

Non-International Armed Conflicts



PHILIPPINES CONTEXT

SCOPE

- Quick Facts on Philippines
- Introduction
- NIAC
 - CPP/NPA/NDF
 - MILF/BIAF
- Conclusion



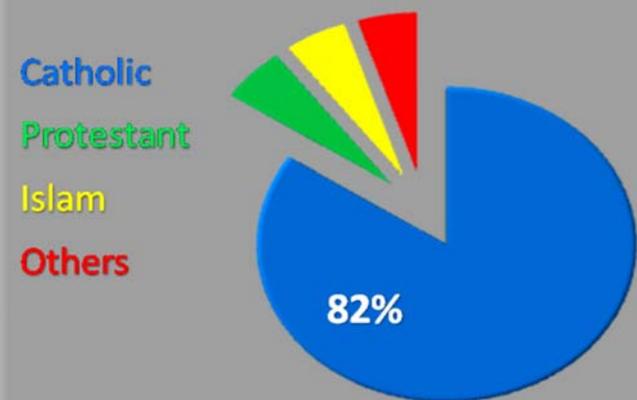
LT GEN RAYMUNDO B FERRER
Armed Forces of the Philippines

QUICK FACTS

FORM OF GOV'T	Presidential
LAND AREA	300,000 sq km
POPULATION	92M
CAPITAL	Manila
CLIMATE	Dry (Nov-May) Wet (Jun-Oct)
\$1.00	Php 43.50
NR OF ISLANDS	7,107



Religious Profile



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PHILIPPINES CONTEXT

- strong gun culture
- local residents are part-time insurgents
- kinship ties serve as force multipliers

Luzon

Visayas

Mindanao

Mindanao

“where all Philippine threat groups can be found”



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PHILIPPINES CONTEXT

Luzon

Visayas

Mindanao

- organizational identities highly temporal and fluid
- civilians recruited to work seasonally with insurgents
- return to civilian life after insurgent operations

Mindanao

“where all Philippine threat groups can be found”



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PHILIPPINES CONTEXT

Luzon

Visayas

Mindanao

- interoperability is second nature to civilians and insurgents

- homegrown phenomenon influenced by foreign elements

Mindanao

“where all Philippine threat groups can be found”



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Two insurgent groups in
the Philippines:



PHILIPPINES CONTEXT



Exploit conditions of
poverty and
marginalization



**MAOIST GROUP – Communist Party
of the Philippines and its armed
wing New People’s Army**

- uses Maoist ideology to justify
armed struggle
- nationwide in scope
- tend to target working class

**MORO GROUP – Moro Islamic
Liberation Front and its Bangsamoro
Islamic Armed Forces**

- fighting for independence for more
than 100 years
- limited in Southern Philippines
- appeals to ethnicity and shared
history in recruiting members

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Communist Party
of the Philippines /
New People's Army
(CPP-NPA)



CPP/NPA HISTORY

- longest-running Maoist insurgency in the world
- designated as foreign terrorist organization by US and EU
- established in 1968 following rise of student activism in the 60's and 70's
- roots can be traced from Philippine partisan group against Japanese during WWII
- current estimated strength of NPA is 4,200

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CPP/NPA HISTORY

- power of gun necessary to protect people against human rights
- prolonged conflict will lead to downfall of status quo
- modus are extortion and assassination
- rise and fall of membership coincides with level of violence associated with each presidential administration

CPP / NPA GUERRILLA BASES

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PRES FERDINAND E MARCOS
1965-1986



- during Marcos era , rampant human rights abuses fueled rise of membership in CPP-NPA
- followers of Marx and Mao in colleges and universities formed student organizations

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Communist Party
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(CPP-NPA)



PRES CORAZON C AQUINO
1986-1992

- ceasefire declared, political prisoners released and peace talks opened
- from 25,200 regulars in 1987 to 14,800 in 1991
- two-pronged COIN Strategy (military offensive coupled with socio-economic development)



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Communist Party
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(CPP-NPA)

CPP/NPA TODAY

- has declared all-out war against Philippine government
- believes that government is controlled by the US through the GWOT
- presence persists in the countryside where poverty, injustice, and the lack of social services provide conditions for marshalling grievance

