

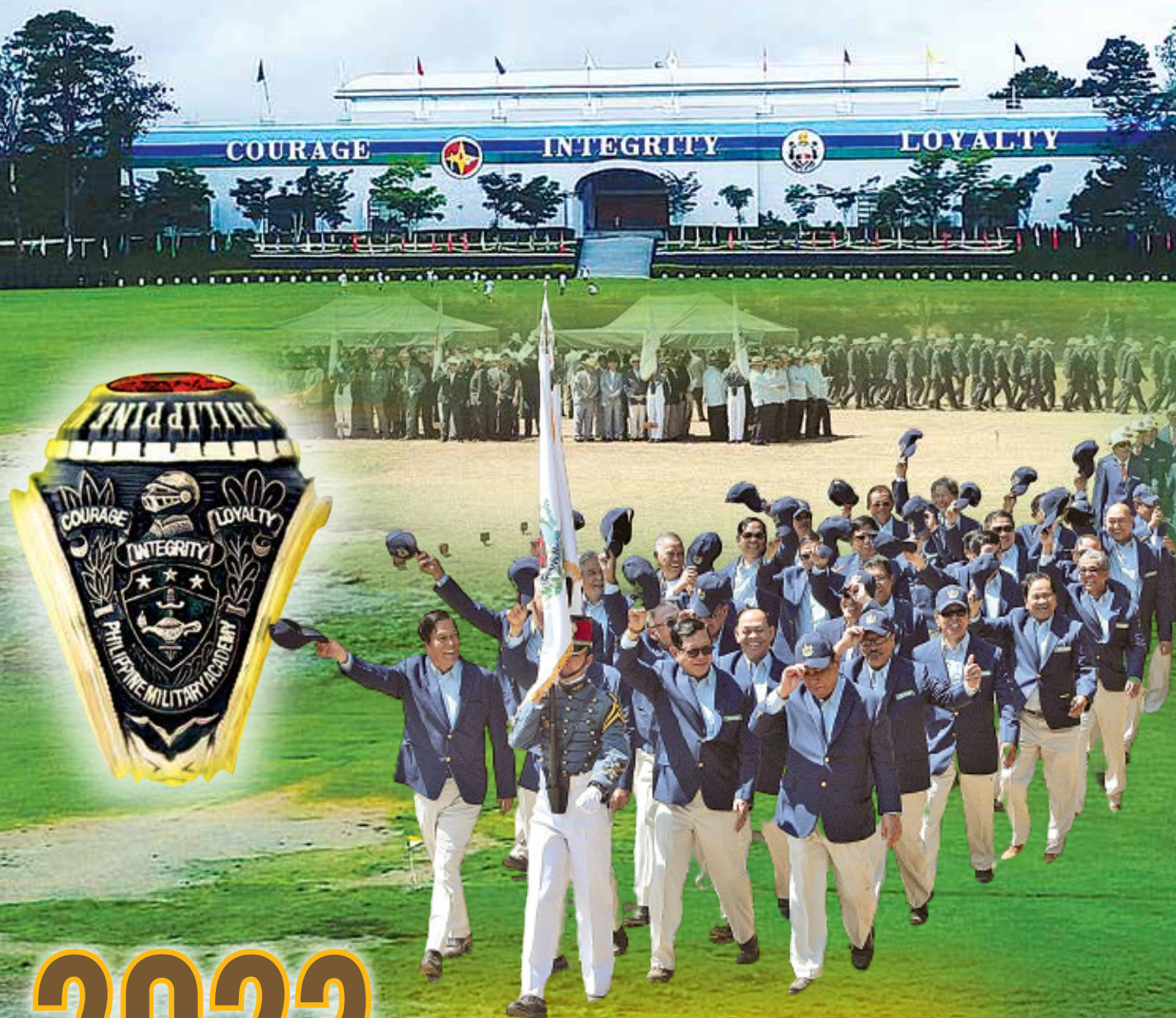


The CAVALIER

COURAGE ★ INTEGRITY ★ LOYALTY

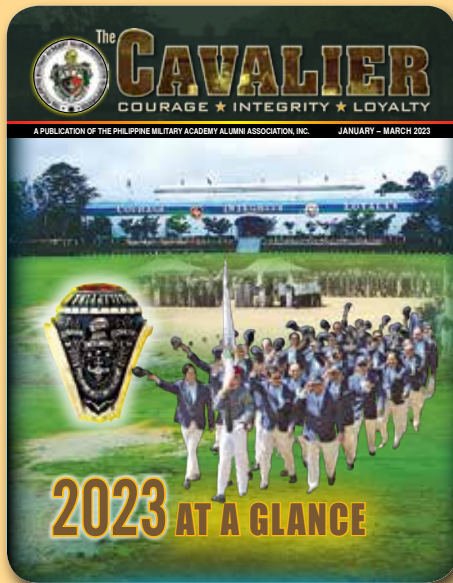
A PUBLICATION OF THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

JANUARY – MARCH 2023



2023 AT A GLANCE

ABOUT THE COVER



Stepping into the soil of the hallowed Borromeo Field brings an unexplainable feeling to Cavaliers. To them, the month of February is always a month to look forward to, because it is that time of the year that the beloved sons and daughters of the Philippine Military Academy go home to the four corners of the institution they love so dearly.

EDITORIAL BOARD

CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73
CAV DANILO A ABINOJA '74
CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77
CAV JOSELITO E DE GUZMAN '93
CAV CHARLIE Q RANCES '93

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CAV MARCES T GAYAT '93

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

CAV ERNEST D CAROLINA '06
LYDIA V CABAJAR
DIVINIA P NACARIO

JOHN D ALEJO

Graphic Designer



The CAVALIER

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Chairman's Desk.....	1
CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73	
President's Corner.....	2
CAV JOSELITO E DE GUZMAN '93	
Supe's Report	3
CAV ROWEN S TOLENTINO '89	
Baron's Dissemination	4
Cdt JOHN TROY B ALBANO	
Adjutant's Bulletin	
- PMAAAI, AY 2022-2023 Accomplishment Report	5
- Association Awardees.....	10
- Cavalier Pandemic Heroes Award	14
- Revised Rules of Procedures in the Discipline, Suspension, Termination and Reinstatement of Members.....	16
- Notice of PMAFI Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Trustees.....	19
Vignettes of Elder Cavaliers	
- CAV JAIME S DELOS SANTOS '69	20
- CAV BENJAMIN P DEFENSOR '69	23
PMA "Matindi" Class of 1963: A Historical Account.....	26
CAV RENE LEANDRO P EBRO '63	
The History of The Philippine Military Academy "Maagap" Class of 1973.....	31
Brief History of PMA "Maalab" Class of 1993.....	54
PMA Class of 1998, 25 Years and Shining Through	58
Security Profession: The Fifth Service for Cavaliers	60
CAV JOEL JESUS M SUPAN '81	
Defending Our Patrimony The Need to Reshape the AFP's Operational Plan.....	62
CAV MELCHOR P ROSALES '68	
Class Call	64
Last Call.....	IBC

The CAVALIER magazine is a professional journal published quarterly 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 magazine and the articles in the issue would be appreciated.

Readers may now view The Cavalier online at pmaaii.ph

Send your letters to:

The Editor, The Cavalier

PMA Alumni Center

Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Q.C.

e-mail address: pmaaii@yahoo.com

Some articles have been edited to meet space requirements.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

CAV AMB VIDAL E QUEROL '73

**The pandemic was terrifying as it was unprecedented in consequence
The COVID-19 pandemic was history in the making, the most serious
threat to national security since WW2
Many Cavaliers heeded the 'call to arms' to defeat the pandemic
These Cavaliers are pandemic heroes of history made**

In the early stages of the pandemic, the Philippines, just like any other country on the planet, was confronted with the pandemic situation with no template on how our country must cope. The global standards among nations like USA and Canada in North America, UK, France, Germany in Europe were dangerously reeling from the onslaught of the pandemic with rows upon rows of refrigerated container vans of cadavers parked in sports arenas. The hospitals were bursting in the seams. It was terrifying as it was unprecedented in scale, magnitude and in deaths, and in consequence. Not long, the global economy began to take direct hits from the pandemic throwing fresh millions of impoverished people.

Former Pres Rodrigo Roa Duterte, known for speed and audacity, created the IATF which crafted the National Action Plan to control the spread of COVID-19. It was all about health: health of the people, health of the economy and the third was mental health. The three were in a tug for national attention and resources. If the first consideration was to protect the people against the virus, then mitigate the resultant impact on the economy and the psychological wellness of the people, or mental health. He called for strict border control in all ports of entry against entry of the virus, its public transmission through early implementation of community lockdowns, establishment of quarantine facilities, closure of schools, shutdown of non-essential factories, very limited transportation services, effective communication and monitoring to the public. These draconian measures of lockdowns and quarantines, like wearing of face mask and observing physical distance required steely hands and will. It was 'call to arms' in defense of the Motherland against the most serious threat to national security since WW2. **The COVID-19 pandemic was history in the making.**

Many Cavaliers heeded the call to pursue the National Action Plan. To name a few: Cavaliers DELFIN LORENZANA '73 and ED AÑO '85 worked a new normal of social behavior conducive to effective coverage of health protocols. It was never a walk in the park, with hordes of recalcitrants and tough nuts. Like true Assistant Squad Leader on fresh plebe, both employed sustained repetitive actions and commensurate deterrence and discouragements like detention of violators and administrative sanctions to local officials who were remiss of their duties, the desired new normal of wear mask and maintain physical distance was incorporated into a new way of life. To

such extent that people now wear mask even though it is no longer required. Cavalier CARLITO GALVEZ'85 accepted the tasks of Vaccine Czar to put public confidence that the procurement processes was above board. And the President was right. When agencies were at a loss on how to trace infected persons, Cavalier Mayor BENJIE MAGALONG '85 emerged to the rescue to become Contact Tracing Czar, not only in Baguio City but also in Cebu and elsewhere. When Cebu City was seriously confronted with rising city transmission of the virus which was the highest in the country, former Pres Duterte set aside local politics and sent Cavalier ROY CIMATU '70 and his team to subdue the community transmissions and turned over the city when the infection incidents were very manageable. When there were anomalies in the distribution of subsidies to the poor, President Duterte called again Cavalier ROLANDO BAUTISTA '85 and took charge and oversaw that the most vulnerable of the poor got the national food and cash aid without political considerations. These Cavaliers, with vast experience in handling crises, shone brightly even under severe pressure with dangers unseen and personal risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Understand, this pandemic comes every hundred years or so; the Spanish Flu pandemic struck in 1919 amidst WW1 in Europe.

As we get out of the pandemic woods, it is very clear that Cavaliers played very crucial role in flattening the pandemic curve and easing community lockdowns and quarantines to keep the people moving to prevent further psychological scarring and the economic engines running for the much-needed economic recovery. History would be kind to find in its records the achievements of Cavaliers which greatly contributed in the national efforts in defeating the COVID-19 pandemic which had been the most serious threat to national security. In recognition of the laudable achievements of these Cavaliers, I purposely dedicated the Chairman's Desk to recognize these fellow Cavaliers who were bright stars in the darkest hours of the pandemic and etched their veritable images in our nation's history. As such the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc, approved Board Resolution No. 22-19 which created a Special Award to be known as "*Pandemic Hero Award*" to be conferred to these Cavaliers who have contributed immensely in the fight to end the COVID-19 pandemic, and greatly benefited our country and people. **These Cavaliers are figures in pandemic history made.**





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CAV JOSELITO E DE GUZMAN '93

Looking Ahead in 2023

Time flew past. Before we know it, the Board of Directors are about to complete our tour of duty. We are hoping that we have met your expectations. The past year saw us embracing new challenges in different sectors of our society: politically, mentally, economically, spiritually and socially because of various evolving factors. But resilient as we are, we overcame these challenges and stood ready to withstand all storms.

We are looking ahead in 2023 with full of hope and optimism that our nation will inch its way towards progress and stability. As for us Cavaliers, active and retired, we fervently pray that bright prospects await us all in the coming days.

Congratulations are in order to all the Association Awardees in recognition for their outstanding achievements in different fields of specialization. A job well done would not be left unnoticed and cavaliers who took the extra miles to get the job done in excellence truly deserve the distinction and recognition. May your tribe increase.

The proposed Cavaliers Memorial Monument will immortalize the Cavalier heroes who have done significant contributions in service to God, country and people. They offered their skills, time, efforts and knowledge to make their respective marks and niche in the defense organizations and other private enterprises.

The Editorial Board and staff adopted new attractions to entice cavalier writers to share their inklings in print at the Cavalier Magazine. We are giving t-shirts and incentives to best feature writers and will be presented a plaque of recognition during the PMAAAI Annual General Meeting at Baguio Convention Center on 17 February 2023. Winners

will be selected from among those who contributed feature articles starting the 2nd Qtr 2022 issue of the Cavalier Magazine up to the 1st Qtr issue 2023. Winner(s) will be announced after review of all the articles by the Board of Judges and editorial board. We also came out with a new segment starting the 3rd Qtr issue of the magazine entitled Vignettes of Elder Cavaliers intended for Classes 1960 to 1969 to share with us a colorful chapter of their lives. So, if you are one among these classes write your thoughts and we will make your efforts worthwhile.

The PMA Alumni Homecoming is one of the many events being looked forward to by every cavalier. The going back to the Academy creates a nostalgic effect and rekindle memories of what took place during the initial four years of honing and training the cadets. The gathering of the alumni shows the last men standing in every class. What a sight to see a lone cavalier representing his class in the parade formation. Said alumni usually gets a loud cheering from the crowd and applause for being able to take a long journey of life and managed to walk the Borromeo Field for another chance. The gathering of the class after the ceremony in their respective booked hotel or venue evokes belongingness, kinship, brotherhood, esprit de corps and camaraderie. After the excitement cools down, the waves of goodbye seem hard for everyone to part wishing the fun and laughter would still last a little more. But reality sets in and everyone has to return home, looking forward to another homecoming next year.

Let this issue of the magazine be our platform to express our gratitude for a whole year of support and cooperation all of you have extended to us during our term. Rest assured of our support and cooperation to those who will succeed us.





SUPE'S REPORT

CAV ROWEN S TOLENTINO '89

Alumni Homecoming - A Memorable Tradition

On behalf of the entire Philippine Military Academy community, we thank the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. for their unwavering support to our beloved Alma Mater. The association exists solely to assist our alumni and, by extension, the Academy itself in its endeavours *"to provide quality education to the cadets."*

Since its inception in 1898, the Philippine Military Academy has produced competent graduates and leaders of character. The Academy cherished and held high regard to its alumni, also known as the cavaliers. Every cavalier positively impacts the nation, in particular, and the world in general. We congratulate our cavaliers who have excelled and served well in military operations, staff functions and administrations, politics, private organizations, and even in the field of business and enterprise. The Academy is even more proud of their success and accomplishments.

The Cavaliers are assets to the Philippine Military Academy such that they contribute to its enrichment and success through the shared experiences and volunteering spirit of our graduates. They are also ambassadors for the Philippine Military Academy, disseminating the values and ideals that the Academy represents. The Academy wishes that our graduates continue to live with these values and pass them down to the next generations by serving as role models for our country's future leaders.

Alumni Homecoming is a memorable tradition celebrated by the sons and daughters of the Academy every second week of February. It is a moment to reminisce the good old days of our

cadetship days and renew friendships with mistahs, upperclass and underclassmen, senior officers, and professors. May every alumnus rekindle friendships, develop deeper bonds, share experiences, and reunite long-lost friends and acquaintances. May this most cherished season for PMAers give them a chance to renew the loving memories inside PMA.

Connecting with the Academy is always a great feeling. The Academy shares this sentiment and is delighted to learn about its graduates' achievements when they leave the hallowed ground of the Academy. PMAAAI and this Alumni Homecoming celebration also provide the cavaliers with opportunities for sharing insights, ideas, career and profession-related networking events and access to Academy's forums and seminars.

I sincerely thank the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. and all cavaliers for being part of our community. As we look into the future, we hope that you can ever be proud of our alma mater and will continue to support our beloved Academy.

As the notable alumni song, *"I'm happy as a king, believe me, as we go rolling, rolling home. Rolling homes, rolling*

homes, by the light of the silvery moon, I'm happy as the day when the soldier gets his pay. As we go rolling, rolling home. Home is not where you are from; it is where you can find light when all grows dark. And that light will only shine when you live by the values of *"Courage, Integrity and Loyalty,"* that the Academy instilled in your heart.

Welcome back to your beloved home away from home in the City of Pines, my fellow Cavaliers.





JOHN TROY B ALBANO
Cdt F/Cpt 1CI
"G" Company, CCAFP
Regimental Commander

Baron's Dissemination



MADASIGON: Completing the Cycle

*Another year, another start. Better start, better days.
Newer days, newer selves.*

Twenty-twenty-three. As the Madasigon Year is about to come, we are to bid farewell to the Bagsik Diwa Year as well. But as we, the PMA Class of 2023, approach the end of our cadetship and the start of our officership, we are yet to realize that we are also leaving our beloved Alma Mater, the Cadet Corps, unto the leadership of our underclass buddies, the PMA Class of 2024.

Five months left in the Academy, and we have five more months to continue our efforts in making the Academy better than what it was - stopping and eradicating the nemesis the academy faces. And before our class joins the Long Gray Line, we sought to mold and fortify our underclassmen in becoming the future leaders of the Corps, so that they may be able to live up to the standards and exceed the expectations deemed of them towards a better CCAFP. While days and months cannot be stopped, we are nearing our respective transitions toward higher ranks - first-class cadets are about to become the future ensigns and lieutenants of our Armed Forces, and the underclass cadets are to advance to one class each. With 2022 coming to an end and 2023 approaching, we ought to constantly prepare for the year ahead of us, along with the challenges we are to face upon reaching yet another feat in our military careers.

The new year poses a different challenge for all the classes of the CCAFP, and for the PMA Talang Dangal Class of 2026, this will be the time for them to prove themselves and for them to receive that simple handshake with a thousand connotations from the upper-class corps deeming them worthy of recognition - where they've reached another stepping stone in their cadetship to achieve more significant tasks and fulfill more profound responsibilities. Moreover, as the Plebes welcome the year 2023, it sets them to prepare themselves for a new role with affiliated responsibilities - the yearling buddy they are to be to the incoming plebes. Along with this role comes the responsibility to master one's self in their day-to-day dealings, be it academic requirements, physical fitness, or regular compliance. As they are nearing the end of their Plebehood, they are to spend the rest of their months as fourth-class cadets familiarizing and improving not only their respective uniforms but also their actuations, embracing the true notion of service followership.

For the yearlings or the models of the corps, the remainder of the academic year will prepare them for their role as the upcoming squad leaders or Cows. After surviving a semester of academics, they will still have to face yet another challenge of another set of rotting academics facing the monster that is Calculus. Moreover, under the scrutinizing eyes of the Firstclassmen, they will have to prove that they have mastered the basics of cadetship proving them worthy to handle their own individual squads. Likewise, in the remaining months, they will have to maximize the time they have left with their squad leaders through mentoring, coaching, and all forms of bonding to further prepare themselves to become squad leaders themselves. And as they reach self-mastery, comes the pressure of preparing themselves to become the mentors of the upcoming plebes. Before becoming Second Class Cadets, they will have to undergo several seminars and workshops to ensure that as future squad leaders they will have the mission of the Academy in mind and the compassion to teach the new upcoming leaders of the AFP. With the two years of learning and experience as their basic load, their leadership skills will be tested, as the PMA Siklab-Laya class of 2025 step up to a new role as the future Cows of the CCAFP.

After a year of handling their individual squads, the PMA Bagong

Sinag Class of 2024 is under the pressure of preparing to become the future Immaculates of the CCAFP. And as the current Cows of the Cadet Corps, they have mastered their skills and knowledge of being a small unit leader, and now they only have a few months left before that small unit or squad becomes the entire CCAFP. In the coming days, this class will undergo the selection and deliberation of Cadet Captain Aspirants to determine whose leadership will take care of the Corps. Consequently, with the remaining days left with their buddies, they will have to gather all the necessary information and pieces of advice on how to handle the corps. The second-class cadets will have their first taste of leadership upon the start of the OJT of the Firstclassmen this coming March, and this will be the time for them to test the waters. They, too, will have workshops and seminars to create their plans that I know will make the Corps a better solace for each cadet. It will be up to them to maintain the best practices set by our leadership and for them to correct the things we did wrong. We believe that the Second-Class Cadets, the future Firsties, will be great, if not better, leaders compared to us.

Graduation. The goal and mission for all the members of our class - the PMA Madasigon Class of 2023. With the start of our year and with graduation becoming closer than ever, all 1CL cadets are being more conscious of their individual actions to secure their spot in the prestigious long gray line. With a few months left for academics, the Firstclass men are filled with knowledge in Law, Geopolitics, Military Arts, Research, Management, and Military Sciences to further prepare them for becoming future officers of the AFP and leaders of our nation. This coming March will be our On the Job Training, and this will not only enhance our skills and capabilities as future officers but will widen our understanding of the life and career we are to face ahead and beyond the walls of Fort del Pilar. The few months left will be spent to ensure that once we leave this institution, we will be the competent and principled military officers that the academy hoped to mold. And as we leave the CCAFP this May, we only hope that we have prepared our underclassmen for their roles and responsibilities as the future leaders of the Corps and the AFP. We will maximize our time not only in guiding and mentoring them but also in learning from them, for leadership is not only about coaching but also about gaining knowledge.

The Four Years we have spent here in the academy passed by in a blink of an eye. Needless to say, the plebes of Class 2023 only hoped to finish every single day, not thinking that someday, that single day would be their Graduation Day. Now, as Immaculates, we only hope that as we toss our Shakus on our most awaited Graduation Day, we can put an exclamation on the fact that finally, we have completed the cycle, and we have become a 100 percent cadet - completely equipped with the knowledge, experience, and learnings, as we step out of the brick gate and life beyond Loakan.

Twenty-twenty-three. The Madasigon Year is another year for all the cadets, from Immaculates to Cows to Yearlings and to Plebes, wherein they are to empower each other in the roles and responsibilities expected of them. Likewise, 2023 is the year that they'll see as not just another start but a better start to make great use of all chances and opportunities they will encounter in the rest of their cadet life. Moreover, as each cadet strives to complete their very goal in their cadetship, they do not only foster relations amongst their upper-class and under-class, but they foster better days for the newer days to come - because as they reach every milestone, they are able to attain the newer versions of themselves towards a more progressive and productive future - not only for themselves but as well as for the nation.

To the PMA Madasigon Class of 2023, men of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty, CARRY ON!



ADJUTANT'S BULLETIN

Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. AY 2022-2023 Accomplishment Report

As the Association Year 2022-2023 of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. draws near to its culmination, it is my personal pride, and that of the Board of Directors, to report to the general membership, our activities and accomplishments for the past eleven (11) months, more or less.

I. THE PMAAAI STRATEGIC PLAN FOR AY 2020-2024: PLEAD

Armed with our predecessors' 2020-2025 PMAAAI Strategic Plan summarized in an acronym **P-L-E-A-D**, (**P** – preservation of PMA's heritage, customs, values and traditions; **L** – live the PMA ideals of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty; **E** – engagement of cavaliers; **A** – allot donations; and **D** – deepen social responsibility), the Board was able to traverse its course amidst the greatest obstacle of all times – the **COVID -19 pandemic**. This Strategic Plan served as the guiding light for us to pursue our goals amidst various hindrances along the way as we progress through time. Practically, more than half of the time we should have devoted to perform our mandates as directors of our association were spent on quarantined conditions as the pandemic is still widespread throughout the whole country, where most of us just stayed home. Limited mobility though among all sectors of our society did not hinder us to perform and accomplish our mission, thanks to the virtual technology that we have now. We were able to connect to each and every director at any time there is a need to resolve matters of importance to the association.

II. VISION 2024

PMAAAI: Perpetuating the ideals of our Alma Mater, promoting the general welfare of its members and providing support in the pursuit of national security.

III. PMAAAI PROJECTS

In modest way, our activities and accomplishments are listed below and are explained further in succeeding paragraphs:

1. The continued grant of "abuloy" and medical assistance to families of deceased members and to Cavaliers who were hospitalized due to illnesses respectively;
2. The funding of construction of the Memorial of Fallen Cavaliers through PMA Payback;
3. The quarterly publication of the Cavalier Magazine of the PMAAAI;
4. The conduct of regular meetings of the Board and Council of PMA Class Presidents (COPCP);
5. The continuation and maintenance of the regular assembly among PMAAAI, PNPAAL and other service academy alumni associations;
6. The ongoing proposed PMAAAI Building in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City;
7. The creation of the new PMAAAI official website of the Association;
8. The Resumption of the Transient Officers Quarters;

9. The conduct and implementation of a "Raffle for a Cause" fundraising;
10. The return of the traditional PMAAAI Family Sportsfest;
11. The execution of Regional Consultative Meeting and Fellowship;
12. The promulgation and approval of various resolutions aimed at pursuing the goals of the association; and
13. The preparation for PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting and Alumni homecoming and other PMAAAI significant activities.

IV. ORGANIZATION

The affairs and business of the Association are vested in the management team composed of the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director. Tasked with oversight functions over the management team and policy formulation, the Board of Directors is composed of 20 members from which the following corporate officers were elected:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73 | Chairman and CEO |
| 2. CAV DANILO A ABINOJA '74 | Vice Chairman |
| 3. CAV JOSELITO E DE GUZMAN '93 | President and COO |
| 4. CAV ADRIANO SJ DUADICO '94 | Vice President |
| 5. CAV LORETO B PASAMONTE '93 | Corporate Secretary |
| 6. CAV JESSELITO L CASTRO '98 | Treasurer |
| 7. CAV CHARLIE Q RANCES '93 | Auditor |
| 8. CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75 | Director |
| 9. CAV JOSE JOHRIEL M CENABRE '83 | Director |
| 10. CAV GREG PHILIP L MONSALUD '14 | Director |
| 11. CAV MARCES T GAYAT '93 | Director and Editor-in-Chief, Cavalier Magazine |
| 12. CAV JOEY T FONTIVEROS '94 | Director |
| 13. LADY CAV HAZEL ANN L BASIGSIG-PASCUAL '14 | Director |
| 14. CAV MATTHEW P BACCAY '92 | Director |
| 15. CAV EMILIO P MELENDRES JR '53 | Director (COPCP) |
| 16. CAV GUILLERMO R RUIZ '63 | Director (COPCP) |
| 17. CAV HENRY G SABARRE '83 | Director (COPCP) |
| 18. CAV ROY A ECHEVERRIA '93 | Director (COPCP) |
| 19. CAV REYNALD JAY V BALANAY '03 | Director (COPCP) |
| 20. CAV MARK FERDINAND P VILLAMIN '13 | Director (COPCP) |

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. CAV AMADO T ESPINO JR '72 | PAST CHAIRMAN |
| 2. CAV MAGTANGGOL B GATDULA '76 | PETFI |
| 3. CAV GEORGE Q PIANO '78 | PDFI |
| 4. CAV GIL C MENESES '80 | PFTJI |
| 5. CAV LEO ANGELO D LEUTERIO '88 | PMAFI |
| 6. CAV ROLANDO G BORJA '82 | CAVLA |
| 7. CAV ROWEN S TOLENTINO '89 | PMA Supt |
| 8. CAV DOMINGO M PEQUIRAS '77 | Executive Director |
| 9. LADY CAV ARRIANE MAE M GONZALES-AYANGGOD '13 | IT Administrator, PMAAAI |

V. APPROVED RESOLUTIONS

The PMAAAI Board of Directors for AY 2022-2023 has passed twenty-two (22) Board resolutions notable of which are:

- Approving the extension of the amnesty program for the lifetime membership dues for those members not in good standing status for AY 2022-2023
- Designating the Chairman, PMAAAI, Ambassador Vidal E Querol to represent the PMAAAI in the amendment to the Usufruct Agreement between the Philippine Army and PMAAAI.
- Approving the Manifesto of Support for President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr.
- Approving the release of P200K mobilization fund for the Ways and Means Committee Grand Raffle AY 2022-2023
- Approving the recommendation of the Cavalier Magazine, Editor-in-Chief, Cav Marces T Gayat '93 to select the Best Feature Article published in the Cavalier Magazine from 2nd Quarter 2022 up to 1st Quarter 2023 issues.
- Creating a special award to be known as "Pandemic Hero Award" to be conferred to Cavaliers who have contributed immensely in the fight to end the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Approving the funding of P1,673,083.69 from the PMA Payback fund for the construction of the Monument of Fallen Cavaliers to be located at the new PMA Museum area, PMA, Fort del Pilar, Baguio City.
- Approving the revised rules of procedures in the discipline, suspension, termination and reinstatement of members

VI. FINANCE

The PMAAAI Board has managed to keep the PMAAAI finances safe and sound. The investment of funds is being guided primarily by safety of the principal and secondarily by the rate of return.

From 01 October 2021 to 30 September 2022, the unaudited gross revenue totaled P27,039,843 inclusive of the P5,760,826 net proceeds from the Games of the Cavaliers Golf Tournament and Raffle Tickets Fundraising, with total expenses of P28,097,468, resulting in excess of expenses over revenues of P1,057,625. Total investment income for one-year period is P6,169,702 which is about 23% of the total revenues. The Board also approved the distributions of the net proceeds from the fundraising project of the following: PMAAAI – 70%; PMARAI – 20% and PMA Council of Class Presidents (PCOCP) – 10%.

Moreover, the unaudited total assets as of 30 September 2022 amounted to P134,100,120. The total assets are broken down into: cash and cash equivalents – P40,081,135, investments – P82,741,928, receivables – P9,445,812 and other current assets and non-current assets – P1,831,245.

The total liabilities amounted to P1,308,292. The fund balances which stood at P132,791,827 is P0.19M less than P132,979,818 audited figure as of 30 September 2021. The fund balances are broken down as follows: General Fund – P15,470,700; Principal Fund – P34,412,672; Special Fund for PMA Payback – P11,304,180; Special Fund for PACDP – P42,408,698; Special Fund for Mutual Relief – P11,742,108; and Special Fund for Medical Assistance – P17,453,469.

The PMAAAI Board has rationalized its investment portfolio to ensure safety and productivity of the fund placements and approved the recommended investment policy by the Ad Hoc Committee on Strategic Planning and Investment. As a major concern of the management, all placements and investments of the funds were subjected to thorough analysis and evaluation by the Finance Committee Chairman together with the Executive Director/Fund Manager and, thereafter, the approval of the Board of Directors. Presently, it follows a balanced portfolio mix between fixed-income securities like time deposits and growth funds investments like capital contribution and mutual funds.

To further ensure that its assets, specifically, cash and investments, are safeguarded and properly utilized and to ascertain the accuracy and reliability of recording and accounting of transactions, PMAAAI engaged the professional services of Mateo Ramos Celestino Llona and Co. to undertake the audit of its financial operations and systems. The audit firm came up with recommendations for the needed changes or measures that would improve and strengthen the policies, system and procedures associated with the accounting process and internal audit functions. The PMAAAI is progressively implementing the recommended actions to address the gaps or inefficiencies.

VII. OPERATIONS

The Board of Directors, Executive Committee and management team endeavored to prudently use available resources to support the projects and activities of the Association. They gave their time and efforts to accomplish the goals and objectives set for the year.

Along this line, the operational accomplishments of the PMAAAI reflect a unity of thinking and actions to contribute to the achievement of the overall purposes of the Association.

1. Mutual Relief or "Abuloy"

The Association continued to grant "abuloy" to the bereaved families of deceased members who were in good standing in accordance with the approved Board Resolution No. 17-18 "Increasing the amount of mutual relief being given to the family of a deceased member in good standing from P50,000.00 to P60,000.00 and from P5,000.00 to P10,000.00 to the family of a deceased member not in good standing" For the period covered March – December 2022, the total amount of P2,080,000 from the Special Fund for Mutual Relief (SFMR) was granted as *abuloy* to dependents of deceased members.



2. Medical Assistance

The PMAAAI Board continues to provide medical assistance to those cavaliers who are in good standing status who were hospitalized due to illnesses.

Submission of the application to avail of the benefit should not be later than three (3) months after confinement from the hospital or after death of the applicant. The assistance can be availed of by a member for a maximum of five (5) times, provided that the total accumulated assistance will not exceed P50,000.00.

For the past nine (9) months, the total amount of P875,000 from the Special Fund for Medical Assistance (SFMA) was disbursed to members in accordance with the new guidelines on the use of SFMA.

3. Support for the PMA through the PMA Payback Fund

The PMAAAI continues to help the PMA through the PMA Payback Fund by supporting projects for the improvement of the PMA facilities. Recently, the Board has approved to fund the construction of the Memorial of Fallen Cavaliers in the total amount of 1,673,083.69.

4. Cavalier Magazine

The Cavalier Magazine, the official publication of the PMAAAI, is published quarterly. During the year, every issue has been dedicated to a certain theme carefully decided by the Editorial Board. The Editor-in-Chief, CAV MARCES T GAYAT '93, with his indefatigable staff headed

by CAV ERNEST D CAROLINA '06 endeavored continuously to improve the quality of the magazine in terms of substance and presentation. The publication is either mailed individually to members in good standing or read in the PMAAAI website.

In recognizing the efforts of the Cavalier Magazine writer-contributors, CAV GAYAT recommended giving the author of "Best Feature Article" published in the Cavalier Magazine for AY 2022-2023 a plaque of recognition. Criteria for the selection of winner will be based on the following:

1. Originality and have not been published in any other publications
2. Subject topic is related to National issues that may somehow affect Cavalier community, active and retired, their dependents and the Filipino Citizenry in general.
3. Contains perspectives beneficial to the PMAAAI, AFP and the country.

5. Association Awards

The Board of Directors of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. has selected as Cavalier Awardees for AY 2022-2023, 15 alumni who, after a stringent nomination and selection process, have been found to have the most outstanding performance in their respective fields. The Board has also selected other alumni to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award; Outstanding Achievement Award; Plaque of Meritorious Recognition; and Cavaliers Pandemic Heroes Award.

6. Assembly of Service Academies and Schools Alumni Association of the Philippines (ASASAAP)

On its 3rd year, the Assembly of Service Academies and School's Alumni Association (ASASAAP) chaired by Kasapi-Lakan William S. Macavinta of PNPA, held its first-ever Golf Fellowship at the Philippine Navy Golf Club (PNGC) on 15 November 2022.

The event started with a ceremonial tee-off representatives of ASASAAP namely: Kasapi-Cavalier Edgar B Aglipay (PMAAAI), Kasapi-Cavalier Vidal Querol (PMAAAI), Kasapi-Lakan William S Macavinta (PNPAAAI), Kasapi-Lakan Nelson T Yabut (PNPAAAI), Kasapi-Shipmate Jose Remo Librodo (PMMAAAI), Kasapi Shipmate Jess Morales (PMMAAAI), Kasapi-Ocian Vincent Incognito (OCSAAI), Kasapi-OCIAN Ferdinand C Buscato (OCSAAI), Kasapi-Maharlikan Algier Ricafrente (CGOSAAI), Kasapi-Dux Mharvin A. Dimapilis (ASMAAPI) Kasapi-Dux Marvi Manalo (ASMAAAPI), Kasapi-Dux Cyril Manalo (ASMAAPI) and Kasapi-Aviator Nestor Florente DC Rayos (PAFFSAAI).

The PMAAAI bagged the Team Champion Categories; PNPAAAI, 1st Runner Up and ASMAAPI, 2nd Runner Up.

ASASAAP was established to enhance professional and leadership development, establish strong networking and engagement links, joint management of seminars, conferences, symposia, exchange of researches, publication and other materials of common interest and participation in nation-building.

The members of this organization include: Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc. (PMAAAI), Philippine National Police Academy Alumni Association Inc. (PNPAAAI), Philippine Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMMAAAI), Coast Guard Officer's Course Alumni Association, Inc. (CGOSAAI), Philippine Air Force Flying School Alumni Association, Inc. (PAFFSAAI), Officer Candidate School Alumni Association, Inc. (OCSAAI), and the Alumni Society of Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific, Inc. (ASMAAPI).



7. PMA Alumni Center for Leadership Excellence

The Proposed PMAAAI Building in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, after its groundbreaking on 23 March 2022, is still on its infancy stage as this was long delayed by the pandemic. The project management group under the Resorts World Manila has already secured all the necessary permits from the Taguig LGU. Other documentary requirements are still being finalized before the 7-storey building could start the construction.

8. PMAAAI Website

The new PMAAAI official website of the Association is *pmaai.ph* handled by our IT Administrator CAV LADY ARRIANTE MAE M GONZALES-AYANGGOD '13. The website had been online since 2014 where all information and reference materials can be viewed in the new PMAAAI website. These include the following: PMAAAI official publication "CAVALIER" Magazine; Minutes of the Annual Convention and Membership Meeting last 17 February 2022; Approved Board Resolutions for the AY 2022-23; and other related/pertinent references.

9. Resumption of the PMAAAI Transient Officers Quarters

The PMAAAI Transient Officers Quarters (TOQ), the temporary billeting facility for Alumni, will resume its operations after two (2) years of being closed. The Board approved the resumption of TOQ with some minor repair and upgrade of some amenities. The apartment-type facility is made available on a first-come-first served basis and an increase of room rates will be imposed pending the completion of the repairs. The TOQ is located inside the PMA Alumni Center compound in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

10. "Game of the Cavaliers" Golf Tournament

Through the efforts and initiatives of the Ways and Means Committee, chaired by DIR ROMEO S POQUIZ '81 together with the Sports Fellowship Committee, chaired by DIR ROY A ECHEVERRIA '93, the "Game of the Cavaliers 2022" Golf Fellowship was successfully conducted from 21 November 2022 to 3 December 2022 at three different courses, the Philippine Navy Golf Course (PNGC); Villamor Airbase Golf Course (VAGC) and Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course (CAGC). The championship round and awarding were held on 04 December 2022 at VAGC. The GOC Steering Committee was headed by DIR VIDAL E QUEROL '73.

Likewise, the Committee will conduct a "Raffle for a Cause" fund-raising where proceed will help a cavalier. The said raffle will be drawn during the convention on 17 February 2023.



11. PMAAAI FAMILY SPORTSFEST

The traditional PMAAAI Family Sportsfest after two (2) years of pandemic restrictions, was again held on 26 November 2022 at GHQ Grandstand, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The Fun Bike-run organized by PMARAI kicked-off the PMAAAI Family Sportsfest. The Activity attended by the Department of National Defense Officer-in-Charge CAV JOSE C FAUSTINO JR '88 as the Guest of Honor. The Sportsfest, which served as an occasion for bonding, fellowship and camaraderie, adopted the previous practice of grouping the Cavaliers and dependents according to the CCAFP Companies the Alumni graduated with. The activity was highlighted by a series of fun games.



12. PMAAAI CONSULTATIVE MEETING AND FELLOWSHIP

The Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc., (PMAAAI), with PMA Retirees Association Inc., (PMARAI) Board of Directors organized two (2) Regional Consultative Meetings and Fellowship held at NAVFORSOL Legaspi City on 19 August 2022 and Camp Don Basilio Navarro, Upper Calarian, Zamboanga City on 11 November 2022, respectively.

The meeting and fellowship aimed to bring PMAAAI and PMARAI closer to all its members and to update cavaliers with current issues that are happening. The attendees were also



presented briefing on basic information about the Association and their respective activities.

VIII AFFILIATE FOUNDATIONS

1. PMAAA Educational Foundation, Inc. (PETFI)

The PETFI was established in 1976 as a non-stock, non-profit corporation to raise and administer funds for the education of dependents of PMA alumni. Its ongoing educational assistance program covers elementary, high school and college but due to limited funds, is presently limited to dependents of deceased and disabled regular members of the PMAAAI who are members of the Foundation. Dependents include minor unmarried children as well as younger brothers and sisters of unmarried members.

The Board approved a new policy on grant of scholarship to children of alumni who are not members of PETFI, provided that the PMA Class to which the deceased or disabled alumnus belongs had donated at least P200,000 to the Foundation, and that the scholars under this category are given a support equal to one-third only of that given to regular scholars. There are two grantees this year under the said new policy.

Presently, the amounts of financial assistance being given to PETFI scholars per year are: P30,000 for college, P24,000 for high school and P18,000 for the elementary. For current SY 2022-23, PETFI supports 41 scholars: 13 in college, 20 in high school and eight in the elementary. In 2022, six (6) scholars graduated from college and fund support to the scholars was P1.03M.

Since the start, the Foundation has already supported 561 scholars, of which 338 earned their baccalaureate degrees. As of 31 December 2022, the fund balance of the PETFI is P46.88M.

2. Merge PETFI, PDFI and PTJFI with PMAAAI

In November 2018, PMAAAI Board approved a resolution approving the concept of rationalization of the operations and management of PMAAAI vis a vis the four (4) affiliate foundations, namely PFTJI, PDFI, PETFI, and PMAFI resulting into the merger of PFTJI, PDFI, and PETFI with PMAAAI leaving PMAFI as an independent PMAAAI foundation.

The Chairman of PDFI, CAV DELOS SANTOS '69, started the ball rolling by initiating the merger of PDFI with PMAAAI, PDFI Board went through all the steps necessary to complete the merger process. PDFI, as the dissolving entity, is in the process of submitting to SEC the ratified Plan of Merger and Articles of Merger.

3. Philippine Military Academy Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI)

The PMAFI was established in 1988 to help the PMA improve the quality of its instruction in search of academic excellence. To attain its purpose, the Foundation is engaged in the following activities: Establish research grants and professorial chairs; Give scholarship



grants to deserving PMA faculty members; Sponsor seminars, symposia and training programs; and Assist in strengthening the library, laboratory and other PMA facilities.

In 2022, the Foundation supported the scholarship of six (6) faculty members under the Facility Improvement Program and one (1) scholar under the Sec 22K Program. The PMAFI also supported seven (7) regular professorial chair grants, one hundred thirty (132) course development and administration chair grants, and seven (7) seminar grants. It also granted teaching excellence award to 14 faculty members.

The PMAFI donated computers and other training equipment, and various books to the Academy. It also supported its facilities improvement projects. The PMAFI fund support to PMA in 2022 amounted to P2.956M. The total fund balance of PMAFI has reached P111.62 as of 31 December 2022.

4. PMAAAI Foundation for Truth and Justice, Inc. (PFTJI)

The PMAAAI Foundation for Truth and Justice, Inc. (PFTJI) was organized in 2004 to support the objective of PMAAAI in providing legal and financial assistance to PFTJI members who are charged in court for offenses committed in the lawful performance of their official duties or who are victims of injustice.

Among the cases not covered in the financial assistance are violations of the Articles of War, Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, Dangerous Drugs Act, Anti-Plunder Act, Coup d'état and other crimes involving moral turpitude.

This legal assistance program was started in the 90's by the PMAAAI which established a Special Fund for Truth and Justice (SFTJ) to help regular members who are charged in court for offenses committed in the performance of their duties. The PMAAAI spun off this program in 2004 by incorporating the PFTJI as a separate foundation to avail of tax exemption privileges as a tax-exempt donee institution, and transferred to the Foundation its special fund of more than P4 million.

The PFTJI gives a financial assistance of P30,000 which has recently been increased to P50,000 to any PFTJI member charged in court to help finance his legal defense. The PFTJI has so far provided financial and legal assistance to twenty (20) since 2004. The PFTJI has a fund balance of 12.840M as of 31 Dec 2022.

The PMAAAI Foundation for Truth and Justice Inc. (PFTJI), in partnership with the Armed Forces of the Philippines Center for Law of Armed Conflict (AFP LOAC) and PMAAAI conducted 3-day webinar trainings and information drive on International Humanitarian Law (IHL), in the month of August 2022. Participants were members of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc (PMAAAI) in the

active service and those who are already retired, including their office personnel interested to join the lectures, to wit:

Day 1 - 09 August 2022 - ATTY GINO PAULO SANTIAGO, Assistant State Prosecutor and Head AO 35 Secretariat, Department of Justice (DOJ) lectured on the theme: *"Upholding IHL, as We Recover from the Pandemic: IHL in the Philippine Context."* HON. JESUS CRISPIN C REMULLA, DOJ Secretary, sent a video message on the same subject matter.

Day 2 - 18 August 2022 - DDG MICHAEL ERIC CASTILLO, Deputy Director General for Operations, National Security Council, talked on the subject: *"Humanity in IHL in the Context of National Security."* HON. CLARITA R CARLOS, Secretary, National Security Adviser sent her short video message on the subject.

Day 3 - 25 August 2022 - ATTY. JOSELENE JOYCE H. PRECIA-EPISCOP, Attorney IV, Legal Division Protection Cluster, Commission on Human Rights (CHR) and MS. SAHAR HAROON, Regional Legal Adviser for Southeast Asia and Japan, ICRC talked about *"ICRC and IHL in the Contemporary Time."*

IX UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

1. PMAAAI Annual General Membership Meeting

For this Association Year and with the current pandemic situation, the PMAAAI holds its Annual General Membership Meeting on 17 February 2023 at Baguio Convention and Cultural Center. During this activity, the Outstanding Achievement Award is conferred to cavaliers who have attained the highest positions in the government. An added attraction on the same day is the drawing of prizes for the raffle and fund-raising project jointly sponsored by PMAAAI and PMARAI.

2. PMA Alumni Homecoming

The Alumni Homecoming which is held every third Saturday of February will be moved to 18 February 2023 at the Philippine Military Academy in Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City. During the affair, the conferment of the Cavalier Award and Lifetime Achievement Award will be made as one of the highlights of the Alumni Day ceremonies. Also, all members of the new Board will take their oath of office before their term begins on 1 March 2023. Likewise, it is also the celebration of this year's Jubilarians – the Class of 1963 as Diamond Jubilarians, the Class of 1973 as Golden Jubilarians and the Class of 1998 as Silver Jubilarians. The Class of 1993, which is celebrating its 30th graduation anniversary, is the Lead Managing Class for the Convention and Homecoming Committee. This Committee is tasked to manage the activities of said two occasions under the guidance and direction of the PMAAAI Board of Directors.



Association Awardees, AY 2022-2023

• **CAV RAUL S GONZALES '75**
Chairman, Awards Committee AY 2022-2023

The Board of Directors of the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) has selected as Cavalier Awardees for AY 2022-2023, 15 alumni who, after a stringent nomination and selection process, have been found to have the most outstanding performance in their respective fields. The Board has also selected other alumni to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award; Outstanding Achievement Award; Plaque of Meritorious Recognition; and Cavaliers Pandemic Heroes Award. They have brought honor not only to themselves but also to our Association. Besides exemplifying the Academy's motto of courage, integrity, and loyalty, they have distinguished themselves among equally competent and devoted alumni-achievers. The awardees, who merit our snappy salute and highest praises, are the following:

CAVALIER AWARDEES

For Command and Administration

POLICE LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOSE CHIQUITO M MALAYO '89

PLTGEN MALAYO, member of PMA "MAKATAO" Class of 1989, headed the following units in the PNP, namely: APC-Visayas, APC-WM/TF DPAGs WM, APC-NL, PNPA, and CITF. He initiated significant programs after requiring thorough understanding of respective mandates. Periodic requirements, activities, and processes were defined which clearly guided the units on how to attain the objectives/targets set:

Area Police Commands - Face Based System to identify targets, Condition Situation Response System, Modified IO-translating media lines to local dialects, Strategic posting of police hotline numbers and Area Analysis and Assessment.

In TF DPAGs WM, successfully disbanded the given target of 15 active PAGs with 93 members and 85 assorted FAs; this earned the appreciation of the Chairman, NTF DPAGs/SILG, Sec Eduardo Año.

PNPA - Inventory of cadets' tradition, Review of the Honor System, Leadership Training Seminars for Officers, Review/revision of PNPA Manuals, Prioritizing academic activities over parades/ceremonies, System to prevent/protect the cadets from anomalous contracts, Doctrine of Responsibility and Accountability first before Privileges and Authority;

PNPA then maintains its ISO certification and continuously served its mandate despite the challenges of Taal Volcano and COVID-19. During the transition from PPSC to PNP, he worked for the support from NHQ PNP on the improvement of the water system; provision of generators; issuance of MVs, MCs, and FAs which were immediately realized.

CITF - As first Commander, arrested 244 personnel and administrative relief of 32 PCOs and 148 PNCOs. CITF received recognition from President Rodrigo Roa Duterte during the 116th PNP Day Celebration; CITF is now the IMEG.

Above are manifestations of his capabilities and competence with strong dedication to service guided by the love of God and



the Academy's motto of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty.

He retired on Oct 2, 2022 as Deputy Chief PNP for Administration.

For Command and Administration

REAR ADMIRAL CAESAR BERNARD N VALENCIA '90

RADM VALENCIA PN is the Philippine Navy's Vice Commander. He served as the Chief of the Naval Staff of the Philippine Navy from 10 August 2021 to 13 June 2022. He is a proud member of the PMA "Bigkis-Lahi" Class of 1990. He has a master's degree in Management major in Human Resource Management from the University of New South Wales, from Canberra, Australia.



Among his key assignment are: Superintendent, Fleet Training and Doctrine Center, Commander of Naval Intelligence and Security Force, Commander Naval Task Force 61 based in Zamboanga, Commander Offshore Combat Force and Commander, Naval Forces Northern Luzon. Aside from these key assignments, he was also designated as Chairman, Technical Working Group (TWG) of various key Naval Modernization projects such as Frigate Acquisition Project, Del Pilar Class Upgrade projects, and the Corvette and OPV acquisition projects. He is known in the Navy as an Innovator, academically-inclined, an accomplished Surface Warfare and Intelligence officer.

For Staff Functions

MAJOR GENERAL ALEX S RILLERA '91

MGEN RILLERA is a member of the PMA "Sambisig" Class of 1991 and the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, J3, AFP. He is regarded as a tough and strong trailblazer and known for his attention to detail. With his every decision, he gave importance on the purpose vis-à-vis the soundness of the solution and tasks at hand. He orchestrated the implementation of the AFP Fragmentary Order Number 7, dubbed as "The Final Push – An Achievable Victory Against Insurgency," which has achieved strategic victory against the Communist Terrorists Group (CTG) resulting in the country's security and stability.



For the next AFP Campaign Plan, CAV RILLERA led the crafting of the AFP Peace, Law Enforcement, and Development Support (PLEDS) Plan "Pagkakaisa" 2023-2028. This new AFP Campaign Plan shall sustain the gains of the previous campaign and provide strategic direction to the AFP in the next six years in carrying out its mandate of protecting the people and securing the State against internal threat groups.

Understanding the prevalent problem on AFP personnel fill-up especially for the General Headquarters (GHQ), Unified Commands (UCs) and AFP-Wide Support and Separate Units (AFPWSSUs) or GUAs, he spearheaded the crafting and eventual

implementation of the Manpower Authorization Voucher (MAV). The MAV 2022 prescribes not only the equitable Force Mix Ratio for GUAs but more importantly it allows the Major Services to include in their budget programming the gradual increase in personnel requirements in support of GUAs.

For Special Operations

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MARION B CAYAT '02

LTCOL CAYAT is known in the Intelligence Community as one of *"The Legend Eagles"* in Special Operations. He is an expert in tradecraft and a true-blooded counter terrorist operator. He orchestrated several special intelligence operations that resulted to the neutralization of High Value Individuals (HVIs), key terrorist leaders and bombers of ISIS-Philippines, Justice for Islamic Movement and Black Flag Movement. Beyond that, he was instrumental in the neutralization of three key personalities of the Central Committee of CPP-NPA-NDF. He is a highly-motivated special intelligence operator who believes in his mantra of *"Transforming while Performing"* and *"SWORD OF MIB."*



For Army Operations

BRIG GENERAL CONSOLITO P YECLA '92

A top brigade commander, BGEN YECLA is distinguished for his outstanding performance in Army Operations. By demonstrating his mastery on operational art which was considered by the former CSAFP as *"one for the books,"* for the first time in the AFP's history of counter insurgency, he was the first brigade commander to attain *"total victory"* with a 100% neutralization of the confronted enemy within six months of sustained operations, finished the insurgency in Davao City and Davao del Norte well ahead of the given timeline by the Commander-in-Chief, and accomplished the mission without any casualties, no firearms lost and no human rights violations. As a testament of his outstanding feats, he was awarded by the AFP with three Campaign Streamer Awards for the dismantling of Sub-Regional Committee-5, Guerilla Front 55 and Sub-Regional Guerilla Unit.



For Air Operations (Senior Officer)

COLONEL ANN MARIE T GERODIAZ '98

COL GERODIAZ delivered exceptional and invaluable contributions in the field of Air Operations. As Group Commander, she led the Tactical Operations Group 8 in the effective and near-perfect execution of the Dolores Focused Military Operations (FMO), a joint air and land battle that was lauded the biggest military offensive accomplishment in Eastern Visayas during President Duterte administration. The plan used to conduct the FMO was adapted by Higher Headquarters and used as a model for launching Joint Military Operations in the AFP. For this accomplishment, the TOG



8 was awarded the Commanding General, Philippine Air Force Streamer Awardee – Group Combat Category (Non-Flying).

