U.S.-Philippine Military Forces Complete Successful Balikatan 33

Manila — After 12 training days in the Philippine summer heat, thousands of service members from the Armed Forces of the Philippines and U.S. military finished this year’s rigorous Balikatan training exercise and now stand more prepared to respond to terror threats and natural disasters in the region. Philippine and U.S. forces completed another successful Balikatan exercise, building on a long and productive history of joint military exercises that enhance interoperability, strengthen partnerships, and improve disaster response and counterterrorism capabilities. The teamwork of the Philippine and U.S. armed forces ensures a more rapid response to natural disasters and manmade crises, saving lives, and helping the Philippine people.

“After 12 rigorous training days, our nations face an increasingly complex and volatile security environment,” said Ambassador Sung Kim. “Now more than ever, our armed forces must work together closely. Exercises like Balikatan build upon the long and productive history between our two militaries and ensure that we are always ready to stand shoulder-to-shoulder in defense of our lives, our shared values, and international rules-based order.”

During Balikatan, Philippine and U.S. forces conducted training exercises in diverse areas of expertise, including live fire advanced marksmanship, small unit tactics, counter improvised explosive devices (IED), maritime interdiction, and amphibious raids. In addition, Philippine and U.S. service members practiced a ship to shore movement of military personnel and equipment, air operations, and aid distribution to bolster disaster response capabilities.

In the communities of Dauaq and Tapaz in Capiz, Ormoc in Leyte, and Guiuan in Eastern Samar, Philippine and U.S. service members constructed new classrooms and community buildings and renovated existing structures. In addition to new construction, the Philippine and U.S. forces completed another successful Balikatan exercise, building upon the long and productive history between our two militaries and ensuring that we are always ready to stand shoulder-to-shoulder in defense of our lives, our shared values, and international rules-based order.

U.S. Soldiers train alongside Philippine Soldiers during counterterrorism training in support of Balikatan 2017 at Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija.

Subic as cruise ships destination

SUBIC BAY FREEPOR — The Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) is looking forward to the arrival here of more cruise ships under its “Tourism Star” development plan to promote Subic’s tourism potentials and maximize its attractiveness as a world-class tourist destination.

SBMA Administrator Wilma Eisma said this announcement and renovated existing structures.

SBMA Administrator Wilma Eisma receives a ship memorabilia from MS Bremen captain Roman Oprist, following the arrival of the Bahamas-registered Hapag Lloyd Cruises MS Bremen, an expedition ship operated by the German tour giant Hapag Lloyd Cruises, on Monday following the arrival here of MS Bremen, an expedition ship operated by the German tour giant Hapag Lloyd Cruises.

With the recent port call of the MS Bremen, the SBMA hopes once again that the Subic Bay Freeport can easily be a preferred destination for cruise ships,” Eisma said.

“This is really fortuitous for us, because under our Tourism Star program, the SBMA seeks to promote Subic as the next cruise ship playground, alongside other objectives like creating a Subic tourism brand and expanding existing tourism operations, and aid distribution to bolster disaster response capabilities.

According to ISST president Mina Gabor, the event will be biggest of its kind in the country as it will bring together the international experts in the field of ecotourism to discuss global best practices.

“The very much delighted in hosting this event, because we take pride in the Subic Bay Freeport being one of the few remaining places with high biodiversity in the country,” Eisma said.

“We will be happy to share with the participants in this forum the challenges and successes that we have experienced in the field of ecotourism since Subic was established as a free port in 1992,” she added.

Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. (AEV) is determined to remain growth-driven for the remainder of the year— in pace with the Philippines’ positive growth trajectory — as the company’s business units (BUs) pursue various expansion plans that equally prioritize growing the business while developing communities.

The Aboitiz Group launched its Group Purpose “To Drive Change for A Better World” and refreshed brand positioning “Advancing Business and Communities” at the company’s annual stockholders’ meeting today at Fairmont Manila.

“Aligned with the country’s continued economic growth, the Aboitiz Group’s own growth journey remains
leaders of the Global Ecotourism Network (GEN) and its regional subsidiary, the Asian Ecotourism Network (AEN).

The event will be a rare opportunity for delegates to learn from and network with the best practitioners in the industry,” said Gabor, a former Tourism Secretary who pushed ecotourism during her tenure, making it a by-word in the industry years later.

