



# The **CAVALIER**

COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ★ LOYALTY

A Publication of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

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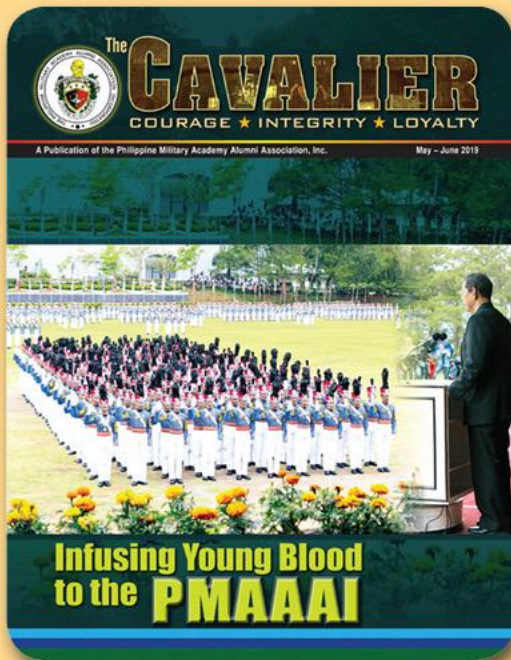


## Infusing Young Blood to the **PMAAAI**





# ABOUT THE COVER



Cav Rufo A De Veyra '70, Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) Chairman, swears into office new members of the Association composed of newly graduates of PMA MABALASIK (Mandirigma ng Bayan, laalay ang Sarili, Lakas at Tapang, para sa Kapayapaan) Class 2019. Every year, new graduates of the Academy are incorporated as new members of PMAAAI. To this date, the Association has a total of more than

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# The CAVALIER

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The **CAVALIER** magazine is a professional journal published bi-monthly by the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) to provide a general forum for the alumni of the Philippine Military Academy. The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the PMAAAI or any other agencies of the Philippine Government unless otherwise specified by the author.

Letters to the editor are encouraged. Your opinion about The Cavalier and the articles in this issue would be appreciated.

Readers may now view The Cavalier online at [www.pmaaaai.net](http://www.pmaaaai.net)

Send your letters to:  
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Some articles have been edited to meet space requirements.





# FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV RUFO A DE VEYRA '70

## The Military in the Public Sector

### The Blur

I do not know how to make out with the apparent perception by the general public of the President's appointments of "retired military generals" to several corrupt-ridden government posts that have recently gone vacant. On the one hand, there's somewhat of a derisive tone that comes with some perceived failures on some firings; and on the other, celebratory remarks accompanying those considered to be popular appointments.

### The Military

We're referring to appointments made by the President to the public sector coming from the military and uniformed personnel (MUPs) that count jail management, fire protection, NAMRIA, the Coast Guard, the AFP and the PNP. They're not all generals but are uniformed. For brevity we'll refer to them as the military.

### The Issue

The issue is whether or not it's a smart move by the President. Certainly, the failures or successes of these appointments are assumed by the appointing authority. Thus, he takes a lot of risks when he makes them. But why so? The answer I suppose, other than explaining it away as an executive privilege, is that as a long-serving mayor of Davao City his experience working with those in the military had been extraordinarily pleasant for him to have this generous dose of trust and confidence. They simply get things done the way he wants it.

### Propriety? Qualified? Militarization?

Certainly, retired military personnel appointed to positions in the public sector is within the law. These positions are traditionally known as reserved for civilians and since the military slides back into civility (no pun intended) upon retirement, they are just as eligible for the job as the next candidate. He is also deemed physically qualified for the job because by law he retires at the tender age of 56 and barring any medical infirmity, is probably at the peak of his potentials.

Militarization? Nah! This bluster is a sure sign that the left has run out of excuses in its effort to blur the issue of creditable performance by the military.

### The Choices

When the soldier retires he has a number of choices for the future. First, he can retire completely-which is not a bad idea. In fact, that's the whole idea. It's simply a question of when to call it. Second, engage in a business that he has always dreamed of either

as an entrepreneur or as a professional manager. After all, he still has a lot of years ahead of him. Third, get involved in civil society either thru an advocacy that had always challenged him or provide closure to an unfinished business while in the service. Fourth, get into all or a combination of the three choices above and then roll aimlessly adrift to nowhere; no targets, no accountabilities. Lastly, he can heed the call of the wild. And this seems to be the most difficult to resist – when the appointing authority signals a distress call to serve government, the public sector, once again.

### Will these appointments continue?

By most indications, they will. Consider the continuing environmental threats posed by the effects of climate change and the need for measures to mitigate and control them. Think about how we are geopolitically configured – ethnic and archipelagic. The peace and order and security challenges - internal and external. Whom are they going to call? No offense meant but as long as the perception on these challenges are bigger than life then all roll in favor of the military.

### Is the military prepared for the public sector?


Generally, no. They're not trained for it. Fortunately, those appointed in the public sector under this administration so far have made a good account of themselves and continue to do us proud - ultimately looping back to the military's goodwill. But how long will this luck run? How will the military be perceived in the next three years, the next decade?

### Should the military ride the trend?

It simply has no choice but to prepare for the future. It will have to reexamine itself and make structural, technical changes on its training curriculum or undertake supplementary training, pursued at a commensurate pace and volume, thru continuing junior, middle and senior management modules throughout a soldier's time in the service.

### The military brand?

How the general public, whom we serve, perceive the military after these changes are made; faithfully and dutifully written for us all.

That is how the military brand would evolve. 

PS:

*ERRATUM: The author acknowledges an error in the March-April 2019 issue of this magazine in the boxed portion, to wit and should have been read as "Golden Jubilee, 14-15 Feb 2020, PMA".*



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAV ARTHUR V BISNAR '90

## Salute to the Graduates - Long Gray Line

*(Speech delivered by Cav Arthur V Bisnar '90, President and COO, PMAAAI during the Salute to the Class - the Long Gray Line Ceremony on 24 May 2019 at the PMA, Fort del Pilar, Baguio City)*

Twenty-nine years, three months and six days ago, I graduated from the Philippine Military Academy, our Academy. Panlimang anak ako ng isang kasapi ng Philippine Air Force Flying School Class 1960 at ng isang Registered Nurse. Sa apat na lalaking anak, dalawa sa amin ang nagtapos dito sa Philippine Military Academy at dalawa naman sa Philippine Merchant Marine Academy. Payak na pamumuhay noon ang nakagisnan ko at parehong payak na pamumuhay ang ipinagpalaki ko sa aking dalawang anak katuwang ng aking Kaydet Girl na isa ring Registered Nurse.

Alam ko ang nararamdaman ninyo ngayon. Pinaghalong high at low morale. Walang pinag-iba noong nag martsa kayo mula sa may Elementary School papuntang Borromeo Field noong April 1, 2015.

High morale because finally, matatapos na ang Regimented na buhay. Wala ng Formations. Wala ng Accounting. Wala ng Parada. Pwede ng mag Facebook kahit anong oras.

Low morale naman dahil wala na ring ma-he-haze na Plebo. Joking aside, noong ako ang nasa kalagayan n'yo ngayon, hindi ko alam kung ano ang susunod na kabanata sa buhay ko. I know that behind that facade na pagiging confident, mayabang at may kasiyahan, deep inside most of you, nandyan ang pangamba.

And true enough, once you finally depart thru that Relics Point and Checkpoint on Sunday, May 26, you will be coming back to your Alma Mater here in Fort del Pilar as a different individual and person.

Ang importante sa ating buhay at serbisyo ay ang huling Chapter nito. At ang pinakamahirap sa lahat ay ang maging consistent thru all these countless years of less-than-appreciated public service. Kapag hindi ka dumaan sa kamalasan ng say Chapters 2, 5, 18, 25, 26, 27, 29 etc, ay magbabago ang kwento ng buhay mo.

With all modesty, I graduated as the Regimental Commander, Class President, Magna Cum Laude and Number 2 of PMA Bigkislahi Class of 1990. Our Class is the first batch to enter the Academy after the EDSA 1 People's Power Revolution in 1986. The same year that our PMA Superintendent and PMA Sinagtala Class graduated. Kasama ko sa Reception sa Borromeo Field ang ating Chief of Academy Staff, Colonel Moises Nayve.

And yet, when EDSA 2 unveiled on January 2001 or 15 years after, I was among the Cavaliers assigned in the then Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force, or PAOCTF who were demonized and vilified. The PAOCTF was under the then CPNP Cav Panfilo Morena Lacson '71. And more specifically, I was the Deputy of Cav Michael Ray B Aquino '88 in the Operations Division.

I was dismissed from the Service in 2003. In short ay ginawa akong Accomplishment ng ilang Cavaliers to be in the good graces of the likes of First Gentleman Mike Arroyo. I was then reinstated but was Optionally Retired in 2006.

Reinstated again in 2012 by Cavalier and former CPNP Nic Bartolome '80 as a Chief Inspector or Major. And seven years after, I am now a Police Colonel and President of the Alumni Association which includes Sir Nic and two other former CPNPs as Board Members.

Thru those years when I was out of the Service, all I had was the dogged determination and perseverance which I learned as a Plebe and as a Cadet. All I had was my Kaydet Girl and two children, who never wavered. And in between, all I did was to recite Plebe Knowledges like Don't Quit, Desiderata and more importantly, How Many Days?

I came back in 2012 simply to put a closure in my less-than-sterling PC and PNP Service. By then, I was already a Trauma Surgical ICU Nurse in Ben Taub General Hospital. Operating

Room Nurse naman ang aking maybahay habang 2nd year na sa University of Houston ang aking panganay while my daughter, who is also with me and my wife this morning, was in Middle School.

Pero nag exam ako ng Police Executive Service Eligibility o PESE, one of the mandatory requirements for Promotion to Police Senior Superintendent or Colonel, five months after being reinstated in 2012. And out of the thousands who took it, nag Number 4 pa ako. And that somehow gave me the impression na kahit pala matagal na akong nawala ay pwede kong gamitin ang Critical Thinking skills ko para maging Pulis.

Thereafter, I served as the Intelligence Officer of the newly proclaimed Baguio City Mayor, Cav Benjamin Bañez Magalong '82. Salamat pala sa inyo for endorsing him to your Foster Parents and friends in Baguio City. At kasama sina SILG, Cav Eduardo Ano '83 at dating Group Commander ng ISG, Cav Felimon Santos '86, na Mistah ni Superintendent, hinuli ng ARMY ISG at PNP CIDG ang mag asawang Tiamzon sa Brgy. Zaragoza, Aloguinsan, Cebu noong Marso 22, 2014.

With Cav Juvymax Uy '89 and my Mistah Rommel Tello, inaresto namin ang ilan pang CPP/NPA Central Committee members gaya ni Adelberto Silva at Ruben Saluta at mga leader ng BIFF at Rajah Sulaiman Movement.

Last November 8, the NCRPO led by Cav Guillermo Lorenzo Eleazar '87 and the QCPD under Cav Joselito Esquivel Jr '88 with the Army Intelligence Regiment under Cav Yegor Barroquillo '92, my Plebe in Delta Company, and Cav Joey Escanillas '93 - Deputy RC of AIR and Cav Roy Soriano 2000 the CO of 16th ISU and assault Teams from PNP SAF under Cav Noli Talino '84 and my Mistah Cav Chito Magnaye, and JSOG under another Mistah and Yearling Roommate, Cav Noli Mapili '92, hinuli namin si Vicente Ladlad.

Nitong Marso, binuo ni Cav Eleazar ang Task Force Kalasag kasama ang JTF NCR of Cav Cristobal Zaragoza '87 at Office of the Solicitor General. Ang una naming hinuli ay ang Central Committee at NDF Panel member Renante Gamara a day before the 122nd Founding Anniversary of the Philippine Army.

Doing the right thing when nobody is looking. Yan ang definition ko ng PMA motto natin. Ng Honor.

Noong may pinagdadaan ako ay wala akong maasahan na PMAAAI. Kahit ilang Mistah ko at mismong Yearling Buddy ko na '89, na walang ginawa kundi katayin ako araw-araw noong Plebo ako, ay takot akong lapitan o kausapin. Baka daw kasi madamay. Baka makunan ng litrato ng ISAFP na noon ay pinamumunuan ng isang graduate ng Class '67, na nag Army bago nagpalipat sa PC, na-disillusion daw, nagpa-assign sa PMA bilang Instructor, at noong December 29, 1970 nang siya ay Officer of the Day ay ni-raid ang PMA Armory kasama ang isang NPA Squad galing Isabela. Isinakay sa dalawang kotse at isang military jeep ang mga sumusunod:

- 21 Browning Automatic Rifles o BAR
- 11 Carbines
- 1 Rocket Launcher
- 6 Air-cooled Machineguns

2 AK 47

2 Garand Rifles

3,200 rounds of cal. 30 ammo

2,260 rounds of cal. 30 tracer bullets

195 rounds of carbine ammo

Si Ka Eming ay ang naging pinuno ng Personnel and Training Department of the Northern Luzon Regional Operational Command. Isa sa mga estudyante niya ay si Romulo Kintanar. Naging Central Committee member din siya ng CPP/NPA. Nito lang Abril 6, 2017, sya ay nag isyu ng Public Apology kay Cav Lacson '71, hindi nya naiintindihan na mas marami pang opisyal, cavaliers, sundalo at kapulisan ang pinahirapan niya bilang Chief ISAFP.

Noong mga panahon ni Ka Eming, tanging pamilya ko lamang ang aking katuwang. At bakit ako minalas? Dahil pinili ko ang hindi magsinungaling kaysa sa mga pribelehiyo na inilag sa aking harapan. Dahil mas ginusto ko na malasin kaysa mawalan ng dignidad at respeto sa sarili. Dahil hindi ako pipirma sa blangkong papel na gagawing Sworn Statement.

In 48 hours or so, your last A-Balangay as Cadets will be heard. And the next phase as Officers of the AFP, and hopefully later on, in the PCG and PNP, will start. Kailangan kong ikwento ang buhay ko para maging gabay sa inyo. Maging paalala. Dahil walang exempted sa kamalasan o sa inaakala nating kamalasan.

Act your rank. Always remember that you do not represent yourself alone but the entire Long Gray Line. Marami rin kayong pagsubok na daraanan pero tawanan n'yo lang. Parte yan ng inyong kwento. Tandaan ninyo hanggang magretiro kayo na isa lang ang matatandaan sa inyo kapag nag-edad singwentay sa isang kayo - ang pinaka snappy o pinaka shabby na ginawa ninyo sa serbisyo. Tandaan ninyo ito - para wag mabaril ng inyong tao - wag pakialamanan ang kanilang sweldo o ano mang pondo na para sa kanila; wag pakialaman ang asawa, girlfriend/boyfriend o anak nila; at ang huli, kabugin mo na kapag dalawa lang kayo at huwag ipahiya sa harap ng maraming tao.

I congratulate, first of all, the PMA Leadership under our Superintendent Cav Ronnie S Evangelista '86; Dean of the Corps of Professor, Cav Cheston D Valencerina '87; Commandant of Cadets, Cav Bartolome Vicente O Bacarro '88; and the STO and his Tac-Os for producing 261 fine Officers and Cavaliers.

Sa inyo naman, mga miyembro ng MABALASIK Class of 2019, I congratulate you but most especially your parents, foster parents and loved ones. Sila na nagsilbing inspirasyon sa inyo sa inyong pagtigil dito sa Fort Del Pilar. Para sa ating Diyos, para sa ating Republika, para sa lahing Kayumanggi, at para sa ating mga mahal sa buhay. Para sa kanila, ialay ninyo at itaya ang inyong buhay. At asahan nyo na ang PMAAAI, sa pangunguna ng ating Chairman, former PMA Superintendent Cav Rufo de Veyra '70, ay magiging katuwang sa kanya-kayang lakbay na tatahakin ninyo.

Bago ako magpaalam, nasaan si Cadet Firstclass John Leden H. Tubongbanua Jr. C-19322 of Charlie Company? Sinu-sino yung tatlong Secondclass ng Alfa?

Magandang umaga sa ating lahat.





# SUPE'S REPORT

CAV RONNIE S EVANGELISTA '86

## Who we are defines what we do. Character is destiny

Every company has a specific commercial brand. This brand, composed of three to five words, is the overarching identity that defines, directs, inspires and determines the destiny of company. PMA's brand has always been to provide new military leaders to the Armed Forces of the Philippines. This distinguishing PMA brand is also the very soul that animates, binds and measures all the efforts of PMA in ascertaining how and why quality education and training happens in PMA. All the plans, programs and activities as well as the selection, development and retention of the PMA personnel are guided by this mission of producing military leaders that are competent and principled by our highest expectations from the Honor code. It is with this mindset that the various reforms and initiatives were developed to further improve the accomplishment of the PMA mission.

In the area of education, PMA is inaugurating the Bachelor of Science in National Security Management to usher in a relevant, appropriate and responsive program that will further equip our next graduates to better understand, appreciate and deliver their respective mission-requirements in the major services. Needless to say, the new and emerging national security threats of our country require officers with a broader perspective of security and the complex interrelationships of political, economic, socio-cultural, techno-scientific, environmental and military dynamics.

The e-library was also initiated to streamline the procurement, utilization and development of PMA manuals and references for our cadets. In this set up, cadets will not anymore be burdened with substantial fees in purchasing new books for every semester. With this, it will also be the first time that a greater number of PMA personnel will be able to monitor and evaluate the quality of learning materials that are provided to our cadets across the four pillars of Character, Academics, Military and Physical Development. The completion of the e-library was due to the generosity of the PMA Foundation, Inc. and the Major Services of the AFP.


While a book can teach, a teacher can transform. Good teachers make good students. A critical factor that determines the level of teaching and learning in PMA is the superiority of the screening, development, promotion and placement of the teaching staff. The Faculty Merit System (FMS) is meant to sustain the level of excellence that molds the minds of

our cadets. The command is also looking into improving the management of the members of the Corps of Professors and the Officers from the Major Services.

The area of training challenges PMA to constantly and thoroughly reflect on every detail that makes up the optimal environment that fosters military discipline and focus on training. Closing Fort del Pilar to visitors during weekdays played a significant part in reclaiming the camp as a training space for our cadets. An adept military trainer will agree that the bearing, marching, decorum, quality of interactions, priorities and strict adherence to regulations are the necessary ingredients that transform a civilian into a soldier. Other reforms are now being studied and executed to give the cadets the kind of training that has made generations of PMAyers to lead, serve and sacrifice for the good of the service and the Filipino nation. There is only one PMA and we intend to exhaust every minute and every second to be a learning opportunity for our cadets.

The PMA brand is not just a brand but a real, challenging and enriching life that cadets and the alumni hold dear. This life of excellence and honor is worth celebrating and sharing. Thus, the PMA hour was revived as a window and a connection of the outside world to learn and understand various aspects of PMA. With this, a regular, live-streaming and inter-active PMA hour featuring various topics can be readily accessed through Facebook.

All these reforms, initiatives, goodwill and passion for excellence will only matter when credible graduates march forward to swear their oath to serve the motherland. Thus, it is always a timeless pride and honor for PMA to conduct its annual commencement exercises. Last May, 261 strong members of PMA Mabalasik Class of 2019 were presented to our commander-in-chief, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and the Filipino people as the new military officers. As they add to the 10,665 members of the long gray line, it is our fervent hope that they will continue to uphold living our highest ideals of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty.

In the same vein, the reception of the new plebes last 01 June ushers in a new challenge and also a beautiful mission for PMA to never quit in aiming for the best and be unwavering in our quest for quality education and training for the future officers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. 



# EDITOR'S NOTE

CAV FACUNDO O PALAFOX IV '90



## Freedom of Expression is More Than a Warranted Right

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. has declared a news anchor/broadcaster a persona non grata for his unjust insults to a well-respected former Army Commanding General and a distinguished Cavalier of the Association, and also a Cabinet member of the present Administration.

The broadcaster received riches of embarrassment and bashings after his unsavory remarks and became a trend in the different social media platforms. He invoked press freedom as a lame excuse for his vicious outbursts. As if an entitled person, he refused to take back his words hurled against said Cavalier for a while.

Members of the Association of Generals and Flag Officers (AGFO) were likewise indignant of the broadcaster's malicious name-calling against our fellow Cavalier; saying, it was an abuse of press freedom. The on-air bad mouthing "portrays unprofessional conduct of a media practitioner, sets bad example to striving and future media men and leaves a negative impression to the general public."

This brings us to ask, when does freedom of the press or freedom of expression entitles one to freely broadcast his rants without considering the consequences of his actions?

Yen Makabenta, in his article, **What Press Freedom Means and What Is Not**, published in Manila Times, dated February 24, 2018, said, "Press freedom....should be construed strictly according to its legal meaning and not stretch it to encompass more rights than are warranted by law."

Whereas before, freedom of the press entails simply the right to publish, it now encompasses the right to broadcast; and lately, the right to post online. This is the reason why there is a need to be more responsible in things that are being said or being written because of the wider reach of online posts.


Also, stated in the Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, where which the Philippines is a

state party, the freedom of expression carries restrictions such as respect for the rights or reputations of others, national security, public order, public health, and public morals (*Freedom of Speech Not Absolute, Philippine Star, May 27, 2016*).

Likewise, Ma Ceres P Doyo of Philippine Daily Inquirer writes: "Journalists or not, you do not serve the cause of the powerless and voiceless that you claim to be serving if you behave in a despicable manner on this behalf, and in public at that. You are serving your ego." (*Filipino Journalist's Code of Ethics, Philippine Daily Inquirer, June 6, 2019*).

The Article 10 of the Human Rights Act says everyone has the right to freedom of expression. But "the exercise of these freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary."

"Although you have freedom of expression, you also have a duty to behave responsibly and to respect other people's rights."

With all these precepts of jurisprudence, it could be deduced that the broadcaster indeed committed several violations as a journalist. Despite the broadcaster's two public apologies, the vulgarities of the words hurled against the Cavalier affected the latter's reputation. It is just; and with a probable cause that the broadcaster be considered as a persona non grata by the PMAAAI and all its members, as well as affiliated organizations. He consciously and unscrupulously overstepped the bounds of his rights provided under the law as a person and as a media practitioner. 



# CAVALIER NEWSLINE

**CAV ROSALINO A ALQUIZA '55**

## **PGen Dela Rosa elected Senator**

Retired PGen Ronald M dela Rosa '86 has been elected as one of the twelve (12) Senators of the Philippines during the recent mid-term elections.

Prior to his retirement from the Service, he served as Chief of the Philippine National Police and later as Chief of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP).



**Dela Rosa**

## **PGen Ebdane elected as Governor of Zambales**

Retired PGen Hermogenes E Ebdane Jr, '70 has been elected again as Governor of Zambales. He used to be Governor of the same province in 2013-16, but was not reelected in 2016.



**Ebdane**

Resigned Capt Raul C Tupas '94 has been reelected as Congressman in Iloilo, while resigned LtSG Manuel G Cabochan '95 has been elected as Congressman representing party-list Magdalo.

The following cavaliers have been elected/reelected as Mayor of the cities/municipalities indicated: Cav Fernando L Mesa '75 – Alabat, Quezon; Cav Leopoldo N Bataoil '76 – Lingayen, Pangasinan; Cav Jefferson P Soriano '76 – Tuguegarao City; Cav Fidel A Cimatu Jr '77 – Bangui, Ilocos Norte; Cav Benjamin B Magalong '82 – Baguio City; Cav Rodrigo P Degracia '82 – Sta. Teresita, Cagayan; Cav Jon N Aying '84 – Sara, Iloilo; Cav John H Tarrosa '85 – Zarraga, Iloilo; Cav Joseph M Llopis '92 – Calayan, Cagayan; and Cav Fermin M Mabulo '95 – San Fernando, Camarines Sur.

## **VAdm Collado designated AFP Vice Chief of Staff**

VAdm Gaudencio C Collado Jr '86 has been designated as the new AFP Vice Chief of Staff, vice LtGen Salvador Melchor B Mison Jr '84 who retired.

Collado has been replaced as TDCS, AFP by MGen Erickson R Gloria '88, the former Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, J1, AFP.

MGen Reuben S Basiao '88 has assumed as Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, J2, AFP, vice MGen Pablo M Lorenzo '86 who has returned to PA as Commander of the 5th Inf Div, while MGen Andres C Centino '88 has taken over as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, J3, AFP, replacing MGen Isidro L Purisima '85 who retired recently.



**Collado**

## **MGen Sobejana assumes as AFP WesMinCom commander**

MGen Cirilito E Sobejana '87, a Medal of Valor awardee, has assumed as Commander of the AFP Western Mindanao Command, replacing LtGen Arnel B Dela Vega '85 who is retiring optionally.



**Sobejana**

BGen Diosdado C Carreon '87 has replaced Sobejana as Commander of the 6th Inf Div, PA. MGen Reynaldo M Aquino '86 has been designated Army Inspector General vice MGen del Rosario '85 who retired.

## **BGen Morales appointed MWSS administrator**

Retired BGen Ricardo C Morales '77 has recently been appointed by the President as the new Administrator of the Manila Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), replacing retired PLtGen Reynaldo V Velasco '71 who was re-appointed as chairman of the MWSS board.



**Morales**

As of the present, Morales has not yet assumed as MWSS administrator. And the latest news is that he has been appointed as PhilHealth president.

Morales also served after retirement from the service as President of the AFP Mutual Benefit Association, Inc. (AFPMBAI).

## **LtGen San Juan appointed deputy commissioner of Bureau of Customs**

Retired LtGen Donato B San Juan II '84 and his classmate retired BGen Raniel T Ramiro '84 have been appointed by the President as Deputy Commissioners of the Bureau of Customs.

Ramiro served as the acting head of the Customs Intelligence Group, while San Juan was the Deputy Commissioner for the Customs Internal Administration Group.

San Juan used to be the Superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy before he retired from the military.

## **MGen Arevalo elected president of AFPMBAI**

Retired MGen Robert M Arevalo '85 has been elected as the new President of the AFPMBAI during the annual membership meeting of the Association last 18 May 2019.

Arevalo served as the president of PMAAAI during AY 2014-15, and as Vice Commander of the Army before he retired from the Service.

Retired MGen Emerald C Magnaye '83 has been reelected as the president of AFPSLAI during its recent annual membership meeting last 25 May 2019.

