

SAF CELEBRATES ITS 24TH YEAR



The PNP-Special Action Force is proud as it celebrates its 24th founding anniversary. The SAF as the PNP's national maneuver force mandated to conduct internal security and counterterrorist operations as well as search and rescue operations in the event of national

calamity was created on May 16, 1983 through the initiative of the then PC/INP Chief, BGEN FIDEL V RAMOS.

Beginning as a single unit specially tasked to secure the national integrity of the country, SAF has replicated itself into battalions and as a result of mounting law enforcement and internal security demands. Currently, it has five battalions of which three (3) are committed to internal security operations. These units are over and above the SAF Training School based in Fort Sto Domingo, Sta Rosa Laguna and the Air Unit stationed at PNP hangar, Pasay City.

A rapid deployment force, SAF is capable of operating on land, air and sea. Its troopers-competent both in police intervention and unconventional warfare-are highly organized and readily deployable at any moment's notice to any areas in the country for law enforcement as well as internal security operations on command of the Chief, PNP.

The participation of SAF in the successful conduct of the national and local election was one among its most recent operational accomplishment. A total of five (5) Special Action Companies (SACs) and other contingents of team to platoon size units were deployed to reinforce local police. These companies were in addition to the predeployed companies which have been continually conducting internal security operations since early this year, which sums up to one thousand six hundred seventy-eight (1678) men deployed for election duties to the different areas in the country where peace and order have become alarming.

The celebration kicked-off on May 31, 2007 with the theme: ***"Karangalan ng Pulis: Tapat na Paglilingkod sa Bayan at Mamamayan."*** This theme speaks of the real motivation behind every SAF trooper's action. It was a homecoming for former SAF personnel - a time to renew friendship with former comrades, and a time to exchange experiences and war stories. Among the highlights of this momentous activity were the interactive fun games which were participated in by the former SAF Directors and troopers and a skills demonstration which portrayed the operational capabilities of SAF. PDG OSCAR C CALDERON, CPNP was the guest of honor and speaker for this grand affair.

SAF Director PCSUPT LEOCADIO SC SANTIAGO, JR concentrates his effort now on further enhancement of the unit's combat and law enforcement capabilities. This is in response to the steadily increasing internal security and peace and order concerns that the country is currently burdened with. As the cutting edge of law enforcement, the SAF will dutifully commit itself to its mission as it steadfastly holds to its motto **"By skill and virtue, we triumph."**