“Given the fact that the Philippines’ tourism industry is driven largely by its natural attractions, it is important to balance economic interests, conservation and respect for local communities which the GEN board members are greatly recognized for,” she added.

The festival has been scheduled here in line with the declaration by the United Nations World Tourism Organization of 2017 as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development.

The event will gather ecotourism experts, like Glenn Jampol and Tony Charters, GEN chair and vice-chair respectively, and general board members Robert Holomolok of Australia, Chair of the Mehta of Kenya, Masaru Okawa of Japan, Nabil Tarazi of Jordan, and Albert Teo of Malaysia.

Other foreign speakers are Lizzie Corke of Conservation Ecolgy Centre Austria, Paul Niederer of ASSOB International, Tan Thi Su of Sapa O’Chuan (Vietnam), insula of Mugil development impact Newswire, Kaetwa Musem of Mahalol University International, Gling Duffil of Bond Asian Ventures Limited, Ahly Sundhair of Pilmico, and its digital transformation strategy.

Pilmico will continue to look for opportunities through Open Access, and operator-retailer strategy to execute its Gentailer (generate value) strategy. Meanwhile, local speakers will include DENR Biodiversity Management Bureau director Teresa Mundita Lim, National Commission on Culture and the Arts-School of Living Traditions executive director Rizc Pablo Jr., National Commission on Indigenous Peoples socio-economic and special affairs director Maria Grace Pascua, ASEAN Centre for Territory Management for Sustainability (ACTEMS) director Roberto Oliva, Cebu provincial tourism officer Bobbi Costas, Philippine Airlines SVP for operations Ismael Augusto Gozon, and El Nido Resorts head Margot Laririt.

Gabor said the event is designed for government policy-makers, industry executives, tourism, travel and hospitality professionals, and faculty and students. Festival participants also conduct a case study of an ecotourism project in the Subic Bay Freeport area.

The Subic Bay Freeport, which sits on a large portion of the Subic Watershed Reserve, is touted to be one of the few places in the Philippines that is truly rich in biodiversity. It has a total of 745 plant species belonging to 429 genera and 122 families, and a total of 122 wildlife vertebrates from 99 genera and 57 families. The Subic Freeport is also home to several rare animal and plant species that include seven bird species like the Philippine Fairy Bluebird (Irena cyanogaster), two mammal species like the Philippine Bamboo Rat (Chirodus mindorensis), one reptile species, and two amphibian species.

SUBIC welcomes... from page 1

Salboats ramp on fresh breeze at the Subic Bay Freeport, a leading eco-tourism destination in the country today, which will host the 2017 Subic Ecotourism Festival on May 29-June 1.

Long-tailed macaque monkeys play at a housing area in the Subic Bay Freeport, a leading eco-tourism destination in the country today, which will host the 2017 Subic Ecotourism Festival on May 29-June 1.

Notice is hereby given to the public that the estate of the late Corazon Isidro Samangon, who died intestate on February 28, 2010 in Olongapo City, respectively, to the public that the estate of the late Constancio B. Marquez and Estella G. Marquez, who both died intestate on December 19, 1991, was made and executed by the surviving heirs on January 26, 2017 instead of August 26, 2010 in Olongapo City respectively, as per Doc No 510 Page No 104 Book No III Series of 2017 in the Notarial Registry of Ally, Maria Soledad M. Santos.

All interested parties, creditors, and persons having money claims against the decedent are hereby required to file their claims with the court appointed executor of their estate.

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BALENCIA CITY -- Thousands of students have already applied and are still under the Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) as a Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Provincial Director Lelani Reynoso noted that a total of 3,594 students got jobs under the SPES program, which it undertook, starting next year for 20 to 70 days.

Reynoso said 40 percent of their salaries while the respective employers of the beneficiaries provide the remaining 60 percent.

Reynoso said any student who are 15 to 30 years old for SPES provided that the applicant should not have a failing grade and belong to a poor but deserving family.

“When we say poor but deserving family, we mean families’ combined net salary of the parents does not exceed Php139,200,” she said.

She added that through SPES, the government aims to support the coming needs of every student beneficiary until they graduated.