## **Retired PMGen Fernandez elected chairman of PETFI**


Retired PMGen Efrén Q Fernandez '71 has been elected as the new Chairman of the PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc.



**Fernandez**

Reelected as President is retired PLtGen Anselmo S Avenido Jr '67, with retired PMGen Jose C Lalisan Jr '71 as new Vice President.

PETFI, the oldest of the four affiliate foundations of PMAAAI, was established in 1976 to support the education of the less fortunate children of deceased and disabled members of the Association.

Fernandez replaced retired BGen Rosalino A Alquiza '55, who served as Trustee of PETFI for 38 years from 1981 to 2019. He was then Vice President, when the then President, PCol Irwin P Ver '70, left the country in Feb 1986 with the Marcos family following the EDSA revolt. He then assumed as President and got reelected yearly thereafter until 2013 when he was elevated as Chairman. He was commended by the new Board for his outstanding services to the Foundation. /raa 



# ARMY CAVALIERS FELLOWSHIP

**President: Cav Joel Alejandro S Nacnac '90**  
**Secretary: Cav Raymond Derek P Carbonell '09**

**FORT BONIFACIO, Taguig City-** After a two-year hiatus, the PMAAAI- Philippine Army Chapter Cavaliers bounced back and bonded together in a fellowship to connect and reconnect, renew acquaintances, and strengthen their brotherhood.

Some 130 Army cavaliers who are mostly assigned at Headquarters Philippine Army, attended the affair held at the PA Officers Clubhouse on 28 March 2019.

The program kicked off with the arrival of Cav Rizaldo B Limoso '86, then PA Vice Commander, as representative of Cav Macairog S Alberto '86, Philippine Army Chief. In his speech, Cavalier Limoso enjoined the Army cavaliers to be more united as a group and help each other rise to any occasion.

The fellowship was highlighted by different activities: election of new sets of officers and presentation of awards to previous set of officers for their valuable contributions to the Chapter during the previous year. Likewise, Cav Francis R Espiritu '02 was also recognized for his efforts as Heroes Run 2018 coordinator.

Other highlights included the Treasurer's Report presented by Cav Ronaldo R Riva '03 so every Army Cavalier would know the Chapter's Fund Status and for reason of transparency.

Relatedly, proceeds from the Heroes Run 2018 were turned over to respective beneficiaries: PMAAAI mother chapter, AFP Educational Benefit System Office and the Hero Foundation Inc.

Cav Joel Alejandro S Nacnac '90 was inducted as the new PMAAAI-PACI President. In his speech, he mentioned that as the Army Cavalier Chapter President, he will continue the changes introduced by Cav Romeo Brawner '89. The recent fellowship did not have the new 2Lts as part of the audience; and conducted the event in an informal manner to have an ambience full of life, fun and excitement the entire evening and to do away with the



*Cav Rizaldo Limoso '86 representing Cav Macairog Alberto '86.*

rigid atmosphere as in the past. He further said the PMAAAI-PACI vows to continue giving better services to its constituents. He also mentioned that the next activity will be the reception of the new Army Cavaliers.

Hosted by Ms Lia Guerrero and Cav Noel J Detoyato '90, who is famous for his witty jokes, the event was even made more fun and special with the guest appearance of Ms Jef Gaitan, a distinguished comedienne from ABS-CBN and an FHM model. She brought the house down with laughter as she tickled the funny bones of the attendees, with the 21D Band providing the musical entertainment for the evening.

Other guests included those Army Cavaliers who were just on R and R and wanted to be a part of the special occasion; and attendees from General Headquarters, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, as well.

## HEROES' RUN 2018 CHEQUE RECIPIENTS



*Cav Bayani '85 (Hero Foundation Executive Director) and Cav Noche '01 (Athletic Representative).*



*Cav Dulnuan, Jr. '93 (AFP Educational Benefits System Office).*



*Cav Carbonell '09 and Cav Galido '90 (Directors, PMAAAI).*

## OATH TAKING OF PMAAAI-PACI OFFICERS



*L to R: Cav Joel Alejandro S Nacnac '90 - President; Cav Michael G Samson '91-Vice-President; Cav Filven S Noche '01-Athletic Representative; Cav Ronaldo R Riva '03 -Treasurer; Cav Jose Wilfredo G Panes '03-Auditor; Cav Dominique M Sugon '06-Asst. Treasurer; Cav Raymond Derek P Carbonell '09-Secretary. Not in Photo: Cav Enrico Gil C. Ileta '99, Cav Valentino S Pascua II '10-Asst. Auditor.*

**Continued on page 8**

# ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

## Nomination for PMAAAI Honorary Membership

Pursuant to Article II, Section 3C of the Amended Bylaws of the PMAAAI, all members of the Association are hereby informed that PMA Classes 1987, 1989 and 1998 have nominated the following persons as honorary members of the PMAAAI:

**Gov Francis Escudero** of Sorsogon has donated P10M projects in PMA. Authored many bills that were passed as laws such as "Lowering of Income Taxes for Minimum Wage Earners and Increasing Tax Exemptions;" "Early Childhood Development Act;" and "Governance of Basic Education Act" among others.

**Mr. Monsour Del Rosario** was a former Makati Congressman, actor and sportsman. A Taekwondo Olympic player, he was given the title 2017 Man of the Year in the world for a prize athlete in Taekwondo and inducted into the Sport's Hall of Fame.

**Mr. George Royeca** is the founder of ANGKAS motor riding group. He is the brains behind the concept of using motorcycles as a mode of public transportation in the molds of Uber and Grab. Mr. Royeca was the Special Adviser to the Chairman and Chief Investment Officer for the Solar Group. Under the Solar Group, he became the Chief Revenue Officer of Solar Entertainment (the country's no.1 cable and sports channel in the Philippines).

**Mr. Jesus Morales** is a strong leader, disciplined athlete and a successful entrepreneur. He is the Marketing Director of the Philippine Taekwondo Association; Program Head for Taekwondo of the Ateneo de Manila University; Member of the Board of Directors of the Taekwondo Sports Corp., and CEO of Sports Quotient, Inc.

Likewise, the PMA Classes 1971, 1975, and 1988 also nominated **Mr. Benito Javierto Brizuela** for honorary membership. He is the City Councilor of Lucena City and concurrent National Executive Vice President of the Philippine Councilors League.

Per PMAAAI Bylaws, any citizen of the Philippines or of a foreign country with which it has friendly relations, who has an exemplary, eminent and distinguished professional and social standing, who has contributed to the attainment of the objectives of the Academy and the Association, and whose membership will undoubtedly bring honor and prestige to the Academy and the Association, shall be eligible for honorary membership.

**Any comment pertaining to their nomination as honorary members may be sent to the PMAAAI Secretariat, PMA Alumni Center, Camp General Aguinaldo, Quezon City.**



### Army Cavaliers... from page 7



Masters of Ceremony Cav Noel Detoyato '90 and Ms Lia Guerrero.



Guest comedienne Ms Jef Gaitan



One big happy Army Cavalier family.



# PCAI Activities



**January 24, 2019** - The Police Cavaliers Association, Incorporated (PCAI) started the year 2019 with the holding of its Annual General Assembly, Convention and Fellowship with the theme *"Leadership Excellence: A PMA Tradition."*

The members of PCAI gather together yearly in this General Assembly to enhance fellowship and to strengthen the spirit of camaraderie among its members.

During the assembly a new set of Board of Directors and Officers were elected: Cav Reynaldo G Biay '86, Chairman; Cav Jonas

B Calleja '87, Vice Chairman; Cav Pascual G Muñoz Jr '90, President; Cav Jon A Arnaldo '91, Vice President; Cav Matthew P Baccay '92, Corporate Secretary; Cav Antonino R Cirujales '92, Treasurer; Cav Rex M Dela Rosa '89, Corporate Auditor; Directors: Cav Lyndon G Cubos '86; Cav Alfred S Corpus '87; Cav Samuel P Rodriguez '88; Cav Herminio S Tadeo Jr '88; Cav Omega Jireh D Fidel '89; Cav Florencio T Ortilla '90; Cav Emmanuel B Peralta '91; Cav Jesselito L Castro '98; and Cav Alex G Recinto '98.





**February 16, 2019** - PMA Alumni Homecoming has always been the yearly awaited event of every Cavalier. The PCAI Association, as well as the PNP Organization once again are very proud of the following PNP Cavalier Awardees:



**Cav Oscar D Albayalde '86** - Command and Administration  
**Cav Guillermo Lorenzo T Eleazar '87** - Police Operation  
**Cav Leo Angelo D Leuterio '88** - Alumni Affairs



**March 11, 2019** - The new PCAI Board of Directors paid a courtesy call to Cav Oscar D Albayalde '86, Chief, PNP and discussed Plans and Programs of the new Board for this year. After the meeting, Cav Albayalde administered the Oath of Office to the new PCAI Board of Directors.

**May 6, 2019** - Inauguration and Blessing of the New PCAI Office

The PCAI has a new home at the Basement of the PNP Multi-Purpose Center Camp Crame. It was inaugurated and blessed last May 6, 2019 with the Chief, Philippine National Police, Cav Oscar D Albayalde '86 as the Guest of Honor in the Ribbon Cutting and Unveiling of the Marker Ceremony. He was assisted by PCAI Chairman, Cav Reynaldo G Biay '86.

**Stars shines down for PCAI Cavaliers**

The Police Cavaliers Association, Inc. wishes to congratulate the recent promotion of the following members:

- |                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PMGen Amador V Corpus '86     | PBGen Jesus D Cambay Jr '89       |
| PMGen Jonas B Calleja '87     | PBGEN Florencio T Ortila '90      |
| PMGen Mariel M Magaway '86    | PBGen Adolfo B Samala Jr '88      |
| PMGen Benigno B Durana Jr '88 | PBGen Marlon V Madrid '90         |
| PMGen Reynaldo G Biay '86     | PBGen Pascual G Muñoz Jr '90      |
| PBGen Manuel M Abu '89        | PBGen Omega Jireh D Fidel '89     |
| PBGen Vicente D Danao Jr '91  | PBGen Ronaldo Genaro E Ylagan '90 |
| PBGen Herminio S Tadeo Jr '88 |                                   |



The office renovation was made possible with the humble support of our Chief PNP. A bigger space for the Association has its own conference room that can be used by the different classes for their class meetings.







# Home for the SENIOR CAVALIERS

• CAV BONG LEUTERIO '88

## Introduction

At this point, I will refer to it as the “Home.”

I must admit that some “horror stories” about a cavalier whose name I do not even remember led me to this idea of establishing what I have always referred to as the “Home for the Aged Cavalier.” A further admission is that, the name of the cavalier whom I heard the story from, escapes me at this time. Nonetheless, things that I have observed, studied and heard, compel me to offer serious thought on the matter of its establishment.

Furthermore, a narrative of my friend about their family’s experience with his mother, whom they placed in a facility for very senior persons, resonated with me, thus, this essay. It would seem from his narrative that his mother never had it any better than when she was accommodated in that “home.” The last time my friend visited her, he observed that she was in “high spirits” and very talkative. It’s a sharp contrast to when she stayed at home with a personal caregiver in their ancestral house. My friend’s conclusion was that they made the correct decision. The reason is that his mother was in the company of folks she can relate with. Also, according to her, the days (and) nights are never boring since

there are activities which occupy her time. She was particularly delighted with the fact that there is a morning prayer and mass. Physical activities also kept her spirits high.

What clinched it for me, was the conversation I had with another cavalier, about how their own class thought of putting up a home where they can be together on a more or less regular basis especially when the ravages of “seniority” already visit them. They, too, sensed that such a “home” will be good for cavaliers, against the so many facets of the realities urgent upon people in this particular situation.

But then again, I have to admit that, I have had incredulous stares thrown my way during some of the times I have spoken of the idea of this “home” with some other cavaliers. That is to say that the idea does not find unanimous acclaim. My problem, is that I only need a single encouragement to let me go on talking about any idea I have. I have a hard time being dissuaded by contrary views on any subject matter. Not even acerbic comments stop me from pursuing it. This is to explain why while I have thought about this “home” for two decades already and while I have perhaps written about it before, I continue to pursue conversations on the matter.

I accept that there will be contrary views to this idea and they do matter; especially to enrich or fortify the concept of what a “home” should be.

Let me also state, that the sight of Cavaliers roaming around Police and Military camps disturbs me. I believe that it does not speak well of the Cavalier involved, the Alumni Association, the Service Chapter he came from, the BIRCI, the PMA Class he belongs to and the cavalier he visits. This is because of the practice of “mooching” monies from those people involved. There have been lots of “talks” (complaints) and other negative aspersions to this common sight, some of them coming from officers even from other sources of commission. It is a sad sight, to say the very least. It demeans perhaps, the values supposedly taught in our Alma Mater, and even, the supposed strong bonds, PMA Alumni have with each other.

I am of the belief that even this “malady” may be addressed by the “Home” referred to in this discussion.

But, then again, the most compelling justification, for me, is my belief in the nourishing camaraderie of cavaliers. Observably the bond among “... band of brothers ...” somehow strengthens the individual and ultimately the group. We seem to feed off each other’s experiences, both, in life in general; and in PMA life in particular. It is particularly true among PMA Cavaliers that we are “... stronger together ..!” At the very least, I have observed, that we get to be “livelier,” more animated and seemingly happier in the company of other cavaliers. Observably, the “youth” in each cavalier comes out when in a setting with other PMA Cavaliers. This is true more so with mistahs. Yet, it’s also evident even when with upperclassmen or underclassmen. This “home”, as proposed, can facilitate this setting, even the expected interactions.

For me, therefore, it is advantageous, even, imperative to establish this “Home.”

## Discussion

### A. Salient Features of the Home

In general, the home must be located where it is enticing for cavaliers to stay in (although the fact that there will be other cavaliers there, would be incentive enough); or even visit. It has to have interesting activities which would challenge the cavaliers; and make time pass enjoyably for them. Also, it has to be able to take care of their “needs” and reasonable requirements. Hence, its location, facilities, quality of care, and main activities should be crafted with a high sense of sensitivity to these factors and, maybe, more.

#### A.1 Location

Among the things mentioned in as far as the “location” of the Home is concerned is that it must have a temperate, if not warm, climate. This takes into consideration the fact that the more senior people are sensitive to cold or very cold weather. Another factor mentioned is proximity to Baguio City so that during PMA Alumni Homecomings or when PMA Classes go up to PMA for a tour, it would be convenient or easy to pass by and pay a visit. The size of the area needed for such a “Home” could also determine the location as it has implications on the cost of acquisition; and even of the construction. The proximity factor is absolutely relative to whomever is making the point. I guess, again, the “cost” would still be the big difference. I am of good information that the PMA Class 1972 has a suggestion on where the establishment of the Home, could be feasible and practicable.

### A.2 Facilities

The “Home” must have board and lodging facilities for those intending to stay for longer periods of time. This is to say that it could also be a “drop center” arrangement, similar to a day-tour or day visit; but this will be discussed later. It will have a library and reading rooms. A computer laboratory would also be necessary, although, I don’t know if both facilities will ever be used with the “bolahans” that would be endlessly ensuing. It is envisioned to have ample grounds for walking and whiling the time away. Necessarily, it would have some sort of a medical facility for emergencies, although if a medical center is located nearby, it will be so much better. There will be entertainment facilities, the type of which would be influenced greatly by the funds available.

### A.3 Arrangements

There can be two types of arrangements. One will be for a day-tour; and the other will be for an overnight or longer residency. These shall cover any peculiarity in the needs or requirements of alumni wishing to avail of the HOME.

The day tour allows the participation in activities within the HOME. Reasonably, the meals of the participants will be provided with a bed-space for resting.

On the other hand, longer residency arrangements, may also be availed of, with full services for board, lodging and care.

### A.4 Activities

The activities will consist of both formal and informal sessions. But these will have to evolve as the client-body arrives, and develop preferences. The general rule, perhaps, would be to have a structure on the schedule of activities, while being flexible and dynamic to the needs prevalent on a particular day.

## B. Service Fees and other Requirements

### B.1 Family Involvement

Again, as a general rule, family members must somehow be “involved” in their cavalier, placed under the care of the HOME. The terms of this involvement will have to be discussed as the HOME evolves. It need not be a requisite, though.

### B.2 Service Fees

Fees should be enough to cover the necessary expenses in the upkeep of the facility and for the care of the “enrollees”. The HOME can also be operated like a Foundation so as to avail of donations from corporations and private individuals. Definitely, the HOME should not be operated “for profit” of anyone.

## Conclusion

This author believes that the HOME for the Aged Cavalier is a necessary, if not, an excellent service that can be made available for PMA Alumni. It would be better left, to the development of the next periods of time, whether or not such a facility will be sanctioned, operated or become part of the services, that the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Incorporated can provide for its members. However, its relevance makes it imperative for the body of Alumni to move and make this happen. This author desires that the conversation about this be started and sustained. It is exciting where this could lead us all.

PMA Oh hail to thee!!! 



# Another Look — Will the Military Intervene?

• CAV FREDELINO S BAUTISTA '66

(A reprint)

## Introduction

This short dissertation is not intended to categorically answer the question, nor does it refer to the situation in this country. It is intended to provide a framework for politico-military observers and analysts to predict the behavior of the military, given certain conditions, anywhere.

In a society with strong feelings for democratic values but which is still short of its modernization goals and is characterized by political instability, military intervention is a dreaded event. The possibility that its armed forces will move from the tranquility of its barracks to intrude into the chaotic political arena, for some reasons, is always there.

And there is a valid reason for this fear.

Experiences of emerging and developing nations of the so-called Third World, particularly those which just gained their independence from their European colonial masters, saw the armed forces play active political roles. Their involvement varied from simply influencing civilian political leaders to dominating civilian-military coalitions, to outright exercising political power as military regimes. As S.E. Finer observes in his "The Man on Horseback: The Role of the Military in Politics" (1962), there were 50 countries which experienced military interventions from 1958 to 1973. Thirty-two of them had more than one and some, as many as eight, like Iraq and Syria. (Page 272).

He also finds that 12 years after he first published his book in 1962, 101 more coups occurred and the number of countries which were governed by military regimes rose to 38. These represented 25 percent of the world's 150 states during that period. Even in First World Europe, where democracy had its roots, military interventions happened in France, Turkey, Greece and Portugal.

Writing on the subject of military involvement in politics is an easy and interesting task. First of all, literature in the field is rich and continues to grow. Notwithstanding the fact that in most countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia where this phenomenon was rampant and the military has returned to barracks and democratic institutions are in place no matter how weak and unstable, the interest for the military, if not fear of it, will always be around. It is because, as expounded by Karl Liebknecht, in his "Militarism and Anti-Militarism", the military is the possessor of "superiority of physical force" (Page 2), something which gives soldiers a sense of power. In more familiar terms, power emanates from the barrel of a gun.

Fortunately for the world in the new millennium, the age of coups as the most popular means to gain political ascendancy has passed, except for a few isolated cases like the coup in Thailand and New Guinea in 2008. For this, credit can be given to sanctions and pressures from the International community, notably the United Nations, which to a large extent has managed to restrain the men on horseback.

Nonetheless, there are still developing nations that continue to falter in their march to modernization and use their armed forces as partners and implementors. Add to this is the fact that the pursuit of national interest is no longer confined to territorial

and maritime boundaries. Space has become a new battleground; so does subterranean depths where possible sources of energy and natural resources in unimaginable quantities sit, extending beyond national and international boundaries (How high in space and how deep below the earth can a state claim as its national territory or exclusive economic zone?).

## Seeds of Intervention

How the participation of the military in development efforts evolved into intervention can be better understood in the light of history. Recall the events in medieval (or even earlier) Europe, when kings were the absolute rulers to whom the loyalties of the army were unconditionally given. Soldiers obeyed their rulers and marched into battle unquestioningly, coerced and terrorized their subjects and did what they were told. The words of the sovereigns were law. The guillotine and the stake brought terror among the people. There was no compassion for rebels. Death for those who defied them was the punishment. Thus, it can be said that the real power of the royalties emanated from the edge of a sword and the blind obedience of the praetorian guards, their soldiers.

Perhaps, the French Revolution did much to destroy the invincibility and power of the kings and gave birth to the ideals of liberty and equality. But the fear of the sword and the gun as wielded by the Army has persisted in modern societies, especially where democratic values of freedom, rights and justice are strongly entrenched. Constitutions and laws are passed, clipping the powers of the armed forces and giving rise to the concept of supremacy of civil authorities over the military.

Hence, any movement of the military today, even for a noble cause, is viewed with suspicion, if not fear, by society. Pandora's box was opened long time ago, and the military knows too well the power in its hands. And the fear of society is exacerbated by the many coups staged by those who not only were legal possessors of the gun but who were also the best organized and most cohesive.

In writing his book, S.E. Finer may not have scanned history as far back as medieval Europe, but certainly his explanation as to what leads the military to intervene and dominate politics is now extensively used for analysis of restive armed forces.

According to him, the military assumes political power because of two major reasons – the disposition and opportunity to intervene. He defines disposition as a conscious motive or a desire to act. It is shaped by the motivation and mood of the soldiers and the organization. The soldiers believe that the military has a manifest destiny to save the nation (page 20). Critics call it messianic complex. The military also uniquely identifies itself with the national interest (page 30). Defending the national interest is its greatest mission, for which, soldiers are willing to fight and die.

But while there is a national interest at a higher plane, there are also lower-level interests that equally motivate the military to intervene. These are the sectional, class, regional and corporate interests of the military itself (pages 30-41). In the countries studied by Finer, these lesser interests motivated the armed forces to intervene.

While motivation is easier to observe, Finer believes that the military's mood is more difficult to describe. It arises from its awareness that the organization has special and separate identities which distinguish it from civilians. It knows that it has tremendous power. Soldiers have a feeling of self-importance and have a high esteem of themselves. To these beliefs, Finer adds the grievances arising from political issues, class resentments and regional grudges (pages 54-59).

The second major ingredient in Finer's model for analysis is the opportunity to intervene. This is created by the situation existing in society. A case in point is when society becomes too dependent on the military to solve problems which civil authorities cannot handle. In the same vein, when the military becomes popular, another opportunity is created, making it ripe for the military's entry into the political realm, for at this time, it believes that it is the only entity capable of saving the nation from the mess created by political leaders.

### Welch-Smith Propositions

Case studies in Thailand, Nigeria, Peru, Egypt and France, bring out certain propositions that explain why the military intervened in these countries.

In identifying these propositions that increase the likelihood of military intervention, Claude Welch and Arthur Smith, in their book, "Military Role and Rule" (1974), explored the internal factors that affect the military organization. These are the mission, the organizational characteristics (particularly its cohesion), environmental (external to the armed forces), socio-economic and political factors. From these, they conclude that the following situations increase the likelihood of military intervention:

- The likelihood of intervention rises if the armed forces is heavily involved in police type counter-insurgency operations.
- The likelihood of intervention rises if the armed forces is ordered, against the advice of the officers, to use coercion against government opponents.
- The armed forces is encouraged to intervene if it is given a mission that distinguishes between service to the government and service to the people.
- Armed forces with high internal cohesion has a higher capacity to intervene.
- Changes or intention to change the area of decision-making against the armed forces' advice, increases its likelihood to intervene.
- External military assistance that facilitates the autonomy and role of the armed forces increases the likelihood of intervention.
- The nucleus of individuals or groups involved in the conspiracy to intervene are officers with close ties to groups opposed to government policies.
- Defeat in war, with the belief that government did not give adequate support, increases the likelihood of intervention.
- The inclusion of political issues in the officers' education increases the likelihood of intervention.
- The intensification of ethnic class conflicts increases the likelihood of intervention.
- Perceived deterioration of economic conditions increases the likelihood of intervention.
- The likelihood of intervention increases in the absence of agreed-upon procedures for peaceful political change.
- The likelihood of intervention rises as contending civilian groups solicit support of the armed forces.
- The ease of military intervention increases when the legitimacy of government is in question.

Interestingly, Welch and Smith also find that intervention is

more likely planned and executed by field grade officers and that intervention resulting from the distrust of the political system leads to a military regime of long duration.

### The Future of Intervention

Given the organizational factors of the military described by Finer and the propositions developed by Welch and Smith, will the military once more venture in the political field? This is a sixty-four dollar question today.

In the modern world, where the military in general subscribes to the ideal of supremacy of civil authorities over the military, where the organization is professional, as defined by Samuel Huntington in his book, "The Soldier and the State: Theory and Practice of Civil-Military Relations" (1957), and where the international community (UN), plays a good role in keeping the military in check, the answer may just be an expression of optimism, not certainty.

The conditions in countries studied by Smith, Welch and S.E. Finer's are still around, particularly in developing or undeveloped countries. Their works will be good tools for analysis of the military's behavior in these countries. There are other studies in the list, since as stated earlier, the literature continues to grow. The military organization will continue to be a concern of society and its fear of the men in arms will be hard to remove.

Besides, there are new battlegrounds – the space above and the resource – rich subterranean areas for which every state is prepared to go to war to protect as its exclusive domain. The states will therefore continue to rely on the military to protect their national interest, a motivating factor for their behavior.

A more important concern is: How will the armed forces be convinced, by pressure of society, or on its own, to stay in barracks and keep out of politics? Huntington's concepts of professionalism and objective civilian control, that is, militarizing the military, may prove to be the answer. To achieve this goal, however, society itself, the citizenry, must play the lead role.

