

# U.S., Philippines, Japan Coast Guards Conduct Joint Maritime Law Enforcement Training



More than 30 participants from the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam joined the Multinational Vessel Boarding Officer Course funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan.

Manila—From May 15 to 26, coast guard instructors from the United States, the Philippines, and Japan jointly led a Multinational Vessel Boarding Officer Course in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan that strengthened the maritime law enforcement capabilities of more than thirty participants from Southeast Asia.

Jointly conducted by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Mobile Training Branch, the Japan Coast Guard (JCG) Mobile Cooperation Team, and the Philippine Coast

Guard (PCG), this course trained participants on the basics of boarding vessels for at-sea law enforcement. It was made possible through Php 4.1 million (\$75,000) in funding provided by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs under its new Southeast Asia Training Team Program.

Through this course, 33 participants from the PCG, the Philippine National Police Maritime Group, Malaysia's Maritime Enforcement

Agency, Thailand's Maritime Enforcement Command Center, and Vietnam's Department of Fisheries enhanced their knowledge on the law of the sea and policy on the use of force. They also participated in practical exercises focused on self-defense tactics and vessel search procedures.

"The Boarding Officer Course stands as a cornerstone in our relentless pursuit of maritime security. It equips us, alongside our esteemed multinational participants, with indispensable



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knowledge, skills, and unwavering ethical principles while fostering cooperation and camaraderie with our international counterparts," PCG instructor Ensign Gilbert Alberto Ruelas said at the culminating exercise on May 25. "Through this transformative experience, we are able to fortify our capabilities, ensuring the safety, prosperity, and shared interests of

our maritime domain." "It has been an outstanding collaboration bringing all these countries and agencies together. It is most fulfilling to see the students forming bonds and partnering during the boarding exercises," USCG instructor Senior Chief Kenneth Christian said.

The USCG and JCG have been conducting joint maritime trainings for the PCG since April

2022. This course marks their first training event conducted for a multinational audience with the PCG as a co-host. To further strengthen trilateral maritime cooperation, the USCG, PCG, and JCG will continue to carry out other collaborative training events on maritime law enforcement, patrol vessel operations, and maintenance procedures.

## 682 milyang krusada mula Biak-na-Bato hanggang HK, tampok sa traveling exhibit

**BULAKAN, Bulacan (PIA)** – Binuksan ng National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) ang isang eksibisyon tungkol sa naging krusada ng mga rebolusyonaryo mula sa Biak-na-Bato hanggang sa pagkakatapon nila Hong Kong.

Pinamagatan itong 682 Across Biak-na-Bato Traveling Exhibit na ngayo'y matutunghayan sa Museo ni Marcelo H. Del Pilar sa bayan ng Bulakan hanggang Mayo 31.

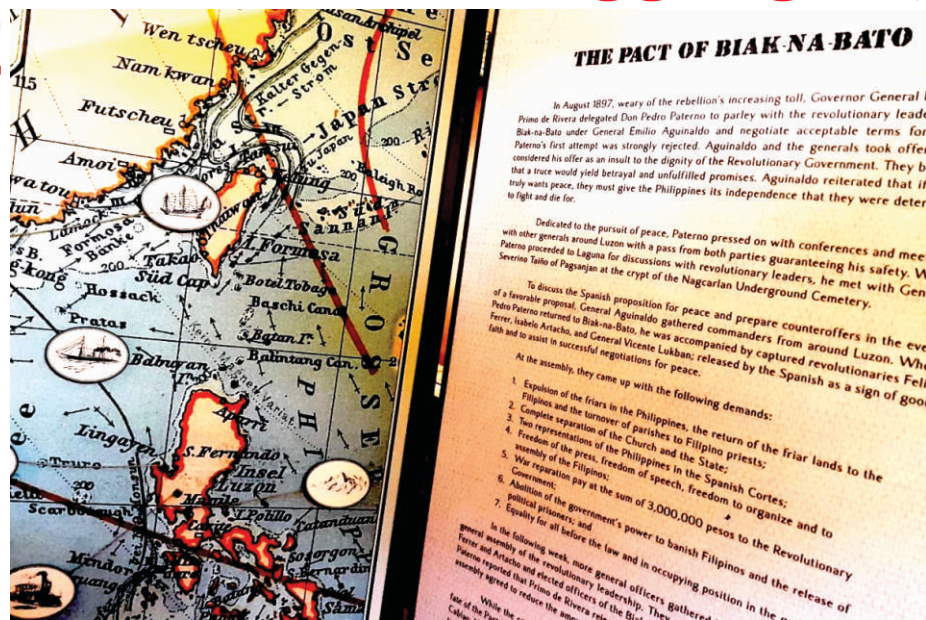
Sinabi ni Alex Aguinaldo, kurador ng museo, akman ang mga

