

TF USIG News Releases 2007

Date : Thursday, April 19, 2007

TF USIG-CALABARZON GATHERING LEADS IN SHOOTING OF QUEZON NEWSMEN April 19, 2007

Police operatives in Quezon province are hot on the trail of two motorcycle-riding gunmen who shot and wounded a provincial correspondent of a national newspaper.

In his report to PNP Chief Director General Oscar C Calderon, PNP Task Force USIG commander, Police Director Geary L Barias said the attempt on the life of Delfin Mallari, Quezon provincial correspondent of Philippine Daily Inquirer, is being closely investigated by the Regional Task Force USIG in CALABARZON.

Barias said PRO4A Regional Director, Chief Superintendent Nicasio J Radovan Jr. has ordered the administrative relief of Superintendent Nelson Lequin as Chief of Police of Lucena City for apparent failure to strictly implement the "No Plate, No Travel" policy after noting reports that the two gunmen were on board a red Yamaha RS100 motorcycle with no license plates.

Radovan designated Superintendent Marcos Badilla Jr. as Officer-in-Charge of the Lucena City Police Station pending the administrative investigation of Lequin.

The Regional TF USIG is coordinating all investigative efforts of PRO4A, the Regional Criminal Investigation and Detection Office, Regional Intelligence, Crime Laboratory, and Lucena City Police Station.

Mallari was driving his car, with DZMM correspondent Johnny Glorioso in the passenger seat, along Maharlika Highway in front of the Lupata Water District in Barangay Iba Dupay, Lucena City at 7:30 am when the motorcycle-riding gunmen fired several shots hitting Mallari in the left side of the body. Glorioso was unhurt.

Mallari, 52, was brought to a nearby hospital where he has been declared in stable condition. He and Glorioso were on their way to a radio station for their regular morning radio program when the incident happened.

Barias said a composite illustrator from the Regional Special Operations Group under Superintendent James Brillantes has produced

an artist's sketch of the gunmen based on descriptions provided by witnesses.

Meanwhile, Barias disclosed that substantial leads have been developed in the investigation of the murder of Radyo ng Bayan reporter Carmelo Palacios whose body was found by the roadside in Sta. Rosa, Nueva Ecija yesterday.

In both the Quezon and Nueva Ecija incidents, Barias said "it is too early to make conclusions on the possible motives, but we are confident that we will reach a breakthrough in the investigation.