

# Rody wants cops armed at all times



MUSLIMS of the Mini-Forest kiss the floor in supplication for their three o'clock prayers. The holy month of Ramadan will likely end on Sept. 10, which is declared as a national holiday by President Benigno Aquino III. RENE B. LUMAWAG

by JOSE G. DALUMPINES and KRISTIANNE M. FUSILERO

VICE Mayor Rodrigo Duterte urged the Philippine National Police (PNP) to review its policy requiring off-duty cops to apply for a permit before they can bring their government-issued firearms, in the wake of the bus robbery that killed a police officer last Sept. 1.

"The problem with the PNP is there is no permanency and consistency in your regulations," he said in his weekly public affairs program, adding that cops should bring their guns at all times since they are vulnerable to retaliation or attacks from criminals.

He took the cudgels for SP01 Ronnie Panganiban, who was killed in the bus robbery in Barangay Tamugan, Marilog District when the gunmen targeted him because of his uniform. Panganiban and another policewoman who were both off duty flagged down

division, Buhangin. He was held captive for two days while they were negotiating a ransom demand, which was reduced to P1 million from the initial amount of P10 million. He was rescued by the police following a raid that

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(G/R / RODY / 25)

## New judge to handle cases vs Balbacua gang members

by EMILORD P. CASTROMAYOR

THE KIDNAPPING and serious illegal detention cases against two alleged kidnap-for-ransom gang members are now in the sala of Regional Trial Court Branch 11 Judge Virginia Europa, after the Office of the Clerk of Court reraffled

the case.

Accused Marvin Booc and Petronio Bagonio Ali were tagged in the abduction of hardware owner Winston Go in 2002 and Flying V gasoline station owner Edgar Barroso in 2007. The case used to be handled by

Judge Jose Emmanuel Castillo of RTC Branch 10, who is currently on leave.

Barroso in his affidavit claimed he was forcibly taken by armed persons and brought him to their hideout in Malagamot, Panacan, before he was transferred to their safe house in Spring Valley Sub-

KEY RATES	
US\$ 1.00	Php 44.979
Repo Rate	6.00%
Reverse Repo Rate	4.00%
Inflation Rate (Jul '10)	3.9%
NEER	13.758
\$1-day T-bill Rate	3.936%
Gold Buying/ troy oz.	US\$1,250.25
Silver Buying	US\$19.55

MARKET WATCH			
Currencies	Latest Rate	Previous Day	
PHP per USD	44.9	▲ 0.437	
PHP per EUR	57.602	▲ 0.53	
PHP per JPY	0.532	▲ 0.153	

WEATHER FORECAST	
 <p>Intervals of clouds and sunshine with a shower in places</p>	
<p><b>High</b> 34°C</p> <p><b>Low</b> 23°C</p>	
Sunrise: 5:29 AM	Sunset: 5:42 PM

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