na tinatawag itong isang traveling exhibit kung saan iniikot ang eksibisyon sa mga partikular na museo na pinangangasiwaan ng NHCP dahil tungkol din sa paglalakbay ng mga rebolusyonaryo ang nilalaman ng eksibisyon bilang bahagi ng kanilang krusada para sa Kalayaan.

Sa pagpasok ng buwan ng Hunyo, lilipat ang 682 Across Biak-na-Bato Traveling Exhibit sa Museo ng Unang Republika 1899 na nasa simbahan ng Barasoain sa lungsod ng Malolos at dadalhin din sa Museo ni Mariano Ponce sa

lungsod ng Baliwag. Magiging bahagi na rin ito ng nalalapit na pagdiriwang ng Ika-125 Taong Anibersaryo ng Proklamasyon ng Kalayaan ng Pilipinas. Pinili ang nasabing pamagat dahil 682 milyang rebolusyonaryo ang naglalakbay sa Hong Kong na noo'y teritoryo pa ng United Kingdom.

Base sa mga batayang pangkasaysayan ng NHCP na nakasaad sa nasabing traveling exhibit, napadpad sa Biak-na-Bato ang



pwera ni noo'y Heneral Emilio Aguinaldo matapos ang matagumpay na pagpapalaya sa Cavite mula sa kamay ng mga

Kastila na kilala sa tawag na 'Sigang ng Kabite'.

Napunta sila rito sa layuning makapagkubkob sa mga

kalabang Kastila habang pinaplano ang magiging susunod na mga hakbang upang ganap na matamang

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## Buwan ng Magsasaka at Mangingisda, ipinagdiwang sa Cavite

**TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA)** – Mas inilapit pa ng pamahalaan ang mga serbisyo nito para sa sektor ng agrikultura sa Calabarzon, kasabay ng pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng mga Magsasaka at Mangingisda sa pangunguna ng Department of Agriculture (DA) Region IV-A at Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) Calabarzon.

Inilunsad ng DA 4A Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD) ang KADIWA Retail Selling na nilahukan ng siyam na Farmer Cooperatives Association (FCA) sa

lalawigan. Kabilang dito ang Magallanes Samahang Magsasaka ng Kay-Apas at Medina Agriculture Cooperative, General Trias Dairy Raisers Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Daine 1 & 2 Farmers Association Inc., Pacheco Agrarian Reform Cooperative, Café A madeo Development Cooperative, Yakap at Halik MPC-Cavite, Luntian MPC, Laly's Mushroom Embotido at Bounty Harvest Farm.

Umarangkada ang KADIWA upang tulungan ang mga FCA na mailapit ang kanilang mga

pangunahing produkto tulad ng gulay, prutas at karne sa mga lugar kung saan magkakaroon naman ng access ang mga mamimili sa mas mababang halaga kumpara sa mga regular na pamilihan.

Naghatid rin ng bagong kaalaman ang DA IV-A sa pamamagitan ng tatlong paksang tinalakay sa "ATI@Home Urban Agriculture Seminar Series."

Sa kanyang mensahe, pinasalaman ni ATI Calabarzon Center Director Rolando V. Maniang ang 40 kalahok na nakiiisa sa pagsasanay ukol sa



Hydroponics, Recordkeeping at Mushroom Production. Tumanggap rin sila ng mga sertipiko at urban gardening starter kit sa pagtatapos ng serye ng mga seminar.