For Air Operations (Junior Officer)

MAJOR JAMES ANTHONY A MONTEJO '09

A member of the PMA "MASIGLAHI" Class of 2009, MAJ MONTEJO is one among the best attack pilots and experienced aviators of the Philippine Air Force. Among his notable achievements include his service as an attack pilot during the Marawi Siege, the conduct of various offensive operations in SPMS areas, and close air support (CAS) missions that resulted in the neutralization of the Maute/ISIS Group and other high-value targets (HVTs) of the CTGs. He was also awarded by former President Rodrigo Roa Duterte as an Element Lead (EL) of AW-109AH for the neutralization of a CTG leader. At present, MAJ MONTEJO is the Director of the Directorate for Production, Office of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff for Intelligence, PAF.



For Naval Operations (Senior Officer)

COMMANDER EMERSON F OXALES 2000

CDR OXALES is currently the Deputy Commander of the Navy Personnel Management Center. A member of PMA "Sanghaya" Class of 2000, he consistently ached his trainings and represented the Philippines at the US Naval War College in 2019. He crafted and revised several policies related to Human Resource Management and Development; wrote the AFPETDC Organizational Manual and co-authored PN's Human Capital Strategy. He successfully commanded five Navy Ships that accomplished various military and non-military operations. Two of these ships were awarded Ship of the Year in 2019 and 2021 for taking part in community development such as Mavulis Island Development, Marawi Liberation Rehabilitation, COVID-19 Outbreak Response and the aftermath of Typhoon Odette.



For Naval Operations (Junior Officer)

CPT ROLLY N BACANI '13 PN(M)

CPT BACANI a proud member of the Philippine Military Academy "Pudhang-Kalis" Class of 2013, hailed from San Fernando City, La Union.

He spent his junior years (2013 -2021) in the Force Reconnaissance Group being deployed to different operational areas in Mindanao.

In 2021, he led the 65th FRC under the OPGON of MBLT-3,3MBde on a series of successful Focused Military Operations against the Communist Terrorist Groups (CTGs) in the Province of Palawan, resulting in various body counts and the recovery of High-Powered Firearms, Anti-Personnel Mines, improvised explosive devices, and different subversive materials.



For Police Operations

POLICE MAJOR GENERAL ELISEO DC CRUZ '90

Through his long years in the police service, he has exemplified himself as true outstanding graduate of the Philippine Military Academy. With his untarnished reputation, PMGEN CRUZ has been entrusted to take the helm of leadership to numerous significant positions in the PNP such as Director, Southern and Northern Police Districts, Highway Patrol Group, PRO CALABARZON, Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, and now The Director of Investigation and Detective Management.



For the past five years, PMGEN CRUZ exemplified himself as a true leader and a remarkable cavalier as he excellently and successfully steward his subordinates in police operations advocating them to perform their duties and responsibilities with highest standard of public service which resulted in the arrest of 23,010 personalities involved in illegal drugs, seizure of 100.9 kg shabu and 51.4 kg of marijuana, confiscation of 4,649 firearms, and arrest of 3,239 Most Wanted Persons and 11,365 Other Wanted Persons. Also among his operational accomplishments are the following: Surrender of 90 Communist Terrorist Group members and seizure of 32 firearms; As lead implementor of Joint Task Force Covid Shield guidelines and the person behind the Establishment of Dedicated Control Points for Cargo Trucks during Enhanced Community Quarantine; Rescue of passengers of PNP helicopter Bell 429; Rescue and Relief Operations for the victims of Taal Volcano eruptions; Seizure of 108 Million and 13 Million worth of shabu at Makati City and Muntinlupa City; and as the SITG "Sabungero" Commander who through his persistent leadership and guidance of leaving no stones unturned, a breakthrough in their investigation was achieved resulting in the filing of cases against positively identified suspects and the immediate termination of all E-Sabong (online cockfighting) operations as ordered by former President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

An innovative leader, PMGEN CRUZ also initiated improvements and construction of new facilities in all his assignments to improve police service for the benefit of the community and one of these is the Construction of Command Center at PRO CALABARZON.

For Coast Guard Operations

COMMODORE TITO ALVIN G ANDAL '94

The passion to attain the mission and vision of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) is one of the driving force of COMMO ANDAL to perform effectively and efficiently in providing the best public service to the people. Through his efforts as Commanding Officer of different major units and service commands of PCG, especially during the time of the pandemic, several relevant programs and activities were implemented such as response on numerous maritime incidents in areas of Southern Tagalog and Southern Visayas and in support to law enforcement. In the field of Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Response



operations, subject officer enabled the quick and steady flow of donations for typhoon afflicted families throughout the nation. Thru its HADR operations, he organized a Joint PCG and Inter-Agency Task Force to conduct logistics support mission to typhoon-stricken areas in the archipelago which served as a forerunner in the development and progress adding up to the PCG's major accomplishments.

For Public Administration

DIR GENERAL RICARDO F DE LEON '71

Prior to his present assignment, DIR GEN DE LEON of NICA was the Superintendent of the PNP Academy after retiring as POLICE LIEUTENANT GENERAL. A dynamic engine of institutional innovation, DIR GEN DE LEON broadened the academic landscape of the Philippine Public Safety College with a new paradigm on public safety; the revival of its flagship Master in Public Safety Administration with more than 600 graduates from across the government bureaucracy; the introduction of the Master in Crisis and Disaster Risk Management; the launching of the Doctor in Public Safety Administration major in Homeland Security and Governance; the creation of the Council of Fellows; and the operationalization of the Philippine Public Safety Academy.



Driven by his keen understanding of the evolving challenges, DIR GEN DE LEON institutionalized no less than five Centers for academic discussions, advocacy and policy formulation, namely, the Center for Countering Violent Extremism and Insurgency Strategic Studies; the Center for Climate Change Adaptation; the Center for Peace and Human Rights Studies; the Center for Cyber Security Studies; and the Center for Futures Thinking. Indeed, DIR GEN DE LEON's passion for securing the nation has earned him the respect of many who regard him as the Father of Homeland Security in the Philippines.

With a transactional, inspirational and transformational leadership style, DIR GEN DE LEON also rallied the PPSC towards a Ten-Point Strategic Goal under the banner "ACCELERATE."

For Special Field

(Community Volunteer and Social Entrepreneur)

LTSG WALTER S VILLAGONZALO '75 (Resigned)

LTSG VILLAGONZALO, VP for Computer Systems at the AFPMBAI and AFPSLAI, moved to Melbourne Australia with his family in 1986 and worked with computers, operated businesses and served as a community volunteer. He received several Volunteer Awards including: Paul Harris Fellow (2015) for Community Service, Rotary International; Australia's Social Enterprise Champion Award 2016; Philippine-Australian Achiever Award 2016; Pamana ng Pilipino Award 2021, the highest recognition given by the Philippine government to Filipinos overseas conferred by the Philippine President.



In Wyndham City, LTSG VILLAGONZALO was: Community Engagement Awardee; Citizen of the Year; Councilor and Deputy Mayor.

For Private Enterprise

COLONEL ARIEL O QUERUBIN '79

As San Miguel Corporation Vice President and Special Assistant to the President, CAV QUERUBIN redefined SMC's traditional corporate safety and security practices and structures to that of a more enduring, sustainable, and people-centered approach. This ensured, among others, the unhampered operations of all SMC Business Units, particularly their core businesses in Food and Beverage and Power and Petroleum products, despite restrictions posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, thus benefitting the consuming public. Moreover, COL QUERUBIN's emphasis on integrity and honest work ethics has reinforced the image of PMA alumni as reliable partners in the corporate business world.



For Alumni Affairs

COLONEL DEMOSTHENES C DOPLAYNA '82

COL DOPLAYNA served the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI) and of PMAAA Development Foundation, Inc. (PDFI) for almost 25 years and in recognition of services rendered to PMAAAI, the association presented on 27 July 2017 the Plaque of Appreciation to CAV DOPLAYNA that states: *"In sincere appreciation of his invaluable service to the PMA Alumni Association, Inc. as Director from 1 March 2013 to 28 February 2014; Auditor from 1 March 2014 to 28 February 2015; Director from 1 March 2015 to 28 February 2016; and director and Chairman, Finance Committee from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017."*

The plaque was signed by Cav Melchor Rosales '68, Chairman and CEO and Cav Leo Angelo D. Leuterio '88, President and COO.

CAV DOPLAYNA was born on 31 October 1957, is blissfully married to Director Mercedes Barrios B. Doplayna, Office of the President, Malacanang and is a proud father to Dra. Maria Anjelica and Demosthenes Jr.



Lifetime Achievement Awardees

GEN BENJAMIN P DEFENSOR JR '69



LTGEN JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS '69



GOV AMADO T ESPINO JR '72



Outstanding Achievement Awardees

LTGEN BARTOLOME VICENTE O BACARRO '88

- Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines



PGEN RODOLFO S AZURIN JR '89

- Chief, Philippine National Police

VADM TORIBIO D ADACI JR '89

- Flag Officer In Command, Philippine Navy



LTGEN STEPHEN P PARREÑO '91

- Commanding General, Philippine Air Force

ADM ARTEMIO M ABU '92

- Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard



Plaque of Meritorious Recognition



POLICE LIEUTENANT GENERAL REYNALDO V VELASCO '71

- Chairman and Administrator, Metropolitan Waterworks Sewerage System (MWSS)



CAVALIERS Pandemic Heroes Award

• CAVALIER AMBASSADOR VIDAL E QUEROL '73

To put on record, our country performed much, much better than the golden standard nations of the planet, contrary to claims of *sui generis* oikophobes. For example USA population is just 3-times bigger than Philippines but USA has 25-times more with 103M COVID-19 cases to 4M of Philippines. USA Hospital systems recorded deaths 17-times more with 1.1M to 65.6K only in the Philippines. The same is true comparatively with UK, France, Italy and Germany.

As the nation fought the COVID-19 from early 2020, then President and Commander in Chief Rodrigo Duterte put Cavaliers in the forefront to assist him in the National Action Plan, novel yet gargantuan task, of protecting the Filipino People from the invisible enemy, the onslaught of COVID-19 pandemic. These Cavaliers, setting aside their personal safety and their families, braved the challenge early on even when no one elsewhere in the globe had a template on how to deal with a crisis unprecedented in scale, magnitude, death and consequence. Even the most affluent nations were falling into desperation, their systems dishevelled and rendered inadequate.

These Cavaliers responded to the call of the President and the grave need for public protection in collaboration with concerned LGUs and government agencies as well as international institutions. They gave their best to meet the high expectations of the President and the public, with some continuing to give their best to this day. Some of them were afflicted with the dreaded Covid-19 virus, more than once. "I was terrified and truly felt I would die", one Cavalier Secretary confided to me. Their vast experience in crisis management, manifest stability under pressure and grim determination to do it allowed them to shine in the darkest moments of the pandemic. With steely hands and will, our Cavaliers rose to enforce national government draconian measures of lockdowns and quarantines, wearing of face mask and observing physical distance, closure of schools, limited public transportation, strict border control in all airports and seaports, all aimed at preventing the entry of the virus and containing its public transmissions. And to 'flatten the curve' of the pandemic. These Cavaliers were unrelenting in their resolve until the wearing of mask and observing physical distance became the new normal in social behaviour that today people wear mask even when not required. A Cavalier developed how to effectively monitor the infected and the transmission of infections to become the Contact Tracing Czar. One became the Vaccine Czar who ended suspicions of corruptions. Another was sent to Cebu city to stem the continuing rise to dangerous level in the City. It was 'call to arms' against the most serious threat to national security since WW2.

I have purposely dedicated this section to them, our Cavalier Pandemic Heroes, in recognition to their exemplary accomplishments

which embody the ideals of our Alma Mater. Largely through their efforts, many were given hope amidst desperation and confidence to move on. As the pandemic veers away from our country, the Filipino people will remember their significant contributions to the national efforts to defeat the COVID-19 pandemic, and their performance will linger on long after the pandemic is gone. The Filipino people will remember them for their services to the nation. Looking back, these Cavaliers are testaments of how profitable is the people's investment in the Academy.

In recognition of the laudable achievements of these Cavaliers, the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association Inc, approved Board Resolution No. 22-19 which created a Special Award to be known as "**Pandemic Hero Award**" to be conferred to these cavaliers who have contributed immensely in the fight to end the COVID-19 pandemic.

Below are the recipients of the Cavalier Pandemic Heroes Award:

CAV ROY A CIMATU '70

Co-Chairperson, Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID)

When COVID-19 situation was very alarming in Cebu City with recorded highest continuing number of confirmed coronavirus cases in the country, then President Duterte in the greater interest of the nation shunted aside political consideration, assigned CAV CIMATU then Environment Secretary to oversee the COVID-19 response in Cebu City. With him in Cebu City was CAV MAGALONG who helped the LGU agencies and officials in tracing and monitoring the overall COVID-19 situation. After several weeks of intense efforts with all government agencies located in Cebu City, the COVID-19 situation went down to very manageable level. CAV CIMATU and his team turned over a more confident Cebu City to the Local Officials.



CAV GREGORIO B HONASAN '71

Member, Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases

CAV HONASAN's role in the anti-COVID national program as DICT Secretary was to provide ICT (Information and Communications Technology) support to the IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force) headed by the Department of Health Secretary, so that decisions of this collegial body with long-term effects were logical, rational, and intelligent, driven by science data timely complete and accurate information, allowing the national task force to manage critical variables like time and limited resources.



CAV DELFIN N LORENZANA '73

Chairperson, National Task Force (NTF) created by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID)

In the early stages of the pandemic, as Chairperson of the National Task Force to fight COVID-19 in collaboration with other government agencies, private sectors and the international community, then DND Secretary CAV LORENZANA led in the effective and efficient implementation of government's trace, test and treat strategy as well as the sustained enforcement of wear mask and maintain physical distance until it became a new social behaviour. CAV LORENZANA contributed greatly in the containment of the pandemic which benefits the country and people.



CAV BENJAMIN B MAGALONG '82

COVID-19 National Chief Tracing Czar, Contact Tracing Czar of the Philippine Government response to the COVID-19 pandemic

CAV MAGALONG was tasked to be the country's Contact Tracing Czar. As a retired police general, he brought almost 39 years of experience in law enforcement and crisis management to the role. He implemented a number of innovative strategies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the contact tracing process, including the use of technology, investigation, and data analytics which he pioneered in the Philippine National Police.

Under CAV MAGALONG's leadership, the contact tracing program in Baguio became a model for the entire Philippines. His appointment as the Contact Tracing Czar demonstrated the importance of strong leadership and effective crisis management in the fight against COVID-19. His efforts had made a significant contribution to the global effort to control the spread of the virus.

He had shown a commitment to putting the needs of the public first and has worked tirelessly to protect the health and well-being of his community.



CAV EDUARDO M AÑO '83

Vice Chairman of the National Task Force Against COVID-19

CAV AÑO laid a crucial part in sustaining and cascading the overall action plan down to the grassroots level. CAV AÑO then Secretary, DILG ensured that national-level policies, programs and initiatives were faithfully and effectively carried forward by the provincial city and municipal governments. Together with the Defense Department, people who were adamant initially to comply with health protocols eventually observed wear mask and physical distance. At the same time he afforded local chiefs with the needed flexibility to address issues and utilize effective tools which may be peculiar to their governed areas. In like manner, he initiated criminal and administrative charges against local officials for graft and corruption in the utilization of government finances and subsidies, and thus prevented immensely further derogation of government assets to the benefits of the country.



CAV CARLITO G GALVEZ JR '85

Chief Implementer of the Philippine-declared National Policy Against COVID-19 National Task Force and COVID-19 Vaccine Czar

CAV GALVEZ headed the IATF as the country's chief implementer. In his capacity, CAV GALVEZ ensured that all of the moving pieces of the country's COVID-19 response machinery were effectively and efficiently functioning.

He was the Chief Implementer of the government's national-policy on addressing the coronavirus pandemic. He was tasked to ensure the strict compliance and adherence of everyone-public and private sector - to the guidelines and protocols issued by the IATF for the management of Emerging Infectious Diseases. To obviate any suspicion of corruption in the procurement of vaccines, then President Duterte directed CAV GALVEZ as the Vaccine Czar. His core values of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty imbued in the Academy served him to do such delicate and demanding job that ultimately benefit the interest of the Filipino people.



CAV ROLANDO JOSELITO D BAUTISTA '85

Member, Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases

As the immediate national response to check the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic was to quarantine people and lockdown communities, factories closed and the economy took a devastating downward spiral. Fresh millions of Filipinos were laid jobless and families driven to poverty without basic needs.

CAV BAUTISTA as Secretary of DSWD oversaw the largest social amelioration program in our country's history in order to deliver basic needs to the Filipinos in the margins of our society. When corruption at the LGU level swayed the system of distribution, former President Duterte had directed then DSWD Secretary BAUTISTA to take charge of the distribution of food and cash assistance to low-income households during the quarantine period. His splendid performance alleviated tremendously the living conditions of financially vulnerable families nationwide.



CAV ROLANDO LIZOR N PUNZALAN JR '92

Commander, Philippine Coast Guard Task Force Bayanihan Repatriation of OFWs (ROF)

During the war on COVID-19 pandemic, he served as Commander of PCG Task Force Bayanihan - Returning Overseas Filipinos (TFB-ROF) at the height of the COVID-19 Pandemic operations. He strictly implemented all IATF resolutions and guidelines at the airports and seaports and his job expanded to cover management of quarantine and countryside monitoring protocols of all inbound passengers in coordination with LGUs.

CAV PUNZALAN utilized approximately 3,000 PCG personnel detailed with the said Task Force **to guard the Country's borders**, contributed significantly in the facilitation of countryside vaccination roll-outs in collaboration with other Government agencies. His effective and efficient performance greatly contributed to the success in the fight to end COVID-19 pandemic. /VQ



Revised Rules of Procedures in the Discipline, Suspension, Termination and Reinstatement of Members

Rationale

“Courage, Integrity, Loyalty” – this is the hallowed motto of the Philippine Military Academy. Honor, Duty, Discipline and Leadership – these are the noble ideals embodied firmly in the Academy’s Mission Statement. This proud institution has, for decades, steadfastly upheld these principles, training the finest of Filipino soldiers and earning the country’s solid trust and respect as the vanguard of the nation’s freedom, the protector of its cherished values.

*The PMA Alumni Association, Inc. is determined and committed to use its resources and devote its efforts towards the preservation of the Filipinos’ trust, the honor and the prestige that belong to its revered Alma Mater. In creating the Professional and Ethics Committee and renewing its Code of Ethics, the Association calls upon all its members to take the challenge of leadership both in the military, police and civic arena, by being not just honorable PMA graduates, but outstanding Filipino citizens and decent men and women who will truly and consistently exemplify the meaning of **Courage, Integrity and Loyalty**, by adhering to*

THE PMAAAI CODE OF ETHICS

**I am a member of the
Philippine Military Academy
Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI).**

**I will support and defend the
Constitution of the Republic of the
Philippines and the Filipino people.**

**I will preserve and protect the
integrity of the Philippine Military
Academy and the PMAAAI, and the
principles they represent.**

**I will conduct myself with
honor, dignity and honesty, and obey
all laws, regulations and lawful orders.**

**I will be fair and just in my
dealings with others and maintain a
high standard of professionalism in my career.**

**I will live my life with Courage, Integrity and Loyalty,
as a true PMAYER.**

RULE I

TITLE AND CONSTRUCTION

Section 1. Title of the Rules. These Rules shall be known as the Revised Rules of Procedures in the Discipline, Suspension, Termination and Reinstatement of Members of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI).

Section 2. Construction. Subject to the requirements of due process, these Rules shall be construed liberally in order to obtain a just, speedy and inexpensive proceeding.

Section 3. Scope. These Rules shall govern the administration and operation of the Professional and Ethics Committee, as well as

the procedure in the imposition of discipline, suspension, termination and reinstatement of members of the PMAAAI.

Section 4. Nature of Proceedings. Proceedings before the Professional and Ethics Committee shall be confidential in character and summary in nature. A respondent member, however, may elect for a formal hearing upon adverse findings after initial review and evaluation.

Section 5. Definition of Terms. The terms hereunder shall be construed as follows

5.1 **Acts Inimical to the Best Interest of the PMA and the Association** refer to antagonistic, hostile or harmful conduct against and causing direct and specific damage or injury to the PMA or the Association.

5.2 **Aggravating Circumstances** refer to any considerations or factors that may justify the increase in the degree of the penalty to be imposed.

5.3 **Association** refers to the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (PMAAAI).

5.4 **Benefits** refer to those being given or provided by the PMAAAI to its members such as burial and medical assistance.

5.5 **Board** refers to the duly elected Board of Directors of the PMAAAI.

5.6 **Crimes or Offenses Involving Moral Turpitude** refer to those offenses involving acts of baseness, vileness, or depravity in the private and public duties which a man owes his fellow men, or to society in general, contrary to the accepted and customary rule of right or wrong, and duty between man and woman, or conduct contrary to justice, honesty, modesty, or good morals as defined by the decisions of the Supreme Court.

5.7 **Junior Classes** refer to the last ten (10) graduating classes of the PMA, reckoned from the most junior class or the class that recently graduated.

5.8 **Mitigating Circumstances** refer to any considerations or factors that may justify the decrease in the degree of the penalty to be imposed.

5.9 **PMA Honor Code** refers to the set of rules which govern the behavior of its cadets and alumni, which states: “We, the cadets, do not lie, cheat, steal, nor tolerate among us those who do.”

6.0 **Release** refers to the procedures where an inmate is discharged from prison by expiration of sentence; granted parole, grant of any other forms of executive clemency, and order of the court or competent authority.

DISCIPLINE, SUSPENSION, TERMINATION AND REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERS

RULE II

PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS COMMITTEE.

Section 1. Composition. The Professionalism and Ethics Committee (herein referred to as the “Ethics Committee”) shall be composed of Seven (7) members. The Chairman shall be appointed by the Board from among its members.

The members of the Ethics Committee shall be appointed by the Chairman subject to confirmation by the Board, as follows:

- 1.1 One (1) member shall preferably be a lawyer;
- 1.2 One (1) member shall come from the Membership Committee of the Association;
- 1.3 At least one (1) member shall come from the junior classes; and
- 1.4 The remainder shall come from the regular members of the Association, at-large.

Section 2. Jurisdiction. The Ethics Committee shall have the power and authority to:

- 2.1 Investigate and hear complaints against any member who committed act or acts inimical to the interest of PMA or of the Association;
- 2.2 Identify and determine members who have committed as a cadet violation of the PMA Honor Code; and
- 2.3 Identify and determine members who have been convicted by courts or dismissed from the service by the Ombudsman, Civil Service Commission, NAPOLCOM, the Office of the President or other disciplinary authorities, for any crime or offense involving moral turpitude.

RULE III

PROCEDURE BEFORE THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

Section 1. Investigation, how Instituted. The Ethics Committee may upon complaint/referral of the Board, or any of its Chapters or by any member:

- 1.1 Investigate and prosecute the erring members for act or acts inimical to the interest of PMA or of the Association;
- 1.2 Identify and determine erring members who have committed as a cadet violation of the Honor Code or have been convicted by courts or dismissed from the service by the Ombudsman, Civil Service Commission, NAPOLCOM, the Office of the President or other disciplinary authorities, for any crime or offense involving moral turpitude.

Section 2. Form and Content of the Complaint. The Complaint must be in writing, signed by the Complainant and contains the complete names and addresses of the Complainant and the member subject of the complaint and the particulars/details of the act or offense committed. The Complaint shall be filed with the Board or directly to the Ethics Committee together with supporting documents, if any. The party filing the Complaint shall be referred to as the "Complainant" and the member subject of the Complaint shall be referred to as the "Respondent."

The Ethics Committee shall inform the Board of any Complaint directly filed before it prior to the conduct of investigation.

Section 3. Duty of the Ethics Committee upon Receipt of the Complaint. Within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the Complaint, the Ethics Committee shall make an initial review and evaluation of the Complaint together with the supporting documents, and shall dismiss the same upon finding that the case does not fall within its jurisdiction, the Complaint fails to state the particulars of the act or offense committed, or the same is not sufficient in form and substance.

Section 4. Service of Notice. If the Ethics Committee finds prima facie case upon initial review and evaluation of the Complaint, it shall serve to the Respondent a written Notice signed by the Chairman, specifying the act or offense committed and the particulars/details thereof, together with a copy of the Complaint as well as any supporting documents. The notice shall indicate that the Respondent is required to file his answer within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof and to inform the Board if he opts for a formal hearing,

Section 5. Investigation. Upon submission by the respondent of his answer or upon failure of the respondent to file an answer, the Ethics Committee shall, with deliberate speed, proceed with the investigation of the case. The Ethics Committee shall have the power to summon and administer oaths to all concerned. The respondent shall be given full opportunity to defend himself, to present witnesses in his behalf, and be heard by himself or through counsel. However, if upon reasonable notice, the respondent fails to appear, the investigation shall proceed *ex parte*. If the case involves conviction by courts or dismissal from the service by the Ombudsman, Civil Service Commission, NAPOLCOM, the Office of the President or other disciplinary authorities for any crime or offense involving moral turpitude, the Ethics Committee may secure or require the submission of the necessary documents to prove such conviction or dismissal and whether the same is already final or pending appeal. Such may include but not limited to copies of the decision, resolution, certificate of finality and entry of judgment.

Section 6. Hearing. Unless requested by the Respondent, no formal hearing shall be conducted. The Ethics Committee shall decide the case on the basis of the Complaint, Answer, Position Paper and other submitted documents.

If formal hearing is requested, the Ethics Committee shall conduct only one (1) hearing and only for the purpose of hearing the Respondent and the Complainant personally. During said hearing, the Complainant and Respondent may be assisted by counsels of their choice.

Section 7. Pleadings. The only pleadings allowed are the Complaint, Answer and Position Paper, if so required.

Section 8. Records of the Proceedings. The Ethics Committee shall see to it that minutes of the proceedings are taken and that such minutes are kept and secured.

Section 9. Decision or Resolution of the Ethics Committee. Any Decision or Resolution of the Ethics Committee shall require the concurrence and approval of the majority of all its members. The decision or resolution of the Ethics Committee shall be stated in clear and concise language, and shall include a brief statement of the: (a) facts of the case; (b) issues involved; (c) applicable laws or rules; (d) conclusions and the reasons thereof; (e) recommendation/s.

Section 10. Submission of the Decision or Resolution and Recommendations. Within thirty (30) days from the termination of the summary or formal hearing, the Ethics Committee shall submit its decision or resolution and recommendation to the Board for its consideration and review. The Board may modify, disapprove or approve *in toto* the decision or resolution of the Ethics Committee.

RULE IV

VENUE AND ASSIGNMENT OF CASES

Section 1. Venue. In case a formal hearing is elected by the respondent, the Ethics Committee shall hear the same at the PMA Alumni Center or at the office of the Chapter concerned or at any place that may be designated for the hearing.

Section 2. Consolidation of Cases. Where there are two or more cases pending before the Ethics Committee involving the same person, the later case shall be automatically consolidated with the first case to avoid unnecessary cost or delay.

RULE V

PROCEDURES BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Mandatory Review of the Decision or Resolution of the Ethics Committee. The decision or resolution of the Ethics

Committee shall, within thirty (30) days from receipt thereof, be automatically reviewed and approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) votes of all the voting members of the Board upon the records and evidence submitted. The decision of the Board shall spell out distinctly the factual and legal basis for such decision.

Section 2. Motion for Reconsideration. Within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the Decision, a motion for reconsideration may be filed with the Board which shall be in writing and clearly stating the grounds thereof. Only one such motion shall be entertained.

Section 3. Finality of Decision. The decision of the Board shall be final and executory in case of acquittal or when no Motion for Reconsideration has been filed within the period prescribed or in case a Motion for Reconsideration has been filed, the same is denied by the Board.

The decision of the Board terminating a member shall become final and executory when no Motion for Reconsideration or Appeal has been filed within the period prescribed or in case a Motion for Reconsideration has been filed, the same is denied by the Board and no Appeal has been filed.

RULE VI

APPEAL

Section 1. Appeal. An appeal may be taken from the Decision or Resolution of the Board terminating a member to the General Assembly by filing an appeal to the Board in writing within forty five (45) days from the receipt of the assailed Decision or Resolution.

The appeal, however, will not stay the implementation or execution of the Decision or Resolution of the Board.

Section 2. Form and Contents of the Appeal. The appeal must be in writing and signed by the Respondent-Appellant. It must contain the grounds for the appeal, and the factual and legal basis thereof.

Section 3. Action on the Appeal. The Board shall present the appealed Decision or Resolution and the written Appeal filed by the Respondent-Appellant to the General Assembly for consideration and confirmation during the General Membership Meeting. Confirmation of the Decision of the Board terminating a member shall require two-thirds (2/3) votes of all the members present in the General Assembly constituting a quorum.

RULE VII

PENAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Termination of Membership. The penalty of termination may be imposed on any member who have been identified or determined to have committed as a cadet violation of the PMA Honor Code or have been convicted with finality by the Court for any crime or offense involving moral turpitude where the penalty imposed is imprisonment for a period exceeding six (6) years.

A terminated member shall not be entitled to any benefits, rights and privileges given by the Association to its members.

Section 2. Suspension of Membership. The penalty of suspension for a period not exceeding two (2) years may be imposed on any member who has been:

2.1 Identified or determined to have been convicted with finality by the Court for any crime or offense involving moral turpitude where the penalty imposed is imprisonment for a period not exceeding six (6) years.

2.2 Identified or determined to have been dismissed from the service with finality by the Ombudsman, Civil Service Commission, NAPOLCOM, the Office of the President or other disciplinary authorities, for any crime or offense involving moral turpitude; and

2.3 Found guilty of having committed act or acts inimical and caused serious direct and specific damage and prejudice to the interest and reputation of PMA or of the Association.

A suspended member shall not be entitled to any benefits, rights and privileges given by the Association to its members during the effectivity of the suspension. The suspended member, however, for justifiable reason may be given such benefits and privileges the Board may deem proper and appropriate. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, all his rights and privileges as a member shall be restored.

Section 3. Reprimand. The penalty of reprimand may be imposed on a member who has been identified or determined to have been convicted with finality by Courts for any other crime or offense involving moral turpitude or have been dismissed from the service with finality by the Ombudsman, Civil Service Commission, NAPOLCOM, the Office of the President or other disciplinary authorities, for any crime or offense involving moral turpitude or found guilty of having committed act or acts inimical to the interest of PMA or of the Association, where the penalty of suspension under Section 2 above is not warranted.

RULE VIII

FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTY

Section 1. General. In the determination of the penalty to be imposed, the following must be considered:

1.1 The actual or potential damage or injury caused by the member misconduct;

1.2 The mental state of the member; and

1.3 The existence of mitigating and aggravating circumstances.

Section 2. Mitigating Circumstances. The following shall be considered as mitigating circumstances:

2.1 Absence of any prior disciplinary record;

2.2 Personal and emotional problems;

2.3 Mental and physical disability or impairment;

2.4 Admission of guilt;

2.5 Remorse;

2.6 Similar and analogous circumstances.

Section 3. Aggravating Circumstances. The following shall be considered as aggravating circumstances:

3.1 Prior disciplinary offense/s committed;

3.2 Multiple offenses;

3.3 Dishonest and selfish motive;

3.4 A pattern of misconduct; and

3.5 Similar and analogous circumstances.

RULE IX

INTERIM SUSPENSION

Section 1. Interim Suspension of a Member. A member who has been found by a final Decision of the Board to have been convicted by courts for the commission of any crime or offense involving moral turpitude where the penalty imposed is imprisonment for a period exceeding six (6) years but the conviction is on appeal, may be temporarily suspended.

Section 2. Effectivity of Interim Suspension. The interim suspension shall be effective for a maximum period of one (1) year from the receipt of notice of suspension. The suspension shall automatically be lifted upon the reversal or setting aside of the conviction or the lapse of the effective period of suspension, whichever comes earlier.

Section 3. Benefits, rights and privileges. Any member whose membership has been suspended temporarily shall remain to be entitled to any right, benefit or privileges due a member in good

standing but shall be ineligible to vote or to be voted upon to be a member of the Board or any of its Committees.

RULE X

REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Application for Reinstatement. A member whose membership has been terminated by reason of having been convicted with finality by the Courts for any crime or offense involving moral turpitude, may apply for reinstatement of his membership upon **release** from imprisonment and upon showing a genuine remorse and/or rehabilitation.

Section 2. Form and Content of the Application. The application for reinstatement shall be in writing, signed by the applicant and filed with the Board. For justifiable reason as determined by the Board, the application may be signed and filed by the duly authorized representative. The application must contain the basis and justifications why his membership should be reinstated.

Section 3. Referral of the Application to the Ethics Committee. The Board may refer the application to the Ethics Committee for its study, evaluation and recommendation. The Ethics Committee shall submit its report and recommendation to the Board within thirty (30) days from receipt of the referral and the application for reinstatement.

Section 4. Approval of the Reinstatement. Reinstatement of membership shall be upon approval by the two-third (2/3) votes of all the voting members of the Board and confirmation by at least the two-thirds (2/3) votes of all the members present in the General Assembly constituting a quorum.

Section 5. Right, Privileges and Benefits. Upon reinstatement, all the rights, benefits and privileges of the member shall be restored.

RULE XI

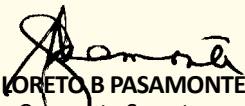
COMMON PROVISIONS

Section 1. Confidentiality. Proceedings against any member of the Association shall be private and confidential. However, the dispositive portion of the final order or decision of the Board, may be published in the Cavalier Magazine and may be released to the media at the discretion of the Board.

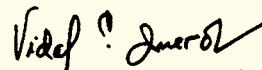
Section 2. Expenses. All reasonable and necessary expenses in connection with the proceedings of the Ethics Committee shall be chargeable to the funds of the Association.

Section 3. Effectivity. This Rules of Procedure shall be effective upon approval by the Board and its publication.

Done and approved by the Board of Directors in a regular meeting held on 13 December 2022 at Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City.


CAV LORETO B PASAMONTE '93
Corporate Secretary

Attested by:


CAV VIDAL E QUEROL '73
Chairman of the Board



Notice of PMAFI Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Trustees

To: All Regular Members
PMA Foundation, Inc.

Reference: PMAFI Manual of Operations, Third Edition, 2017, Chapter 3.1.1 and 3.5, Election of Trustees.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Membership Meeting of the PMA Foundation, Inc. (PMAFI) will be held on Friday, 3 March 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Board Room, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City for the following purposes:

1. To approve the minutes of the 2022 Annual Membership Meeting and 28 December 2022 Special Membership Meeting;
2. To consider and act upon the annual report of the President;
3. To confirm and ratify all acts and resolutions of the Board of Trustees and the Management;
4. To elect fifteen (15) members of the Board of Trustees; and
5. To take up such other matters as may be properly brought before the meeting.

On the election of Trustees, the Nomination and Election Committee or the Secretariat will accept written nominations from 3 to 16 January 2023 at the PMAFI Office, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Nominators and nominees, who must all be PMAFI regular members as of 31 December 2022, shall sign the nomination and acceptance form or letter that may be used. Copy of the form is also available at the PMAFI Office. It is understood that by signing, nominees accept their nominations and signify their commitment that, if elected, they will attend meetings of the Board of Trustees and other activities of the Foundation. Election ballots with the names of not more than 30 candidates will be distributed to the

members from 1 to 24 February 2023. Accomplished ballots may be submitted at the PMAFI office personally or by courier or mail NLT 5:00 p.m. on 1 March 2023 (Wednesday). This notwithstanding, the voters who have not yet cast their votes may attend the PMAFI Annual Membership Meeting and Election and cast their ballots thereat not later than 10:00 a.m. Members who claim to have not received or to have lost or misplaced their ballots may request for a replacement ballot at the Board Room, PMA Alumni Center, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C. not later than 9:00 a.m. on 3 March 2023 (Friday). The conduct of PMAFI Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Trustees will be done in a blended manner (a combination of In-person and Virtual via Zoom).

With the restrictions brought about the COVID-19 pandemic, other members may join via zoom meeting.

Meeting ID: 827 8093 5958

Passcode: pmafi

For any inquiry you may contact Ms. Maribel B Galano, Ms Rhodelyn B Gantuangco - who can be reached at Tel. No. 8421-2807, Telefax. No. 8722-9609 or Cellphone No. 0917-8081456/0927-7558595, respectively or you may also email at PMAFI_PMA@yahoo.com.

Your presence at the meeting is important and will significantly contribute to the attainment of the primary objective of PMAFI of assisting PMA in enhancing its quality of education. Be counted!


BGEN FLORENTINO P MANALASTAS PROF (Ret)
Corporate Secretary



Vignettes of Elder CAVALIERS

(Note: We are featuring for this column two elder cavaliers from the Suaviter Class '69 who are both Lifetime Achievement Awardees for Association Year 2023: Cavalier Jaime S Delos Santos and Cav Benjamin P Defensor Jr. They had shed off their military uniforms but led thereafter more meaningful service to humanity and country. The write-up focuses on their achievements after they retired from the military service. -Ed)

Cav Jaime S De Los Santos '69

Leadership in Motion

ACADEMIC PURSUITS

After Cav Jaime S De Los Santos left the military service, he continued to adapt his philosophy of “culture of excellence and service” which was his advocacy as former commanding general of the Philippine Army.

Cav De Los Santos was initiated into the academe when former University of the Philippines President Francisco Nemenzo invited him to teach at said university. His initial appointment was Professorial Lecturer I (part-time). He was eventually promoted to Professorial Lecturer II during the rest of his tenure.

While in UP, Cav De Los Santos was appointed as a trustee of the UP Foundation and member of its Executive Committee from 2010 to the present. Likewise, he assumed membership in University Committees such as Committee on the Grant of Honorary Degrees and UP President Representative to the Search Committee for Deanship at the College of Business Administration.

As president of the UP Alumni Association, Cav De Los Santos was actively involved in alumni affairs. He was a member of the UP Board of Regents in concurrent capacity. He represented the 250,000 UP Alumni all over the world in the board. His ascendancy as UPAA president was contested by influential alumni groups. But being a former military general exposed to power struggles, conflict resolution and crisis management, he won the university-wide election convincingly.

With his assumption, Cav De Los Santos was able to break a tradition prevailing in the university: a former military general assumed the leadership of the alumni association whose lineage include former President Ferdinand E Marcos; former Solicitor General Estelito Mendoza and former Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu.

It is with pride that he was able to restore the UP Carillon, another hallmark of the campus aside from the famous UP Oblation. It was the flagship project of the UPAA when the university celebrated its centennial year in 2008. When he was at the helm, the UP Carillon rung again after decades of silence. The ringing reverberated the clarion call to excellence and service.



It is noteworthy to mention too that Cav De Los Santos was able to lead as the National Commander of the UP Vanguard Fraternity Inc. It is an association of advanced ROTC graduates composed of prominent alumni that counts among its members, top leadership positions in the government, military, business and industry. Many cavaliers started their military career as ROTC cadets in their college days before entering PMA. Cav De Los Santos was in that category. He was the only National Commander who only attended basic ROTC. His stint of leadership in UP was extended when he assumed the presidency of the UP MBA Alumni Society, Inc.

Among the awards and recognition that Cav De Los Santos received from UP after his retirement from the military service included the UP College of Business Administration Distinguished Alumnus in 2001, which was a very competitive selection process chaired by former Prime Minister Cesar Virata, and the prestigious UP Oblation Award. He was also given the Special Recognition (individual) and UP Alumni Leadership and Presidential Awards from the UPAA. In 2004, he was also the recipient of the Rotary International Peace Award. Only recently, he received the UP Service Award during the Centennial celebration of the UP Vanguard.

Cav De Los Santos received the Order of Andres Bonifacio being one of the distinguished citizens of Mandaluyong City and the Diosdado Macapagal Award conferred by the Department of Foreign Affairs in recognition of his contribution to World Peace and Understanding.

Relatedly, Cav De Los Santos was also involved in another academic institution, the Manuel L Quezon University. He was appointed there as Director of Graduate Studies Program managing all graduate programs both in Masteral and Doctoral degrees at the School for Professional Advancement and Continuing Education, in Business Administration, Public Administration and in Education.

Presently, Cav De Los Santos is a Senior Fellow and Adjunct Professor, Philippine Public Safety College and Acting Chairman Advisory Council, Philippine National Police Academy.

AGRIBUSINESS AND CORPORATE CONCERNS

Cav De Los Santos is engaged in medium scale farming consisting of orchard, cattle fattening in a limited scale and rice production. This is one area where prospective retirees may consider. Farming is an extension of the values that one has acquired in the military such as discipline, humility and industry. There is a feeling of satisfaction being an agent of food sufficiency. Being a farmer, he was once the Chairman of the Board of Judges during the Search for Outstanding Farmers of the Philippines. Another feather to his cap was being the Project Director of the Banaue Rice Terraces Restoration project. At present, he is an active member of the Management Association of the Philippines.

In business and industry, he serves as a member of the Board of Advisors, Kaltimex Energy Corp., a Singapore-based corporation engaged in sustainable energy.

Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative stands as one legacy and one of the flagship projects of the PMAAAI, during his incumbency as Chairman, and PNP Chief PBGen Rodolfo Azurin, then President.

With the initial seed capital pooled from the earnings of the different PMA alumni classes, the past and present sets of PMAAAI officers and the various class representatives met and decided to invite officers from the other uniformed services and graduates

of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) who serve in the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) and Bureaus of Fire Protection (BFP). Senior officers of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) were also invited, as the majority of its officer corps was also made up of PMA alumni or Cavaliers.

As of October 2022, it has almost 2,000 members, a total of PHP 112,979,700.00 as paid-up shares and almost PHP 90,000,000.00 of loans. Indeed, the Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative has conquered a lot in its first year, and through his leadership as chairman, it will definitely continue to make an impact.



1st ANNIVERSARY & GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PNP MULTI PURPOSE HALL, CAMP CRAME, QUEZON CITY



1st Anniversary and General Assembly of the Lakas Bayanihan Credit Cooperative, a strong partnership between Cavaliers and Lakan with PNP Chief Cav Azurin '89 as GOHAS. Front row: Cav Baccay '92, Cav de los Santos '69, Cav Velasco '71, Cav Noble '92. Back row: Lakan Bastian '96, Lakan Evangelista '94, Cav Estomo '92, Cav Defeles '09, Cav Fabricante '89, Cav Ramoran '89. Lakan Cardino '97 (they are part of the Board of Directors).

A GOLF ENTHUSIAST

A game of golf contributes to the enhancement of the mental and physical well-being especially in the company of young cavaliers. In photo are Ferdinand Quiocho, 2011 class baron, Jean Robles, 2000, DFA Consul, and Cav De Los Santos (center).



THE FAMILY AS A FORCE MULTIPLIER FOR SUCCESS

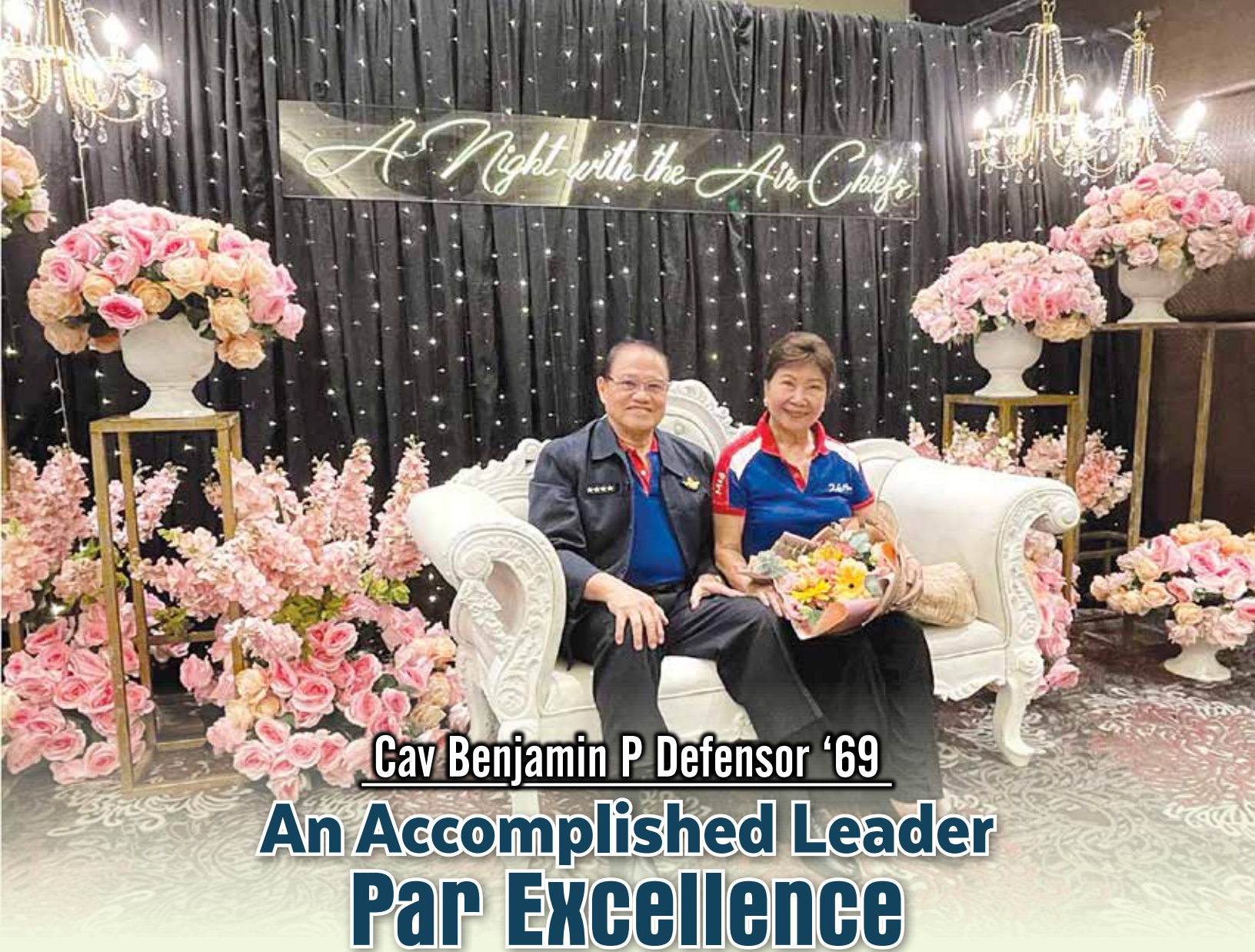
A distinguished Cavalier is complete if he has kept his family intact, stable, successful and the source of strength and happiness. All of his children are accomplished professionals in their own fields and his grandchildren are academically endowed, having achieved outstanding academic performances in their studies. And of course, his enduring inspiration, his ever-loving wife for the past 51 years and his kaydet girl, Lulu.

CONCLUSION

Cav De Los Santos may now belong to the Elder Cavalier category but this won't stop him from pursuing other dreams and rendering services that he could still contribute to God, country and people. (Cav de los Santos was a recipient of three Cavalier Awards in 1994, 2002 and 2021.)



De Los Santos Family



Cav Benjamin P Defensor '69 **An Accomplished Leader** **Par Excellence**

Cav Benjamin P Defensor's life as an elder cavalier is as colorful as when he was in the active military service. It could not completely be said that he had retired after he shed off his military uniform. It is simply because he was able to continue his government service when in 2004, he was appointed as Philippine Ambassador At Large by former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. As an ambassador, he was able to introduce a new twist to current political thought with the concept which he called "warrior diplomacy".

The wisdom and credentials he gathered while in the active military service equipped him with sufficient knowledge and know-how in facing the realities of serving outside the military environment.

APEC 2006 BEST PERFORMER

His designation as Chairman of The Counter Terrorism body of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in 2004 tested his administrative and managerial acumen that pushed him, together with APEC senior officers, to develop and implement an innovative counter-terrorism action plan (CTAP), that strengthened the objective of securing trade with an action plan and middle way strategy in a traditionally trade-oriented body. It confounded diplomats of other countries, who later on saw the cutting

effects of this challenge to international paradigms. Cav Defensor was referred to as the shining light of APEC for having the most number of accomplishments agreed through consensus among 21-member economies, despite being new in the diplomatic field.

With God's guidance, all his efforts to the APEC vision of stability and prosperity paid off because Cav Defensor was given the distinction of being "APEC Best Performer" in 2006 with tributes coming from APEC heads of states and senior officials from United States of America, China, Russia and the Pacific states.

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT IN SECURITY/COUNTER-TERRORISM

Considered as a leading light in security, counter-terrorism, aviation and trade, Cav Defensor became a regular speaker in several international fora, which included the World Security Conference in Europe, the Asia-Middle East Dialogue, the Secure Trade Conference of the Asia-Pacific Region, and the conferences and fora hosted by the US Department of Homeland Security and business organizations.

He was more than elated to accept the recommendation by the Philippine President (Arroyo) and APEC senior officials to serve as the Chair to the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council of the United Nations.



CLARK DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION DIRECTOR

In 2017, Cav Defensor was designated as the Presidential Adviser and appointed Director of Clark Development Corporation (CDC) and was elected Vice Chairman and later, Acting Chairman. Under his stewardship, in the following 5-year period, CDC generated its highest revenues, higher than the past 20 years and became the top export revenue earner for Central Luzon while providing jobs for thousands of Filipinos.

At the same time, Cav Defensor continued pushing for the AFP modernization program and bases development which selected AFP officers and himself prepared in the 90's and up to this day, carries the stamp and forcefulness of his singular creation, the Air Force City of Clark, the model base of the Philippines, when he was its commander. In his characteristic leadership style, Cav Defensor ensures that worthy performers are in control and achieving individuals will flourish.

OTHER CREDENTIALS

He can attribute the prestigious positions and titles he held as the natural flow of his rich corporate background having been Chairman of the board of five established companies in finance, logistics, and insurance. He was once a Director also of one of Asia's biggest business conglomerates.

Having been a Chief Executive in shipping, mass media, real estate, and the material corporations during Martial Law, when military officers were selected to head government-sequestered corporations, Cav Defensor continuously nurtures and develops several individuals into Commanders, managers, professionals, sports champions and standouts in the Performing Arts.

Cav Defensor was described, in the haughtiness of humility: "one of the best, if not the best Commanding General the Philippine Air Force ever had," (by a former AFP Chief of Staff); "Way up there, among the best AFP chiefs of Staff," (by a former SND) and by a former Philippine president, "exemplary leadership, a professional's professional," "a pilot with the heart of a poet and the instincts of a true fighter." According to Cav Defensor, there is a special description which is his favorite, that he was 'properly trained in "terrorism" by his wife' and 'always a concerned dad and granddad of the next generations.'



With Spanish businessmen



Sharing of God's blessings is a yearly activity of his family where they share with the farmers, scholars and workers the blessings of Christmas, an activity he and his family have observed for more than 50 years now.



A warm welcome to President and AFP commander-in-chief Bongbong Marcos at the Philippine Air Force Headquarters. He was the running mate of Cav Defensor's sister Miriam Defensor (an honorary member of PMA Class '69 also) during the 2016 Presidential Election.



More fun, more opportunities in the Philippines



Promoting the Philippines



BACK-TO-BACK 2SHOWS IN ONE NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 • FRIDAY • 8PM
RJ Bistro Dusit Thani Hotel Ayala Makati

8:00 PM

NIGHT OF THE SINGING GENERALS

FEATURING:




FORMER FIRST DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE AFP
 GEN. BENJAMIN DEFENSOR
 FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE AFP
 GEN. RUFFO DE VEYRA
 FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE AFP
 GEN. MELCHOR SOSALES
 FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE AFP
 GEN. REYES CLARON TORADO

9:30 PM

DANCING *Allnight*

WITH





SPECIAL TREAT!!

Anybody who goes to the concert gets one-time free entrance for 1 worth P600 which can be used within 3 months for 1st try (Friday).

Entrance: P1,500 with 1 standard drink
for inquiries and reservations, call: **0906 2211524**
or Visit: www.facebook.com/RJBistro

One of Suaviter's enjoyable activities: an offshoot of the Sounds of 69, the only military class in the world who formed themselves into a band and performed in concerts and musical gatherings all over the Philippines to raise funds for worthy endeavors. Together with the generals of other classes, they proved that soldiers don't fade away, they become instruments of the musical forms they create. After all, the melodies they produce are sweet (as in Sweet Caroline) and after many performances, the once upon a time cadets showed they have what it takes.



87th AFP Anniversary 19 Dec. A rare gathering of Chiefs of Staff, sometimes as many as 10. Not surprisingly, all come from the Philippine Army except one, a former CG, PAF. Cheers!



A gathering of the PAF's King Eagles (chiefs)

The Diamond Jubilarians



PMA Matindi Class of 1963: A Historical Account

- CAV RENE LEANDRO PICCIO EBRO
PMA MATINDI CLASS OF 1963
CLASS SECRETARY

PLEBE:

Unlike most classes who reported to the academy on April Fool's Day, the journey of the 4-year rigorous, regimented, rigid and highly competitive military course of PMA batch of 1963 began on 1 May 1959, per GHQ Orders GO# 477 dated 27 April 1959.

