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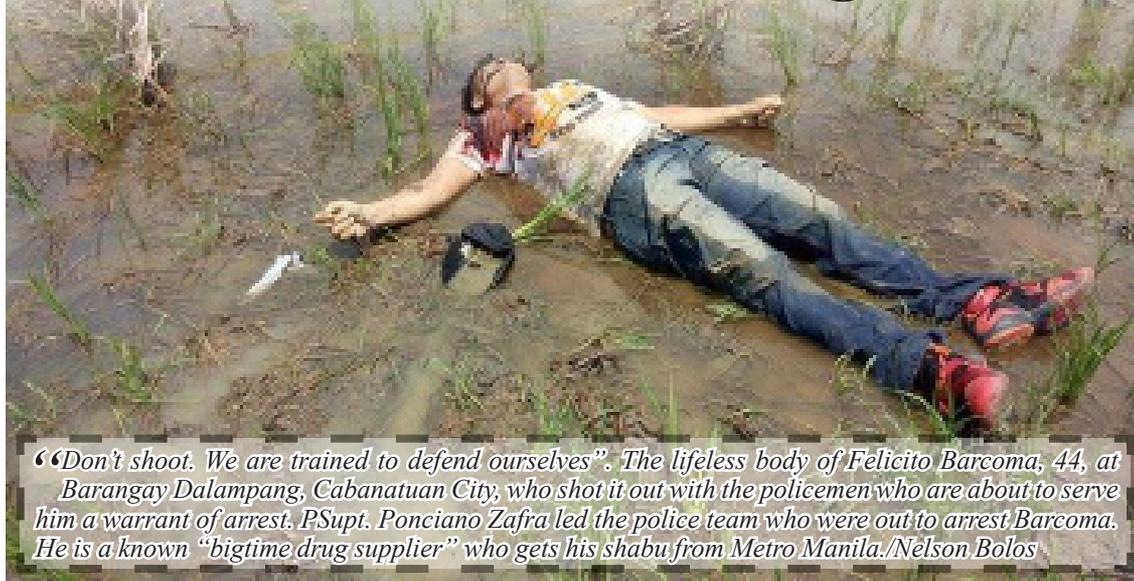
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tarlac weekender

Big time drug supplier killed in shoot-out

By Nelson Bolos

P 1 Million shabu, cal .45 gun seized



Cabanatuan City -- "Don't shoot policemen. We are trained to defend ourselves."

Thus, said PSup Ponciano Zafra on the killing of a wanted "big time drug supplier" who shot it out with the arresting policemen around 10:30 in the morning of June 5 at Purok Uno, Barangay Dalampang. Around P1 Million worth of shabu and a caliber .45 pistol were recovered.

Killed in an armed-encounter was Felicito Barcoma y Tanjosay, 44, of Purok Apitong, Barangay Poblacion, Gen. Natividad, Nueva Ecija.

Zafra revealed Barcoma was about to be served a warrant of arrest for possession of illegal drugs when he (Barcoma) tried to elude arrest and fired at the arresting cops.

The Warrant of Arrest was issued by Judge Felizardo Montero, Jr of the Regional Trial Court Branch 29, Cabanatuan City.

"Nang a-arestuhin namin siya, bigla siyang tumakbo sa bukid at pinutukan niya kami," said Zafra who personally led the operation against Barcoma.

Cont. on page 3

"Don't shoot. We are trained to defend ourselves". The lifeless body of Felicito Barcoma, 44, at Barangay Dalampang, Cabanatuan City, who shot it out with the policemen who are about to serve him a warrant of arrest. PSupt. Ponciano Zafra led the police team who were out to arrest Barcoma. He is a known "bigtime drug supplier" who gets his shabu from Metro Manila. Nelson Bolos

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Caritativo, Delos Reyes push anti-hospital detention ordinance

TARLAC CITY - A public hearing was conducted at the SP Conference Hall on June 2, 2017 regarding

the proposed city ordinance requiring all hospitals, medical clinic and similar institutions operating within the jurisdiction of Tarlac City to post R.A. 9439, "An Act Prohibiting the Detention of Patients in Hospitals and Medical Clinics on Grounds of Nonpayment of Hospital Bills or Medical Expenses and Providing Penalties for Any Violation Thereof."

The hearing was headed by City Councilors Glenn Troy Caritativo and Christopher Delos Reyes, both of whom are the authors and sponsors of the said ordinance. The public hearing was also attended by City Councilors Vlad Rodriguez and Ana Aguas along with Atty. Joselito Castro, City legal Officer, and Dr. Ma. Carmela Go, City Health Officer.

Barangay Health Workers and Community Health Center heads were also present at the meeting along with various doctors and representatives from hospitals namely: Dr Angeles T. De Leon - Loving Mother General Hospital; Mr.

Cont. on page 2

Magsumbong sa Weekender!

>Meron ba kayong issue na matagal nang pinaabot sa mga liderato natin ngunit di kayo pinapasin?

>Meron ba kayong sumbong ngunit di niyo alam kung paano at kung kanino ito ipaaabot?

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Sundan ang inyong mga sumbong sa p. 5

MAGKASANGGA TAYO

- Speaker Alvarez dinuduro ang Korte Suprema!
- Wigman Aguirre sablay nanaman!



BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO

EL MAESTRO SPEAKS

Same Old Issue



BY: CLYDE B. SACPA

Sen. "Tesda" Villanueva Goes to Tarlac City Hall

TARLAC CITY — Sen. Joel "TESDAMAN" Villanueva arrived at the Tarlac City Hall today to pay a visit to Mayor Cristy Angeles, members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod led by Vice Mayor

Genaro M. Mendoza, other city officials and employees.

In his brief arrival remarks, Sen. Villanueva thanked Tarlaqueños for giving him the highest number of votes among all senatorial candidates in Tarlac City in the May 2016 elections.

Mayor Cristy Angeles thanked the senator for the TESDA scholarship program that will benefit 134 scholars from Tarlac City this year.

The TESDA scholarship program will be a big boost to the expanded free tertiary education of Mayor Angeles. Education is among the top priorities of the Angeles administration.