Ipinagdiriwang ang Buwan ng mga Magsasaka at Mangingisda tuwing Mayo upang bigyang pagkilala ang kanilang kontribusyon sa food security ng

bansa. Binibigyang pagkilala rin nito ang mga mangingisda at magsasaka sa kanilang pagsusumikap sa food production. (PB/ATICalabarzon)

## CSC urges civil servants to respect the PH flag as National Flag Days commence

**QUEZON CITY (PIA)** – In honor of the ongoing National Flag Days, which are observed from May 28 to June 12, Civil Service Commission (CSC) Chairperson

Karlo Nograles has called upon civil servants to embrace patriotism by showing unwavering respect for the Philippine flag.

Chairperson Nograles reminded

government officials and employees of their sworn oath to adhere to the eight norms of conduct mandated under Republic Act (R.A.) No. 6713, also known as the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees. These norms include the principles of "nationalism and patriotism."

"Bilang mga kawani ng gobyerno, ugaliin po nating ipakita ang paggalang sa tawataw hindi lang dahil sa ating sinumpaang tungkulin kundi dahil sa marubdob na pagmamahal sa bansa," Chair Nograles said.

Furthermore,

## 458 Cavite barangays now drug-cleared

**TRECE MARTIRES CITY (PIA)** – The Cavite Provincial Police Office (PPO) reported that a total of 458 barangays in Cavite are now considered "drug-cleared" as no drug-related activities were reported.

Cavite PPO Provincial Director Col. Christopher Olazo confirmed in an interview with the media that out of 829 barangays that were declared drug-affected, 725 are classified as slightly affected, 101 are moderately affected, and one is seriously affected.

These classifications are based on drug-related activities observed and reported in the barangays.

The slightly affected barangays have a few residents

who use illegal drugs, whereas the more affected barangays have clandestine drug laboratories, warehouses, marijuana plantations, and drug dens.

The Cavite PPO also reported that 16 barangays in Cavite province are active participants in the community mobilization program to fight against drug-related activities, while 17 were declared drug-free from September 20, 2022, until April 20, 2023.

Cavite PPO records showed that 4,226 anti-drug operations were conducted since September 2022, resulting in 2,608 drug-related arrests. (Ruel Francisco/with reports from Cavite PPO)

Chair Nograles emphasized the importance of complying with the provisions of R.A. No. 8491, commonly referred to as the Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines. This law mandates that the flag, anthem, and

other national symbols must be revered and respected at all times, as they embody the nation's ideals, traditions, and principles of sovereignty and national solidarity.

The legislation specifies that the flag should be

appropriately displayed and raised. Additionally, it outlines the conduct of flag ceremonies during official or civic events, emphasizing the need for a simple and dignified approach. Attendees are expected

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CSC urges... from page 1

to stand in attention when the first note of the national anthem is played, placing their right palms over their chests. The National Anthem should be sung correctly, followed by the recitation of the Panunumpa sa Watawat.

Moreover, R.A. No. 8491 strictly prohibits mutilating, trampling, or engaging in any act that dishonors or ridicules the flag. It also forbids using the flag as drapery, tablecloth, or covering for various objects, as well as wearing it as a costume or uniform. The law prohibits adding any word, figure, mark, picture, design, drawing, advertisement, or imprint on the flag. It further explicitly forbids printing, painting, or attaching representations of the flag on items such as handkerchiefs, napkins, cushions, and merchandise.

"May we always aspire to serve as examples for our stakeholders and fellow Filipinos in the way that we honor the flag not only during flag ceremonies but in and out of the office. Remember that patriotism is not just a requirement for civil servants. It is a virtue

that leads to a common goal - national development," stated Chairperson Nograles.

Former President Diosdado Macapagal, through Proclamation No. 374, designated May 28 as National Flag Day. This date commemorates the historic occasion in 1898 when the national flag was first raised in Alapan, Imus, Cavite, after the Philippine Revolutionary Army achieved victory in the Battle of Alapan, symbolizing the defeat of the Spanish forces.

In 1998, Republic Act No. 6713 modified the previous law, expanding the observance of Flag Days from May 28 to June 12 of each year. During this period, all offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of government, business establishments, learning institutions, and private homes are encouraged to proudly display the Philippine flag.

As National Flag Days continue, the CSC hopes that civil servants and citizens alike will demonstrate their deep love for the country by respecting and upholding the dignity of the Philippine flag, thus fostering (CSC / PIA-NCR)



Matutunghayan sa Museo ni Marcelo H. Del Pilar sa Bulakan, Bulacan ang 682 Across Biak-na-Bato Traveling Exhibit bilang bahagi ng International Day of Museums at National Heritage Month. (Shane F. Velasco/PIA 3)

682 milyang... mula sa P4

kalayaan.