Society must love its military, not only in words, but in deeds. It should take care of its soldiers and respect its heroes and noble traditions. */Editor's note: This article was first published in the September-October 2009 issue of the Cavalier Magazine.*



### AUTHOR'S P.S.

*This article was written sometime in 2009, when there were talks of NOEL (No-Election) and alleged destabilization moves in the officer corps. The elections of 2010 pushed through peacefully and the armed forces once more proved true to its constitutional mandate of preserving the democratic processes.*

*But whether or not democratic processes are firmly entrenched in the country, the armed forces will always be looked upon with suspicion, especially if the country is still struggling with its peace and development efforts, especially if there are threat forces (CPP/NPA/NDF, secessionist groups, criminality, left-leaning groups in government, etc.).*

*There are striking (perhaps alarming) similarities between the propositions which increase the likelihood of military intervention, as enumerated in the article, and certain conditions existing in the country today.*

*Through the years, however, the armed forces has shown a high degree of professionalism (as defined by political scientist Samuel Huntington in his book The Soldier and the States) with the US Armed Forces as his model). Increasing pay and allowances and non-monetary benefits is not so much a factor in the soldier's disciplined behavior, as the way society takes good care of its armed forces. To the credit of the Commander-in-Chief, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, it is only during his term that the pay and allowances of the men and women in uniform have been elevated to a high level commensurate to their kind of work that demands much from their lives, limbs and family dislocation.*

*Bottom line: Developing a truly professional armed forces is not the sole responsibility of the officers in the chain of command. It is likewise, the primary concern of society and the political leadership.*



# The China Issue: Impressions of a Military Mind

• CAV JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS '69

For the last five decades, the Philippines has fought the communist insurgency whose roots and foundations originated from Communist China. In spite of China's shift to a free market economy and becoming the second largest economy in the world, the foundations of its political system are still basically communist-inspired. Why then did the Philippines, a country founded on democratic ideals, so quickly shift its alignment to China? Is it economic or political, or both? Notwithstanding China's claim that it is here as a friend, the signs of its overbearing attitude indicate subjugation and subservience. This will be disastrous to the next generations of Filipinos. China will carry out its foreign relations in the international community predicated on the communist vision of protracted wars.

This article will delve on limited significant factors as seen by a professional soldier who has been exposed to and has managed scenarios relating to crisis and violence, both local and regional.

According to Sun Tzu, *"Tactics without strategy is the noise before defeat. The battlefield is the scene of constant chaos, the winner will be one who controls that chaos."*

When China declared its nine-dash line in the South China Sea, it was the start of a grand strategy to create chaos in the area. The chaos attracted not only the claimants but the whole world as well. It has become a flash point of conflict and gained world attention. Despite repeated diplomatic protests, China never acquiesced. In fact, it continues to carry out its uncontrolled intervention, be it infrastructure development or intimidation of our fishermen. The chaos has multiplied that neither strong world opinion nor the United Nations can bear on China to slow down.

Frontal confrontation by a world power, like the US, will only exacerbate the situation that may start a world war. Humanity cannot afford such a war. The destruction will be irreversible. Chaos breeds a series of conflicts in many forms. It is not the consequence of the rational pursuit of self-interest. It flows from the deepest wellspring of human nature in the pursuit of power. The leadership of the Chinese Communist Party wields enormous influence. The power that flows from its mantle is creating chaos and conflicts that are changing the global architecture.




Clausewitz said: *"War is a continuation of politics."* The political posturing of China is an extension of its war for world domination. It has started with small countries like the Philippines, through economic strangulation, a tightening of the noose that will end in suffocation and eventual voluntary surrender.

The Communist Party has calibrated its mindset for insatiable ambition to be a great power. The struggle for power begins with the attempt to exert influence and extend domination over others. Clearly, China wants to replace the US as the dominant world power. The unfortunate victims of this enormous ambition are small and indefensible countries such as the Philippines that continue to be a whipping boy from the bullying tactics of China. China is drunk with the desire for expansion and the Communist Party rules with this passion.

Is China a friend to the Philippines or an adversary? In military parlance, the indications negate that it is a friend. By not respecting our sovereign rights, we are being treated as a de facto enemy. China has infiltrated and violated the very realm of our legal personality in the community of nations.

We are all well familiar with the Trojan horse. Beware of Greeks bearing gifts — be on guard if an enemy offers an apparent gesture of friendship. Greeks broke the resistance by giving the impression that conflict was non-existent. In like manner, the Chinese have crept in very quietly offering sweeteners as part of their confidence-building measures to

Continued on page 17 

# Observations/Comments/Recommendation on DND-AFP Draft Bill

• CAV ERNESTO B CALUPIG '61

The current National Defense Act, circa 1935, contains provisions no longer in keeping with the times. Beside the DND-AFP Draft Bill being hereunder cited other Bills have been submitted for deliberation by Sen. Gregorio Honasan and Rep. Rodolfo Biazon.

This author submits certain observations and the above DND – AFP Draft Bill and a proposed Recommendation to resolve whatever controversies are perceived to arise.

## On Article I (GENERAL PROVISIONS)

### Section 7 ( Powers and Functions of the DND )

**Para d. Exercise supervision and control over the AFP and the other bureaus, offices, agencies and instrumentalities attached to or under its supervision and control.**

Reference is invited to pertinent provisions of Chapter 7 (Administrative Relationships) of **the Administrative Code of the Philippines** which defines the following terms:

- (1) **Supervision and control** – the authority to act directly wherever a specific function is entrusted by law or regulation to a subordinate; **direct the performance of duty; restrains the commission of acts; review, approve, reverse or modify acts and decisions of subordinate officials or units; determine priorities in the execution of plans and programs and prescribe standards, guidelines, plans and programs.**

This is the equivalent of **Command** in military parlance.

- (2) **Administrative supervision** – shall be limited to the authority of the department to generally **oversee the operation of subordinate agencies to insure that they are managed effectively, efficiently and economically but without interference to day-to-day activities. Such authority does not extend, among others to (a) appointments and other personnel actions; (b) the power to review, reverse, revise or modify the decisions of regulatory agencies in the exercise of their regulatory or quasi-judicial functions; and, to (c) contracts entered into by the agency in the pursuit of its objectives, the review of which are governed by appropriate laws, rules and regulations.**

The proposed powers and functions of SND substantially alters existing relationships whereby the CSAFP has **direct access** to the President/Commander -in-Chief.

There should be a **single, undivided responsibility on the matters purely military**. Only military professionals possess that expertise on purely military matters that takes years of study and experience to master. The Commander-in-Chief should receive **broad-based, unfiltered military counsel**. The rationale

is that professional soldiers are best capable of dealing with the complexities of warfare.

The AFP Chief of Staff, in a strict sense, is not a staff officer but is **the principal subordinate commander of the Commander-in-Chief**. He should have direct access to the President on strategic and organizational matters as related to the Armed Forces. He makes all war-related decisions and present them to the Commander-in-Chief with the appropriate set of options.

Lessons should be learned from the inability of the US to win in Vietnam. Here, bright young men with expertise in computer – based modeling and data processing, better known as McNamara's "whizz kids" came to dominate the decision-making process in the conduct of the war. These systems analysts tended to regard warfare as an exercise in management skills and ignored intangible factors which could not be quantified, such as esprit-de-corps, morale, doctrines, generalship, the resolution thereof which makes warfare so complex and difficult to master. The professional soldiers found themselves sidelined, their advice not given due course, even ignored as irrelevant and superfluous. Meddling from above represented a considerable set-back to field operations and rendered the professional soldiers in impotent subjection to these amateurs. This interference was to haunt the conduct of operations till the end of the war.

General Norman Schwarzkopf in a speech before the Corps of Cadets of West Point, railed against those "fairy generals in Washington who never heard a shot fired in anger" and who presume to lecture the professionals about their job. Let us remember that General Schwarzkopf in command of a coalition force decisively defeated the fourth largest army in the world in the so-called 100-hr ground war.

The Vietnam War was the first clear-cut military defeat suffered by the US Army. Defeat naturally casts doubts on the conduct of the war by the loser. This debacle brings to mind a simple, unchanging fact of human nature. Given the powers, armchair strategists, ambitious politicians, egoistic amateurs, all soldier wannabes find the temptation to dip their fingers into purely military affairs hard to resist. An extreme interpretation of the principle of civilian supremacy over the military could result to high-handedness by civilian leadership leading to eventual showdown with their military counterparts within the defense circles. Recall the Maceda and Mercado Years? They didn't even have the sweeping powers being embodied in the DND – AFP Draft Bill. Of course such situation is not expected to arise if the SND himself comes from the ranks of the military.

## RECOMMENDATION:

**The DND will exercise Supervision and Control over the civilian bureaus/agencies (NDCP, PVAO, OCD, GA) and shall have Administrative Supervision over the AFP.**

The SND should not act as the head of the military



establishment but as a **presidential deputy who serves as the principal coordinator with the other government agencies concerned with national security (PNP, PCG).**

This proposed set-up recognizes the inherent limitations of the DND as the country's principal military executive, Firstly, the SND's term of office is usually tied to term of the appointing authority, the President. The office of the SND is a civilian bureaucracy manned by career civil servants whose work methods have the character of slow-motion paper shuffling typical of such bureaucracy. It is, however, sufficiently suited in undertaking civilian tasks related to defense.

About 200 years ago, Carl Von Clausewitz, considered one of foremost military theoreticians, in his classic text **On War**, wrote that military policy must be subordinate to political policy. However, he qualified that this subordination assumes that "policy knows the instrument it means to use."


In its present context, one who occupies the position of SND, particularly one with purely civilian background, ideally should have some background of history, geopolitics, and the vital elements of national power. The MNSA course offered at NDCP provides this.

Some retired ranking AFP officers manage to land jobs in the office of the SND. They are usually assigned to the higher positions. However, most are past their prime and their knowledge of the security situation out of date. Also,

some active duty officers volunteer for assignment with the office while biding their time till the position in the AFP that they aspire for is open. Their Military Occupational Specialty or specialized skills should match the job requirements of the civilian plantilla positions they occupy.

The above **Recommendation** assures that purely operational military matters be handled by military professionals with a broad base of field experience and whose uniformity of thoughts and actions is conditioned by their General Staff training.

The preferred national command set-up as it pertains to the AFP? The President/Commander-in-Chief is the ultimate authority on military affairs and national security: The SND develops and direct **policies and guidelines** on the above matters to the AFP; The Chief of Staff AFP, plans and coordinates military operations and deployments and allocate resources to the Major Services. The Major Service commanders develop, train and equip military forces; The Unified Commands conduct actual military operations.

At this point there is an essential issue that may need to be clarified. The Constitution decrees that the President is the Commander-in-Chief of all the armed forces, Will the placement of an intervening command level, (the SND), between the President and the Chief of Staff AFP not pose the issue of constitutionality? 

### The China Issue... from page 15

influence our decision makers to accept their concessions, such as in the form of liberal loan packages and developmental projects disguised as altruistic gestures for a country whose appetite for capital is unlimited. We have been mesmerized and infatuated with a Trojan horse, unaware of the real motives, blind to their real intention. Behind these offers is the entry of a huge number of undocumented Chinese workers that has flooded certain businesses in the retail and construction industry.

The tale of the Trojan horse has become a ruse to gain entry into areas of sovereignty and economic dependence. Can we still at least mitigate the ruse? The magnitude is so great unless a superpower intervenes using diplomatic influence and initiative. The Trojan horse principle utilizes the element of surprise. With chaos, defenses are easily infiltrated. We have been taken off-guard. The buildup of military facilities in the Panatag (Scarborough) Shoal and Panganiban (Mischief) Reef, among others, has underscored our weak defense system. Friendship and goodwill, which have guided our foreign policy in dealing with China, have actually created a trap where an exit strategy is untenable.

The use of lies and half-truth is a tactic that is widespread in business and commerce, politics, and even in religion. What is not understandable is our penchant for profuse hospitality and trust. The Communist Party of China has indoctrinated its people, especially the youth that comprise the majority of their population, that areas within the nine-dash line are part of China. The tsunami of public opinion coming from this generation of Chinese will be the greatest deterrent to normalize the crisis in the West Philippine Sea. This is misinformation of


such great magnitude. What counteraction do we have in our public relations arsenal to neutralize such misinformation?

Why have we fallen into this ideological trap? Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro L. Locsin, Jr. has expressly stated that the US is our only military ally. This is a very encouraging statement.

US Secretary of State Michael Richard Pompeo, during his recent visit to Manila, categorically stated that the US will react with military dispatch if the Philippines is threatened. However, this statement does not give a response to a specific scenario. When the threat was still manageable, the US never lifted a finger to neutralize China's creeping invasion. It merely stood on the sidelines as a spectator.

As had been seen in Chile and Iraq in the past, the US waits for a country to deteriorate before it comes in for easier control. In the Philippines, they only came in when the dictatorship was at its ebb of decline. It is, therefore, wishful thinking that we will be rescued by the US from the jaws of China's uncontrollable ambition.

China will continue its assertive and intimidating stance beyond the realm of acceptable political and diplomatic norms. It will not listen nor act on any diplomatic protest. It will continue to infiltrate and threaten our sovereign rights, and send undocumented Chinese nationals without respect for our immigration laws.

The clouds are slowly closing in on us. What shall we do now? */Editor's note: This article was published in the Business World on April 29, 2019.* 

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# The Pursuit of Peace and Prosperity: Our Urgent Task

• CAV MANUEL E MARIANO, JR '75

Today, there are 104 million Filipinos and with a population growth rate of 2.4 per cent per annum, we increase by 2.5 million every year. By 2026, we will be more or less 150 million people. In a small country like ours, the land could hardly produce enough to sustain all. The rapid population growth has become a ticking bomb that can explode anytime into a chaotic situation as the country will need more food, clothing and shelter. The lack of it would mean starvation to most and the corresponding increase in criminality and lawlessness. In this situation, truly, the pursuit of peace and prosperity is an urgent concern.

By definition, peace means the absence of war and prosperity means the absence of hunger and poverty. Looking at the situation now, the economic indicators can be likened into a pie divided into three: the rich, the poor and in between are the so-called middle class. Although the rich are few, they have so much wealth but the poor majority subsist marginally. The not so distinct middle class maybe rich sometimes and poor sometimes depending on his stability as a high-salaried employee or have good profit from a small or medium enterprise.

From World Bank statistics, a monthly income of P8,000.00 is at the poverty threshold and below that, are poor. By NEDA estimates, the poor would account for about 80% of the population who do not have regular income, no decent homes, and don't have access to good education and employment opportunities. In Manila, you can find them living in slums and are engage in construction work, street cleaners, garbage scavengers, some are into small time peddling, and the jobless become mendicants,

while in the provinces, most are engage in marginal farming and small time fishing.

To have a picture of a poverty level of existence, a vegetable vendor in pushcart earning two hundred pesos a day spend for a kilo of rice at P50.00, a piece of dried fish is worth P7.00, a can of sardines is worth P18.00, Maggi noodles is P10.00, eggs is P7.00, a sachet of coffee is worth P7.00, a kilo of Talong is P60.00. Having these foods is already a sumptuous meal to them. Fish and Meat are too expensive as a kilo of Galunggong or Tilapia is P120.00 and a kilo of Chicken is P140.00 and pork cost P190.00 and beef cost P280.00. By rough estimate, a monthly income of P8,000.00, food is 50% and the remaining amount goes for transportation expenses. There's no more budget for clothing, house rental, education, and hospital expenses, so they have to make do with worn-out clothes at hand, hope they don't get sick and sleep anywhere in sidewalks or under bridges hoping the policemen don't bother them. Theirs is a hand-to-mouth existence as they could barely earn so much. From this sector of society, in a worst case scenario, for them to survive, they would resort to criminalities, rebellion, and terrorism as we have today.

A middle class, more or less, have an income of P120, 000.00 monthly and can afford to amortize a modest home and a car, a budget for the education of four children, have a little savings in the bank and can afford to travel to some local destination once in a while. This is a "simple life" according to NEDA statistics. A debate is now on-going in the Lower House to peg personal income tax exemption for wage earners amounting from P250,000.00 to



P396,390.00 annually because this is the basic living salary needed by a family according to Party list Rep Carlos Zarate. He said, some 17 million families, or 80% of all families earn at most P20, 000.00 a month. The poorest half, or 53% try to survive with less than P13, 000.00 a month and the poorest fifth at less than P5, 600.00 a month.

On the other hand, the country's richest 326,000 families, or 1.5% of all families, earn an average of P106,000.00 to P191,000.00 a month. The rich have all the big businesses and investments and employs a lot of the labor force. In the list of the top 50 richest Filipinos in 2014, Henry Sy is worth \$12.7B or P555.117B and Juliete Romualdez, the last in the list is worth \$170M or P7.31B. In 2016, Sy increased his wealth to \$13.5B or P590.085B. Per Congressional Budget statistics, households controlling the one per cent of the nation's wealth increased their income by 275% while the poorest picked up a mere 18% for a period of 28 years. In this sense, capitalism only works for the rich and the rest will just continue to settle for scraps (Mark Blyth).

In Metro Manila, out of the 15 million populations, only a few can afford to live in subdivisions or rent houses or condo units in a decent environment and neighbourhood. Roughly about 70-80% families live in either crowded housing areas or makeshift houses in the slums along polluted rivers and canals, or even under bridges and skyways.

Comparing our country to the most progressive countries in the world, we see ourselves impoverished and pitiful in terms of the quality of life they are enjoying. The so-called welfare states boost of a robust economy with efficient government and a citizenry that pay high taxes and shared to the less fortunate members of society. This is a sort of socialism wherein the distribution of the nation's wealth is regulated by the laws of the state. Taking Norway as an example, this country is rich in natural resources like oil, metal and fish and now the number one in per capita income annually with an average of \$66,937.00 or P3,012,165.00 or P251,013.75 monthly as compared to the Philippines of \$3,500.00 or P157,500.00 or P13,012.00 monthly. With this income and a measly 5.2 million population, they don't have beggars in their midst. There may be some who are poor but still live with pride and dignity as they can afford the best food and clothing and don't live in shanties. Other nations of this status include Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, Netherlands, Finland, Austria, Germany, New Zealand, Australia, Great Britain, Iceland and Canada.

To uplift the living standards of Filipinos, a per capita income of \$11,000.00 or three times of what we have today is needed. But to achieve this, Management books suggest maximum use of land, labor, capital, ideas and slow down on population growth and convert liabilities to assets are needed. As a short cut, the government has to enact regulatory laws on how to tax the rich more and let capital flow freely and provide the poor of social services especially in the housing, education and health sector following the model of the countries mentioned above. The long process will take the form of employment opportunities created by government projects and big business firms in the private sector.

As defined by the 15th Century English Bureaucrat Sir Thomas More, a Utopian society has the characteristics of the following: a communal ownership of property, great productivity, no love of gold, no real class distinction, no poverty, little crime or immoral behaviour, religious tolerance and no inclination to go to war. Utopia means a country that doesn't exist but, in his imagination, this is the ideal society he envisioned to see.

If this is the standard of an ideal society, then the Philippine

Government will really burn many candles to study the situation diligently and bring about peace and prosperity to the Filipinos. Along this line, the main issue of concern by the Duterte Administration is to improve our economy and this is the ultimate reason for his determination to immediately eradicate the hindrances like peace and order caused by the long drawn insurgency problem waged by the Communist Party and the Moro rebellion of the MILF and MNLF as well as the Abu Sayaff terrorist group. These are compounded by big time syndicates in various crimes and the effect has corrupted the entire bureaucracy. The war must now stop and allow peace to prevail for us to move forward economically. This is for the common good and our prime national interest.

Going into further details, President Duterte pursued his campaign promises as mentioned earlier but his critics in the Senate and other sectors opposed that his way of doing it is not right. They say, his style in Davao in engaging criminals head on is EJK and is now implemented nationwide. How about the other Narcopoliticians who employ violence too? Why is CHR not investigating them also unless the office was bribed to project that the President is the mass murderer and the reason to oust him?

Probably, these critics, both local and foreign, think that winning over these psychologically derailed armed lawless elements that grew up in a culture of violence is as simple as observing compassion, human rights protocols, and giving them more civil and political rights are the correct things to do. Where in the world can you find criminals partying inside their prison cells? Only in the Philippines. Are these the right things to do to these criminals?

How about tying the shoe with the other foot? Will it work for the Filipino people's interest or with the politician's own selfish motives only? The opposing sides in the ongoing Senate hearing on EJK are telling the Filipino people to open their eyes and see the truth. Much are already seen or heard on the debates of both houses of legislating a law to impeach or not a President, with criminals as witnesses, but sadly their never-ending bickerings have become the priority at the expense the people's welfare who eagerly desire solutions to alleviate poverty and hunger soonest. Why not try to bring to Senate the richest (a corporate man) and the poorest (a Mang Pandoy) instead and let them tell their own idea of legislating a law to level off the impasse on wealth inequality which is the real issue and the truth.

Recently, President Duterte attended the ASEAN summit and conferred with his counterparts in that ten-member nation of which the bedrock of their relationship is anchored in the non-interference in each other's affairs and a policy of making decisions by consensus. As described by the media, the leaders of these nations are composed of a dictator, a coup plotter, faceless one-party communist rulers, a Nobel peace laureate awardee, a ruling monarch, but to President Duterte, he rejects the tag as a dictator but sees himself as a leader with extra tough approach on crimes, especially on prohibited drugs proliferation that spark heinous crimes and even corrupts law enforcers. Per records of PDEA, they have already captured P5.4B worth of illegal drugs from June 30 to Aug 25, 2016. With his popularity, he was warmly welcomed by his counterparts and went home with optimism that his diplomatic mission of promoting his economic agenda was accepted. Nonetheless, his meeting with US President Barack Obama and UN Sec Gen Ban Ki-Moon were cancelled for their dissenting opinions in relation to his drive on eradicating the drug problem in the country. As a highlight, Obama wants economic productivity and improved social development as options and Human rights and dignity must be upheld by the government. Ban Ki-Moon, on the other hand,

said, "let's be united and work for the common good rather than our country's national interest." Whatever these means, is it not intervention or is it brokering?

Moreover, not long after the ASEAN Summit, DFA Sec Perfecto Yasay eloquently delivered his address at the UN General Assembly meeting and similarly reiterated the desire of President Duterte to totally eradicate in our own way this drug menace in our country as it has already affected four million drug addicts. After all, it is an all Filipino affair with reference to an independent foreign policy that should be respected by the community of nations. He further reiterated that the Philippine government abides with all international commitments including respect for Human Rights and the observance of the Rule of Law and do not tolerate Extra Judicial Killings by the law enforcers to achieve our ends.

As a matter of concern to the above issues, as we chart our own destiny as Filipinos, we are also living in a global society as well. We cannot totally isolate ourselves from the rest of the world but definitely, we are a sovereign state. If you were the President of this nation, would you entertain the idea of a leader of another country telling you to do the right thing? I am sure you don't and surely, your tact and diplomacy will be lost in your outburst of emotions and say, "who are they to tell me what to do? I am only accountable and beholden to the Filipino people who gave me the mandate."

Meantime, putting aside trivial issues on EJK and the colourful words of the President, setting our foot on the realities on the ground as a primary concern, in pursuit of economic progress, much has to be desired on infrastructure development and link the entire country through faster and efficient communication systems through roads and bridges, airports, seaports, and the internet. These facilities are necessary in speeding up more business opportunities from both local and foreign investors that would further generate more employment as well as boost the flow of more products from the farms to the markets. Opening more economic hubs all over the country would also mean decongesting the NCR and spreading the benefits of progress and prosperity to the provinces. In this case, the poor sector would benefit more from these projects as most of them are laborers, farmers and fishermen.

Anyway, the economic team of the Duterte administration are surely aware of these priorities in their 10-point economic agenda and we hope we can achieve it soonest. Among those listed as Megaprojects include: The three major railway systems; the Mindanao railway, Manila-Bicol railway, Manila-Batangas railway, Ecozones in Zamboanga, and the Southern Mindanao growth corridor (Gen Santos growth corridor, Davao Gulf Industrial corridor, South Mindanao-North Sulawesi ro-ro link). To improve the living condition and standards of Juan dela Cruz, the government will create domestic jobs, increase employment, stop contractualization, promote livelihood, modernize agriculture, and advance entrepreneurial, technological and individual skills and promote just taxation and equitable distribution of wealth while caring for sustainable development.


Duterte's tenure will be good up to 2022, a full six year term to carve his name as the best President that we could ever have. We are aware that 15 Presidents have already ruled over us since we started as a sovereign state in 1898 immediately after the Fil-Spanish War. President Aguinaldo being the first has to address the effect of 400 years of Spanish colonization and the caste system of society they taught us. Unlike Malaysia, their British colonizers taught them how to govern themselves in some ways, but for us the Filipinos, we have to start from a constitution copied from foreign

origins not even by Spanish traditions. Of course, the Aguinaldo Presidency was disrupted by the coming of the American colonizers at the turn of the century then came a succession of Presidents who ruled in the midst of turbulent times from Quezon, Laurel and Osmena culminating in 1945 ending the Japanese occupation in World War II. Then came the Post war Presidents from Roxas to Magsaysay who focused more on rehabilitating the country from the ravages of war. After the Americans granted our Independence in 1946, we governed ourselves with their way of Democracy. All these past governments were ingrained to a long tradition of graft and corrupt practices and are carried on at present. These bad practices in governance led us into the situation where we are now, a wide gap of the rich and poor and how to narrow this gap really requires a strong political will to level off the unequal playing field either in public service or in business opportunities. Do we still have to wait for 200 presidents more to rule over us to achieve this challenge for change?

The Duterte Presidency wants to shift to a Federal State and try to develop the splintered country of 7,107 islands into regional autonomous government. The full decentralization of governance have not been tried before but we feel, the Democracy that the Americans taught us may not be suited to the Filipino society after all, it failed to regulate the excesses of wealth to the minority and deprivations of goods and services to the majority. Why don't we try it, then if we fail to correct these inequalities again, let's try Jose Sison's model of a socialist state he envisioned since 1968. Probably, with his long exile in Netherlands, he has already perfected his idea of socialism from the progressive countries in Europe called Welfare states by mixing Capitalism and Socialism. Then probably, all these disgruntled groups like the communist, secessionist, extremist, and criminals all eradicated in the midst of our society. Perhaps, the next generations of Filipinos can have a welfare state too by sharing the wealth of the nation all together in a harmonious relationship that could only happen in a classless society.

Bill Gates, the multibillionaire Microsoft executive, said, "if only the rich opened their closed palms wide, there should be enough food, shelter and clothing for every man, woman and child of the 6 billion people on earth. The absence of wealth therefore is not the problem but the misconception of wealth. There is too much concentration of wealth to a few, and too little is shared to many who are poor."

Relatedly, in Biblical times, King David in Israel in about 1000 B.C., declared war against all threats to his nation's security. Then peace came about and Solomon, his son, took over and ruled his country undisturbed. He built the Temple of the Lord in Jerusalem and God blessed the Israelite people and they became prosperous. Why don't we try these Davidic and Solomonic formula of peace and prosperity? Build a temple of the Lord within our hearts and remove hatred, greed and selfishness to others and see how the magic will work for us.