The 156 batch '59 Plebes including Eckwood Harold Solomon Jr., the first American to enter PMA, breezed through the Fourth Class Year challenges of Summer Camp (New Cadet Company), drills, parades, academics, the "patient" professors, the very

"strict" TAC Os, the "Fatherly" Firsties ('60'), Immaculate" Cows ('61) and the "Terrible" Yearlings ('62). The short break, our very first Independence Day Parade in Luneta, 100th Nite Show, the Superintendent's Reception, Christmas Break as Kings of Barracks and PMA Foundation Day went by like a blur. After 361 days of Plebehood from 1 May 1959 to 26 April 1960, came the most awaited Recognition Day. Of the 156 Plebes, only 97 stout-hearted dumbguards survived the Plebe Year. The Class was off to our first leave or furlough as proud "Yearlings."

YEARLING:

The start of our Yearling Year began with a tour of the First Tabak Division in Fort Magsaysay, Laur, Nueva Ecija where we had witnessed the awesome Army firepower. This was followed by a tour of the Air Force in Villamor Air Base (formerly known as Nichols Air Base) and the Fernando Air Base, Lipa, Batangas where we had our joyride with the Air Force flight instructors aboard the T-34 Mentors. Thereafter was a visit to the defunct Philippine Constabulary where we enjoyed the finest hospitality and boodle fights. Our last stop was the Headquarters Philippine Navy at Roxas Boulevard, Manila and the Cavite Naval Base. The First Battalion toured the base while the Second Battalion went on Sea Phase Training in Iloilo City. After the switch, the group on board the Mine Sweepers cruised through the cities Cebu and Dumaguete. This short yet very memorable stint with the Navy amidst weather disturbances decided choice of our future "sea farers" and "seadogs."

Our second Independence Day and break were our breathers before we were back to the City of Pines as role models to the Plebes as well as the academic grind. We had Biology, Chemistry, Calculus, Differential Equations, Physics, English as well as Surveying, Tactics, Weapons and Leadership among many subjects. We also experienced the first mixed classes in a room from Plebes to Firsties. Our second 100th Nite Show, December Break, Foundation Day went by swiftly then came the Recognition Day of Class 1964 and the Graduation Day of Class 1961. Only 88 Terrible Yearlings made it to Cow Year.

COW:

We had more responsibilities as Squad Leaders and Assistant Squad Leaders. We experienced our 3rd Independence Day and break before gruelling technical subjects and military at the Academy. This time we tackled Strength of Materials, Thermodynamics (a very hot subject at the time,) Mechanics, Electrical Engineering, Electronic Circuits, Electronics and Communications Engineering, the Triple Laboratory where we learned Fluid Mechanics and Dams.

Our third 100th Nite Show, December Break, Foundation

Day went by swiftly then came the Recognition Day of Class 1965 and the Graduation Day of Class 1962. Seventy eight Immaculate Cows were left after three years of long struggles, sacrifice and perseverance.

FIRSTIES:

At long last, we were at the helm of the Cadet Corps as Firsties where we led the Reception/Beast Barracks of our favorite Plebes, Class of 1966 or batch 1962 Plebes. This was followed by Incorporation Day. We had our fourth and final Independence Day Parade and break before last academic and military exertion. Included in our subjects were Military Engineering, First Class Law, Ordinance Engineering, Fine Arts, Music, Government and Life in





the Service. Many of the lasts came such as 100th Nite Show where we found ourselves centerstage and backstage. Thereafter came our Christmas Break and Foundation Day. We had our final tour to visit the major services where the lucky ones got to fly backseat of the T-33 Thunderbirds in Basa Air Base, home of the 5th Fighter Wing. The Philippine Navy took us to the Rock, Corregidor Island. We had experienced the traditional hospitality likewise of the Philippine Army in Fort Magsaysay and Camp Crame, home of the Philippine Constabulary, respectively.

GRADUATION DAY:

On 24 March 1963, seventy five (75) strong Firsties made it to Graduation Day and Commissioning Ceremony. Thirty five (35) joined the Philippine Army where six (6) eventually transferred to the Philippine Constabulary. Fourteen (14) joined the Philippine Air Force. Twenty four (24) joined the Navy. One graduated however, he was not commissioned due to an infirmity. Our American classmate joined the US Army. In June 1963, the class was added by two members from the United States Naval Academy and United States Military Academy (West Point).

RISING IN RANKS INTO THE ARMED FORCES:

Immediately after our academic break, our path of growth began. The Army group proceeded to the Philippine Army School Center

(PASC) in Fort Bonifacio where they completed the 3-month Company Officers' Course. Thereafter, they were deployed with the different Philippine Army zone units (divisions, brigades and battalions) across Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. They also had their stint in South Vietnam with PHILCAG until the mid-1970s.

The Air Force group reported to Fernando Air Base, Lipa, Batangas for their two-year flight training with the 100th Training Wing. Here, the flyboys learned the rudiments of flying the T-34 (Mentors) and the T-28 (Trojans), otherwise known as the Tora-toras. After they got their most coveted "pilot wings," the '63 pilots were deployed with the various Air Force line units. Some of them went on jet training with the 5th Fighter Wing or 205th Helicopter Wing while the others with the transport/airlift wings.

The Navy group was recalled to participate in the PN-USN Bilateral Anti-Submarine Exercise. They would be "Seadogs" learned the rudiments of anti-submarine warfare, the Asdic hut, the sonar, the depth charges (tin cans), the hedge hogs (ASW rockets) and the key guns for a depth charge pattern. Thereafter, the group reported to the Naval School Center, Naval Training Command, Fort San Felipe, Cavite City for the 6-month Naval Officers Qualification Course "A." After graduation, the Seadogs of the class were deployed aboardship the Patrol Force (Royal Navy) and the Service Force (Commercial/Transport Navy) of the Naval Operating Force which is the forerunner of the Philippine Fleet. Some of the Seadogs went into flight training

at the Philippine Air Force Flying School. Three eventually joined the Philippine Marine Battalion which eventually became the Philippine Marine Corps.

PER ASPERA AD ASTRA:

For many years in our military career, our aspirations took us to the stars where many of us eventually earned our stars. The accomplishments and achievements of PMA Class 1963 are the fulfilment of visions and dreams nurtured by our four years of struggles, sacrifices, perseverance, resourcefulness and determination. We have served with distinction in all fields of command, control, administration, operations and management in both military and police services. We have also distinguished ourselves in private, non-government and government sectors. We had also touched the lives of many people who have shared our ideals and visions. We have eventually adopted them as honorary members of the class.

DIAMOND YEAR:

Sixty years has passed since the class has left the hallowed portals of our beloved Alma Mater. The good old academy will continue to graduate class after class of competent, world class and visionary military professionals who are very reliable, trustworthy and respected and imbued with the academy's motto of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty, whose commitment to serve the country and its people is stately solid.

So after all is said and done, the class of 1963 has completed its rub for 60 years. Proudly and with the feeling of self-satisfaction the class closed ranks, only to find out many have joined the Great Beyond. Beyond the Golden Years, many have gone yet we remember to have them in our minds and hearts still standing strong and steadfast in our octogenarian years to reach 60 years after. We are fortunate and grateful to have come this far into the

sunset of our lives. Our physical strength may not be as it was but our mind and soul remain unwavering to be present, even in spirit, with the ever-lengthening long gray line in the hallowed ground of the good old academy.

Former Class Presidents:

FGS Pfeider
LR Valdez
DP Salipsip
DE Pizarro
GP Aquino
GT Domondon
AP Medina
AG Acedera
GT Domondon
DP Salipsip
GR Ruiz

**Message from the Class President, PMA Matindi Class of 1963
Cavalier Guillermo R Ruiz**

I wish to extend my congratulations to all the gracefully aging members of PMA 'Matindi' Class of 1963 on the occasion of our Diamond Jubilee. We are happy for those who are able to make it back home to PMA on our 60th year from graduation! From the least to the most years of attending the alumni homecoming, it is always an achievement in itself to make your way back, set foot on our beloved alma mater and traditionally march along the long gray line as well as celebrate the festivities annually!

In my years being the Class President and in the last ten years since our Golden Anniversary, some of us have unfortunately passed on. We also have experienced different forms of physical decline, yet we have continued to live the best years of our lives





with much appreciation and have discovered the wisdom to be healthy and happy as we are at an old age.

We have kept the tradition of meeting regularly most especially during Christmas time and our graduation date to celebrate moments and milestones in our lives in the last decade. Technology has been so much helpful for us in recent years to stay connected through messenger applications or video conferencing when it was not feasible to be done in person. Till the very end, we shall continue to carry on the camaraderie and love as well as forever remain with Courage, Integrity and Loyalty.

PMA Matindi Class of 1963 Achievements

AFP Chief of Staff	1
Vice Chief of Staff	1
Major Service Commanders	2
Area Commanders	2
The Deputy Chief of Staff	2
Infantry Division Commanders	2
Philippine Marine Commandant	1
Commandant Philippine Marine Corps	
Commander WESCOM AFP	1
PNP Regional Directors	3
Philippine Air Force Division Commanders	2
Fleet Commander	1
Philippine Coast Guard Commander	1
Commandant, AFPCGSC	2
Joint Chief of Staff AFP (GHQ)	8
Training Command Commanders	3
Engineer/Seabees Brigade Commanders	4
Infantry Brigade Commanders	9
Philippine Air Force Wing Commanders	3
Marine Brigade Commanders	3
PNP Maritime Commander	1
MCMTCC Commander	1
Naval District Commanders	7
Naval Sea Systems Command Commanders	2
Senior Military Assistant, DND	1
Deputy Area Commanders	5
Assistant Division Commanders	3
Major Service Comm-Elex Chiefs	3
Armed Forces Defense Attache	4
Generals/Flag Officers	38
PA Generals	10
PAF Generals	5
PNP Generals	7

PN Flag Officers	16
NEDA Director General/ADB Consultant	1
SSS Administrator/Bank President	1
Defense Undersecretary	1
Presidential Adviser on Military Affairs	1
Chairman, Negotiating Panel with MNLF	1
Chairman, Government Panel with	
RAM-SFP-YOU	1
Manila Hotel President	1
AFP Modernization Consultant Undersecretary	1
COMELEC Commissioner	1
APEC Technical Adviser	1
CHED Technical Panel on Engineering,	
Technology and Architecture	1
PRC Board Examiner Electronics and	
Communications Engineering	1
PRC Regulatory Board Member	1
VP, Clark Development Corporation	1
Chairman/CEO	1
Philippine Airlines International/Domestic Pilot	1
African Bush Air Force Pilot	1
Cavalier Awardees	16
Class "A" Golfers	3

PMA Matindi Class of 1963 Cavalier Awardees

1967	Eckwood H. Solomon, Jr	Heroism and First American in PMA
1971	Idelfonso N Dulinayan	Heroism and Risk of Life
1976	Dominador F Ylagan	Peace and Order Campaign in the South
1980	Filogo L Pante, Jr	Public Administration
1983	Rene Leandro P Ebro	Naval Combat Operations
	Domingo P Salipsip	Command and Administration
1990	Nicasio A Blancas	Navy Operations
	Renato C Valencia	Private Enterprise
1991	Guillermo R Ruiz	Marine Operation
1993	Guillermo T Domondon	Police Professional in Staff Function
1994	Regino J Lacson	Command and Administration
1997	Arnulfo G Acedera Jr	Command and Administration
1998	Rene Leandro P Ebro	Special Field (Electronics and Communications Engineering)
2009	Alejandro F Cirera	Private Enterprise
2013	Guillermo R Ruiz	Private Enterprise





THE HISTORY OF THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY MAAGAP CLASS OF 1973

INTRODUCTION

The story of the Maagap Class of 1973 began when one hundred and three (103) young men complied with three (3) General Orders (GO), which the General Headquarters, Armed Forces of the Philippines (GHQ, AFP) issued on different dates: GO Nos. 267 and 268 were issued on 26 March, 1969; and, GO No. 277 was issued on 04 April 1969. They reported to the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) grounds in Fort del Pilar, Baguio City on the early morning of April 01, 1969. The PMA Receiving Detail (RD), composed of military Officers and Enlisted Personnel, formed them into four (4) groups at the Borromeo Field where they took their oaths as members of the Cadet Corps, Armed Forces of the Philippines (CCAFP). Little did they know what they were getting themselves into.

After their oath taking, all of them became Fourth Class Cadets or 'PLEBES' – who were (and still are) considered the 'LOWEST MAMNALIA' in the CCAFP. Into the parade ground, cadets in Dress White uniform marched in between the 'PLEBE' Formation and the



PMA RD. They halted, faced the Officer-in-Charge (OIC) of the PMA RD. The Cadet Marcher of the CCAFP 'PLEBE' Detail saluted the OIC and reported: "Sir, the 'PLEBE DETAIL' is all present and accounted for." The OIC returned the salute of the Marcher and ordered: "Take charge." The Marcher faced about and gave the command to the members of the Detail: "TAKE CHARGE!" And 'ALL HELL BROKE LOSS'!

The first three and a half (3 ½) years as a cadet for the Maagaps was quite normal. There were the regular day-to-day activities such as Classroom Instructions; Parades and Ceremonies; Drills, Marches and Bivouacs; and Extracurricular Activities.

Although the cadets were isolated in the 'MOUNTAINS OF LOAKAN', they were still aware of what was happening in the country during the 'FIRST QUARTER STORM' from 26 January to 17 March 1970. A few months later, the tumult struck the compound of PMA. 1Lt Victor Corpus PMA CI '67, then a PMA Tactical Officer, led the ransacking of the PMA armory on 29 December 1970. His group carted away numerous firearms. Then on 21 August 1971, the Liberal Party political rally in Plaza Miranda was bombed resulting to nine



(9) deaths and multiple injuries. The bombing was blamed on FPFM. However, for the Maagaps their thoughts were concentrated on their forthcoming graduation in seven months.

A year and a month later, FPFM declared Martial Law on 21 September 1972 because of the intensified attacks of the NDF/CPP/NPA on military, civil government and ordinary civilian target. This was aggravated by growing unrest in areas predominantly occupied by Muslim Filipinos. This situation created anxiety and uncertainty on the Maagaps. What would happen next? Will the academic schedule be abruptly discontinued? Will the CCAFP be deployed to the frontlines immediately? These were the questions lingering in our minds.

However, the PMA authorities seemed to just have a contingency plan for such eventuality. Right after the declaration of Martial Law, the security inside Ft. del Pilar was tightened. From sunset to sunrise, it was the First Classmen and the Second Classmen who were providing security around Regis Hall. At the start of the Second Semester of SY 1972-73, the academic subjects of the Maagaps were accelerated. Furthermore, they were given an abbreviated Scout Ranger Course, After Christmas Break, the Scout Ranger Course became more rigorous with instructors like: Sgt Alimorong for Cliff Rappelling; Capt. Santiago Alino PMA CI '67 for Escape and Evasion; and 1Lt Julius Javier PMA CI '70 for Night Navigation. After the Homecoming Ceremonies on 14-15 February 1973, the Maagaps proceeded to Camp Capinpin in Tanay, Rizal for the Jungle Warfare and Mountain Operation Course (JWMOC). Jun Briones topped the Scout Ranger Course and was awarded a .38 cal. Revolver.

On 25 March 1973, the Maagap Class of 1973 graduated from the Philippine Military Academy and took their Oath as Regular Officers in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. 2Lt Torch Torres graduate Number 1 of the Class and Reynold Osia graduated as First Captain, CCAFP or Baron. After the graduation ceremonies, the Maagaps were given an Academic Leave up to 30 April 1973.

On May 01, 1973, members of PMA Class '73 were placed on Detached Service (DS) with the Home Defense Training Center (HDTTC) in Ft. Bonifacio to undergo the one-month Home Defense Course, which was basically: "How to Win the Hearts and Minds of the People in the Conflict Areas in the Philippines." It covered the whole area of the Philippines – from as far north in Aparri, Cagayan to down south in Sitangkay, Tawi-Tawi.

The busiest room of the Officers' Barracks then was the only room with a PLDT telephone.

The next portion of this story are the Maagap Major Services History.

THE MAAGAP ARMY GROUP (by: Alan Cabalquinto)

PMA Class of 1973 graduated in March 1973 sixty-strong. We were the first PMA class after the declaration of Martial Law in 1972. Twelve Maagaps joined the Army, a very small group. Because the quota for the services was declared open, majority of the class joined the Philippine Constabulary. The Army group was composed of: Samuel Bagasin and Delfin Lorenzana from Alpha Coy; Alan Cabalquinto, Carmelino Dimabuyo, Rafael Romero and Gabriel Habacon from Charlie Coy; Sergio Candelario, Raymundo Geslani, Fernando Patawaran and Rene Pongco from Delta Coy; Jerson Juarez and Gabriel Ledesma from Bravo Coy. A colorful group indeed, three named after angels (2 Gabriels and a Rafael) and one named after a prophet (Samuel). Dimabuyo was the number two in the class after Antonio Torres and the rest of us tried our best to make it to graduation.

The class was given a one-month academic break before reporting to respective major services. A funny thing happened to the Army group when we reported to Headquarters Philippine Army. This was due to clerical errors in the orders from GHQ. Juarez was in an air force White Duck uniform and another error assigned Raynold Osia to the Army. We then reported to the Philippine Army School Center for Infantry Basic Course. Since our military subjects at PMA was still fresh in our sleepy heads, we got bored with this course. Noticing this



attitude of ours, we were excused from class and detached to the newly organized 14th Infantry Battalion to help train the new recruits. This experience gave us a better outlook on the army.

The Philippine Army had prepared our career by distributing us to the different major units of the Command. Samy and Rene went to the 1st Div, Patie and Buyong went to the 2nd Div, Jerson and Sergs went to the 3rd Div, Bing, Delfin and Bong Habacon went to the 4th Div, Ray Geslani to the 5th Bde (Sep), Raffy Romero was assigned with the 14th Inf Bn which eventually was absorbed by the 1st Div, and Alan went to the Special Forces which was then called Home Defense Forces (Abn). Due to the conflicts in the country brought about by the NPA and the MNLF, all of us were infantry. Our first two to three years were spent in the field, some in Isabela and most in Mindanao.

After the time spent with the assigned units, we were then able to take up career courses. The lucky ones took the advance courses in the USA in Fort Benning or elsewhere. As the years progressed, things were not so rosy. Rene Pongco died in a motorcycle accident in Munoz, Nueva Ecija. He was a captain when he passed away. As we became field grade officers, some more unfortunate incidents visited our group. Mel Dimabuyo was shot by the NPA as he was inspecting his detachments. Mel was due to take up Command and Staff Course in Fort Leavenworth, USA after his stint as battalion commander. Ray Geslani has cancer and passed away too. In the meantime, Patie filed for early retirement to join his family in the USA. Tiks Besas joined the Army group when the Philippine Constabulary was replaced by the Philippine National Police and he also retired early to join his family in the USA. The rest of the group became battalion commanders.

Battalion command took the group to different areas in the country. Samy's battalion was in the Ilocos region. Delfin commanded a battalion in Davao area. Raffy's command started in Agusan and he



later replaced Alan in Kapatagan, Lanao del Norte. Alan, meanwhile, moved to Lanao del Sur and later moved back to Zamboanga del Sur. Jerson's battalion AOR was in Zamboanga del Norte. The late Mel Dimabuyo's battalion was in Kalinga province. Habacon took command in Panay Island to learn Ilonggo. Bing Ledesma stayed with the RTG, a ranger battalion of the 4th Div. Sergs Candelario finally made it to the Corps of Engineers and commanded an engineer battalion.

Next came brigade command and the ticket to star rank. Samy's brigade was in Iligan, Lanao del Norte. Delfin commanded a brigade in General Santos City. Sergs took command of the engineer brigade supporting SOUTHCOM. Bong Habacon's brigade was in the Cordillera region. Bing Ledesma took command of the First Scout Ranger Regiment and Alan commanded the Special Forces Regiment (Abn) and later on commanded the 302nd Bde and 602nd Bde. It was fatigue duty for him. When asked by a senior officer how many brigades he has commanded, Alan replied with some humor, "Sir, to be exact, I had already one Besta and three pick-up trucks." These vehicles meant that you occupy a star position.

Eventually, we all got promoted to higher positions in the Army and GHQ. Samy went to 4th Div and later was designated Deputy Chief of Staff, GHQ. Bong Habacon went to 1st Div and then commanded SOUTHCOM. Sergs Candelario was appointed the Chief of Engineers, GHQ AFP. Bing Ledesma took command of the 3rd Div and then Vice Commander, Philippine Army. Delfin commanded SOCOM, PA before his appointment as AFP Attaché in Washington, DC. Raffy Romero was appointed the Deputy Chief of Staff for Training, J8. Alan had these appointments in senior command: Commander, SOCOM, PA and Commander, NCRCOM, AFP.



Time for retiring from the service and settling for new work or simply enjoying life as a retiree. I retired in 2006 and decided to live it up. Bonding with my grandchildren proved satisfying since there was not enough opportunities to do this while in the active service. I also had time to read my books and to arrange my library/music room. The Special Forces Regiment was dear to me so I and other retired SF officers decided to formalize the Special Forces Alumni Association and had it registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Because of this the board selected me as the first chairman with a tenure of two years. Retirement allowed me time to renew association with high school classmates from La Salle Bacolod and La Salle Green Hills. To top it all, our village elected me as one of the board of directors of the Homeowners Association of Bay Breeze Village, Taguig.

THE MAAGAP PC/PNP GROUP (by: By Tony Billones)

Trivia:

Of the 61 Maagap Class 1973 graduates, 25 joined the PC and in addition, **Rey Osia** transferred from the Philippine Army to the PC months later. Thus, forty-two (42) percent of the class was with the PC. However, **Tiks Besas** joined the Army in 1991 when the PC was deactivated and reorganized as the nucleus of the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Before its deactivation, the PC was one of the major services of the AFP under DND with dual mandate; as a military unit and as a national law enforcement agency complementarily working with the local police forces that were all under the different local government units. On rare occasion, when peace and order would become problematic and seemed uncontrollable in a town or city as determined by higher authorities, the local police force would be placed under the PC for operational supervision and control.

The local police forces as many as the number of municipalities and cities functioning independently were integrated in 1976 becoming the Integrated National Police (INP). In 1991, a law was enacted to merge the INP and the PC creating the Philippine National Police (PNP) as one national police and civilian in nature under the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG). The PC in effect was separated from the AFP/DND. Thus the PC Maagap were with the AFP half of their active service and the other half with the PNP. Though already with the PNP, we continued to perform the functions we were doing when we were in the AFP in relation to internal security.

First Assignments:

1st PC Zone:

Joy Cabato, Sonny Divina, and VQ Querol were assigned to the 51st PC Bn. **Sonny Gutierrez** was assigned to the 1st PCZ after his three-year stint with the 55th PC Bn.

2nd PC Zone:

Ross Magsino

He was assigned to Task Force Isarog based in Albay.

3rd PC Zone:

Tiks Besas was assigned in Eastern Samar, **Alex Lapinid** in Cebu, **Omar Querubin** in Iloilo and **Denden Sanares** in Bacolod.

4th PC Zone:

George Ares, Tony Baquiran, Tony Billones, Pico Briones, Oca Calderon, Zondy Hizon, Sid Lapeña, Dick Quinto, Pigoy Peregrino and **Tony Torres** were all assigned to the 57th PC Hunter Battalion, a newly organized unit particularly deployed in the northern part of Cotabato bordering Lanao del Sur

After a year or so, **Ding Reyes**, from a previous assignment in Luzon, joined us in 4th PCZ and assigned to the intelligence unit, the 4th Constabulary Security Unit. **George Ares** and **Tony Billones** joined him later in this unit.

PC Brigade:

Tito Angcanan was assigned to the 56th PC Bn; **Rey Osia** and **Marlowe Pedregosa** were assigned to the 1st PC BCT. They were all deployed in Western Mindanao, **Tito** in Zamboanga and **Sulu** and **Rey** and **Marlowe** in Tawi-tawi.

Sonny Gutierrez was assigned to the 55th PC Ranger Bn and deployed in Isabela and Aurora.

Presidential Security Command:

The snappy trio, "tall, dark and handsome" **Mario Hilario, Cliff Noveras** and **Ed Saporsantos** were assigned to the Presidential Guards Battalion.

Eventually, the PC classmates were assigned to the different territorial units or commonly known as local or provincial commands. Some were assigned to specialized units like the Special Action Force (SAF); Criminal Investigation Service (CIS); Constabulary Highway Patrol (CHP), known as TRAFCON; Narcotics Command (NARCOM) and the Constabulary Security Units (CSU). To disabuse your mind, those assigned to the different CSUs were not security guards but intelligence officers who contributed to the arrest, neutralization of terrorists and criminals and dismantling of their organizations and syndicates. As we went up the promotion and position ladder, we were assigned alternately to administrative and operational offices as staff officers and commanders of units based all over the country.

For us who were with the 4th PC Zone, we were reassigned to different commands. **George Ares** to the 4th CSU based in Zamboanga City, **Tony Baquiran** to North Cotabato based in Kidapawan, **Tony Billones** to Maguindanao based in Cotabato City, **Pico Briones** went back to Manila, **Oca Calderon** to South Cotabato based in General Santos City, **Zondy Hizon** to Task Force Bagay based in Jolo, Zulu, **Sid Lapeña** to Davao del Sur based in Davao City, **Dick Quinto** to 56th PC Bn joining **Tito Angcanan, Pigoy Peregrino** to Sultan Kudarat based in Isulan and **Tony Torres** to Davao Norte based in Tagum.

Specifically noteworthy to share were the assignments of eight PC Maagap to the PMA, namely; **Tito Angcanan, George Ares, Tiks Besas, Oca Calderon, Mario Hilario, Rey Osia, Ding Reyes, and Denden Sanares**. They were either instructors, tactical officers or assigned to different offices. I presume, the assignment of this batch of PC cavaliers coming from one class, the class of 1973 who were assigned there almost at the same time, was unusual episode of the class history and even perhaps of PMA. When we were first class cadets, there were only one or two PC cavaliers who were with the tactics group although the PMA Superintendent was a PC, **Brig General Ernesto Gidaya '51** who later on became the Commander of the 4th PC Zone covering the whole of Mindanao.

The Rite of Passage

The Muslim rebellion in Mindanao that the MNLF started in the later months in 1972 and the emerging CPP/NPA necessitated the deployment of more military units and personnel in Mindanao. So we found the fifteen (15) of us including **Joy Cabato**, who opted to stay with the 51st PC Bn when the Bn was deployed from 1st PC Zone to Jolo, Sulu.

Not to be outdone were the PC classmates who were assigned in Luzon and Visayas who were also involved in the fight against the CPP/NPA and criminality. Notably, **Sonny Gutierrez** who led his platoon fighting the CPP/NPA in the Sierra Madre range from Isabela to Aurora, **Tiks Besas** as Intelligence Officer in Samar and Leyte and **Ross Magsino** as Junior officer in Bicol where the CPP/NPA were active.

First week in June 1973, the ten of us who were assigned to 4th PC Zone got a thoughtful concern from the highest leadership. No less than **Gen Fidel Ramos**, the Chief PC then, met us in his office and after a short pep talk, we were told to report to the Commanding General, Constabulary Support Command who gave us our commercial one - way plane ticket, an automatic Carbine and cal .45 pistol.

The following day at dawn, we were already on our 3-hour flight to Cotabato aboard a twin prop plane. Young, slim and cadet-faced 2nd Lieutenants boarding a commercial plane in fatigue uniform and shiny combat boots with a combat pack at their back, a duffle bag in tow, a carbine slung on their shoulders and a holstered pistol on their waists were observably a welcome sight to the civilian passengers whom I presumed it's their first time to see these many young officers boarding together in one plane. The pilot even came out to greet us and the beautiful and young lady cabin crew noticeable concern shown to us made us relax during the flight. After landing at Awang Airport, no one talked about the flight or about the stewardesses that could have tickled a flirtatious cadet mind but everyone was seemingly quiet. In my deep thought then I knew and realized that each one was thinking deeply about their girlfriends and family left behind and the awaiting life in the battlefield.

Lt Rey Velasco, '71, the 57th PC Bn Operations Officer, met us at the airport and after loading our duffle bags on the trucks and before boarding the helicopters that would ferry us to Camp Parang, he brought us to a nearby Army Detachment whose Commander was his classmate. Oh, what a sight! – a detachment in a dugout with running trenches all around. Seeing this, I could just reflect in silence, "This is now our life".

On our first night at Camp Parang, now named Camp Brigadier General Salipada Pendatun, we were received by the Zone Commander **Gen Mario Espina '51**, 57th PC Bn Commander, **Lt Col Roger Deinla '62**, and the whole members of the General Staff with dinner and drinks. The drinking was much more than an airborne training prop blast ceremony. What I remember now is, the day after, everyone overslept, had hangover, missed the briefing and aerial orientation of the Battalion operational area.

Camp Parang was a newly established headquarters of the 4th PC Zone that was transferred from Camp Evangelista in Cagayan de Oro. Our battalion was also based here. Located on a rolling terrain, with some roads still unpaved and muddy, it has a scenic view of the Illana Bay from the officers' quarters. The only inspiration we had was watching the sunset, while drinking bottles of beer. Cost of beer was 18 pesos and 20 pesos if ice cold per case.

Being new, facilities were limited. No nighttime entertainment, but bowling and billiard. There were two decent and secured restos near the wharf but with our meager salary, we could not afford it. There were only two Officers' quarters, one for company grade and the other for field grade and surprisingly, one small dining area. Almost all the officers stayed in these quarters eating and drinking together and of course as new 2Lts, we were captured listeners to the stories of the senior officers. Only the Zone Commander, the two Deputies and the Chief of Staff had separate quarters. I still remember that we contributed one peso a day for our meals yet still we had enough food. Maybe, the headquarters subsidized the food expense. That

was our life and indeed, in this camp, we experienced the closeness and camaraderie of officers.

I believed the PC classmates assigned in other Commands were also well received with much enthusiasm whose Commanders and officers alike have been noted to this day, for their spirit of fellowship.

From the very first assignment, we went through our own journey, sometimes faster than the others, some stumbled over a hurdle, slowed down over a hump, and discerningly held back before a seemingly insurmountable obstacle. But somewhere along the way, we met and crossed each other's path and travelled altogether again. Come to think of all these challenges, 50 years after, we can now declare as I quote Shakespeare, "All's well that ends well."

Reminiscences

Tito Angcanan

He was original member of the 56th PC Bn, the first to be organized for deployment in Mindanao as Strike Force under the newly activated PC Brigade. He was first deployed in Zamboanga Peninsula but the Bn was transferred to Sulu, because of the need for more troops to counter and address a more serious MNLF rebellion in the area. He jointly conducted several operations with the Army's 24th and 14th Inf Bn and with the Phil Marines. In these operations, he had casualties in his unit that he sometimes recalls emotionally even to this day. He saw them fell wounded and dying.

He had grown his hair shoulder length for lack of time to see a barber and had a bath only when there was a stream along the way. He and his men experienced subsisting on boiled kamoteng kahoy and fruits they found in the patrol areas for days.

For lack of food and other supplies, his men were already low - morale as his request had not been acted upon. While awaiting the food resupply, he temporarily established his operational base in Brgy Bandang, Talipao, Sulu. The unexpected arrival of **Zondy Hizon**, who was assigned with Task Force Bagay, bringing food supply for Tito's unit was a welcoming sight, more so, when he saw Zondy armed with M-14 rifle sitting by himself atop the supplies loaded in an open supply cart pulled and escorted by two V-150 armored vehicles. This episode lifted the fighting spirit of his men and highlighted Zondy's sense of duty amidst the dangers along the way. Two classmates had a good loud laugh after seeing each other after awhile and under this circumstance.

Tito is amused as he recalls now his trip with me and other senior officers to Buguias, Benguet to inspect the PNP unit thereat. Aboard a van, we travelled for three hours via the unpaved, bumpy, narrow and winding Halsema Highway, with deep ravine on one side and landslide – prone mountain slopes on the other side. He was jokingly telling us, "We were able to get out of Mindanao safe and alive but it would be tragic to die if we fall down the ravine or be buried by a landslide". However, our immediate concern was how to overtake trucks fully loaded with chicken manure as we endured the irritating smell. The better part of the trip was a picture of the team taken beside the marker, indicating the highest point of Philippine highways system, 7,400 ft above sea level.

We brought several boxes of Mister Donut as pasalubong for the personnel. Our lunch was upland rice and pinikpikan, in fact my first time to taste this Cordilleran food.

Tito is a singer always ready to give his rendition of his favorite songs by Elton John's "Skyline Pigeon" or "Can't You Feel The Love Tonight." But he prefers listening to Whitney Houston's songs while leisurely lounging on his lazy boy and when he is running his usual 10 km distance with his Walkman.

Tito has been breeding Pomeranians after retirement and recently he started breeding African lovebirds as a hobby.

Tiks Besas

He was assigned first in Borongan, Eastern Samar as junior officer of the 364th PC Co. Later on, he was transferred to the 3rd CSU as its team leader covering the Eastern Visayas region. While cruising the

San Bernardino Strait as Intelligence officer, he found himself at the southern shoreline of Bicol for another adventure but similar challenges. These two regions were not only hotbeds of the growing CPP/NPA and also considered the most typhoon-ravaged areas during those years. He was designated as junior officer of the 256th PC Co based in Irosin, Sorsogon. With this assignment, he was then transferred to 2nd PC Zone from 3rd PC Zone. Wanting to find his true north in the service, he got assigned as chief, Production Branch, Zone Intelligence Staff of both 2nd PC Zone and Police Regional Office 4A. But then, he was assigned back to the territorial units, commanding one after the other, two PC Companies, the 215th, based in Rosario, Cavite and the 264th, based in Brookes Point, Palawan. He was also assigned to the PMA as Instructor of social sciences subjects and as Battalion Tactical Officer.

Tiks went through all the major assignments, in the field of operations and intelligence; and in logistics and personnel that undoubtedly prepared him to occupy greater command responsibility. But he retired 13 years before his compulsory retirement; that could have been long enough for him to get the silver stars pinned on his shoulders. At the moment he filed his optional retirement, he finally found his true north – to be with his family in the USA.

When classmates meet, they usually bond over a good meal and overflowing drinks. That happened to **Tiks, Zondy Hizon, Marlowe Pedregosa** and navy pilot **Tanciong Jardiniano** as Tiks recalls now.

Tiks, Zondy and Marlowe were assigned together in Region 4A headquarters based in Lucena City. One day, Tanciong piloting a navy chopper was on mission to survey the coastal areas of the region but he landed first at the regional headquarters. He invited the three to join him and they obliged. After the survey, Zondy invited them to a dinner and the usual drink afterwards. Zondy asked Tanciong how many bottles could he consume. Tanciong replied, "Five bottles of beer would be enough", maybe not knowing that beer grande is new in the market. So Zondy ordered 5 bottles of beer grande. Tanciong confidently consumed it all. They were happy and enjoyed the night only that Tanciong walked out of the restaurant as Tiks described it *suray* suray. The morning after, Tanciong took off on time, safe and sound.

Tony Billones

I was ambushed twice, but the one that happened on 13 June 1973, five days after I reported for duty to the Battalion was the more tragic and traumatic. In my platoon of 21 men, we had seven who died instantly, 11 wounded, and three unhurt. I was also unhurt and **Pigoy Peregrino** was wounded but not seriously.

This is the story. At early dawn, a weapons platoon detachment of the Combat Support Company was under attack and in imminent danger of being overrun. It should be defended because the men manning the det could not abandon two 81 mm mortars, two 60 mm mortars, one cal 50 and one cal 30 machine guns, all scarce armaments. My platoon was tasked to reinforce the det and jointly, successfully repulsed the Muslim rebels. After helping in the strengthening the physical defense of the det, and even without breakfast and lunch, my platoon boarded a 6x6 truck to return to our Battalion Headquarters past 12 o'clock noon.

Just as we were starting to drive down the road, Pigoy who was assigned in a nearby det, unexpectedly came running, wanting to hitch a ride. I gave my seat to him as I was seated at the farthest end and took my seat on pile of boxes. I'm puzzled until now, thinking of the coincidence. Was Pigoy my guardian Angel? I believed he was.

Minutes later, we were ambushed. My men armed with cal 30 M1, few M-14s and one BAR and with my carbine with two 15-round cap magazines, fought it out but no match to the rebels' Fals and G1s. Burst of gun fires seemed unending as if they occupied a long stretch of the road in a place then undeclared "no-man's land". Then our truck crashed on the hilly side of the road, a less than a kilometer away from **Sid Lapeña's** det. While Sid was moving to reinforce us, he and his men also outnumbered, were also under enemy fire. For two hours, we were at the ambush site, fighting the enemy and waiting to

be beheaded. The full force of the Battalion arrived. Finally, we were extricated.

While **Tito** was eating kamoteng kahoy, I had the first taste of durian and marang that were abundant in my AOR, and the unknown and wild “pako” garnished with salt and vinegar only to find out in later years that it has become an expensive salad served in well-known restaurants.

One day, after over extending our stay in the det for five days, with no more food but halazone tablet-treated water, we were finally relieved, I brought my whole platoon on board a 6x6 truck to a restaurant. But it became an unfortunate incident. The truck lost its brake, went over the elevated entrance and into the restaurant, running over the chairs and tables and the food shelf before it stopped. The Battalion Logistics Officer arrived as he was ordered by **Lt. Col Deinla**, our Bn Comdr to settle everything and to pay for the meals we ate in a nearby carinderia.

Lightly thinking of the risk and danger, I performed my first airborne jump at Awang airport in 1975 without the formal training but only after a five-minute warm-up exercise and several repetitions of the PLF from atop of an avgas drum to start my training with the PC skydiving Team under then **Capt Franco Calida**. After several jumps, I had to join the DND BAC for the authority to wear the airborne wings.

I had also several experiences with military aircrafts, three of which I am mentioning. In one incident, I was aboard a beaver plane that overshot the runway when it landed in Buayan airport in General Santos City. In another, the Heli that was flying Region 11 PC/INP Commander **Gen Romeo Reciña’57** and me as his Regional Operations Officer, from Davao City to Gen Santos City had an emergency landing on a muddy fishpond in Santa Cruz, Davao Del Sur, a known NPA lair. Gen Reciña had no firearm, I had my cal .38 snub-nose special, the Aide had cal .45 pistol and the heli crew had the two M-60s to give us a good fight just in case the NPAs appeared.

But this one was an afterthought terrifying. When I was the Commanding Officer in General Santos City, I had a scheduled aerial look-see over the areas where we planned to operate and I was already on board the heli, its engine running ready to take off, but the other heli would not start. So, I was advised by the pilot to disembark because the heli would fly to Cotabato City to fetch aircraft mechanics. It immediately lifted up, flew over our headquarters building and suddenly it crashed just outside the camp. The heli was totally damaged but the pilots and crew were safe. I heard our soldiers in their loud voices, “Nakasakay si CO, nakasakay si CO”, but to their surprise, they saw me supervising the cordoning of the crash site and the evacuation of the pilots and crew to the hospital.

As Provincial Director, I was made an adopted son of Nueva Ecija by virtue of a Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution taking into account of my unifying efforts and peaceful resolution of perennial political conflict and violence that marred previous elections. How I did it? I kept my distance but approachable in my dealing with the politicians and their leaders and would decide firmly to gain every one’s respect. If there were any hint of disorder and violence, I would confront it with my full force. I also immersed with the community and religious leaders for their support. As a result, no election related violent incident happened during the election period in 1998.

Sonny Divina

He was the Executive Officer of 511st Company, 51st PC Bn when he led an operation against the traditional communist terrorists, the (HUKBALAHAP) in the area of Santa Ana – San Luis – Candaba towns in Pampanga that resulted in the neutralization of Ka Mandy and his members. He continued to operate in other areas to dislodge the communist group from their lairs especially in the rural areas.

After his successful stint with the Bn, he was supposed to be reassigned to Isabela Provincial Command. Unfortunately, for no reason, he was not accepted by the Provincial Commander. As a consequence, he found himself on floating status. But thinking on the positive side, Sonny was not alone but many if not all PC Maagap

passed through this leadership dysfunction that had been happening in any level of rank and position.

His status however was a blessing in disguise. The Zone Commander assigned him to Nueva Ecija, to help in organizing and employing three additional PC Companies in addition to the two existing Companies. This assignment brought him to his home province, nearer to his family and to the decision makers at the Zone Headquarters. Sonny may have known that nearer to the hqs means two things: you would be always visited; and have the chance to be heard and seen.

With his principled - driven attitude, Sonny wanted to do more but he could not, so he left the service and settled with his family in Seattle, Washington. He worked in the education sector in Seattle. He had to strive transitioning from make shift det or prefab hqs to sophisticated classrooms and offices; from sugar cane and rice fields to football fields and manicured playgrounds and parks; from leading armed soldiers to guiding school children; from a daily wear of khaki or fatigue with Sam Browne belt and combat boots to coat with tie and hush puppies pair of shoes. Culture shocked? No 100% sure for Sonny has the attribute to easily immerse to any group or community. In fact he was a leading organizer of Fil-Am association in Seattle and ever active in its activities.

He was Commander of the Bataan Corregidor Survivors Association and their Families Foundation, an association organized to foster better and closer relationship among descendants of Filipino and Filipino-American soldiers. **Del Lorenzana**, then Chief of the Veterans Affairs, Phil Embassy in Washington DC and **Samy Bagasin**, then DND Undersecretary were guest speakers during two separate events. Notably, through his leadership and initiative, the Association was able to install the WW2 Day of Valor Bataan Corregidor Marker inside the Dr. Jose Rizal Park in Seattle.

Sonny and Lauren have always been the accommodating hosts to classmates and cavaliers visiting Seattle.

Sonny Gutierrez

When I started to gather information about the first assignment of each PC classmate, no one could give me an answer of Sonny’s. Though with much hesitancy knowing fully well of his medical condition, I asked him directly through a personal message. So appreciative and admirable that he responded immediately. Much more, when he mentioned, “He is in his hospital bed, preparing for operation and when he gets well, he will do more for the class.” He stated it well a statement, so touching and inspiring for the class – a manifest of his sense of belongingness and kindness. Indeed, the amiable Sonny has been always attending class activities and active in fund raising.

The first assignment of Sonny was unknown to all of us because he was deployed immediately after graduation with the 55th PC Ranger Bn based in Jones, Isabela. He was designated as platoon leader of the 552nd PC Ranger Co that conducted tactical operations in the Sierra Madre Mountain range against the NPAs. Sonny and his platoon conducted regular tactical patrols, encountered and engaged the NPAs in firefights resulting in casualties on both sides and surely more on the enemy side. After a year, his unit was relocated to Dinadiawan, Maria Aurora, to address the growing NPAs terrorist activities that included beheading Brgy officials, and rolling the heads inside public markets. The NPAs were so active that three additional PC Companies were deployed in the area to augment his unit. He was also assigned as intelligence officer of the Battalion doing undercover operations.

After three years in Isabela and Aurora, he was reassigned to 1st PC Zone. As we always say in the military, “He was then back to civilization from the Sierra Madre mountain range to the vast plains of Central Luzon.

Alex Lapinid

He was then the Commanding Officer of 268th PC Co based in San Jose, Mindoro Occidental when a Writ of Habeas Corpus case was

filed against him before the Presiding judge of the Regional Trial Court. The PC Regional Judge Advocate failed to send a lawyer to defend him. He defended himself and after several hearings, the Judge dismissed the case. In his resolution, the Judge also commended Alex, despite being not a lawyer, he was able to discuss, argue and convince the court for its merit.

When the PC was deactivated and reorganized as the nucleus of the PNP, this new police agency assumed the stature of a civilian character thus the Civil Service Commission (CSC) ruled that the PNP should be subjected to its rules and regulations including the administration of promotional and qualifying examination. NAPOLCOM, the commission that has been supervising the police forces even before the integration, has been administering this required examination. In the end however, the CSC took over, required senior police officers to take the CSEE exam. Alex and two other PNP classmates passed the exam. Noticing the low passing rate, NAPOLCOM with the favorable consent of CSC, took back the administration of the examination.

With no assignment for five long years, from 1987 to 1992, he was able to recover, renewed his dedication to the service and steadily climbed the promotion and position ladder and he got the 2-star rank before retirement.

Ross Magsino

At the start of his career, he was platoon leader assigned to PC Task Force Isarog, tasked to operate against the CPP/NPAs in the Bicol region. Later on, he transferred to 52nd PC Bn as Intelligence and Operations Officer. He was also a Company commander of one of its operating Companies. He led tactical operations and peace - keeping activities in Bicol region where the CPP/NPAs were active. He stayed in Bicol long enough to like eating laing and Bicol express while watching Mt Mayon in Legaspi City. But he never had the opportunity to meet his Daragang Magayon. In later years, he was the Bn Comdr of the 4th Regional Special Action Force based in Calauan, Laguna. He was also the Deputy and Ex-O of Task Force Mina de Oro based in Oriental Mindoro. The Task Force was organized in response to the escalating CPP/NPA atrocities in Mindoro.

Like many of us, he got assigned to provincial commands, designated as Commanding Officer of 213rd PC Co in Marinduque and 216th PC Co in Batangas. He was also Assistant Provincial Commander of Batangas Provincial command.

In 1986, he was sent to Alabama, USA to take the Military Police Course. Attending training courses abroad, especially in the USA, was regarded by many as reward for officers for their meritorious service.

But the more rewarding for him was his designation as Police Provincial Director of Batangas for two years. It was uncommon for one in the PC/PNP to be assigned in his home province occupying various positions for cumulative years of almost a decade.

For us who knew Ross, the most rewarding for him was when he married Janet Sison in 1991 after enduring 18 long years of bachelorhood.

When he first met Janet, the beautiful, lovable and talented singer several years earlier, he was awakened from his subconscious feeling. This time he met the lady he admired and loved. He persistently pursued and formally courted Janet, in fact for more than seven years. I didn't know that the favorite song of Ross was Julio Iglesias's "To all the girls I've loved before" that always elicited the caring smile from Janet not for its title and the lyrics but for the 100% score he got every time he sang it. That was Ross. He finally felt the wonderful meaning of "to love and be loved" especially when he would listen to Janet singing, "I love you for sentimental reason," by Linda Ronstadt, "Moon River" by Andy Williams, and "For Once in My Life" by Stevie Wonder.

Pigoy Peregrino

He may be the only AFP/PC/PNP officer who was wounded three times in three separate incidents. He was wounded in an ambush in Parang, Cotabato, in an ambush in Lambayong, Sultan Kudarat and when he was attacked while he was in his farm in Alcala, Pangasinan.

In his first ambush, he was with the 57th PC Bn contributing his share defending our country, particularly in this part of Mindanao, from the atrocities being committed by Muslim rebels. In the second ambush, he was in pursuit of his love life, and the third bullet wounds he got was during the attack on him while he was defending his rights over his farm, the only principal source of income after retirement.

After his first ambush in 1973, he returned to Mindanao after recuperating in the hospital and got assigned in the newly created province of Sultan Kudarat. He was based in Isulan, the capital town, but he found himself immersed in the Ilocano - speaking town of Lambayong where he met Thelma.

During the ambush, he was alone, wounded but was able to crawl under cover of the early evening darkness until he reached the house of Thelma who with her parents took care of him until he was evacuated to Cotabato Regional Hospital. He married Thelma in a simple ceremony in Lambayong with **Sid Lapeña** who was then assigned in nearby Koronadal City as his Best Man, both of them with a cal .45 tucked on their waists.

His life story maybe considered an undiscovered material for a blockbuster biopic. How he persistently pursued his heart desire overcoming all the odds and challenges.

When he was already retired, he was attacked while he was in his farm. He was wounded, hid and crawled along the farm embankments until he found himself in a safe distance. Two days after, he was in my office in Camp Crame and I brought him to the Hospital for treatment. Pigoy has been leisurely tending his farm for a long time without a cellphone, a gadget he believed, a distraction and stress to his simple life.

Pigoy holds the record among Maagap classmates for having 10 children, 24 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Who can beat that!!

Vidal 'VQ' Querol, the General and Ambassador to Indonesia

From his deployments in Sierra Madre and Zambales, he was assigned as Detachment Commander of Clark Air Base in 1975 - an assignment which was ocean of difference in culture and work conditions. There he compelled US servicemen just like any other person to abide to the curfew. Somehow this angered the Base authorities, and in one security conference, his attention was called that such policy might not favor granting him the usual PX privileges. Quickly he replied, **"I have lived for more than 25 years without eating US goods and expected to live happily far more years than twice without such goods"**, a statement that gained respect from his superiors and Clark Air Base authorities and the continued adherence to curfew by everyone.

From then on, there was palpable respect in the work relations and collaborations of PC and the USAF security authorities: USAF to take care of Clark Air Base rules and regulations while the PC will enforce all laws without fear or favor outside the base. This kind of relationship extended when VQ was posted as Commander PC Security Group, US Naval Station, Subic.



VQ visiting his Aeta detachment in Payudpod, San Marcelino.

Carrying the wounded in the line of enemy fire, 1978

In March 1978, he shoulder-carried his wounded soldier in the line of fire, felt the soldier's warm blood soaking his back and heard his dying moan. **"Carrying the limp body of my wounded soldier with his blood dripping on my shoulder was one memorable experience as junior officer; how injured soldier's heavy moan and the soaking warm blood of the dying on the shoulder of the living amidst enemy fire thickened the bond among soldiers. He was Constable**

1st Class Reynaldo Viri, PC.” C1C Reynaldo Viri eventually died in the same combat area in Mabalacat, Pampanga. What followed was his first eulogy to a fallen soldier before his young family and community; it was totally heartrending. And since then, the love and fidelity of the officer to the soldier, more than ever, have been safely deposited in his heart, and profusely manifested in his relationship with subordinates in all the years that came. ***We are the soldiers, the patriots, the unusual bunch of Filipino mortals willing to die for the Motherland. What the heck!***



In the 1980s, he was assigned in several political hotbeds to stabilize the situation. First, in Cabanatuan City whose City Hall was burned, later in Olongapo-Zambales between political giants Gordon and Magsaysay and in Tarlac between Hacienda Luisita and Yap. VQ would later established a reputation as reliable can-do Officer. During the so-called EDSA Revolution, he joined the leadership of Col Hermogenes Ebdane, Jr of the Ramos faction and later joined Bataan PC in confronting the revitalized CPP/NPA which marched in the town of Abucay in the early months of Cory



presidency. Year 1989, months of January and February, as the Chief of Operations, Central Luzon PC, he organized and trained in Mexico, Pampanga the first CAFGU Bn to complement the notional Gen Cesar P Nazareno Mobile Brigade as counter-coup manœuvre force. The CAFGU Bn figured in combat operations against the NPA in Pampanga. It was hardening the CAFGU Bn. At one time, then Army Col Samonte in Camp Aquino, Tarlac reminded him that he should not be organizing such para-military unit, to no avail. He secretly had the coup in his mind. In September, he attended the Crisis Management and Hostage Negotiation Course under the Anti Terrorism Action Program of US Dept of State in Baton Rouge, New Orleans. After the training session, he flew in November to Toronto, Canada to visit siblings living there. Not long enough to enjoy the company of brothers and sisters, Gen Nazareno phoned him to take the first flight back to Manila. He knew there was an impending coup against President Cory Aquino. Upon arrival, he fine-tuned then mobilized the notional Nazareno Brigade and prepared to support the beleaguered GHQs AFP, Camp Aguinaldo. He split the Mobile Brigade in two groups and on signal, moved one group via Sapang Palay to avoid aerial detection while the second took the MacArthur highway. As the Nazareno Bde moved, the rebel planes were nowhere: what were in the skies were USAF Phantom F4 jets. He would later quipped, ***“When I saw the Phantom jets ruling the skies, I know by that time that USA has intervened and the rebel planes that buzzed Camp Olivas were grounded.”*** By nightfall the Nazareno Brigade, converged in vicinity Camp Karingal and Cubao area Quezon City. He then coordinated with Col Benjie Libarnes and was the first pro-Cory unit to reinforce and assumed defense of the beleaguered Camp Aguinaldo and the NCRDC on the same night. The rest was history and Gen Cesar P Nazareno became

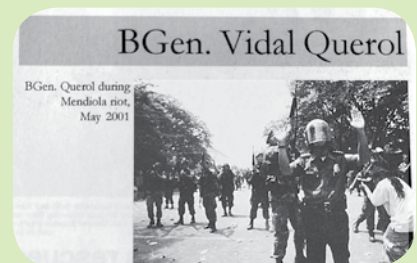
the last Chief, PC and the first Chief, PNP of President Cory Aquino. However, VQ was informed that he would be charged for robbery by ordering his troops to break the Camp Aguinaldo Post Commissary and hauled foodstuffs for the troops. Simply VQ retorted that truly he did order his men to get as much foods for the troops and at that time ***his acts were acts of war.*** The charge did not push through.