Tatlong mahahalagang hakbang ang natamo dito gaya ng dapat na kilalanin ng lahat ng rebolusyonaryo sa pamunuan pulitikal at militar, maging pormal ang pagbalangkas ng isang chain of command sa ilalim ng isang Philippine Revolutionary Army na kalaunan ay naging Philippine Army, at ang paglawak ng rebolusyon mula sa katimugang Luzon patungo sa Gitnang Luzon.

Bagama't nagsilbing pook pinagkwartelan o pinagtagunan, kalaunan ay naging lugar ang Biak-na-Bato ng pagbalangkas ng isang kasunduang tigil-putukan sa pagitan ng mga rebolusyonaryo at mga Kastila.

Bilang panimula sa layuning tigil-putukan, pinalaya ng mga Kastila ang mga nadakip na rebolusyonaryong sina Felix Ferrer, Isabelo Artacho at Heneral Vicente Lukban.

Sinundan ito ng pagkakatagda sa tinatawag na Kasunduan ng Biak-na-Bato noong Disyembre 14 at 15, 1897 na binubuo ng tatlong

dokumento.

Nilalaman ng unang dokumento ang tigil putukan sa kondisyon na sa Hong Kong na mamumuhay sina Heneral Aguinaldo at ang mga opisyal ng rebolusyon ngunit hindi na babalik sa Pilipinas. Nangako ang espanya na bibigyan sila ng halagang P800 libong 'pabaon'.

Sa ikalawang dokumento, nakasaad ang pagbibigay ng kapatawaran ng Espanya sa mga nanguna sa rebolusyon kung isusuko nito ang mga armas na kanilang mga ginamit. Habang nilililaw sa ikatlong dokumento ang halaga ng salaping ibibigay ng Espanya kapag natupad ang mga naunang pinagkasunduan.

May kabuuang P1.7 milyon ang bayad-danyos na ipinangako ng Espanya kung saan sa loob ng halagang ito, P900 libo ang ibibigay sa mga sibilyan na nagdusa dahil namatayan o nasiraan ng ari-arian dahil sa rebolusyon.

Muling tiniyak ng Espanya ang halagang P800 libo na naunang ipinangako para sa mga nanguna sa rebolusyon.

Hindi natupad ang marami sa mga napagkasunduan sa Kasunduan ng Biak-na-Bato gaya ng nasa P400 libo lamang ang ibinigay ng Espanya.

Nagpatuloy din sa pag-aresto ang pamahalaang kolonyal sa mga Pilipinong lumahok sa rebolusyon. Ito ang nagbunsod upang magdesisyon sina Heneral Aguinaldo at mga kasama na bumalik sa Pilipinas mula sa Hong Kong na isa sa nagsilbing sangtuwaryo ng mga indibidwal na nakikipaglaban para sa kalayaan, upang ituloy ang rebolusyon.

Samantala, nauugat din sa eksibisyong ito na ang pagpasok ng mga salapi sa pamunuan ng rebolusyon ay naging simulain sa pagkakaroon ng sariling kaban ng Pilipinas kaya't naitatag noong Marso 17, 1897 ang Departamento de Finanzas na ngayoy Department of Finance.

Ang naturang ahensiya ay kinapalooban ng isang Bureau of Treasury noong Nobyembre 2, 1897.

Para pamunuan ito, hinirang ni Heneral Aguinaldo si Heneral Baldomero Aguinaldo bilang direktor ng pananalapi at naging kalihim ng kaban ng bayan o secretary of the treasury ng tinaguriang Republika ng Biak-na-Bato. (CLJD/SFV-PIA 3)

Aguinaldo na bagama't naging malaking hamon ang kinalabasan ng nasabing mga kasunduan, dapat aniyang maging aral na kahit anumang pagsabok o negatibong pangyayari ang masalubong, hindi dapat mapaghinaan ng loob para kumapit sa layunin at pagsikapang matupad ang isang pangarap.