But to the Filipinos, all these peace and prosperity issues have all been in dreams for a long time. We cannot any longer experiment on other options except to put our acts together and produce more food, clothing and shelter to share for everybody. What does improved GDP, GNP, PCI, and Globalization mean if nutritious food are absent in the dining tables of the poor and hungry. President Ramos during his term said, "Let's enlarge the pie so each one will have a bigger cut." With more babies born every minute, we must now awaken and face the reality that indeed peace and prosperity is an urgent task to undertake. 



# Military Assistance, Bases, and Strategic Interests

• CAV MANUEL P OXALES '60

I was in first year at the Academy in Baguio, that was in 1955, when a symposium was held for the faculty, staff and the cadets to listen to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs discussed the foreign policies of the government of the newly elected President Ramon Magsaysay, a guerilla leader in WW II who earned the moniker American boy. During the open forum, a very senior colonel, a veteran of the battle of Bataan, survivor of the infamous Death March, stood up and asked in apparent disgust "Why is it that Japan, an enemy of the U.S. in WW II, has been receiving much more military assistance from U.S. than the Philippines, an ally who fought for America?" The speaker tactfully said he could not speak for U.S. but offered this reply, 'It is in her strategic interests.'

This little episode must have reached the ears of top armed forces officials as years later they would require senior colonels groomed for top command and staff positions attend defense academies here and abroad, learn the dynamics of international relations, geopolitics, dimensions of national security, strategic planning and other subjects to enrich and broaden their knowledge and prepare them to interact with top level civilian officials.

**STRATEGY OF A WEAK STATE.** From history of conflicts and literature on international relations we have learned a weak state enters with a stronger state or with group of states in treaties or pacts of defense for the former's protection and defense and obligate themselves to assist one another in the event of a common danger to their territory, government and people. Such agreements may include the stationing of troops by an ally and keeping bases within the territory of the protected state. The stronger state guarantees protection but also provides weapons equipment and other assistances to strengthen the weak state.

**BASES AND DEFENSE AGREEMENTS.** This is the case of the Philippines, a colony of U.S. at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, ravaged during WW II from four years of Japanese occupation, lying prostrate, signed with the United States in March 7, 1947 the Military Bases Agreement (MBA) barely two years after the liberation of Manila on May 1945 and less than a year after its independence on July 4, 1946 (later changed in 1960 to June 12 to commemorate the date in 1898 the Philippine declared its independence from Spain). The MBA granted U.S. the right to retain and operate its military bases in Luzon namely Clark Air Base in Pampanga and Subic Naval Base in Zambales and other facilities in the country for a period of 99 years. (It was later amended to 25 years to end in 1992). A week later on March 21 the Philippine signed with the U.S. the 1947 Military Assistance Agreement (MAA) which obligated the latter to provide weapons, supplies, training and other services. The 1947 MAA has been viewed as the quid pro quo for the bases and there is a connection between their retention and the level of military aid.

Another agreement of strategic importance signed on August 30, 1951 by the Philippines with the United States was the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) a year after the Korean War (1950-53) broke out on June 25 1950, between North Korea, later supported by China, and the United Nations coalition largely manned and led by U.S. military forces.

My interest in these matters began when I was assigned with the planning office of General Headquarters AFP responsible for

strategic planning and issues concerning military agreements with U.S and other countries. So when I was sent to the National Defense College of the Philippines and graduated in 1984, I chose for my thesis 'United States Military Assistance to the Philippines-An Analysis.

**BUILD-UP OF DEFENSE CAPABILITIES.** My principal finding was that U.S. military assistance to the Philippines from the end of WW II in 1945 to early 1980s has enabled its armed forces to develop and build a certain level of external defense capabilities: air defense with jet fighter aircraft coupled with radar for air surveillance. The air force has acquired, medium lift, long haul and light utility aircraft, utility and attack helicopters. The navy has acquired a degree of antisubmarine capability using depth charges laying patrol boats, very limited naval attack capability with destroyer escort, patrol craft and various lift vessels. The army has acquired capabilities for ground warfare with medium tanks, artillery, armored vehicles and other ground weapons. It has enabled the AFP to counter diverse internal threats and the then Philippine Constabulary to perform its law enforcement functions. These equipment and weapons were acquired through grants and sales, leftovers by U.S. forces after WW II, transferred as excess for disposal at the end of Korean war in 1953 and the Vietnam war in 1975.

While military aid has brought enormous benefits in building a level of defense capabilities, it has engendered overdependence to an ally and a thinking by government top officials and even among many people. that just like in WW II and with the 1951MDT in place, U.S will defend us in an external attack. This mind set has led to complacency and placed the country decades later to almost total unpreparedness amid external threats proximate to its territorial boundaries.

This stark situation began to emerge during the period from the mid 1970's when the country, facing rebellion from secessionist Muslim groups in Southern Mindanao, U.S. was reluctant to be involved in internal conflicts and the government had to acquire with its own budget much needed ground equipment and weapons from countries other than U.S. It also began to acquire very expensive big ticket items like jet trainers from Italy, light aircraft from Australia and patrol vessels from United Kingdom.

**BASES RETENTION AND AID.** Anticipating that the 1947 MBA will end by 1992 President Ronald Reagan (1981-89) pledged to provide RP on 'best efforts' basis \$900millions in security assistance for a five-year period from 1983. After a five-year review, U.S. would provide in exchange for basing rights a total of \$962million broken down into: \$400M Military Assistance (MAP), \$320 Economic Security Funds (ESF), \$192 Food Aid, \$ 50 Housing Guarantee. (President Marcos, in office 1965-86, asked for \$1.2Billion). Actual assistance for MAP, was \$125M each for FY 87 and 88. (Thesis: U.S. Military Assistance to the Philippine Ground Forces, Major Harold Horris USA, CGSC, Leavenworth Kansas)

Despite the U.S offer, Senate voted in 1991 for termination of the 1947 MBA. American military and civilian personnel departed (hastened by the massive eruption of Mt Pinatubo) from Clark and Subic, two large U.S air and naval bases used extensively as staging, maintenance and support of U.S. military forces in the Korean and

Vietnam wars. Thus, the Philippines acquired a two-runway airport and facilities in Clark presently used for international flights and in Subic Bay a site for ships servicing ships, repair and construction and export-oriented factories employing more than 60,000 workers.

**INITIATION OF THE AFP MODERNIZATION PROGRAM (MP).** With the bases gone, it was expected that U.S. military aid would decline but there was an urgent need for funds to replace outdated and deteriorating equipment and weapons of the AFP. Thus, President Fidel V. Ramos, former AFP Chief of Staff and Defense Secretary, who became President on June 1, 1992, put up this program to be funded from the sale of military camps Ft Bonifacio in Taguig which raised P50billion. Its implementation, however, was derailed due to the urgent needs by various sectors like education, health, etc. The financial crisis in late 1990s, when the peso plunged to the dollar, aggravated the situation.

During the term of office of President Gloria Macapagal, who took over in 2001 the shortened tenure of President Joseph Estrada, the Philippines was given the recognition by U.S. President George W. Bush as a non-NATO ally in the same category Egypt, Israel and Australia. He also expressed his gratitude to her for providing police and medical to personnel American personnel involved in the war in Iraq and for sending of 1,000 peace keeping personnel to troubled East Timor. Significantly U.S provided \$95M in military assistance and pledged to provide 30 refurbished helicopters.

**RETURN OF THE BASES.** The big decline in military assistance from U.S. and the lack of funds from appropriation for the acquisition of major equipment and weapons severely impaired Philippines external defense capabilities. Faced with the tension arising in the South China over claims by China, an economic global giant and rising military power, and counter claims by several ASEAN countries the Philippines, among them and Taiwan, President Noynoy Aquino III, in office from 2010 to 2016 signed with U.S. on March 28, 2014 the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA). U.S. was just too willing as it felt that without bases in the country, it could not possibly fulfil its obligations under the 1951 MDT. EDCA allowed U.S military and civilian personnel to use and operate, on a rotational basis, six bases, three in Luzon, namely Clark and Basa in Pampanga, Subic in Zambales, one each in Cebu, Cagayan de Oro and Palawan. Previously, the government signed the 1999 the Visiting Forces Agreement with U.S. which spelled out rules on customs, taxes and criminal cases of U.S personnel.

During President Aquino's tenure in office, the government began bolstering the country's defense capabilities. It programmed in 2012 P41.2B (\$1.2B) for the purchase of two U.S Coast guard cutters and 12 F50 jet trainers from South Korea, under licensed from U.S. Lockheed, two missile-capable frigates, assault amphibious vehicles and eight combat utility helicopters. It leased from Japan five T90 long range aircraft for maritime surveillance. As you will note these were purchased from two close allies of U.S. With EDCA in place in 2014 the pattern of U.S. military assistance to the Philippines presented a different picture. It rose to as high of \$109.6 in 2016 compared to the level of \$50million after termination of bases in 1992 to early 2000.

**U.S. ASSISTANCE TO OTHER COUNTRIES.** It is interesting to know that countries which do not have defense agreements and historical ties with U.S received much more security assistances (military, economic, and others). For 2017, these are Afghanistan \$5B, Israel \$3.1B, Egypt \$1.3B, Iraq \$1.3, Syria \$541M, Jordan \$364M, and Pakistan \$280. These countries I surmise fall under U.S. 'strategic interests', which range from the political, economic to diplomatic. Incidentally, President Duterte this September visited Israel from which the Philippines acquired radar systems and various military equipment, and Jordan which donated two U.S. made Cobra attack helicopters.

**UPDATED AFP MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.** Its goal is guided by the National Security Strategy for 2018 which reads: "The Philippines has the largest coastline in the world. The sea is extremely significant from an international navigational, economic, geopolitical and strategic perspective. There is an urgent need to develop a modern and adequately equipped force that will ensure maritime and air space security." The AFP is to transition from internal security operations to territorial defense and upgrade its external defense capabilities. President Duterte approved the list of military equipment to be acquired of the second horizon 2018-2022: For the Air Force: multirole fighters, radar systems, light and medium lift aircraft, heavy lift helicopters, utility and combat helicopters, unmanned aerial vehicles UAVs, special mission and long range maritime patrol aircraft, trainer aircraft. For the Army: towed and self propelled howitzers, multi-launched rocket systems, armored recovery vehicles, five support vehicles, light tanks, ground mobility equipment (light, medium and heavy), tactical radios, crew served weapons and night fighting equipment; for the Navy: frigates, corvettes, submarine, multirole patrol vessels, anti-submarine helicopters amphibious assault vehicles for the Marines. For Combat Engineering various equipment for explosive and ordnance and defense against, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear attack and medical needs.

It is a bold and ambition program. The government of President Duterte has set P300 billion (\$5.6B) from its appropriation for the third horizon, 2018-2022 compared to P41.2B (\$1.2B) programmed during the term of President Noynoy Aquino. An indication for the support of the program is the increasing budget for defense from 2016-2019: for 2016, P117.5B; 2017, P137.2B; 2018, P201B and 2019, P251B. But according to Defense Secretary Lorenzana defense spending is still low at 1% of GNP compared to average of 2% of Southeast Asian countries and he is aiming for 2.4% of GNP. He said further that there is shortfall in U.S. yearly funding estimated at \$50 to \$100M yearly with which to procure big ticket items like jet fighters, submarine, ships etc..

**SOURCING OF MILITARY HARDWARE.** It is guided by the government's foreign policy which states that "We will bolster our position in the community of nations by strengthening our relations with traditional allies, engaging relations with non-traditional partners in the pursuit of an independent foreign policy." DFA explains that it is not cutting an ally with whom the country has deep historical ties and proven security and protection but to enhance friendly relations with other countries, increase trade, investment and job opportunities for the people. In his visit to China, President Duterte was offered investments in industries and loans for infrastructure. It delivered 6,000 rifles, with millions of ammunition and four patrol ships. In his visit to Russia, he was offered soft loans to buy submarines and given 5,000 AK47 and 20 trucks. As you can see in the next chart many countries have diversified their sources of military weapons and equipment.

**Sources of Major Military Weapons and Equipment**

*40 Largest Importers of Military Arms and their Suppliers 2017 Report of the Stockholm International Peace Research, SIPRI (Includes sales, transfer, license to manufacture major equipment like aircraft, armored vehicles, artillery missiles, ships. Excludes small arms, light weapons, trucks, small artillery, support equipment, technology transfer and other services).*

Supplier Countries and Percentage of Total Imports			
China	Russia 65%	France 14%	Ukraine 8%
Taiwan	U.S 100%		
Japan	U.S. 93%	U.K. 4.8%	Sweden 1.5%
South Korea	U.S 53%	Germany 30%	Israel 4.6%
India	Russia 12%	U.S. 15%	Israel 12%



Pakistan	China 70%	U.S. 12%	Russia 5%
Israel	U.S. 68%	Germany 30%	Italy 10%
Afghanistan	U.S. 59%	Russia 27%	Brazil 8%

**ASEAN COUNTRIES:**

Myanmar	China 68%	Russia 16%	Belarus 5%
Thailand	Ukraine 23%	China 18%	Sweden 16%
Singapore	U.S. 78%	France 12%	Italy 4%
Vietnam	Russia 82%	Israel 6.9	Belarus 4%
Indonesia	U.K. 17%	U.S. 16%	South Korea 12%

(Philippines is not listed as it has not acquired a major equipment)

The biggest buyers of U.S. military items are: Taiwan, Japan, South Korea and Singapore, Israel (all have strong economies, big exporters that include military arms) and Afghanistan. Their external security are all linked with U.S. Vietnam, an ASEAN country acquired most of its military needs from USSR (Russia), her patron during the Vietnam war against U.S. At odds before with China and now over disputed islands in the South China Sea, it planned to buy from Russia six submarines and frigates. Not to be outdone U.S offered radar and surveillance equipment and P3 Orion aircraft equipped with sonar detection of submarines and frigates for its maritime security. Another ASEAN country Indonesia purchased from U.S. 24 refurbished F-16C/D reportedly worth \$730M. It will buy from Russia another set of Sukhov SU-35 jets worth \$4.4B thru countertrade of palm oil, coffee and tea. Myanmar, also an ASEAN country, acquired mostly its military needs from its neighbor China and Russia. China, a manufacturer and exporter of major military equipment and weapons, made purchases from Russia, her neighbor, ally and supporter during the Korean war. India, a non aligned country, manufactures its own major military equipment and weapons. In contrast, Pakistan which has been historically at odds with India over the Kashmir region gets its military arms from a close neighbor, China. Recently President Trump cancelled the aid to Pakistan (Nr. 7 biggest recipient of U.S. aid) for allegations of harboring of anti-U.S. Muslim insurgents. (Notes from ASEAN Post)

**INCREASING U.S. MILITARY AID.** The U.S Embassy reported that for the past five years, U.S has delivered and programmed \$300 million, an average of \$60M yearly to help modernize outdated equipment of the AFP amid the terroristic threats and tension in the South China Sea. It provided \$31M for the rehabilitation of destroyed Marawi City and funded for year 2017 to 2018 \$95M for the delivery of five Randall UAVs, four mini-guns for attack helicopter, two CO8 Cessna ISR platforms, tethered Aerostat radar systems for the navy, 200 Glock pistols, 300 M4 carbines, 25 combat raiding craft, 28 outboard motors, 41 rubber boats, 525 ballistic helmets, Scan Eagle UAS for maritime reconnaissance and SABIR surveillance system for C130 Hercules aircraft. In response to `Russia`s offer of submarine, three top officials of the U.S. government, Secretaries of State, Defense and Commerce in a single letter to President Duterte offered F-16 multirole fighter aircraft. But President Duterte said the country has no enemies against which to use them, but the Defense Secretary said the U.S. offer will be considered in the Third Horizon 2023-2027.

President expressed his gratitude however to U.S for the aid to the AFP during the Marawi siege in 2017 despite the rejection by U.S. Congress of the delivery of 20,000 rifles on allegations of human rights violations. In another case, President Duterte rescinded the contract to buy a second batch of Bell helicopters from Canada costing \$230M for her accusation of alleged violation human rights.

In summary, there has been a link between U.S military assistance to the Philippines to the access and use of bases from 1947 to their termination in 1992 and their return in 2014 (start of EDCA) and onwards. Facing threats within its maritime boundaries and pursuing a policy of not be over dependent to a

historic ally, it has embarked on an unprecedented Modernization Program of upgrading and updating its equipment and weapons for external defense to be funded from its own appropriation. Guided by its foreign policy of enhancing relations with non-traditional allies, it has begun to diversify its sources of military hardware.

For the past five years U.S. has increased its attention and concern for the security of the country with the delivery of much needed equipment to counter internal threats and increase capability for maritime surveillance and defense. The importance of the Philippines to U.S. strategic interests in the Asia Pacific may be indicated (from media reports) by the following visits of U.S Presidents and declaration of her top officials:

1. Visit in 2003 to the Philippines in 2003 of U.S President George W. Bush who called on President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to express U.S. gratitude for providing police and medical personnel in Iraq and sending a peace keeping force in East Timor. Bush recognized the Philippines as a Non-NATO ally in the category of Australia, Egypt and Israel.
2. Visit in 2014 of President Barack Obama on way to the East Asian Summit in Burma. He had brokered the 2012 standoff between ships of the Philippine Navy and Chinese Coast Guard off the disputed Scarborough 143 kms west of Zambales and eased the tension of a possible strife. He said U.S. will ensure freedom of navigation in the international sea lanes of the South China Sea. He visited Leyte and pledged substantial aid for the rehabilitation of Yolanda typhoon damaged province. He gave further assurance of U.S. guarantee to defend a historic ally.
3. Visit of President Obama in 2015 to attend the APEC Economic Leaders Summit. He announced the delivery of two ships for the Philippine Navy and more military aid to counter terror attacks. He pledged \$250 million in maritime security aid for countries of Southeast Asia.
4. Visit in 2017 of President Donald Trump to attend 31<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Summit Meet. In his speech, he declared that the Philippines is important to U.S. for its strategic location.
5. U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton's reference to West Philippine Sea instead of naming it South China Sea has inspired many Filipinos to bolster Philippine claim to the disputed islands.
6. U.S. Secretaries of State, Defense and Commerce offer in a single letter addressed to President Duterte to provide F-16 multi-role jet fighter aircraft and associated surveillance equipment.
7. Announcement by U.S Ambassador to the Philippines Sung Kim that for the last five years U.S. has delivered and programmed \$300 million to upgrade the AFP's capabilities in the face terroristic threats and tension in the South China Sea.

*(The author is a member of PMA Class 1960, a Distinguished Graduate of NDCP in 1984. His thesis titled 'U.S. Military Assistance to the Philippines-An Analysis' got a grade of 1.27, highest in individual submission. He has an MBA from U.P. and a lecturer at AFP CGSC, NDCP and Graduate School of Business of U. P. and Ateneo de Manila. He has written three books: 'Advocacy Even in Retirement', 2012 officially designated reference at National Defense College of the Philippines, AFP Education, Training and Doctrine Command (AFPETDC) and Public Safety College, Offices of Senators Gregorio Honasan and Antonio Trillanes; 'Advocacies thru the Years', 2017, reference at AFPETDC and 'Two Stories of the Philippine February 1986 Revolution', 1987, filmed in a 2-hour movie with Eddie Garcia and Dante Rivero in leading roles. He was a Wing Commander in Southern Mindanao.)*



# “IDOL”


• CAV WILFREDO B MANALANG III '97

I had been fortunate to be designated as Secretary Academy Staff / Protocol Officer of the Philippine Military Academy for two years. Hence, I had the privilege to attend all Saturday Parade and Reviews and the subsequent lunch being rendered to the Guest/s of Honor at the Mess Hall with the Cadet Corps AFP (CCAFP) during my long tenure. I observed that one word has been regularly used to introduce a Guest of Honor or as a reply of the Guest to the PMA Host's introductory speech. That word is "Idol." Uncle Webster defines "idol" as a noun meaning a "greatly loved or admired person." By its definition, it somehow bespeaks of a person who left a legacy on another person one way or the other. However, due to the constant use of the term "idol" that has become a recurring word during speeches, it may have given cadets the impression that it is a mundane tool to impress or simply as an ordinary word to refer to a person.

I for one attach a special meaning to the word "idol." I too have a person in mind that I greatly admired. Somehow, I molded my entire cadet life after this man, my "good neighbor" (cadet term for the room next door occupied by the most senior cadets) at Bravo Company, CCAFP: Cdt Lt 1Cl Roderick A Palecpec C-8811 CCAFP, Address – Blk 20 Lot 27 Salawikain Street, Lagro, Novaliches, Birthdate –13 November 1972. As far as the research done by my squadmates, he has neither a dog nor a girlfriend at that time (cadets in the '90s would remember that this is how we were required to memorize information about our upperclass cadets). Cdt Palecpec was the quintessential cadet who appears to have no worries in the world. Along with his roommates, Cadets Buena, Sales and Barizo, they regularly visit our fourthclass room even during Study Period to fool around and bolahize with us ducrots. They were such a lively and energetic bunch, that one would not mind sacrificing precious study time with them. Cdt Palecpec and company could talk in straight English with minimal use of the Cadet Lingo and would also encourage us to do the same giving us the opportunity to hone our English proficiency. Likewise, Cdt Palecpec was not so much concerned about his class ranking since he usually made use of his Study Period to visit the rooms of other cadets to trade stories/jokes with them. Cdt Palecpec also love to shout at the top of his voice within the barracks "who's joining the Navy!" and would play tricks with his juniors such as ordering someone (me) to enter an upperclass' room unannounced and without knocking and to say the phrase "announcing the arrival of Ensign Roderick Palecpec Philippine Navy" with him immediately following from behind. Of course this would mean that I would be "revisiting" that same room after Taps but somehow it was all worth it. Cdt Palecpec also loved to go on piggyback rides along the hallways

that somehow helped in strengthening my legs and quads. Likewise, he also loves to go through open windows in order to beat the Attention Call count and some other frolics. However, this does not mean that I, together with my roommates, did not "suffer" under our good neighbors because we also had our share of electric and slammin' nights in their room after Taps.

It was during the baptism of my first child when I heard the news about 1Lt Palecpec's untimely death in 1998. He was felled by a bullet while shielding his men from an assassin's bullet. As I can recall, my wife quipped that upon hearing that news that it was the first time she ever saw me look so sad as if I was about to cry. It actually was a low point for me knowing that I would never see him again. The Navy, the Marines and the PMA Bantay-Laya Class of 1994 had surely lost a good Cavalier. As the late great Jeet Kune Do Philosopher, Bruce Lee, once said, to wit: "Always be yourself, express yourself, have faith in yourself. Do not go out and look for a successful personality and duplicate it." Knowing this, I still could not help but emulate the antics of Cdt Palecpec. Cadet life is a difficult one where successes and travails are part of one's daily schedule. Cdt Palecpec was never weighed down by the everyday stressors of being a cadet like most cadets. He would always find ways to make light of the situation and would often see things differently. As a cadet, whenever I was low morale and my spirit was down, I simply remember the words of Sir Roderick that "whenever you are low morale, just look at the pine trees and see how different it is from your previous environment, and how lucky you are to have been part of PMA." As a firstie, I even had my own version when I shout at the hallways of Florendo Hall "who's joining the Army!?" to everyone's humor.

Even now, 22 years after graduating from the Academy, the time spent with my good neighbors and with Cdt Palecpec serves as an inspiration and a reminder to do better in my chosen profession. An idol is someone you could never possibly imitate since we are all unique individuals. However, an idol is someone who can inspire you to do better, or think broader in the same way given a similar situation but this time much inspired because you know in your heart that your thoughts and actions was molded in you by a person you hold in very high esteem. This is how I honor the memory of the late Cadet Palecpec, my good neighbor, my Idol. 

**About the contributor:** LtCol Wilfredo Baylon Manalang III is presently detailed at the AFPETDC as a Command and General Staff Course student. He is likewise the current Historian of PMA "Kalasag-Lahi" Class of 1997.



*Oh, proud and bold you stand  
Bright beacon of the land...*

*...May thy sons ever be men of  
integrity, courage and loyalty.*

# CLASS CALL



**MIGUEL M VILLAMOR**  
President  
**JESUS T DIZON**  
Historian

I was prodded to write for THE CAVALIER because I could not bear seeing an empty column reserved in the CLASS CALL for CI '51. As a member of the lead class of the post war Academy, I thought it proper to inform the alumni that there are still ten original BANATS wanting of recognition in their consciousness.

My first articles were structured. I used nine consecutive issues of THE CAVALIER to write a brief tribute to each of my classmates as a way of letting them know that I have valued their friendship and sense of brotherhood since our cadet days. I have written about their individual pursuits and significant accomplishments to let everyone know that all of them had served their country well and unselfishly even at the sacrifice of their lives beyond what was expected of any Filipino citizen.

With a group of ten nonagenarians, we have practically no social life except the monthly fellowship meeting of the PMAFFI. I have resorted to writing on random thoughts and events to fill up the space which I sum up as "TIDBITS" I could do serious research to write on subjects of national interest, but I have limitations. Besides my physical condition, I lack the hardware to facilitate my writing which I do in longhand. Please bear with me if my articles do not meet your intellectual standards.

For some time, we noticed that when people meet, their first topic of conversation would, in all certainty, be "TRAFFIC". I am sure that all of us have suffered from the inconvenience of traffic congestion. Its adverse impact has

affected all aspects of our nation's growth and the quality of life. It is a demand and supply problem. The constant increase in the density of road users cannot cope up even with the massive infrastructure program of the government. Add to this, among others, is the discipline of our drivers.

The second most probable topic is "INIT." As nonagenarians, we are most vulnerable to the heat wave. I was told that even staying under a shade outside the house during the hottest part of the day could trigger a heat stroke unnoticed to the person like a real stroke or heart attack. For those who are not blessed with air-conditioned homes, my simple advice is for you to have an ice pack beside you to cool parts of your body. We are experiencing extremes of temperature that could get worse every year. Indeed, this is an indication of an irreversible climate topography on a global scale. This should be a challenge not only to our scientists but also to our leaders and all of us to be committed to an integrated, united, and sustained effort to mitigate this impending catastrophe.