In 1990, he took the **US Army General Staff Course**, at Fort Leavenworth, USA. For the first time, he was with his entire family all day all night and felt the father and husband in himself to his family. Truly it was game changer and the best year of his life. This schooling was particularly significant for his assignment as Philippine Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Indonesia in 2007 because Indonesia President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was his classmate in that schooling in Ft Leavenworth, USA. In 1991, he organized the 2SAF Bn which he configured as anti-tank, anti-coup mobile Bn with special weapons such as dozens of M72 LAW anti-tank weapons and dozens of first in-country Barrett 50 cal anti armor rifles. Actually, he studied anti-tank tactics while studying in Ft Leavenworth.

During the **APEC 1996**, he was tasked to secure the delicate and high profile international event of World Leaders. He shunted the old CDC suited to Martial Law protest rallies and rolled out his concept of new CDM Civil Disturbance Management specially designed for present day high profile international events. ***“We have to adopt a new operational paradigm suited to address protest rallies and demonstrations on delicate, high profile international events. It is imperative to allow protesters to exercise their freedoms of expression and assembly in a peaceful and orderly manner, and always keeping in mind that utter violence and death during such civil disturbance may eclipse the opportunities and intended benefits of host country, the Philippines. Thus, de-escalation and prevention of tension and conflict avoidance between the security forces and the protesters must be planned.”*** The Querol CDM has been the police mechanism to address rallies and demonstrations. And CDM showed its efficacy and effectiveness during the **2001 Labor Day Siege of Malacañang** which VQ adroitly defeated.

Lifting the Labor Day Siege of Malacañang 2001

In 2001, as District Director, Northern Police District based in Caloocan City, he reconfigured his district as Civil Disturbance Management Force expecting deposed President Estrada to stage a comeback. Labor Day 01 May 2001, the Estrada forces launched in EDSA Shrine protest march with dump trucks as ramming heads against police barricades with the ultimate objective to take over Malacañang through similar ‘people power’. The protesters broke through the barricades and reached the Mendiola gate of Malacañang. When all efforts to dislodge the 50,000 protesters failed, President Arroyo through PSG Commander BGen Glenn Rabonza ordered VQ to take over the defense of Malacañang and lift the siege. With him were his two classmates, **Col Del Lorenzana** with his combat-ready unit as armed security force and **Police Col Sonny Gutierrez**, Director, Southern Police District taking the left flank. VQ assigned the right flank to **Police Col Rock Tor ’72**, Director, Central Police District and **Police Col Georgie Aliño ’72** of Eastern Police District. However, before VQ could start the operations, Georgie Aliño left for Camp Crame for conference. VQ, Rock Tor and Sonny Gutierrez set aside the order of Camp Crame and stayed at Malacañang to engage the rebellious mob. **Police BGen Fianza** was VQ negotiator in compliance to the Querol concept of the CDM. After 2 hours of maneuver, he finally dislodged the protesters from Malacañang gate and beyond the Mendiola bridge. He sent follow-on forces to disperse residual mobs which set on fire cars and equipment in nearby areas. The government was saved and order was restored. Interviewed in



Mendiola on ending the siege, **"With God's grace, we have defeated the rebellious mob, lifted the siege of Malacañang, and rendered the Republic safe and secure. If some were hurt in the process, I offer no alibi; definitely it was not premeditated but it happened in the heat of the moment. I regret the unintended consequence."**

It was after this incident that he instituted the use of container vans as security fortification in bridges and later in strategic areas when he was Director of Metro Manila Police. VQ was awarded the **Legion of Honor** by no less than Pres Arroyo and was assigned as Director for Operations at the national level. In the thick of these police operations, VQ and family launched the General Querol Scholarship Program in 2001 which started with the City of Malabon University and followed by similar program with



Ribbon cutting marking the opening of the Out-of-School Youth livelihood training on 23 May 2002 at Bgy Potrero Hall with head of local DSWD and Chairman Eddie Nolasco.



VQ with scholars under the Gen Querol Scholarship Program with City of Malabon University 2002.



Navotas Polytechnic University. On so many occasions, VQ and family visited several orphanages to share God's blessings.

Handbook "Three-Tiered Defense System Against Terrorism"

As Director for Operations, he studied the Rizal Day 2000 Metro Manila terrorist bombings and similar incidents in Southern Philippines; and having no relevant reference material on the matter VQ crafted the Handbook "Three-Tiered Defense System Against Terrorism" as the national framework in crisis management following terrorism and other serious incidents. It was a handbook written in Davao City while on field inspection in the aftermath of the airport terrorist bombing. Also in the campaign against drugs and criminality, his team crafted the national Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPAT) which was nationwide expansion of VQ Manila Traffic and Peacekeeping Action Team (MATAPAT), he earlier organized as Deputy District Commander of Manila City Police.

As a master parachutist, in two incidents out of more than 1000 jumps, he cut his crippled main parachute and opened his reserve to save himself from deathly plunge. In another incident, while on final landing in Gen Natividad, Nueva Ecija, the trailing edge of the main chute caught fire on a low-lying high tension wire, with presence of mind, he immediately cut the main chute away to a low free fall. The trailing edge burned but he got out unscathed. As Chief, Metro Manila Police, he also performed the first zip-line across the Pasig River from the Guadalupe seminary billboard. He stepped on the breach when the civilian performer faltered, injured himself and was rushed to Ospital ng Makati for broken ribs.

VQ as Commander of the Thousands

He was Commander of Regional Police forces in Central Luzon, Western Mindanao and Metro Manila. These were his famous words, on sacrifice versus duty: **"I do not desire your sacrifice, I demand however that you perform your sworn duty in service to the community and people. If at all in exceptional circumstance that you have to sacrifice, it should never be for me but for our country."** On police service: **"There is no forced servitude in the police service; it has always been voluntary service, none has been conscripted nor drafted but every police element sought to be one. The police service provides more opportunities to be of service to fellow beings; the police helps the elderly or toddler to cross busy street, brings justice to the weak when trodden by the strong and mighty, herds to safety the stranded during disaster and calamity, protects the young from the evil of crimes and drugs, and brings home the missing and the lost."**

When VQ took over Camp Olivas, it had been flooded and people had to paddle boat to reach the Police Regional Hqs, **"I can not rest with my Hqs isolated from the community, and our church wasted in floods; I will elevate the roads and raise the church beyond the torment of floods so ordinary people can easily reach me and also practice the faith."**

And all were done in fitting ceremony which was graced by the presence of family friend Ambassador Henrietta 'Tita' de Villa, Archbishop Paciano Aniceto of San Fernando and Archbishop Ramon Arguelles, former Military Ordinary. As Commander of Western Mindanao, he inculcated the concept of a just and reasonable war that should differentiate the terrorist from law enforcers at all times. On terrorism, **"We have to pursue the terrorists not out of vengeance for the loss of limb, life and property. Our responses must always emanate from rightful authority to enforce the law, bring justice to the victims and perform the duty to protect the community from further acts of terrorism. This differentiates the law enforcer from the terrorist."**

Taking the leadership of Metro Manila police, VQ often reminded every police element, **"where Metro Manila goes, there goes the entire country"** because it holds the seat of power, the center of commerce, trade and business and hub of international relations and diplomacy."

VQ and the challenges of Metro Manila not like any other

The Hello Garci tapes and the Guadalupe Seminary standoff: **"The longer Sgt Doble is holed up inside the Seminary, the more deprivation, pain and anxieties descend upon the wife and children."**



Pres Arroyo gave the Legion of Honor Award to VQ.



VQ as acolyte in Vatican Chapel.



I ask the Seminary to quickly heed the call of the family to set their father free. Then the Hyatt-10 bunch of political merchants which likewise failed: ***"This bunch of merchants who sang song of fidelity to Pres Arroyo last week and now plots to oust her must be repudiated by the people, they lack honesty."*** VQ took the full measure of BP 880 or the Public Assembly Act of 1985 in all these mass rallies and demonstrations. At one point on live TV debate when Sen Saguisag claimed it was dead law of Martial Law period, ***"Mr Senator, BP 880 was never dead, it only slept and now is awoken. And why do i still enforce a law of Martial Law period? I do not enforce the law on the basis of historicity or presidency; I enforce all laws with equal fervor and impartiality whether of the colonial, commonwealth, Roxas, Marcos, Cory, Ramos government. I do not have the power to amend or repeal the law; it solely rests on the Congress. Those who abhor BP 880 as illegal, please do not challenge it on the street under the heat of the sun, rather assail its constitutionality under the cold impartiality and wisdom of the court."*** The Supreme Court declared BP 880 was constitutional.

In February 2006, the late President Cory Aquino and her cohorts marched to Fort Bonifacio to link up with coup leader Marine Col Ariel Querubin in an attempt to bring down the Arroyo government. He assigned a Police Sergeant intentionally, with instructions to tell the group, "Sabi po ni Gen Querol, hindi puede pumasok sa Ft Bonifacio dahil may gulo po sa loob." The late President and her group could not join the rebellious troops despite their insistence. With the so-called People Power unable to muster, the late Pres Cory and group went home and the coup collapsed. ***"In the past, I supported Pres Cory government against several coups because of my loyalty to the Constitution. This time the same loyalty to the Constitution frustrated Pres Cory's attempt to oust the government of President Gloria Arroyo. I gave personal orders on my troops manning Ft Bonifacio gate to stop Pres Cory and her group from joining the rebellious units of the Philippine Marines inside."***

In 2007, VQ through insistent regards of the sitting Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono became our country Ambassador to Indonesia. A year later, fellow Ambassadors elected him as the **Chairman of ASEAN Foundation** which supported ASEAN goals mainly in promoting awareness, identity and unity, interaction and development of the peoples of ASEAN. It handled millions of dollars of several Endowment Funds, Operational Funds and Project Funds from various international Partners and member countries. Another feather in the PC group of Maagaps.

As civilian VQ, he was the Chairman and President of the Republic Defenders which together with the San Miguel Corporation (SMC) as Partner launched in 2018 its maiden search of Outstanding Women in Law Enforcement and National Security (OWLENS). It culminated in March 2019 at the Heroes Hall, Malacañang Palace with Pres Rodrigo Roa Duterte as Guest of Honor and Speaker of the Awarding Ceremony.



Ambassador VQ presenting his Letter of Credence to Indonesia President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and below inaugurating the first Indonesia-Philippines Friendship Library.



VQ as Chairman and President of Project OWLENS during Awarding Ceremony in Malacañang March 2019.

Project OWLENS is all about exemplary women who fulfill RD advocacies of women empowerment, good governance and caring of the environment. For year 2022, the Search has begun looking at the pandemic as the most serious threat to national security. VQ as Trustee of the Philippine Council for Foreign Relations (PCFR), joined the Philippine Team to Beijing in 2018 and in 2019 organized the Roundtable Dialogue with the Chinese People's Institute for Foreign Affairs (CPIFA) at the Philippine International Convention Center and engaged China in track-2 bilateral discussion on the issues and challenges of the West Philippine Sea and the South China Sea. Concluding in both the 2018 and 2019 Dialogue,

"China and the Philippines must handle the issues of the South China Sea with maturity and responsibility to avoid conflict. South China Sea must be Zone of Cooperation for Peace and Development for all nations of the region." VQ Concluding Statement China-Philippines RTD October 2018 Beijing and at the PICC Manila 2019.



VQ as Chairman and CEO, PMAAAI "To be feted with special honor by your Alma Mater as its alumnus is the most rewarding and humbling personal experience; it completes the circle of life, as cadet in closeted environment, to the 50 years of journey of life in real world with family and country. Especially fulfilling one moment is when I rode the legendary white parade vehicle in review of the Cadet Corps Armed Forces of the Philippines rapped in attention in spectacular parade formation in the hallowed grounds of Borromeo field. In that one moment I see in the cadet faces, my own face when I was cadet like them - I was looking sternly more than 50 years ago at the very important person on the white parade vehicle



Groundbreaking Ceremony of the PMAAAI building March 2022.



Being the Chairman and CEO of PMAAAI is the ultimate payback of Alumnus to our dear Alma Mater.

passing by, and now I am that person riding in the vehicle, nodding in acknowledgement to the cadets and my part in the glorious history of PMA. Truly the Philippine Military Academy prepared me to be an Officer and Gentleman of consequence, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Chairman of ASEAN Foundation, Chairman of Republic Defenders but most of all Chairman and CEO of the PMAAAI.

God made it happen for me, my family and country. To God be the glory!" VQ

These are the PMA Maagap Class '73 who joined the Philippine Constabulary. They had proudly carried the banner with its inscribed motto "Always Outnumbered; Never Outfought" and they had also internalized



VQ skydiving sortie.



VQ on the Swilcan bridge Royal and Ancient St Andrews Old Course and with Ms Yuka Saso, Champion of US Ladies Open.



such character and feelings throughout their service especially when they were already at the top echelon of leadership of the PNP with its motto "To Serve and Protect" as their guiding light. And beyond the uniformed service.



VQ holding his winning Bonsai conferred by the Bonsai Conference, Inc.

THE MAAGAP AIR FORCE GROUP (by: Jose Reyes)

Clear blue skies and fair winds was the prevailing weather on March 25, 1973 as ten MAAGAPs joined the ranks of the airmen who would not only conquer the skies but someday, would shape the future of the Air Force.

Joe Reyes, Tony Anciano, Dido Peleo, Chris Datu, Romy Alamillo, Gem Jimenez, Lito Hernandez, Rody Luis, Val Prudencio and later on, Jun Baula were the ten Maagaps who joined the Air Force. Our Air Force careers varied after graduating from the PAF Flying School on July 15, 1975. Turning back the hands of time, each one of us got assigned in field/tactical units before we started our flying careers. Joe Reyes and Jun Baula were hooked in Northeastern Luzon and served at Composite Air Support Force (CASF) Northeastern Command (NOREASCOM) in Echague, Isabela. Tony Anciano was at CASF Bicol in Legaspi City and Dido Peleo in CASF Palawan and then to Sangasanga. Romy Alamillo, Gem Jimenez and Chris Datu were assigned in Cotabato, Val Prudencio with PAF's Dahong Palay Combat Group and Rody Luis and Lito Hernandez were in Jolo, where they experienced the real taste of bullets in the famous burning of Jolo.

Being assigned in the field after graduation offered each one of us opportunities that would, in later years, enhance our careers. We experienced joining flights either in helis (UH-1H), U-17 Dragon Fly and U-6A Beavers and sat in co-pilot seats, holding the controls at times and realistically flew those aircraft! This made our flying training in the PAF Flying School a lot easier, except perhaps Val and Rody who we knew rotted like the dickens in the UH-1H Specialization Training. We also worked with commanders and line pilots who later on became our mentors and in one way or another, helped in shaping our Air Force careers.

Our flying careers started on May 24, 1974 when we reported to the PAF Flying School to start our pre-flight academic training, Theories of Flight, Weather, Flight Planning, the confusing Di ... da ... di ... dit ... Morse Code, etc, rang into our ears. The presence of PMA Class 74 and others from the Direct and Reserve Commissions as our PAFFS classmates made our lives merrier and more bearable. After completing the Academic Phase came life at the flight line. In our Primary Flying Phase, we all flew the T-41D. During the Basic Phase, Val and Rody trained in the Hueys and Lito in U-6A Beaver Specialization Training at Sangley. The seven of us were earmarked to fly the Marchetti SF-260M for our Basic Training and for so many times in the later part of our training, we saw Terra Firma while in inverted position! Doing aerobatics was so exhilarating, with our blood and adrenaline on a high, and made us sleep soundly at night. What, with the so many "Gs" our bodies absorbed! July 15, 1975 marked our graduation from the PAFFS, as full-pledged pilots with the coveted wings stamped over our left breast.

Joe, Tony, Dido, Romy, Chris and Gem were pinpointed by then Brig Gen Ignacio Canto, Wing Commander, 100th Training Wing, to remain in Fernando Air Base to train and become Instructor Pilots. Jun Baula went to 5th Fighter Wing, Val and Rody to 205th Helicopter Wing and Lito Hernandez to 240th Composite Wing in Sangley Point. For years, we lived in the line, earned flying hours fast, and capitalized on it to gain desk jobs later on without the risk of being questioned regarding our flying time. Air Force policies then required pilots to at least be senior pilots with about 2500 flying hours before given a desk job in a non-flying unit, including PAF Headquarters.

All of us had varied assignments in the entire career sojourn. From admin, logistics, finance, operations, etc, we threaded those fields, and these made us more knowledgeable and experienced when we assumed various high-level offices and commands in later years. Rody and Lito opted to leave the service early. Dido met his fate in May 1988 when the Marchetti SF 260 he was flying, while on the traffic pattern at Loakan Airport, Baguio, crashed. He and his co-pilot perished instantly and were burned beyond recognition. Jun Baula became the Squadron Commander of the 6th Tactical Fighter (Blue Diamonds) Squadron, but met his fate at Camp Crame, Quezon City. He was shot, allegedly while trying to escape from detention for joining the 1989 Coup Attempt. The rest stayed in the service till their retirement, and garnered the stars!

Joe Reyes has the most flying time in our group and with Chris Datu, attained the highest rank. He flew the three trainers used at the PAF Flying School – the T-41D, SF-260M and SF-260TP. It was he, aware of the dwindling attack capability of the PAF, who had the SF-260 TP moved to 15th Strike Wing and converted to attack platform when he was the Chief of Air Staff, PAF. He also flew the UH-1H Huey, MG-520 attack heli and for long, the OV-10 Bronco Bomber. He was truly a flight addict!



He became the 28th Commanding General of the Air Force after serving as Chief of Air Staff, Wing Commander of 15th Strike Wing, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans J-5 and Deputy Chief of Staff for Comptrollership, J-6. As the CG, his battle cry was Join Up ... Power Up ... Do More With Less. Throughout his term as CG, PAF,



he greatly uplifted the combat capability of the PAF, developed the men and women of the PAF, and set the record on facilities repaired and built, and equipment operationalized. In the PAF and to the men then in Mindanao, he is more known as the Father of Rajah Buayan Air Station. He was the pioneering commander who converted the former Rajah Buayan Airport to an Air Force Base, used for training and deployment in Southern Mindanao. He served one of the longest terms as CG, PAF from July 4, 2004 – February 2, 2007. Joe is married to Tina, a CPA, with whom he has two children, Junjun, a businessman and married to Hazel, and father to Ensign Lemuel Adrian C. Reyes,

PMA Class 2020 with the PNSWAG; and Jingjing, a physician/internist, and married to then Major Ruben Felix Jr, now a pilot at HongKong Air Cargo. Joe and Tina are blessed with seven grandchildren. To date, Joe is busy on these things – his farms, his Aircraft Maintenance school in Angeles City, Pampanga, and his most important role, being a doting “Yoyo” to his apos, especially to Mary, the youngest of the apos and Yoyo’s apple of the eye. This little cute girl is Joe’s real joy.

Tony Anciano is the class’ true logistician. His extensive knowledge in Logistics was brought by his years in PAF’s A-4, the 420th Logistics Wing as a Squadron Commander, and the many logistic courses he attended over the years. Being the Deputy Chief for Logistics, J-4, in the last years of his career, is a testimony to it. Tony served as Squadron Commander, 208th Tactical Helicopter Squadron in Mactan, Cebu, the unit responsible for the heli requirements of AFP Units and other government agencies in the Visayas. It was Tony who called for all helis to be disabled in the 1989 coup attempt, lest they fall into the rebels’ hands. In later years, after various command and staff assignments, he became 220 HAW Wing Commander and later on as Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, J-4, his last post until his retirement. In our group, Tony perhaps has the longest stay in the USA during our entire years in the service, as he served as Logistics Exchange Officer for two years in Ohio, USA. Truly, he is an epitome of a true logistician. Tony is now a director of a private flying school in Cebu, and truly, his dream of continuously conquering the skies lives on. He is married to Ting, the lady he was so brave to court while we were students at the PAF Flying School, with Ting being the daughter of BGen Ignacio J Canto, our Wing Commander. They are blessed with four children – Aldwin, Tonton, Chinchin and Camille. In 2021, they had their first grandchild, a baby girl and the current apple of their eyes.

Dido Peleo served as instructor at the PAF Flying School for years, and was a diligent flyer and mentor. He later on served with the PAF Management Information Center. He left his family and our class early when in May 1988, he perished in a crash at Loakan, Baguio City. Dido was married to Nitz, and they have three children – Dondo, Dindi and Dondie, each of them successful in their chosen careers.

Chris Datu, after serving for two years as instructor pilot in Lipa, joined the fighters and flew the F-5 fighter jet the rest of his flying career. He became the Wing Commander of 5th Fighter Wing, Commander of Air Defense Command, Vice-Commander of Philippine Air Force, and later on, as the Deputy Chief of Staff, AFP where he got his 3rd star.

A very significant event in the career of Chris at the 5th Fighter Wing, PAF was the intercept of a Russian TU-95 bomber with an F5A aircraft in 1983.

Aside from his many assignments, Chris’ most memorable post was his being posted in two (2) CASFs (Iloilo and Cagayan de Oro) in 1995 to 1998. It was during his time





in Cagayan de Oro when a Cebu Pacific flight manned by former Air Force pilots crashed in the mountain ranges of Misamis Oriental, with all passengers killed. The conduct and management of the rescue and recovery operations fell on Chris' shoulders. Chris and his men had so many sleepless nights during that time.

After retirement, Chris served as George Uy's Executive Vice President (EVP) and General Manager (GM) at AFPSLAI. He is married to Des Parungao, "A" Company Muse 1972-

1973 and they are blessed with three children – Dianne, Buencarlo and Marinelle, all of whom gave them a total of five grandchildren. Now, he is serving as Chairman of the Bonifacio Heights Residences Corporation.



Romy Alamillo, a Pangasinense, found Lipa as his permanent home. After serving as Instructor Pilot in the PAF Flying School for quite a number of years, he got hooked in intelligence offices and works, before going back to the field. He served the longest stint among the Maagap's who became CASF Commanders. He was Commander, CASF 6 in Iloilo for three years and more than anything else, enjoyed life in Iloilo and Bacolod. It was a "hazardous" assignment! From the field, he served as the Defense and Armed Forces Attaché in Jakarta,



Indonesia for three years. From his foreign stint, he was back to J-2, GHQ before returning to the Air Force as Chief of Operations, A-3. He later became Commander of 710th Special Operations Wing (SPOW), Chief of Air Staff, Deputy Chief of Plans, AFP J-5, before becoming the Vice-Commander, PAF, the position he held till his retirement in June 2007. Romy spent nine years in a romantic relationship with Tes before they got married in 1984. Romy is another brave soul for courting the very young Tes, daughter of Col. Juan Estoesta – a well-known figure in Fernando Air Base. They are blessed with three boys – Pingkoy, Capt. Macky, a PAF Officer-Pilot and Doc Pao, a nephrologist.

After retirement, Romy served as Director at the PHIVIDEC Industrial



Authority and currently the Executive Vice President of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines, a GICP under the control and supervision of the Secretary of National Defense.

Gem Jimenez served as instructor pilot at Lipa for almost four years before venturing into the intelligence field. For long, he was with the PAF's Intel Training School and The Special Mission Group before becoming the only one in our group to be assigned in PMA, and as Assistant Commandant of Cadets, at that. Other than intelligence works, Gem's career was a mix of staff, operations and command. From being the first Commander of the PAF's Composite Air Support Force (CASF) in Baguio, he rose to assume command of the 530th Air Base Group in



Zamboanga, Wing Commander 355th Air Engineering Wing and Wing Commander 710th Special Operations Wing (SPOW), the position he held up to his retirement day. Such career was backed-up by staff assignments at HPAF, GHQ (J-1), and as Deputy Wing Commander of 205th Helicopter Wing and Chief, Division Staff, 3rd Air Division in Zamboanga. After retirement, Gem maintained a busy lifestyle, from being the General Manager of Farmhomes in Clark to Vice-President of Emmali Homes in Cebu City, and Vice-President of VFSTART Builders Manila up to this day. Gem's work keeps him on his toes all the time. Like an engineer, the corporations he was and is working with are all

engaged in construction of low-cost housing for retirees and OFWs, warehouses, factories and erecting telecommunications towers. Gem's and Vicky's children are all married, and nothing compares to the happiness he gets from spending his vacant time with his grandchildren from Rina, Noel, Victor, Emma and Emmanuel III.

Litoh Hernandez, after graduating from PAF Flying School, went directly to 240th Composite Wing in Sangley Point, Cavite, and flew the U-A Beaver, the same plane he was trained into during the Basic Training of the Undergraduate Pilot Training. Like Rody and Val, he got the early deployment to combat zones from 1975 to early 80's before



he got assigned to 100th Training Wing as a unit commander. He held various posts afterwards, punctuated by his assignment as a staff officer at the Department of National Defense. Litoh left the service rather early and pursued a civilian flying career, the heli to be exact, in the islands of the Pacific, pinpointing locations where abundant fish hauls could be done. With his wife Pinky needing a helping hand with her work in Canada, Litoh migrated there too. To date, he is enjoying a calm, peaceful and abundant life with his family in their second homeland. They are blessed with daughter Denise and sons Emmanuelle and Glenn, and their grandchildren.

Rody Luis, more known in the Air Force circle as LATIG, spent almost his entire career flying the UH-1H of 205th Helicopter Wing. As such, like Val, he got deployed in the whole breadth of the archipelago, from Cagayan up north to as far south as Tawi-tawi. He experienced the dangers of so many combat missions against the communist insurgents nationwide and the separatists of Mindanao. After so many years in the service, Rody opted to join his family in the US and til this day, lives in the land thousands of miles away from the land of his birth. But time and again, he does not forget to go back, reunite with his siblings, enjoy the golf courses and the company of the MAAGAPs and friends. Oyang, his wife, goes with him at times. Rody and Oyang





have four Marias – Rhodora Fe, Monica, Christine, and Rhea Sofia. They have six grandchildren – JM, Sofia, Kata, Jacyn, Ezra and Calista Rae. They give them too much joy there in the United States.

Val Prudencio, known as SULTAN in our circle, had his flying career all in the UH-1H and like Rody “Latig” Luis, has been too familiar with combat all throughout the country, especially in Mindanao. It was no wonder that at a point in his career, Val became the Assistant Division Commander, 3rd Air Division, PAF in 2001. Eventually, with his



operations background, he got the post of Deputy J-3 in the later part of his career, and earned his star. Val has the distinction of being the first and only MAAGAP with a child who graduated from our Alma Mater.

Isabelle, a beautiful lady, is a member of PMA Class 2019, and now a pilot assigned at the Air Force 220th Airlift Wing. A few years from now, we will see a Major Isabelle Prudencio flying the C-130H/J as captain. Val



has Cindy as his bunk mate, and blessed with sons Hanz and Victor, and daughters Linda and Isabelle. He still remains as the highest paid chopper pilot in the country till this day.

Jun Baula joined the fighters of the 5th Fighter Wing after graduating from the PAF Flying School in 1975 and stayed in BASA Air Base, Pampanga til 1989, and became Squadron Commander of the 6th Tactical (Blue Diamonds) Fighter Squadron. His life was



shortened after he joined the coup d'état of 1989. While in detention in Camp Crame in the aftermath of said event, Jun was fatally shot while allegedly trying to escape. He left his wife Gigi, and children Lala,



Jun III and Geraldine. Gigi, his courageous widow, took care of their kids at such tender ages, and guided them, now all successful in their chosen careers.

The ten MAAGAP's, all airmen in our own rights, are truly blessed to be given the chance to conquer the skies. We, the remaining eight EAGLES, earnestly hope that these clear blue skies and fair winds will be with us until the time we fly to the great blue yonder.

ANECDOTES:

- Dido Peleo became well-known in the PAF Flying School, unable to control his temper and losing all his very very long patience, strangling his student while making touch and go (practice landings). Dangerous landings for sure ...

- Imagine Chris Datu, a six-footer, going on emergency landing on an SF-260M Marchetti with a nearly blown off canopy and said canopy resting on top of his helmet while doing the landing. Namutla ata si Chris ... who would not be?

- Joe Reyes, in the course of his being a test pilot for a number of years, did several engine shut-off landings. He was also able to teach a crew chief who was fond of joining him on test flights, to land the T-41D.

- Romy Alamillo was grounded for flying for a week by the Squadron Commander 102 Pilot Training Squadron for reporting to the line on one very early morning for a scheduled flight still smelling of ... Guess who grounded him?

- There was a time when no aircraft was flying, Gem Jimenez brought a kite to the flight line and flew it.

- As he was married when we reported for flying training, Val rotted in his Heli training, not because he was hard-up in flying. He was a good student pilot but it was because he lacked sleep as he was taking care of his baby, cooking, washing clothes, etc. Nabawasan macho image ni Val.

- Even at times when we were rotting in the line, Gem as usual was the same prolis guy, the one that gave us all respite.

- You might not all agree but Tony Anciano and Romy Alamillo, other than Skeet Nano and Ricky dela Paz, both former Mistahs, are

the bravest of us all. They got the balls to court the daughters of the big wigs in Fernando!

- Rody Luis was the first one in our group to experience AMOY NG PULBURA! He was there and fought during the Burning of Jolo. Ano kayang kulay ni Rody during that time? Your guess is as good as mine!

- Joe Reyes was nearly charged with illegal logging using a very expensive equipment. He was the co-pilot of UH-1H that hit a big dead tall tree while on approach to hover in the hinterlands of Calatrava, Negros Oriental. Hindi umilag 'yung puno! The heli fell and landed in an inverted position, all wrecked but fortunately, all those on board only suffered slight injuries and lived to fight more flights. One of those on board was Sir Nesty Carolina, CI 70.

- Litoh did not experiment how to make the U-6A Beaver tail spin over the runway. Tail spinning is a very bad characteristic of said plane ... pilots should be fast with his feet on the pedals. Litoh, did you do some experiments on your civilian chopper while flying in the Pacific?

- Litoh, being a chess addict, made winnings out of a former senior officer in Lipa. Their chess games happened after our flights and lasted til evenings!

- Without training, Jun Baula became a qualified airborne guy. He just went to the airstrip in Echague, Isabela in late 1973 and joined the Army students on their airborne jumps. He did five jumps and was awarded the Airborne Badge. He only stopped jumping when on his jump during the town fiesta of Echague, he landed in front of an open tomb!

- Val spent all his flying years in the UH-1H. Just a look at Val and you can already surmise the flying experiences he had, either it be in combat or youthful hottiness as flying under the bridge, washing the skeds on the river or making people duck from buzzing. Now as Romy A says, "Val is the highest paid chopper jock in the country".

- When he was still an instructor pilot, Romy tried to pursue his engineering degree even at night. He tried to construct a new road at the 100th Training Wing, PAF parade ground! His blue Opel car diverted from the road, jumped over the 3-feet deep pavement and settled on the parade ground. That car was really drunk! And many many more.....

THE MAAGAP NAVY GROUP (by: By Franklin Mangonon, Mateo Mayuga, Ephraim Rio, Norberto Sosa, Dennis Sanchez and George Uy)

Introduction

On afternoon of March 25, 1973, eleven (11) members of the PMA "Maagap" Class of 1973 donned their rank insignia as 'ENSIGNS' in the Philippine Navy. They were the following:

Francisco "Boy G" V. Gudani
Jaime "Jimmy" T. Lucas
Franklin "Franklin" G. Mangonon
Mateo "Matt" M. Mayuga
Jan Vincent "Jan" E. Muyargas
Jorge "Neci" G. Necesito
Ephraim "Boy R" M. Rio
Rafaelito "Lito" R. Sacdalan
Crispin "Tagoy" R. Santiago
Norberto "Boy S" J. Sosa
George "George" T. Uy

They were all given Academic Leave from March 26 to April 30, 1973.

Then, on May 17, 1973, Ernest "Ernest" P. Gierre reported to HPN and joined the PN Group upon his graduation from the United States Naval Academy (USNA) in Annapolis, USA.



Donning of the Ensign shoulder board on Ens. Franklin Mangonon by his parents, BGen and Mrs. Napoleon Mangonon with Pat Mangonon assisting them.



Ens. Matt Mayuga and Gee Mayuga pose after the donning of the Ensign shoulder board ceremonies.

Donning of the Ensign shoulder board on Ens. Boy Rio by his parents, Col and Mrs. Eliseo D. Rio Sr.

A few days later, on May 25, 1973, Constancio "Tanciong" L. Jardiniano Jr and Dennis "Dempot" A. Sanchez also reported to HPN to join the Navy Group.

First Assignments

Upon his return to the Philippines after his graduation from the USNA, Ernest Gierre reported to Headquarters, Philippine Navy (HPN) at Roxas Boulevard, Manila. He was assigned at the Naval Shipyard Command (NSC) at Naval Base Cavite, Ft. San Felipe.

After their delayed graduation rites at PMA, Tanciong. Jardiniano and Dempot Sanchez were not granted the customary one-month Academic Leave; but, were ordered to reported to HPN. There, they were given assignment orders to the Philippine Marine Brigade (PMar). Upon reporting to HPMar, orders were further issued assigning them to the Combat Support Group (CSG) under then Cdr. Braulio Balbas, PMA CI '60.

Upon completion of the Home Defense Course, the initial 11 members of the Navy Group reported to HPN on June 01, 1973. They were all assigned to the PMar. At HQ, PMar, they were received by PMar General and Special Staff Officers led by BGen. Rodolfo Punzalan Sr. PMA CI '54, the PMar Commandant.

During their first week in the Marines, they were issued their basic combat equipment consisting of:

- One (1) M-16 5.56 MM Rifle
- One (1) Steel Helmet

- One (1) Combat Suspenders
- One (1) Web Belt
- One (1) Basic Load M-16 5.56 MM Ammunition (300 rounds)

They were also given an abbreviated orientation of all aspects of the PMar organization, mission and operations. And the most crucial part of orientation was the proper handling, dismantling, assembling and operation of the M-16 rifle since this was the very first time any of them have ever handled such a rifle. As cadets in the PMA, their basic weapon was the M-1 Garand .30 caliber rifle. Furthermore, the zeroing of M-16 rifles was of paramount concern because it ensured that these rifles will really hit the targets.

After their one-week orientation, they were, then, assigned to the different Marine Companies (MARCOs) as follows:

Boy Rio and George Uy	1 st MARCO, 1 nd Marine Battalion Landing Team (MBLT-1) deployed in Naval Station Batu Batu (NSBB), Balingbing, Tawi-Tawi.
Franklin Mangonon and Neci Necesito	3 rd MARCO, MBLT-1 deployed in Lake Seit and Mt. Sibalo, Panamao, Sulu.
Jan Muyargas and Tagoy Santiago	4 th MARCO, MBLT-2 deployed in Lake Seit and Mt. Sibalo, Panamao, Sulu.
Boy Gudani	5 th MARCO, MBLT-1 deployed in Bojelebung, Tipo-Tipo, Basilan
Matt Mayuga and Lito Saccalan	8 th MARCO, MBLT-1 deployed in Lake Seit and Sibalo Hill, Panamao, Sulu.
Boy Sosa	9 th MARCO, MBLT-2 deployed in Lake Seit and Sibalo Hill, Panamao, Sulu.
Jimmy Lucas	Initially assigned to a MARCO in Basilan; but, later was reassigned to the Marine Liaison and Administration Depot (MARLAD), Naval Component, South West Command (SoWesCom) in Zamboanga City.

Early morning of the following day after receiving their respective assignment orders, they proceeded to Villamor Air Base in Pasay City with all their individual packs and equipment; and, they boarded a PAF C-130 jumpacked with military supplies and ammunition. A couple of them were able to get 'red net seats' at the side of the plane; while most were standing and just holding on to cargo nets or straps. After approximately an hour and a half plane ride, they landed at Zamboanga Airport. They were met by MARLAD personnel who directed them to a PMar 6x6 truck that brought them to the quarters where they spent the day. Boy Sosa noticed that several Marine officers were saluting Jimmy Lucas who they mistook to be a senior PMar officer. Later that day, several members of the Maagap Navy Group went to the telegraph office to render their 'POSREP' (Position Report) to their girlfriends and other loved ones. However, they took the necessary precautionary measures. While some were busy making and sending their telegrams, the others stood guard just in case any untoward incident will happen; and They 'REVERSE ROLE' afterwards.

The next day, they boarded an LST at the Zamboanga Pier, which ferried them to their respective units in Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi. The first drop-off point was the Bana Seaport at Bojelebung, Tipo-Tipo, Basilan where Boy Gudani, Jimmy Lucas and other PMAR personnel

disembarked and the supplies, materials and equipment for the PMar units in the island were unloaded.

Then the LST proceeded to Seit, Panamao, Sulu. The LST had to anchor near the shoreline of Panamao. Two (2) landing crafts of the LST were lowered. Franklin Mangonon, Neci Necesito, Matt Mayuga and Lito Sacdalan boarded the first landing craft; and Jan Muyargas, Tagoy Santiago and Boy Sosa boarded the second landing craft. They were with the other PMAR personnel and the supplies, materials and equipment for the PMar units in Panamao. This operation was the first, but certainly not the last, amphibious landing operation that the Maagap Navy Group experienced during their tour of duty with the PMar.

When the landing craft returned to the LST, 'WEIGHING ANCHOR' was ordered and the LST got underway and proceeded to NS Batu Batu (NSBB) in Tawi-Tawi. The LST arrived at the NSBB pier at mid-morning of the following day. Boy Rio and George Uy together with the PN and PMar personnel debarked and the supplies, materials and equipment for the Naval station and the 1st MARCO were unloaded. In the afternoon of that day, the LST casted-off all mooring lines and departed the NSBB pier and returned to Zamboanga.

At this point, the 'BAPTISM BY FIRE' of the Maagap Navy Group started!

1st MARCO, 2Marine Battalion Landing Team (MBLT-1)

When Boy Rio and George Uy reported to the Command Post of the 1st MARCO, there was only one (1) officer aboard. He was the Company Commander (Coy Comdr), LTSG Buenaflor. He gave a brief lecture on the mission, organization and operation of the 1st MARCO. He designated George Uy as the 1st Platoon Commander (Plt Comdr) and Boy Rio as the 2nd Plt Comdr. He said the primary mission of the 1st MARCO was to secure NSBB. He said that before they arrived, there were two (2) junior officers assigned in the 1st MARCO: Ens. Librado Ladia, PMA Cl '72, who was the Coy Executive Officer and 1st Plt Comdr; and, Ens. Tolentino, who was the 2nd Plt Comdr. Ens. Ladia was in the SoWesCom Hospital recovering from a bullet wound on the leg and Ens. Tolentino was also in the hospital recuperating from malaria. In closing, he told them to prepare for any harassment action from the MNLF Forces that night. He said, "Remind the troops not to fire back unless they could actually see the enemy".

And sure enough, at around midnight, sporadic gunfire was heard coming from the tower of the mosque at the left perimeter of the base and from the ice plant at the right. Boy Rio was in the defensive bunker with the 2nd Plt Radioman and he told him, "Gunny, pakisabihan mo ang mga Squad Leaders na orderan and mga tauhan na wag magpapaputok hanggang hindi nila nakikita ang kalaban". The Radioman reported to Boy Rio that he had relayed the instructions to the Squad Leaders. Then he said: "Sir, sanay na kami sa pangharass ng MNLF. Pag may barkong umaalis sa pier, siguradong may harassment sila kinagabihan o kinabukasan".

After five minutes, two mortar rounds were fired at the mosque tower and another two rounds were fired at the ice plant. No other return gunfire was heard from the elements of 1st MARCO or personnel of NSBB. At that point, the gunfire from the MNLF stopped and everybody in the Station were able to sleep soundly the rest of the night.

One month after reporting to the 1st MARCO, George Uy, was designated, in addition to his other duties, as Acting (Actg) Coy Comdr of the unit. The regular Coy Comdr, LTSG. Buenaflor, was directed to report to the Promotion Board at HPMar for interview regarding his impending promotion to the next higher rank. He said that he will be away for only two (2) weeks. However, he reported back two (2) months later. During his absence, George Uy ably led the unit. 1st MARCO was able to maintain the security of NSBB. The defense perimeter was extended when the 1st Platoon cleared and occupied

the area near the mosque and the 2nd Platoon occupied the ice plant. The MNLF Forces were deprived of their usual staging areas to harass the Station. Furthermore, no PMar or PN personnel were ever wounded in action (WIA). The personnel who were evacuated to the hospital in Zamboanga were only those stricken by malaria.

"SAY YOUR LAST" Anecdote

One late afternoon, Mas Maagap Pat Mangonon and Mas Maagap Judy Rio were able to gain entry into the radio room of the HPMar in Bonifacio Naval Station (BNS), Ft. Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila. They requested the Duty Radioman to contact Franklin Mangonon in Panamao, Sulu and Boy Rio in NSBB in Balimbing, Tawi-Tawi. Through VHF/UHF transceiver (there were no mobile phones yet in 1973). After 30 minutes the radioman was able to contact 'HUMMER', the call sign of the 1st MARCO. So, Judy R. was able to talk with Boy Rio. Judy R. was saying her 'OPENING SENTENCE' when the signal became intermittent. So, Boy Rio told her, "You are coming in garbled. Say your last, over." Judy R. gave the microphone back to the radioman and said, "Kaka-umpisa ko pa lang magsalita, 'SAY YOUR LAST' na kaagad, UUUHHHMMM!!! But the radioman explained to her, "Ma'am, baka hindi na-intindihan ni Sir yun huling sinabi mo. Paki-ulit lang, Ma'am." With that explanation, the rest of the conversation between Boy Rio and Judy R. went well. Pat M. was also able to talk to Franklin Mangonon later that day.

There is an 'SIDE STORY' to this anecdote. While Pat M. and Judy R. were inside the radio room, the PMar Command Duty Officer (CDO) for that day, Cdr. Rodolfo Biazon PMA Cl '61, inspected the radio room. There, he saw two 'UNAUTHORIZED CIVILIANS' in a restricted area. The radioman explained, "Sir, kinaka-usap lang nila ang mga 'BFs' nila na mga Plt Comdrs ng mga MARCO na naka-deploy sa south. The CDO left the radio room telling the radioman, "Sarge, wala akong nakita, ha!"

3rd MARCO, 1MBLT

Franklin Mangonon and Neci Necesito had to board the first landing craft of the LST and conducted an administrative beach landing on the coastline of Panamao, Sulu. The area was then the hotbed of the MNLF uprising. They, then, proceeded to Brgy. Bud Seit, to report to the MBLT-1, under the command of LCDR Eugenio Reyes, PMA '63. They were directed to proceed to the 3rd MARCO at the base of Sibalo Hill. Their position was harassed with heavy fire by the MNLF forces on Sep 11 and 21, 1973, both very memorable dates. Their unit also conducted assault operations against the enemy. Franklin Mangonon received his first combat medal, the Military Commendation Medal (MCM) with the first Equilateral Triangle, while assigned in the 3rd MARCO.

4th MARCO, MBLT-2

Jan Muyargas and Tagoy Santiago boarded the second landing craft of the LST. Upon landing at the coastline of Panamao, they then proceeded to the 4th MARCO at Sibalo Hill. Their unit conducted numerous assault operations on known location of MNLF forces around Sibalo Hill.

5th MARCO, MBLT-1

Boy Gudani reported to the 5th MARCO in Bojelebung, Tipo-Tipo, Basilan. In one of the encounters of the unit, he sustained a bullet wound on his leg. He had to be med-evac to Zamboanga City; so that his wounds could be treated and that he would fully recover.

8th MARCO, MBLT-1

Matt Mayuga and Lito Sacdalan boarded the first landing craft of the LST which Franklin Mangonon and Neci Necesito were on board. They reported to the 8th MARCO, which operated in Seit and Sibalo

Hill. Their unit was deep in the hinterlands of Panamao. Their unit's supplies and materials were airlifted by PAF choppers piloted by then Lt. Reynaldo Doria, PMA CI '71, Lt. Neon Ebuena, PMA CI '71, Lt. Joseph Ramos CI '71 and others.

9th MARCO, MBLT-2

Boy Sosa boarded the second landing craft of the LST with Jan Muyargas and Tagoy Santiago. Upon landing at the Panamao beach, he proceeded to the 9th MARCO deployed in Sibalo Hill. He was designated as 2nd Plt Comdr. The 9th MARCO conducted an Amphibious Landing Operation in Tuburan, Basilan. During that assault, the Company Commander, LTJG Rene Naco was killed in action (KIA). Furthermore, the unit also participated in a Heliborne Landing Operations in Tairan, Lantawan, Basilan and an Amphibious Landing Operation at Sewing, Siasi, Sulu. The unit also provided a Security Force at Bongao, Tawi-Tawi.

Marine Rear Support Units

With Tanciong Jardiniano and Dempot Sanchez at the CSG, HPMar and Jimmy Lucas at MARLAD, SoWesCom, the Maagap Navy Group in Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi were sufficiently supported with ammunition, equipment, supplies and materials. It was Jimmy Lucas who expedited the 'MED EVAC' of Boy Gudani from the encounter area to the hospital in Zamboanga City when he was wounded in an encounter in Basilan; and, attended to his personal needs while in confinement.

PMar Amphibious Landing Exercise in Mindoro

In Oct, 1973, the Maagap Navy Group was recalled to HPMar. All the members were immediately designated as 'UMPIRES' in a PMar Amphibious Landing Exercise in Mindoro. With most of them still sporting long hair and unshaven, they were directed to board BRP Mactan TK 90. The amphibious assault scene was used in a Filipino war movie. The actors, extras and cameramen of the film were also aboard TK 90. The crew of TK 90 mistook the members of the Maagap Navy Group as actors in the film.

The Naval Officers' Qualification Course Alfa (NOQC "A")

After their assignment with the PMar, members of the Maagap Navy Group, with the exception of Ernest Guirre, were assigned to the Naval Training Command, Naval Base Cavite (NBC), Ft San Felipe, Cavite. They were to undertake the Naval Officers Qualification Course "Alfa" (NOQC "A").

At that time, they were billeted at the Bachelor Officers Quarters (BOQ), NBC, Sangley Point. which was approximately 3.3 kms away from NTC. Their mode of transportation to and from these two points were the 'BIG BIKE' (the 1st 'HABAL HABAL' in Cavite then) of Dempot Sanchez and the Honda Wagoneer of Boy Rio. Dempot Sanchez would accommodate four passengers on his motorcycle and Boy Rio would squeeze in nine passengers in his mini-cab; so that, the whole group could attend their classes at NTC. Neci Necesito was the Class Marcher during their NOQC. It was his task to get all the handouts and review materials; while the rest of the Maagap Navy Group were sleeping in the BOQ or galivanting in Metro Manila. However, everybody would be present during the day of the exam.

The favorite pastime of the group members during their schooling was playing 'BILLARDS' at the NTC Officers Clubhouse. On such occasion, if Boy Gudani was shouting, "Bawal ang paa sa billard table!", one could be very sure Boy Rio was playing a game of billards, because his 'VERY BIG HANDS' were on the billiard table.

While they were undertaking their NOQC, Tagoy Santiago was mauled by several 'TAMBAY SA KANTO' in Navotas. A week later, the members of the Maagap Navy Group, participated in a Parade Rehearsal in Fort Bonifacio. After the rehearsal, in their NAVY Khakis

complete with Sam Browne Belt with holster and .45 cal. Pistol, they immediately proceeded to Navotas aboard 2 owner type jeeps. The Scout Ranger Training and their PMar combat experience were put to very good use as they apprehended the perpetrators; although, they attempted to leave the area. The arrested 'TAMBAYS' were subsequently turned over to then 1st Lt Arthur Balmaceda PMA CI '71 of the MetroCom, Malacanang.

After satisfactorily completing their NOQC, 12 members of the Maagap Navy Group were assigned aboardship to begin their shipboard billets. Boy Gudani opted to return to the PMar. Six months later, Jan Muyargas gave up his shipboard assignment and also joined the PMar.

First Casualty of the PMA Maagap Class of 1973

After reporting to HPMar, Jan Muyargas was designated as Company Commander of a MARCO in Basilan. He was given the Call Sign, 'JUMBO 6'.

On the early morning of Feb 24, 1975, he and his MARCO debarked from BRP Mactan (TK 90) for an amphibious landing operation in Maluso, Basilan. Prior to the landing operation, he slept in the cabin of Matt Mayuga, who was then assigned to TK 90. During landing, his MARCO was subjected to heavy enemy fire. By mid-morning, he was wounded. He was immediately 'MED EVAC' from the operations area to the Zamboanga General Hospital. During his confinement there, he was taken care of by his girlfriend who was a nurse in that hospital. After a week, he was able to gain some of his strength and he was airlifted to V Luna Medical Center.



BRP Mactan (TK 90) – The ship Jan Muyargas and his troops debark from.

However, he lost his fight to live. He died on Mar 17, 1975, just a few days before his second year in the service as a regular officer of the AFP. He was the first casualty of the Maagap Class of 1973.

In a fitting ceremony, the BNS Parade Ground was named in honor of Jan Muyargas when Matt Mayuga was the FOIC, PN in 2005.

Shipboard Assignments

In November 01-15, 1975, BRP Datu Kalantiaw (PS 76) was participating in a RP-US Balikatan Naval Exercise at the South China Sea near the Zambales-Bataan-Mindoro coastline. The exercise involved the different shipboard evolutions like: Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Drills; Anti-Surface Warfare (ASuW) Drills; Anti-Aircraft Warfare AAW Drills; Replenishment at Sea (RAS) Drills; Naval Gun Fire Support (NGFS) Drills; and Amphibious Assault Landing (AAL) Drills.

During the RAS Drill, Boy Rio, as the First Lieutenant of PS 76, was the Officer-in-Charge (OIC) of the RAS. In the middle of the Evolution, an announcement came over the ship's PA System as follows: "NOW



BRP Datu Kalantiaw (PS 76).

HEAR THIS, NOW HEAR THIS! CONGRATULATIONS TO ENS RIO FOR HIS FIRST-BORN SON IS A BABY GIRL!"

During the ASuW Drill, a US Navy tugboat was towing a floating target approximately 100 meters from its stern.

Lito Saccalan, as the Weapons Officer of PS 76, was the OIC of the gun crew participating in the Evolution.

PS 76 was the third ship in a column formation. The first two ships were US Navy ships. When they fired, all their rounds landed just around the target; not one round hit the target. The US ships were using their 'FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM'.

While the US ships were doing their 'LIVE-FIRE RUN', Lito Saccalan ordered his gun crew to 'MANUALLY BORE SIGHT' the forward 3"/50 gun of PS 76 to the target. When it was PS 76's turn to fire at the target, the first shot landed near the target. But, the second shot hit the target 'DEAD CENTER'! Everybody on the main deck of PS 76 cheered. A command of 'CEASE FIRE' was immediately issued from the conning tower. Lito Saccalan was instructed to report to the Commanding Officer (CO) He went to the bridge in high spirit; but when he returned, he was 'LOW MORALE'. Instead of being congratulated by the CO, he was bawled out because the electronic target could no longer be detected by the 'FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM' of the US Navy ships. The ASuW Drill was abruptly discontinued.

In April-October, 1977, the Philippine Navy acquired several Combat Support Ships (CSSs) and Landing Ships Tank (LSTs) in Japan. Boy Rio was assigned as Assistant Chief, Distribution Branch, Office of the Naval Staff for Personnel, O/N1 at that time. He was tasked to fill up the junior officers' billet of these CSS/LST's. Dempot Sanchez and Boy Sosa were assigned as Executive Officers (Ex-Os) and Navigators of two of these CSSs, BRP Badjao (AS 59) and BRP Mangyan (AS 71). Franklin Mangonon was also assigned as Ex-O/Navigator of an LST, BRP Aurora (LT 508). All these three vessels were refurbished at Sasebo, Japan.

It is a tradition in the Navy that whenever a 'SKIPPER' (CO) of a naval ship boards or debarks the ship, the Chief Master at Arms (CMAA) always announces on the ship's PA System his arrival or departure by using the name of the ship to represent him. When Franklin Mangonon was the CO of the BRP Limasawa (AE 79), the CMAA once announced as he was boarding, "LIMA-ASAWA PARATING!" In another occasion, when he was the CO of BRP Datu Marikudo (PS 23), he departed from the ship accompanied by his family. The CMAA announced, "DATU MARIKUDO PAALIS!" ... then, when they got farther, jokingly added..." KASAMA ANG TRIBU NYA!"

Maritime Laws, Rules and Regulations Enforcement

Aside from assignments with the PMar and the Naval Operating Forces (NOF) and the Sealift Amphibious Command, several members of the Maagap Navy Groups also served as enforcers of Maritime Laws (ML) and Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Rules and Regulations.

They were assigned to the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG).

Franklin Mangonon was assigned the CO of AE 79, a Lighthouse Tender, that delivers personnel, supplies and materials to lighthouses nationwide. The ship also laid light buoys at designated restricted sea lanes all over the country. He also was designated as Acting Commander (Actg Comdr) of the 1st Coast Guard District (CGD-1) whose operational area covers Manila Bay and its approaches. It was during his watch that CGD-1 was credited for the apprehension of a large shipment of illegal drugs at Manila Bay. He was later assigned as the Commander, 7th Coast Guard District (CGD-7).