In the opening of school year 2017-2018, she is providing free school supplies and school bags to all 43,000 elementary school pupils in all the eighty-eight [88] public elementary all over the city.

Senator Villanueva has authored numerous bills and resolutions a number of which has been approved by both houses of congress and awaiting approval from

Malacanang. These include: **Extension of the Validity of Passports:**

Senator Joel along with other senators had the extension of the validity of passports from 5 to 10 years approved on its final reading.

Occupational Safety, Workers' Right to Self-organize, and Wage Rationalization:

In a labor comm. hearing, Senator Joel expressed alarm over the increasing cases of non-compliance with occupational safety and health standards (OSH) that resulted to the endangerment of workers' lives.

Passed on Final Reading, Telecommuting Act:

Voting 22-0, the Senate approved on final reading a bill ensuring the protection of home-based workers and allowing the "work from home" policy.

Passed on Final Reading, Tulong Trabaho Act:

The passage of the bill promises to narrow the gap of unemployment in the country by providing free tech-voc training and improving the skills of Filipinos who chose not to pursue tertiary education. /Tarlac CIO



Another batch of farmers head to South Korea - In just a span of one month, another batch left on June 8, 2017 to join the first batch of farmers who headed to South Korea. Eighty-five Tarlac City farmers left for Yanggun County, South Korea last month to work there in a 6-month contract with options for reapplication. The second batch will also have the same opportunity. This was made possible through the Agricultural Exchange Agreement between the City Government and Yanggun County. All these are in line with Mayor Cristy Angeles' goal of providing employment for Tarlaqueños here and abroad. /Tarlac CIO

Sugar farmworkers unite to dismantle various Cojuangco haciendas

Nearly three decades after the implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program or CARP, farmworkers under sugarcane haciendas launch simultaneous actions against the powerful Cojuangco landlord clan.

In Tarlac, national agriworkers center Unyon ng mga Manggagawa sa Agrikultura (UMA) and the National Federation of Sugar Workers (NFSW) joined local farmworkers in a caravan yesterday in Hacienda Luisita barangays to assail undeclared "martial law" within the controversial sugar estate.

Hacienda Luisita is controlled since the 1950s by the family of former Presidents Corazon Cojuangco-Aquino, who enacted CARP in 1988, and Benigno Aquino III, under whose regime the CARP expired in 2014. Large parcels of prime agricultural land in Luisita is still heavily guarded by private security and armed state forces.

Yesterday, around 100 policemen were deployed to guard a 500-hectare fenced area in Brgy. Balete which is claimed by commercial bank RCBC. SWAT teams were also seen toting high-powered firearms in checkpoints. Today, farmers and their supporters formed a human chain near an army headquarters located right smack in the middle of a thriving land cultivation area also in the same barangay.

UMA Secretary General Danilo Ramos says successive land reform schemes under CARP failed to uplift the lives of downtrodden sugar workers in Hacienda Luisita. Instead, farmworkers were to exposed to various atrocities, including the Hacienda Luisita massacre of 2004.

"First, Cory implemented the oppressive Stock Distribution Option or SDO. Today, despite a Supreme Court decision for total land distribution, Hacienda Luisita is still under the effective control of the Cojuangco-Aquinos through the aryendo

or illicit leaseback set-ups. The Cojuangcos are now also business partners with another despotic landlord family, the Lorenzos of Lapanday, who controls thousands of hectares of banana plantations in Mindanao," said Ramos.

Meanwhile in Negros, notorious landlord and Marcos crony, Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco, Jr., an estranged brood of the Cojuangcos of Luisita, still controls around 5,000 hectares of land under the CARP's "corporative scheme," another non-land transfer scheme akin to the SDO.

According to NFSW Secretary General John Milton Lozande, more than 200 farmworkers from 11 Cojuangco haciendas in Negros Occidental have set up a protest camp in front of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) local office in Bacolod City to demand the termination of Danding's corporative scheme and revocation of various joint-venture agreements forged with CARP "beneficiaries."

The corporative scheme was enforced in the following haciendas in 1998: Hda. Balatong, Hda. Nieva, Hda. Bonifacia, Hda. Soledad, Hda. Candelaria, Hda. Fe, Hda. Caridad and Candaguet, Hda. San Antonio, Hda. Ara-al, Hda. Kaiyaman and Hda. Adelina and has since comprised the Eduardo Cojuangco Jr or ECJ landholdings. **Cont. on page 6**



Caritavo, delos Reyes... from page 1

Zeal Espino and Mauslito Brata - Loving Mother General Hospital; Dr. Maita Rigor - Tarlac Provincial Hospital; Dr. Celina De Ocampo and Dr. Robert Carreon - Ramos General Hospital; Mr. Mars Saludez - Ramos General

Hospital City Mayor Cristy Angeles, known to be an advocate of appropriate providence of health care especially to her indigent constituents, supports the approval of this ordinance/ **Tarlac CIO.**

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Central Luzon export grew by more than 50% in 2016

Merchandise exports from Central Luzon grew by more than 50% in 2016 compared to the region's export performance in 2015. According to a report of the Department of Trade and Industry Regional Office III (DTI-3), total export of the region for 2016 amounted to US \$ 8.11 Billion compared to US \$ 5.38 Billion in 2015 or an increase of \$ 2.72 Billion.

For 2016, Central Luzon's top export is still electronics, with a total amount of \$ 5.31 Billion or almost 66 % of the total export amount for the region. The amount represented an increase of \$ 1.49 Billionworth of electronic products as electronics exports in 2015 only reached \$ 3.82 Billion. The major contributor of electronic products exports is the Phoenix Semiconductor Philippines at the Clark

Freeport Zone.

Machineries and transport equipment export also rose by 138% from \$ 682.95 Million in 2015 to \$ 1.59 Billion worth of products exported in 2016. The machineries sector represents almost 20% of the total export of Central Luzon.

Garments and textiles also made significant contribution in the growth of export in the region. For 2016, export of garments reached S 395 Million compared to \$ 237 Million in 2015, or an increase of S 157 Million. The garments sector make up almost 5% of the region's total export.