The next conversation piece could be "TUBIG, TUBIG." For the first time we are suffering from the effects of our stupidity. Water is our most basic commodity but has suffered from the lack of vision, patriotism and choice of priorities of most of our national leaders. Besides our problem of distribution and profit-oriented water providers, is the bigger and more critical problem of increasing our sources of supply. We experience every year devastating floods but could not tap it as a resource. Our programs to develop mega dams have often been distracted by the best Filipino past time - politics, and its concomitant ingredient of graft and corruption. This year's extended dry season and the resultant water shortage should be a warning. It could be worse next year and

the years to come. Again, it is a supply and demand problem. There is no more room for complacency and dirty politics. This is an issue of survival.

Let me change the angry mood that I have created. Allow me to express my gratitude to the late Col Delfin Mendoza, (Ret.) of the BINANATAN class of '52 whom I had held in great respect and esteem. I share the loss of CI '52 in the death of a good man and an officer and gentleman.

I was abroad taking up my CGSC at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas USA when I got my promotion to Colonel. Delfin was then at OJI, GHQ, AFP. He took the initiative without my requesting him to compile and submit all the requirements of the Commission on Appointments of Congress. I got my confirmation without effort.

Upon his retirement, the Ateneo Graduate School for Business appointed him as Chairman of its Executive Program offering the MBA Course to senior military and civilian executives. He advised me to attend the course and after my graduation recommended me to teach at the Graduate School with a rank of Associate Professor I taught for two years but had to leave because of conflict in my military and civilian assignments.

My "MORNING REPORT" on the BANAT Class is the same-No change. Like in baseball it is "No hits, No runs, No errors". All disabled, but all are determined to reach 100 years and claim the one hundred thousand pesos bonus from the government. Noticeably, however the attendance of CI '51 at the monthly PMAFFI fellowship meeting was reduced to five but still out-number that at the lower classes. Class '52, however, in its fighting spirit insists that quality, not numbers is what matters. /Jesus T Dizon 



**SALVADOR M MISON**  
President  
**VANGIE P RIVERA**  
Secretary

**On class activities**

The May class lunch was held at the Golden Sky Restaurant on Sunday, the 19th. It was hosted by the widows led by Sally Arceo. The other hosts were Joven Cordero, Lolit Parado, Estel Silva and Eva Miranda who was absent but was represented by her two daughters, Bing and Sarah.

The other attendees from the first gen members were Grace Alcaneses, Ros Alquiza, Rene & Fely Ecarma, Buddy & Ione Mison, Romy & Georgie Solina, Letty Jotie and Vangie Rivera. From the second gen were Avi Alquiza with her son Oliver, Aaron Allanigue, Marcial Jomari Alcaneses, and Gemma Cordero Ibus with her husband and daughter.

The next class affair was held on 23 June at the One Esplanade, Seaside Blvd corner Diokno Blvd, Pasay City. It was hosted by Johnny and Pilar Sanchez. Johnny's birthday falls on the 24th.

The affair started with a mass at 11 am, followed by a sumptuous buffet lunch. During lunch, there was non-top superb music ala Paparoti.

Present from first gen were Grace Alcaneses, Ros Alquiza, Sally Arceo, Rene & Arfeli Ecarma, Letty Jotie, Muni & Ondette Munoz, Vangie Rivera, Johnny & Pilar Sanchez, Estel Silva, Romy & Georgie Solina, Rene & Mila Tanseco, and Gigi Zaide.

From the second gen were Jomari & Grace Alcaneses, Veronica Alcaneses-Pantig, RJ Alquiza, Leah Arceo-Plucena, Annette Ecarma-Favila, Andrea Ecarma-Escalona, Bing and Sarah Miranda, Alan & MJ Munoz, Ernie Ravina, Bobby & Carole Sanchez, Yvette Solina-Salih and Teng Zaide-Garnace.

From our adopted class of 2005 were Riza Mae San Agustin, Robert Rodrigo, Alvin Matienzo, Abegail Hallar-Matienzo, Michael Patron and DJ Sumayo.

The next class affair will be on Sunday, 21 July at the Golden Sky Restaurant, to be hosted by the second gen male members.

**On Class 55 Foundation matters**

As decided during the last annual membership meeting of the PMA Class 55 Foundation, Inc., one second gen member from the family of each member of the

class will be made a regular member of the Foundation, like the widows, with all the rights and benefits of a regular member. The rest of the second gen members remain as associate members, along with the wives.

The second gen regular members, as submitted by their parents, are Marcial Jomari Alcaneses, Von Alfabeto, Aaron Allanigue, Ross Joseph Alquiza, Aurelio Baladad, Leah Arceo-Plucena, Fr. Cris Cordero, Anna Marie "Annette" Ecarma-Favila, Alma Facto, Minjo Gatmaitan, Rowena Ilagan-Estrella, Agnes Isaac, Greg Jotie, Czarina Miranda, Siegfred Mison, Alan Munoz, Ramon Ochoco, Ernie Ravina, Bobby Sanchez, Butch Suarez, Viviene Tansingco-Ongkiko, and Teng Zaide-Garnace. (as of 23 Jun 2019)

Four of them were elected as members of the board of trustees of the Foundation for the current year, namely: Aaron Allanigue, Czarina Miranda who is also the treasurer, Binky Regalado-Ordonez and Anna Marie Ecarma-Favila.

The new board decided to open a current and savings account for our Foundation in Metrobank, Blue Ridge Branch. Presently, the Foundation has been transacting business in cash or sometimes using the checking account of the Corporate Secretary.

**On political matters**

Johnny Sanchez ran in the recent mid-term elections for congressman in the lone district of Occidental Mindoro, but unfortunately he did not make it, fighting a reelectionist real politician. He attributed his loss to massive vote-buying by his opponents.

He is not a true-blue politician, but was prevailed upon to run by the people of Occidental Mindoro, considering his excellent and outstanding performance as mayor of Lubang for three terms, but apparently that was not enough to win or did not matter at all



From left, Romy Solina, Ros Alquiza, Buddy Mison and Rene Ecarma. 19 May



"From left, Vangie Rivera, Joven Cordero, Georgie Solina, Letty Jotie, Grace Alcaneses, Estel Silva, Sally Arceo, Fely Ecarma, Ione Mison and Lolit Parado. 19 May





Second gen members, standing from left: Bobby, Carole, Alan, Yvette, RJ and Teng; seated: Leah, Jomari, Grace, Bea, Veronica; in front: MJ. 23 June




Second gen members from left: Yvette, Sarah, Bing, Andrea, Annette and daughter Nikki. 23 June

To add insult to injury, his son Bobby, who succeeded him as mayor of Lubang in 2016, also lost by a margin of only 300 votes. Again, due to alleged vote-buying.

**Morning report**

Sixty-four (64) years after our

graduation in 1955, only fourteen (14) members of the class remain standing. Correction: not all are standing. One, Tante Ochoco, has been lying down in bed at the VMVC for more two years now. The 10 others in Metro Manila are Betong Alfabeto, Ponsing Allanigue, Ros

Alquiza, Rene Ecarma, Buddy Mison, Muni Munoz, Johnny Sanchez, Porfing Santos, Romy Solina and Rene Tanseco. The other three are Louie Amigo in New York, Noli Santua in Iloilo, and Abe Baladad in Gerona, Tarlac. All present or accounted for. /by Ros Alquiza 



On 4 April 1956, 63 years ago, our class of 51 graduates left Loakan as brand new 2nd Lts., all together proud as PMA alumni and yearning to prove our worth in rendering a high quality of service of whatever form or calling in the AFP. On our first day of duty after our one month leave, we were assigned to the BCTs then in operation against the HUKS in the densely forested areas of Laguna and Quezon provinces.

As platoon leaders, here are some of our memoirs in living and fighting with our own soldiers in the field that were not taught to us in the academy:

1. Our ONE peso daily meal allowance was cash advanced by the company and used to buy food rations for seven days in the public market. All the squad sergeants of the company were ordered to pick up their squad's ration for the week and bring them to their patrol bases some hours trek to the mountain jungle area of operations. The food rations were apportioned by weight and shared to each member of the


squad to keep and carry on call by the squad leader for cooking. Each of the ten men in the squad carry their share of the squad's cooking utensils (pots, pans, ladle, etc.) and food/viands/ ingredients (rice, canned goods, dried fish, *tuyo, suka, asin, bawang, luya*, etc.). The platoon leader attaches himself with any squad for rations.

2. At early dawn each morning, the squads are already cooking two meal rations - for breakfast and packed lunch. When breakfast is cooked from firewood gathered in the forest, your EM tent mate gets your mess kit and canteen cup for your food and hot coffee. After breakfast, he again takes and washes your mess kit and fills it up with your packed lunch of rice with sardines or any canned stuff or daing.

3. During movement from one patrol base to another in the jungle, the first order of business is to construct your tent for sleeping and storage of food and personal belongings (your extra fatigues and underwear for sleeping and toiletries). Once the patrol base area is set, your handy and caring tent mate cuts and gathers wood frames and posts from nearby trees with his bolo to build your 2-man tent, cover it up with both of your shelter halves and even plaster the four posts with rags soaked in soap suds to prevent lematiks (leeches) from crawling up to your bed and have a sweet time sucking your blood.

4. The patrol base in the tick of jungle is hard to locate and its specific location could not be pin pointed in the map by your magnetic compass due to the absence of visible reference points. What was done is to chop some marks on trees some 500 meters around its perimeter to provide visible signs for the returning patrols to locate it. At 4 p.m., the jungle becomes dark with the sun unseen and unknown where it is because of the thick foliage. After patrol, you strip off your wet fatigues and underwear, go to a nearby creek to wash and hang them overnight for wear on the next day's patrol, whether dried or still wet. Wearing your extra fatigues and underwear and having good dinner of rice and whatever viand, you are weary and tired to enjoy a good sleep under your mosquito net in your tent.

5. The hourly rests during patrols were spent mostly in inspecting your body for lematiks (rubber band-sized leeches that could bloat to marble-sized globules when filled with human blood). The best way to extract one sipping your blood is to prick it with a lighted cigarette, causing it to withdraw its minute fangs voluntarily. Many of us became cigarette smokers as the handy way of getting rid of lematiks or tiny draculas when found sucking our precious blood.

Continued on page 30 



# PMAAA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC. (PETFI) INDUCTION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES AND PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARS

31 May 2019, AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C.





# BUSINESS, INDUSTRY and RETIRED CAVALIERS, INC. (BIRCI) 1st Quarterly Fellowship Meeting and Induction of the New Board of Directors 23 May 2019



## PETFI Induction of Officers... (continued)





To give token tribute to the Pilipino soldier, our loyal and helpful buddy in the field, the PA Group (Ching Corachea, Mac Macabasco, Joe Almonte supported by a Navy man, Olac Lazo) celebrated the class 63rd GDAY by hosting a sumptuous lunch at the Gloria Maris Resto at Greenhills attended by nine members and eleven ladies (Ching and Emma Corachea, Mac and

Aida Macabasco, Romy and Pili David, Paul and Daly Canalita, Mel and Pat Goyena, Olac and Susie Lazo, Levy and Nora Malto, Tom and Lulu Manlongat, Boy Paiso, Lily Pio Roda, Tess Calip and Cecil Ampig. Due to the absence of many, one dining table of 12 was discarded and unserved, but when the bill was presented, Ching Corachea and Mac Macabasco noticed that two

extra live steamed Lapu Lapu was charged. When the waiters were confronted, they explained that the live Lapu Lapus for the discarded table have died and must be cooked, served and billed. End of protest. At break time, Aida Macabasco issued some native sweets from Laguna to our ladies to bring home.



### 62ND ANNIVERSARY PARTY

As always, the happy case every year, the mistahs of PMA Class '57, their spouses and their children also known as the brats, all trooped to the Dimalupig Hall of the AFPCOC at Camp Aguinaldo early morning of Sunday, April 14, 2019 to celebrate the 62nd anniversary of the batch. Spirits were high as everyone looked forward to the rekindling of lifelong friendships that have spanned more than six decades, remembering those who are no longer around and giving thanks for all the blessings that this tight knit group have enjoyed over the years.

As the day also fell on Palm Sunday kicking off the Holy Week, a mass was celebrated to start the day's festivities. A choir group with about a dozen members on hand sang beautifully during the mass and afterwards. A hearty and sumptuous buffet luncheon enjoyed by everyone followed next. Aside from this year's "Eternal Spring" theme, the party also followed a "Hawaiian Luau" theme with pineapples wearing shades atop every table and everyone



wearing multi-colored leis adding to the day's festive atmosphere.

And to make sure everyone would be included in the group photos taken, the pictorial was done earlier instead of towards the end when some might have already left. As shown here, the photos show everyone beaming and smiling their best!

The program, hosted by brats Caloy Maravilla and Agnes dela Cruz, started with brief speeches given by current PMA Class '57 president Jun Tangatue and current Brats president Gigi Ledesma Pereira, recapping the previous year's highlights and touching on plans for the upcoming year.

A moving video montage tribute of all the Class '57 mistahs who are no longer with us was shown, providing the only hushed moment of the day. Perhaps gone, but not forgotten, and always in our hearts and minds.

Next up, fun parlor games! The cup game, name that tune and *bato-bato-pik* were enjoyed by all, with the last game ending with a cash prize that was generously donated back by the winner. Lastly, a raffle was conducted with many winners chosen by an innovative spinning wheel on a video screen.

Looking forward to next year's 63rd! Cheers!







On April 29, we received this tragic news from PAT ZUMEL MANZANO, "It is with a heavy heart that I need to let you know that my dad passed away at 5:54 p.m. today. We will let you know of funeral arrangements."

Thus, we immediately posted in the Cavaliers Forum and other media: Tragic news!! We the Class of 1959 are full of grief. My Mistah Jim Zumel, our beloved classmate, brother, leader and friend rest in eternal peace!! CPW, prayers please!

The response from many classmates, colleagues in the AFP and elsewhere, friends, was resounding. That is how our dear Mistah was so loved by all he touched or knew him. Jim's last appearance at a class gathering was when we had a final lunch a day prior to our departure for Baguio for the 2019 and our 60th Homecoming at the PMA. That was when he announced that due to doctor's orders, he could not make it to Baguio. We were stunned, as we had thought he could make it, although he had informed us of his esophageal cancer upon his arrival from California last November 2018.

Jim's wake was at the VAB Chapel Mortuary from 30 Apr to 6 May. Necrological services were held at the Chapel at 1900 on 6 May, and last rites held on 7 May after the 0800 mass. Interment was made at 1100 at the LNMB, Fort Bonifacio.



BG Jose Ma C L Zumel AFP

Those who paid their last respects (shown below) were: Jess Alcordo, Eddie Garcia, Benny Lomotan, Mike Abaya, Chuck Agustin, Del Abaya, Ed Gallos, Loven Abadia and Akong Reconquista. Timmy Imperial was at the chapel but missed the photo shoot. Chuck and Del delivered eulogies during the necro.

During the reception after the interment, we agreed with the family to have a despedida fellowship before the Zumel kids moved back to the US, but unfortunately the schedule could not be set due to many conflicts. Jess Alcordo, who had already booked us at the MGC for 15 May, had to cancel it.

One reason was the very enthusiastic proposal by the BRATS to have their own event to reenact the early years when we were younger and had so many family events.

Jojo Casas, Lara Mia Garcia, May Desquitado Tranquilino, Jerome Ochoco, Jun Jun Abaya and the Zumel siblings were all active in the planning and of course, the ABAYA BROS immediately offered to host.

The PMA59 Brats dinner was at Spectrum at Raffles Hotel in Makati at 5:00 p.m. Tue 14 May attended by Patricia "Pat" Zumel-Manzano, Marguerite "Mag" Zumel, Peter Martin Zumel, Joseph Emilio "Junjun" Abaya, Rommel Jude Ong AFP; John Victor "Jojo" A. Casas and Cecille Asuncion-Casas; Karl M. Garcia; Lara M. Garcia; Carmelita "Bing" Garrido; Harriet Peralta-Tan; Jambee Abaya; Andrew Abaya; Shanas Fernandez-Reyes Rommel Anthony "Chappy" SD Reyes AFP; Cecile

"Kay" Agustin-Dela Paz; Jerome Rommel S Ochoco and Anna Liza "Liezl" Perez-Ochoco.

The BRATS themselves are already a distinguished group of nation builders, and we are so proud of them. They include a former cabinet secretary; a senator; three senior executives of major banks; medical doctors and surgeons (including three siblings and their spouses – how about that?), legal practitioners, writers, CPAs, an airline President, airline pilots, businessmen, certainly a bum-less group!!

Not to mention those who followed the footsteps of their Dads: Rommel Jude Ong, Adrian Sanchez; Jun Jun Abaya; Xerxes Fernandez; Jerome Ochoco; Dexter Comendador; Sonny Trillanes plus our adopted '59 BRAT spouse Chappy Reyes. Rommel has a good chance of making it to the top while Adrian is about to be a J-staff boss and we hope all of those in the service will end up high in military grade.

The kids' fun can best be shown from Jerome's post the day after:

*"Hi everyone, glad you had fun last night. We are really sorry we could not come. But when there is going to be another one, let us know. I am looking forward to get to know all of you."*

*Hello everyone ('59 brats). To my seniors all from the Navy... sir Rommel, sir Junjun and sir Chappy... pasensya na po for crossing my arms in most photos. I started to chill possibly due to the rise of my water level as the food was great and the fruits were fresh and yummy. Sa totoo lang it's been a while since my last*



Mistahs at the final rites, 7 May 2019

buffet. Ayoko kasing maging killjoy. Alam nyo na..."uh si Jerome bawal ito at bawal yun".

To the Abaya family thanks po for hosting, a very sumptuous buffet fit for Kings and Queens, '59's next generation - its brats.


To the Zumels Ate Marge (my kinakapatid), Ate Pat and Kuya Peter it was great to see you again. Miss you much.

In general, it was an exciting night of sharing and keeping abreast on everyone. So wonderful to see each and everyone. Nice to meet those we've longed to meet. Hope we have a 2nd in the future. Jojo and Karl kayo taya para 'dashing' rin. Kasi pag ako hindi applicable yung 'dashing'. Hindi nga ako maka dash sa exit pagbayaran... joke.

Shanas paki sama uli next time si sir Chappy... ang tagal ko ng hindi



nangangaya ng immediate uppie... hehehe... jije lang iyon sir... pero mukang mas masarap yung chow down nyo nowadays kaysa sa noon nasa barko pa tayo na italian navy...

Sir Rommel it was really great. Looking forward for a next... love you all and thanks my wife Liezl enjoyed. Now she knows how big my world of friends and family... 



**26 April 2019.** The class celebrated its 59th anniversary with a lunch at the NIU Vikings Restaurant in SM Aura, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City. The main topic of conversation was of course our Diamond Jubilee celebration next year.

Quite a number has signified their intention to attend the alumni homecoming. Hotel reservations have been made by Orly. So far 16 class members have given their hotel money: Abadia, Arzaga, Asanza, Balbas, Carino, Kagaoan, Lilian Kintanar, Nes Lansang,



Lardin, Julpha Maniquis, Oxales, Panes, Ruiz, Salientes, Sistoza, Leviste. Since this is our last class hurrah, we expect more to join. Please give your hotel fees ASAP so that Orly as this is a requirement for

us to hold on tour reservation. It would be next to impossible to make a late hotel reservation. The hotel is Grand Sierra Pines Hotel at 43 N Outlook Drive, Barangay Gibraltar, Baguio.

The attendees might expand to 21. Probables are Acot, Go, Myrna Apolinario, Malou Laforteza, Chit Paredes. Although Nestor Lim has made his contribution, he will not be able to join us because of the health problems of his wife Edith. He has left it to me how the class will use his paid up contribution of 10,000 pesos.

I had planned to put up a Diamond Sword for our class. I have scrapped the project because I could not get enough classmates to make their write-ups. The next best thing I can do is write an article about the whole class for the Jan-Feb 2020 issue of the Cavalier Magazine. I will try my best to include each and every member of the class. I have already made a draft. Everyone is welcome to give me





a contribution about yourselves. I can change the draft if you can give me a worthy and significant input.

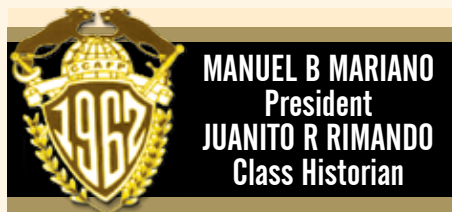
Rommel, the son of Ernie Arzaga, took into confidence the four of us (Loven Abadia, Orly Salientes, TG Fajardo and Pong Panes) for the surprise 85th birthday celebration of his dad on May 19, 2019. Our inputs were good enough for them to put up a nice video presentation. Ernie does not want the party so that this will really be a surprise to him. HAPPY 85TH BIRTHDAY ERNIE !!! Not many people are given the privilege of reaching this venerable age. The average life expectancy of a Filipino male is 69 years. 31 class members of the class who are still standing are 81 years old and above. More than half of the class therefore are seriously defying the odds against us. Is it not wonderful?

The wonder of modern medicine. It is common knowledge that Nani Gabales



has a pacemaker implant for his heart. The first one was already replaced with a new one. Just recently another classmate had a

pacemaker implant. Seeing him you would never suspect that he has one. We are very happy for him. /Loven C Abadia '60



April and May were fairly quiet months for the class. Class president Nano, auditor Quintin, and secretary Maury attended the council of class presidents meeting last May. We had a class meeting and the class officers did sunshine visits with Boy Abadia, our former class president.

**Class Meeting.** The class had a class meeting last 1 April at AGFO. In attendance were president Nano Mariano, vice-president Tito Rimando, treasurer Maury Evangelista, Ray Logan, Al Lumibao, Romy Meana, Rene Motus, Ed Fernandez, Paco Atayde, Gerry Kagaoan, and James Ramon. Among the important matters discussed and decided upon were the second quarter socials and our diamond jubilee at Baguio in 2022. For the second quarter socials, just like with the first socials, the second quarter birthday celebrants were asked to plan and host the affair. Al Lumibao, whose birthday fall in the second quarter, was tasked to coordinate with other birthday celebrants for their planning and implementation. Al has since reported that in coordination with the celebrants,

the second quarter socials will be on June 3 at Dad's Restaurant, EDSA, Q.C. The other important matter was our preparation for our diamond anniversary at PMA during the alumni homecoming in February 2022. Tito presented a tentative program of activities and requirements such as class dinners, lunch/picnic after the alumni parade, movement to Baguio from Manila and back, PMA bus to transport us to PMA, hotel billeting, attire, diamond medallion, and class donation to PMA. To support these activities, it was decided that each classmate will be assessed the amount of P20,000.00. This will include payment for one room at Azalea Residences for two nights, class dinners and picnic, and other requirements as necessary. Payment may be done in cash or installment. Deadline for payment is December 2021. Nano and Maury were required to open a separate account at the Veterans Bank for this fund. This was already done. It was also decided that in the event that a classmate passes

away before our diamond activity, his contribution will be returned to the next of kin. Maury was tasked to do much of the coordination at PMA for the class activities. He also volunteered to shoulder the hotel expenses of the class widows. During the meeting, Nano also announced that the new class secretary is Ms. Rose Blaquera of AGFO will assume the role of class secretary with the resignation of Ray Logan due to important family matters needing his attention.

**Sunshine visit.** The class officers visited Boy Abadia at the V. Luna General Hospital




Sunshine visit: Class '62 officers and Boy Abadia.



last May 6. We found him looking good, active and jolly. We had a great time relieving old memories. Boy, whose birthday fell during the second quarter.

said that he will be on hand as one of the party hosts come June 3. When informed of the outstanding class pledge for a PMA classroom which he made to the PMA

superintendent as class president during our golden anniversary, he assured us that he will honor it. **(JRRIMANDO)** 



**GUILLERMO R RUIZ**  
President  
**RENE LEANDRO P EBRO**  
Secretary

**R**ainy day greetings from the PMA Matindi Class 1963 despite the summer heat and the "El Nino."

Our activities from the Corporate Secretary logbook are as follows:

**12 May 2019 - Mother's Day**

The PMA Matindi Class of 1963 greets all mothers, grandmothers and mothers to be for this wonderful and joyful day. May the good Lord bless you all.

**13 May 2019 - Election Day**

Declared as holiday by PRRD, the PMA Class of 1963 wishes all the candidates the best of luck especially the members of the long gray line.

**23 May 2019 - First Quarterly Fellowship Meeting and Induction of the new Board and Officers of BIRCI.**

This event will be on Thursday 6 p.m. at the Valle Verde 4 Social Hall, Pasig City (entry at Julia Vargas gate). Dr. Bernardo Villegas will be the GOHAS. He will talk on the prospect of the economy and good governance after the midterm election. Dr. Villegas is a university professor of UAP, a writer and an economist. All members of BIRCI are invited. Cav Ebro represented the class.

**11 June 2019** - Meeting of the PMA Matindi Class 1963 Board of Trustees at the PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. All members of the Board are invited.

**16 June 2019 - Father's Day**

The PMA Matindi Class of 1963 greets all fathers and fathers to be of the second generation class 1963 and all cavaliers a Happy Father's Day.


**Birthday Celebrators - May-June 2019**

The PMA Matindi Class of 1963 wishes to extend warmest greeting, good health, and good life to all birthday celebrators. May they have many, many more birthdays to come.

**May 2019:** Lino Noble - 3, Kid Medina 4, Angie Villamor (+) - 17, Susie Sabarre - 25.

**June 2019** - Baby Domondon - 3, Gie Aquino - 7, Bob Manlongat - 7, Maning Estrada (+) - 8, Marga Lacson - 10, Brenda Ilete - 29.

*To Quote RA9292(IECEP): A true leader unites people not divide them do not find faults.. but find remedies.. do not sow*

*hate... but cultivates love... unquote. (18121605)* 







The extremely hot summer season has prevented the class to organize outings which they usually do in previous summers. Most of our Balik-Bayan classmates however prefer to spend the summer season in the Philippines. Jorge Agcaoili, Winston Arpon, Abe de Guzman seem not affected with the summer hot weather. Luis Bareng, however, prefer spending the summer season in CONUS.