Among the jobs offered to SPES beneficiaries include tax mapers, barangay survey personnel, encoders, school assistants, food service crew, and promotion merchandisers among others. (PIA 3)

Subic volunteers join ‘Protect the Bay’ project

Volunteers led by (from left) SBMA Public Relations Officer Amie Llamas, RP Energy CSR Officer Jason Gavinia, Olongapo Community Environment Officer Marife Castillo, and Philippine Coast Guard’s George Casme segregate garbage collected from the beach via a coastal clean-up held recently at Sitio Kinabukan, Barangay Cawag, Subic, Zambales.

“If we’re sure that we’re going to do this three times this year, mahihiya at mahalaga na tayo ng magalak at asakali pa rin ang mga pasasalamat at pasasalamat ng mga bata,” he said.

Aside from the cleanup, RP Energy will establish livelihood programs for the fisherfolk in Subic, he said.

For the second coastal cleanup activity, Gavinia said the RP Energy will implement on May 27 the “Basaar Palti Gamit Eskwela” project, whereby chil-

LABAL SA WIKANG PINOY

P24B para sa 2018 TESDA skills training ng 15.5 M Pinoy

SOUTHPORT -- The Subic Bay Freeport Authority (SBFA) is closely working with law enforcement agencies to strictly monitor incoming vessels here to prevent possible smuggling of illegal drugs, said SBFA Administrator Wilma T. Eisma.

Just recently, from the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) Region III, Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (ISAFP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Bureau of Immigration (BI) in Olongapo City, SBMA Seaport and Law Enforcement Department (LED) conducted a joint operation following intelligence reports that a ship arriving here was carrying illegal drugs.

According to a report from the SBFA-Led Enforcement Team, the ship in question was a Panama vessel carrying a cargo of sops from the United States. It arrived at the port of Subic early in May and anchored outside the limits of the SBFA Seaport.

After its arrival, government law enforcement led by PDEA, PCG and the Philippine National Police (PNP) Maritime Group boarded and searched the vessel using K-9 drug sniffing dogs, with SBMA Seaport and PDEA working with law enforcement agencies to strictly monitor incoming vessels here to prevent possible smuggling of illegal drugs, said SBFA Administrator Wilma T. Eisma.

The search turned out negative and the operation was terminated on Tuesday, authorities here said.

Administrator Eisma said the recent inter-agency operation was a clear signal that the agency will not tolerate the entry of illegal drugs through the port of Subic.

She said there are strict procedures and safety nets in place to ensure that no contraband, particularly illegal drugs, could enter the country through the port of Subic.

The SBFA is also implementing random checks for illegal substance that might be on board any of these incoming vessels.

The administrator also issued a stern warning to those who are even thinking of shipping illegal drugs into the country and using Subic Bay as the port of entry, saying that they will be harshly dealt with the full force of the law.

SBMA on alert against illegal drugs entry

Subic volunteers join Protect the Bay’ project

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Lower Kalakan Road, Olongapo City, Fifteen minutes drive from SBMA RESERVATION & INFORMATION CENTER

Manila: (02) 404.4784
Subic: (047) 252.9978

Subic volunteers join ‘Protect the Bay’ project

Volunteers led by (from left) SBMA Public Relations Officer Amie Llamas, RP Energy CSR Officer Jason Gavinia, Olongapo Community Environment Officer Marife Castillo, and Philippine Coast Guard’s George Casme segregate garbage collected from the beach via a coastal clean-up held recently at Sitio Kinabukan, Barangay Cawag, Subic, Zambales.

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United States of America Department of the Navy Seal

IN THE NAVY

Navy Updates Policy on Wrongful Distribution or Sharing of Intimate Images

"There is no room in our Navy for this toxic behavior," said Chief of Naval Personnel, Vice Adm. Robert Burke. "This new policy shows that we are committed to eradicating this behavior from our force."

These changes align with ANIL Message (ALNAV) 021/17, released April 18, which updated U.S. Navy Regulations with Article 1168, making it unlawful to share an intimate image of someone without their permission for personal gain or to humiliate, harass, intimidate, threaten, or coerce the depicted person or with reckless disregard of harm to the victim.

Military Personnel Manual (MILPERSMAN) Article 1910-233, Mandatory Separation Processing, and MILPERSMAN 1910-142, Separation by Reason of Misconduct - Commission of a Serious Offense, have been updated to reflect this new policy for enlisted personnel.