Other products contributing to the region's healthy export performance in 2016 are Fashion and Leather Goods (\$ 245 Million), Consumer Manufacture

(\$ 186 Million), Industrial Manufacture (\$ 147.37 Million), Metal Manufacture and Food products (\$ 64 Million).

The top two markets for Central Luzon products in 2016 were China (29.28% of total exports) and the United States (18.16%) Other top export markets for the region include Hongkong (12.45%), Japan (10.44%) and Thailand (3.01%).

The regional office of DTI regularly monitors export performance based on the reports of the Clark Development Corporation, Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan, Luisita Industrial Park and the One-Stop Export Documentation Centers in Manila, Bataan, Clark and Subic. (DTI-3)

49 displaced Marawi learners enroll in CL public schools

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga - About 49 learners who were displaced from the ongoing conflict in Marawi City have enrolled in various public schools in Central Luzon.

Figures from Department of Education (DepEd) show that as of June 5, 18 students have enrolled in Angeles City, 9 in Zambales, 8 in Tarlac Province, 4 in Meycauayan City, 4 in Gapan City, 4 in Olongapo City, and 2 in Aurora.

"As part of the necessary assistance currently being accorded to the displaced learners, we have waived all requirements for enrollment and have prepared

these schools to accommodate the influx of transferees including the provision for additional learning materials," DepEd Regional Director Malcolm Garma said.

"We have also instructed our personnel to accept enrollees until the end of June to make sure that there would be minimal disruption in the learning. We will endeavor to overcome the negative impact of this incident to our students," Garma added. (CLJD-PIA 3)

Big time drug supplier... from page 1

Recovered from Barcoma were 4 "bulging sachets" of shabu and a Colt caliber .45 pistol. Also confiscated from the Mazda Hatchback car driven by Barcoma were 6 sachets of shabu with a total weight of 60.23 grams.

The street value of seized drugs is around P1 Million. (A gram of shabu is usually repacked into more than 35 pieces of P500 "retail-sized" plastic sachets.)

Zafra also disclosed that Barcoma supplies shabu in Talavera and San Jose towns and in this city.

"He is very elusive. He only stops for a few minutes to deliver shabu to his network of pushers here and in other towns. But our weeks of intelligence work paid-off. We got him at Barangay Dalampang where he was about to deliver (illegal drugs) to one of our informers," Zafra said.

"We are focused on stopping the entry of drugs into the city. Barcoma gets his shabu from Manila" also said Zafra.

In his almost 11 months as this city's chief of police, Zafra has jailed almost 400 pushers and drug addicts.

CIAC encourages Central Luzon residents to book flights in Clark International Airport

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE - Clark International Airport Corporation (CIAC) encouraged residents of Central Luzon to book their flights in Clark International Airport (CRK).

"The existing terminal of CRK has a 4.2-million-passenger capacity, that is why residents of the region are being highly urged to book their flights there instead," CIAC President Alexander Cauguiran said during the recent CRK North Philippines Roadshow in Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

He also stressed that most passengers are still flying in the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) because CRK is still not fully utilized.

"Did you know that more or less 40 million passengers, both domestic and international, were generated in NAIA last year?

More or less 10 million came from Northern and Central Luzon," Cauguiran disclosed.

The ease of transportation is one factor for the passengers to consider in flying through CRK instead, since it is connected in the many of the major expressways of the country namely the North Luzon, Subic-Clark-Tarlac, and Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressways.

Furthermore, Cauguiran said CRK is now connected to the major islands of the Philippines.

"[Our] airport is already connected to Mindanao, Visayas, and even in Palawan. There are now flights to Davao, Cebu, Kalibo, Puerto Princesa, Tagbilaran, Nueva Vizcaya and even to the private island of Balesin," he stressed. (CLJD/JRAA-PIA 3)

Japanese helicopter carrier, destroyer arrive in Subic Bay

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE - A helicopter carrier and destroyer of the Escort Flotilla One of Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) arrived Sunday in Alava Pier for a four-day goodwill visit.

Escort Flotilla Commander Rear Adm. Yoshihiro Goka said the visit was held, not only to receive supplies, but also to promote mutual understanding and friendship.

"I am sure that we could deepen

the bilateral relationship [between our countries] and strengthen the ties between the Philippine Navy (PN) and the Japanese Navy by conducting these events," he remarked.

Moreover, Goka emphasized that since both countries are maritime states, pursuing open and stable seas based on the rule of law is necessary to ensure peace and stability in the region.

"Japan and the Republic of the Philippines share a number of issues in non-traditional security areas such as Maritime Security, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response. In recent years, the bilateral cooperation has become deeper and stronger, since both Navies [PN and JMSDF] have been conducting bilateral exercises continuously and frequently," he stressed.

"Based on the strong bilateral relationship in mutual trust, I will deepen the tie between our Navies. I am also looking forward to promoting regional peace and stability together with PN," Goka ended. (CLJD/JRAA-PIA 3)

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Speaker Alvarez to defy Supreme Court?!

Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez has vowed to defy the Supreme Court if it orders Congress to tackle Martial Law in a Joint Session (as mandated by the Constitution). He insists that as co-equals, the Judiciary cannot "dictate" Congress what to do.

Alvarez is ignorant of history – forgetting the recent episode under the last president where the Supreme Court effectively struck down the self-serving pork barrel "bargain among thieves" that Congress and the Executive had reached on PDAF and DAP.

He is also ignorant of the "separation of powers" between the three branches – in particular, on the role of the Supreme Court as final arbiter on constitutional matters.

The division is straightforward: Congress writes the laws – but only within the framework of the Constitution. Executive implements the laws. Judiciary interprets the laws.

If Congress refuses to follow the law – such as to meet in Joint Session to review & discuss the President's declaration of Martial Law – citizens should have recourse thru the Supreme Court to compel Congress to do its job. If Supreme Court supports the petitioners' positions, Congress is duty-bound to follow.

To defy a Supreme Court order on a constitutional matter is to trigger a constitutional crisis. Such a stalemate may be resolved thru statesmanship. But in today's toxic political climate, it could also be resolved by military intervention (if the officers decide to defend the Constitution) or mob rule (if the fanatics decide to do away with the Constitution altogether).