May 01 has been a memorable day for class '64 members. We all remember it as the first day of our lives as cadets of the PMA. It was agreed by the class members that we will regularly meet on this date. The first meeting was last year at the PN Golf where there were seven members who attended. This year attendance was better since there were 10 original class '64 members who attended.

The occasion was held at the PN Golf Club, Among the original members present were:

1. Clem Mariano
2. Rey Reyes
3. Orly Cabanlig
4. Arfs Arpon
5. Guzi de Guzman
6. Jorge Agcaoili
7. Paddy Padilla
8. Tony Aguilar
9. Ding Odoño
10. Terry dela Cruz

The class agreed that the next occasion to celebrate is recognition day on June 10, 2019 tentatively at Vikings Restaurant, Aura in Taguig.

Some class '64 golf club members played golf last May 01, 2019 at PNGC. The game was orchestrated by Rey Reyes. Among those members who played were:

- Arfs Arpon
- Guzi de Guzman
- Garc Garcia
- Paddy Padilla



The Golf Club members agreed to play again on May 31.

Happy Birthday to the following MAY – JUNE Birthday Celebrants:

1. Rolly Pabellano – June 20
2. Terry dela Cruz – June 21
3. Louie BAREng – June 22
4. Rene Garcia – June 26



**Greetings from PMA MULAWIN CLASS 1965!**

After successfully celebrating our 54th Graduation Anniversary last March 28, 2019 with a sumptuous Buffet Lunch at the new NIU Resto located at the 5th Floor of The Podium in Mandaluyong City which was attended by most of the Mulawins who are local based and one from down under namely: Class Pres Mike Leonardo; Class Treasurer Egay Velasco and Dina Velasco; Rolly Cauton; Tates Nartatez; Bert and Donna Acenas; Jess and Boots Candelario; Boy and Vicky Turingan; Pat and Baby Duque; Joe and Janette Lapus; Lito and Mely Tapia; Ofring and Lita Marcelo; Pepe Delos Santos; Rose Monta; Joey Mendoza; Susan Abadilla; Roger and Gloria Bergado and Vi Santos and Rex

Robles, we welcome with a Thanksgiving lunch Mulawin Erni Sacro who just arrived from the U.S.A after a successful series of medical and surgical procedures that were necessitated for health reasons. Except for the apparent lost of weight, Ernie is of fine health now and has remained strong, healthy and kicking.

To all Mulawins and spouses celebrating their birthdays this May and June, we wish all of you a very Happy, meaningful birthdays and may you continue to enjoy more birthdays, good health and prosperity. Thankful celebrators are: Mike Leonardo -- May 8; Rex Robles -- May 2; Sonyah De Leon -- June 13; Romy Malig (+) -- June 14; Al Mora (+) -- May 9; Tates Nartatez -- June 9; Ed Nepomuceno (+) -- May 9; Willy Nicolas (+) -- May 13; Ricky Papa -- May 18; Mike Perena (+) -- June 18; Benson Rimando -- June 10; Tirso Rosal (+) -- May 12; May Sacro -- May 24; Mely Tapia -- June 5; Jun Tucay -- May 30 and Daisy Tucay -- May 31.

Two Mulawin couples, Ofring and Lita Marcelo and Pat and Baby Duque recently celebrated their Golden Wedding



anniversaries with a simple lunch in Tagaytay and likewise gifted themselves and some friends with a Stress-relieving full body massage at the Nurture Wellness Village which is also located in Tagaytay.


In addition to the above mentioned activities, a couple of Mulawins golfers participated in the recent fund-raising Golf Tournament of the Philippine Federation of Footwear Manufacturers held at the Valley Golf and Country Club in Antipolo City. As the weather condition during this summer is almost unbearably hot, all other class golfers opted not to be in the fairways this time.

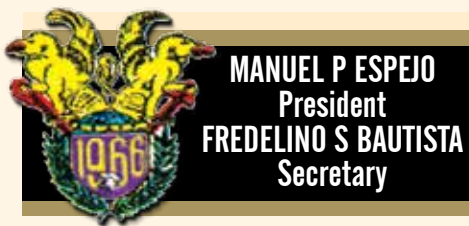
We are continuously hoping that our Mulawin classmates whom we have not heard from for many many years already ay magparamdam naman kayo so we can treat you and your families with our legendary and warm hospitality. We are



referring to the following: Tony Daza; Adolf Borje; Nic Lugtu; Andy Superable and Cesar Flor. And also the following Mulawin widows, hope you can reconnect with the Class -- Thelma Umali; Mrs. Dencio Gaddi; Lumen Olay; Annie Ortiz; Margi Rosal;

Ching Nicolas, Sonyah De Leon; Honey Fernandez; and Mrs. Herminio Limon Jr.

Happy 54th Graduation Anniversary to all of us, the PMA MULAWIN CLASS of 1965!!!/epn 



#### PAMBUNGAD

Walang masyadong activities ang Klase noong buwan ng Abril at Mayo kaya kaunti lang ang ating mairereport sa May-June issue ng The Cavalier. Hindi natuloy ang summer outing sa Mariveles, Bataan na kung saan, ang mga sasama ay sasakay sa training ship ng Maritime Academy of Asia Pacific (MAAP) na pinamumunuan ni Mistah Edd Santos, papuntang Corregidor. Di rin natuloy ang balak na pumunta sa Roan farm ni Mistah Rec Sarmiento. Ganoon pa man, may maliliit na pagtitipon

na isinagawa ng mga kababaihan at kalalakihan.

#### ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2019

Kung ihahambing sa mga nagdaang taon mula 2016 na kung kailan nagdiwang ang Klase ng kanyang Golden Anniversary (50 Years) ng Graduation (March 20, 1966), ay iilan lamang ang pumunta sa PMA para sa okasyon. Bigyang halaga natin ang kanilang ginawa upang di mawala sa alumni map ang Klase. Ang mga naroroon ay sina Noli at Leonor Espejo, Edd at Lil Santos at Bay at Margie Galon. Dahil dito ay may nagmungkahi na ipagdiwang natin sa Marso 2021 sa PMA ang ika-55 na Graduation Anniversary. Ang mga gusto lamang ang sasama at kanya-kanyang gastos at coordination sa sasakyan at billeting. Siempre, may participation fee para sa joint lunch or dinner o lunch with

the cadets kung maisasa-ayos. Kakaiba ngunit magandang ideya.

#### KAKAIBANG CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Kaugnay sa nabanggit sa taas, may magandang panukala rin si Mistah Louie Fernandez. Bigyang halaga natin ang pagdating natin na nabubuhay pa sa edad na 75 o higit pa. Makikita na mula 23 November 2019 (kaarawan ni Louie, na naging pinakabata sa Klase ngayon), lahat na nabubuhay pa sa Klase ay seventy-fivers and above na. Maituturing na isang accomplishment ito sapagkat maraming alumni ay pumanaw na wala pang edad 60 o 70 na. Nakakalungkot isipin ang pagkawala sa mundong ibabaw ang PMA graduates sapagkat noong pumasok sila bilang kadete at naging mga pangalawang tenyente ay malakas pa tayo sa kalabaw.

Kaugnay nito, iminungkahi ni Louie na



sa ating Christmas Program na ginaganap natin sa una o ikalawang Linggo ng Disyembre, ay dagdagan natin ng isa pang programa na maaari nating tawaging 75 and Going Program ( for lack of a better term, unless a more catching phrase is suggested). Matagal pa naman ito kaya mapag-uusapan pa ng masinsinan sa Max Resto, Global City.

**MULING PASYAL SA AMADEO**

Noong nakaraang Marso 3, 2019 ay maraming pumunta sa Amadeo, Cavite sa resthouse ni Noli at Leonor Espejo upang ipagdiwang ang kaarawan ni Leonor (March 3). Ito ay nareport na natin sa March-April issue ng The Cavalier. Ganoon pa man, mayroon ding mga nagbalik noong April 20, ngunit sa araw na ito ay upang gunitain ang kaarawan ni Noli noong naakaraang April 18. Hindi nga lamang kasing dami . Ang mga sumama ay sina Jacie Aquino, Bert at Fe Sabularse, Bing at Elsie Rivera, Fred Bautista, Sylvia Agudelo, Fe Cuison, Meldy Espina at Beth Payumo. Masarap at ang daming handa. May bulalo, pansit at lechon pa. May take home pa. Para maiba, inilibot kami ni Noli sa training camp ng mga sniffing dogs ng security agency niya. Nagsawa rin kami sa buko at buko juice.

**MGA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS**

Maligayang kaarawan sa mga sumusunod na senior citizens:

**Mayo** - Charlie Batayola(22); Rey Gopilan(29); Buddy Perez (26); Tony Romero (03); Raul Urgello (05).

**Hunyo** - Andy Andres (01); Bert Sabularse (08); Rec Sarmiento(27); Oca Barrientos (16); Orly de la Cuesta (05); Elsie Rivera (09); Edna Bello (12); Dee Cagurangan (13) at Agie Bantolo (23).







**ANSELMO S AVENIDO JR**  
President  
**RUFINO G IBAY JR**  
Secretary

**Birthday and Wedding Anniversary Celebrators:**

**May 2019 Birthdays:** Auring Garcia (6); Agnes Avenido (7); May Garcia (15); Bay Gabison (24); Noemi Casillan (26); Ed Galang (31).

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Mel and Mar Gatmaitan (May 1); Ruby and Bert Torres (May 9); Glo and Pareng Pareña (May 18); May and Vic Garcia (May 27); Toto and Edsel Salvana (May 27)

Happy birthday to all birthday celebrators and congratulations and best wishes to all those couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries. May God bless you all. Have fun and enjoy your celebrations.

**DIMASUPIL GREETINGS**

As stated by Mistah Bernie *“Sa panalo ni Mannix at John Dalipe sa election, mag hohost si Manny ng isang bonggang blowout sa isang 5-star resto sa MM before the end of May 2019. Start daw ito ng Dalipe political dynasty in Zamboanga. (Hahaha. Fake news po ito, pero ano malay natin. Baka lumambot pa ang ginintuang puso ni gwapong si Manuel.)”*

Let us also congratulate our very own Dionix who won as Councilor in the 1st District (Tondo), Manila. He placed as number one in the recently concluded May 13, 2019 Mid-Term Elections.

Bernie again described the happy occasion concerning the surprise birthday party for Alice. He quoted *“When it comes to photo-ops, Dimasupil-Ladies are “naturals!” Feeling beautiful sila always! (Kung sa bagay totoo naman, magaganda sila lahat!”*



Friends of Alice T Averilla tendered a surprise birthday party for her at Misto Resto @ Seda Hotel, QC. It was a total surprise for her since she thought it was a party for our late classmate Orville Gabuna. In fact she even helped organized the event, not knowing she was the honoree. She cried a river of joy, and we were all very happy for her. *Marami nagmamahal sa iyo, BFF Alice. Maligayang kaarawan!”*

Our classmates convey to all mothers sincere greetings of “Happy Mother’s Day” to all mothers of the Class. Again, as Class Historian Bernie Patinio succinctly quoted *“Nais kong batiin ng “Happy Mother’s Day” ang inyong mga Nanay at mga Maybahay, dahil sila ay naging butihing ina ng tahanan. Because I am feeling generous today, batiin ko na rin lahat ng babae na naging nanay dahil sa inyong pagiging “malikot sa aparato” noong kayo ay bata pa! Hahaha. (Ang tamaan wag magagalit!)”*

**CLASS ACTIVITIES March- June 2019**

Dimasupil Monthly Forum for March 2019 was held at Buffet 101, Robinson Magnolia, Aurora Blvd, Cubao, Q.C., was

hosted by Nick and Glo Pareña (Bday, March 20); Jun and Ronnie Ibay (Bday, March 21); Manny and Mary Rose Dalipe (Bday, March 31).

Dimasupil Monthly Forum for April 2019 which was held at MIHC, Walter Mart Mall, Arnaiz Avenue cor China Rocas on April 25, 2019 was hosted by the following birthday celebrators: Alice Averilla, Linz Gabuna, Ernie and Dinsay Dionisio, Rody and Graise Gaerlan, Mar and Mel Gatmaitan, and Bert and Ruby Torres:

Dimasupil Monthly Forum for May 2019 was postponed to June 2, 2019 and will be held at Heroes Grill OF Veterans MM, 0900H onwards and will be hosted by Joy and Noemi Casillan and Vic and May Garcia.

Dimasupil Monthly Forum for June 2019 will be hosted by Hedy Dueñas and Ross and Mandy Sibal. Place and Date of DMF will be announced later.

**PMAAAI STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION**

PMAAAI Strategic Planning Session intended to adapt and sustain the needs of PMAAAI, was conducted last April 9, 2019 at EMME Training room, office of Gen





Edgardo Aglipay in Ortigas Avenue. Several Class Presidents including former Senator Biazon, Gen Alcudia, Gen Mariano and other Class Presidents or Class Reps, attended the forum representing their class. The event was organized by the PMAAAI Board to include Chairman Rufo de Veyra, Gen Ed Aglipay among others. Class Secretary Jun Ibay represented our Class President Jun Avenido who is currently abroad in the US.

**DIMASUPIL FAMILIES UPDATES**

The family of Merle Odi grieved the loss of two sisters-in-law, wife of Vergel dela Cruz (Beth) and the wife of Nestor dela Cruz (Ciony) over a span of ten (10) days. They died March 22 and April 2, 2019, respectively. Condolence Romy and Merle, our class join you in your hours of bereavement.

This is Mar Gatmaitan's statement on Mel's health condition *"Mel's operation went well yesterday!! Dr. Diana Cua is very confident that everything was taken out and the lymph nodes are clear!! Thanks for all your prayers and concern. I am sorry I was not able to attend yesterday's get together as I had to be in the hospital!"* It's okay Mistah, our classmates understand and we will continue to pray for Mel's speedy recovery and may we extend our profound birthday greetings to you.

The PAFFSAAI Alumni Homecoming was celebrated by its members in Fernando Airbase, Lipa, Batangas on April 13, 2019. The Air Force Chapter of our Class attended this significant affair to commemorate their 50th Golden Anniversary as graduates of the PAF Flying School. The following Dimasupils and their wives attended the memorable event: Manny Dalipe and Marvi Dalipe (Manny's daughter), Edsel and Toto Salvana, Ross Sibal and Mandy Sibal and Libbie and Arlene Brawner. Congratulations! We are proud of you.



February and March are the two busiest months of the year for PMA Class 1968. Every February we prepare for the annual trek to Baguio City which is the home of the Philippine Military Academy. Many of us normally attend the alumni activities in Baguio in order to bond with classmates, join sports activities like golf or tennis and renew or relive bonds with cavaliers and other relations. Others simply go

up to Baguio to savor the cool weather and enjoy the festivities and or simply celebrate Valentines Day.

For 2019, only a handful of PMA 68 attended the homecoming. Dante and Julie Ruiz, Emjay and Bernie De Leon, Pat and Bebot Madayag, Mel and Millette Rosales and Hector and Peewee Tarrazona. Other classmates went on to go on their annual trips abroad in order to visit their children and do some 'apostolic' work.

The untimely demise on 13 February of the beloved wife of Arthur Juan, Corazon, was also a cause for the division of attention and purpose. While all classmates extended their condolences to Art Juan, several expressed their

condolences in person during the wake at the Magallanes Church located along South Super Highway. Those who went to the wake were Rhodie Gazmin, Blet Castillo, Willy and Isay Nuqui, Rudy and Arlene Rabago, Alex and Shirley Costales and Art Carrillo.

On 11 March, the class went on a 'Visita Iglesia' that started with the Saint Ignatius Cathedral in Camp Aguinaldo. Then the pilgrims proceeded to the Barosoian Cathedral in Malolos, Bulacan, then to the Calumpit Church and onto San Isidro Labrador in Pulilan, to San Augustine in Baliwag, and to the Church in Angat. There were at least seven churches that were visited by the pilgrims. The last leg of the pilgrimage was of course a festive





reception that was held at the beautiful agricultural residence of Norie and Candy Azcueta in Angat. Aside from the hosts, Candy and Norie, the pilgrimage was joined in by Volts and Rhodie Gazmin, Alex and Shirley Costales, Willy and Isay Nuqui, Gigi and Oskie Cabaron, Millette and Mel Rosales, Puring and Bobby Santiago, Celia Canson, Tess Pangantihon, Evelyn Erolin, Diomeng Villanueva, Abe Abiol, Art Carrillo, Rudy and Arlene Rabago, Julie Ruiz, Marite Garrido and Sonny and Luth Penilla.

Aside from a very lavish preparation and a very sumptuous meal, the Azcuetas pampered the pilgrims with a share of their bountiful harvest. Muchas Gracias, Candy and Norie!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Chairman Alex Costales! Alex took over the Chairmanship of the Board of the Philippine Army Finance Center Producers Integrated Cooperative or simply 'PAFCPIC' or 'PAPSI' on March 16, 2019. This, I think is the biggest cooperative in existence in the Armed Forces of the Philippines or in the whole country. Alex is now the second classmate who is at the helm of a financial institution in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The other one is Dante Ruiz. Dante has been the head of PNSLAI for more than a decade now. Both Alex and Dante are also members of the present board of PMA Class 1968. We are indeed very proud of Alex and Dante!

PMA Class 1968 held its 51st Graduation



Anniversary with a simple mass at the Saint Ignatius Cathedral in Camp Aguinaldo on March 24, 2019. Dinner followed at the usual place in Greenhills, Gloria Maris restaurant. Among those present were Volts & Rhodie, Norie and Candy, Alex and Shirley, Mel and Millette, Celia C, Evelyn E, Tita P, Tess P, Art C, Boyet Lim, Sonny and Luth and Patrick and Bebot Madayag. All 17 attendees contributed each, P1000 for the class fund to the delight of Treasurer Alex Costales. Thank you for your contributions!

On 28 March Bobby Santiago invited the class to Tanay Highlands for his birthday celebration. Among those who went were Mel and Millette, Sonny and Luth, Oskie and Gigi, Hector and Peewee, Celia C, Shirrley C, Julie R and Tess P. Aside from the very sumptuous lunch, Bobby and Purita also shared their farm harvest of camote, buko and bananas. It sure is always nice to go to Tanay for a change of scenery and climate in such a short distance. See you on your next birthday Bobby!

Boyet Lim has added another laurel to the hat of PMA Class of 1968. For the third year in a row, Boyet was voted the President of Toyota Dealers Association of the Philippines. Aside from being an industrialist, he is also a daring sportsman. He SCUBA dives, he rides big bikes and a sports fisherman. He also plays golf and loves tennis. 🏆







**JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS**  
President  
**JUSTO P MANLONGAT**  
Secretary

**Golden Jubilee Dinner in BCC**

On our last evening in Baguio last February, the Suaviters gathered for another chance at togetherness and sumptuous dinner to celebrate our **Golden Jubilee** and belated **Valentines' Day!** The spirit of half-century of camaraderie among the Suaviters was very palpable...and to be together once more, made super special by the presence of our US-based Mistahs (**Jake and Sarla Duller, Lita Balansay and son Harry, Dan and Emy Reventar, Rachel Gonzales-Kunkle and hubby Dennis, Cleo and Vivz Erfe** and the ever-dashing **Smokey and Baby Cariño**), was truly a once-in-a-lifetime event!

What a wonderful evening filled with fun, group singing, dancing, couple-games evoking laughter and hilarious story-telling of old and rehashed anecdotes, hahaha! Who would believe certified septuagenarians could still dance, sing together, play games and frolic like once-upon-a-time teenagers? (By the way, have you come across Chris' recent post about **seenagers** or **senior teenagers**? Interested? Come visit our class viber page!) ///bingbo'69

**Suaviter Jubilee Dinner**

As a fitting closing affair to its **Golden Jubilee** festivities, the **Suaviters** gathered for a memorable dinner on April 1<sup>st</sup> at the North Forbes Pavilion. It was a well-attended affair with more than 70 Mistahs, Ladies and family members sharing precious hours together. Incidentally, the date was very significant as the Peemayers in the hall all started as PMA plebes on April 1<sup>st</sup> about 54 or more years ago!

On hand also were some friends of the class: **Cav Mel '68 and Millette Rosales, Cav Nesty '70 and Aurora Carolina** and brand-new **PMAAAI Chair Boots '70 and Emy de Veyra**. Present also was **Cav Glykes Sua '72** who represented his brother, our deceased **Mistah Romy** and his wife **Marlyn**. The distinguished guests spoke briefly and each gave memorable anecdotes and personal experiences with certain Suaviters while they were still actively serving the AFP.

**Mistah Jus and Elen Manlongat**, as they have skillfully done over the years, handled the detailed preparations and clearly outdid themselves to give the Class a very memorable evening! Of course, the ready guidance and support of our Class President **Mistah Jimmy and Lulu delos**



**Santos** was very evident! The stage was decorated simply but made meaningful by large Class graduation and Golden Jubilee pictures at PMA last February as backdrops. As a proof, almost everyone had their pictures taken with the stage as background!

The Class and their guests enjoyed the delectable dinner, had good fun *bolahizing* and re-telling old barracks stories with each other, reminiscing and laughing at old jokes at *walang kamatayang kwentong sink!*

**Mistah Ike Begonia** made a power-point presentation of the **Golden Sword** prior to the actual distribution of two copies to each mistah. The Class acknowledged the unselfish efforts of Ike from the get-go... and even if he had to do ALL the finishing tasks by his lonesome! *We cannot thank you enough for this eternal gift, Mistah Ike!*

Likewise, the affair featured impromptu singing performances by long-missed **Mistah Alex Noble, Mistah Nonoy Carranza**, some Broadway hits by guest singer **Adi Miguel** and a few old but familiar song selections by **The Sounds of '69!**

This maybe a good time as any to say **'Thank You Very Much!'** to our Class organization headed by **Mistah Jimmy** for the many big and small efforts they wholeheartedly exerted in 2018 to keep our Class unified, strengthened ...and afloat! Kudos Mistah and here's to **STILL TO COME** from hereon!!! ///bingbo'69

**Cleo and Vivz Erfe Join Civic Action in Tawi Tawi**

One very early morning in February, Mistah Cleo and Vivz found themselves riding motor bancas from Jolo island to the nearby islands of Bongao and Sitangkai. With them were mostly Marines and their families who joined in that day's civic action activities to benefit poor and indigent local residents.

"Vivian and I with **Cav Doy USNA '66 and Cely Heredia** and four other nurses and doctors made up Team USA of Lingkod Timog. We have this annual Medical Mission in the South for the past years. This year was in Tawi-Tawi in the island towns of Panglima Sugala in Bongao and Sitangkai.

Number of adults and children attended to and treated; Bongao-1,200 and Sitangkai-800. Medical and Surgical services included minor surgery, medical examinations, dental treatments and medical prescriptions, etc. Civic action done were children feeding and distribution of household items.

For this mission, there were about 45 medical and non-medical volunteers. Transportation and security was amply provided by the **3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Brigade**. On the other hand, all logistics and funds used to support these activities were donated by Filipino and American friends from the USA." ///Cleo&Vivz





**Rey Berroya's Birthday Bash!**

The day's affair started with a Thanksgiving Mass in behalf of the celebrator, **Mistah Rey** attended by the **Berroya family**, his **LRTA staff** and co-workers, **Mistahs**, **Cavaliers** especially *comprovincianos* from **Bulacan**, high school classmates from **MH del Pilar High School** in **Malolos City, Bulacan** and many friends.

Featured in the Mass was a renewal of wedding vows of **Rey** and gracious wife **Eleanor**, or **Inday** to close friends, and presided by **Fr. Pascua**.

The evening was filled with sooooo much fun, jokes, stories and happy banter from visitors, non-stop flow of wine and booze and lively music highlighted by surprise (as in *hindi mapigil, hahaha!*) numbers from **Mistahs Benjie Defensor**, **Jimmy delos Santos**, **Joey Syjuco** and **Chris Abanes**. Meanwhile, **Nonoy Carranza**, **Cleo Erfe**, **RJ Garcia** and **femmes Mone' Carranza**, **Vivz Erfe** and **Lily Garcia** enjoyed the delightful dinner, steadily flowing wines and musical presentations.   
///Rey

**Suaviter Birthday celebrators**

Birthday celebrators for May and Jun 2019: **Lily Garcia** (2 May), **+Gus Ariola** (5 May), **Luz Lagman** (8 May), **+Ed Mendigo** (12 Jun), **Marlyn Sua** (18 Jun), **+Ferdie Lagman** (18 Jun) and **Inday Berroya** (21 Jun).

**See y'all in 2029, Suaviters!**

While the euphoria of our golden jubilee celebration still fills us with bone-deep exhilaration, everyone is invited to offer prayers to our God to keep all Suaviters, their ladies, children and grandchildren and bless them with good health till our **Diamond Jubilee in 2029!**   
///bingbo'69



Our mistah, Caster RA, together with his OAO, Marites, came back from abroad and staycationed for a few days. The magitings and mas magitings feted them with a sumptuous lunch at a Japanese restaurant in Greenhills.

A class meeting was held at the Camp Aginaldo Golf Clubhouse. It was decided







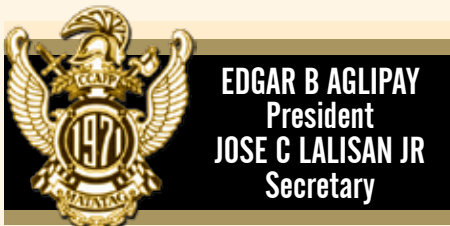
there that a quarterly lunch meeting would be a regular class event with the class fund sponsoring it. Approved, too, at the same meeting was the proposal that the class fund be used to shoulder the registration fees of magitings participating in the quarterly golf fellowship and tournament organized by the Corps of Veteran Cavaliers.

The whole class extends its warm greetings and congratulations to our

mistah, Jun Ebdane, for winning in the just-held midterm election for governorship of Zambales and also to mas magiting Cion Acop for winning the congressional seat of Antipolo. Congresswoman Cion succeeds her magiting husband, Romy Acop.

Twelve Magiting golfers participated in the ADL Cup held at the Ayala Greenfields Golf Club on April 22 in celebration of Bert Lina's birthday.

As regards the class project at Veterans Memorial Medical Center, the contract agreement will be signed this May. In June will start the construction of a 12-room Magiting wing. The estimated project cost is P26M. Our mistahs DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu and PVAO Usec. Nesty Carolina spearheaded this laudable project. Several friends and honorary members of the class pledged their unconditional support.



