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**AFP RESERVIST AFFAIRS CHIEF RETIRES;  
MORE CHANGES IN MILITARY LEADERSHIP EXPECTED**

CAMP EMILIO AGUINALDO, Quezon City – The Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Reservist and Retiree Affairs (AJ9) of the Armed Forces of the Philippines will assume the Head of his office as J9 in an acting capacity, 3 p.m. Wednesday in a change of Chief of Office ceremony at the post parade grounds.

Col Danilo T. Fabian will replace MGen. Antonio L. Bautista AFP who is retiring after 38 years of military service.

A certified military pilot, a holder of bachelor's degree in Aviation and Masters in Management from the Philippine Christian University, among Bautista's notable assignments are as The Adjutant General at the General Headquarters, as The Vice Commander of the Air Force Reserve Command in Clark Air Base, as the Assistant Chief for Air Staff for Reservist and Reserve Force Development Philippine Air Force, and as the Air Force Adjutant at the Philippine Air Force Headquarters.

Some of Bautista's military schoolings include: International Defense Management Course, Air Intelligence Officer Course, Transportation Officer Course in Texas, USA and Basic Safety Management Course.

The office of J9 assists and advises the Chief Of Staff , AFP in formulating plans and policies on all matters pertaining to the administration, development, organization, training, maintenance and utilization of the reserve manpower including former members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Fabian, meanwhile, was the Brigade Commander of the 401<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Philippine Army, before he assumed Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Reservist and Retiree Affairs, J9. He also handled positions such as Battalion Commander of the 31<sup>st</sup> Infantry Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, Chief of Staff of the Army Reserve Command, and holds a Master Degrees in Management from the Philippine Christian University and in National Security Administration from the National Defense College of the Philippines.

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Bautista's retirement brings more key positions unfilled in the AFP. The Offices have since been vacated and filled up in an acting capacity because of the appointment ban during the election period after the retirement of officers handling the position.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines being a professional and dynamic organization has kept pace with constant changes in security environment. With the designation of the new Chief of Staff by the Commander-in-Chief of the AFP and the lifting of the appointment ban, vacated top leadership positions can now be filled up permanently.

The recent retirement of AFP top officials necessitates designations and assignments of officers to vacant positions. A vertical and lateral movement of its commanders will be seen in the organizational leadership in the coming days. These positions vacated will be filled up by qualified and competent officers after a stringent selection process by the Board of Generals.

Governed by an established system of rules and procedures known and adhered to by all of its members, these progressive changes are all part and parcel of its growth and maturity as an organization and a welcome development for all especially for the junior officers growing up in the service.

The following senior officers and their reassignments to the respective units have been approved by the President and Commander in Chief, with military orders issued effective July 1: MGen. Gaudencio S. Pangilinan Jr., current Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, J3, will be the Commander of the Northern Luzon Command. He will be succeeded as J3 by MGen. Emmanuel T. Bautista, the present Internal Auditor, Armed Forces of the Philippines. The Chief of the Intelligence Service of the AFP (ISAFP) will be

assumed by BGen. Romeo M. Bambao, from being the Deputy Commander of the Special Operations Command. BGen. Jose Z. Mabanta Jr. the 703<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Commander will succeed BGen. Francisco N. Cruz at the Civil Relations Service.

Pangilinan, the incoming Commander of the Northern Luzon Command, also handled positions including the Commander of the Civil Relations Service of the AFP, and also served as the Commandant of the Army Command and General Staff College. He is a graduate of Master of Arts in Strategic Studies at the US Army War College and holds a Masters Degree in Public Management. He is also a graduate of the Management Development Program of the Asian Institute of Management. He is a prototype army development against terrorism in an urban setting as Commander Task Force Davao which made Davao as one of the most livable cities of Asia.

Bautista, the incoming Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, J3, also served previously as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans, J5, and Commander of the 702<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. He also served as Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of National Defense. He is a graduate of military schoolings here and abroad, and holds a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the University of the Philippines.

Bambao, the new Chief of the Intelligence Services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, is a member of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1979. He held various positions in the AFP throughout his career in the military including Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff of the Special Operations Command. He was also the Battalion Commander of the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division.

Mabanta, the incoming Commander of the Civil Relations Service, AFP, and the concurrent AFP Spokesperson, holds a Master of Management Studies from the University of New South Wales in Australia. He has held various positions such as Commander of the 703<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel, G1, of the Philippine Army, Commanding Officer of the Army Personnel Management Center, and was also previously Army Chief for Public Affairs.

The AFP's best players will be put forward in order to keep up the steady momentum in accomplishing its goals. Despite the imminent changes, the AFP remains solid and is focused to perform its immediate tasks and responsibilities to the people and the nation.