Both scenarios would be bad for stability, bad for business, bad for investments, bad for the peso, etc. Ultimately it will be bad for the pocket and stomach of Juan Dela Cruz. Not equally bad as one scenario is clearly worse than the other.

Alvarez' statement courts such a constitutional crisis. It is clearly a challenge to the Supreme Court as an institution. Supreme Court should not shirk from the challenge. It should interpret the law without fear or favor. Otherwise this could be the final nail in the coffin of rule of law.

The Speaker is a Destabilizer. Just like his political master. Both are not above the law. The Supreme Court should rediscover its voice before it becomes a mere parrot of tyrants. /By : Bernard Ong

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*It has become acceptable
to be wicked in RP*

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God..." (2 Timothy 3:1-4, the Holy Bible).

-000-

RESORT WORLD ATTACK SHOCKERS: So, what else will we be shocked with in relation to the June 02, 2017 attack on the Resorts World Complex in Pasay City, aside from the mayhem having been carried out by a man whose severe addiction to gambling led him to squander millions while his family starved and lived in abject poverty, and aside from the security officer of the hotel complex faking his academic record just to land his job?

Cont. on page 5



Bringing stupidity to another level

BY: ELLEN TORDESILLAS
ELLENTORDESILLAS.COM

Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre probably thought the public would buy his tale linking opposition lawmakers to the Maute terror group which is one of the reasons for the current turmoil in Marawi City.

It only affirmed his stupidity.

As social media commenter Joel Vivas tweeted, "Kakaibang level!"

Last Wednesday, Aguirre told media that Senators Antonio Trillanes IV and Bam Aquino, along with Magdalo party-list Representative Gary Alejano and Ronald Llamas, political adviser of former president Benigno Aquino III, met with members of the Alonto and Lucman clans in Marawi City on May 2.

He linked the meeting to the clash between government forces and the supporters of Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon, whom the military tried to capture. The armed clash led to the declaration of martial Law by President Duterte last May 23.

"It's probable, it's possible" that the meeting could have "sparked the terroristic acts in Marawi...Hindi ko malaman why after they went there, nagkagulo na after two weeks. They met with the people there, they met with several families there," Aguirre said. He speculated some more that the lawmakers' Marawi visit could have connection with the P79 million in cash and checks found in a Maute group-occupied house.

For proof he showed reporters a picture of that "meeting."

It turned out that the picture, which showed Trillanes, Alejano, Llamas, former Pampanga Gov. Mark Lapid and Zamboanga del Sur Vice Governor Ace Cerilles, was from the Facebook wall of Cerilles and was taken on Sept. 4, 2015 at Iloilo International Airport.

The lawmakers mentioned vehemently denied Aguirre's tale and showed records of their attendance in Congress on May 2.

Trillanes did not mince words, in a statement he issued from The Hague, Netherlands where he and Alejano filed a supplemental communication to an earlier complaint filed against President Duterte by Atty. Jude Sabio at the International Criminal Court.

"The incompetence of Aguirre is only matched by his stupidity. I would advise him to avoid getting his intel from Facebook conspiracy theorists," the former Navy officer said.

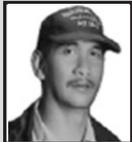
"For the record, I am not involved in any way with the Maute group or the Marawi incident. Sec. Lorenzana said so himself. I also did not have any meeting in Marawi in May 2 since I haven't visited Marawi for the past 3 years. But don't take my word for it, simply check the Senate records for May 2," Trillanes further said.

Alejano, a former Marines officer, said the records will bear out that on May 2, he was in a press conference with the House media together with the members of the independent minority. He also attended the plenary session that afternoon as reflected in the Journal of the House of Representatives.

"I must remind Aguirre that the Magdalo represents former and retired members of the Armed Forces and pursues reforms in the security sector. The Magdalo will in no way put the lives of our soldiers and police in danger. Many of whom are our classmates and friends from the Philippine Military Academy and colleagues when we were still in the active service. The Magdalo would never support or affiliate with any terrorist organization," he said.

Aquino said on May 2 he was the commencement Cont. on page 5

- *Speaker Alvarez dinuduro ang Korte Suprema!*
- *Wigman Aguirre sablay nanaman!*



BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO

Speaker Alvarez dinuduro ang Korte Suprema - Bakit kaya ganito itong si brusko at barumbado na Speaker of the House na si Panty este Pantalon Alvarez? Ano bang klaseng istilo itong babrasuhin at tatakutin nya ang Korte Suprema? Tama ba ang ganyang istayl na tatakutin niya ang korte suprema na susuwayin niya ang order ng korte kung sakali na makita ng korte na may merito ang isinampa na petisyon ng napakaraming abogago este abogado kung saan kanilang kinukuwestiyon ang proseso ng pag-deklara ng martial law? Wow naman Mr. Speaker, baguhin mo ang style mo at huwag mong gayahin ang amo mo at hindi mo naman kaya. Tandaan mo na iisa lang ang PRRD na siya mismo ang nagsabi na sa limang sinasabi niya ay tatlo ang jok o nonsense lamang. Eh ikaw Speaker Panty, ano ka trying hard na bully?! PWEEEEEE.....

####

Wigman Aguirre sablay nanaman- Ano ba naman itong si Wigman Aguirre na ito, sino ba talaga ang mga nakapaligid sa kanya na nagbibigay ng info o intelligence sa kanya na kinukuha lamang sa mga fake news sites na madalas ay kilala naman natin kung sinu-sino ang may kakayahan na magsagawa at madalas ginagawa nila ay fake news. Anong klaseng DOG este DOJ Secretary ang tao na ito na siyang humahawak sa mga malalaki na demanda kung sa isang napaka-simpleng verification ng isang info ay hindi pa niya maisagawa ng tama at agaran niyang ibubulgar ang info sa mga medyas este media na nag-interview sa kanya. Hay! Yay! Yay! Kawawang Senators Bum este Bam Aquino, Antonio Trillanes, Tongressman este Congressman Gary Alejano, etc. Pinaghinalaan ng walang ka base-basehan. Yaan ang ating DOG este DOJ Secretary Wigman Aguirre. Dapat ay magsama sina Mocha, Martin at Wigman at walang makakatalo sa kanila as the MASTERS OF SPIN. Hi Hi Hi.