**Meetings and Fellowships**

**Last April 2, 2019**, the officers of the class had a meeting at the Valle Verde 4 with the following agenda: the preparations for the 50th anniversary on 2021, the fund raising activity to support the on-going projects of the class, and eventually, to settle the uniform for the golden anniversary.

**Last April 14**, the class has its celebration of Palm Sunday at the residence of Egay and Mawie Aglipay followed with a mass. After which, there was a cake giving away ceremony to all birthday celebrators for the second quarter. These celebrators were Rey Velasco, Bing Alano, Sandie Navida, Nina delos Reyes, Rey Acop, Sara Paredes, Aleli Belonia, Arlene Francia, and Beng Ibo.

**On the same day**, there was a class meeting for the second quarter which discussed the progress reports of the Vice Presidents in the works of their respective committee involved in the 2021 affair and also the latest development on the increase of the retirees' pay and the "collectibles", if any, from the 2018 and 2019 budget. Those present in the meeting were Prexy

Egay Aglipay, Bing Alano, Tex Balmaceda, Dan Perico, Bert Sillona, Rey Acop, Dick de Leon, Aris delos Reyes, Dong Tabamo, Joey Lalisán, Wency Cruz, Oca Martinez, Totoy Rivera, Atot Paredes, Marte Chioco, Rey Velasco, Jake Malajacan, JB Ramos, and EQ Fernandez.

The Mas-Matatags had also their own meeting. Prexy Verna Albano presided and those present were Mawie Aglipay, Beng Ibo, Lulu Tabamo, Sandie Navida, Nina delos Reyes, Aleli Belonia, Sara Paredes, Arlene Francia, Puring Cruz, Jennie Domingo, Jing Martinez, Benjie Rivera, Marmie Sillona, Celia Lalisán, Tetet Chioco, Chato Perico, Fim Velasco, and Lita Gil.

**Last April 23, 2019**, birthday boy Rey Acop hosted a golf fellowship at the Forest Hills in Antipolo. It was a difficult golf course due to its hilly terrain and long par 3s and 4s. But no matter how hard the challenge was, many "come-backing" golfers joined the event namely Marte Chioco, Dan Perico, and Atot Paredes. Newbie Dong Tabamo also joined just to feel hitting the golf balls in the fairways after a short lesson at the Aguinaldo driving range conducted by mistah Tex Balmaceda. Others who joined this fellowship were Rex Piad, Tito Legaspi, Dan Belonia, Teody Viduya, Rey Alcasid, Tex Balmaceda, Rollie Garcia, Joey Lalisán, Bing Alano, Jerry Albano, and Totoy Rivera. After the golf play, the participants were treated to a healthy dinner in a famous restaurant in Quezon City by the celebrant. Sen Greg

Honasan and Atty Oca Martinez joined us later in that dinner.

**Last April 25, 2019**, the class hosted the 3rd Drive Thru with PMA Class 71 Golf for a Cause Tournament in the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course. More than 130 players participated. The golf tournament was made to support the projects of class 71 in its scholarship program, improvement of the two (2) adopted rooms in VMCM, medical support to mistahs and dependents, and other charitable programs. The class would like to thank again the sponsors and participants who made this fund-raising activity a success.

**On that same day**, the Mas-Matatags had their "ME Time" in BGC to meet and greet Becky Lumang, the widow of the late mistah Ernie Lumang. Those who attended were the Mas-Matatag Prexy Verna Albano, Jing Martinez, Lita Gil, Malou Garcia, Mawie Aglipay, Barrie Castellano, and Mina Alcasid.

**Last April 29, 2019**, birthday celebrator Bing Alano hosted a mini tournament in the Luisita Golf Course in Tarlac. He had "fun" awards to the participants but these awards favored the newbies and come-backing golfers. Samples of the "fun" awards were the "most number of jabong" award, "most number of 3 putts" award, "most number of hitting from the sand traps" award, and the "shortest or nearest to the pin missed putt" award. Seventeen (17) Hampaslupas joined in this crazy event. These were Jerry Albano, Egay Aglipay, Rex Piad, Rey Acop, Tex

Balmaceda (who won the jabongs award), Rollie Garcia, Tito Legaspi, Dan Belonia, Totoy Rivera, Rey Alcasid, Dan Perico, Joey Lalisan, Boy Castellano, Ed Matillano, Marte Chioco) won the nearest to the hole missed putt. 1 foot), Dong Tabamo, and the host, Bing Alano.

**Last May 8, 2019**, six (6) Hampaslupas went to Cebu to join the golfing activities with some “adventure” hosted by mistah Rollie Garcia. The group composed of Bing Alano, Dan Perico, Rey Acop, Dong Tabamo, and Rollie Garcia played in the Cebu Country Club and the Alta Vista Golf Courses. In their adventure, they went out to see the butandings, went jet skiing, visited the reforestation area of mistah Tiboe Fusilero, and boodling to their hearts content courtesy of Rollie. It was a 3-day happy memory of the Magnificent 7 with Tiboe joining them in the later part.

**On that same day** also, six Hampaslupas had a fellowship in Southlinks Golf Course in Alabang. They were Boy Castellano, Dan Belonia, Rey Alcasid, Rex Piad, Joey Lalisan, and Tito Legaspi. Rey Alcasid was big winner that day.

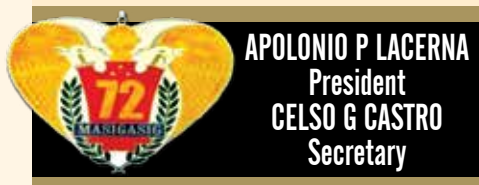
**Last May 9, 2019**, during the PETFI annual meeting and election, mistah EQ Fernandez was voted as Chairman and yours truly was voted as Vice President for the year 2019-20.

What is amazing is that many mistahs and our Mas-Matatags are now active in joining our meetings and fellowships. It should be the trend... now that we are no longer getting younger.



Quote for this Issue: *Death is not the greatest loss in Life. The greatest loss is what*

*dies inside us while we live. Norman Cousins //JCL//20 May 2019*



**Greetings.**

Here are the highlights of Class activities for the months of April and May:

**Lenten Recollection:**

The traditional Class Recollection was held last April 6, 2019 at the function room of Villamor Golf Club from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with 29 Mistahs in attendance. It was a sort of spiritual renewal in time for the observance of the Holy Week. The theme was “LENT: A Call to Conversion - A Journey into the Heart of Our Savior”, with Fr. Reu Galoy as Recollection Master. He is a Franciscan priest and currently the Parish Priest of Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati. In his lecture, Fr. Galoy

articulated the essence of conversion based on Bernard Lonergan’s doctoral dissertation of operative grace in the thought of Thomas Aquinas, summarized as follows:

1. Intellectual Conversion as a new way of seeing, understanding and knowing things on its perspective, capacity to go beyond what we already know and making mature and objective judgment.
2. Moral Conversion as a criterion of choice from satisfaction to the good of value. Intellectual conversion flows into moral conversion to make a better judgment and choices.
3. Religious Conversion can be seen as a new way of loving, reaching up in active love and opening ourselves to God and other persons. Relatedly, it guides us to practice self-transcendence.

The recollection ended at 4 p.m. followed by confession and anticipated mass. One thing I noticed though was no one from the boys confessed Observation lang Pards, no malice what so ever, he he he. Maybe they confessed to their respective

wives. Indeed, it was a very meaningful and enlightening activity. Nanette Valles thought lends credit to success of the RECO when she said, “the Reco was indeed an enlightening inspiration for us specially this coming Lenten Season. The different Conversions which I encountered for the first time during the course of Fr. Galoy’s lecture is worth knowing and truly inspiring that we shall put in our lives today as we walk with our Lord.” In attendance were: Pol and Alyn Lacerna, Bing and Yolly Valencia, Helen and Eric Evangelista, Celso and Fe Castro, Monying and Vangie Dizon, Ric and Cely Nobleza, Albin and Lou Rivera, Babes and Lucille Flores, Manding and Mila Naval, Ogie and En Alino, Nanette Valles, Odette Bibit, Art and Carol Alabanza, Orly and Melba Buenventura, Gene and Pilar Senga, Malou Joaquin and Orly and Marido Ambrocio.

Kudos to Prez Pol and to the Ladies Working Group headed by Alyn for ensuring it. Special thanks also to Pamela Lacerna, who acted as facilitator/ coordinator of the activity. Mabuhay kayong lahat.



**Class Meeting:**

The Class Officers/BOT and members of Ladies Working Group met last May 10 at PNGC. The highlights of the meetings were:

a. The Class 3rd quarter social on June 15 was modified into get-together/fellowship from 3-7p.m. at Ogbinar Hall, PNGC sans fanfare like we had in the previous quarterly socials. The anti-flu vaccinations will be administered during this activity.

b. The Ladies Working Group will plan the visitations to some Mistahs having health issues. Details of the plan will be finalized as soon as possible. Likewise, the Committee will come up with a plan of the Outreach program to be undertaken sometimes in October.

**News Updates:**

The mid-term election is over and the electorates had spoken. Let's all move on and wish those elected shall keep their campaign promises for the betterment of their constituents.

We are saddened Mistah Jun Espino didn't make it for the second term as Congressman of the 5th District of Pangasinan. Maybe God has something better in-store for him. It's time for him to relax, recharge and re-energize after the grueling and stressful campaign activities. Maybe this time he could be the adviser (pro bono) of Mely and other siblings who won last election. But for Masigasig you are the real winner and one thing sure we are very confident of your triumphant comeback. As the saying goes *"abangan ang pagbabalik ng lawin"*. Good luck and we wish you the best of everything.

In retrospect, we are happy and elated that six members of Espino family won last election. We congratulate Mistah Mely as the new Mayor of Bugallon. Their son, Amado (Pogi) III was re-elected as Governor for the 2nd term. Jumel Anthony, the youngest among the siblings, was elected



Congressman of the 2nd District, while Espino's brother, Amado was also re-elected as Mayor of Bautista. Their two nephews, Joseph and Jerame Vic won as Vice Mayor of Bautista and President of Pangasinan SK Federations, respectively. To the Espinos, congratulations and more power.

We also feel sad that Mistahs Art Lomibao and Eddie Adan failed in their bid for party-list nomination under 1 Philippines party. With all honesty, these two guys are very much qualified as party-list representatives compared with some left leaning personalities and dummies of the powerful and the rich. To Art and Ed, next time around you'll make it. Congratulations and carry-on the good fight.

**Birthday Greetings:**

Our birthday greetings and felicitations to the following celebrators; MAY: Cely Nobleza, Amy Brillantes, Lucille Flores, Lino Caringal, Angelito Santos(Dec), Marivic Aurelio, Nene Pestano, Roger Favis and Grace Sta Clara; JUNE: Eric Aurelio, Raffy Vilches, Med Pestano, En Alino, Julius Yarcia, Lis Bismonte (Dec), Cora De Vera, Jun Espino, Orly Buenaventura, Efren Abu, Neris Batestil and Malou Joaquin. God Bless and Happy Birthday. May you have more to come.

**Notable Quote:**

*"Change for me, is the spice of life. It is bittersweet, sometimes honey, sometimes lemon, but never bland."*. Charlotte O Dea.

Till next class call. Happy reading to all.../cgc.







JURADO CUP 2019 will be held in LAS VEGAS, NV on OCTOBER 25-27, 2019.

**Schedule of activities are as follows:**

**DAY 1 (Friday, October 25)**

0800 - 1200 ARRIVAL / CHECK-IN HOTEL  
 1300 - 1600 BOWLING  
 1800 - 2200 WELCOME DINNER/  
 BOODLEFIGHT / FELLOWSHIP

**DAY 2 (Saturday, October 26)**

0800 - 1300 GOLF (Revere Golf Course, Henderson, NV)  
 1300 - 1700 BREAK/FREE TIME  
 1700 - 2200 DINNER/GOLF AWARDING/  
 KARAOKE NIGHT/DANCING

**DAY 3 (Sunday, October 27)**

0700 - 0830 TENNIS  
 0900 - 1030 BASKETBALL  
 1030 - 1200 VOLLEYBALL  
 1300 - 1600 LUNCHEON / AWARDING and  
 CLOSING CEREMONIES  
 1700 - DEPARTURES

**NOTES:**

- As host/organizers, the Midwest Group will be coming up with a website very soon to feature details of the different sports venues, recommended hotel/billeting facilities, rules of the games, and attendee registration, among others.

- All sports and social events venues except golf will be announced immediately as soon as arrangements shall have been secured.

- Venues for all activities will be in the Henderson, NV area which are mostly about 20 min. drive from the Strip in downtown Las Vegas.



L-R Gene Cedo, Pons Crucero, Jun Esperon, Willy Garcia, Ricky Dela Paz

**IMPORTANT:** All those planning to attend and participate in the above-mentioned sports and social events are enjoined to signify as soon as possible as the organizers need the estimated number of attendees to make the reservations/arrangements and be able to get the best deals and minimize the cost of participation for all. We want to know also those interested to do group sight-seeing tours to be scheduled outside the 3-day activities.

- CHAPTER PRESIDENTS / PMAAA GROUP REPRESENTATIVES may start canvassing now members who will attend the Jurado Cup 2019 Las Vegas. Please include in list what sports and social event each is planning to attend. Submit your respective consolidated list of registered attendees thru any of the following: (1) as reply to this FB posting; (2) at the JC19 Las Vegas website, when already activated; (3) email: [hormillosa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hormillosa@sbcglobal.net); (4) email: [roryh5578@gmail.com](mailto:roryh5578@gmail.com)

Anent the above, PMA Class 74 will be sending a contingent to compete in various events in Jurado Cup 2019 in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA on 25-27 October 2019, composed of USA based and Philippine based Mistahs as follows:

**USA** – Vlady Punto, Pardes Espejo, Ralph Amador, Tony Ramos, Larry Doria, Pete Cruz

**Phil** – Jun Esperon, Sonny Razon, Ricky dela Paz, Willy Garcia, Danny Abinoja, Jun Noble, Amy Tolentino, Rene Rieza, Aji Gutierrez, Ernie Belen, Tony Romero, and Boy Bernal (those interested may still signify until October 2019). They will be joined by their lovely ladies to give morale support.

The Alumni of the Philippine Military Academy in the United States have been staging the Jurado Cup Sports Tournament for the past several years. Patterned after the PMA Intramurals, where the cadets showcase their physical abilities and represent what they call "Company Pride" (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta), Jurado Cup Sports Tournament USA is more about goodwill and brotherhood, fellowship and camaraderie rather than competition. Although it is set on competition setting, participants look at it as a moment of fun, frolics, and enjoyment and just expressing themselves through sports with no boundary of upperclass or underclass. The lesson and spirit of PMA live in each participant's heart.

**Dan Jimenez, ex-president of PMAAA East Coast Chapter wrote in his blog:**

*"There are more to this than sports competitions and boodling to the max. It*



L-R Jun Esperon, Gene Cedo, Sonny Razon, Willy Garcia, Jun Noble, Ricky Dela Paz, and Pons Crucero.



La exaltation image of Jesus Christ owned by Mistah Amy Tolentino Family, Angono, Rizal





L-R Oca Valenzuela, Amy Tolentino, Winny Tolentino, Hazel Garcia, Willy Garcia, Agnes Valenzuela attending Good Friday procession 19 April 2019 in Angono, Rizal.



L-R Hazel Garcia, Winny Tolentino, and Agnes Valenzuela joining the procession.



L-R Pepo Chanco 75, Pete Cruz, Larry Doria, James Dullas 81 after a round of Golf at TPC Valencia, "The Oaks of Valencia Los Angeles". April 23, 2019.



Awards/Dinner for the 4-man scramble tournament. We scored 2 under and didn't place. First place score was 13 under. 2nd and 3rd place were 9 under. Pete won a raffle for a foursome at TPC Valencia. Anyone visiting LA in the future please signify with Pete if you're interested. Regular green fee for TPC is \$125. Pete will celebrate his big birthday bash first week of Aug. Come one, come all.



L-R Pepo Chanco, Ching and Margot Lagrimas, Tony and Nanette Ramos, Baby Hilomen, Pete and Baby Cruz, Larry and Butch Doria, Mar and Bernadette Laurico at Margot's 60th birthday.

goes beyond the cheering, the kayahizing, the laughter. It goes beyond the passing of time and the obvious tolls of age, beyond what we can recall collectively and perhaps re-experience. It is what youth and idealism are all about. It goes all the way back to Loakan, Fort del Pilar, Philippine Military Academy. That is where we all came from regardless

of birth and circumstance. We are all sons and daughters of PMA. For two nights and three days, the former plebes savored the camaraderie and fellowship reserved but for them. No rank is considered, no class is a barrier, no status is paid attention to. We are the Corps. Even blood mutes its significance. Yes, by trying our best and by enjoying each

other's company, we paid tribute to our Alma Mater. In the same way a mother's children do without masks or misgivings. Just pure and honest camaraderie."

**Birthday celebrants for the Months of May and June. Wishing them all the best!**

**MAY**

- 02 Tato Salud,
- 09 Sonny Tolentino
- 11 Pat Escudero
- 25 Rody Obaniana
- 28 Buddy Esguerra.

**JUNE**

- 01 Danny Abinoja
- 13 Tony Ramos
- 17 Boie Seville
- 25 Tony Romero
- 26 Amy Tolentino







**EMILIO C MARAYAG JR**  
President  
**ZOSIMO D CARLOS JR**  
Secretary

With God's Providence this year's summertime was brief with the coming of the rains in early May. This greatly relieved our farmers and prevented water crisis that affects thousands of household in Manila and many provinces nation-wide.

Likewise, the relatively peaceful mid-term elections manifested the commendable efforts of our armed forces and the national police led by our alumni. Some of our Mistahs and their family members joined the recent elections and we wish to congratulate them: Mayor Jeff Soriano of Tuguegarao City and Mayor Pol Bataoil of Lingayen, Pangasinan. Two of Sandy Javier's family members- Mayor Michael Javier and Representative Karen Javier of Leyte- and Jimmy Caringal's son, Tutti of Cabuyao, also won their candidacies.

#### NEW GRAND DADS

Our erstwhile Class Secretary Cholo Carlos and his equally energetic predecessor Josol Solidum are the newest grandfathers. The new status now elevates them to the "perpetuals" degree, a proof of preserving and propagating one's lineage. Other members have yet to earn such title that includes a right to handle a sweet-smelling "bundle of joys" and the privilege to sleep with a grand mom!

#### GOLF AFFECTIONADOS, BIKERS and the IRON MAN

Our golfers recently clinched the team championship of the 1st quarter Corps of Retired Cavaliers Golf Tournament held at the Philippine Navy Golf Course. Magilas



team captain Jogy Fojas led Sendong Ferrer, Gerry Defensor, Nonong Cayton, Toto Golez, Doo Maligalig, Cholo Carlos and Mon Punzalan to victory under the punishing summer weather. The Class formed the Wednesday Group to pool golf enthusiasts in the Class not only to promote individual health regimen but most importantly to maintain camaraderie and unity. From this group comes the entries to golf competitions. Other members include Joey Salvacion, Jimmy Caringal, Boying Alarcio, Vic Boco, Jess Verzosa, Sonny Cachuela, Rey Ramirez, Ely Dela Paz, Romy Hilomen, Edong Acuña and Pol Bataoil.

Some classmates are members of a bikers club: Alex Yano, Bong Ibrado, Ely Dela Paz, Macky Maclang, and Abner Cabalquinto.

Toto Golez, the Magilas Iron Man, attends as many triathlon and similar sports events his busy schedule would permit. He intends to be a sure recipient of Vic Boco's cash reward for reaching 100.

#### OVERSEAS MEMBERS

Some Mistahs visit us to join various occasions. Gerry Tenazas, Sammy Tayag, Caloy Cagaanan, Art Segovia and Monching Dela Cruz come more frequently than others though. Allan Bonduyan was also sighted recently. But Edwin Ditangco, Alex Resñigit and Maning Busa visit us rarely. Teody Lapuz has yet to sound off and appear. Ruben Tandoc, although unable to come home, continues to communicate through our chat group.

With many of them now retired we hope to see them soon and wish them good health and more fortune.

#### MID YEAR ASSEMBLY

This year's general membership assembly will take place in July at the Philippine Navy Golf Club. The exact date and function room will be disseminated as soon as final arrangement is decided in the next board meeting.

The "65 LESS" part and major projects status report will highlight the gathering.

#### OTHER ACTIVITIES

Appreciating nature and talents while relaxing appears to be gaining tracks among our members. Abner Cabalquinto, Vic Boco, Joey Salvacion, Alex Yapching, Mon Punzalan and some others allocate time to travel abroad and some local places.

Many watched the live performances of "Ang Huling El Bimbo" and the Strumm's Musical Bands. In June, some signified to see the Carole King show.

Some class members- Bong Ibrado, Epoy Marayag, Mon Punzalan and Nonong Cayton- attended the Quarterly Fellowship







of the Association of General and Flag Officers last April 25 and listened to the latest government initiatives to win the peace in our land. Cav Charlie Galvez '85, the Peace Process Adviser, presented the strategy to establish long lasting peace.



**BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS FOR MAY AND JUNE**

**MAY:** 3- Ric Blancaflor, 16- Toto Golez, 19- Rey Ramirez, 23- Sammy Narcise, 29- Caloy Cagaanan, and 30- Willy Lino.

**JUNE:** 3- Nat Legazpi and Tanggol

Gatdula, 9- Macky Maclang, 10- Epyo Marayag, 13- Alex Yano, 14 Gibo Teodoro and Ed Lacanienta, 16- Baby Del Mundo, 19- Josol Solidum, 20- Cezar Agcon, and 28- Joseph Bernardo.



1. Joe and Bles BURGOS and Manny and Susan DAHAN find time to frolics in Bangui, Ilocos Norte. Hosting them is our mistah-mayor Fidel CIMATU Jr. The beach, windmills, and the good local food are a happy treat for the visitors from Manila. More mistahs will go to Bangui next time. Mabuhay ka, alkalde Fidel!

**2. SEMANA SANTA:**

We take timeout from our roles as leaders and directors. Instead, we accept being led and directed by the Supreme Provider. He is the ultimate refuge of our weary minds and souls. Let HIM be our purpose for living, because WE are His reason for dying.

**3. BBB (BalikBayan Balita):**

Jimmy and Terrie GARINGO arrive for a vacation. We warmly welcome our mistah NYers on a summer (el niño) day. Home 'sweat' home! A class welcome dinner is organized in Niu Vikings in SM Aura in Taguig. Jimmy and Terrie reciprocate hosting a tsikenklab lunch in AFPDOC.





**4. “Masikap Remembrance Day”** on May 1 at the LNMB in Taguig. Mistahs, spouses, and some family members of deceased mistahs attend mass in bulwagan. After, they light candles and place flowers on gravesites of five mistahs interred in the memorial cemetery. Rest in peace.

**5. MIDTERM HALALAN:** The people have spoken and the VICTORS are incumbents, returnees, neophytes. Now we wait for delivery of campaign promises and pledges.



**ELMER R SORIA**  
President  
**PHILIP S FORTUN**  
Secretary

*“Teach us to make our play in every game, whether in mere sports or in life’s mightier struggles, one where our desire to win is second only to our love of the game itself; where we triumph as considerate victors or lose with grace and a determined will to win.”* – excerpt from The Cadet’s Prayer

To our beloved mistahs who have fought the good fight last May 2019 elections: Vic C., Rambo DG., Benjie M., Sander S., and Amin U., congratulations for fighting as true cavaliers! You all fought above board and we are proud of you all! And particularly for Amin U. in Kalinggalang Kaluang, Sulu, where the mayoralty race is currently being

hotly contested as the election returns slowly trickle in, may you come out the clear winner, mistah!

For our very own victors who are now faced with the gargantuan task of governing as public servants that their constituents can confidently rely on and look up to: Rambo DG. (Mayor, Sta. Teresita, Cagayan) and Benjie M. (Mayor, Baguio City), as well as to our honorary Sandigans: Richard Gomez (Mayor, Ormoc City), Roy Loyola (Mayor, Carmona, Cavite), Jay Vergara (Vice-Mayor, Cabanatuan City), Lucy Gomez (Representative, 4th District, Leyte), Dahlia Loyola (Representative, 5th District, Cavite), and Ria Vergara (Representative, 3rd District, Nueva Ecija), may you not lose sight of your commitment to the people who have put their trust on you. More power to you all!

**Other activities worth noting:**

Last March 28, 2019, we commemorated our 37<sup>th</sup> graduation day anniversary with a simple Sandigan 82 Anniversary Golf Fellowship, which was held at the CAGC. The lunch and drinks







that followed enlivened retold stories and exploits of cadet days gone by.

The celebration resumed when we commemorated another milestone in our lives last April 10, 2019, where we had a full Sandigan 82 41<sup>st</sup> Reception Day Anniversary that started off with an early light breakfast. A wreath-laying and mass at the LNMB shortly followed where we called to remembrance our 18 deceased mistahs (16 graduates and two (2) honorary). The Fellowship Golf (North Team vs South Team) at the PN Golf Course came after that, which culminated with a dinner with our beautiful ladies. The dinner's program saw the oath-taking of our new honorary members: Atty Orly Dy and Star City Mayor Deo Macalma. Welcome to the Sandigan Fold, mga mistah! A formal turn-over of leadership to our new set of Class Officers, under the stewardship of El Capitan Jess M. followed suit. Our congratulations to our outgoing Class Officers, led by El Presidente Elmer S., for a job well done in steering the Class superbly through all its past activities under their

watch. We trust that our new set of leaders would do so as well, if not better than the outgoing.

Lastly, our mistahs in SoCal had their own "Fellowship of Sandigans" last June 7-9, 2019. Home base was in Pasadena, CA where activities for both golfers and non-golfers were enjoyed by everyone. Highlight of it was the "Sandigan 82 vs The Corps" golf fellowship, which was held at the Marshall Canyon Golf Club in La Verne, CA. Kudos to the steering committee led by Raffy M. and Renoir P. for a job well done of continuing to strengthen the bond among us all!

And now, our warm greetings to our May and June celebrants!


