

AFP ISSUES DESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

CAMP AGUINALDO, Quezon City – The expected changes in the military hierarchy brought about by the vacancies due to retirement of top ranking officers in the Armed Forces continues with its third wave of appointments that shall take effect immediately.

His Excellency Benigno Simeon Aquino III, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, has issued his second tranche of orders for the AFP, approving the designations of the following officials to their respective new assignments, after the AFP Board of Generals has submitted to the President through the Honorable Defense Secretary their recommendation for the following appointments.

Lt. Gen. Reynaldo B. Mapagu is designated as AFP Vice Chief of Staff, replacing Lt. Gen. Nestor Z. Ochoa who retired from the military service yesterday. Replacing Mapagu as Commanding General of the Philippine Army is MGen. Arturo B. Ortiz. Succeeding Ortiz as Commander of the AFP Special Operations Command is BGen Roberto L. Morales. Morales, who is leaving his post as Commander, Special Forces Regiment (A), will be replaced by Col. Aminkadra S. Undug.

BGen. Rolito B Abad will assume the AFP Internal Auditor, which was left vacant by MGen. Emmanuel T. Bautista who has assumed Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, J3 in the previous wave of military appointments. Succeeding Abad as Inspector General, Philippine Army is MGen William S. Campos. Replacing Campos on the other hand as Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army is BGen. Renato A. David, who will leave his post as Chief of Resource Management Office, Philippine Army.

Assuming the post of Commander, National Development Support Command, AFP is MGen. Carlos B Holganza. The position has been left vacant since Lt. Gen. Ochoa, its previous Commander, has been appointed Acting Vice Chief of Staff and Acting AFP Chief of Staff. Replacing Holganza as Commander of the 10th Infantry Division of the Philippine Army is MGen. Jorge V. Segovia. Replacing Segovia at the 2nd Infantry Division is BGen. Jessie D. Delloso, the outgoing Deputy Commander of the AFP Central Command in Cebu.

BGen. Francisco N. Cruz Jr, the outgoing Commander, Civil Relations Service (CRS), AFP, will assume as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, J2. Replacing Cruz at CRS is BGen. Jose Z. Mabanta Jr., whose designation was included in the first tranche of orders from Malacañan. Col. Nicanor E. Dolojan is appointed as Deputy Commander, Special Operations Command, Philippine Army, replacing BGen. Romulo M. Bambao, who was appointed Chief of the Intelligence Service of the AFP. Finally, Col. Romeo L. Gapuz was appointed as Commander of the 403rd Infantry Brigade, Philippine Army.

AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Ricardo A. David Jr. said, “these appointments have the approval of the President, and are natural parts of growth and dynamism of the military organization, just like any other organization. As natural processes they should not be maligned or be given any politicized meaning.”

“All appointments and designations are being made with basis on the performance and track record of an officer. Everyone who qualifies is being considered for these positions that have to be filled in. The AFP is composed of highly professional and capable men, and for as long as an officer meets the requirements for a post, particularly his rank and track record, especially since senior posts are being filled in, he will be considered for the position,” said David.

“The AFP’s best players will be put in the frontlines in order to keep up the steady momentum in accomplishing its goals. The AFP remains solid and is focused to perform its immediate tasks and responsibilities to the people and the nation,” said David.