Bringing stupidity to another level

...from page 4

speaker of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines at the PICC and attended the session at the Philippine Senate. He was in Marawi last May 19 but it was to launch the first Negosyo Center in the ARMM. "I had with me an AFP escort throughout my trip, which can easily be verified through the AFP," he said.

Aguirre was battered in social media. Rep. Teddy B. Baguilat? tweeted, "Sabi Aguirre na pakana nina Sen Bam, Trillanes, Cong Gary ang Marawi incident. Naka drugs na naman yata si Sec."

Aguirre also got the ire of the Alonto and Lucman families prompting him to blame media saying he was "unfortunately misquoted."

Journalist Inday Espina-Varona slammed the justice secretary: "Tumigil ka, Aguirre. Anong misquoted? Ang klaro klaro ng daloy ng quotes. Nagpakita ka pa ng 'fake news photo' 2015 pa yun!"

"Kung wala kang malisya, di mo gagawin yun. Sa dami daming problema ng bayan, dagdagan mo pa. Naghahanap lang kayo excuse ma-expand ang batas military," Varona said.

The National Union of Journalists in the Philippines was unforgiving calling Aguirre "a mean-spirited coward."

NUJP Chairperson Ryan **Cont. on page 6**

Same Old Issue



BY: CLYDE B. SACPA

The school year 2017-2018 officially opened this week on June 5, 2017. And still we are facing same old problem with regards to our education system.

The population of the student is around 26 million. That's a great news. It shows that we Filipinos value education. But, we are still having 66 thousand classroom shortage and 33 thousand shortage of teachers. Same old song ain't it?

Apart from this, we are still facing shortage of K-12 ready books for the 26 million students. Who do you think suffer the most in this shortage? Aside from the students, the most that suffer here are the teachers. Teachers patience is stretch out beyond limit. And what I hate the most is if the teachers complain these Managers of DepEd would say they should resign if they can't take the job.

So in the most presidential word of resentment I'd say F**k You. How about those people whose job in the DepEd is to produce these books on time and they were not able to do it? Aren't they supposed to be fired because of their incompetence?

I am asking those higher ups of DepEd to protect the foundation of your Department, the Teachers. Stop dropping everything on them. Punish the incompetent people who are not able to deliver and the sole reason your Department is having Shortage of materials and manpower.

Kakampi Mo Ang Batas ...from page 4

Many hope no other unpleasant surprises from this sordid incident will still surface and scandalize us even more in the days to come. Indeed, it should already be enough that 38 or so people died a senseless death here, or that a hotel complex as opulent or as wealthy as Resorts World did not have a security plan against crimes of this nature being committed in its premises.

But, come to think of it, what else, really, is new in this hapless country of ours? Is it not a fact of Filipino life that there are many aspects in Philippine society that are similarly fraudulent or unreal, and yet we've all decided to collectively turn a blind to all of them?

-ooo-

FRAUD IN MANY ASPECTS OF A FILIPINO'S LIFE: For example, aren't we aware that many diplomas or certificates attesting to the supposed completion of collegiate degrees by our students were not actually awarded to them after years of study but were merely produced by small shops in Claro M. Recto St., in Manila, for a fee?

Are we not also aware that many government officials and employees actually do not have genuine eligibilities and have submitted similarly fraudulent certificates claiming they have successfully hurdled government examinations even if they had not done so?

Don't we also have hundreds and hundreds of teachers, policemen, firemen, and others in government, or even in the private sector, whose licenses are also fake and spurious and were the mere handiwork of people who make out a living faking out official documents? And, even in the government program of giving dole-outs to the poor, did not many of the recipients submit falsified proofs of their entitlement?

-ooo-

IT HAS BECOME ACCEPTABLE TO BE WICKED IN RP: Indeed, we know all these to be true. Yet, not only do we keep silent about them. We in fact even encourage these frauds ourselves in one way or another,

Magusumbong sa Weekender

FROM OUR READERS

Trapik sa harap ng SM

Sana po sa pamamagitan ng inyong Pahayagan mailathala po ninyo ang nagiging sanhi ng mabagal na daloy ng trapiko sa ilalaim ng over pass sa front ng SM. Pansamantala lang may police na bantay doon. Habang nasa duty walang ibang ginagawa kung hindi nag-te-text lang o pag sikat ng araw biglaang nawawala ang police nagpapalamig sa Jolibbe, sa SM, o kaya naka silong sa Consolidated drug store sa building in front of SM. Kung ang police gagawin ang tungkulin, malaking mababawasan ang mabagal na daloy na trapiko kung hindi man tuluyang mawawala.

Mga sanhi ng mabagal na daloy ng trapiko sa ilalim ng overpass sa harapan ng SM:

1. Mga northbound na pampaseherong mga jeepney at Bus nagsasakay sila at nagbaba ng mga pasahero.
2. Nagtitinda ng buko at sigarillo.
3. Illegal tricycle terminal at naghahintay na mga pasahero.
4. Mayroong overpass pero maraming tumatawid na mga tao papunta SM tamad umakyat sa overpass (na para din sa kanilang kaligtasan at makaiwas sa akisidente.)

Bawal pansamantalang mag-park sa Tanedo?!

Ang mga tricycle ginawang terminal ang F. Tanedo St. Ngunit ipinagbabawal ng mga tricycle kung pumurada lang pansamantala para bumili ng pangangailangan na gamot sa Drug store. Tanong kailan po kaya naging batas sa bansa natin ang gawing terminal ang isang main road sa city proper?

Squatters sa Matatalaib

Ang farm to market road sa irrigation masikip ng madaanan dahil sa mga squatters' "improvements" sa parte ng Matatalaib Area. Hindi po ba bawal sa saligang batas ang mag-squat sa riverbank? Kung emergency hindi po magagamit ang farm to market road dahil masikip ang daluyan dahil sa mga illegal na mga bahay na itinayo ng mga squatters.

