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PHILIPPINE-NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY CREATES EXCELLENT REVOLUTIONARY SITUATION IN PAST TWO YEARS

Peking, March 28 (Hsinhua) -- The Philippine New People's Army under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Philippines waged courageous struggle against U.S. imperialism and the Philippine reactionaries in the past two years and created an excellent revolutionary situation with their guns.

The Philippine New People's Army was founded on March 29, 1969 amid the revolutionary struggle of the masses of the people after the re-establishment of the Communist Party of the Philippines. In the past two years, the New People's Army grew up speedily in the flames of revolutionary war. Applying skillful and flexible strategy and tactics, the New People's Army smashed at least seven "search and destroy" and "encirclement and suppression" operations by the reactionary Philippine army, wiping out a number of enemy effectives and winning big successes.

According to Ang Bayan, organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines, in the first year after its founding, the New People's Army fought more than 80 battles with the reactionary Philippine army and wiped out more than 200 enemy men including 17 U.S. aggressor troops. In the second year, it fought more battles and wiped out more enemy troops than in the first year. It shot down an enemy helicopter and damaged another. From May to July last year, it smashed the enemy "mopping-up" operation in the vast area of Central Luzon, putting over 50 enemy troops out of action and struck panic into the hearts of the enemy. In the struggle against the enemy "encirclement and suppression" operations last September and October, the New People's Army-killed an enemy army commander of lieutenant colonel rank and the staff officers of his headquarters and one U.S. officer. On December 29 last year, it successfully attacked the armoury of the enemy's military academy and seized a large quantity of arms. Since the beginning of this year, it continued to launch attacks at the enemy and scored new successes.

In the past two years, the New People's Army's engagement with the enemy became larger in scale and the army gained experiences in combat both in mountain areas and plains. At the beginning, the New People's Army could only wipe out separate or isolated enemy. Now it can wipe out an enemy squad of the regular forces or a platoon of the "village self-defense guards" in one engagement. The flames of people's armed struggle kindled two years ago in Capas, Tarlac province in Central Luzon, have now spread to other rural areas in Central, Northern and Southern Luzon and other places. Although the U.S. imperialists have given a large amount of military "aid" to the Philippine reactionaries and "advisors" of U.S. aggressor troops take direct command of operations on an increasing scale, they cannot prevent the speedy development of the revolutionary armed struggle of the Philippine people.

In the past two years, the New People's Army maintained close contacts with the masses in the rural areas and established and expanded querrilla areas by relying on their own strength. Last year, following the instruction of the Communist Party of the Philippines on the establishment of consolidated revolutionary bases, the New People's Army set up temporary organisation committees and comparatively permanent revolutionary committees in the rural areas. The masses of peasants have

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raised their political consciousness through struggle, and quite a number of young peasants enthusiastically joined the New People's Army in response to the appeal of the Party.

The Communist Party of the Philippines attaches great importance to political construction for the New People's Army and conducts ideological education among the cadres and fighters. To integrate Marxist-Leninist theory better with the concrete practice of the Philippine revolution, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines also requires the Party members, cadres and fighters to study the history of the struggle between the two lines within the Party, acquaint themselves with the past and present conditions of the Philippine society and pursue the rectification movement to the end against the Lava revisionist renegade clique and the Taruc-Sumulong gangster clique.

In the past two years, the New People's Army enjoyed increasingly high prestige among the urban and rural population and won the support and love of the people. Public opinion in Manila pointed out that the New People's Army is fighting not for the interest of the minority but for a revolutionary ideal and the interests of the broad masses of people. Such a people's army is the hope of the emancipation of the Philippine people.

Now the situation of the Philippine people's revolutionary armed struggle is excellent. Just as the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines has pointed out, "the road of armed revolution has been opened" and "the spark of the armed struggle is turning into a prairie fire". So long as the Philippine people persist in a protracted people's war, they will win complete victory in their national democratic revolution.