

[From Ang Bayan, #16, Aug. 21, 2007]

Victorious NPA offensives

NPA punishes notorious military unit

A unit under the Alejandro Lanaja Command (Front 3 Operations Command of the New People's Army [NPA] in Southern Mindanao) ambushed a military unit under the 72nd IB in Sitio Kidapang, Barangay San Isidro, Monkayo, Compostela Valley in the morning of August 10. The ambush was a punitive action on the 72nd IB for providing protection to Monkayo Mayor Manuel Brillantes' palm plantation. In a statement, Alejandro Lanaja Command spokesperson Ka Aris Francisco called the mayor a despotic local bureaucrat. He said the mayor uses his death squad and military forces to harass and kill peasants opposed to the expansion of his plantation.

Ka Aris announced that three paramilitary elements and a regular soldier were killed in the ambush. The NPA was also able to confiscate an M16 rifle. The Red fighters suffered no casualties.

Pfc. Marjun Gatela was likewise captured in the ambush, but was released on August 18 in Purok 9, Barangay Casoon, Monkayo after a court under the democratic people's government found that he had not been involved in any serious crime.

Meanwhile, Red fighters seized four firearms of various caliber from Philco Mining Company in Barangay Camanlangan, New Bataan, Compostela Valley on August 14. Seized were an UZI submachine gun, a shotgun and two .357 revolvers. The tactical offensive served as punishment for the destruction caused by the mining firm's operations. 

[From: <http://www.philippinerevolution.net/cgi-bin/ab/text.pl?issue=20070821;lang=eng;article=05>
(archived Oct. 7, 2007)]