-a.k.a P. Benedicto (via FB)

o0o

Meron ba kayong issue o sumbong na gustong aksiyunan ng ating mga lider na di niyo maipaabot sa kanila, o kaya man ay naipaabot na ngunit di pa naaksiyunan? Isumbong niyo po sa Weekender upang sama-sama po nating katukin ang ating mga opisyal.

Mag text lang sa 09175061005 (Globe) or 0932-907-9810 (Sun), mag e-mail sa tarlacweekender@yahoo.com, o di kaya ay mag PM sa ating Facebook account na Tarlac Weekender!

either because we practice them too in many instances, or because we participate in their commission by other people, mostly by our own relatives.

Shamelessly, there is no more remorse in committing many falsehoods in our society today. Committing falsities brazenly has become an ordinary thing to do for many Filipinos, in the name of survival. It has become acceptable to be wicked and sinful, either because it is necessary to keep body and soul together for many, or because it is a way of enjoying material affluence for others.

The prevailing notion is now, if others can do it, why can't we do it, too? This sorry state of things was predicted to **Cont. on page 6**

DTI rolls out new loan program in Central Luzon

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga - Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) recently launched its Pondo sa Pagbabago at Pag-Asenso (P3) loan program in Central Luzon.

It primarily aims to benefit those in the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector who do not have high source of high cost by offering them alternative source of financing.

Rebecca Narciso, Department Manager of Small Business Corporation (SB Corp) which is an attached agency of DTI, said the government has allotted Php 1 billion to help small entrepreneurs who are lending through the "5-6" mechanism to grow their businesses.

"To help them gain easier access to alternative financing at reasonable cost, we at SB Corp have initially allocated Php100 million for lending to microenterprises throughout the country, at an interest rate of 2.5% and amounts ranging from Php5,000 to Php100,000," Narciso announced.

She explained that under the P3 program, the loan does not require collateral and minimal documentary requirements will be submitted, adding that the rate compares well with 10-20% per month charged by other fund provinces.

To date, Department of Budget and Management has released the first tranche of fund to SB Corp. amounting to Php334.250 million.

Aside from SB Corp, Radiowealth Finance Company, Taytay Sa Kauswagan Inc., Cebuana Lhuillier and MASS SPECC Cooperative Development Center are also set to implement the program in all their branches/business units nationwide. (CLJD/MJLS-PIA 3 with reports from Georgia M. Galang, intern)

Bringing stupidity to another level

...from page 5

Rosauro said, "There was no misquotation. Your words were recorded on video and audios were recorded on video and audio. So, no, you are not passing the buck on to reporters who did what they are supposed to do - accurately report your official acts and pronouncements.

"It is bad enough that you have shown no qualms about throwing the law, the truth and justice out the window in your headlong rush to persecute - sorry, prosecute - perceived foes of the administration.

"But trying to blame others for your blunders unmasks you as a mean-spirited coward."

William C. Espina has a simple explanation for Aguirre's spreading of fake news: "Eh kasi gago."

Kakampi Mo Ang Batas

...from page 5

happen many years ago and it is amazing that these predictions are happening now in our generation. Sadly though, the penalties that are to come for all these sinfulness are starting to be served by many already, in our own time!

-ooo-

WATCH "ANG TANGING DAAN" AT FACEBOOK: Please watch "Ang Tanging Daan", a Bible exposition and prayer session for everyone, in English and Filipino, at www.facebook.com/angtangingdaan. Reactions: 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0977 805 9058. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com.

DOLE reminds employers to issue pay slips to their workers

MANILA -The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) renewed its call to various private companies and employers to issue pay slips to their workers and employees.

According to Undersecretary Dominador Say they received complaints that workers were not being issued pay slips, thus cannot trace nor verify if their wages were deducted with social security contributions.

"This is their right. Regardless of their work status, casual or regular employees, job designation, and rate of wages, they are entitled to receive pay slips from their employers. This will be the proof of their wages, and if they are being paid properly by their employers," Say explained.

Say said even domestic workers or 'kasambahay' has the right to be issued with pay slip in accordance with Republic Act No. 10361 - Section 26 which states that "The employer shall at all times provide the domestic worker with a copy of the pay slip containing the amount paid in cash every pay day, and indicating all deductions made."

He pointed to the process being conducted by Labor Laws Compliance Officers (LLCO) during inspections where they first ask employees of their pay slips for them to check the rates being deducted from their workers' wages and whether they remit their employees' social security contributions.

"With their pay slips, we can determine if they are being paid properly. They are all entitled to get social benefits under the law, including overtime and holiday premiums, as well as additional pay for work done on their rest days. Workers have the right to know this and the government, the labor department requires this process," Say added.

He also noted that should an employer fail to comply with the said regulation, such as non-issuance of pay slips, paying employees below the minimum range of wages, non-remittance of SSS, and other social benefit contributions will make the company liable for infringement of labor laws and face charges.

"We encourage the workers to

report non-compliant employers. What we can do is we can coordinate with SSS or concerned DOLE offices which can directly send a notice of compliance to the employers, explain them the law, and order them to pay and strictly abide by the rules," the official added.

In the case of worker's dismissal, Say stressed that employers can only dismiss a worker under the reasons of authorized causes, such as retrenchment, bankruptcy, redundancy, and with due process. The separation pay will also depend on the reason for dismissal should an employee will receive the one-half month or one month per total years of service to the company.

The undersecretary meantime advised workers with queries and complaints to immediately report or visit the nearest SSS or DOLE Regional offices in their area or they may call DOLE Hotline 1349 where their concerns can be assisted.

"I would like to make a clear message to our Filipino workers: know your rights. We are here to help. If you

Cont. on page 7

Sugar farmworkers unite... ...from page 2

protests in Bacolod City are led by the ECJ Farmers and Farmworkers Alliance in Negros or EFFWAN.

"The SDO, corporative scheme and joint-venture are onerous contracts and landgrabbing schemes made legal by the CARP. This is the reason why farmworkers reject any extension of this pro-landlord policy and instead push for a genuine land reform program composed mainly of free land distribution to actual tillers," said Ramos.