This mandatory processing shall be conducted based upon the version of the MILPERSMAN in effect on the date the violation occurred. Officers who violate Article 1168 will be subject to administrative separation processing in accordance with SECNAVINST 1920.6C. (Naval Personnel Command Public Affairs)

USS Ronald Reagan Shifts Colors to Commence 2017 Patrol

"We have a job to do," said Capt. Nathan Burke, USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) as the ship prepares to commence its 2017 patrol. Ronald Reagan is the flagship of Carrier Strike Group 5, providing a combat-ready force that protects and defends the collective maritime interests of its allies and partners in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Rebecca Sunderland)

YOKOSUKA, Japan - Sailors stand at parade rest on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) as the ship prepares to commence its 2017 patrol. Ronald Reagan is the flagship of Carrier Strike Group 5, providing a combat-ready force that protects and defends the collective maritime interests of its allies and partners in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Rebecca Sunderland)

PACIFIC OCEAN (NNS) - The Navy's forward-deployed aircraft carrier, USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), and Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5 resumed operations in the 7th Fleet area of operations (AOO) after departing Yokosuka, Japan, May 16.

The departure followed Ronald Reagan’s completion of sea trials last week, which marked the end of her 2017 Restricted Availability maintenance period.

"Coming out of a long-in-port maintenance period, we have to ensure that Ronald Reagan, CVN 76 and the remainder of the strike group are integrated properly as we move forward," said Rear Adm. Charles Williams, commander, Task Force 70. "As our ships and our aircraft's capabilities evolve, we have to do the same as a strike group. I look forward to sailing together as a cohesive unit, working with our allies and partners in the region, and continuing our persistent operations throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific."

To start their 2017 Patrol, Ronald Reagan and CVW-5 are slated to conduct flight deck and carrier qualifications to certify their ability to safely launch and recover aircraft.

"We have a job to do," said Capt. Donnelly, Ronald Reagan’s commanding officer.

"We have tested our equipment and our Sailors' warfighting proficiencies as a team. Now we have the opportunity to go to sea to reintegrate with our air wing so that they are able to conduct business and carry out our mission."

The qualifications will evaluate flight deck operations and pilot proficiencies, while operating many systems that have recently been overhauled or upgraded.

"I am truly impressed by the professionalism of our crew and our partners at Puget Sound Naval Ship Yard and Ship Repair Facility, Yokosuka over the course of our recent SRA period," said Donnelly. "Their outstanding accomplishments as a team to improve the material condition our ship lead to a seamless transition from dock trials, through sea trials, an ammunition onload, and finally to resume operations in our AOO."

Ronald Reagan, the flagship of Carrier Strike Group 5, provides a combat-ready force that protects and defends the collective maritime interests of its allies and partners in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Rebecca Sunderland)

Another white lion born in Subic Bay Freeport

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT — Another white lion was born at the Zoobic Safari animal theme park here recently, the third time that such birth was recorded in this free port.

Zoobic Safari owner Robert Yumangco said the white lion was born last April 3 and is now one and a half months old.

The lion cub was named Christian Amando, a white lion cub born at Zoobic Safari in the Subic Bay Freeport and the first white lion cub to be bottle-fed by animal keepers at the park, sucks on the finger of a visitor.

Christian Amando, a white lion cub born at Zoobic Safari in the Subic Bay Freeport and the first white lion cub to be bottle-fed by animal keepers at the park, sucks on the finger of a visitor, said Noe Pasilan, the park’s zoology supervisor, who helped deliver the cub at Zoobic Safari.

Amando’s parents, Tisay and JB, both came from a white lion family imported from the Middle East.

The white lion is a rare color mutation of the lion. They were thought to have been indigenous to the Timbavati region of South Africa for centuries, although the earliest recorded sighting in this region was in 1938.

White lions in the area of Timbavati are of the same subspecies as the strawy Southeast African lion (Panthera leo krugeri) found in some wildlife reserves in South Africa, and in zoological parks around the world. Until 2009, when the first pride of white lions was reintroduced into the wild, it was widely believed that the white lion could not survive in the natural environment. It is for this reason that a large part of the population of white lions now reside in zoos.

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