Neci Necesito was designated as Comdr, Coast Guard Operating Forces. He administered all the administrative, operational, logistical and maintenance requirements of all floating assets of the Philippine Coast Guard.

Boy Rio was the Flag Secretary of the Commandant (Comdt) PCG, Commo Brillante Ochoco PMA Cl '55 in the early 1980s. He was later designated as Station Commander (SC), Coast Guard Station – Manila (CGS-MLA). It was during that time that CGS-MLA apprehended medium-size cargo vessel laden with cartons of smuggled cigarettes at the shoreline of Hagonoy, Bulacan.



The smugglers' vessel being escorted by PCF 343.

Boy Sosa was also designated as the Flag Secretary of the PCG Comdt, Commo Ochoco. Later, he was designated as the CO of BRP Agusan (PG 61), a PCG Patrol Gunboat that conducts patrol along the coast of Lingayen Gulf and Subic Bay. He also became Trainor of Maritime Safety at the Coast Guard Training Center (CGTC).



Boy Rio briefs Commo. Ochoco as Boy Sosa looks on.



BRP Agusan (PG 61)

Service to Their Alma Mater

A couple of the Maagap Navy Group were assigned to the Philippine Military Academy during their active naval service.

Lito Sacdalan was assigned as a Tactical Officer and Mess and Supply Officer, Tactics Group, CCAFP.

Boy Gudani and Franklin Mangonon were designated as Assistant Superintendent, Philippine Military Academy.

Members of the Maagap Navy Group at the helm of the Philippine Navy

Matt Mayuga became the Flag Officer in Command, Philippine Navy (FOIC, PN) from Dec 05, 2005 to Dec 09, 2006. He was competently assisted by other members of the Maagap Navy Group. George Uy was the Commander, Philippine Fleet, Tanciong Jardiniano was the Commander, Naval Education and Training Command and Neci Necesito was the Naval Inspector General.

At the helm of the PN, the Maagap Navy Group hit the ground running. In a span of one year, they were able to accomplish the following:

1. Recovery of Navy Housing from Overstaying Occupants in 2006:

Mission and morale were the most crucial factors behind the difficult decision to evict the Navy retirees from the government quarters. Some of them illegally occupied the quarters for as long as 18 years after their retirement. It was not an easy task as they had to face numerous court cases filed by those who were evicted. In the end the moral compass prevailed with the dismissal of all cases. The PN was ready to move forward.

2. Revival of the Fleet-Marine Teamwork:

The Maagap Navy Group has the sole distinction of being the first PMA Class to have served with the Fleet and the Marines. With their combat experience as young Marine Platoon Commanders at the earlier part of the military careers, they understood the critical importance of a strong Fleet-Marine collaboration. Through the years, they have observed the independent directions pursued by the Fleet and Marines which diminished the lethality of the Navy's combined arms. Hence, the decision was made in 2006 to revive the Fleet-Marine Team Concept of Operations in all levels of command.

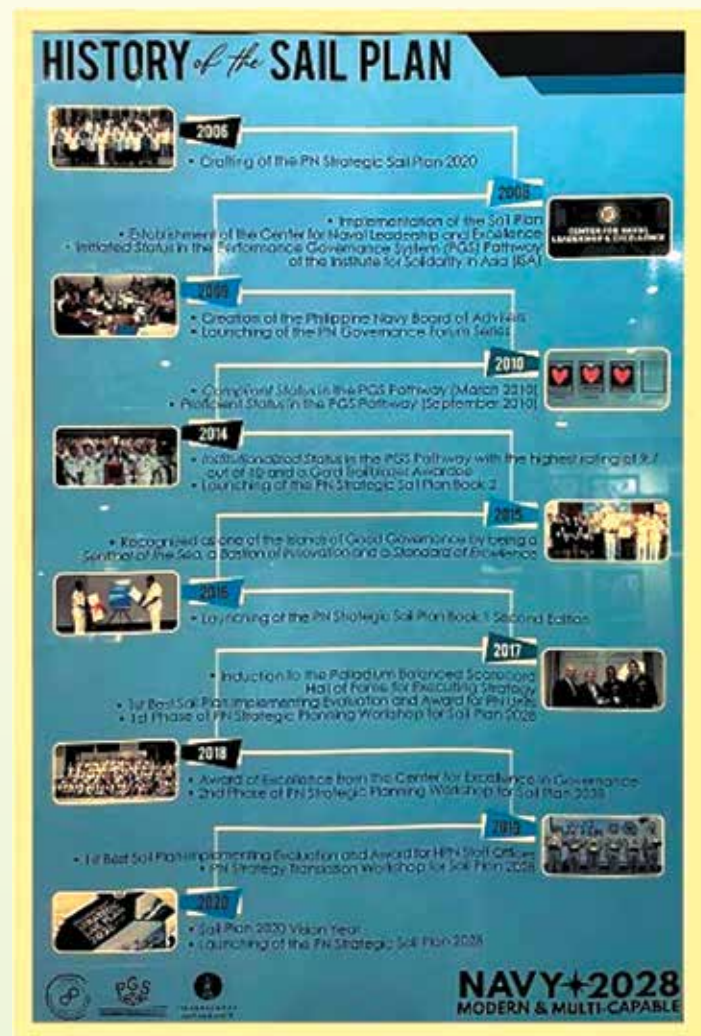
3. Leveling up of the Maritime Security Operations:

The Maagap Navy Group initiated the creation of the Coast Watch South System in 2006 where a series of land base radars shall be utilized to monitor the common borders of the Philippines vis-a-vis those of Malaysia and Indonesia. That initiative has grown to be national in scope. It has now become a National Coast System initially under the Office of the President and was subsequently given to the Philippine Coast Guard.

4. Creation of the Navy Safety Office:

Aware of the many aspects of naval operations involve a combination of personnel, equipment, machineries and materials, the Maagap Navy Group initiated the establishment of safety

standards for all PN units to adhere to. This was intended to reduce down time, save lives and conserve the modest resources of the institution. On the insistence of Boy Sosa, the long-time lead person of Maritime safety of Shell Philippines, the Naval Safety Office was created.



The Navy Sail Plan 2030



Participants of the Navy Sail Plan 2030 Workshop listen attentively to a lecture of a Resource Person.

Matt Mayuga, as FOIC, PN, delivers the Opening Remarks of the Navy Sail Plan 2030 Workshop.



Resource Persons and Participants of the Navy Sail Plan 2030 Workshop pose for a group picture of the Navy Sail Plan 2030 Workshop.

5. *The Strategic Road Map 2030 and Good Governance:*

The Maagap Navy Group represented by George Uy, Tanciong Jardiniano and Matt Mayuga initiated the formulation of the Navy Sail Plan 2030. They called all the potential leaders of the future Navy to a workshop in Nov. 2006. Invited as Resource Persons were: former Secretary of Finance Jesus Estanislao; the late Senator Leticia Shahani; the former CEO of Ortigas and Company, Mr. Rex Drillon; and former San Miguel Corporation President, Frank Eizmendi. Therefore, the Navy Sail Plan 2030 was born and it became the template of the modernization, organization development and good governance of the PN. Overall, it has changed the mindset of the PN Policy Makers that an 'OUT OF THE BOX' thinking can create a strong and credible PN that the Philippines can be proud of.

What the Members of the Maagap Navy Group Attained in the Philippine Navy

Of the 14 members of the Maagap Navy Group, six of them became successful ship 'skippers' and earning their Command at Sea Badges; with Tanciong Jardiniano, in addition, earning his Naval Pilot Wings. The rest carved their own special niche in the PN's development. They became key decision makers in the areas of Command and Administration, Human Resource Management, Naval Intelligence, Naval/Coast Guard Operations, Logistics Management, Information and Communication technology Management and Strategic Planning; not only in the PN, but also in the Philippine society as a whole. Dempot Sanchez, Tagoy Santiago and Boy Sosa opted to leave the service early to pursue a career in the Business Sector and they did outstandingly well.

To the Maagap Navy Group, position or rank attained were simply incidentals in their careers. Their measure of success and fulfillment was their being of added value to the PN's and the country's development.

NAME	IMPORTANT POSITIONS/EXPERTISE	DISTINGUISHED BADGES
Ernest Gierre	AFP Research Development Center and Project Sta Barbara/ and Naval Ballistic and Missile Solid and Liquid Fuel Developer	
Boy Gudani	Assistant Superintendent, Philippine Military Academy and Marine Brigade Commander, PMar	Masters in National Security Administration (MNSA) Badge; Command and General Staff (GSC) Badge; and, Commercial Pilot Wings

Tanciong" L. Jardinario Jr.	Commander, Naval Education and Training Command; Commander, Naval Forces West/Central /Ready; Commander, Naval Air Group	Senior Naval Command Badge; MNSA Badge; GSC Badge; Command-at-Sea Badge; and Naval Air Pilot Wings
Jimmy Lucas	Chief, AFP Real Estate Office and Naval Intelligence	GSC Badge
Franklin Mangonon	Assistant Superintendent, Philippine Military Academy; Commander, 7 th Coast Guard District; CO, BRP Datu Marikudo (PS 23) and BRP Bagong Silang (PG 104).	MNSA Badge; GSC Badge; Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Eligibility Badge; Command-at-Sea Badge
Matt Mayuga	Flag Officer in Command, Philippine Navy (FOIC, PN); The Inspector General (TIG), AFP; Chief of Naval Staff for Personnel (N1); CO, BRP Matan (TK 90) and BRP Cebu (PS28);	Senior AFP Command Badge; MNSA Badge; GSC Badge; Command-at-Sea Badge
Jan Muyargas	PMar Company Commander	
Neci Necesito	The Naval Inspector General; The Chief of Naval Staff; Comdr, Coast Guard Operating Forces and, CO, BRP Bagong Lakas (PG 102)	MNSA Badge; GSC Badge; PCG Eligibility Badge; Command-at-Sea Badge
Boy Rio	Operations Officer, S3, BNS; Course Director, Disaster Response and Relief Operation Course (DRROC).	GSC Badge; PCG Eligibility Badge
Lito Sacdalan	Chief, AFP Real Estate Office and Comdr, AFP Commissary and Exchange Service; and, Naval Logistician	MNSA Badge and GSC Badge
Tagoy Santiago	Presidential Security Group and Naval Intelligence	

Dempot Sanchez	Philippine Navy Computer Center, Task Force 31 Intelligence Officer and Presidential Escort Ship	
Boy Sosa	CO, BRP Agusan, (PG 61); Flag Secretary, Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard (CPCG); and, Trainor, Coast Guard Training Center.	PCG Eligibility Badge; Command-at-Sea Badge
George Uy	Comdr, Philippine Fleet; The Chief of Naval Staff (CNS); Comdr, AFP Logistic Command; Comdr, Naval Forces Western Mindanao	Senior Naval Command Badge; MNSA Badge; GSC Badge; Command-at-Sea Badge

Private Sector and/or Civilian Government Services After Retirement

After retirement, several members of the Maagap Navy Group continued to work in the private sector and/or the civilian government service.

Matt Mayuga was connected with Glenn Defense Marine Philippines Incorporated from 2008 to 2013.

Neci Necesito was a Director of the Philippine Racing Commission from 2010 to 2012. He was then appointed as a Permanent Member and Undersecretary of Dangerous Drugs Board by the former President Benigno Aquino III, in 2012 until his untimely death six months later on Jun 26, 2012.

Boy Rio was a Risk Management Consultant of Easy Net Corporation from 2002 to 2004. After that, he became the Chief Operations Officer of the NWYC Fast Craft Ferry Division from 2009 to 2012. And later, he became the Secretary of the Board of the Ninety-Niners Development Corporation and concurrent Director for Risk Management from 2013 to 2015.

Lito Sacdalan was the Director of Buffalo Agro-Industrial Corporation; and subsequently, became its President (2007-2008). He was the Secretary to the Board and Director for Operations of the Media Affairs Incorporated (2008-2009). He later became the Deputy Director-General of Filipino Investors Society (2009-2010).

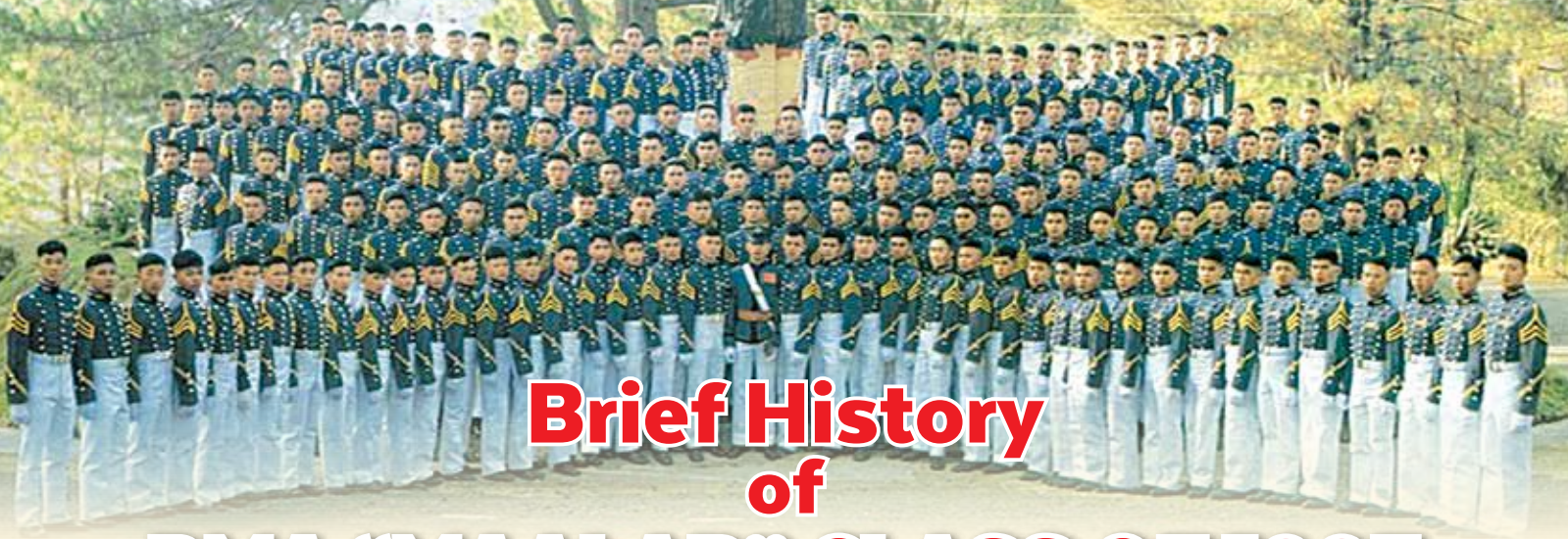
Dempot Sanchez and worked with Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation for many years after leaving the Navy.

Tagoy Santiago also joined Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation after his early retirement from the Navy on Aug 01, 1987.

Boy Sosa also joined Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation after his early retirement on Jun 01, 1986. He was the Marine Manager and Senior Marine Adviser of Shell. In year 1993-1994, he became the Refinery Health, Safety, and Environmental and Security Adviser and Refinery Fire Chief at the Shell Refinery in Tabangao, Batangas. Then, in Jan 2011 to Feb 2015, he was appointed as Board of Director of Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA).

George Uy became the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Armed Forces and Police Salary and Loan Association Incorporated (AFPSLAI) from 2008 to 20012. He was ably assisted by another Maagap from the Air Force, Chris Datu as the Executive Vice President (EVP) and General Manager (GM) of AFPSLAI.





Brief History of PMA “MAALAB” CLASS OF 1993

• CAV RANDY O REMONTE '93, et. al.

Are there indeed unintended consequences to being a **MAALAB** Cavalier? (Editor's Note: This article was written last December 2022 and does not claim to have been a factor in the recent promotions that included three deserving Army MAALABs)

Upon such question shall revolve any serious discourse on the Class history of PMA “MAALAB” Class of 1993. Significantly, unlike previous senior host classes, the **MAALABs** return to their Alma Mater, where their military service began, with the least number of general officers. In fact, after three decades of passionate service to the Filipino people not a single Army **MAALAB** has been rewarded with the proverbial star on the shoulder! For a Class, which on average has produced a Cavalier Awardee every three years since graduation, this is a CURIOS case.

But first, what this probably requires is to look back carefully into the past and recall significant events that punctuated the **MAALABs'** journey in the profession of arms.

It all began in the summer of 1989 when 252 young men from various educational and socio-cultural backgrounds reported for Cadetship Training in Fort Del Pilar. They were the survivors of the grueling combo of written examinations, neuro psychiatric assessment, medical evaluation, and panel interview. After Oath-taking in front of Melchor Hall and before they could notice the much cooler climate than where most of them came from, they were brought to the forbidding grounds of Camp Aquino in Tarlac for the Beast Barracks, that initial phase of Cadetship where new cadets undergo an exacting regimen designed to wean them into military life. Other cadets who were earlier turned back on account of deficiencies in Academics or Conduct would join them. It turns out that **MAALABs** would be the last plebes to undergo Summer Camp outside Fort Del Pilar, as part of a comprehensive curriculum review that also involved two upper classes. It would be the first of several distinctions that would inadvertently highlight the **MAALABs** and their history.

A few days after Incorporation into the cadet Corps, **MAALABs** would be jolted by news of three (3) mistahs requiring medical surgery on account of maltreatment, a self-styled pandemic that until those days has defied every attempt at cure. The trio survived but had to go on sick leave and had to join the next class. One mistah, a son of a cavalier who died in line of duty and grandson of a former Supe,

was by all accounts well known among upperclass cadets such that even upon his return as a turnback fourth class cadet he continued to face additional pressure until he was discharged for deficiency in Academics. But **MAALABs** would have none of this as they collectively promised to finish their plebehood not broken and unbowed, determined to perform creditably well against all odds and be more responsible elder brothers to future plebes who would come under their care. The **MAALAB** brand was being developed.

Recognition Day for the **MAALABs** came in December 1989 when the AFP was again abuzz with news of unauthorized troop movements in the vicinity of Metro Manila amplified by reports of the seizure of an AFP Signal facility in Tagaytay by an unidentified armed group. A day after mutinous troops, unsuccessful in their takeover bid occupied high-rise buildings in Makati and practically overrun the country's financial district. As newly recognized cadets **MAALABs** would find themselves joining the entire Cadet Corps in issuing an appeal to the leaders of the mutiny – mostly Cavaliers – to desist from any further hostile actions and return to military control. The leaders of the mutiny were apparently stunned by such request, personally relayed by the Supe, such that it paved the way for a peaceful resolution of the standoff. The Supe would later inform the Cadet Corps in detail how bloodshed was avoided. It would not be lost on the national leadership. The Supe would later rise to become CGPA then CSAFP.

Weapons' Training in 1990 was an experience perhaps no other class could share. It was only known to **MAALABs** much later that they were trained by soldiers from an elite unit of the Army who were in fact on AWOL status on account of the Makati incident the year before. Apparently, no suitable replacements could be found immediately such that a renegade Army Captain, a Cavalier, was contacted and requested to reconstitute his former team to train the **MAALABs**! The Army Captain could not refuse such a request plus the opportunity to be part of the mentors of another batch of future Army leaders. He and his men surreptitiously showed up and trained **MAALABs** with passion, but never gave any hint of their own professional issues in the military service. On the eve of graduation, they quietly slipped out of camp, leaving **MAALABs** sad and surprised at their ubiquitous



absence the following day. From that moment, **MAALABs** knew what innovation and professionalism meant. The captain would later be cleared of any wrongdoing, rejoined the military service and retired as a distinguished combat commander in the Army.

As yearlings, **MAALABs** experienced the 1990 Earthquake that devastated many areas of Northern Luzon, including Baguio City. Many articles have been written about the Cadet Corps' dramatic rescue operations of people trapped under buildings including the wife of a future outstanding member of the Philippine Senate. This was just a month after the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo that also brought untold suffering to the people of many areas in Central Luzon. The interruption of the water supply in the barracks, among others, forced **MAALABs** to adapt to new creative ways of coping with the challenges of cadet life. But looking back it somehow enhanced their power of imagination to be able to surmount difficulties, a gift that would be put to good use, initially, as small unit leaders in the military organization.

Before their assumption as squad leaders **MAALABs** would be made to undergo the Southern Cruise, a hands-on orientation program in ship operations where the destinations were definitely much better than the journey. For close to three (3) weeks **MAALABs** visited various cities, engaged military commanders, met foster families and occasionally dropped by cultural and historical sites. Much anticipated by **MAALABs** were the mandatory hops with the local belles that engendered friendships some of which ripened into youthful romance. As expected underclassmen were green with envy with such stories and were looking forward to their own time in the sea and its beauty but were informed that Southern Cruise would be no more. It would be revived much later but for a different purpose, a mere shade of the original concept.

In their time as squad leaders, **MAALABs** would handle plebes who would be the first recipients of the Tri-Service Academy training, where cadets would follow different training curricula corresponding

to their eventual major service, much unlike the **MAALABs** who had the same training curriculum and were simply made to choose their preferred branch of service. Significantly, from the same batch of plebes would rise the leaders of a show of force incident in a Makati hotel in 2003, a coup d' etat in all respects except that it was not staged in a government facility. It was a short-lived mutiny but nonetheless covered by a brilliant legal strategy that confounded legal experts, obviated application by the country's criminal laws and confined jurisdiction - at least with regard to the main issues - through the Articles of War.

When they became Firstclassmen, **MAALABs** saw firsthand how it was like to be the kings of the Cadet Corps with all the attendant little perks, fleeting privileges, and omnipresent responsibilities. The star in the baron's sleeve accordingly signifies an ideal in terms of leadership and character that should be demonstrated to the underclassmen for them to emulate. Also, at that time **MAALABs** found themselves in an important junction of the Cadet Corps' history as they presided over what would be the last all male Cadet Corps in the Academy's history. The law allowing female cadets was about to be implemented, and there was an equal feeling of hesitance and anticipation as it was clear to the cadets that PMA would never be the same again.

As Firsties, **MAALABs** cast their votes in the first presidential elections under the 1987 constitution, that saw numerous campaign paraphernalia being displayed inside barracks, even at the cadets' absence cards. **MAALABs** would also be among the first recipients of the Back Subject System, a seemingly innovative way of saving government resources by not outrightly making a cadet who failed in one subject repeat the entire academic term and join the next class.

It was initially viewed as win-win mechanism in that historically a cadet would only fail on one subject simply because it was not really his forte, be it social sciences or technical disciplines. But after several years it had to be stricken down because of a realization that a significant number of cadets in fact viewed the system as an ingenious





way to cushion the highly regimented life in the Cadet Corps, put more time in extracurricular activities and still manage to graduate together with their classmates. Far from its original design, it reached to a point when it was practically complicating the daily class schedules of the cadets.

Unknown to many, **MAALABs** excelled in full-contact sports as they gradually finessed with science and technique the otherwise brute force, never-surrender mentality instilled in them from plebehood. They were practically unbeatable in national Judo championships, even showcasing the much feared “ACHAMAHOODY” grapple that almost always led to an Ippon. **MAALABs** would also have the distinction of being the only class in recent memory to be issued brand new Colt Government Model Series 80 pistols, upon the behest of the Superintendent.

MAALABs also hold the distinction of being the first class to be involved in the highly skilled 1992 and 1993 PMA Debating Teams that bested Manila-based colleges and universities in the National Collegiate Debate League championships. The last time a CCAFP team won a national debate competition was in 1959 with then current FOIC as team captain. **MAALABs'** Uncle Bobo was a constant figure in both winning teams, first as member and then as team captain, an individual achievement unmatched and unsurpassed to this day.

Platoon Leader's Course was likewise a watershed moment for **MAALABs**. Not only were they exposed to the finer points of small unit leadership and survival under enemy fire, but they also served to assess their suitability for the other major services. Inexplicably though, **MAALABs** have an uncanny way of defying stereotypes: some of those who were deficient in confidence courses excelled in the most forbidding aerial maneuvers as combat pilots; some of those deficient in waterborne operations emerged as brilliant naval commanders; those who were neither here nor there formed the core of the Army Group! **MAALABs** would also distinguished themselves as the first not to join the Philippine National Police, which had completed its separation from the AFP, but somehow to be compensated later when Navy **MAALABs** would undertake lateral entry to the new organized Philippine Coast Guard.

Graduation came swiftly like Reception Day but, instead of carefree youngsters looking forward to an adventure of a lifetime, **MAALABs** quietly marched off to another first sit-down graduation in the Borromeo Field, resplendent in full dress uniform with white dress cap, but this time looking forward to a career of service to the Filipino people. They took to heart what one Cadet First Captain once explained to plebes, that the *raison d'être* of PMA Cadetship is not the glitter of the arms nor the glamour of the uniform, but the glory of the service!

As we left Fort del Pilar in 1993 with cadet paraphernalia now deemed as memorabilia, we set our sights on the new life ahead as officers of the Armed Forces. The month-long break went by quickly, and soon thereafter, the Army Group went through Pre-Deployment

trainings, the Navy Group hurdled Naval Officers Qualification Course (NOQC) and the Air Force Group started Flight Training. In the early years, get-togethers were very rare as most were assigned outside the National Capital Region, though pocket happenings occurred whenever two or more **MAALABs** found themselves on the same geographic area. In those days when one member after another took what an eminent **MAALAB** termed as 'one's biggest take-life' and graduated from bachelorhood, wedding receptions became the impromptu class meetings. Later, baptisms of **MAALAB** brats became the modes by which **MAALAB** gatherings start; when class activities become more frequent and better attended. Class gatherings still have long, repetitious meetings broken every now and then by smart-aleck quips and frolics from consistent characters, who endlessly relive plebehood endorsements and laugh at the same re-run jokes.

Like magnets too, the tragedies that befell some mistahs also became events that drew us closer in spirit as these occasions made us realize our own mortality. We first lost Dabong De Vera in 1993; Equally tragic was the death of Phillip Pestano in 1995 that spawned a more than 20-year search for truth and justice; battlefield casualties - Onnie Caulian, Cris Leron; Loss their battles with diseases - Cris Sulit, Dan Gayosa, Cesar Bactad, Alan Tero, Ron Macalintal, Mel Mendoza, Charles Ciano; and Accident – Tiny Perez, Chito Bala and Glenn Villanueva – helicopter crash. Other unfortunate events that served to keep us in close contact were a mistah's injuries and hospitalization, or when an individual problem occurs that inevitably requires Class attention and intervention.

The years have armed us with the experience to know better, to achieve more, to become greater. And whatever transformation we see in ourselves, we owe them to the many others who taught us, and who learned from us as well. They may be as sophisticated as the high officials, senior officers and professionals we have had to deal with in our professional and private capacities; as simple as the drivers and stewards who do chores for us; as diverse in culture and





attitudes as the troops we led, and as identical in values as the people in our own homes. Indeed, the spectrum of influences is wide, and unique experiences in the real world shape us in more ways than the repetitive exercises and the routines in the Academy.

Looking back at the three decades that passed, the MAALABs are grateful with the thought that we are truly blessed for the lessons learned, the trials surpassed, the opportunities that opened up and the rewards and blessings waiting for time to unravel. As we continue in our journey in the greatest of all adventures that is life, we thank the Almighty for this milestone, as we pray for continued guidance in the many hats that we wear – as soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coastguardsmen; and as fathers, as grandfathers, as brothers, as Cavaliers, as Filipinos, as ‘MAALABs’.

That said, suffice it to say unequivocally that after 30 years the **MAALAB** Class of 1993 history is still being written. What is important to note is that after three (3) decades of fidelity to their oath the **MAALABs** are definitely not writing “-30-”, neither to the careers nor to their love of country.

MAALABs Historic Deeds

For the record, it was **MAALAB Capt Vincent Sibala**, the Commanding Officer of the BRP Gregorio del Pilar who toured around the US President Barack Obama on his visit in a Philippine warship on 18 November 2015. It was a symbolic choice for Obama’s visit, as it was the first Coast Guard cutter donated by the United States and it was the same ship that figured in a standoff with China in Scarborough Shoal in the West Philippine Sea in 2012. Obama also asked **MAALAB** Vince Sibala how to drive ships and the skipper gamely taught him a quick lesson. And the best way to cap off the ship tour with the world’s most powerful man was a selfie, of course. As he sat on his Captain’s chair, **MAALAB** Vince Sibala asked the President for a selfie, which would serve as a proof for his children that indeed President Obama, visited his ship.

During the Marawi Siege in 2017, **MAALAB Col Loreto B Pasamonte** was the Pilot-in-Command of that historic presidential flight that brought the Commander-in-Chief for the first time into the war zone utilizing the Bell 412 EP helicopter. Air movements of the

President relied on the olive drab-painted helicopters of the 205THW instead of the white and blue helis of the 250PAW for safety and security reasons. Out of the nine visits of the President in the main battle area, **MAALAB** Toots Pasamonte piloted seven Presidential flights. He and his crew successfully ferried and returned the President in the battle zone and back, knowing that the value of the President’s presence would give much needed morale boost to the troops fighting at the front lines.

The spread of COVID-19 virus that started in the first quarter of 2020 almost paralyzed the airlift operations of the PAF. However, with **MAALAB Col Federico B Enriquez**, Deputy Wing Commander of 220th Airlift Wing operating the C130’s, the challenges of bringing the much-needed PPE, laboratory equipment and vaccines for our countrymen was successfully carried out. He diligently performed his duty as Aircraft Commander of the numerous flight missions to various pick up points of the very precious cargoes from China (Xiamen, Jinjiang, Fuzhou Province, Chenzhen, and etc.) during the pandemic undermining that he will be infected with the virus himself. He successfully managed and supervised all aircrews to do their duties with utmost considerations of flight safety and health of well being. **MAALAB** Eking Enriquez was awarded with Chief of Staff, AFP Medal and Ribbon for an outstanding achievement during the pandemic of flying back and forth to China and was publicly recognized by the Commanding General, PAF during the PAF Founding Anniversary last 2021.

MAALABs Achievements

MAALABs Cavalier Awardees

- 2002 Gleen Laguardia (for Air Operations)
- 2004 Michael Banua (for Army Operations)
- 2014 Adolfo Espuelas (for Army Operations)
- 2016 Nelson Morales (for Air Operations)
- 2016 Lued Lincuna (for Naval Operations)
- 2017 Ronnie Babac (for Army Operations)
- 2018 Epoy Marayag (for Air Operations)
- 2018 Toots Pasamonte (for Air Operations)
- 2019 Ronnie Gavan (for Coast Guard Operations)
- 2020 Charles Rances (for Coast Guard Operations)
- 2021 Roy Echeverria (for Coast Guard Operations)

The Outstanding Pilipino Soldier (TOPS) Award

- 2013 Moises Micor

The Outstanding Filipinos Award for Soldiers and Police Officers Award

- 2017 Ricky Bunayog
- 2017 Tex Suderio

The Civil Service Commission (CSC) Award for Outstanding Government Workers:

- Presidential Lingkod Bayan Award
- 2018 Ricky Bunayog



The Silver Jubilarians



PMA Class of 1998 25 Years and Shining Through

2023 marks Masinag Class of 1998 silver anniversary as alumni of the PMA. The service journey may have been short to some class members but it was remarkable for everyone.

The Masinags were young and bold Second Lieutenants when the conflict in Mindanao broke out in 2000. It was a real opportunity to shine in combat. Medals were abundantly awarded to a lot of us, but outstanding amongst the class is Herbert D Dilag who received the Philippine's highest military award for conspicuous deed of personal bravery and self-sacrifice above and beyond the call of duty, the Medal for Valor.

Rising up the career ladder, some chose to venture to the extreme right. Their efforts were heard and have become the impetus for some radical reforms that contributed to the transformation of the Armed Forces of the Philippines today. Several members opted to resign and seek greener pastures outside the service.

But for the following class members whose last TAPS were already sounded, may you find rest knowing that you are not forgotten...

2LT Joel D Pacis O-12646 (INF) PA
2LT Socrates P Que O-12649 (INF) PA
1LT Bonifacio C Halasan Jr O-12569 (INF) PA
1LT Jeremy G Gay-ya O-12624 (INF) PA
1LT Edwin O Divina O-12685 (OS) PA
1LT Paulman Sadat H Tamano O-12715 (INF) PA
CPT Walter A Nunez O-12643 PAF
CPT Rodel S Dimaculangan O-12586 PAF
MAJ Jason Saturno O-12659 (INF) PA
CDR Gilbert G Villareal O-12713 (MNSA) PN



Two left the AFP and joined the PNP and are now Police Colonels, proving that anyone is always capable of overcoming odds when one is focused on the goal.

It will still be one more decade until the remaining class member finally bows out of the service, but until that time comes, the members of the PMA Masinag Class of 1998 will continue to shine in all our chosen fields.





This article, written by CAV JOEL JESUS M SUPAN '81, has been adjudged as the Best Feature Article of the Year chosen among the published feature articles in the Cavalier Magazine from 2nd Quarter 2022 to 1st Quarter 2023 issues. CAV SUPAN's article garnered a score of 91.25% from among the articles rated by the Panel of Judges based on these criteria: originality, related to national issues affecting the cavalier community, and contains perspectives beneficial to PMAAAI, AFP and country. CAV SUPAN will be presented a Plaque of Recognition during the PMAAAI General Membership Meeting on February 17, 2023 at the Baguio Convention Center, Baguio City, cash incentive and a souvenir shirt.

SECURITY PROFESSION: The Fifth Service for Cavaliers

• CAV JOEL JESUS M SUPAN '81

The Private Security Personnel in the Philippines today outnumbers the combined strength of the Armed Forces and the National Police 2 to 1. With the typical ratio of 15%, Officers to Rank and File, the required number of officers to lead and manage the Private Security Personnel as providers or consumers of security services is about 105,000. For all purposes and intent the sheer strength of the Private Security Force and the number of Security Officers required to manage and command it, qualifies it to be dubbed as the Fifth Service. It is aptly dubbed in reference to the three services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines namely the Army, Navy, Air Force and the Philippine National Police (PNP) which was an erstwhile part of the Armed Forces until it was separated from it by the PNP Law. But more than just these numbers, there is now apparent migration of former military and police officer to the private security profession.

Some mindsets of the "old convention" would distance themselves from this reference of the Armed and Police Service and the Private Profession who provide Organizational Security. This is because of the apparently wide gap of their respective missions. I have witnessed this unfeeling from retired officers early on in my career in the 80s as a Security Professional. There must have been a good reason for those officers to harbor that feeling. This is because, while the AFP and the PNP's missions are defending the country and its citizens from external and internal threats respectively, Private Security Professionals protect private interests. The honor and respectability of serving a private entity pales very much less in comparison to the honor and respectability of serving the country. That feeling has gradually but perceptively died down in time. However, an apparent misunderstanding about Organizational Security still persists among Military Officers and Organizations.

On numerous occasions, I have been invited as the keynote speaker or lecturer to security summits, conventions and seminars of some conglomerates and companies. The members of audiences invariably are composed of former Military Officers of various ranks. So as not to bore the audiences and catch their attention on the subject matter which I assumed they are all too familiar with, that is security, I gave them a 23-question multiple choice type quiz viva voce or paper and pencil quiz. The short quiz was designed to determine the audiences' knowledge and understanding of the definitions, basic concepts and applications of security and how they would respond to various security conditions. In all the tests, the members of the audience chose different answers to the same questions. Thus, no body passed the test. To them I ask this question, "How can the

members of this audience who all came from the same Military Organization and now belong to the same company with the single mission and vision, have different answers for the same questions?"

The results of the quizzes showed that members of the audience have different definitions, perception and understanding of security and that they responded to different situations. I also gave the same test to a batch of MNSA Class with the permission of its President. The test had the same results so I asked the same question. The question as well as the answer might be unpleasant but is it a reality that must be taken with a spoonful of sugar.

In another occasion, a Senior Bank Security Officer who had the opportunity to be admitted to the National Defense College to take up Masters in National Security Administration called me up to ask for assistance in defending the subject matter of his thesis. His subject matter is Bank Security. The panel expressed their reservation about his subject matter by asking him quizzically about the relevance of Bank Security, a private concern, to National Security. The student and I agreed to compare and present the GDP to the total portfolio of all the banks in a given year. This is to illustrate that the collapse of the banking system vis a vis the private industry sector due to a breach of it security would result to the collapse of the country's economy which is one of the essential aspects of National Security. The panel perhaps had a realization and accepted the proposed subject matter for the thesis.

It is not uncommon that former Military Officers who become Security Leads for their organizations bring with them their default idea about security which they have lived by for so long and are hardwired for it, such as the use of force and fortification. Their mindsets are implied in their proposed plans and programs for their company's security which focus on the capability to communicate (communication), move (mobility), and shoot (firepower). Often, they missed out on the need for a balance between the concepts of force and fortification and the concepts of customer convenience, company image and cost which are essential for the success of the company.

A closer scrutiny of these anecdotes would show that these former Military Officers turned Security Officers have remained to hang on the tactical level of security which more often than not, is the emphasis on Physical Security. This is further compounded by the fact that these are the expectations of their Clients because of the absence of benchmarks, instituted doctrines and standards for security.

These officers cannot however be censured for their misconceptions about security. This is because their misconceptions

are on account of the absence of formal education in organizational security let alone authoritative doctrines and competency standards. I could not recall having lessons on the fundamental of security at the Academy. The only formal education in security is given at the Intelligence Schools. But then again, the lessons there fall short of the holistic concept of security as they do not cover such aspects as Operations Security at the strategic level, Environment Security and Reputation Security and their respective elements. These essential aspects of security if not learned and applied, would leave a wide gap in the security of an organization which would become the weak link in its Security System. As one basic principle states, *"Security is good only as its weakest link."*

There are also fundamental differences in the way security is defined in the military and organizational security. The generally accepted and practiced definition of security in the Military and in Law Enforcement is that it is the protection from harm or danger. These are regarded to be caused by men and are addressed mostly with timely response after damage has been done. In Organizational Security, Security is defined as ensuring that organizational objectives are achieved by preventing the occurrence of mishaps and disruption from any source. Another fundamental difference is Personnel Security. Personnel Security as an aspect of security is defined in military doctrines as preventing the infiltration of the military ranks by the enemy. On the other hand, Personnel Security in Organizational Security is ensuring that the people the company hires are capable, reliable, trustworthy, loyal, healthy and happy.

There is also the difference between the criticality and impact of security or its breach, to the military organization or government and to private organizations. The "relative impact" of a breach of security to the military is not as critical as the breach to a private organization. This is because the Military Organization can withstand the impact of the breach of security to the organization so that it remains to exist as an institution. This is exemplified by the coup of 1986 and 1989 when despite the burning of its headquarters and the "adventurism" of a portion of its ranks, the Military continued to exist and operate. On the other hand, a breach of security in a private organization can result to the abandonment and demise of the business.

But despite these differences, a much closer look into Military vis a vis, National Security and Organizational Security, no matter how far apart they are in scale, scope, context and complexity, the basic principles and aspects by which they are achieved are the same. This is because the objectives, the resources needed to attain such objectives and the hazards that threaten countries and organizations are the same. These fundamental concepts are needed to be learned. Security is as much a science as it is an Art. As such, its basic concepts need to be learned formally so that all those who practice security would have a uniform understanding of these concepts and their application.

Despite the seeming misconceptions of Military and Police Officers about Organizational Security, they are still the best and most suitable materials to occupy the positions of Security Leads in Private Corporations. This is because they have the intellectual capacities, command, administrative competencies, management skills, street smarts, decisiveness, professional network, authoritative bearing, personality and grit. With these qualifications and their vast experience in various organizational and environmental conditions in the service, they can readily assimilate into the organizational culture and take on the steep learning curve for them to come in running in assuming their functions and delivering the expectations of their employers.

Now, just about every conglomerate or a large company has a Cavalier or a former cadet for its Chief of Security, Security Consultant, Security Manager or Officer. A good number of these Cavaliers are no less than the former Chiefs of the Staff of the Armed Forces, and

the others who used to occupy the next highest ranks in the Armed Forces and the National Police. A social group of Security Practitioners coming from PMA alone has about 246 members. One conglomerate, as I have mentioned in another article, has about 70 Cavaliers for its Chiefs of Security and Consultants in their roster.

This only means that the security profession is a fertile ground for the military and police officer to migrate to and for them continue to make good use of their acquired skills and pursue their service to the country by helping secure private enterprises that contribute to the country's economy. At the age of 56 which is the mandatory retirement age for the military except for the appointed Chief of Staff and the PMA Superintendent, retired Military Officers or Police Officers are still at the peak of their abilities, capabilities, professional network and social relevance for organizational work. It would be a waste of talent should this be contained in their respective households or in the golf course.

Also for practical reasons, retired or resigned Cavaliers with all their qualifications and competencies join the private sector for a lot of reasons like wanting to fill-up their otherwise idle time, trying a new work environment, tired of being the bodyguard driver of their wives, realizing that carpentry, plumbing, gardening, cooking, dishwashing, cleaning the toilet, mopping the floor and cleaning the toilet is not their cup of tea, supplementing the pension to buy food supplements or medication for various ailments, supplementing their pension to pay the amortization of the newly built house, having personal spending money for those whose ATM Card is being held hostage by the wife, seeking affirmation of their worth, or simply wanting to dress up with other clothes other than their worn out uniform and show their mustache.

Thus, if a formal education on Organizational Security and Standards were organized and institutionalized by PMAAAA to prepare retired Military and Police Officers for a second career, the country will have an exhaustible source of competent security professionals that could well serve the country no less in another way, long after they have hung their uniforms. If this would be realized, then the Security Profession can be rightfully called the Fifth Service.

The author, Joel Jesus M. Supan, is the author of the book "The Art and Science of Security" which is an original publication and given a copyright by the U.S. National Library of Congress and was subsequently given a five-star rating by a Literary Review and Critic in the U.S. as a Business and Economic Book. He is the former Chairman



of the Technical Committee of the Commission on Higher Education in the Philippines that created the Curriculum for the new undergraduate academic program for the Bachelor of Science in Industrial Security Management. He has been invited as a speaker in various Global, Regional and Local Security Conventions and Forums for his original security concepts such as Organizational Security Culture as a New Paradigm for Corporate Governance; Stonewall Security Model; and the Threat Differentiation Model. He has an unpublished book, "National Security Culture: A New Paradigm for Governance. He is a former Naval Officer and a member of the PMA Dimalupig Class 1981. He can be contacted through his email: stonewall.sec81@yahoo.com.

"Security is the bridge to every goal.... to every dream."



Defending Our Patrimony

The Need to Reshape the AFP's Operational Plan

• CAV MELCHOR P ROSALES '68

The 2023 budget deliberations and recent legislative hearings once more brought to the fore their observation about our present inability to confront intrusions into the West Philippine Sea and the Philippine rise. One senator urged *"the government to expedite the buildup of defense forces in the WPS."* Another congressman was advocating to stress lethality in the development of this force. These statements were all in line with the President's statement that *"We will never give up a single millimeter of Philippine territory."*

When a Chinese vessel sank the F/B Gem-Ver while anchored in the Recto Bank, the Filipino people made known their sentiments. The Social Weather Station, in its June 2019 survey, reported that 91% of our people want to regain control of islands in the West Philippine Sea.

It also showed that 92% urged government to *"strengthen the military capability of the Philippines."* Eighty-four percent of our people want alliances formed *"with other countries that are ready to help us in defending our security in the West Philippine Sea."*

The Officer-in-Charge of the Department of National Defense during the DND budget deliberations stated that the AFP is one of the weakest in the region.

Indeed, there is an urgent need as well as an opportunity to establish a new defense posture for the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). This will necessitate an expansion of the AFP operation plan.

Two primordial reasons for our lack of external combat power appear to be: First, our dependence on the US to protect our country externally. Additionally, for 55 years the AFP operational strategy -IPSP code name Katatagan, then Lambat Bitag, followed by other code names that were adopted once a new administration took over. It was, however, mostly focused on counter-insurgency.

We hardly developed an external protection capability even after the US pulled out its bases in the country.

The Constitution, however, mandates that *"The State shall protect the nation's Marine Wealth in Its Archipelagic Waters, Territorial Sea, and Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and reserve its use and enjoyment exclusively to Filipino Citizens."*

The Philippine geography shows we comprise 300,000 square kilometers of land area and 2 million sq.km. of maritime area. Our defense plan, therefore, must have both internal and external considerations.

In 2011, the AFP already published its strategic intent aimed at maintaining a *"credible deterrent posture"* against foreign intrusion or external aggression, and other illegal activities while allowing free navigation. This intent still has to be operationalized.

The Department of Foreign Affairs enunciated in 2018 *"the red lines"* to prevent any takeover or building of facilities in the Scarborough Shoal, the Spratlys and other islands within Philippine waters. It sought to protect our people from being deprived of their means of livelihood, and also to secure sources of food and natural



resources from the blue economy for the future generations of Filipinos.

We, however, have been wanting in this regard, as we still do not have a credible manner of defense. It is not surprising that the AFP ranked 51 out of 100 countries in one worldwide survey.

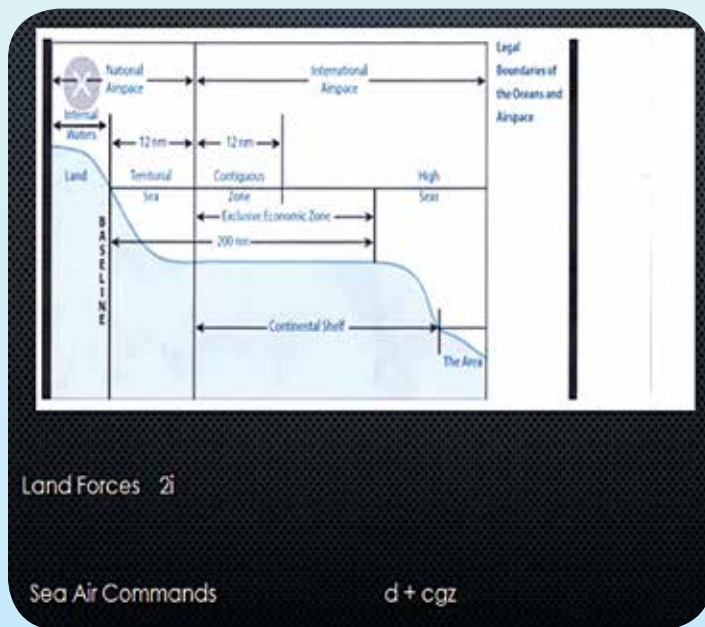
It behooves upon us therefore to start crafting a more comprehensive operational strategy.

The expanded operational paradigm recommendation is: Anchored on the formula 21 + D + CGZ

21: Address Insurgency + Capability to defend against Invasion

D: Deterrent Force Capability to prevent further encroachment

CGZ: Counter Grey Zone operations. To deal with external operations short of war.



A study of Chinese deterrence at the time they were building up a blue water navy reveals an asymmetric strategy developed two decades ago against the fleet of US carrier battle groups which involves controlling the sea from land. They developed a missile umbrella through their anti-access area denial strategy.

We can also adopt this concept.

Our expanded deterrent forces must focus on lethal systems against a surface fleet. There is a need for economy of force modernization. The most effective combination is the use of multi-directional maritime attack tactics combining sea mines, anti-ship missiles launched from land-based aircraft, surface to air batteries, mobile launchers and ship-based missiles, and torpedoes. This system must include new capabilities on ISRT by the most cost effective way to utilize what remains of Horizons 2 and 3.

Initially, it requires establishing up to three maritime joint commands, along with the proper equipment and trained personnel: the AFP West Command to cover Spratly's and WPS; Joint North West Luzon Command for Scarborough Shoal and defense of Manila; and Joint North East Command to protect the extended Continental Shelf and The Philippine Rise.

In the light of the demand for additional Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) bases during the review of the Mutual Defense Treaty, we must now ask for the US to develop the deterrent force utilizing Article II of the MDT. Article II states that to effectively achieve the object of this treaty, the two parties separately and jointly by self-help and mutual aid will maintain and develop their individual and collective capacity to resist armed attack. The US must be requested to assist and cover funding of our requirements for deterrence and counter grey zone operation.

We will also need help from other nations, especially if Washington does not come across.

We can get part of our needs from our strategic partners, and other allies, such as Japan, South Korea, Australia, India, and European Union among others through grants, soft loans, or long-term concessional loans.

There are creative ways to generate funds. We cannot sacrifice our capability to defend and protect our patrimony for reasons of lack of money.

China operates in the SCS with its maritime fleet called the People Armed Forces Maritime Militia (PAFMM). They call these their Second Navy. These are deployed in close tandem with their fishing fleet that provides a gray zone capability for Chinese maritime law enforcement efforts in the 9-dash line against areas already recognized by UNCLOS and UN arbitration as part of the Philippine EEZ.



This is how they acquire artificial islands and implement their cabbage strategy or salami slicing tactics in operations short of war.

To counter grey zone operations, we must also organize, develop, and maintain air, naval and a coast guard auxiliary. Other bottoms composed of the Bureau of Fisheries and DENR, along with other government bureaus and private air and maritime companies will act as force multipliers.

Protecting our EEZ can be accomplished by expanding our current defense posture with a comprehensive operational concept, by not limiting it to internal security but also addressing the imperative of external defense.

This is the first step to have a minimum and credible unilateral capability to defend our territory.

All of these become mandatory due to the bill requiring a Comprehensive Review of the Executive Branch (CREB). This will authorize the President to right size the operation of the Executive Branch by analyzing and designating the appropriate roles, mandates, structure, functions, size systems and process of the government agencies to ensure effective, responsive, and efficient service delivery.

More importantly, the protection of our energy sources to fill up the loss of Malampaya makes these interventions crucial for the country. We need a protective force for our plans in the exploitation of the Reed bank, Philippine Rise, and other patrimonial assets. We can do no less.

Even if we are a small state, we must show resolve in protecting our EEZ and ECS ourselves through deterrence-oriented equipage and joint operations. This is the only way for us to insure our food and energy security and recover our national pride and dignity to defend our patrimony.

References:

- **New Navy Fighting Machine in the South China Sea**
By Dylan Ross and Jimmy Harmon 2012
- **Rise of China in Asia – Security Implications**
Edited by Caroline Pumphrey, Jan 2002
- **Joint Operational Warfare: Theory and Practice**
By Milan N. Vego
- **Chinese Maritime Militias: A Grey Zone Force**
Jeremy Oliver, 2019
- **Chinese Anti – Ship Ballistic Missile Development**
Andrew Erickson, 2013
- **Hybrid and Asymmetric Warfare: What to do?**
By Swedish Defence University, Stockholm Sweden
- **Joint Publication JP 3-32 Joint Maritime operation**
US Government, Sept. 2021
- **Air Force Doctrine Document 3-1 Air Warfare**
USAF 2000
- **National Security policy**
2017-2022
- **Inquirer.net**
- **Philippine Star**
- **You tube**



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

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

CLASS CALL



After 71 years of leaving Loakan, the 51 Class 56 graduates are now down to 14 living mammals in various state of health at 88 to 92 years old. The oldest is Ching Corachea, our perpetual class president who just celebrated his 92nd birthday (October born) at the Gloria Maris Resto in Greenhills, QC last 17 November 2022 with some of his classmates and their wives who savored some fine Chinese dishes specially selected by Emma, his OAO.

A month earlier on 13 October 2022 when the COVID dread has slightly abated, Mon Farolan, the youngest of the class at 88 years old on 30 August 2022, took his turn in hosting the members of the class golf group to a teppanyaki steak lunch at Kimpura Resto at Greenhills, QC. Mon Farolan is now the most ranking living member of the class with two stars as former Chief of PAF (the other, Rudy Canieso, Chief of PA, had bidden goodbye some years back). Mon has good and bad news for the diners. The good one: his granddaughter had reported to the PMA last June 2022 as a plebe and member of Class 2026. The bad news is that he is tackling again a newly discovered illness after surmounting and doing well with his newly transplanted kidney. We are crossing our fingers that Mon will overcome this health problem, too.

Mel and Pat Goyena celebrated their joint birthday on 11 December 2022 at the Phoenix Court Resto, Bellevue Hotel, Filinvest, Muntinlupa City with an array of 52 guests from their immediate family members, some classmates, peemayers

and wives and friends with a fine Chinese meal. Mel and Pat were encouraged by their children to put up the treat to honor their good health in preparation to their entry into the realm of the nineties.

Of the five class remaining active golfers before the COVID pandemic, only Boy Paiso is still active in participating in golf tournaments. He just made it in the recently held Games of Cavaliers sponsored by the PMAAAI at the Golf Course in Camp Aguinaldo and the PNGCC in Ft. Bonifacio starting on 22 November 2022.

By 2023, the 14 surviving members of the class, barring any fatal casualty, will be 89 to 93 years old: one at 93 (Fortunato Corachea); one at 92 (Agustin Mateo); three at 91 (Jose Almonte, Servando

Lara and Honorio Pantaleon); three at 90 (Catalina Villanueva, Tom Manlongat and Mel Goyena); and six at 89 (Filoteo Arevalo, Liberato Lazo, Romeo David, Augustus Paiso, Antonio Fernando and Ramon Farolan). /Submitted by: Mel Goyena, CI 56

Special Report of Lolo Boy Paiso on the Games of Cavaliers.