Ramos is referring to the Genuine Agrarian Reform Bill filed as HB 555 by Anakpawis Partylist and Makabayan bloc, a piece of legislation which is widely supported by farmers across the country.

UMA also said that before the cancellation of the 5th round of peace talks between the government and the National Democratic Front (NDF), the negotiations were nearing positive developments,

especially since both parties have already agreed to free land distribution as component in the crafting of a Comprehensive Agreement for Socio-Economic Reforms or CASER.

"We are enraged that instead of addressing basic socio-economic problems to solve the roots of peasant unrest and armed conflict, the Duterte regime is gearing towards Martial Law and militarist solutions fed to him by ex-generals and other imperialist lapdogs within his Cabinet," said Ramos.

"Duterte's peace agenda now appears to be totally undermined with the piling up of various military atrocities in peasant communities in Mindanao and other parts of the country where state forces are under 'red alert.' The farmworkers of Hacienda Luisita and Negros have already showed us how to daring land occupation and cultivation actions. Farmers have no recourse left but to continue the fight and dismantle the centuries-old hacienda system," ended Ramos. (UMA)



DOJ downgrades raps vs cops in killing of Leyte mayor

MANILA - The Department of Justice (DOJ) on Thursday downgraded the charges against the policemen involved in the killing of Albueria, Leyte Mayor Rolando Espinosa and another inmate inside their detention cell in Baybay, Leyte last November from murder to homicide.

The 19 Philippine National Police-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (PNP-CIDG) Regional Office 8 operatives led by Supt. Marvin Marcos before the Baybay City, Leyte Regional Trial Court are facing charges after the panel of prosecutors created by DOJ Department Order No. 890 found probable cause to indict the members of PNP last March 2.

The March 2 resolution noted that the death of Espinosa and Yap were attended by treachery and the respondents used stealth to carry out the raid and that they clearly outnumbered and out-armed the victims.

"The panel likewise determined that the respondents strategically positioned themselves to secure the ingress and egress of the jail facility. It was also determined that evident premeditation was also present since the attack was well-planned, with the execution of the killings under the deception of implementing a search warrant," said part of the resolution signed by Senior Assistant State Prosecutor Lilian Doris Alejo who headed the prosecution panel and approved by Senior Deputy State Prosecutor Pedrito Rancis.

The accused filed a petition for review with the DOJ and released a resolution last May 29 and ordered the Leyte prosecutor to amend the Information (charge sheet) in court.

"It is respectfully prayed of this Honorable Court to recognize and give weight to the said resolution on the petition for review before the DOJ and after due hearing, grant leave for the public prosecution to amend and downgrade the Information for Murder to Homicide in these cases," stated in four-page motion dated June 6, 2017 filed before the Baybay City Regional Trial Court Branch 14 which was signed by Provincial Prosecutor Ma. Arlene Hunamayor-Cordovez.

Cordovez filed the motion upon orders from the DOJ.

A case for murder is filed if it was proven that it is attended by any of the qualifying aggravating circumstances under Article



ESPINOSA

248 of the Revised Penal Code.

Marcos and 10 of his men- S/Insp. Deogracia Pedong Diaz III, C/Insp. Calixto Canillas Jr., Insp. Lucresito Candelosas, SPO2s Benjamin Dacallos and Antonio Docil, SPO1 1 Mark Christian Cadilo, PO3 Norman Abellanos, PO2s John Ruel Doculan and Jaime Bacsal, and PO1 Jerlan Cabiyaan- were charged with two counts of murder for allegedly being involved in the killings of Espinosa and Yap.

Four other police officers were charged for the killing of Espinosa - Supt. Santi Noel Matira, C/Insp. Leo Daio Laraga, SPO4 Melvin Caboyit and PO3 Johnny Abuda Ibanez - while four others for the murder of Yap - S/Insp. Fritz Bioco Blanco, SPO4 4 Juanito Duarte, PO2 Lloyd Ortiguesa and PO1 Bernard Orpilla.

Homicide is a bailable offense. A case for homicide if there is no qualifying circumstances of murder or there is not enough evidence to prove the qualifying circumstance as in this case - treachery and evident premeditation.

Earlier, Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II said the indictment only goes to show that the government will not tolerate any misdeeds of its officers.

"The filing of this case in court precipitated the issuance of the arrest warrant against the concerned PNP-CIDG personnel. This is the arrest warrant that Chief PNP Ronald dela Rosa was referring to. It is said that the dead cannot cry out for justice. It is therefore the duty of the living to do so for them. We hope that by the combined efforts of the NBI and our prosecution service, we can really serve justice in this case," Aguirre said when sought for comment.

It will be recalled that citing testimonial and forensic evidence, the NBI said the killing of Espinosa, who has earlier

surrendered to the authorities after he and his son Kerwin were named by President Rodrigo Duterte as being involved in the illegal drugs trade, and Yap, were a result of rub-out and not a shootout as claimed by the policemen who conducted the raid.

During the Senate hearing on public

Maute Group branching into illegal drug business to fund terror activities

MANILA - To fund their terroristic activities, the Maute Group has branched into the illegal drugs business aside from their extortion, kidnapping and other illegal rackets.

This was disclosed by Major Gen. Melquiades Feliciano, AFP Civil-Military Operations deputy chief-of-staff, during an ambush interview Friday.

And with their weapons and muscle, he said the terrorist group has managed to consolidate and gain control of all illegal drug operations in Marawi City transforming the locality into the largest narcotics producer in Mindanao.

When pressed for figures on Marawi City's illegal drug production, Feliciano said they have no firm figures yet but

stressed the numbers are "quite substantial".

Funds obtained from this illegal business is being used to fund the group's terror activities.

Feliciano noted this state has been reached as some local government officials have been lured in this illegal activity.

Earlier, AFP chief-of-staff Gen. Eduardo Año said they have already compiled two lists containing the names of more than 200 Maute Group supporters.

"I cannot recall the number but I think its about more than 200 names. (There are names of incumbent local) politicians, (private citizens and Maute Group members) there," he added.

