army.

The Political Section and the commanders monitor the daily progress of each Red fighter, adds Ka Eman. For this reason, even when the company is dispersed into platoons, the system of message relays, consultations, discussions and studies, as well as the chain of command, continue to be observed.

Such system of developing the subregion's fighting company politically and militarily is considered by the comrades as one of the best achieved in the field of the army's internal consolidation. According to Ka Eman, this is already being shared among the region's guerrilla fronts through yearly military conferences.

### Weekly planning

In adjacent North Central Mindanao Region, the daily schedule of NPA companies takes a variation. For instance, consultations within fire teams, squads and platoons are given enough time in the afternoons, while the company unit command's consultation takes place in the mornings. Nonetheless, the system of daily political activities is maintained as a continuous training for the army.

While the unit command holds its meeting, the squads also have their political discussions. In addition to the message relay, slogans from Mao Zedong's Red Book are recited, or passages prepared by the Political Section.

Each day of the whole week is also assigned to definite activities, if no adjustments are made by the higher organ. A day each is set for political discussions, for medical tasks, for literacy sessions, assessments of Party Groups, news sharing and cultural performances, and for study of military theories.

With the development of a system of administration inside the people's army, the comrades are confident that sooner or later, such system of administration will become second nature to the NPA, until the companies of the guerrilla fronts and regions develop alongside each other. AB

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## Lapanday evicts MARBAI members

DESPITE THE CEASE and desist order issued by the Department of Agrarian Reform, 300 guards of Lapanday Food Corporations, Inc. attacked and harassed members of Madaum Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Inc. (MARBAI) who have set up camp in their 145-hectare farm area inside the Hijo plantation in Barangay Madaum, Tagum City last December 31, 2016.

According to Mely Yu, president of MARBAI, they were forced to leave their camp and proceed to the plantation gate, as LFC guards were armed with long, high powered guns. They bound the hands of around

100 members and pushed them out of the compound.

Yu added that they pleaded to get their things, but were prevented from doing so. Similar to the previous shooting incidents, police officers refused to act.

On December 16, DAR issued a cease and desist order which recognized MARBAI as the rightful owner of the contested San Isidro farm area. These lands are within the plantation controlled by Lapanday Foods Corporation.

The order also prohibits Lapanday guards from forcibly evicting members of MARBAI and disturbing their peaceful occupation of the said property.