November was a hectic month for the PMAAA, PMARAI and Tournament Committee, which conducted very successfully the Game of the Cavaliers for the second successive year. In addition to the several awards, PMA56 sponsored four special perpetual Championship Kahusayan Trophies for the GOC.



The PMA56 KAHUSAYAN Championship Trophies for the 2022 Game of the Cavaliers.

In behalf of PMA56, Cavalier Augustus PAISO awarded the trophies to the first 2022 champions: OVER-ALL TEAM CHAMPION – TEAM 03; OVER-ALL RUNNER-UP – TEAM 83; CHAMPION RETIRED – TEAM 81; and CHAMPION TEAM ACTIVE – TEAM 90. Congratulations to all the winners.



**3 December 2022, GOC Villamor Golf Club. Awarding the Winners of the PMA56 KAHUSAYAN TROPHIES (Clockwise):
OVERALL CHAMPION – TEAM 03; OVERALL RUNNER-UP – TEAM 83;
CHAMPION RETIRED – TEAM 81; CHAMPION ACTIVE – TEAM 90.**



As the most senior and only golfer among the Classes from the 50s joining all up to 2022, PAISO, age 88, also delivered the Inspirational Address during the closing and awarding ceremonies.



3 December 2022, GOC Villamor Golf Club. Delivering the Inspirational Address.

He closed his remarks, "I look forward to the continuing success and longevity of this wonderful assembly - a historic novel and noble tradition. Remember: with its fairways, greens, uphill, sidehills, downhill, doglegs, hazards, bunkers, and rough, golf - like life - is an intriguing, complex, and humbling game. Let us all play it well. Thank you and advanced happy holidays to all and your loved ones. FORE!!!"



3 December 2022, GOC Villamor Golf Club. A reunion with retired golfer sons of PMA56: PA Lieutenant General Romulo ORDOYO '80, and PNP Brigadier General Alex IGNACIO '83.

During the ceremonies, the sons of PMA56 retired Army Lt General Ronnie ORDOYO '80 and PNP Chief Superintendent Alexander IGNACIO '83 had a joyful reunion with PAISO.



EDUARDO R ERMITA
President
TAGUMPAY R JARDINIANO
Secretary

After the happy and momentous 65th Anniversary celebration of PMA Class '57 in April of 2022, the next big get-together was the Annual Christmas Party that took place last Sunday, 4 December 2022 at the Gen. Ricarte Hall of the Officers' Club at Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. This event was successfully organized by the officers of Class '57 brats headed by its President Dr. Gigi Ledesma Pereira alongside Jo Tan-gatue Sarte, Agnes Dela Cruz, Lisa Ermita Abad, Annie Limpin and other brats.

People began arriving eagerly that morning for registration around 9:00 a.m. Around a dozen origis, a dozen spouses and nearly 100 brats (children) and bratitos (grandchildren) were in attendance. Multi-colored bandanas/scarves were given away at the registration desk as this year's theme was "howdy, howdy Christmas! So we were all dressed up looking like cowboys and cowgirls! A mass was celebrated around 10 a.m. and shortly afterwards, the party began in full swing.

A hearty buffet lunch was had by all, there were long tables of food and multiple stands of dessert and even ice cream cart! Special thanks go out to all who served as sponsors.

Inspirational speeches with messages of hope and gratitude were delivered by Class President, Gen Eduardo Ermita and Pat Jardiniano. We also took time to remember those who are no longer in our midst, gone but not forgotten and definitely always in our hearts and minds.

A video presentation prepared by brats member Joey Ancheta was shown, highlighting important events and previous get-togethers. The eagerly awaited raffle took place shortly thereafter. Cash prizes and gift tokens were given to the lucky ones chosen by the electronic roulette shown onscreen. Those deemed best in cowboy and cowgirl costumes were also awarded.

The party wound down by around 2:00 p.m. with many having pictures taken by the photographers who were on hand going

around the venue. Aside from this, there was also a designated photo booth where a lot posed as the cowboys and cowgirls that we were for the day. A few of the photos are shown here just to give you readers a hint of that day's merriment.

The Class of '57 gives kudos to the brats for successfully taking over the reins in organizing these events, and the brats give kudos to the origis for everything!

Happy holidays to one and all and may we have a safe, healthy and prosperous 2023!





DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF PMA CLASS 1962

The COVID Pandemic has interrupted, disturbed, and affected lives and fellow Cavaliers were not immune. However, in a small window given whereby infections were down and participants were fully vaccinated, PMA Class of 1962 finally had an opportunity to formally celebrate its Diamond Jubilee Anniversary last June 5, 2022 at the AFP Commissioned Officers Club House, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Led by President of PMA Class 1962, Nano Mariano and his family, the Diamond Jubilee Anniversary had a Fiesta theme and was called "Pista Ng Mga Mistah." The AFPCOC Dimalupig Halls were decorated with various "bandaritas" and a bahay kubo. There was even a sari sari store of free candies. There were other food stalls such as a chicharon bulaklak stall, taho station, fish ball, ice cream, and cotton candy stalls. The "Fiesta" celebration was completed with the sumptuous "lechong baboy" among the many viands.

The event was hosted by Mistah Ray Logan, Jaymie Divinagracia (the daughter of Mistah Divine), and Pam Alcudia (the granddaughter of Mistah Quintin Alcudia). To start off the event, a thanksgiving mass was offered and attended by the mistahs. Our lector/commenter was Mistah Marianne Divinagracia who assisted in the mass. The choir consisted



of the grandchildren of Mistah Quintin Alcudia, namely Diego, Maristella and Andie Alcudia. Opening remarks were made by Mistah Tito Rimando. It was followed by a touching musical rendition of the children of our late Mistah Dave Alimorong. Thereafter, our Mistah Nano Mariano presented his President's Report. Thereafter, Mistah Nano Mariano was surprised by Mistah Joel Hinlo by presenting him a framed article authored by Cavalier Ramon Farolan from the Philippine Star about Mistah Nano's experience in the December 1989 Coup attempt in the book "More than just a Motto – Stories of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty." Further, song renditions were presented including an entertaining exhibition of different dance routines by co-host Pam Alcudia. The raffle and the fun games were handled by mother-daughter tandem Mau and Leika Soriano (the wife and daughter of our late Mistah Orly Soriano, respectively). Assisting them were Maan Ramon (daughter of Mistah James Ramon) and Babes Villabrosa



(daughter of Mistah Bro Villabrosa). Each mistah's family won a prize.

All the class members were given their respective commemorative medallions as diamond class members. All the mistahs even stood on stage and sang "Kaydet Girl." Truly, the Diamond Anniversary of PMA

Class 1962 was a memorable, successful and fun event. Needless to say, the grand celebration was well attended with at least over a hundred attendees composed of mistahs and their families. It was a welcome respite from the pandemic.



GUILLERMO R RUIZ
President
RENE LEANDRO P EBRO
Secretary

HOMAGE TO ALL ALUMNI CLASSES:

From the PMA MATINDI (Mga Anak ng May Tapang, Integridad, Nasyonalismo, Dignidad ng Inang Bayan) Class of 1963, we are expressing our highest compliments of the season to all senior and junior host classes in 2023 as well as everyone who have made it back home. Congratulations! May you reach as far as we have, 60 years and surpass that until the last man standing.

It would always be best to be there physically to participate in all the festivities

and exchange memories. For many of us these days, alumni homecoming hybrid edition that began two years ago made it indeed convenient to be present virtually. For us being the oldest of the generation, we are happy and grateful to celebrate this wonderful event of a different kind in our lifetime.

Hat's off to everyone across the board as well as the PMAAAI for making this possible.

TO THE CLASS FLAG BEARERS SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL, THIS ONE IS FOR YOU:

Our deep appreciation and snappiest salute to the many young cadets carrying our noteworthy class flags over the years throughout all the alumni events. It really means so much for us to see the class flag bearers to be out there even if we cannot be

there to join the parade. Thank you so much! Bravo Zulu!

Stately, we stand proud as we acknowledge the members of the class as seen in the chart of the living and deceased.

4TH QUARTER 2022 EVENTS:

25 November

Inday Andaya celebrated her birthday at her residence.

3 December

Our dear Mistah George Aquino was finally laid to rest at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani.

12 December

We held our class Christmas Party at the Alano Hall, Philippine Navy Golf Club,

Taguig City. Entertainment was provided by the 1st AFP Singing Soldier Champion Mel Sorillano who serenaded the gentlemen and ladies with songs from yesteryears as well as traditional Christmas carols. Audience participated as we had communal singing. Mel did a fantastic job in leading as well as building our confidence to sing along the verses and choruses. We even managed to finish the selections on the classic party playlist. Should you be interested to bring him aboard your next party, you can get in touch with our dear Singing Soldier, Mel Sorillano at 09157287859. It is with his consent that I am sharing his contact info for your reference.

A delectable buffet dinner, announcements, class updates, dancing, exchange gifts as well as photographs were staples of the evening event.

In attendance were Ching Saavedra, Pert and Inday Andaya (thank you for sharing the balut for the whole class), Aida Mayo, Rudy Javier, Naty Laput, Ardy and Beth Abaya, Danny and Nena Delgado, Jimmy Iletto, Gaps Sabarre, Reggie and Marga Lacson, Bill and Norma Ruiz, Danny and Lou Pizarro, Rene and Flor Ebro. Special guest was Amaury Evangelista '62.

1st Quarter Birthday Celebrators

May your celebration, big or small, create happy memories. Wherever the year takes you, have a good one.

January:

2 - Amy Calibuso 19 - Lina Medina



11 - Luz Espejo 20 - Idelfonso Dulinayan
16 - Pert Andaya 27 - Ester Ong
18 - Roly Espejo 28 - Offie Javier

February:

3 - Lulu Orevillo 10 - Bill Ruiz
3 - Ting Tigas 13 - Billy Enerio
7 - Lou Pizarro 17 - Bumi Bumanglag
7 - Tony Sibayan 26 - George Aquino
10 - Gil Domondon

March:

9 - Ardy Abaya 19 - Rene Valencia
16 - Norma Sibayan 30 - Norma Ruiz
19 - Joe Pineda

ForEBOR NOTEWORTHY NOTES:

May you always remain hearty and hale, happy and healthy! In all your endeavors, forEBOR cheering you on! /(18121605)

PMA Matindi Class of 1963 Living Members: Abaya, Adriano Jr, Andaya,

Babiera, Batenga, Bumanglag, Capada, Cirera, Cruz, Delgado, Dulinayan, Ebro, Enerio, Espejo, Iletto, Javier, Lacson, Landingin, Mallilin, Manlongat, Medina, Noble, Ong, Orevillo, Pante Jr, Pflaider, Pizarro, Reyes, Roallos, Ruiz, Sabarre, Tigas Jr, Valencia and Venadas Jr. **TOTAL: 34**

PMA Matindi Class of 1963 Deceased

Members: Abad, Acedera, Agaab, Andaya J, Aquino, Arevalo, Blancas, Calibuso, Canlas, Carranza, Casaquite, Cortez, Dario, Delloso, Domondon, Duldulao, Española, Estrada, Flores, Garlejo, Laput, Leoncio, Lim, Manangan, Mayo, Mendoza, Miguel, Nale, Pineda, Resos, Romero, Saavedra, Sagad, Salac, Salipsip, Sanchez, Sibayan, Solomon, Valderrama, Valdez, De Veyra, Villamor and Ylagan. **TOTAL: 43**

Adopted Matindi Class of 1963 Living:

Binay, Sausser and Tillah. **TOTAL: 3**

Adopted Matindi Class of 1963 Deceased:

Catibayan and Hernandez. **TOTAL: 2**





CLEMENTE P MARIANO
President
WINSTON G ARPON
Secretary

ANNIVERSARIES THIS QUARTER

Birth Anniversary

January

12/1943 - Billy Villareal

25/1980 - Vanessa Vandevoot

31/1943 - Ding Odoño

February

20 /1942 - Clem Mariano

March

25/1944 - Vicky Garchitorea

Wedding Anniversary

Jan 4 (55th)

Ding and Ester Odoño

Jan 5 (13th)

Arfs and Vicky Arpon

Jan 11 (58th)

Jimmy and Glo Valeros

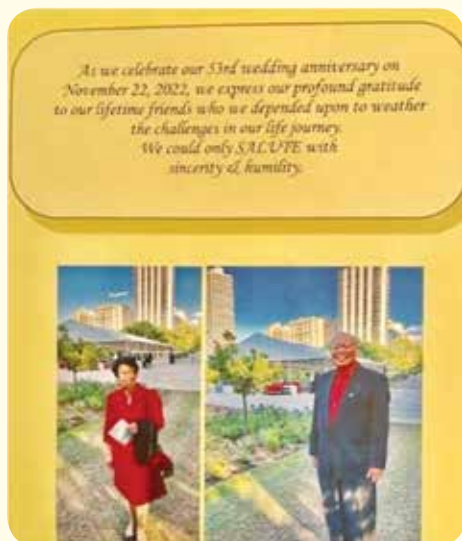
Feb 13 (58th)

Rey and Sandy Reyes

Belated Wedding Anniversary

The invitation card came late for it to make it to last quarter's Class Call 64-2204 but we got it in time for this issue, and, from both **Tagoy** and **Sophie Dino** who have been absent in previous calls. And this time, with several pictures enough for an album, some of them we have accommodated here. Evidently, they live a very active life in retirement at Orland Park in southwest Chicago

From the horse's mouth, rather, the pen of **Tagoy** – he was the editor of the



Class 64 Sword – a blurb on what we see here:

Senior socials at the Fitness Center. Teacher Melanie Herman's creativity was in full display. Group singing, games, grab bag, exchanging family stories, sharing potluck favorite dishes, laughter, etc. A few pictures captured the sentiment.

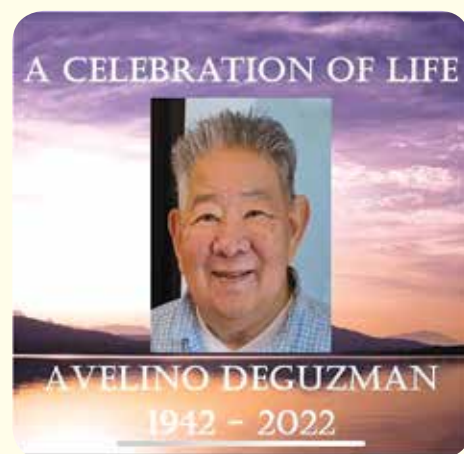


And from **Sofie**: Our Paso Doble presentation was during the 2015 Jurado Cup competitions in the suburbs of Chicago.

This calls to mind their well-applauded exhibition dance during the Golden Jubilee dinner of the class at the Baguio Golf and Country Club in 2014.

Laid to Rest

Family and friends of **Abe de Guzman** paid their last respect during the funeral rites one week after his passing, the event livestreamed for the benefit of family and friends who could not be personally attend at Our Lady of the Rosary Land of Lakes, California. A temporary arrangement, place, as his remains will be brought home for his final resting place at the LNMB.



Christmas Party. @ NIU @ Vikings SM Aura Dec 6; First Xmas Party after two COVID years. An unexpectedly good turnout: Those who were supposed to be present were there. **Clem Mariano; Arfs Arpon; Jimmy Valeros; Ding Odoño; Billy Villareal; Rey Reyes; Jim Vandevoot; Susan Arevalo; Ellen de la Cruz; Susan Arevalo's sister; Minnie Bas; Beth Villareal; Glo Valeros; Lina Pilapil; Sandy Reyes; Vicky Garchitorea; and Joyce Bas.**





Game of the Cavaliers

Rene Garcia, Rey Reyes and Arfs Arpon played at PNGC, and had the pleasure of meeting Cavalier **Augustus Paiso**, playing with him and sharing lunch after the game (his treat). We couldn't have asked for a better day Golf and Gulp for four Gentlemen, three Generals.

We were in awe not only with the fact that he still plays the game at his age but still plays it well; we have to admit better than the three of us, his younger and fellow octogenarians. He did, in fact, emerged as Champion for the Team of the 50's.

Christmas Greetings, with photos to boot, from here and abroad, from Mistahs who have been missed for some time in past issues: **Santi and Nida Bunoan** and family, Aroroy, Masbate; **Jorge Agcaoili** (Illinois); and, from California, **Rolly and Siony Pabellano**, and **Louie Bareng**

Yes and No.

Yes, a couple of days after the Class Christmas party, **Jim Vandervoort**, with wife **Vanessa** and children, hightailed it to his other country. And yes, he was there to enjoy the sights and sounds of Las Vegas and from there, watched the annual Army-Navy game. But no, he and his buddy and fellow USNA alum, Captain **Brian Ritter**, did not bring good luck to Navy as the Navy lost in the first overtime ever of this annual event.

After all, until the next Army-Navy game, this duo on the losing team, find comfort in the adage: misery loves company. @waga/cl64/cc2301





MIGUEL A. LEONARDO
President
EVERLINO P. NARTATEZ
Secretary

THE PMA MULAWIN CLASS OF 1965 wishes one and all Pleasant Greetings of a Very Merry Joyful Christmas and Happy Prosperous New Year (of the Rabbit)!!!

And as we transition to a new normal in a post COVID environment, we extend Birthday Greetings, too, to all Mulawins and ladies who are January-February-March-born: (1) Susan Abadilla - February 1; (2) Ed Abesamis (+) - January 3; (3) Jun Arque - March 15; (4) Mon Azurin - March 22; (5) Robert Bruce - January 6; (6) Celia Bulan-Feb 25; (7) Boots Candelario - January 17; (8) Susie Cauton - February 10; (9) Emil de Leon (+) - January 29; (10) Vicky de Leon - January 12; (11) Pepe delos Santos - March 10; (12) Ces Flor - February 1; (13) Vicky Guzman - February 18; (14) Doming Habos - January 21; (15) Atong Lintao(+) - January 23; (16) Ofring Marcelo - January 10; (17) Rose Monta - January 19; (18) Danny Olay (+) - February 12; (19) Romy Padiernos (+) - March 31; (20) Vi Santos (+) - Feb 26; (21) Ignacio Santos (+) Mar 10; (22) Jannette Lapus - February 26; (23) Ladio Tangan - January 8; and (24) Lito Tapia - Jan 5.

Last October 2022 Mulawin Class Officers - Mike Leonardo; Egay Velasco; Tates Nartatez; Jomari Solquillo; Joe Lapus and Ofring Marcelo met over lunch at NIU in The Podium. They discussed a wide range of subjects to include plans of the



class for Christmas 2022 and for the coming year 2023 which will be just a 2-year away before attaining the distinction of being considered as Diamond Jubilarians. And as part of our preparation, the Class Secretary is once again tasked to canvass from our membership as who would be attending the 2023 Homecoming to assure, this early, of accommodations in Baguio as we are certain now that the City of Pines will be swarming with visitors and guests as even this early we already have observed the tremendous influx of people to the City.

A very delicate and sensitive issue was also discussed. This is about the practice now of the Class of allowing the release of the equities of members (ina-advanced) from our Class Fund when a member get

sick and confined in hospital. It was pointed out that there is an existing MULAWIN CLASS SOP that can already answer the need of a member who get serious illness and hospitalization. The decision on this matter will now be brought to the general membership for proper and final action.

As planned also during our Class meeting, we held our Traditional Class Christmas Get Together (Christmas Party, if you wish) and Fellowship with a Buffet lunch at NIU Resto in The Podium, ADB Ave., Mandaluyong City. It was a tremendous success and everybody enjoyed the fun and camaraderie not only among the members and their respective Spouses but also with a number of 2nd generation Mulawins who responded to the kulation of Sec Tates. We took advantage of their attendance and presence by awarding Certificates of Recognition to Colonel Ma. Victoria Perena-Juan as Chief Nurse of the Philippine Army; Bernardo Rafaelito Alejandro, as NDRRMC Spokesman and Assistant Secretary and Francisco R Fernandez III for having topped the Bar Examinations of 1994 and now The Ambassador of Canada. The other second generation Mulawins who attended the 2022 Mulawin Christmas Get together and Fellowship were Rolando "JunJun" Abadilla; Martin Constancio Velasco, Jr; Aldon Acenas and Robert "Bobet" Bruce Jr. Despite having just undergone his regular Hemodialysis that morning, and kahit nahihilo pa siya siguro, Pepe delos Santos showed up to enjoy the company and camaraderie of classmates whom he has not seen and been with for five years. Likewise for every one, all were excited to be meeting again and in fact have long been looking forward to the occasion





as similar previous class activities have been temporarily stopped by the COVID PANDEMIC. The others in attendance to this Christmas Get Together and Fellowship with 34 record attendance: Joe and Janet Lapus; Egay and Dina Velasco; Jomari Solquillo; Rose Monta; Doming and Mimi Habos; Ofiring and Lita Marcelo; Tates and Lyn Nartatez; Lito Tapia; Bert and Donna Acenas-Pat and Baby Duque; Jess and Boots Candelario; and Roger and Gloria Bergado;

See you all folks sa ating 2023 Homecoming./epn



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 2022

Compared to the previous Christmas Programs during the pre-COVID-19 Pandemic, our attendance this time was fewer in number – 13 males and 16 spouses. Only a few of our children attended, since as old adults, they can no longer betowed with us.

Before the lunch at AFPCOC, the group attended a special mass for Class 66 at the Camp Aguinaldo Cathedral, (no longer a post chapel), officiated by retired AFP Chaplain, Mnsgr Tirso Dolina.

During the mass, Bing Rivera read the list of graduates and spouses who had gone to the great beyond through

PAMBUNGAD

Kumusta ang pagdiriwang ng inyong Pasko 2022? At ng inyong Bagong Taon 2023? Walang alinlangang masaya, makabuluhan at ligtas. Nawa, sa kapahintulutan ng Poong Maykapal, ang mga nagdaang araw ay punung-puno ng pagpapala. At ngayon, haharapin natin ang mga susunod na araw.

Noong nakaraang sipi ng The Cavalier Magazine, isinulat natin ang mga sumusunod: "(P.S. in the para: We still mention here that the Christmas Program will push through on 10 December 2022 at Camp Aguinaldo after the 11:00 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral. It will be reported next issue.)."

Kaya nga, ang karamihan ng mga nilalaman ng Class Call nating ngayon ay tungkol sa Christmas Program 2022 sa AFPCOC, Camp Aguinaldo.



the years, including spouses and our Class associate members. To summarize – 48 PMA graduates, two foreign academy graduates, 12 spouses, and four associate/honorary members. Just to refresh our memories, here are the names of those who had gone ahead.

The graduates: Jose Agudelo, Benjamin Alamon, Benito Alba, Andres Alquiza, Mario Antonio, Carlos Atienza, Calixto Banaña, Charlemagne Batayola, Napoleon Baylon, Franklin Besecker (US), Rodolfo Bondoc, Alfonso Cagurangan, Renato Capili, Jesse James Catral, Rodolfo Clautero, Marcelino Cordova, Benvenuto Corpuz, Fermin Cuison, Rene Dado, Juan De Leon, Renato Domingo, Saturnino Domingo, Jose Escarcha, Joseph Espina, Hernani Figueroa, Tirso Gador, Hercules Galon, Teogenes Gonzales, Dominador Hontucan, Enrico Javier, Rafael Leon, Hernando Lopez, Mamerto Maddela, Juan Mamorno, Victor Mayo, Joselin Nazareno, Victor Obillo, Antonio Paginag, Renato Pascual, Santos Payumo, Baltazar Regalado, Filemon Reodica Jr, Angelo Reyes, Rolando Roque, Ireneo Syquio, Arturo Tagamolila, Lucio Teleg, Gerardo Verder, Mario Baltazar (USNA), and Rogelio Fernandez (USMA).

The spouses: Jean Alamon, Juana Aquino, Flor Arugay, Alma Batayola, Leonor Espejo, Gloria Figueroa, Jane Gonzales, Josephine Mayo, Minerva Nazareno, Jane Tañedo, Minda Teleg, and Flor Totanes.

The Associate/Honorary members: Santos Camilo, Jose Lachica, Roy Papa, Delfin Wenceslao (also PMAAAI Honorary member). Note that there are more males than females (so?).

We have not forgotten our departed. Before the visit of Mr. COVID-19 pandemic, we used to visit their graves at LNMB, Fort Bonifacio and Heritage Park, Taguig City, during the observance of All Souls/All Saints day. Last November 2022, our visit was set for 29 November, but a strong, windy, rainy storm came and we had to cancel it. There will however be a next time.

Lunch was a happy occasion. The program was simple, consisting of a Prayer before meal led by Mnsgr Dolina, sumptuous lunch, reinforced by the inclusion of Ilocano-favorite pinapaitan (hybrid). There was an exchange of gifts (not expensive) and the much awaited raffles, this time (prizes were mostly cash and gift cheques donated by willing mistahs. As usual, Sylvia Agudelo and Paz Bautista (assisted by grand daughter Kyla) supervised the raffles and the games participated mostly by the ladies, some of whom were observed to be asking the



help of Mr. Google, to answer general knowledge questions, in the likes of who invented the wheel? Surprisingly, by just participating, one received a P100 bill or more, while the winner won P200 up to P500. In other words, everybody was a winner. Somebody who did not give any right answer amassed P500 (name withheld as requested). It was indeed fun, thanks to the ladies who were game enough. Of course, class appreciation went to Louie who planned the affair and made reservations early enough at AFPCOC, otherwise it would be held sometime January 2023.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Those who celebrated/will celebrate their first days on earth were the following:

January – Paz Bautista (10), Malou Catral (28)

February – Leo Alvez (14), Vic Belo (01), Bert Jabile (24), Pons Millena (22), Jelly Nicolas (18), Salvacion Escarcha (19), Gracela Andres (20)

March – Felicisimo Neis (03), Temi Arugay (10), Bert Varona (16), Romy Bruce (29), Rhodora Parreñas (01), Carol Alvez (13), Susan Gador (14), Fe Cuison (16), Mercy Daus (25).





ANSELMO S AVENIDO JR
President
RUFINO G IBAY JR
Secretary

CLASS ACTIVITIES

A. We were really hoping that in the last two months of 2022, the COVID situation would improve, enough for us to resume our monthly Class forums. Unfortunately, this was not so. Had we been allowed by COVID, we would have held the following activities for the November - December 2022 period:

November - Dimasupil Monthly Forum (DMF) to be hosted by Cords and Myrna Cordero, Ben and Lea Libarnes, Bernie and Aying Patino, and Evelyn Villacorta.

December - Remembrance Day, Christmas Party, and Election of Class Officers. The Remembrance Day would have been in honor of the departed 39 Dimasupils (out of 85 graduates), 12 Adopted Members, and 20 Spouses. The year 2022 was undoubtedly another bad year for us, considering particularly the number of Dimasupils and Spouse who left ahead of us, as follows: Evelyn Caruncho, 19 Jan; Vic Villacorta, 12 Mar; Rody Pajaro, 26 Mar; and Joy Casillan, 2 Oct.

B. If allowed by COVID, our schedule for January-March 2023, onwards, would be as follows:

January - DMF to be hosted by Jun and Agnes Avenido, Bobby and Penny Lastimoso, Edsel and Toto Salvana, and Joseph and Reina Young.

February - DMF to be hosted by Manny Dalipe and family, and Ernie and Dinsay Dionisio and family.

17 February - PMAAAI Annual Convention to be held in CAP Convention Center, John Hay, Baguio City.

18 February - Annual PMA Alumni Homecoming in PMA, Baguio City.

March - Celebration of our 56th Graduation Anniversary to be hosted by Manny Dalipe, Jun and Ronnie Ibay, and Nic and Glo Parena.

April - DMF to be hosted by Nenie Abandan, Alice Averilla, Ernie and Dinsay Dionisio, Linz Gabuna, Rudy and Graise Gaerlan, Mar and Mely Gatmaitan, and Bert and Ruby Torres.

May - DMF to be hosted by Pol and Norma Aliac, and Tante and Proserfina Torrechante.

June - DMF to be hosted by Abe and Cora Din, Hedy Duenas, and Ross and Mandie Sibal.

UPDATES ON THE DIMASUPILS

Last December, we would have held our Election of Class Officers in-person. Since it could not be done, the members of our Class were just asked to select any of the following options: OPTION 1 - Just send to our Comelec via electronic means the names of our own 13 choice Directors for the Comelec to canvas the votes; OPTION 2 - Hold the Election during the first in-person Class Meeting/Forum in 2023 and consider the incumbent Officers in hold-over capacity; and OPTION 3 - Hold the next Election in December of 2023 and consider the incumbent Officers as re-elected for the year 2023. The following is the breakdown of the 25 responses received: Option 1 - 2; Option 2 - 2; Option 3 - 21. Therefore, the following are considered re-elected as our Class Officers for 2023: Pres - Avenido; VPRES - Santiago; Sec - Ibay; Treas - Gaerlan; Auditor - Sales; PRO/IT Offr - Patino; Service Coordinators (also Survivor and Sunshine Committee): Air Force - Dionisio and Sibal; Army - Ballecer and Corpus; Navy - Cordero and Din; Police - Ibay and Tomas; Adopted/Honorary - Sales and Reyes; Ways and Means Committee - Lastimoso, Austria and Patino; Social Amelioration Committee (Medical and Death Financial Assistance) - Sibal, Ibay, Gaerlan, Alino, Ballecer, Cordero, Dionisio, Patino, Sales and Tomas. Other Dimasupils and Ladies may join any of the Committees.

In several Viber chat groups with Cavaliers as members, we clarified with a modest sense of pride that it was the PMA Dimasupil Class of 1967 that started the use of Pilipino/Filipino in a class motto.

The following is the reply of Ben Libarnes to the query of Jake Caruncho re Pert Molato: *"Partner, Pert had been confined at the Veterans Memorial and Medical Center for the past years since he suffered an aneurysm on the left side of his brain. He still can talk, but he failed to recognize me when I visited him. However, his face brightened up when I mentioned my wife Lea, who is his first cousin. He is being attended to by his sons and daughter and oftentimes visited by his younger brother Angelo (PMA Class 1971)."*

We received the following message from Mar Gatmaitan: *"This time may I request for your prayers for me. I am presently confined at Makati Medical Center as I became unconscious last Sunday*

evening (11 Dec) while I was at a party." Mar underwent a series of tests. While stroke had been ruled out, no decision had been made yet whether further medical intervention would be done. Meantime, he was discharged on 15 Dec with the advice not to drive, but he could still swim and walk with a companion.

UPDATES ON OUR FAMILIES

Congratulations to Mariano "March" Santiago Jr, son of Mar and Evelyn, for having received his Orders of Promotion to Captain in the California Highway Patrol, USA. He will assume as Chief of the Exposition Site Central LA with composite elements of CHP and California Department of Public Safety personnel under his command effective February 2023.

Congratulations also to Zamboanga City Mayor John Dalipe, son of Manny and Maryrose, on his recent appointment by Pres Ferdinand R Marcos Jr as Chairman of the Regional Development Council, Region IX.

We also extend our congratulations to Brig Gen Armand Arevalo '91, husband of Jo Anna Avenido and son-in-law of Jun and Agnes, on his recent assumption as Camp Commander of Camp Aguinaldo. Prior to this assignment, he was the Acting Commander of SOLCOM based in Lucena City.

COVID is still very much around. Its latest victims were the daughter of Nic and Glo Parena and two young grandchildren of Jun and Agnes Avenido. Let us continue to strictly observe health protocols.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORS

Best wishes to the following Dimasupils and spouses who are celebrating their birthdays in January, February and March: Myrna Espinosa (1 January), Hedy Duenas (2), Bobby Lastimoso (4), Lita De Guzman (5), Queenie Enriquez (6), Pert Molato (8), Cora Tomas (9), Edsel Salvana (14), Warlie Sadiarin (16), Joseph Young (16), Myrna Cordero (20), Ernest Escaler (23), Jun Avenido (24), Ernie Dionisio (3 February), Myrna Andaya (5), Lou Ibanez (11), Bay Obillos (18), Linz Gabuna (26), Senyang Austria (4 March), Lea Vallejera (5), Ching Aguana (8), Josie Dela Cruz (12), Nic Parena (20), Jun Ibay (21), Benny Ventura (21), Rody Duterte (28), Mely Gatmaitan (30), and Manny Dalipe (31).

Please let us know if there are celebrators we have not mentioned or if there is wrong data so that we can correct our Class records accordingly.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Please be reminded that we have to pay our annual contribution to the Social Amelioration Fund in the first quarter of the year in order to benefit from the discount for early payors. We also appeal to our more fortunate Dimasupils to give their additional donation soon so that our Fund can grow faster, enough to give bigger assistance to those concerned. Please contact our Class Treasurer Rudy Gaerlan for further details.

CLASS TRIVIA

(This portion of our Class Call is contributed by Bernie "Uncle Bobo" Patino. The opinions expressed herein are solely his and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Class or this Magazine. So, beware!)

I look at our Dimasupil Viber chat group as a free market of ideas. We can exchange wisdom and inanities. And we are careful not to touch sore nerves to the point of insulting and humiliating friends.

That is what being a Dimasupil is all about! Healthy brotherhood with lots of respect!

If life has a rewind button, I want to go back to that time when I was a cadet. I was busy in the touring grounds and being confined to quarters that I failed to admire the beautiful sceneries of Baguio. Even my extra three years as Tac-O disallowed me from relishing the beauty of nature. The view from the kissing rock looking down at Kennon Road was breathtaking, but who cares about views when one is kissing! Oh what a feeling to relive our cadet days!

Rumor has it that the family of Vladimir Putin was originally from Passi City, Iloilo. Their name was PATINO. When they migrated to Russia, it was changed to PATIN. As years went by, it was lost in translation and became Putin! So, there!

Eating fruits can cure most medical issues. Durian, taken with a generous admixture of brandy and other spirits, is as effective as 100 mgs of Viagra! In the

late 60s, Dimasupils were sexually potent and aggressively adventurous. Paldahan ang poste ng Meralco at iligawan na nila. At their present physical state, they have outlived their usefulness in bed. (Sasagot na naman si Pol Aliac, I know. He would say: "I do my thing on the floor, so I am still useful.") Hahaha.

HARRY BELAFONTE: "If you want to be happy for the rest of your life, get a pretty woman as your wife!" ANDREW E: "Hanap ka ng pangit at mahalín mong tunay, liligaya ka sa iyang buhay!" Ano ba talaga ang tama, Kuya?

Lord, dumating na ako sa punto ng buhay ko na ayaw ko na ng: katawan ni Derek Ramsay, Pera ni Manny Pacquiao, Mukha ni Titong Enriquez, kutis ni Aga Muhlach, o Utak ni Mariano Cordero. Gusto ko na lang po mahabang buhay tulad ni Juan Ponce Enrile. Amen!

Happy New Year to all Dimasupils and other Cavaliers and their families!



ARTURO B CARRILLO
President
WILFREDO G NUQUI
Scribe

I. External environment. We and our younger generations face major governance and environmental opportunities and challenges. Inflation was at a 14-year high 8% and 7.7% for the bottom 30% income households in Nov 2022. ADB's latest forecast of Phil economic

growth is 7.4% and 5.7% in 2022 and 2023, respectively. It expects average inflation to fall from 6% to 4.3% over the same period. Higher-wage employment alongside stable prices remain public policy priorities.

Responsive structural, tariff and supply side policies are urgent on food, energy and public transport. Electric power supply is in deficit even as the economics of renewable energy is getting better. COP27 Climate Summit made little progress in committing largest carbon emitting and developed countries assist other countries address climate disasters. Positive economic, social and green practices provide optimism.

The GAA of 2023 was signed into

law. Publicly unpopular confidential funds including those of Congress remain enshrined. The PBBM endorsed *Maharlika* Investment Fund (MIF) was approved in record 17 days. The original bill suffered from lack of 'FVR complete staff work', quality research and nationwide public consultation and legal infirmities. Public trust in the integrity of the MIF's management is a major challenge despite safeguards. MIF is intended to invest in foreign currencies, fixed-income instruments, domestic and foreign corporate bonds, commercial real estate, and infrastructure projects.

"Negative returns in the MIF will be socialized, that is, charged to the nation



(UPSE Professor Raul Fabella, national economic scientist)". MIF losses will be borne by taxpayers and imperil *ayuda* to the poor, warranted increases in teachers' and health workers' salaries and MUP and senior citizens' pensions. Transparent information is warranted on the financial returns of MIF and independently invested funds of GFIs i.e., BSP, SSS, GSIS and DBP.

II. Class Christmas party, election of officers for 2023 and other matters.

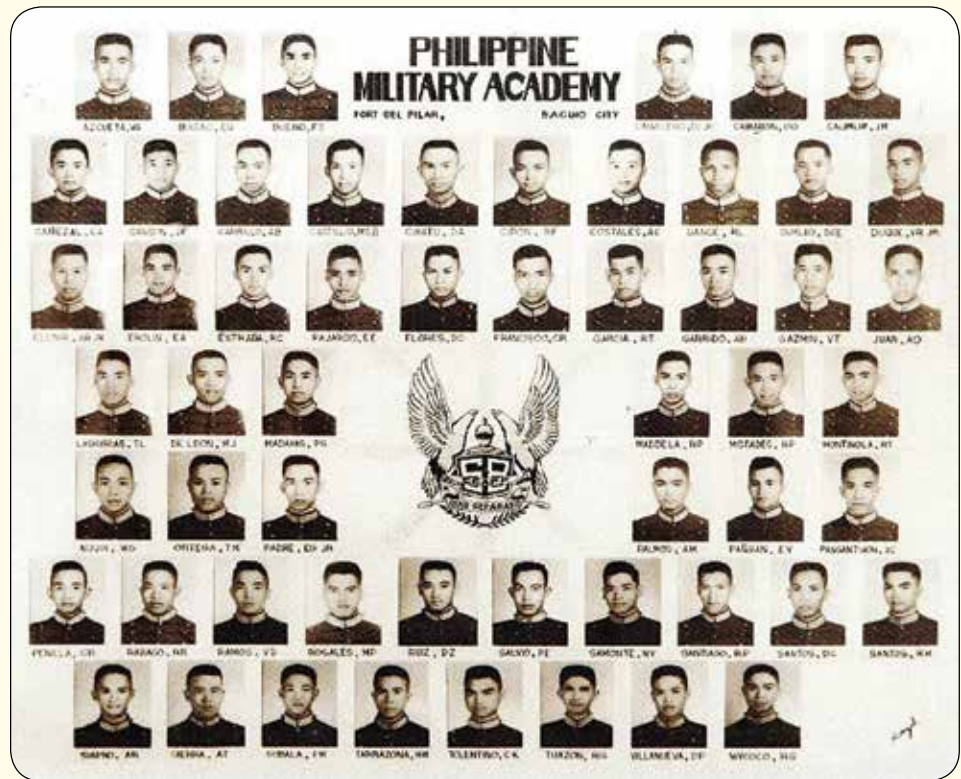
Our Christmas party was held at CAGC on Dec 5, 2022. It was merrily participated in by 13 CMs and 16 Class Ladies. They are President Art Carrillo, who led the event, Willy, Volts, Nori, Bobby, Rudy, Oscar, Abe, Hector, Rene, Mel, Alex and Tony (Sierra). The CLs are Tita, Tess P, who efficiently coordinated the fun program activities with other ladies, Celia, Evelyn, Isay, Rhodie, Candy, Roxanne, Peewee, Purita, Julie, Arlene, Millette, Shirley, Bebot and Angging.

Art shared a brief recall of productive and other Class events over the past year, the status of the Class Fund as of Dec 2, 2022, and presided over the election of officers for CY 2023. The elected members of the Class governing Board for 2023 are Art C, Volts, Willy, Rudy and Abe.

Boyet and Dolly donated a Cebu lechon. Other lunch food was contributed by Mel and Millette and indisputable Game Masters Nori and Candy who also presided over an exciting inter-cadet company competition on Christmas topics and HHH-type games. Mel R. rendered two songs, namely 'Endless Love' (duet) and 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas'. Volts G. and Art C. also sang. CMs jointly sang *Kaydet* Girl before CLs. The AFP combo provided excellent background music.

Art celebrated an extremely joyful Christmas with visiting son Alfred and daughter Aissa and their respective families who are based in the U.S. and the rest of the Carrillo clan. Bobby with Puring and Sonny with Luth spent Christmas with their children and families in the U.S.

Julie Ruiz cut the ribbon and opened the testimonial plaque in PNSLAI's new building in Dec 5. Her beloved and our CM Dante Ruiz successfully steered PNSLAI as president for 17 years. AFPSLAI recently celebrated its 50th founding anniversary. We appreciate its consistent tax-free (RA No. 8367) dividend and interest income to members. We look forward to its more digitized services, reliable ATMs and simplified updating of records of members overseas. Class 1968 wishes everyone a more prosperous and healthier New Year 2023.



PMA CLASS 1968

• Cav Crisogono R Francisco '68

We are the men of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1968.

Ordinary mortals imbued with unyielding spirit to hold and concentrate.
Where discipline we have acquired had made us better leaders in society
To set the good example to serve the country with purpose and sincerity.

We are the men of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1968.

We have the will to pursue the good things that we must appreciate.
Whatever we do is being inspired and guided by an achiever's standard
Where excellence is a perfection in all things we do as we move forward.

We are the men of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1968.

Our aspirations are high as we blaze the path we have to contemplate.
For the soul is the enduring force that energizes the spirit of determination
Toward a continuing journey to life as we do strive with utmost dedication.

We are the Cavaliers of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1968.

We are strong, resilient and united; "*Auxillio Ab Alto, Quis Separabit?*"
With aid from the Most High, no one can separate, destroy or deceive us.
For we are united in times of crises because principle with dignity is a must
With pride we lead, inspire, and succeed for a higher glory as in God we trust.

We are the Cavaliers of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1968.

We face problems and difficulties with innovation and undaunted spirit.
Because tribulations are basic entities of a productive life with a sense of beauty.
Miseries are challenges to brave men who rise above frustration and uncertainty.

These are the men of PMA Class '68 with ideals of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty.





JAIME S DE LOS SANTOS
President
JESUS B DULLER
Secretary

Our Headline: The Class of PMA Class 1969 are very proud in congratulating and saluting Suaviter Classmates Benjie Defensor Jr and Jimmy De Los Santos as PMAAA Lifetime Achievement Awardees. Well deserved!



Gen Benjie P Defensor Jr



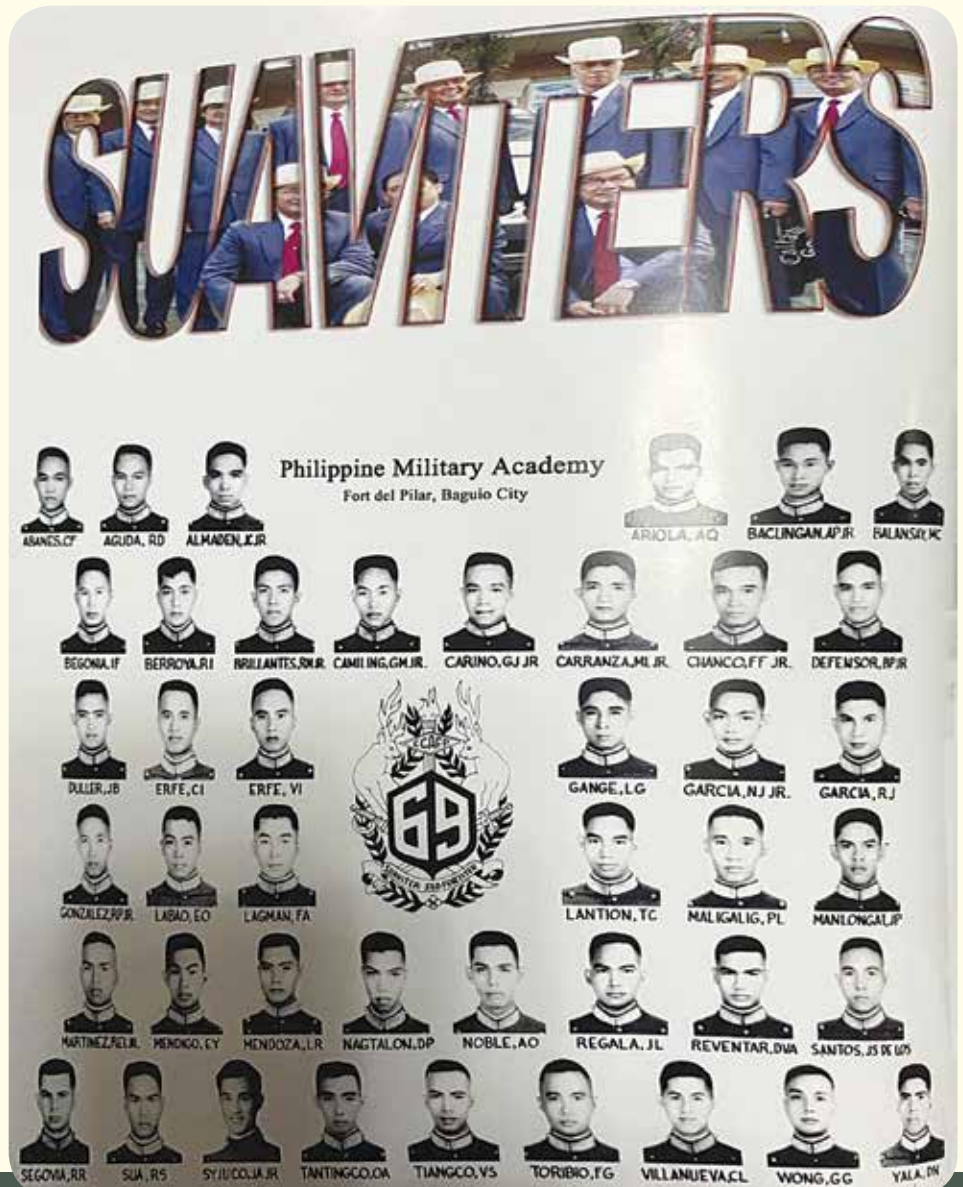
LtGen Jaime S De Los Santos

TRIVIA

- Cav Jus Manlongat '69

- 1,728 applicants took the PMA entrance examinations in September 1964, of which 101 passed and were directed to undergo physical and medical exams at V. Luna Medical Center. Sixty five of the 101 were directed to proceed to PMA on 1 April 1965 to compose the Class of 1969. They were joined by 18 cadets formerly belonging to Class 1968.

- Three passed the mental, physical and medical requirements as 4th year high school students: one joined Class 70 another was dismissed for academic deficiency and the third was dismissed for hazing.
- Twenty two of the 65 plebes became yearlings – three from Alfa, eight from Bravo, five from Charlie, and six from Delta; Four were suspended for hazing (three during yearling and one during second class year.)
- Three joined the US Service Academies: Joey Syjuco (USMA 69), Aguedo Ingco (USNA 70) and Felipe Villafranca (USFA 70).
- Of the 65 plebes, 16 graduated with the original class, 3 joined the US Service Academies, 21 graduated with Class 70, 7 graduated with Class 71; 2 were suspended but decided not to return to PMA and 16 were dismissed.
- When Class 69 became yearlings, the Academic Board decided that as long as a cadet is proficient on the average, a cadet need not take the finals, even though he is deficient in WPR/WGR. It was found out that plebes were “followed up” during the WGR week.
- In 2000-2002, Class 69 held the reins in the AFP/PNP – Benjie Defensor as CG, PAF then CSAFP; Larry Mendoza as Chief, PNP; Jimmy delos Santos as TDCS then CG, PA; Greg Camiling as VCSAFP then CG, PA and Willy Wong as FOIC, PN.
- After retirement, Larry Mendoza became Secretary of Transportation and Communication and later the Executive Secretary at the Office of the President.
- Jimmy delos Santos held the rank of UN Assistant Secretary General as Force Commander, UN Multinational Peacekeeping Force in East Timor. He commanded a military contingent composed of units from 24 nations.



- Joey Syjuco was TOYM Awardee for Government Service in 1981. He topped the DFA Foreign Exams in 1973 and reached the rank of Ambassador at the age of 29. Joey served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Philippine Embassy in Washington DC and London UK. He was also the Consul General in Seattle, Washington, USA and London, UK.
- Ike Begonia passed the DFA Foreign Service Officers Exams in 1981 and the Career Ministers Exams in 2001 which is a requirement before one is conferred the rank of Chief of Mission. He has two careers in his lifetime having retired as Colonel in the AFP and as Ambassador with the rank of Chief of Mission Class I in the Foreign Service. Ike was Consul General in Manado, Indonesia and Guangzhou, China. He was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the State of Qatar, Romania, Bulgaria and Moldova. He was conferred the Special Achievement Award in 2009 by the PMAAAI.
- After retirement, Willing Wong served

- as Ambassador to Vietnam and Benjie Defensor as Special Envoy with the rank of Ambassador (Counter Terrorism).
- Undersecretaries: Cris Abanes and Tom Lantion (DOTC); Mon Martinez (DND) and Joey Syjuco (DPWH).
- Assistant Secretaries: Rey Berroya (LTO), Tom Lantion (LTFRB), Mon Martinez (DND) and Joey Syjuco (PDWH).
- PMA Superintendents: Nonoy Carranza and Jimmy delos Santos.
- Cavalier Awardees: Alex Noble (Combat Operations 1986); Jimmy delos Santos (Staff Functions 1994); and for Command and Administration: Tom Lantion in 2000, Benjie Defensor in 2001, Jimmy delos Santos in 2002 and Larry Mendoza in 2003.
- Military Attaches: Nonoy Carranza (Air Attache, Washington), Cleo Erfe (Navy Attache, Washington) and Jus Manlongat (Defense, Army, Air and Navy Attache in Bonn, Paris and Madrid).
- Top Guns at AFPCGSC: Class 20 - Nonoy Carranza was Number 2; Class 21 - Larry Mendoza was Number 1; Class 23 - Boy

- Maligalig was Number 2; Class 24 - Tom Lantion was Number 2; Class 25 - Ferdie Lagman was Number 1; Class 26 - Jus Manlongat was Number 2; Class 27 - Jimmy delos Santos was Number 1 and Class 28 - Ike Begonia was Number 2.
- The class produced one Full General; one Director General, PNP; two Lieutenant Generals; one Major General, one Rear Admiral, one Police Director; one Brigadier General, two Commodores and three Chief Superintendents.
- Of the 42 members of the Class, 17 retired at age 56; 11 chose optional retirement and the rest resigned from the service.
- Three died in line of duty: Lito Labao perished in a PAF U-17 in Dingalan Bay; Rimbart Gonzales perished in a PN Islander between Palawan and Mindoro and Max Balansay crashed aboard BO - 105 Helicopter. They all crashed braving very bad weather. The bodies of Libo Labao and Rimbart Gonzales were never found.



THE LAST QUARTER OF OUR YEARS

1. Class '70-'71 Golf Fellowship

One-on-one Golf with Matatag '71 was held at Veterans Golf Course on 25 October 2022 with more than 40 participants including some from Class '72. Class '71 headed by Cav Egay Aglipay with his usual magnanimity once again made the occasion truly memorable.

Our class will host a return bout fellowship on 6 January 2023, PNGC to settle some unfinished business.



2. Magiting X'mas Party

Our Class held its annual party 11 December at the Ogbinar Hall, PNGC. Some 30 members and widows attended with their spouses. A jamming session followed till the end of the afternoon.

3. Pitong's Sudden Departure

The passing of our dear mistah, Agapito "Pitong" Heredia, Jr. in LV, Nevada on 18 December 2022 left everyone heartbroken and empty. No one can fill up the shoes he had left behind. The characteristic bravura with the booming voice when putting across a lament will no longer be with us. He made full use of this on then Sec Del Lorenzana that eventually worked in our favor when our face-to-face Golden Homecoming Ceremony hang in the balance in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Pitong's mischief, the naughtiness, the impishness, the fun and the laughter will be missed.

4. The Unfailing Mas-Magittings

Every 1st Wednesday of the month Mas-Magittings gather to attend mass and lunch in selected places in Metro Manila. They likewise meet virtually every Thursday afternoon to pray the Novena for the healing of Magittings and Mas-Magittings with health issues. Like clockwork they go about their chores quite unnoticed by us, ungrateful Magiting fools.

Here's looking to a fruitful more rewarding year 2023. May our wishes be fulfilled.

Merry X'mas and a Happy New Year to all!



Pitong at work



Class 70-71 Golf Fellowship



Class Xmas Party 2022



Mas-Magitings Xmas Party



JOSE C LALISAN JR
President
ARTHUR G BALMACEDA
Secretary

Welcome to PMA all cavaliers!