These individuals will be arrested as soon as possible, Año said. (PNA)

PHLPost temporarily suspends mails to Maldives, Macau

MANILA - The Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPost) recently announced that acceptance of mails and parcels in post offices nationwide bound for Maldives and Macau has been temporarily suspended due to airline embargo.

"PHLPost would like to apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused the public. Measures are being

order and dangerous drugs and the committee on justice and human rights said the death of Espinosa and Yap was "premeditated and with abuse of authority" on the part of the police operatives.

Espinosa's son, self-confessed drug lord Kerwin Espinosa claimed that Marcos, Laraga and Matira received payoffs from him.

The committees headed by Senator

Panfilo Lacson and Richard Gordon said Espinosa was killed to cover up the involvement of some of the police officers in the illegal drugs trade. (Christopher Lloyd T. Caliwan/PNA)

implemented by PHLPost in order to assist the public with regard to delay of mails intended for these countries," the advisory states.

PHLPost said that the issuance of public advisory was done in order to preempt the possible delay of mails intended for Maldives and Macau due to conveyance problems.

Postmaster General Joel Otarra issued a circular to be disseminated to all post offices and area directors nationwide to make sure that all postmasters, mail couriers and tellers are aware of these notices.

Meanwhile, PHLPost will issue an advisory as to the resumption of mail deliveries to Maldives and Macau as soon as the situation returns to normal. (PHLPOST/RJB/JEG/PIA-NCR)

DOLE reminds employers... ...from page 6

have complaints, visit our regional offices and we will assist you in filing cases to your employers and assure you of your identity's confidentiality.

Newly established companies and employers with questions regarding general labor standards are also encouraged to visit the nearest DOLE regional offices so that they can be trained and briefed on properly providing their employees with social security benefits and others requisites of the law. (DOLE/RJB/SDL/PIA-NCR)

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By Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism

IN A SERIES recently, PCIJ conducted separate, extended interviews with senior officials of Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), the Philippine National Police (PNP), and the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB).

Our goal: Get their side on specific questions about the numbers, conduct, impact, and confusing concepts and narratives of President Rodrigo R. Duterte's war on drugs.

The on-cam interviews that lasted about six hours in all — or two hours for each interviewee — also focused on gaps in the data on the drug war that PCIJ has gathered over the last 11 months, through dozens of request letters filed with these and other state agencies. PCIJ's files now host over 2.7 gigabytes of data on the drug menace and the drug war, with data as early as 2010 and as current as May 2017.

PCIJ commended the three agencies for finally fielding a unitary report (#RealNumbersPH) on the status of the drug war, but also raised clarificatory questions on sundry issues that the report has not

PCIJ asks PNP, PDEA, DDB: Why inflate, deflate, reboot numbers?

settled.

Interviewed were:

- Director Derrick Arnold C. Carreon, chief of the PDEA Public Information Office. (PDEA Director General Isidro Lapeña, chair Of Inter-Agency Committee On Illegal Drugs (ICAD) under Duterte's Executive Order No. 15, was out of town and in his stead, directed Carreon to sit down with PCIJ);

- Police Director Camilo Pancratius P. Cascolan, head of the PNP Directorate for Operations and the PNP Double Barrel Secretariat. (PCIJ had sought interviews with PNP chief, Director General Ronald 'Bato' de la Rosa and PSSupt. Dionardo B. Carlos, chief PIO of the PNP but both declined on account of busy schedules.); and

- Secretary Benjamin P. Reyes, until then the chairman of the DDB. Four hours after PCIJ's interview with Reyes on May 24, 2017, Duterte

issued oral orders firing him for his statements that DDB has estimated only 1.8 million total drug dependents, or less than half the four-million figure that the President usually cites in his speeches. "You do not contradict your own government... You're just a civilian member of a board," Duterte has said of Reyes.

What follows are the questions and topics PCIJ discussed with the three interviewees.

- In your agency's plan, what is/are the measures of success of the drug war?
- What reporting and verification mechanisms do you have to verify raw data on the drug war?
- President Duterte organized the Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Illegal Drugs (ICAD) through Executive Order No. 15 only on March 6, 2017. It has four clusters (enforcement, advocacy, justice, and rehabilitation and reintegration). What are the tasks and activities of each cluster?
- There are two numbers of estimated drug dependents: four million (Duterte, ICAD, PDEA) and 1.8 million (DDB's 2015 Survey). Explain how you computed four million.
- PDEA's formula for deriving the estimated number of drug dependents seems flawed: Why did you compute for 22 million total households in the Philippines when the government says only 48 percent or only 20,160 "drug-affected barangays" out of the 42,000 total barangays in the country? How many households are in barangays that are not drug-affected?
- Government says the Philippine drug market is a P120-billion industry. How did PDEA get this estimate? How is this P120-billion industry estimate distributed among the different kinds of illegal drugs?
- On the numbers of those killed, arrested, surrendered, operations conducted: How does PDEA keep its figures in sync with the PNP. Do you get, validate, and confirm raw reports from PNP field units?
- On the price of shabu: How did PDEA derive the estimate of P15,000 per gram? Slide 12 of #RealNumbersPH show wrong numbers: P15,000 and up price per gram x 1,645 kilos of shabu seized amounts to P24.675 billion, and not P14.49 billion worth of shabu as the report says had been seized. What is the real amount of drugs confiscated?
- Does PDEA monitor cases of those killed during police operations? Is there any investigation mechanism in place to determine if the killings were justified and necessary? Does PDEA monitor cases filed with the PNP IAS on these cases?
- Deaths under investigation – how should these deaths be classified?
- How does PDEA dispose of confiscated drugs? What procedures are in place to prevent the revert to the market of seized drugs?
- How much has PDEA given out as rewards to policemen and other operatives (as mandated by DDB Board Regulation No. 1, series of 2016)? Where did these funds come from?
- What happens to those arrested – were they charged? What has happened to the surrenderees? Where and which agency keeps their surrenderees' forms?
- What is the concept behind "barangay drug affectation"? Which regions the most affected? Do you have reports on which barangay and how many had been declared cleared?
- How should one determine the success of the drug war? What is its end goal? When will it end?

-to be continued-

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