CPP / NPA GUERRILLA BASES

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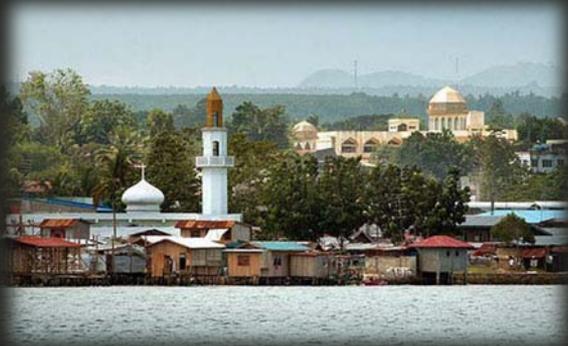
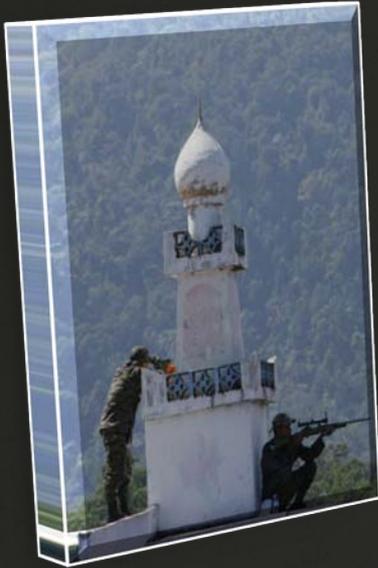
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Moro Islamic Liberation
Front/Bangsamoro
Islamic Armed Forces
(MILF-BIAF)

RISE OF MUSLIM SECESSIONISTS

- oppressive rule of Marcos' Martial Law in the 1970s triggered the Moro outcry against government
- perception of marginalization drives the underlying anger fuelling the Moro armed struggle
- Moros were never conquered as a group
- they feel that they have to live under the Filipino Christian rule

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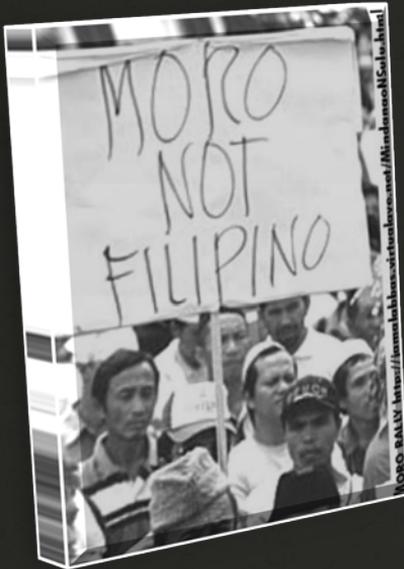
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RISE OF MUSLIM SECESSIONISTS

ELEMENTS IN THE MORO GRIEVANCE

- economic marginalization and destitution
- political domination
- physical insecurity
- threatened Moro and Islamic identity
- perception that government is the principal culprit
- perception of hopelessness under the present set-up



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RISE OF MUSLIM SECESSIONISTS

THREE MAJOR MORO GROUPS IN THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES:

- Moro National Liberation Front or **MNLF**
- Moro Islamic Liberation Front or **MILF**
which spun off from the MNLF
- and the notorious Abu Sayyaf Group or **ASG**

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MNLF: FORERUNNER OF MILF



CHAIRMAN NUR MISUARI
Founder, MNLF 1972



- under Maoist influence
- goal is to free Muslims 'from the terror, oppression and tyranny of Filipino colonialism' and 'to secure a free and independent state for the **Bangsamoro**'

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BREAKAWAY FROM MNLF



Salamat Hashim
Founder, MILF 1984

- MNLF Vice Chairman broke away from the MNLF to establish the second Moro secessionist group, the MILF
- MILF is currently undergoing a peace process with the government



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POLITICAL / IDEOLOGICAL ORIENTATIONS

MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT

- Islamic revivalist
- push for the peace process
- govern the Moro homeland
- religion is central
- consultative leadership style
- dominated by Maguindanaos in central Mindanao.

MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT

- secular-nationalist
- believe in use of force
- largely concerned with fighting for independence
- centralized leadership style
- largely composed of ethnic Tausugs, the warrior class from Sulu Archipelago

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POLITICAL / IDEOLOGICAL ORIENTATIONS

MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT

- currently on peace negotiations with the government

MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT

- became increasingly fragmented in 1982
- signed the Final Peace Agreement with the government in 1996
- ceased to become a formidable fighting force

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MILF/BIAF TODAY

- largest guerrilla group and most potent security threat in Mindanao
- has about 12,000 members
- on and off peace negotiations since 1997
- last major conflict was in 2008
- 120,000 killed and 2M displaced from MILF initiated encounters



MILF / BIAF BASE COMMANDS

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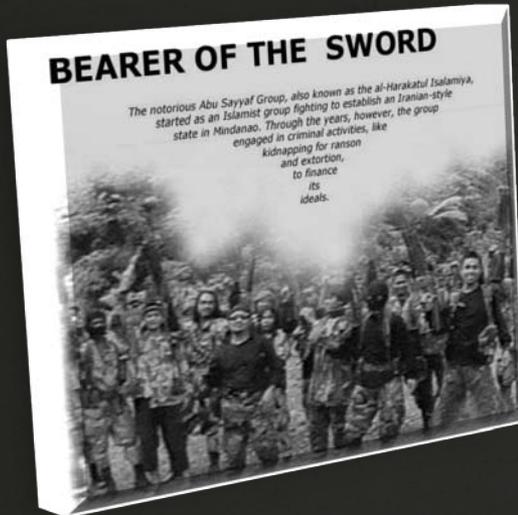
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ALLIANCE W/ ABU SAYAFF GROUP



Abdurajak Abubakar Janjalani
Founder, Abu Sayaff Group



- charismatic preacher
- felt that the older cadres abandoned the Bangsamoro's struggle
- founded the ASG in 1992

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ASG ARGUMENTS JUSTIFYING JIHAD

- government, with help of its Christian allies oppressed the Bangsamoro people
- unwelcome intrusion of Christians into Muslim homeland
- struggle for the cause of Allah must be waged against invaders
- obligation of every Muslim to carry out Jihad

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- two parallel peace tracks addressing CPP/NPA and MILF/BIAF
- grassroots movements and extremist cells capitalize on social networks
- NIAC in the Philippines remain outside the reach of globalized world

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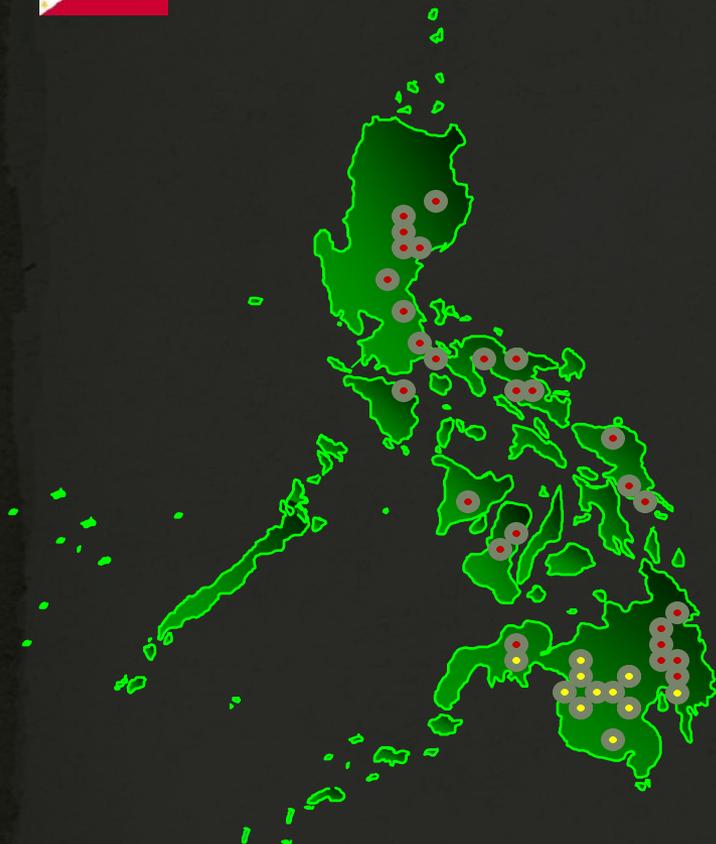
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- fatigue of war and rhetoric of grievance no longer inspire
- people will behave according to the way you view them
- NIAC in the Philippines a cry for human security

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Mabuhay!