**For May birthdays:** (05) Alex "The Pogi" L.; (06) Mike L.; (11) Vic "Shot Put" C.; (14) Jerry May B.; (16) Eli P.; (17) Danny "The Poncho Man" P.; (19) Abner "Buyong" D.; Mel M.; (21) Raffy DH.; (22) Butch S.; (26) Rolly B.; (28) Rolly "Junx" J.; Jerome P.; and (29) Max C.

**Wedding anniversaries:** (01) Danny and

Chona C.; Arleen and Marmie G.; (03) Amin and Jarida U.; (05) Alex and Chula S.; (07) Cris and Monet A.; (13) Bong and Analyn B.; (19) Alex and Abigail S.; and (22) Cenz and Lani M.

**For June birthdays:** (04) Kiko C.; (09) Cris "Kleng" C.; (14) Alex S.; (16) Jun "Guimoy" G.; Ivan S.; (26) Jun "The Engineer" A.; (27) Danny B.; and (29) Renier L.

**Wedding anniversaries:** (03) Job and Marjorie A.; (08) Ed and Vangie G.; (09) Pangga and Elvie F.; (12) Ed and Marlene I.; (13) Mon and Susan C.; (14) Sander and Ruby S.; (16) Elson and Kate T.; (21) Jun and Dang A.; (22) August and Maja T.; (25) Cecil and Dalla C.; (28) Edwin and Nedy E.; (29) Danny and Fe E.; (30) Al and Malou L.; and Vic and Aileen Y.

We would also like to call to remembrance our beloved mistahs who have gone ahead of us who would surely have celebrated their birthdays with us had they been still around: William "Willy" Abellera on May 31, Jovencio "Jade" F. Jadena on June 1, and Leonides "Leo" C. Ortiz on June 5. **-JimMonta82-** 



**SALVADOR MELCHOR B MISON JR**  
President  
**FRANCIS D ALAURIN**  
Secretary

Two clusters of events that transpired during the past several months need our highlight that, while they are already of common knowledge to us, however, the need to underscore them remain strong to formally recognize their innate significance. By each day, justifications to write about them has become weaker, if not, nearing to nil, that this bi-monthly issue of the Cavaliers is the most appropriate venue to discuss them.

**First cluster: Class events**

The date was March 2 that saw a transition in the PMA Maharlika Class leadership. A new set of officers was elected whereby a majority, consensus vote placed Jun Mison at the helm of the Maharlika Class. He is expected to provide the inspiring presence, a renewed purpose and direction to Class concerns and priorities. On the other hand, Raffy Valencia was elected Vice President, nurturing a groundswell of managerial acumen as the AFP's Inspector General. Francis Alaurin is the new Class Secretary, Robert Alligayu as the "ingatyaman", while Dino Dino is the prying Auditor.

The new leadership takes off from where ex-President Paeng Mariano and the set of officers that staunchly

supported him outperformed themselves, gratifying the Class with such outstanding accomplishments as the successful conduct of the Maharlika Cup in April 2018, the piecing together of the "The Maharlikans in 2019" – thanks to Jess Alvarez - and the seamless preparations for this year's PMA Alumni Homecoming. Silent yet faithfully rendered, working committees made an enjoyable homecoming for all.

Almost simultaneously, the Maharlika Golf Club elected as President Dan Ubaldo, the gentle-Bull of the Philippine Coast Guard, who will navigate the Club through the exciting world of this gentlemen sport. Providing the supporting pillars are the Vice Presidents Ronnie Estilles (External) and Jun Perez (Internal); Secretary Joel Cantos; Treasurer Ranier Idio; and Auditor Danny





Pelisco. The Club's goal is to promote closer bond among members. Golfers and non-golfers alike have aligned with the Club's exalted goal to win periodically held inter-classes tournaments that, outside the traditional armed services, is, conceivably, the most credible yardstick of Class pride, prestige and recognition.

On April 30, we buried Ariel Briones. He is survived by Melanie, and their four children. Eulogies visualized the life that he lived, and the vision he advocated. Tenaciously, he held on to optimism in the race to the Class leadership, having graduated at the Class' first upper quartile, and meritoriously earning full scholarship at the Asian Institute of Management. He pioneered computer literacy programs when typewriters and snopakes predominate most of the AFP offices. He lived a life ahead of his time.

**Second cluster: It ends here...**

The seething retirement fever is fading, and we allocate, once more, this space to the Maharlikans who recently retired from the armed services before such issue is put to a permanent rest.

So, we were the Maharlikans - the guardians of the moment, the world changer "wannabes" - who had a shot of a lifetime to contribute to the complex, multi-faceted tasks of nation-building. We produced highly dedicated, talented public servants who were the pride of the Class.

At our broad front are three-star ranking Maharlikans who came in succession to command the same unit. Raul del Rosario, as the J5, consistently elevated the AFP's strategic mindset before serving as Commander of two area commands - the Central and Western Commands. The Clark International Airport had eyes on him long before his retirement in 2017, and now serves

as its Vice President for Airport Operations and Management. Oca Lactao succeeded him at the Central Command and showed no qualms venturing the business world that made him President and COO of two business corporations, and the Rotary Club in Pasig Sunriseo. Oca also serves as a Board of Director of the Philippine Reclamation Authority. Paul Atal came after Oca. A tested veteran of numerous secessionist and communist military campaigns, he was named the Inspector General, AFP till his 2018 retirement.

Paul, now constructing his house in Lingayen, Pangasinan, must have infected the "unbelievable sensation of retirement" in Noel Albano who now shares quality time with his four daughters and 1yo grandson in Ontario, Canada. For Ernie Lopena who retired with the AFP Procurement Service, he breathes fresh air in the thick rain forests of Lipa as full-time pensioner.

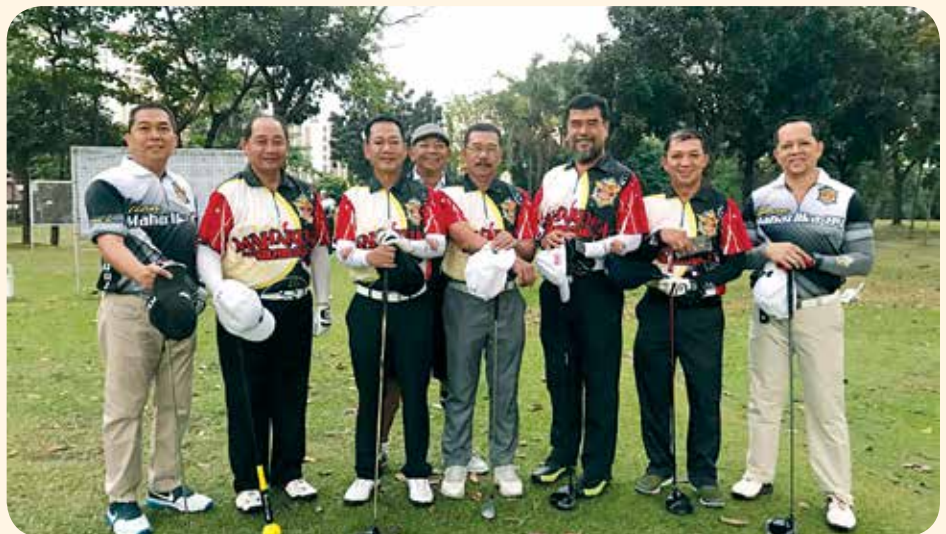
A couple of Maharlika's "guardians of the seas" have, likewise, completely relented to the retirement fever. Jojo Gonzales is,

today, a full-time domesticated "house-band", far from the 2002 Oakwood Mutiny heroics that brought him fame in defending Malacanang along Pasig River against the rightist groups, as he excelled in handling the sinking of MV Harita Bauxite in Pangasinan. For Bay Ybanez, he was the Commander, Internal Affairs Service at the denouement of his Coast Guard career, and now lives a completely stress-free life.

Maharlika's reliable "cops-on-the-block" are not far behind. Jun Cerbo, twice as PNP Spokesman, and Director for Intelligence, transitioned drastically to a full-time, professional grandfather who, today, is an avid golfer, biker, amateur photographer. Noli Talino was the invincible, armed-to-the-teeth Special Action Force Director, and a 2019 Metrobank Awardee for Continuing Excellence and Service. He is now in "most trying times" coping up with family and golf activities. Reddy Diaz served as the Regional Director of the PRO 6. Having retired in 2017, he now works on every detail of his golf swings and putting skills.

Three Maharlikans have responded to the callings of the technical service. Ulysses Abellera, who served as the Regional Director of the Cordilleras, was the mainstay Director of the PNP Legal Service defending in courtyards dedicated policemen getting rid our streets with the elements. Nandy Gabriel, who remains with PMA Academic Group, keeps us humbled and in constant spiritual sanity with the Daily Devotions he posts at the Maharlika Viber. As a Church Minister, Job Marasigan was recently elevated to the Extra Ordinary Minister of the Holy Communion (EOMHC) in Sto Tomas Parish Church, Batangas. He now grows the best equatorial coffee in Philippine tropics.

The corporate world continues to put in the spotlight the reliability of the Maharlikans. Jun Constante now heads AFPMBAI's Administrative Division. For what





might have pleased the AFP of his astute recovery of about P12 Billion worth of real estate properties from illegal settlers in Fort Bonifacio has been obscured by what he considers as his greatest accomplishments - longest putt, longest drive, hole-in-one – in golf. Paeng Mariano now serves as the Chief, Security Officer of the Union Bank. He made robust the Philippine-Indonesia border relations before concluding his career as the Navy's Vice Commander. For Louie Oppus, he was conferred the prestigious Presidential "Lingkod Bayan" Award as junior aide to President "Steady Eddie" Ramos, and moving at the helm of the Firearms and Explosive Office culminated his colorful career. He now heads the security of one of the country's premier banks. Caloy Tabo who was the Deputy Chief, ISAFP and Commander, AFP Anti-Drugs Task Force maintains that his most significant accomplishment remains "CLASSIFIED, and now works as SMC consultant on special concerns.



**So, for us, Maharlikans, it ends here.**

On 14 June '19, all roads lead to the Bonifacio Naval Station, FBMM where, 39 years ago, 366 raw, untested yet determined,

highly talented Maharlikans submitted to the clarion call of Filipino Soldierly.

Jun Mison, the last Maharlikan in

the active military service, will be accorded the Testimonial Parade and Review to honor his retirement. The dexterity of a Vice Chief Staff, AFP has captured every Class member's wish - end his armed service right where it all started at the BNS. The ceremonies will also be a tribute to all Maharlikans - living and departed, in-country and on foreign soil, regular and honorary.

We formally end an era of unbridled aspirations matched with great accomplishments in public governance. We will rekindle the old days with sensational, super hero stories as reliable, battle-tested combatants who survived defending the Motherland, and which have defined us against ideological insurgencies, crime, terrorism, rebellion and corruption, and the call for moral courage and fortitude. We will also put to rest the proverbial labyrinth of constantly establishing the intricate relationship of a "soldier and his rifle" with the economic growth, development and prosperity, poverty reduction, gross national product, defense of human rights, and promoting the country's good standing in the regional and global order.



national product, defense of human rights, and promoting the country's good standing in the regional and global order.



**GALILEO GERARD R KINTANAR JR**  
Chairman  
**RESTITUTO F PADILLA JR**  
Secretary

The previous year and the new year started off well for the Class following the successful completion of the stint of Charlie Galvez as CSAFP and the ascendancy of Benjie Madrigal as Charlie's successor following his appointment by the Commander-in-Chief. Everyone is well aware that active duty service Sandiwans are now a vanishing breed as the class slowly transitions from active to the retired sector. Notwithstanding this, the class welcomes the designation to key positions in Government of some of our retiring Mistahs as testament for our quality service to the nation.

**PMA Homecoming:**

A significant number of us along with their lovely Sandiwatas and family members did the nostalgic trip back to

Fort Del Pilar for the annual pilgrimage last 15-17 February. Doubly significant during this event too was the opportunity for all members to see our main pay forward and sponsored project at the Academy, the completed SANDIWA Lecture Hall at Melchor Hall's second floor. Everyone was happy and proud to see the completed project that would definitely benefit the Corps of Cadets and the PMA for its increasing number of functions and social venue requirements. Way to go SANDIWANS!!!! We have to thank Mon Apolinario (our Class Chairman), Charlie Galvez, Rolly Bautista, Jun Kintanar, Benjie Madrigal, and the rest of the Class officers at that time led by Mon Apolinario and Boy Vingson for their superb leadership and management of the project. Special thanks too to Joey Villanueva who was the Dean of Academics then and to Rolly Nana for the supervision and oversight of the project as it was being undertaken.

This homecoming year 2019 also marked the second to the last year when we come home to our beloved Alma Mater with still a sizeable number of active duty members with 2020 looming in the horizon as our sunset year. Hence, our

Class Board of Directors led by Chairman Mon Apolinario led his dynamic team in ensuring our preparations for the 2019 Homecoming was significant and well prepared. CSAFP Benjie also generously sponsored the homecoming attire via the Class Jacket (finally meron na tayo!) for all Sandiwans and our honorary members. This also included class homecoming attire for all our Sandiwatas. AFP First Lady Gemma Madrigal, Tica Padilla, Jiji Apolinario and Ting Isleta all helped organize our Sandiwatas. Benjie also hosted the venue for our Friday Class Dinner the evening prior to the Alumni Parade at the CSAFP's official Baguio quarters. The whole class conveys its sincerest gratitude and appreciation to all these generous and kind souls for all their contributions and assistance in ensuring our 2019 Alumni Homecoming was memorable.

As part of our organizational set-up under the current Class By-laws, 2019 also marked a transition of class board of officers to a new set after Mon Apolinario and his team served a complete two years. Hence, elections and nominations were done while a general assembly was present during the class

dinner. The following then is our new set of Class Board Members: (Army) Byron Calimag, Ipe Bejar, Jun Mendoza; (PNP) Bakong Feliz, Billy Beltran, Bart Tobias; (PAF) Jun Kintanar, Rely Sapo, Jun Padilla; (Navy) Mon Ochoco, Elvin Velasco, Jande Francisco. Also agreed to and seconded is the formation of a set of advisers consisting of all the Sandiwa senior generals (both active and retired) occupying key positions in the AFP-PNP and other branches of government. For continuity and for the good job he did as the past Chairman of the Board, Mon Apolinario was made Chairman Emeritus along with Tony Treñas as Financial Adviser Emeritus. Kudos to the Past Class Officers for a job well done and good luck to our new set!

Following the organizational meeting of the new class Board of Directors, herein are the key designations: Chairman – Jun Kintanar; Vice Chair – Bakong Felix; Ipe Bejar – Class Treasurer; Mon Ochoco – Asst Treasurer; Jun Padilla – Secretary. A Governance Committee shall also be

formed to ensure policy formulation and directions for the Class.

The new set of officers also calls on the whole class to support the forthcoming fundraising projects that we will be embarking on to support our next set of worthwhile projects.

The Class also joins the whole nation in thanking the following Mistahs for their dedicated and faithful service to the nation following their completion of a successful military career:

**January 2019:** Danny Pamonag, Jun Garado

**February 2019:** Larry Casis, Ronnie Villanueva, Arnie Gunnacao, Jun Padilla, Jonks Delfin, and TJ Tanjuan

**March 2019:** Chad Isleta, Bob Arevalo, Rolly Nana, Marlou Chan

**April 2019:** John Pulido, Mar Lacurom, Benjie Hulipans, Gener Del Rosario

**May 2019:** Erick Parayno, Greg Pimentel, Sid Purisima

The Class likewise congratulates the following for their recent promotion and designation to new and higher posts:

4-stars: Benjie Madrigal; 3-stars: Noel Clement, Arnel Dela Vega; 2-stars Byron Calimag, Ipe Bejar, Arnie Matanguihan, Eric Reyes, Eric Velasquez, Rolly Felix, Danny Macatlang, Benjie Lusad, and Dinoh Dolina.

We are also equally proud of Charlie Galvez (Secretary, OPAPP), Rolly Bautista (Sec, DSWD), Danny Pamonag (USEC DSWD), Ric Santiago (Dep, PDEA), and Vic Tomas (DSWD NCR) following their designations in key positions of government. Our congratulations too to Mayors John Tarrosa, Sam Parilla, Congresswomen Lianda Bolilia and Estrelita Suansing as well as to the other Sandiwans and Sandiwatas who successfully received the votes of confidence of their constituents in the last elections.

In view of space limitations, we could not post other updates for now but will include all these in the next class call. Till then, GOD BLESS all SANDIWANS and their families, STAY SAFE and always make our countrymen proud!



**G**reetings to all! It is with great pleasure that we extend our warmest congratulations to the following and we wish you every success in your new duties:

- **02 March 2019 - VADM RENE V MEDINA AFP** takes helm of Western Command (WESCOM) as its 32<sup>nd</sup> Commander and subsequently donned his 3<sup>rd</sup> star.
- **04 Mar 2019** – Donning of 1<sup>st</sup> star of **BGEN ARWEL R OROPESA AFP**, Deputy Commander of Northern Luzon Command (NOLCOM).
- **11 Mar 2019** – **MGEN ANTONIO RAMON A LIM** assumed as the new Chief of the Office of the Inspector General, AFP.
- **10 May 2019** – **PBGEN RAFAEL P SANTIAGO Jr.** assumed as the Regional Director of PRO 10 during the Change of Command at Camp Vicente Alagar in Cagayan de Oro City.



*During the Donning of Ranks which immediately transpired after the Change of Command Ceremony.*

**Other Significant activity:**

- **14 April 2019** – 2<sup>nd</sup> CPNP Oca Albayalde Cup at Langer Course, Riviera Golf Club, Silang, Cavite

**Birthday Greetings:** Happy birthday mistahs!! We wish you a day filled with happiness and a year filled with joy.

Name	Birthdate
CAV PERFECTO M RIMANDO JR	02 MAR
CAV ALVIN A PARREÑO	09 MAR
CAV JOSEPH N RAMOS	13 MAR
CAV ALEXANDER E QUEROL	15 MAR



CAV JOSE GIL E GUILLERMO	19 MAR
CAV JOSELITO R SERRANO	19 MAR
CAV JOSE G CARINGAL JR	20 MAR
CAV ALBERT M MANGADANG JR	22 MAR
CAV BON DAN D CHAN	22 MAR
CAV OTHELLO P LOPEZ	24 MAR
CAV LENARD T AGUSTIN	25 MAR
CAV LAUR CRIS P TUMANDA	25 MAR
CAV JOHNNY R GULLA	27 MAR
CAV ROLANDO C MANALO	28 MAR
CAV CARLOMAR O CONCEPCION	04 APR
CAV ALFREDO A SORIANO	10 APR
CAV JOHN A JURADO	11 APR
CAV EDWARD E CARRANZA	11 APR
CAV GLORIVINE R DIDA	13 APR
CAV DANILO R RODELAS	16 APR
CAV CLAUDIO L YUCOT	16 APR
CAV JESUS RHODERIC R RAÑOSA	19 APR
CAV ZIRLEEN E TATEL	21 APR



April 14, 2019 – Sinagtalans strike a pose during the 2<sup>nd</sup> CPNP Oca Albayalde Cup at Langer Course, Riviera Golf Club, Silang, Cavite



have observed, most of the Maalabs have devoted more time swinging irons than shooting their pistols. This is very evident during weekends when our social media newsfeeds get flooded of group photos showing mistahs posing in the greens wearing very colorful golf outfits. Wow!

was shared among the Maalabs and the Tagapaglunsads. This was followed by the holding of the raffle and awarding program emceed by Josel De Guzman who nonetheless treated us with his wacky jokes and frolic ways of hosting.

After the activities, a boodfight

See you on our next fellowship PNPA 93 brothers.

**“Swing and Shoot - Maalabs and Tagapaglunsads”**

A joint golf and funshoot activity were conducted on 09 December 2018 between the Maalabs and their counterparts from the PNPA “Tagapaglunsad” Class of 1993 held at Kagitingan Army Golf Course and Security and Escort Battalion Firing Range, respectively.

As the golf fanatics went to tee-off, a separate group proceeded at the Firing range for the funshoot. Due to lack of time to prepare and practice, we have seen some Maalab shooters whose shooting prowess have rusted away. But the likes of Willie Gonio, Soc Daza, Rannie Sevilla, Ricky Bunayog, Bates Battung and Arnel Fernandez still managed to retain their speed and accuracy in engaging targets and plates. Well, as some mistahs







**“Shoot with My Buddy”**

On 4 May 2019, a Fun Shoot was initiated by the Tanglaw Diwans and the Maalabs at AIR, PA Firing Range. This activity was conceptualized by HPA-based classes 92 and 93 cavaliers to foster camaraderie and renew the buddy system spirit reminiscent of our academy days. Likewise, this is to dispel the belief that rivalries among successive classes occur as military career progresses. The activity was attended by 13 Tanglaw Diwans and 24 Maalabs who were combined and organized into teams of five (5). Undeniably, the shootfest was very successful and meaningful. And never

did we imagine that at this stage in our careers, our snappy buddies - the Tanglaw Diwans would still be humble enough to share the stage with us in this fun filled activity of sportsmanship, camaraderie and friendship. The winner of the two (2) courses (“Boodle Fight” and “Color Blind”) was the team of Col Baroquillo, Col Huet, Pat Amata, Rani Sevilla and Kuya Willie Gonio while the group of Col Ramirez, Col Montiel, Greg Nieveras and Pangga won the “Kamasutra” course. A fellowship boodlegift culminated the activity with tons of “bolahazing” and “kayahizing”. To our snappy buddies, see you on our next activity!!

**“Basa Air Base Get Together”**

The Maalabs recently had a weekend golf fellowship at Fightertown, Basa Air Base, Floridablanca Pampanga on 11 May 2019. The eighteen (18) hole match was played by pairs in a “best ball” format. And after almost six (6) hours of intense game with a strong downpour spoiling the 18th hole putts, the tournament finally ended. The result was amazing: no winners but no declared losers. Lunch was then served at the Wing Commander’s Quarters and after a few class discussions, the group visited some camp facilities together with their families.





*“Be strong and courageous,  
for the Lord will be with you  
wherever you go.”*

# LAST CALL

**BGEN CELEDONIO B BOQUIREN JR '78**  
13 May 1953 – 04 April 2019

A veteran intelligence officer, Cav Boquiren passed away on 04 April 2019 at the Medical City Ortigas. and was buried on 09 April at the Libingan ng mga Bayani (LNMB). He was a patriot, a pilot, a diplomat, and a loving husband. He left behind his loving wife Elaine and children: Omar Kharim and Joshua Aaron.



**BGEN EDUARDO A TADURAN '58**  
7 July 1932 – 16 April 2019

Cav Taduran is the recipient of PMA Athletic Saber Award of his class. His last assignment was Regional Commander Bicol Region (RECOM 5). He passed away last 16 April 2019 in Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC). He was laid to rest at Libingan ng mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City last April 25, 2019. He left behind his loving children Edwin and Edison.



**BGEN MICHAEL BEVERLYN  
J MANQUIQUIS '83**

14 February 1960 – 16 April 2019

Cav Manquiquis joined our creator on 16 April 2019 at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center. He was the former Chief of the Office of Defense Reform, DND. Wake was at St. Ignatius Mortuary, Camp Aguinaldo from 17-18 April and at the St. Peter Memorial Chapel, Imus, Cebu City from 19-27 April. He left behind his loving wife and daughter, Arneith Von Carmen and Armi Angeli respectively.



**BGEN SERGIO A CANDELARIO JR '73**  
26 April 1951 – 18 April 2019

Cav Candelario passed away on 18 April 2019 at the Philippine Heart Center. Wake was on April 21 to 24 at the Aeternum Chapel, Heritage Park, Taguig City and was laid to rest on 25 April at the LNMB. His last assignment was as Commanding General of the 55th Engineering Brigade, Zamboanga City. Cav Candelario left behind his loving wife Corazon and children: Maria Corazon, Hazel Joy and Abigail Ann.



**COL ARIEL I BRIONES '84**  
22 August 1962 – 22 April 2019

A member of PMA Maharlika Class of 1984, Cav Briones passed away on 22 April 2019 at the V. Luna General Hospital. Wake was at the Libingan ng mga Bayani Mortuary on 23-30 April and he was buried at the LNMB. He left behind his wife, Melanie and children: Ariel Joseph, Ariel Rommel, Ma Gretta, Ma Angelika, Ma Camille and Ma Bea.



**BGEN JOSE MA. CARLOS L ZUMEL '59**  
04 November 1934 – 29 April 2019

Cav Zumel's wake was at the Villamor Air Base Chapel Mortuary from 30 Apr to 6 May. Necrological services were held at the Chapel at 1900 on 6 May, and last rites held on 7 May after the 0800 mass. Interment was made at 1100 at the LNMB, Fort Bonifacio.



**MAJ JESS MICHAELANGELO L DUQUE '87**  
28 April 1963 – 19 May 2019

Cav Duque passed away on May 19, 2019 of heart attack at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center. He was laid to rest at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City last May

23, 2019. He left behind his loving wife Myrna and children, Jan Michael Niccolo and Maria Alyssa Gabriela. He was the Executive Assistant of Secretary Roy Cimatu of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources at the time of his passing.



**BGEN BRAULIO B BALBAS JR '60**  
17 February 1936 – 24 May 2019

Cav Balbas succumbed to his disease which he has battling for 1 ½ years. He passed away on 22 May at Kaise Hospital in San Francisco. Vigil was on May 26, 2019 at the Duggan Serra Mortuary in Daly City, CA. Cremation was on May 27 after the noon-time mass. He left behind his loving wife Catalina and children, Angelita and Edward.



**COL HENRY A CINCO '77**  
04 March 1956 – 25 May 2019

Cav Cinco passed away on 25 May 2019 in Cagayan de Oro City. His last assignment was as Deputy Commander NOLCOM in Camp Aquino, Tarlac City. He was buried on May 30, 2019 in Cagayan de Oro City.



**BGEN FRANCISCO V DELFIN '85**  
22 February 1963 – 3 June 2019

Cav Delfin's wake was at St. Peter Mandurriao, Iloilo City from 4-6 June and later transferred to the Libingan ng mga Bayani mortuary. Interment was on 11 June at the LNMB, Fort Bonifacio. He left behind his wife Marites and son, Francis Maynard. Cav Delfin was the former ADC, 3ID.





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