Our greetings to all graduates for their anniversaries particularly those celebrating their diamond, gold, and silver. Lucky are those who are still alive and kicking to watch the Cadet Corps in their splendid uniform marching in Borromeo Fields that bring nostalgic memories to the visiting

cavaliers. Once more, the Matatag Class of 1971 greets you **"Happy Homecoming."**

The Class Christmas Party 2022

The class held its Christmas Party last 4 December and it was with a bang. For the first time in more than two years, the class had its face-to-face fellowship at the Quezon City Sports Club. For the first time also, it was attended not only by mistahs and the mas-Matatags (ladies) but also by the children and apos. It was a family affair, so to speak. Everyone was excited to greet each other who graced the occasion in their Christmas colored attire bringing along their raffle and exchange gift items. So excited were the attendees that I, while delivering my welcome remarks

as president of the class, had to gently caution them several times to quiet down and settle. The event was attended by more than 150 persons, a historic record indeed. For the first time too, an event emcee was hired to manage the prepared program. There were games for the adults and the young ones. The "apos" enjoyed the most during the games as lots of cash and commercial items were the prizes. Our congratulations to the Mas-Matatags led by its president, Celia Lalisan, and her committees for the fun-filled event. Our thanks go to mistah Dick de Leon and his mas-Matatag Dra. Annie for taking care of the venue and the food; to the Matatag ladies for the event preparation involving the program proper, the management of

the parlor games, the exchange gift, and the raffle portion; to Egay and Mawie Aglipay who donated the grand raffle prize of the 55 inch smart TV set which was won by mistah Obet Pagdanganan (it was his first time to win a raffle, according to him), and the give-away items for all; and, to all generous mistahs who donated cash and goodies for the raffles and who also brought with them Christmas gifts for each family. By the way, selected ladies prepared a modern dance number. This was performed by Jing Martinez, Chit Eslao, Eden Sacramento, and Gie Rivera. The party was extended for another hour to the delight of the attendees especially when it was announced that every family will bring home a sack of rice each at the end of the fellowship.

The Hampaslupa'71 (HL'71) golf events

The golf dual meet between the Class '71 and Class '72 culminated last December 5 during the 4th quarter Corps of 70s golf tourney at the Navy Golf Course. Only the scores of the top 7 were considered and it was announced that Class '71 won. For the first time, we won!

The Hampaslupas won also the tournament involving four classes i.e. Classes '70, '71, '72, and '73. Class '72 won as a close second, followed by Class '73, and then Class '70, the host for the last quarter event. It was a winning streak for the Hampaslupas indeed. Its players were Rey Acop, the HL'71 Prexy, Egay Aglipay, Tex Balmaceda, Rey Velasco, Rey Alcasid, Rey Rivera, Joey Lalisán, Bing Alano, Jerry Albano, Teody Viduya, Oca Martinez, Dong Tabamo, Nelson Eslao, who came all the way from Baguio City, and Twiggy Zubia.

The HL'71 also joined the year-end golf tournaments in Aguinaldo and Navy Golf Clubs. We joined in the senior golfer category but unfortunately, none of us won. However,

some of us were fortunate enough to bring home great raffle items and give-aways.

The class also joined the traditional fund-raising golf tourney sponsored by the PMAAAI for the fellowship and love of the game. It was really for "the love of the game" because we did not win any award. The class also sponsored one hole for this event. The Matatag golfers also joined the Navy Senior Golfers year-end event and as expected, the younger seniors won but none from us. However, we enjoyed the fellowship plus all HL'71 went home with raffle items and a quality golf shirt each.

The next event for the HL'71 to prepare is for the incoming dual-meet against the Class '70. This will be held on 6 January 2023 at the Navy Golf Course. This was conveyed to me by Cavalier Ed Israel, Class '70 president. So, HL'71, good luck to us!

Book Donation to NDCP

I just discovered from my files the letter from the NDCP President Archimede Viaje, PHD, acknowledging and expressing his gratitude for the 50 books of the BROTHERS: The Untold Story of the Philippine Military Academy "Matatag" Class of 1971 donated to the NDCP Library. This book, authored by mistah class historian Rollie Malinis, highlights the journey of the mistahs towards the fulfillment of their careers even after retirement from the Service. This was initiated by mistah Aris de los Reyes, my co-graduate in NDCP in 1992.

Quote for this Issue

"There is nothing impossible to they who will try." Alexander The Great // JCL/15 Dec 2022



WELCOME

to the
Matatag Class of 1971
Christmas Party

December 4, 2022

Quezon City Sports Center





Hello and Happy New Year to all. May the year of the water rabbit brings joy, excellent health and Godly blessings to the Masigasig family. We exhort and encourage everybody to remain positive in our outlook in life and always gentle and elegant in many ways despite the challenges of combating COVID 19. That's the Masigasig way. Here are the year-ender news updates:

a. Christ Masigasig Party/Fellowship:

The Class Xmas party, dubbed as "Christ Masigasig" was held last 09 Dec at Ogbinar Hall, PNGC. This was the first F2F party/fellowship we had since the outbreak of COVID 19, so the excitement of seeing each other was very evident. Overall, the party was an outstanding success with 75 Mistahs/MAS and dependents in attendance. The presence of four expats Mistahs and MAS from Canada and US in the persons of Medin Velasco, Angie Vilches, Elmer and Renee Ignacio was a great feeling of joy. Glad to see you folks.

The party started with a Holy Mass to thank the Lord for all the graces He bestowed upon us. Most importantly, we prayed for Lord's mercy and compassion for the healing of Mistahs/Mas who are suffering from various health issues. As usual, there were fun games with cash prizes at stake for the winners. Intermittently, there were group singing and dancing that added meaning and entertainment to the occasion. The famous Phil Marine Band provided appropriate and non-stop music to the delight of the audience. The special highlight of the party was the presentation of Plaques of Recognition/Appreciation to individuals in recognition of their invaluable services rendered to the Class. In particular, Gov Amado I. Espino III was cited for his unwavering support to the Class during the Alumni Homecoming activities, specifically the successful conclusion of the 50th Golden Anniversary. Mistah June Espino received the Plaque of Recognition in behalf of Gov Pogi. Likewise, Mistah Manny Teodosio, Editor in Chief of MGS, was presented a Plaque of Recognition for his outstanding achievement in the conceptualization and final printing of the MSG; a priceless piece of legacy of the Class. Relatedly, Mistah Choly Teodosio was awarded a Plaque



of Appreciation for her contribution as Administrative Assistant of Editorial Staff in the area of editing, data collection and laying-out.

The party ended at about 11:00 p.m. after the group singing of Christmas medleys and the traditional Kaydet Girl exclusively dedicated to our lovely ladies. Tired but fully satisfied, everybody inched their ways going home bringing their respective gift bags (ham and queso de bola), courtesy of the Class.

We express our thanks and gratitude to the members of Christmas 2022 Committee for their splendid job and ensuring the success of the party. We can't ask for more. Congrats and God bless, ladies. You did it again, with flying colors. Of course, kudos and thanks also to our willing and able Mistahs/Mas who extended financial support for the Christmas party. Your kindness added meaning and credence to the celebration

of our Christmas party. Thank you and may your tribe multiply a thousand fold.

b. Morale and Welfare:

Let's continue praying and extend morale support to our Mistahs and Mas who are suffering from various ailments. In times of distress and suffering, our prayers for God's mercy and compassion are the ultimate medium for healing. We know for a fact that some Mistah/Mas are suffering in silence, so they need our support in many ways. The Masigasig spirit shall never wane especially in times of troubles and sufferings.

c. MGS Updates:

The distribution of MGS started last week of November. For those who have not received their orders yet and who wish to make extra orders kindly communicate with Mistahs Bing and Teody. Honestly the book is superb, a perfect legacy for our





families. Again our sincerest thanks to the Editorial Staff.

d. Alumni Homecoming 2023:

Right now, the Board has to meet yet to finalize the Class activities for the 2023 Alumni Homecoming. It was suggested formally that we only send a token party preferably from BOT to represent the Class. Mistahs/Mas who wish to attend may do so but they have to shoulder their hotel bills and travel expenses. This time, however, there will be no more available free buses at our disposal. We are still awaiting the policy of the present PMAAAI Board as regards to the number of attendees from other classes.

e. Birthday Greetings:

We extend our best wishes and felicitations to the following Mistahs/Mas who will be celebrating their birthdays. For **January**: Vic Carag, Cora Oliveros,



Elmer Romano, Mila Paguio, Ed Adan, Mol Sales(+), Manny Teodosio, Beth Adan, Sheryl Luga, Pogs Santillan(+), Cris Balaoging. **February:** Ping Berroya, Albin

Rivera, Pol Lacerna, Lorna Abesamis, Rudy De Castro, Rey Jucutan, Helen Evangelista, Bobby del Pilar(+), Ludy Vidad, Ogie Alino, Manding Naval, Lily Romano and Babes

Flores. Happy birthdays and may you more to come.

Till next Class Call and happy reading to all: Oslec.



On the last few days of year 2022, Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI joined our Creator. May he rest in the peace of the Lord.

With profound faith in the boundless mercy and love of the Lord Almighty, the Maagap families bade farewell and thankfulness to year 2022 and welcomed the new year 2023. Of course, we held the Best Maagap Christmas Party 2022 at the Army Officers Club care of BCDA Chairman, Mistah Del Lorenzana. The Dinner Party was supposed to be held at the adjacent open Pavilion but due to inclement weather Pres VQ transferred the venue to the Main Cubhouse after hurried coordinations with the Army Hqs. It was the quick and correct adjustments given the fact that senior legs and feet might slip dangerously on inclined wet pavement. The Los Caballeros of the AFP CMO Regiment sang the music of the 1970s and 80s, the list of which we provided weeks before. As seniors we preferred the soft and easy music than the rambunctious music of rock and metal. Thanks to the Army and the AFP.

The aspiring balladeer, Mistah Bong Habacon was symbol of temerity when it came to singing his signature song, 'Bakit Labis Kitang Mahal'. Mistah Bod Aviso from Pennsylvania flew in barely a day ahead and quickly sparked glitter in the Party when



Maagap Sonny Divina and Lauren in Seattle USA.

he sang medley of Christmas songs. Mas Maagap Ilocana Janet Magsino of the late Mistah Rosallo sang the very soulful 'I'm

dreaming of White Christmas' which kept us glued to her song and the message it cut across. And there the Los Caballeros went



Above Maagap Christie and Dess Datu.



Holiday Cheers from Mistah Christie.

to the seats as the usual Maagap band of Mistah Dennis Sanchez, Mat Mayuga, Bong Habacon and Bob Aviso took the center stage with renditions of several Beatles' songs. Not to be outdone was Mistah George T Uy; he took the Maagap crowd by storm with his bawdy and laughable 'Bikining Itim' and the Cebuano-ish 'Si Pilemon' repertoire. The Class leadership tried hard to make the Christmas Party better than the usual because it was our Golden Anniversary (50th year) Christmas Party anyway. So Mistah Del Lorenzana opened French chardonnay and merlot and Mas Maagap Edith Lorenzana tendered special large, sweet and juicy Cereza del Jerte from the autonomous region of Extramadura, biscuits and juvenile cheese from Mas Maagap Gee Mayuga while Prez VQ wafted the delicate scent of Cardhu and Laphroaig Quarter Cask single malt. Mas Maagap Baby Gutierrez gave walnut pie and beautiful red roses. However when the Kaydet Girl was sung followed by the PMA Oh Hail To Thee, cries from our dear widows though muted in sobs did break our hearts. It became Christmas Party 2022 for the Maagaps Departed. From this images, we will hold our Golden Anniversary Dinner Ball on 18 February with all the Maagaps Departed in our minds. "There's a grief that can't be spoken, There's a pain goes on and on, Empty chairs at empty tables, Now my friends are dead and gone."

The Maagaps spent Christmas and New Year activities in various places around the world. Mistah Alex Lapinid huddled with family in USA and in Los Baños while Mistah Rody Luis in Long Island New York. After the Maagap Christmas Party. Mas Maagap Lai Ledesma was picture of happy family in New York while power-walk buff Mistah Sid Lapeña and family were more *comme la nature* and rustic with bonfire in Davao,



Remembering departed Mistah Sonny Gutierrez with love from wifey Baby

their faces changing with flames dancing. Mistah Mat Mayuga did power-walk and power-talk with wifey Gee at the same time burned extra loads of calories usually soaked in during the holidays, and Mistah Sammy Bagasin after so much freezing in Canada came over to the Philippines to thaw. Mistah Sonny Divina are chilling great in the freezing winds of Seattle while Mistah Nestor Sanares enjoyed the balmy Christmas breeze of Batangas and so with craniotomy-veteran Mistah Tito Anganan shared the Christmas spirits with family in Cavite and lovely daughter in California. Getting connected with inactive Mistahs, we thank profusely the efforts of Mistah Rommy Alamillo who gets connected with Mistah Conrado Pegoy Peregrino during the Pangasinan Bok-kayo

Holiday celebration in Bugallon, Pangasinan. Down there in California, Mistah Fer Pati Patawaran celebrated the happy Holidays by their 2-some while in Zambales beach, Mistah Val Prudencio spent the holidays there reminiscing the scenes he etched as the lead Huey heli pilot during the filmmaking of 'Apocalypse Now', a Francis Ford Coppola 1979 film. Mistah Val somehow did not know how controversial the core message of first, the British Africa past and the recent brutal US imperialism in Vietnam that unhinged international relations. Mistah VQ family spent the Holidays in country, some in the slopes of Sapporo, in Switzerland, in foothills of Mátra, and Budapest, in Louvre in other places where the old feet would not venture anymore during winter. Prez VQ launched on 12 December additional college collaboration with the General Querol Scholarship Program (GQSP) with Mayor Tiangco and the Navotas Polytechnic University. It added to the original scholarship program with City of Malabon University which has been ongoing for 20 years now.

While the Maagaps enjoy the Holidays the TWG hit the first week running and tackled the printing of the Maagap Golden Sword. Mistah Prez VQ was the Sword 73 editor-in-chief and has rallied his former editorial staffs for the Golden Sword 2023. It will be a very valuable compendium of Maagap 50 years of journey with family and Mistahs in service to God, country and people. The Golden Sword will be out by early April 2023, two months after the Golden Anniversary celebrations because the 22 pages of which will be devoted to the February 2023 Alumni Homecoming. Prez VQ decided that way believing the Golden Sword with the Golden Anniversary pictures will be more on the fullness of the contents than the timeliness of the roll out.



Christmas Party of Bukayo bugobugos, Maagap Conrado Pigoy Peregrino, Romy Alamillo and Sid Lapeña.



Extended family of Mistah Sammy Bagasin.



Above three pictures during Maagap Christmas Party Dec 2022.



Maagap Amba VQ Happy Holidays.



Amba Querol family in winter Japan.



In the slopes of Sapporo.



Amba Querol family in winter Japan.



In Louvre



Family pictures of the late Mistah Rene Pongco.



Director Joshua Querol spent his holidays with his meow companion



Above Ambassador Querol with Mayor Tiangco with students under the Gen Querol Scholarship Program with Navotas Polytechnic University



Above Mistah Fer Patawaran.



Mistah Fer Pati Patawaran in California.



Happy Holidays from Mas Maagap Lai Ledesma in New York.



Family of Mistah Ed Saporsantos.



Cheers from Tony Anciano family.



From Sonny Divina in Seattle.



From Alex Lapinid.



Cheers from Maagap Tito Angcanan family



Baula Family



Above from Mistah Tito Angcanan Grandchildren in California



Sid Lapena



Two pictures above are for Mistah Rody Luis and Oyang, and family in New York.



Mas Maagap Ilocan Janet Magsino.



Mistah Nestor Sanares.



Golden Sword 73 team at work with printer at the PMAAAI Center, Camp Aguinaldo.



AVELINO I RAZON, JR
President
WILFREDO V GARCIA
Secretary

Hard to believe, it's Christmas time once again- the most wonderful time of the year. As the saying goes, it is a time for family and friendship, and the season for sharing and giving.

It is not uncommon to have Christmas parties organized at school, at the office, at home, with friends and relatives. We are fond of them because they are a fantastic way for people to enjoy good company, camaraderie, and sumptuous feast.

For the Marangals, we have booked our traditional Christmas party at AGFO last Dec 16, 2022 at 4p.m. A combo provided music for singing and dancing the whole night. We also took this opportunity for the issuance of golden anniversary class T-shirts for those who have not received theirs yet, and for the measurement and fitting of class uniforms to be worn during the PMA Homecoming and Golden anniversary celebration in 2024. Around 90 plus Marangals and ladies have signified their intention to attend.

Despite the hassle and bustle of the Christmas season we still were able to find time to conduct Class activities and participate in different golf tournaments.

We joined the PMAAAI-sponsored Golf of Cavaliers 2022 held at Phil. Navy Golf Club on 24 Nov 2022 and at Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club on 28 Nov 2022. If the Marangals qualify for the Championship game, they will play at Villamor Golf club on 3 Dec 2022. We formed a fighting team



for this competition composed of selected golfers of the class: Ricky Dela Paz – Team Capt, Jun Esperon, Jun Noble, Sonny Razon, Ponce Crucero, Lito Gutierrez, Danny Abinoja, Ed Doromal, Errol Pan Eugene Cedo, Bobby Bayona, Amy Tolentino, Jun Lopez, Damian Carlos, Sonny Tolentino and Willy Garcia.

Vying for the Best Dressed Class we wore our best golf attire: at PNGC- Marangal blue and white T-shirt, blue pants, black belt, blue cap, white shoes and white gloves; at CAGC – white and orange T-shirt, khaki pants, red cap, white belt, white shoes and white gloves; at VGC – green T-shirt, green cap, blue with white stripe pants, black belt and black shoes.

Bountiful Harvests

- Individual Champion: Jun Esperon
- First Runner-Up: Ricky dela Paz on Commandants Division
- Team Champion: Marangal 74 on Commandants Division
- Best Cadet Company: Bravo

- First Runner-Up: Delta
- Best Dressed Class aka Ang Pinaka Maporma: Marangal Class 74





Bicol Trip Nov 21-23, 2022

Some Marangals with their beautiful ladies took time out to travel to Bicol upon invitation of Bicol-based mistahs Allan Paje and Lito Gamit. They were Gene and Bong Cedo, Pons and Malou Crucero, Romy and Chu Buenaflor, and Ricky and Mits Dela Paz. They were toured around by Allan and Lito to different scenic tourist destinations in the area. The group have expressed their sincerest thanks and appreciation to their kind hosts for their accommodation and hospitality.

A Soldier's Dream Come True

We were all young boys once, most from humble beginnings, yet full of hopes and dreams. We have had to make sacrifices, both big and small, and we have seen the fruits of our labor, thanks in large part to the institution that transformed these boys into men- the Academy,

Let's all read the inspired words of our Mistah Lt. Gen Eugene Cedo, as he recounts the story of a soldier's dream come true.

I HAVE A DREAM

By Lt. Gen Eugene Cedo

I was raised in a small barrio in Tuy, Batangas. Our family was poor and the living condition I grew up with was not very comfortable. As a boy, I dreamed of getting our family out of this miserable condition and to become someone who my family and my kababayan would be proud of. In my fragile youth, an ambition and a dream was born. I then had the conviction of finishing my studies, get a college degree and land a very good job.

Events in my life happened differently. After High School, I took the entrance examination to be a cadet at the Phil Military Academy and by God's will and grace, I passed. The summer of 1970 was

the turning point of the fulfillment of my dream. I went up to Baguio with 135 other aspiring cadets and began our four (4) years of rigorous training and very challenging academic semesters. The summer camp training in 1970 was the most difficult part of the 4-year cadet training.

My determination to succeed helped me in surviving this most difficult part of the training. My parents were worried for me so I assured them in my letters to them that our upperclassmen are our brothers and they will not kill us here.

But I almost did not graduate, having been reported of maltreating a plebe in the summer of 1973. But again, with God's mercy a Tactical Officer belonging to Class 1969 saved me during the investigation

conducted by the Academy's Battalion Board. I was then allowed to graduate with the rank of Cadet Sergeant.

Upon graduation, we were all sent to Mindanao where there was then an uprising of the MNLF. They occupied Jolo and we were sent to quell the uprising. A lot of encounters and skirmishes between the AFP and the MNLF happened in Mindanao particularly Regions 9 and 12. The most affected areas were Basilan, Jolo, Zamboanga del Sur, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao, Lanao Sur and Lanao Norte.

My tour of duty in Zamboanga Peninsula was the most memorable. It was here where I became a Platoon Leader, a Company Commander, a Battalion





Commander, a Brigade Commander and a Division Commander. It is even more memorable because Zamboanga is where I found my true love. It is also here that I was given the privilege to command the Western Mindanao Command.

After 37 years (1970-2007), I retired from the military service. I finally came

home to my birthplace, Tuy, Batangas. As I returned home, I vividly saw a small boy dreaming of becoming a beacon for the humble people of my Barrio. I returned as a Three (3) Star General of the Armed Forces of the Phil. I was welcomed by my relatives, friends and kababayan with joy and pride. An unknown, unheralded boy

who made good and became an Icon of the Barrio. A fulfillment of a dream. And I owe this fulfillment to God, who was with me all the time during my dedicated service to my country and the Filipino people. I also owe my success to my family - my loving wife and my beloved daughters.

"I had a dream."



RAUL S GONZALES
President
DANTE T FERRER
Secretary

Christmas Party 2022. It is undeniable that the pandemic forced many of us to forgo this festive activity for the past two years. But as we slowly eased out of the pandemic this year, the class leadership was right that it might be a wonderful time to reinstitute the much-yearned PMA Class 75 Christmas party. It is hard to believe we are knee-deep into the holiday season, and everybody was anticipating. Many organizations, including ours, use this festive time of year to allow mistahs and their families an opportunity to hangout together and enjoy tasty food, fellowship, and gifts.

As a testament to this supposition, a total of twenty-six (26) Makabayans including five (5) associate, honorary, and adopted members, some tagging along their wives, attended the PMA "Makabayan" Class 1975 Christmas party held at the Acropolis Greens Clubhouse, Acropolis Greens Subdivision, Quezon City on December 3, 2022. As it was envisioned, the party is a husband-and-wife affair but some seven widows of our gone classmates, namely: Jessica Badilla, Girlie Baltazar, Tess Logronio, Ofelia Mariano, Bennie Pabalan, Emma Regis, and Cynthia Roxas (Guligado), came and graced the occasion.

The Class acknowledges the diligence, dedication and resolution of the organizing



Makabayans pose for Christmas Party held at the Acropolis Greens Clubhouse, Dec 3, 2022.



Planning the Christmas Party: Photo shows the Class Officers holding a meeting with the core ladies jointly discussing the preparation for the PMA 75 Christmas Party. Venue is at the PGA Cars Showroom Lounge upon the invitation of Mr. Roberto Coyiuto Jr, Chairman, PGA Cars, who graciously hosted a dinner for the group on Nov 27, 2022. The Class is ever appreciative and thankful for the generous gesture of Mr. Coyiuto Jr.



Makabayan ladies pose for Christmas Party held at the Acropolis Greens Clubhouse on December 3, 2022.



"Maria Went to Town," one of the games played with much gusto by the Makabayans.

committee led by the class president Raul Gonzales and the officers. However, behind the success story are the ladies headed by Ollie Gonzales, wife of the class president, who provided soul and spirit to the celebration by assisting in organizing the program, scheming the decoration, designing the outfit to be worn by everyone, picking out the menu, and handling the program itself, to name a few of their contributions.

A live band courtesy of the Philippine Army, prearranged by Ernie Boac, was present to provide music and entertainment, while the food and beverage was catered by the French Baker. Several mistahs brought additional foodstuff, not to mention Gerry Doria's signature offering of "papaitan" to the contentment of the *connoisseurs*.

The party started with an intro ala showbiz by Gerry Doria and Lea Sethiel Doria, his daughter-in-law, who have been designated to emcee the program. The opening prayer was led by Bennie Pabalan followed by mass-singing of Christmas carols headed by the class divas Tess Logronio and Emma Regis. Welcoming the guests was the class president, Raul Gonzales, who also

delivered his Christmas message wishing everyone the joy of the season and hoping that the future would be better. He reminded everybody to look forward to 2025 when the Class will commemorate its 50th anniversary. Poignant but germane to the situation was the mention of mistahs who have gone ahead and the offering of prayers for them.

Midway in the program was the presentation of plaque of recognition



Class President Raul Gonzales delivering his message during the PMA 75 Christmas Party held at the Acropolis Greens, Q.C. on December 3, 2022.

for Willie Palugod as the previous class president citing his enduring commitment and dedicated service to the class during his term. Alongside with Willie Palugod is his wife, Liliosa, who also received a plaque of appreciation for altruistic support to the Class. President Raul Gonzales presented the awards together with the class officers.

Just before dinner was served, a surprise of all surprises, which was kept under wraps by the Makabayan ladies until its presentation, was a dance number cum *haute couture* fashion moves rendered by four "models" namely: Angie Cadungog, Nitz Sodusta, Emma Regis, and Alma Arugay. The performance was captivating just like in a typical fashion show, but minus the catwalk, and dressed in clothes created by some designers. The ladies danced so well that it drew admiration from the other ladies and



Exchange Gifts - A dynamic mode of exchanging gifts whereby one's gift is passed on to the adjacent guy and at the same time receives the gift from the opposite side until the roll on is stopped. Everybody should have a gift at the end.

sheer hope that they, too, could still possibly do the same.

A challenge was levelled by the ladies to the Makabayans to put up an equalizer to their surprise number. Anxious to be outclassed, Noe Wong, in a feat unsurpassed by any other mistahs, put up a powerful choreography, great efforts, and awesome energy in a dance number with a guest. Indeed, everyone was surprised but more than being astounded, everyone was mesmerized, far ahead of expectation. Likewise, later in the program, Ronald Roderos pumped in more frolics with another dance number this time a medley of swing, cha-cha, and boogie. Ronald may possess the drive and skills and the potential but certainly he will be the best with constant practice.

Christmas party without an exchange gift and a raffle is a boring and tedious party. Not for PMA Class 1975 Christmas party where for this year, prizes and other giveaways were teeming. To mention a few, a 55-inch colored TV, refrigerator, vouchers for one-night stay at the Diamond Hotel, cash prizes mostly donated spontaneously by magnanimous mistahs and golf caps for those who non-golfers in the Class. The most-coveted prize was a 55-inch colored TV donated by Raul Gonzales and won by Willie Palugod. Everyone did not go home empty-handed because even the food was shared and taken home. Like a clockwork precision, the party ended about 10:00 p.m. as scheduled and everyone collectively feel that kind of satisfaction that finally, 'ahhhh,' we have done it....satisfied, amidst the lingering threat of the pandemic. *Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to all!*

Golf Matters. For the past two tournaments of the Quarter Corps of Classes 74567, the Makabayan golf team held the championship position. However, of late, upsetting as it gets, our team bowed down to Class 74 and assuaged itself to first runner up position. The tournament is a quarterly game played by golfers from the PMAA classes of 74, 75, 76 and 77. Each class take turns in sponsoring the tournament.

When it rains, it pours. But still praises to our golf team who brought honors and prestige to the Class in spite of not meeting up with the required points for qualification to the final rounds of the PMAAAI Golf Tournament. Members of the team are Jeff Sodusta (Team Manager), Gerry Doria, Raul Gonzales, Noe Wong, Willie Palugod, Arsenio Arugay, Cardozo Luna, Pete Magno, Nap Cachuela, Cesar Carranza, Chito Blanco, Doming Manuel, and Ruel Hiterosa.

It's not the winning that counts, but the love of the game itself that matters.



Willie Palugod receiving a Plaque of Recognition in acknowledgment of his services to the Class as president. An analogous award was also presented to Liliosa Palugod, his wife, for altruistic support to the Class.



Haute Couture: Surprise number rendered by Angie Cadungog, Nitz Sodusta, Emma Regis, and Alma Arugay showing the grace and form.



The Makabayan golf team during the 4th Quarter Golf Tournament of Classes 74757677 held at Villamor Golf Course on December 7, 2022.



Makabayan Golf Team pose before the PMAAAI Golf Tournament at the Navy Golf Course, Nov. 22, and at Camp Aguinaldo Golf Course, Nov. 24, 2022.



MAGTANGGOL B GATDULA
President
LUIZO C TICMAN
Secretary

GOLF Fellowship/Tournament

The Magilas Class '76 hosted the "74567" Golf Fellowship/Tournament on September 19, 2022 at Camp Aguinaldo Golf and Country Club and Philippine Navy Golf Club in Fort Bonifacio. The organizing committee members were the following Magilas: Jogy, Sonny, Jess, Jerry D, Rey Ramirez, Joey Salvacion, Doo Maligalig, Sammy Narcise, Efren D., Vic Boco, Josol Solidum.

To spice up the event and to ensure everyone is well fed notwithstanding the pre-existing high blood and cholesterol problems, Pol Bataoil and Sonny Cachuela donated one (1) lechon each, while other generous Mistahs such as Louie Ticman, Toto Golez, Efren Daquil, and Art Segovia, donated some cash, and raffle prizes while Jess Verzosa donated towels and Abner Cabalquinto on Coffee Beans and Multivitamins of Archie Armada for giveaways.

Some of the major prizes given during the 74567 golf fellowship hosted by Magilas 76 were Smart TV, Rice Cooker, Electric Fans, Oven Toasters and other minor prizes.

Magilas in Action

The Magilas who defied "father time" and participated in the tournament were Sonny Cachuela, Jogy Fojas, Mon Punzalan, Jaime Caringal, Boying Alarcio, Cholo Carlos, Gerry Defensor, Joe Solidum,



From L-R: MGen Jose Lapuz (Comelec), MGen Gerardo Layug, LGen Edilberto Adan, Epoy Marayag, LGen Oscar Rabena (Comelec Chair), BGen Miguel Sol, BGen Ramona Go, BGen Romeo Fajardo, PCG VAdm Edmund Tan, and BGen Andrew Regacho (Comelec).

Archie Armada, Sammie Narcise, Ely dela Paz, Vic Boco, Diego Dasallas, Efren Lagdamen, Rey Ramirez, Nelson Allaga, Bong Ibrado, James Sin, Efren Daquil, and Joey Salvacion. To them, "Winning isn't everything; it's the only thing" (borrowed from Red Sanders). What is important is the camaraderie, and the joy of playing the game (despite the pains in their joints) that bond them together through the years.

Election of Officers of AGFO

Last November 25, 2022, President Tanggol Gatdula led 16 members of the Magilas Class to participate in the election of officers of the Association of Generals and Flag Officers (AGFO) in Camp Aguinaldo. Mistah Epoy Marayag was re-elected as President and Board Chairman and will serve for another year starting January 1, 2023. Other officers are PMGen German Doria '75, LGen Edilberto Adan

'72, LGen Oscar Rabena '78, PCG VAdm Edmund Tan '80, MGen Gerardo Layug '80, PBGen Crisogono Francisco '68, BGen Restituto Aguilar '78, BGen Romeo Fajardo '79, BGen Miguel Sol, BGen Ramona Go, BGen Andrew Regacho, Commo Amado Sanglay, BGen Robert Theodore Romero, and PBGen Jose Bandong Jr.

The Mistahs who provided support include Onay Yano, Bong Ibrado, Joe Solidum, Eli Dela Paz, Mon Punzalan, Abner Cabalquinto, Efren Veran, Ed Lacanienta, Vic Boco, Carly Divinagracia, Jun Sanchez, Jaime Caringal, Sammie Narcise and Chair/Prexy Epoy's bunkmate Alex Yapching was also in the bandwagon.

AGFO Comelec Chair LGen Oscar Rabena and members joined the six(6) newly elected officers in a group photo after the election on November 25, 2022.

Christmas Party 2022

On December 4, 2022, the PMA Magilas Class of '76 held its Christmas Party at the Greenmeadows Clubhouse in Ortigas, Pasig City. The event venue was sponsored by Mistah Ed Lacanienta. The Class' Christmas Party was also participated in by distant Mistahs based abroad such as Mistah Paco Francisco, Gerry Tenazas, Alex Resngit, Maning Busa and Mon dela Cruz, and Mistah Erik Espina who was in Cebu via Zoom live.

The program for the Class Party began at 5:00 in the afternoon starting with the registration, followed by a jovial but mostly solemn prayer led by Mistah Arman Rodriguez. The Welcome Remarks was delivered by Boying Alarcio.

As an ice breaker, the emcee kicked off with a contest to determine which member would be the Most Handsome



Mistah, wherein Mistah Nelson Allaga, Cholo Carlos, Armand Rodriguez, and Chris Tanabe all took part. Armand Rodriguez won the contest and was named the Night's Most Handsome Mistah.

Following the parlor game, the class began to enjoy the dinner that Mistah Sandy Javier sponsored. During dinner, in a special appearance Pooh, a comedian and one of the casts of Banana Sunday TV program, entertained and made the class laugh with his comedic anecdotes. This is truly a night to remember as Mother and Son duo, Milo and Babet Ibrado, serenaded our members with their timeless songs.

After the entertaining performance, a raffle draw followed. The lucky winners brought home memorable prizes.

The Raffle Prizes were sponsored by Mistah Hermie Esguerra, Louie Ticman, Toto Golez, Efren Daquil, Alex Yano, Ely dela Paz, Tyron Ong, Lhen Calderon, Sammie Narcise, Vic Boco, Boying Alarcio, and Bong Ibrado.

Christmas will never be as wonderful without Giveaway Gifts, which were donated by Mistah Abner Calaquinto and Mistah Wilson Young.



The evening was filled with laughter and joy, as well as tales from the Magilas cadetdays. The Programs ended with

special gifts for the ladies present - Mistahs Ligaya Viduya, Jessica Dilodilo, Baby Tabas, Elizabeth Pomposo and Arlene Zerrudo.



RIC A DAVID JR
Pangulo
VIXI ABAT
Kalihim

Happy holidays!
Maligayang PASKO, mistahs and spouses.
Pasko lunch in PN Golf Club.

January 1

🕒 Happy NEW YEAR! 🎉
We start lunar year RABBIT 🐰 with positive vibes.



BAGONG TAON ay magbagong buhay
Nang lumigaya ang ating bayan
Tayo'y magsikap upang makamantan
Natin ang kasaganaan.



At sumainyo ang biyaya ng Panginoon

February 14

💕 THAT'S AMORE!
We love because it's the only true adventure.

*o pag-ibig na makapangyarihan,
kapag pumasok sa puso nino man,
hahamakin lahat masunod ka lamang.*

BALITA MASIKAP

1. Congratulations to Dr. Gabby!
Gabriel Goseco, M.D. passes the Physician Licensure Exam. Compliments to proud parents mistah Ned and Laarni Goseco.
2. Nov 12 (Sat)
Honorary "Masikap" Joey Lina hosts jolly breakfast in Manila Hotel. Available mistahs and spouses attended. 🍽️

SPORTS

Congratulations!
Nestor and Carlos Miguel OCHOA for bagging the 'father and son' runner-up award during the "Game of Cavaliers" golf fest in VAB Golf Course.

CORPS 74567 Golf Games

raffle prizes
cash support
other solicitations
entertainment
mistahs and friends



Maraming salamat for ur valuable support for "Masikap" successful hosting of 74567 corps golf tournament.
A gratifying camaraderie and fellowship.

OBIT

Class extends sympathies to mistah Per Palad on the demise of his sister, Vilma.







ARIEL QUERUBIN
President
TATTU SANCHEZ
Secretary

For this Homecoming issue of the Cavalier Magazine, members of PMA "Matapat" Class of 1979 who are still 'alive and kicking' are truly grateful to have survived long enough to still be part of the PMA Homecoming 2023, forty-four (44) years after our graduation. We acknowledge that we have spent our own 44 years of service in the wilderness. We have not only faced dangers and fears, but also found many pleasant places along the way. The journey has not always been easy, but we have gotten it whole. We have made it again this Homecoming and, we have to admit that, on balance, life has been good to us.

We attend the annual Homecoming because we are thankful for the role the Academy has played in our development as a whole. Since 1979, we all have gone our separate ways and have lived very different lives. Across 44 years, we all had numerous successes and failures, marriages that succeeded and marriages that did not. Most of us have raised our very own children, and most of us already have grandchildren, possibly, even great grandchildren. Depending on our own set goals and interests, we chose a variety of endeavors, but one thing we all have in common is that our foundation came from the same place – the Philippine Military Academy. PMA was our training ground. We have been to many places around the



world and have participated in a lot of different events, but there is one thing that we shall never forget, and that is our days in the hallowed grounds of Fort Del Pilar. During this homecoming, we do not expect to relive our past. Surely, we would not be able to pick up from where we exactly left off, for too much has happened since then. We all are now different from who we were back 44 years ago. Yet, we share a common bond, the experience of being with a Class, the PMA "Matapat" Class of 1979. Coming together after 44 years is like returning to that hallowed ground. It brings back good and bad memories altogether. The kind of fellowship we share with each other especially during homecomings is definitely very special exclusively to us because we cannot experience them with just any other group. We are unique on our own as no other group of people on earth has had that same experience we shared 48 years ago, which we continue to share today,

tomorrow, 'til forever. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

CLASS UPDATES:

The Matapat Executive Board, together with members of the Council of Presidents, met last 18 November 2022 to discuss the following agenda: Matapat Christmas Party, Upcoming 2023 General Assembly and Election of Officers, Testimonial Dinner IHO PBBM, PMAAAI tickets, PMAAAI Updates, Class Financial Update, Future Activities/Way Ahead, Other Matters to include the following;

- Amendment to our Constitution and By-Laws
- Dues and collection
- Cavalier Magazine

The meeting, which was held at the Corniche, Diamond Hotel, was attended by President - Ariel Querubin, Vice President - Art Ortiz, Treasurer - Raul Leyritana, Class Historian/PNP-PC Grp President - Leo Santiago, Secretary/Airforce Grp President - Tattu Sanchez, Army Grp President - Titan Kison, and PN Grp/PMARAI Rep - Mon Liwag.

The meeting was indeed very productive and the food truly sumptuous. Among the more relevant decisions made are as follows: the Class Christmas Party will be held on 7 December at the residence of Ariel Querubin; the Annual General Assembly and Election of Officers will be held jived with our Class Anniversary on 25 February; the Class will be tendering a Testimonial Dinner IHO our mistah PBBM, the date and place of which is TBAL; PMAAAI tickets have been distributed and are considered sold; the Board to come up with a resolution congratulating Essel Soriano for being appointed as president





of the Association of Military-Christian Fellowship worldwide; amendment to our Class organizational set-up, i.e., to include an elected 1st VP, and four Vice Presidents which shall automatically be composed of the four BOS presidents; and other matters.

CLASS ACTIVITIES:

The Class held its 1st Face to Face Christmas party last 7 December 2022, after a long wait due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Xmas party was held at the residence of the Querubins hosted by Ariel and Pong. To ensure that the COVID 19 virus would infect no one during the gathering, each one had to undergo first an antigen test at the reception area, courtesy of the hosts, before mingling with the group at the party area.

It was indeed a night full of joy and laughter as there were lots of prizes coupled with the splendid emceeing of Mon and Titan and the funny and exciting games prepared by our lead organizer, Blessie. The drawing of raffle prizes even had to be



cancelled at the middle of the draw as it was noticed that there were a lot of prizes where each one could have more than just a share. So rather than drawing them, they were just distributed to all present. At the

end of the night, no one was left without at least something to bring back home.

In behalf of the whole class, we would like to thank our gracious hosts, Ariel and Pong, our lead program organizer, Blessie, our emcees, Mon and Titan, all those who donated prizes - Ariel and Pong, Rey Lanada, Ed Oban, Alex Pama, Mark and Maloli Supnet, and of course, all those who attended our Christmas party because without you all, it would not have been a successful, joyful and memorable Christmas party full of love and laughter.

AIR FORCE "Mandirigma" UPDATE:

The Air Force "Mandirigma" Group held its last meeting for 2022 on 30 November. The outgoing President Tattu Sanchez, presided the Zoom Meeting. The last agendum and highlight of the meeting was the election of the new president. Diego Cruz was elected, in a breeze, as the next president of the Air Force Group. Diego will likewise represent the Air Force Group in the PMA 79 Matapat Executive Board as



one of the Vice Presidents. Tete Villarete was designated as the Air Force Group representative in the PMA 79 Election Committee tasked to administer the 2023 election of a new set of PMA "Matapat" Class of 1979 Officers.

It was also decided in the same meeting that the 2022 Christmas Party of the Air Force Group will be held at the residence of the incoming President, Diego Cruz, on 18

December 2022. It will also be the Induction Day for the new President. To Tattu Sanchez, our outgoing President, we all say thank you. During your tenure as president, we have seen how hard you worked to keep our group active and connected despite the pandemic. We appreciate the time and efforts you and Annie have given to keep the Mandirigmas and Nandirigmas updated. For the incoming president, Diego Cruz, we

look forward to your sterling leadership, not only to the Air Force Group but of the whole PMA 'Matapat' Class of 1979 as one of the Vice Presidents. Your very funny jokes will surely keep us all awake and happy all the way. The Mandirigmas along with their Nandirigmas, are all behind you in every step forward. God be with us all always. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all! Cheers!!!



LAURO CATALINO G DELA CRUZ
President
EDMUND C TAN
Secretary

At last, after two years without, with COVID restrictions eased and lockdowns just memories, the Mapitagans held their much-missed Christmas Party celebration at the Philippine Navy Officers Club in Bonifacio Naval Station, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City in the cold evening of the 18th of December 2022.

A total of 81 heads were in festive attendance, with 42 age-defying Mistahs, their 33 charming ladies, six delightful widows, including four honorary members and their lovely spouses who graced the occasion.

The event started with a Thanksgiving Mass offered for the repose of the souls of our 18 mistahs who went ahead of us, for the blessings we received and the gift of life that we are still alive and kicking.

Here is Ige's (Rodriguez) wide-eyed first-person account of the said event the day after:

"Merry Christmas mga mistah! Just want to thank all the organizers at mga punong abala for our party last night, one of the best ever!"

The food was super, sarap ng lechon Cebu (na rambagize agad) courtesy of CesO and the fresh whole tuna fish from GenSan for sashimi, courtesy of Tanjo! The program was great, the music and the dancing were electrifying (parang si Paco, electrifying din) and the company was excellent. It was a very spontaneous affair which will surely be part of our wonderful memories as Mapitagans.

Salamat Pres Larry dela Cruz for your inspiring leadership who called the shots since day one, Sec Edmund Tan (ano raw yung mas mahaba sa apelyido mo, hehe) who has been at the helm after having casted off all lines, Bogs and Sionnie Abogado who made all the venue arrangements and more. Thank you mucho to Nikki Bart whose helping hand



The Mapitagan Ladies (above) and the Mapitagan Seniors (below) who attended the Christmas Party held on December 18, 2022 at the PN Officers' Club in BNS, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.



was everywhere, and Vic Caragan whose command as emcee ensured the program's success.

Of course, the affair would not have been as memorable without the help of our ladies, including Baby Carbonell who worked the registration table and brought order to the exchange gifts, Ching Guzman who assisted our priest in celebrating the Holy Mass, and all the others who made the night simply magical. Sadyang katangi-tangi talaga ang mga misis natin.

Thank you also Buboy Salazar, Ed Escueta, and Raymond Yap for joining us, together with your lovely spouses. And of

course, to Danny Saberon who came stag as he could not determine whom to bring from among the many!

We missed some mistahs and we all wish them well. Sana sa 1st Quarter Birthday celebration next year, we will all find time to attend.

And of course, the celebration of the Holy Mass, and Junie's prayer reminded us of the Reason for the Season, and that He should always be in our hearts.

Merry Christmas to all!"

Indeed, it was a night to remember, a gathering that was two years late for those who eagerly attended. And made more

memorable by the fact that nag-rally ang organizers because it was decided to be held at the last minute.

With everyone looking forward to huddle with mistahs and their ladies to catch up on juicy updates, the celebration was a resounding success. Filled with the spirit of Christmas, all gladly participated in the exchange of gifts, raffle, group dancing, minus one, and good-natured group photoshoot. Forty-two years later, it was truly a joyful and memorable evening for the Mapitagans and their spouses, in celebration of the Christmas Season, and enjoying and growing gracefully together as a class.

In the just concluded Game of the Cavaliers 2022, the premier golf tournament sponsored annually by PMAAAI and PMARAI, the Mapitagan Golfers proved their mettle as a team of no longer weekend hackers. In the run-up games played in Camp Aguinaldo and Philippine Navy golf courses before the Championship Game in Villamor Airbase Golf Course on 03 December, Team Mapitagan garnered 502 points beating Team 1979's 488 points, but was bested by the 530 points of Team 1981, a powerhouse in the Senior Tac-O Division (Classes 1977 to 1982).

The 16 Mapitagan Golfers performed remarkably well. Making it to this year's championship round in VABGC was a remarkable feat - in the previous years, our golfers were non-factors who hovered in the fringes. But Team 1980 eventually bowed to Team 1981 in the penultimate match, earning them an imposing glass trophy for their gallant efforts as Runner-Up. After years of frowning upon them, the Golf Gods had smiled on the Mapitagan Golfers.

A worthwhile feature of the Game of the Cavaliers was the Team Managers' Category played in the final day as well. It was in recognition of, and a tribute to the vigorous efforts of the team managers who helped make the GOC more fun and rewarding than the previous years. Team 1980 Manager George Regis competed against 24 other team managers from Classes 1962 to 2005. Using System 36 as the scoring format, where the golfer with the most number of birdies wins, George made just three birdies, finishing as runner-up to the four birdies of a Class 1992. Sayang, PB!

Despite these runner-up finishes, the Mapitagans stand proud with heads up and shoulders braced, having given their best this year —“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.”

And speaking of winnings, we applaud and extend our warmest congratulations to Gerry Layug and to our Secretary Edmund Tan, for being elected as Trustees of the AGFO



Smiling beautifully above are our Ladies with four (4) of the six (6) widows who attended the Christmas Party, namely (L to R): Ella Caragan, Irene Yebra, Chat Sugon, Neva Baraquiell, Annie Cruz, Gina Jubas, Sionie Abogado and Tita Noble. Not in photo among the widows are Beth Bernardino and Kay Navarro.

Board in an election held during its Annual General Membership Meeting on November 25, 2022 at the AGFO Center in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The Mapitagans who were eligible to vote, came in full force to support the candidacies of Gerry and Edmund, and resulted to both garnering the third and fourth highest number of votes of the seven slots up for grab, giving them both a term of three (3) years from 2023 to 2025. For Gerry, this will be his second three-year term, having served as member of the AGFO Board from 2020 to 2022. Prior to his election, Edmund was appointed to the AGFO Board only in June 2022 to fill in a vacancy in the Board.

Kudos to Gerry and Edmund for making it to the AGFO Board with Edmund espousing his plan to make AGFO a better organization by “giving his time, effort, and his charm to generate more members, and to help wake up those members who are dozing. So help me God!”

We therefore expect Star-ranked Mapitagans who are not members of AGFO and/or AFI to react and line up for AGFO membership, the way we always lined up for good causes. It is never too late to be members of affiliated organizations, such as AGFO and AFI, that look after the general welfare and well-being of their members.

In line with the Class practice of holding Quarterly Fellowship to celebrate the birthdays of Mistahs, please standby for the announcement of the 1st Quarter 2023 Birthday Fellowship that will be held sometime in March 2023. The organizers of this event, who are the celebrants themselves, for sure will leave no stone unturned to make the fellowship a huge success.

The thirty-three (33) birthday celebrants for the 1st Quarter (Jan-Feb-Mar) of the year 2023 are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| 1. Atoc, Jesus Isidoro C | 02 Jan |
| 2. Fajardo, Melchor A | 06 Jan |



The Mapitagan Golfers receiving their First Runner-Up Trophy (Senior Tac-O Division) from Cav Joselito De Guzman '93, President of PMAAAI. Shown above are (L to R): Noel Coballes, Larry dela Cruz, Bogs Abogado, George Regis, Cav De Guzman '93, Ces Ordoyo, Paco Francisco, and Cav Romy Poquiz '81, GOC Tournament Director.



Team 1980 Manager George Regis receiving his First Runner-UP Trophy in the Team Managers Category, from PMARAI Chairman Cav Danilo Abinoja '74 and Cav Romy Poquiz '81.



Lolo Ramon Loria with his cute 3-month-old granddaughter, Julia Ysabelle R. Loria who was born on September 28, 2022.



And a very proud Lolo Gerry Layug doting on his 7-month-old first grandson, Allesandro Grabriel Layug Teo. Gab, as he is fondly called, will turn 4 years old on February 4, 2023.

3. Cabrerros, Nilo	14 Jan
4. Bolo, Segundo S	15 Jan
5. Tiu, Mervin B	15 Jan
6. Sta Ana, Abelardo III T	16 Jan
7. Umali, Willy	25 Jan
8. De Asis, Elpidio Jr Z	01 Feb
9. Gali, Franklin	02 Feb
10. Mendoza, Mario A	06 Feb
11. Coballes, Noel A	07 Feb
12. Garrido, Elmo Jr E	08 Feb
13. Yaakub, Bin Abu S	10 Feb
14. Delos Reyes, Honorato S	11 Feb
15. Agudo, Michael E	14 Feb
16. Abogado, Edgar L	16 Feb
17. Nemenzo, Eldon Luis G	17 Feb
18. Campos, William S	18 Feb
19. Alesna, Edwin	18 Feb
20. Carado, Ildefonso Jr C	22 Feb
21. Javier, Washington M	22 Feb
22. Baraquiell, Antonio V	24 Feb
23. Asuncion, Miguel S	02 Mar
24. Orbos, Tim	07 Mar

25. Regis, George T	11 Mar
26. Torralba, Teodoro III T	14 Mar
27. Yambing, Herbert S	14 Mar
28. Yap, Raymond	15 Mar
29. Bartolome, Nicanor A	16 Mar
30. Llano, Narciso C	18 Mar
31. Saberon, Danny	21 Mar
32. Valdez, Nicky	27 Mar
33. Antonio, Orville Amador A	29 Mar

Happy Birthday to each one of the 33 Mistahs celebrating their birthdays in the 1st Quarter of the year 2023, and may they all continue to have blessings of good health, long life, peace, love, and happiness not only for the year 2023 but all through the years. Cheers to you all!

We Mapitagans all look forward to attending the PMA Homecoming Week in Baguio City on February 17-18, 2023, with

the PMA General Membership Assembly to be held at Baguio Convention Center on the 17th (Friday) and the Alumni Homecoming at Fort Del Pilar on the 18th (Saturday). We are excited to attend the Homecoming Week this year, reminded that the event was scrapped for two successive years due to COVID. Now that circumstances are thankfully back to normal, we will with alacrity come home to our Alma Mater.

Again, in closing, we proudly acknowledge more of the first-time "Lolos" of the class, this time Mon Loria and Gerry Layug. Those who are first time Lolos, please pop out and inform our secretary so you will be recognized and honored. Happy Apostolic mission, mga Lolos!



The members of the AGFO Board with the newly-elected Trustees/Directors Gerry Layug (second from left) and Edmund Tan (second from right).



ALAN R LUGA
President
OSCAR P LOPEZ
Secretary

It has been a fruitful last quarter CY 2022 for the Class. We had two major activities: our participation in the Annual PMAAAI Games of the Cavaliers Golf Tournament, and our Class Christmas Party held at the Riviera Golf and Country Club. For this issue, let me cite the report of our Golf Manager/Coordinator (for life), Cav Jimbo Bernardino, with his stroke-by-stroke account of the tournament.

Golf has always been the favourite fitness and socialization activity of many Dimalupigs. More than 50 members of the class are into active golf. Hence, it's not surprising for us to continue to dominate the annual PMAAA Games of the Cavaliers. This year, we once again formed a very competitive team in spite of the absence, due to injury, of several mainstays. Since the GOC is both a competition and an avenue for fellowship, we fielded a large 24-man team, two couples teams, and a couple of father and son teams. We were once again bracketed in the Senior Tac-O Division to play against Classes 77 to 82. On 22 November, we teed off at the Navy Course and played on a muddy fairway and very slow greens. Nonetheless, we scored decently, beating all the classes in our division. Cavs Oniot M, OmecP, Boogie DV, BongM, JamesD, and Nick D submitted the better scores for our team. Even nicer was the fellowship at lunch time with everyone including Malou Samonte and Chona Dullas having a wonderful time.

On 25 November, we played at CAGC against our firsties, Class 78. Cav Rene S was fired up by his so-so game at the PNGC, submitting the best score, while Oniot and OmecP, as usual, played well. Meanwhile, the Riviera Duo of Cavs ArtA and BoyD, redeemed themselves and submitted good scores with our Youtube trained Cav Art V completing the top six for the class. Again, we bested all other classes in our division. We had a blast during lunch with some non-player Dimalupig like Cav Norman L coming over to support our team. Cav RickM also came with a bilao of biko and pansit to the delight of everyone.

After two rounds, we successfully defended our Division Championship,



again topping the Senior Tac-O Division with Class 80 a far second. This feat gave us the ticket to the championship round where all the Division Champions and runners-up square it out at VABGC, with six players each, everyone to count for their class. So on 03 December, our six-man team, Cavs Oniot, Rene, OmecP, ArtA, BoyD, and Paght H, were paired with the best of Classes 83, 84 and 90. After calculating the results of each flight with these classes, we were so excited since we were way ahead in points. That excitement was cut short when the announcement came and we were named runner-up surprisingly to Class 2013, a Class young enough to be our sons. We did not expect that. During awarding ceremonies, our table proudly displayed the most number of trophies.