Sa kanilang pagbabalik sa bansa, natamo ang unang tagumpay ng rebolusyon mula sa Labanan sa Alapan sa Imus, Cavite noong Mayo 28, 1898, kung saan naiwagayway sa unang pagkakataguan ang watawat ng Pilipinas na ginawa sa Hong Kong.

Ito ang nagbigay daan para maiproklama ang Kalayaan noong Hunyo 12, 1898 na niratipikahan ng Kongreso ng Malolos noong Setyembre 29, 1898.

Kaugnay nito, binigyang diin ni

ADB to grant US\$4 billion to PH for 2023

QUEZON CITY (PIA) - The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will grant the Philippines up to US\$4 billion to support the country's socio-economic agenda and other infrastructure development programs for 2023.

"This 2023 alone, we expect to provide up to US\$4 billion to support the government's Socio-Economic Agenda and the Build Better More infrastructure development program," said ADB President Masatsugu Asakawa during the ADB reception at its headquarters in Mandaluyong City on Monday.

This includes the preparation of several transformative projects such as the Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge Project, the Davao Public Transport Modernization Project, and the Integrated Floor Resilience and Adaptation Project.

President Asakawa said the ADB has boosted its financing to the Philippines by the fourfold reaching a total of US\$12.7 billion between 2018 and 2022.

In response, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. made a commitment to the ADB saying that the Philippines will hold fast

to its responsibilities to the regional financial institution like his father did.

"The Philippines stands to significantly gain from this mutually beneficial relationship with the ADB. We are aware of the responsibilities that this relationship carries with it. But I will re-echo my father's words during the ADB inauguration some 57 years ago: 'We will meet those responsibilities,'" President Marcos said.

The Chief Executive also promised to ensure that these plans and projects are strictly and timely executed and the loans and other technical assistance granted to the country are used judiciously.

ADB President said the development bank is also fully committed to helping the country in addressing climate change and "it will be a core priority of our assistance going forward."

ADB's annual loan financing for the Philippines averaged US\$1.4 billion from 2010 to 2022.

Within the first nine months of Marcos administration, three loans amounting to US\$1.10 billion were signed with the Bank. Furthermore, the



administration is waiting for the release of the Country Partnership Strategy for 2024-2029.

This clearly explains the Bank's recommended medium-term development

agenda for the country, guided by the theme, "Investing in Climate, Filipinos and the Future."

It is also consistent with the Philippine Development Plan. (ARB, PIA-CPSP)

NGCP energizes PhP 10.2Bn Hermosa-San Jose transmission line

At 7:22AM on 27 May 2023, power transmission grid operator NGCP successfully energized the Hermosa-San Jose 500-kiloVolt (kV) transmission line, an Energy Project of National Significance which will further improve the reliability of the Luzon transmission backbone.

Spanning the provinces of Bulacan, Pampanga, and Bataan,

the project will strengthen transmission services and accommodate new bulk power generation from the Bataan area.

"The Hermosa-San Jose 500kV project is a major component in our planned Luzon 500kV transmission backbone. Despite many challenges, our teams worked 24/7 to complete this facility. With the energization of the line

comes the improved transmission from generation sources towards the load center Metro Manila and nearby provinces," said NGCP.

Besides the new transmission line from Bulacan to Bataan, the project includes the construction of a new Hermosa 500kV Substation, which will enable better voltage regulation and power transfer from existing 230kV facilities in the area.

The project was provisionally approved by the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) with a cost of PhP 10.2 Billion; however, the ERC has only allowed the partial recovery of PhP 19 Million or less than 1% of the actual project cost. Given the urgent need to widen the transmission highway along the Bataan corridor, NGCP implemented the HSI, setting aside for later, the issue on recovery approvals from the ERC.

"Our priority has and will always be doing, what is best for the public. Financial considerations can take a back seat and be threshed out later," stressed Henry Sy, Jr., major stockholder and the company's former president and CEO. "We hope to correct the impression that the consumers are somehow shortchanged with how rates are computed. Our commitment has never wavered: we serve the public, and we work within the legal and regulatory framework of our concession and franchise," Sy emphasized.

NGCP is slated to complete other critical projects in Visayas and Mindanao in the coming months. "Our stakeholders can be assured that we will continue our grid improvement, expansion, and reinforcement initiatives to deliver quality and reliable transmission services," said NGCP

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