Congratulations to Cav Rene S and son Renmar (Class 2012), who emerged as champion in the father and son Cavalier category; Rene and Dr. Renward, champion father and son guest category; Rene (again) runner-up in the Senior Tac-O Division and Cav Oniot M as the Senior Tac-O Division champion. In the team competition, we emerged as champion in the Senior Tac-O Division; Runner-up in the Class 56-Sponsored Best Class Team, Retired Division and finally, Runner-up in the Battle of Champions.

Congratulations too, to our very own Cav OmecP for his excellent stewardship, as tournament Director of this year's GOC."

The Class extends its congratulations to the Dimalupig Golf Team, and thank you to those who provided material, morale,

and financial support to the members. Most importantly, our gratitude to the Dimalupig Golf Manager, Cav Jimbo B for steering the team to where it is now, with his pangungulit and constant follow-up.

The Class Christmas Party with a "Summer in December" theme, was held at the Tea House of the Riviera Golf and Country Club last 11 Dec. As in previous years, a fellowship golf tournament was held at the Couples Course prior to the luncheon program. The Class was grouped per Battalion. The grudge matches continued as players tried to outdo each other. Those who did not play and some Manlulupigs who came in early were entertained at the residence of Cav Dan and Babylyne Servando. Thank you for opening your house to the early birds.

The program started with a prayer and a short reflection by Pastor Cav Ric Lagrana followed by a roll call by Companies, with Cav Beloy G and Jimbo B as emcees for the day. Present too were quite a number of Manlulupigs, and even Brats. We missed our Class Pres, Cav Alan L, who was still indisposed at the time. He was however, ably represented by Beth L, who welcomed and entertained each and every member of the Class. The Dimalupig family had a great time, with the food and drinks overflowing, raffle prizes galore, live entertainment, and lots of bolahizing. The winners of the golf tournament are: Team Competition – 3rd Battalion; Branch of



Service Champion – PNP; Lowest Gross – Art A; Class A – Cav Don M; Class B – Cav Dong D; and Class C – Cav Alan P. By the way, the cash prizes were donated by the winners to the Class fund.

We would also like to thank those (too many to mention) who donated prizes and raffle items, lechon and other food. Special mention goes to Cav Bobot L for donating a portion of the sale of his books to the Class fund. Finally, we would like to acknowledge the Manlulupigs who provided their

precious time and support preparing for this activity. Mabuhay ang mga Manlulupig. Of course, our gratitude to the host, Cav Norman L, who as always, has provided the Class with the venue where we can enjoy a round of golf, sumptuous food and great entertainment.

Again, before we end, we pray that everyone will have excellent health and well-being. Happy Alumni Homecoming! God bless us all.







The last quarter of CY 2022 was ushered with several activities which were participated by the Sandigan members. Last 20 Oct 2022, the class hosted a Fund Raising Golf Tournament at the Camp Aguinaldo Golf Club. It was a fun-filled activity with the participants enjoying their game of golf and the fellowship that followed. It was a success and the objective of raising funds to support the class activities was achieved.

The class also joined in the Games of Cavaliers, a golf tournament participated by various PMA Classes. It was all happy moments full of camaraderie with our fellow cavaliers while conquering the hills, valleys and rivers of Aguinaldo, Villamor and Navy golf courses. The Sandigan Team include Mike L, Ding D, Willy Bon, Cris A, Alex G, Ed G, Elmer S, Chito T, Jess M, Mel M, Andy G and Amin U.

Finally, on 15 Dec 2002, the Sandigan Golfers held the Year End Golf Tournament and gift giving to the caddies of Aguinaldo Golf Club. The gift giving is a yearly activity of the Sandigan Golfers.

One of the most anticipated events of this year was the Fil-Am Golf Tournament in Baguio City. The Sandigans, having topped the tournament in the past, were out to compete while having fun, and eventually emerged as 1st Runner-up in Seniors Fil Division, Class C, this year. It was a good experience for some of the new team members playing with local

and foreign golfers of other clubs in the country. Special mention was the presence of our Mistah Renier Luboa who came all the way from New York, USA and our very own Mayor Benjie Magalong of Baguio City.

After two years into the pandemic, the Class Christmas Party was finally held at the Makati Sports Club on 08 December 2022, with more than a hundred Mistahs and their Ladies in attendance. The venue was courtesy of Mistah Sig Fortun who made sure that a roomy dancing floor at the Ayala Hall had been arranged for the Mistahs to enjoy dancing to the tune of our old-time favorites as performed by the "Route 70" Band, sponsored by Mistah

Elmer Gardiola. No one went home empty-handed as our generous Mistahs, like Mar C, Mayor Elmer S, Joji C, Raymund L, Enchong F, John John A, Willy B, Cris A, James M, Rey T, Alex WCK, Alex S, Robert Y, Ed G... to name a few, shared their blessings and donated several prizes that the second round of raffle-draw had to be conducted.

Of the five major prizes, the biggest was won by Mistah Danny Pabunan as donated by Mistah Mar Claus. It was an enjoyable evening, thanks to our current officers' superb planning and preparations. Of course, adding to the excitement of the night was the humorous hosting of our emcee for life, the indefatigable Mistah Cris Laxa.



As we close CY 2022, the 40th year after our graduation from the Academy, we continue to remember our departed Mistahs particularly Willy Galedo who passed away this 25 November 2022.

Despite the pandemic and calamities, we always count our blessings and thank Our Creator for a great year.

See you, Sandigan 82, in Baguio in February 2023.

Merry Christmas to Everyone and a Prosperous New Year ahead.





CHARLIE Company



DELTA Company



ECHO Company



POXTROT Company



GOLF Company



HAWK Company



HENRY G SABARRE
President
PERFECTO O QUILICOT JR
Secretary

Hurray!!! That word capped the early days of December when the efforts of the Matikas Golf Team bore fruit in the recently concluded Game of the Cavaliers. This exhilaration emerged after brooding for what initially seemed to be a frustrating quest to outdo their best fell into the wayside. Some expressed frustration at the way their best scores don't even count for ranking...



But like all deserving heroes, they started drawing inspiration from spiritual strength and again reaffirmed that destiny is reserved for those who can make real the promises of lofty morals and virtues. Instead of looking out, they listened to their inner stirrings and remembered the innate confidence that they have compounded in life's even more challenging engagements.

In no small measure what they have accomplished can best be ascribed to the servant leadership exemplified by their unassuming and diligent team manager: Alen Bantolo. Through soft prodding and leadership by example, he coaxed the team to just do what is right and minimizing errors. He also paved the way by giving his all, blazing the trail of the even better players to follow his lead. Slowly, the spirit of the players was revived and started to gain steam. The drives became consistently shallowed and the irons hit crisp divots. In no time the lines of the puts turned amazingly true.

The end game, and perhaps the one with the most reliable result (as the best players are mixed together in flights) revealed the simple truth: we are the Champion in the Retired Cavalier Category. There were other awards that we earned. But from all these, it was the feeling of redemption that we cherished most of all. Congratulations Team Matikas!!!

The Matikas ranks are now abuzz with the preparations for the upcoming Matikas Day in Baguio. Comes 11 Mar 2023, the class will, for the first time, hold its traditional Matikas Day Celebrations in the place where we all started: In Fort Del Pilar. There and then, we will reminisce the days when we subjected ourselves to the rigors of military training and the transformative pain that made us today as we whisper odes of gratitude to the institution that made it possible. A line up of activities is already determined, budgets parlayed and even the initial engagements have already been commenced. We have already completed the purchase of the indoor obstacle course that the PMA management sought to acquire to enable the cadets to pursue their physical training even during inclement weather. The acquisition includes the delivery of the equipment to Fort Del Pilar and the instruction for its use. The different venues of the celebration are already

identified and partially paid for. The billeting of members from the different branches of service is already contracted. Even the details of the lunch with the cadets and the pass-in-review have been consulted with the command of the PMA, no less. In short, everything has already been set for today. Only the ancillaries are left for further sorting. Surely, we are all looking forward to it.

Meanwhile, The Progeny Project is gaining some milestones after the Branch of Service representatives have submitted partial

listings of the brats who have signified their intention to enroll. It is indeed surprising the list of professionals among our brats. Doctors, lawyers, engineers, musicians, veterinarians, nurses, dentists, accountants and even men in uniform abound the already long list. The next step would be to place them in a data base register similar to an online social community where they can interact and communicate. It is anticipated that as the brats use the proprietary medium that more will be expected to populate it. It is expected that leaders will emerge and organization will be created. Us parents shall be ready to make ourselves available on times when consultations are required. There are some kids who are shy and need some prodding to make the first move. These are efforts that we do to make us outlive ourselves. This is a project that is distinctly Matikas!!!





BANJI L RAMOS
President
GEORGE D AVILA
Secretary

Getting Our Acts Together

- CAV George Avila
Class Secretary

The year 2022 has just recently concluded and just like the rest of us, we all have retired from the active military service. But just like us, we live by the memories that the year brought. This edition is in recognition of the contributions our Mistahs have made in public service and for the rest, for their efforts and legacies to society and to our fellowmen. Kudos to all of you and hope you continue to do worthy endeavors and stay healthy in line with the ideals of our Alma Mater.

Worth mentioning is the team of Cav Jagger Guerrero serving at the Customs Bureau that despite the unforgiving pressures and their departures, these Mistahs have proven to the institution and the public that reforms are possible. Oh well, what's new with Philippine politics. Our congratulations mga Mistah!

Many of us still continue to serve in public offices, like Cavs Jun Sadiarin, RT Sindac and Vincent Reyes, all at the Agrarian Reform Department. And of course, Cav Nap Taas who has recently been appointed as the Sergeant at Arms of Congress which hopefully will not be construed as a demotion in rank.

Still others in government service are Cav Gani Nerez working at the OP, remaining still with the regulatory transportation is Cav Renwick Rotaquio, Cav Nes Quinsay with the Local Government department and of course our very own Cav Jon Aying as the Mayor of Sara, Iloilo. We are spread all over like the dickens. Cav Moro Lazo with Cav Pierre Bucsit also just took the helm of the drug enforcement agency last year which should be a daunting challenge. We all know they are worthy and capable of proving themselves. Let us show the scoundrels and scalawags who they are dealing with, mga Mistah!

Speaking of drugs, a good number of the Class are unyieldingly hooked on the drug called, GOLF. Led by Cav Joel Cantos

as the Lord of the Maharlika Golf Club, much have been achieved. With Cavs Gene Cerbo, Joel Pagdilao, Mike Perez, Manny Prieto, Ron Santos, and the rest of expert and master swingers, the standards of the game have changed, and many have followed in awe attracted to its efficacy as an elixir for retirement. From left to right, we have been garnering winnings as champions and best players in the Game of the Cavaliers and other competitions. "Hallelujah!" the Golf Club Courses exclaimed. Without these playing addicts, their income would be that of a 7-11 store.

Aside from these competitions, the Maharlika Golf Club activities have also served as the vehicle for Class fellowships where non-addicts likewise frequently join and share the achievements of our talented Mistahs, cheering and encouraging them to further "indulge in the sport."

Somebody has to think of something else besides the sports of Golf. For Cav Rene Babaran, his adventurous alternative

is biking around the country. He traverses provinces visiting Mistahs along the way. This is surely envied by many. I know we won't be a surprised if he decides to circle the world. The only thing he does not do is invite Mistahs to join him. Let's consider the idea if Cav Rene's adventures can be made into a group thing. The fact that some of us tried but this was more of a participation than our own Class pursuit. We should treat this as another form of bonding and fellowship - another cheaper addictive "drug" for members tired of doing house chores, drinking and "escapades"...and I would also like to add, Golf!

Of course, who would forget the hole-in-one Cav Elmer Quiros made in the recent FIL - AM tourney held in the City of Pines and who proudly shares the achievement with classmates and friends. But many still await his celebration.

Last year also saw the change of the Mahalika Class of 1984 Association

PMAAA Games of the Cavaliers
Villamor Air Base Golf Course - 03 Dec 2022

Team Maharlika (PMA 1984)
Tac-O Category ... Champion

Cav Manny Prieto '84
Champion

Cav Ron Santos '84
Runner Up

Excellence is not a skill ... it's an attitude!
The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential, these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.
Confucius



Maharlika Golf and Fellowship

Philippine Navy Golf Course - 03 Dec 2022



**Inter Club Team Champion
PNGC Year End Tournament**

Once a champion ... always a champion!

A true champion is a true champion. They go fight and win or lose, give it their all ... Maharlikans onward ... Mabuhay!



PMAAAI Family Sports Fest

CGEA Grandstand, Quezon City - 26 Nov 2022



ORTICIO AVILA MORALES ADRIATICO CERBO ATAL SUN



Team Maharlika ... Largest Contingent ... Best Uniform

Band of Bikers ... Band of Brothers

*There is a destiny which makes us brothers; none goes his way alone.
All that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own ... Dunne*

Maharlika Bike Club

JANUARY-MARCH 2023

leadership with the assumption of a new set of Board Trustees and officers with Cav Banj Ramos as President. He replaced Cav Jun Mison as President who impressively and stoically steered the Association through the pandemic years.

For the new Board of Trustees and Officers, the identified imperative now is how to strengthen and make relevant the Association for the Class. Taking stock of the present Class situation, the following goals were identified to organize its purpose and relevance:

1. Legitimize the Class Association i.e., revive and pursue SEC and BIR registration in order to legalize its existence. As of this writing, the Association's SEC application has been approved.

2. Improve the Association's administration and welfare of its members by establishing policies and introducing standards to focus on serving our Association members better.

3. Improve the financial condition of the Association i.e., to pursue fund raising projects and activities to sustain resources for members as well as direct dependents needing welfare assistance.

4. Enhance the camaraderie and esprit-de-corps of the Association i.e., to engage members to participate and be involved in Association efforts in building and strengthening fraternal relationships and bonds engendering prospects to benefit members.

In pursuit of these goals, the Board has amended the 2001 Association By-Laws for regulatory recognition. We created and are actively updating the Class Registry Database to account, categorize and properly track members. We have enhanced the birthday greetings for all members for awareness using FB as another platform and, we continued the successful golf fund-raising project in Sep 2022.

We are now working to develop alternative activities for our members' participation as well.

Again, for those who have not yet joined the official Association Facebook page (thanks to Cav Leo Primero) please register in this site and be informed:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/pma84aai>

Your current Board encourages the cooperation and participation of all members of the Class. If there is anything helpful that we can all agree on, we appeal to the members to pop-out and be heard. Better to actively participate

and get involved rather than subject yourself to so-called double retirement i.e., retiring from our careers and retiring your mind from your Class. Truly much is yet to be done. Please remember that your Board will not ask anything from you unless it is for the good of the Association and its members. Likewise, we encourage members to be mindful of our obligations to our Association as well as the PMAAAI regarding annual and lifetime dues, respectively. Both associations are offering amnesty that we all should consider availing of. For any suggestion or inquiries regarding what the Association is doing or should be doing, please get in touch with the following Mistahs heading the established Board Committees thru the different CLASS 84 Viber groups:

1. William So Uy, Chair of the Ways and Means Committee,
2. Milner Dela Cruz, Chair of the Plans and Programs Committee, and
3. Caloy Tabo, Chair of the Membership and Welfare Committee

Before concluding, we would like to ask everyone to remember and include in our prayers our cherished Associate members who have gone before us last year in the person of Mistahs Caloy Garcia and Bong Diesta. May we include the wife of Cav Yul Abellera, our Mistah Cristina also in our prayers.

The PMA Maharlika Class of 1984 Alumni Association Incorporated wishes all its members and direct dependents a new and prosperous year and may God protect and guide us all as we live our lives according to His will. Before I forget, we are one of the host classes in 2024, 40 years after we all graduated, hence preparations for the annual trek to Fort del Pilar for the HOMECOMING are underway..... Till next Class Call, thanks mga Mistah!



ROBERTO B FAJARDO
President
JIGS M CORONEL
Secretary

In 2022, we celebrated our 35th Year and the last Hinirang standing, finally retired: PLTGEN ISRAEL EPHRAIM T DICKSON PNP, VADM ERICK A KAGAOAN PN and PLTGEN JOSELITO M VERA CRUZ PNP. They walked in uniform, for the last time, on



the hallowed grounds of Borromeo Field leading the long line of Hinirangs.

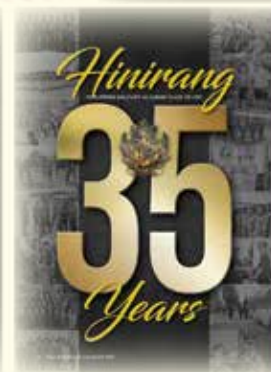
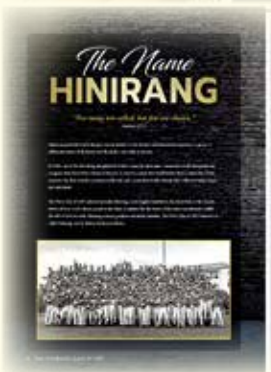
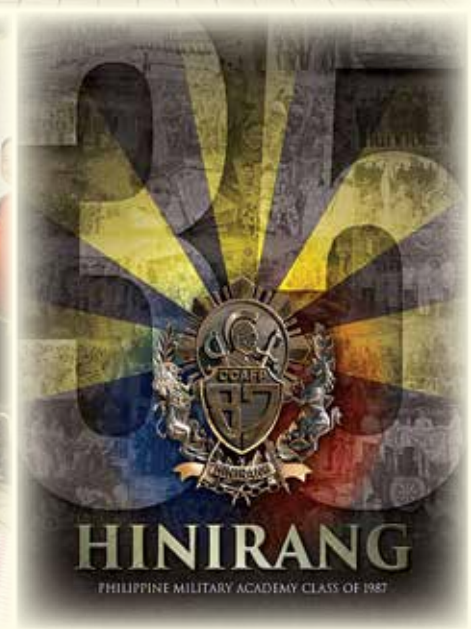
The Hinirang Homecoming Dinner at the Baguio Country Club was a blast with lots of food, hot darn, dancing, and good company. It was simply a night reminiscing our 35 years in the service. It was our first major event during the pandemic.

To celebrate the year, the Class Officers came up with the 35th Year Anniversary Book. Kudos to Class President: Hin Bong Fajardo; the Vice Presidents: Hin Fernan Trinidad (Army), Hin Joby Bacordo (Navy), Hin Jess Estoesta (Air Force), Hin Bong Dickson (PNP), Hin Lyndon Latorre (PCG), Hin Sergio Sarno (BIRC); Treasurer: Hin

Mao Aplasca; Assistant Treasurer: Loumer Bernabe; Secretary: Jigs Coronel; and Corporate Secretary: Peter Suchianco. Thanks to Toinks Army for leading the production team and lots of gratitude to the beautiful and loving Hinirang Ladies for their valuable support on the project.

Indeed, it was a tedious and humbling task; but it was done in record time. Photos and stories were collected in a frenzy, Hinirang ladies bringing out old dusty boxes looking for the best photos and at times even write for their beloved; late evening Zoom meetings were held; and of course, corrections moved back and forth many many times. It was a family affair





of sorts. Thanks for the cooperation of everyone; we were able to come-up with a book that truly celebrates the growth and success of Hinirang. It tells the story of the Class from 1987 to 2022. It is a sequel to the Hinirang Sword Book.

On 4 December 2022, the Class celebrated Christmas with a Golf Fellowship Game in the morning and Get Together Lunch.

In ending let me share to you the Hinirang Prayer, which encapsulate the 35 years of Hinirang. It was written by Hin Cesar Binag.

Oh, Most Gracious Heavenly Father, we, the members of PMA Hinirang Class of 1987, look back with so much gratitude and joy in our hearts for Your 35 years of faithfulness that guided us through the highways and byways of our life journey.

Oh Lord, the God of our story, we remember with fondness the day when

You called us and the moment when we responded. You bonded us together and ordained the name of our Class and blessed us as Hinirang, chosen from among the many to serve You, our country, and our people. Since then, Your gracious hands have guided us through as we individually and collectively journeyed in the profession of arms and in other walks of life here and abroad. You have helped us live up to the true meaning of our name, Hinirang, chosen to serve You, oh God.

You brought us to the different parts of our archipelago, over the land, air, and deep blue sea, and blessed us with opportunities and challenges, where we labored and persevered as we used Your given talents to win the peace, enforce the laws, help the poor and the marginalized, build communities, and shape the history of our nation. Along the way, some have fallen, and we remember them with

longingness in our hearts. You have blessed us with successes and taught us also in our failures. You lifted us when we stumbled and renewed our spirit when we were down. It was You alone, oh God, who brought us this far in serving You through Your grace and mercy. We bring all the praises and glory to You alone!

Oh God of the Hinirangs, we believe that You are not yet done with our story. So, with much hope, we look forward to the next mission You set before us individually and collectively as a class. Please continue to lead us to the righteous path as we strive to serve You wherever it may be and as we continue to live up to the ideals of our name, Hinirang, chosen to serve You alone.

We bring the highest praises and glory to You alone. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY



JOEL M BALBA
Chairman/President
Written by
LEO ANGELO D LEUTERIO

Who is counting, anyway?

But, 39 years since we entered the portals of Fort del Pilar, we again find ourselves leaving footprints along its pavements, its facilities, its barracks and, of course, in the "sacred grounds" of the Borromeo Field. The ritual may be perceived to start as we enter the imposing gates of the Philippine Military Academy; and, we are greeted by a formidable arch, hiding what is probably the first line of defense of this military installation, that, no matter how it tries, seem shrouded in mystery and mystic. So, it was sometime on April 1, 1984 at more or less noontime. I do not know, but I have observed that graduates, even Maringals, suddenly acquire an immediate response of being sullen, almost stoic, even painful

as their vehicles are confronted with this familiar "scene" and their windows open to greet the smiling guards (perhaps, happy to see Alumni still alive and kicking on the way to this traditional "rites of passage."

We never grow tired!

The carriage then traverses the usual winding paths, familiar in themselves as they seemingly echo chants of long-ago roadruns, marches even the touring punishments of the year 1987-1988; and, stops at the majestic (some say secretive) Melchor Hall.

Seems like 1984 again? Today, we take pictures (how many have been taken there); but, 39 years ago we were directed to form by platoons, briefed, given lunch and marched off towards was officially known as the PMA Athletics Area or, the PMA Gym; but, also known (perhaps, better known) as the barracks of the beast— in active form of the language: the Beast Barracks. The politically correct term was, of course, the area of the New Cadet Battalion or NCBN.

Then, the next day arrived.

Some say they knew. Others would later on say they did not have an iota of an idea. However, it remains true that, what awaited us, what's in store for us and their consequences would be seared in our memories, forever.

We remember clearly the events of 1986. We still feel the hush-hush whispers of what was about to happen, even if we were cloistered within the walls and ravines of Fort del Pilar. This was our first taste of how the political landscape can intrude into what we felt then, was the protected and protective walls of military hierarchy, culture, customs and traditions, even morals and norms. To be sure, we were at a loss, maybe, uncertain of where and how to anchor our positions of what was going on in the country. We just knew they were important enough to push us into making a principled stance. Even then, we experienced the discord among us.

That our Grandstand was bombed, a short time thereafter, only sowed more confusion, and, also caused us to reflect



some more about where we were in this particular crossroad of our history.

In 1987, as firsties, the events which unfolded one August day, challenged our individual and corporate leadership skills, as once more, we face choices unmentioned and untaught in militaristic courses. We had to draw from the lessons of 1986, in order to address the challenges foisted upon us by 1987. Did we carry these lessons with us in 1989, we can surely ask.

Thirty-nine years after, some still shiver at the thought of going back to these grounds again, so much so, that everyone has to go there as a group, a class, but, never, maybe, seldom, alone.

But, we also remember March 12, 1988. This was 35 years ago. Grayer now, perhaps, a little heavier all over, but, definitely wiser and wisened by time and experience, and, some still ram-rod straight (others a little bent and stooped), we recall images of graduation day, defined by some of us, as the only proper way to exit the

gates of the Academy after, at least, four years of pleasant toiling. We pull these images back to the fore of our memories, but, not forgetting the events of 1986 and that of August 1987— events which deeply impacted our character and our conduct as custodians of our national defense and, its general law and order. There was a Revolutionary Government ruling at that time; and, we submitted ourselves to the leadership of the very first female Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. There were 131 of us. Eighty-one were left out of the original 365 who were together on April 1, 1984; the rest originally came from other classes who eventually joined our ranks, perhaps, knowing that it would be more fun with the Maringals.

Today, several of us are here walking these hallowed grounds, breathing its air, hearing the familiar sounds and beats, and, in a way, seeing almost the same sights— of marching cadets, of company colors, of movements in cadence, of

signal hill. To say that we have come far would be an understatement. Knowing that we might just have come full-circle to those things which defined us in a large way, might be among the higher purposes of this gathering. Some of us are seated in positions which perhaps none of us dreamed of, ever. We have a Cabinet Secretary among us (Maringal Jose Faustino, yet, still only known to us as “Kuya Boy.”) We have two Maringals who then occupied and still occupies, the Chief of Staff positions (Andy and Bob Valor). One of us, at least, has broken a proverbial ceiling of being in the Academe— Dr Eugene Martinez, PhD as he pursues the training of Public Safety personnel. I ask the question, “who would have thought?” For good measure, we shall have our first Ambassador.

Today, as in 1984 and 1988, we stand as a class, still pregnant with all possibilities ahead, despite of (and, some may say, because of) the ebb and flow of many years.

We have become many in the class, as if by some miracle, but, moreso really, because we have imbibed an “openness” and, maybe, a “liberality” that can only be developed in matured and wisened minds. We have opened our ranks to the active participation of Associate Members— long lost mistahs who did not exit the gates of the academy as we did, but, in true Maringal form, became leaders in their own fields of endeavour. Joey Querubin, Art Abastilla, Bai Ybanez and Ben Panganiban comes to mind. Furthermore, we dared to push the envelope to welcome to our ranks Fraternal Members (unrelated to anything PMA or military) but, equally motivated by excellence and the pursuit of grandeur in varied ways of serving the country and





our people (JV Ejercito, Enrique Razon, Nilo Divina, Boying Remulla, Joy Gutierrez and Joven Ong are mentionables). By the time this reaches publication, the Maringal

Golf Association/Talap-talapers 88 Golf Club is of Battalion strength and has begun injecting new blood into the Maringal ranks. We refuse to be static. We pursue

evolution to the maximum limits. We cannot live like dinosaurs or even die like them.

Our times and our tides have built us to how we are— grand thinkers; grand movers; grand mentors; grand entrepreneurs; even, grandfathers; and, as many more lofty adjectives as can be ascribed to the word grand. And, this is for a reason. While we oftentimes and seemingly as a kind of jest, we proclaim that we survive basically because of our good looks and humility, we proclaim so, not only in the literal sense of the words, but, also (to some of us, maybe, moreso) in the deeper and idiomatic meanings they may embed. It just has to be so. We have to adhere to being grand in our ways (and looks). Afterall, we comprise the PMA MARINGAL Class of 1988.

Wondrous Homecoming 2023, Maringals!!!



JOSE CHIQUITO M MALAYO
President
RODOLFO S AZURIN JR
Secretary

The Philippine Military Academy "MAKATAO" Class of 1989 marks its 34th year of service to God, Country and the Filipino people after graduating from our beloved Alma Mater. We started with a total of 115 dashing lieutenants/Ensigns, 113 from PMA and two from the foreign service academies (West Point and US Naval Academy). As of this date, our total strength is 162 with the adoption of 47 honorary and associate members, less 18 (15 regular and 3 adopted) who already

joined with our Creator. We expect 144 members during our activities especially those who are nearby as we have remaining 21 mistahs in the active service this year.

ARMY GROUP, by Cav Jun Torres:

As of this writing, there are still 12 members of the Army Group in the active service, with Jun Torres set to retire by 26 January 2023. Among them, Rowen





Tolentino, Efren Baluyot and Marvin Licudine, are already guaranteed to serve beyond the age of 56 by virtue of the application of RA 11709. Rowen is to serve as PMA Superintendent until 2026; Efren may serve as COMSOLCOM until November 2025; while Marvin would at least continue his military service until 2025.

Last 21 November, CGPA Omet Brawner hosted a Testimonial Dinner for Ariel Felicidadario and Alex Luna at the PA Officers' Club as they bowed out of the military service. It was a very well-attended affair with most members of the group in attendance. It was quite apparent during the dinner that these two outstanding members of the class would not for long be resurrected from their retirement and continue serving our country as a civil servant.

Come PMA Homecoming 2023 we shall witness a different array of Makatao Army Group as those in civilian attire (retirees) would far outnumber those who are still in military uniform but all standing proud nonetheless to be members of PMA Class of 1989 who have served and continue serving our country well.

PAF GROUP, by Cav Cris Marquez:

For the Air Force Group, Cav Connor Canlas, the current Commanding General of the PAF and the last man standing in the MAKATAO 89 Air Force Group, just retired on 20 Dec 2022 after more than one year of progressive and innovative leadership utilizing the "LIPAD PAF" Program. Among the activities lined up for his retirement were Champagne Flight and Testimonial Dinner, Testimonial Ride, Testimonial Golf, and Retirement Ceremony on the 16th, 17th, 19th and 20th of Dec 2022, respectively. Cav Nesty Rayos has just bowed out also from the service last

07 Nov 2022 in a Retirement Ceremony conducted at Fernando Air Base, Lipa City parade ground after almost eight months stint as Commander of AETDC. Cav Toto Dela Pena is currently very busy assisting the new administration of the National Government with his new job as the USec for Organizational Transformation under the DENR. Cav Leo Peralta is presently active with SunLife Insurance Company as part time financial advisor and was awarded as the Outstanding Member of the Company for the Year 2022. Cav Larry Tianchon is still active with the Villamor Air Base Golf Club as Adviser for Operations. He is responsible for the successful Testimonial Golf Tournaments conducted in the PAF and in maintaining the high standards of the golf course to qualify in the top 25 golf courses in the Philippines. Cav Cris Marquez is currently very busy with his new passion in gardening. However, he is also very active in his other duties as one of the Board of Directors of their Homeowners Association in Lipa City, Batangas having been reelected for

the year 2023. He was also tapped for the Upgrading of the PNP Air Unit. Cav Paul Mendoza is an expat pilot working in Hong Kong for almost five years now. He flies regularly with its short and long-haul flight destinations servicing around Asia, the USA and recently into EU as Captain of an Airbus A330/A350 of HKC Air Cargo Carrier Ltd. Cav Lito Villanueva also just retired from the active service last 03 Oct 2022 at BGBNEAB, Mactan, Cebu after serving as the Wing Commander of TOWCEN for more than two years. Cav Aldrick Dela Torre is happily enjoying family life with his loving family in Cabanatuan City. Cav Caloy Cristobal is still in General Aviation flying the ACH130 T2 Helicopter. During his free time, he passionately engages into modern farming in his home province in Isabela. Cav Jerry Cabe is presently very much preoccupied with his flying duties in Gulf Helicopters Company, and is currently stationed in Doha, Qatar. And, Cav Joey Acedera is currently the President of Securiforce Security Services and President of AcreedA Enterprises.



PN/PCG/MAR, by Cav Raul Caldez:

The group wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year with the following updates: The "last of the mojicans standing for the nmc89:" Chappy Reyes is still the main driver at GHQ central staffs as the TDCS, Jun Adaci is the 40th Flag Officer in command of the Phil Navy busy attending to his multitude duties. Abet Carlos as the Commander, WESCOM is always in the frontline of skirmishes with an aggressive country in the WPS. John Garana, still is the Assistant to DCS for Resource Management, J10 providing needed support to GHQ undertakings. Charleton Sean M Gaerlan is heading the Marine Corps in the pursuit of no nonsense external defense capability while Raul Caldez is now on the threshold leading to his retirement day on Dec 25 (his birthday), cramming to recollect his wonderful memories and putting to boxes all his tokens and other belongings for his near "transferring of barracks." That being said, only five will cross the year 2023 in active duty namely: Chappy R, Abet C, Jun Ad, Charles G, and John G.

For the happy community of retired nmc89ers: Ariel Caculitan is still the USec for military affairs at OPAMPA OP, always enjoying his weekend in Bulacan via big bike, Reuben Candelario is now working in Clark and thinking of buying a big bike to pass thru NLEX and Cavite conveniently, Nick Driz is still enjoying his vacation and time with his family and golf skill perfection, as well as Dorvin Legaspi in Novaliches QC, Eniong Hernandez is still working with the top beer, food, infra, and power producer San Miguel Corp. and enjoying his pool especially during weekends, Nestor Marcelino still very visible in class activities and deserves an award for the most number of attendance in class gatherings, Regie Rapanan recently celebrated his birthday silently and enjoying time with family, Timmy Aurelio is still busy in his work just around the country.

For the coastguard: William Isaga is still in the Visayas enjoying his retirement with family and friends, Ed Fabricante is still working on his golf swing and spending time with family, Butch Lobaton is still in Baguio area, Rei Picar is busy with his work as operations officer of a company that caters to defense capability, but had the time to do a northern loop ride with his big bike along with bugu bugu riders in December, Ferdz Velasco is always on top of his business, golf, and Ride skeds.

For our expats, Rey Baraca is still reachable by waze in New Jersey as well as Maeng in New York, busy with the super



cold winter, and also Jong Abellera in the UK and Orville Piol in Australia.

For the Honorary Members: Francis Gabudao is in Tagaytay, Ronald Mendoza in Milan, Italy, Atty. Dexter Emperador in Manila, Jong Marcelo and John Lumicao are still in the U.S. relaxing for the holidays but struggling with the winter cold while newly adopted Atty Raul Cortez is well within our reach in Manila busy with his law firm and shooting career.

PNP GROUP, by Chic Malayo:

By this time of publication, the group is represented by no less than the CPNP, PGen Jun Azurin, the Deputy CPNP for Administration, PLTGen Rhodel O Sermonia, the Director for Comptrollership, PMGen Jess Cambay and the Director for Information and Communications Technology, PMGen Val De Leon; All the rest are into their respective retirement



packages but are always ready to support the active remaining PNP members.

Activities undertaken are local and international travels, sports especially golf and shooting, breakfast/coffee fellowships and the latest was the hosting of the '2022 PMA "MAKATAO" Class of 1989 Christmas Party'. The party was well attended by mistahs with their ladies which also included the "Oath Taking" of adopted members to the Class, namely: COL Mark Rosal, COL Rey Rilveria, Mr Glicerio Juan, Atty Tony Lambino, Atty Raul Cortez, Mr Joel Cruz and Miss Gemma Sotto – "Welcome to the Class, mga mistah".

We are all praying and hoping that all will have their better best for the year



2023 living the name of our CLASS – the MAKATAOs of 1989.... MERRY CHRISTMAS

to ALL and May GOD continue to guide and protect His servants...



JOSE MELENCIO C NARTATEZ JR
President
ARVIN R LAGAMON
Secretary

TD '92 Police Cavaliers March on to 2023

Thirty solid years since they left the hallowed grounds of Fort Del Pilar to fulfill the duty to God, country and people, Police Cavaliers of PMA Tanglaw Diwa Class of 1992 march on to a new beginning under the fresh mandate and inspiring leadership of the Commander-in-Chief, President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr.

Now 14-strong, Tanglaw Diwa Police Cavaliers all-stars continue to rise up the command ladder, occupying sensitive leadership positions in the PNP echelon.

In December, President Marcos approved the promotion of four Tanglaw Diwa stalwarts to the rank of Police Major General. They are: PMGEN Bernard M Banac, PNP Director for Plan; PMGEN Jonnel Estomo, Regional Director, National Capital Region Police Office; PMGEN Eric Noble, Director Philippine National Police Academy; and PMGEN Mario Reyes, Director for Police Community Relations.

Ten other Tanglaw Diwa '92 Police Generals currently occupy command and staff positions in the Philippine National Police: PBGen Mafelino Bazar – Regional Director, Police Regional Office Cordillera; PBGen Jose Melencio Nartatez – Regional Director, Police Regional Office CALABARZON; PBGen Sidney Hernia –

Regional Director, Police Regional Office MIMAROPA; PBGen Leo Francisco – Regional Director, Police Regional Office 6 (Western Visayas); PBGen Ronald Lee – Director, Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG); PBGen Matthew Baccay - Deputy Director, Directorate for Personnel and Records Management;





PBGen Romeo Caramat - Deputy Director, Directorate for Intelligence; PBGen Sidney Villafior - Deputy Director, Criminal Investigation Detection Group (CIDG); PBGen Westrimundo Obinque, Deputy Director, Directorate for Comptrollership; and PBGen Belli Tamayo - Deputy Director, Area Police Command - Western Mindanao.

In 2022, four Tanglaw Diwa '92 Police Cavaliers successfully completed their respective tours of duty in the police service and quietly faded away in retirement, they are: PBGen Steve Ludan - December 2022; PBGen Ulysses Cruz - October 2022; PBGEN Ysmael Yu - June 2022; and PBGen Antonino Cirujales - May 2022.

Tanglaw Diwa '92 Police Cavaliers enjoy a distinctive spot in PNP history as the last men standing among the long gray line in the police service, but certainly the undying virtues of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty live on.

Army Group Updates:

Tanglaw Diwans from the Philippine Army look ahead in 2023 with full of hope and optimism. We shall do our best to transform for the best while performing for our fellowmen.

For update, here it goes:

Arvin is now at the helm of CRSAFP having been designated as its 42nd Commander. Mistahs Leo and Archie are AJ4 and AJ6, respectively. Other changes on designations are the following: Benedict Balaba at OJ2, Ferdinand (Tembong) as RDC, ASCOM's Director, Jeff Gallenero as ALDEC, TRADOC's Director, Jeff Grapa as OACOC's Chief, Jagger as GHQ and HSC's Deputy Commander, Donald as 602nd Inf Bde's Acting Commander, Bob Huet as 6ID's IG, Dean Mark Mamaril as CAC, TRADOC's Incoming Commander, Lito Montiel as

302nd Inf Bde's Deputy Commander, and Gemic Ramirez as AFPRESCOM's Deputy Commander.

Meanwhile, Lakay Lacadin and Arn Real have just recently finished the race and now savoring their whiskeys being regular commodities out of their respective pensions. And for those who want to have 2nd career in the government particularly at OPAPRU, just ring Ka Noli who is now the Director of HRM Services.

PN Group Updates:

The Philippine Navy Tanglaw Diwans continue to shine bright and will enflame the torch even more brighter in 2023. We

shall always trail the blaze where ever we are deployed.

For the information of other mistahs, here's the latest update for the Navy group:

Lloyd Casis - Graduated from RC57 MNSA "Invictus" Class/Class Mayor/Leadership Award/ Thesis Distinction Award, Topic: Naval Shipbuilding; Dado Caluya - Commander, NLC and Ongoing NSSP CI 04; Doods Albalate- recently retired from the service; Mac Raul Racacho - Deputy CNSSC; Willie Chavez - Director, Naval Safety Office; Jo Simbulan - Private Security, Quality Management, Scan Marine and Kyle Jewelry Consultant, Airbus





320 Captain and currently undergoing Synthetic Flight Instructor Course at AAG Clark; and Bong Noceto - Asia Pacific Regional Account Manager, Securitas Security.

Air Force Group Updates:

Tanglaw Diwan flyboys will continue to soar high this 2023 to accomplish their varied missions in service to God, country and people.

For the Air Force, following are the significant changes: Cav Bienvenido J Casaclang - retired on 17 Nov 2022; Cav

Jeffrey M Vilela - retired on 10 Sep 2022; Cav Pedro S Francisco III -designated C, TOW Eastern Mindanao; Cav Diosdado Ferdinand M Peñamante - Corporate Helicopter Pilot Chip Mong Group Phnom Penh Cambodia; and Cav Fermin M Carangan - Deputy Asst Chief of Staff for CMO, AJ7, CGEA, QC.

Philippine Coast Guard Group Updates:

The PCG Tanglaw Diwans welcome the new year with a big wave of hellos. We are raring to go full blast in attaining our mission as 2023 enters the scene.

Here's a short update from the Coast Guard: Cav Art Abu is still the number 1 man in the PCG. Cav Doy Punzalan is now the Deputy Commandant for Operation. Thus, he levelled up from being the No.3 to being the No. 2 man of PCG. He was the Deputy Commandant for Administration prior to his new designation.

Year 2023, here comes the Tanglaw Diwans always ready to show the brightening light we are bound to illuminate while we serve the nation with full dedication and commitment.



TED C CEREZO JR
President
CONCEPCION G REANO
Secretary

ALUMNI HOMECOMING

February, we usually associate this time as the month of love, but for us Kaakibats, it is at this month of the year that we try to recharge our motto of "Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty" as we endeavor to go back to our beloved Alma Mater and step into the treasured grounds of PMA. When we were cadets, we were full of vigor every time we leave PMA and go back home during breaks. Now, it had been more than two decades since the last time we left after graduation, the vigor is back as we eagerly wanted to come back home and feel the breeze of Borromeo Field. Nostalgic as it is, the Kaakibats always find time to rekindle their fighting faith every time they are together, most especially reuniting in the hallowed grounds of PMA.

PMA KAAKIBAT 2001 DOMINATED CGSC CL-71

Now, here is something worth talking about in this homecoming: Members of PMA KAAKIBAT 2001 dominated the Command and General Staff Course CL 71 during the joint graduation rites of CGSC and Development Academy of the Philippines' (DAP) MPM-Development Security when Kaakibats topped both courses and at the same time bagged the Best Commandant's Paper for CGSC and Best Masters Thesis for DAP.

CGSC CI 71 and its twinning Master's Program from DAP jointly concluded last 22 November 2022, with 160 graduating students, including 13 International Military Students (IMS) and 14 Non-Resident Instruction (NRI). The event was attended by no less than General Bartolome Bacarro, Chief of Staff, AFP along with Atty. Engelbert C. Caronan Jr, DAP President and CEO and Dr. Lizan Perante-Calina Dean of DAP-GSPDM graced the occasion as partners of AFPETDC on the twinning program.

Out of said number, the CGSC top 3 and Best Commandant's Paper all came from members of Kaakibat. Here are the snappy mistahs that dominated the course:

- Let us start with the top 3, Cmdr Ariel Nico Torres – he received the Deputy Chief of Staff, AFP Award for graduating Nr 3. His paper is also adjudged as the Best Commandant's Paper on his topic regarding Cognitive Biases in Defense Economics: Leadership and Organizational Perspective in Acquisition Decision-Making. Ariel is an honor graduate and also an MPM-DevSec Graduate with Honors and Dean's Special Citation.

- Our top 2 graduate, a proud Marine, LtC Clifford Nickanor Basco – He is the recipient of the Vice Chief of Staff, AFP Award for graduating Nr 2 in the class, an Honor graduate and another candidate for Best Commandant's Paper. Cliff is also the Seminar Leader of the Jaguars that received the Seminar Right of Line Award for obtaining the highest average grade in all areas of evaluation and the Academic



Excellence Award for obtaining the highest average grade based on the cumulative grades of all its seminar members in academics.

And of course, the Number 1 of the class, the top student of CGSC CL 71, Cmdr Ayie Coloma – Ayie is the sole Outstanding graduate out of the 37 honor students. This means his final average is 96% and above, with no grade lower than 91%! He is also the recipient of AFP Chief of Staff Award and Flag Officer-in-Command, PN Award, for graduating number 1 in the class and number 1 in the Philippine Navy students, respectively. Ayie is also a recipient of MPM Dev-Sec Dean's Special Citation and his paper was also shortlisted both for Best Thesis and Best Commandant's Paper.

The Kaakibats did not only slay the CGSC, but the DAP's MPM-Dev Sec Program as well, with Commander Ted Cerezo graduating as the Class Valedictorian and at the same time Best Master's Thesis Award on his paper on Naval Operating Concept's Mine Warfare Capability for Anti-Access Area: Strategizing the Philippine Navy Mine Warfare Development. Ted is also an Honor graduate and at the same time received the MPM-Dev-Sec Dean's Special Citation and the Athletic Excellence Award.

These distinct awards are on top of the honor graduate awards received by the other Kaakibats of CGSC CL71 - Truly, standing up to the standard of the class.

The course just started with the Kaakibats' agreement to enjoy CGSC and maximize family time, but then again, these LTCs and Commanders are no ordinary

student officers, they are members of PMA Class 2001, and their standard of "enjoy CGSC" is to be on top and to bag the best papers. That's just how the cookie crumbles for these Cavaliers.

Now, these Cavaliers will be deployed to different Commands all over the archipelago, and as we congratulate them for conquering CGSC with flying colors, we are also sending them our well wishes as they venture to yet another adventure. Well done Cavaliers!

Ongoing CGSC CL72: Ric Agojo, Nini Solamo, Frank Garcia, Nante Occiano, Ron Torcelino, Rino Guda, Marco Sandalo and Warren Lopez.

KAAKIBAT SERVANT - LEADERS MOVING FORWARD

Kaakibats as leaders primarily focus on the growth and well-being of people and communities, that is what we do as catalysts of change. As the 58th CSAFP said, *"Changes can only happen through consistently sharpening the culture of excellence and culture of transparency and culture of professionalism. Learning should not be stagnant."* And yes, "The Doom" as we were labeled when we were cadets, will always be aiming for number ONE in every endeavor that we do in the field and wherever we are. We will because we can, we are the PMA KAAKIBAT CLASS of 2001.





REYNALD JV BALANAY
President
NOEL SM MARZAN
Secretary

**"Mandarangan@20:
Celebrating Achievements"
from the Greens and Beyond**

On March 20, 2003, the men and women of the Mandarangan Class of 2003 exited the hallowed grounds of the Academy to follow in the footsteps of the cadets who preceded them. It has been 20 years since the 102-strong members of the class have chosen their respective paths to serve the country and the Filipino people and all of the "Mandirigmang may Karangalan" continue to carve their remarkable legacies as full-pledged military officers molded and imbued with the Academy's core values of Courage, Integrity, and Loyalty. As a testament to their commitment to live up to the tenets of their class name, the following cavaliers have diligently climbed their way up the ladder of leadership and have been entrusted with the responsibility to lead as battalion and unit commanders (LTC MABBORANG, LTC GARGAR C, LTC BUGNOSEN, LTC PACLIBAR, LTC CARAG, LTC CORTEZ) and as commanding officers (CDR BINALLA, CDR PARAS, CDR BASILIO) in the different branches of service. Likewise, other members of the class continue to sustain their spirit for service as they make exceptional contributions in their respective designations across the archipelago.

Moreover, the year 2022 has also been a productive one for the Mandarangans, not only in serving as catalysts for the mission accomplishment of the Armed Forces of the Philippines but also in the sport that is dear to most, if not all military officers - the game of the greens - golf. This year, the Mandarangan Class of 2003 emerged victorious as the over-all champions of the Game of Cavaliers 2022. In addition, members of the class also copped the trophies for the Individual Championship, Division E Championship, and the Young Championship.



Amid the challenges of serving in the noble profession of arms, these achievements and more attest to the unwavering resilience of the members

of the Mandarangan Class of 2003 as they continue to trailblaze their way across different paths and establish a strong foothold in upholding the values

and principles of the Academy and the AFP's core values of Honor, Service, and Patriotism.



OWEN MONATO-AVENIDO
President
EDWARD R ESTONINA
Secretary

HAPPY HOMECOMING TO ALL CAVALIERS!

It is the time of the year again for cavaliers to recharge and reload supplies of Courage, Integrity and Loyalty. And since it is in our Maliyab blood to always try to make someone smile, we will be sharing some hugot lines to our fellow cavaliers.

"Sa panahon ngayon, tanghali na lang ang tapat, sinaing na lang ang hindi iniwan, bilingin na lang ang mahal."

"Kung napapako din lang lahat ng pangako mo, e di magkarpentero ka na lang."

"Minsan ang love ay parang buwan, iiwan ka rin pagdating ng araw."

"Buti pa ang loan nagma-mature, yung yearling buddy ko kaya?"

"Hindi ka MARGIN, kaya wag kang adjust ng adjust sa kanya."

"Sana plebo na lang ako, para laging ifollow-up mo."

Maliyab Christmas Parties

Some members of the class gathered to celebrate brotherhood and friendship during the Christmas season. Those assigned in NCR gathered in Camp

Aguinaldo for a night of booze, music and laughter. Those assigned in other areas also gathered with other mistahs and families in their own areas.



Debut of Ping Rosalejos

Speaking of celebrations, one of our Maliyab babies who turned into a very fine young lady, Romarie Juliane Rosalejos, celebrated her 18th birthday last December in Baguio City. Ping, as she is fondly called by her family and friends, was surrounded by Maliyab titos and titas and fellow Maliyab brats during a very memorable night of love, laughter and more food.

Air Force guys in the PCG

The rumors are indeed true, that not all good looking guys in a PMA class are in the Philippine Air Force, because in our class for example, two opted to transfer to the Philippine Coast Guard. Carlo and Engie are now doing great on their way up the ladder in the PCG, huge thanks to our Coast Guard mistahs who welcomed and supported them along the way.



CDR CARLO DAVID, a former Huey pilot of the 205th Tactical Helicopter Wing, is now the Chief of Staff, Coast Guard Intelligence Force. He is the number 3 guy in their force, with our coast guard mistahs Toto Vingz and Comrade Dixie as the number 1 and 2 guys, respectively.



Another Tom Cruise lookalike in the PCG is CG CDR ROGER NG a former C-130 pilot and is currently the Chief of Staff, Coast Guard District Southern Tagalog based Batangas City.



WELCOME HOME, CAVALIERS!

FORT GEN GREGORIO DEL PILAR

INTEGRITY



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

LAST CALL

COMMO FEDERICO P LARDIN JR '60

25 Aug 1935 - 11 Sept 2022

Former Naval Inspector General, Cav Lardin died on 11 September 2022 at South Imus Specialist Hospital. He left behind his wife Lydia, children: Eric, Gary, Maricel, Bessie and Jing. Wake was held on Sept. 13-16, 2022 at Heritage Memorial Park, Taguig City and interment on 17 Sept 2022 at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani.



CAPT HERNANI M JOVER '62

21 Nov 1940 - 7 Dec 2022

Cav Jover passed away on 7 December 2022 at San Juan de Dios Hospital. Wake was held at Manila Memorial Park La Paz Homes and interment on 17 December at Manila Memorial Park, Paranaque City with full military honors.

He was married to the late Antonietta Salazar-Jover who passed away in 1994. He left behind his children: Ma Amelita Corazon, Christopher Thaddeus,



Ma Patricia, Manuel Carlos, Ma Pamela, Ma Socorro, and Ma Rosario.

COL AGAPITO B HEREDIA, JR '70

12 Nov 1946 - 18 Dec 2022

Cav 'Pitong' Heredia, Jr of the Magiting Class of 1970 passed away at his home in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA on 18 December 2022. Funeral services were held in Palm Northwest Cemetery on 7 January 2023 in a solemn PMA Alumni ceremony consisting of the sounding of Taps, presentation of the Filipino Flag and the singing of the 'PMA Oh Hail To Thee', rendered by members of the PMAAA Overseas Chapter. He is survived by his wife Annie and children Angelo, Aisha and Aaron.



MAJ MARLOU C DAGUIO '05

9 Nov 1981 - 1 Jan 2023

Cav Daguiog '05 passed away on 1 Jan 2023, he was 41. Necrological service was held at Daguiog's residence at Brgy. Roxas, Solano, Nueva Vizcaya.



2LT STEPHANY R REBELLON '22

12 Sept 1997 - 15 Jan 2023

Cav Rebellon, a member of PMA "Bagsik Diwa" Class of 2022 was found dead at the Headquarters, CMO Regiment, PA while undergoing orientation for her projected position in the unit. She is survived by her parents Adriano and Salve, and was laid to rest at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani on 28 January 2023.



PCOL LEO G MAYAEN '90

30 May 1963 - 17 Jan 2023

The body of Cav Mayaen was found dead in a car, parked at the Poro Point Management Corp. in Barangay Poro, City of San Fernando, La Union on 17 January, he was 59. Wake was held at the Cathedral of the Resurrection, Magsaysay Avenue, Baguio City and interment on 24 January at Everlasting Memorial Park, Kias, Baguio City.





The Cavalier Memorial Monument, soon to be erected beside the PMA MUSEUM, is another joint project of the PMAAAI and PMA. It symbolizes the veritable connection between the fallen and the living Cavaliers. Its pillars are the core virtues of every Cavalier: Courage, Integrity and Loyalty with the battle sword and bell.

“The Cavalier Memorial Monument is the remembrance and gratitude to fallen Cavaliers in service to the nation in the finest tradition of the Filipino soldier who fought for freedom and independence from colonial Spain and against the US Army during the Philippine-American War, and supported the US Army in WW2, Korea and Vietnam War. The same Filipino soldier today continues to safeguard the lands, the seas and the skies of the Motherland from any threat so that our country and people can live and prosper in peace, security and stability.”

Vidal E. Querol

CAVALIER AMBASSADOR VIDAL E QUEROL '73