



P N P News Release

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Close watch on criminal and terrorist groups

POLICE ON HEIGHTENED ALERT FOR HOLIDAY SEASON

PNP Chief, Director General Leandro R Mendoza has placed all police forces nationwide on heightened alert during the holiday season.

The heightened alert is a preventive measure to thwart any attempt by criminal and terrorist groups to take advantage of the traditional holiday celebrations.

Mendoza raised the heightened alert status today as he presided over a command of conference with the country's top police officials in Camp Crame.

Present during the conference were all members of The PNP Command Group, Directorial Staff, the 16 PNP Regional Directors' the five District Directors of Metro Manila, and the Directors of the National Support Units.

High in the agenda of the conference was the nationwide implementation of intensified measures to address domestic security threats historically associated with the Christmas holiday period such as increase in petty crimes, the anniversary of the Communist Party of the Philippines on December 26, and firecracker-related injuries and accidents.

The PNP is also keeping a close watch on all local terrorist groups that may conduct activities similar to last year's December 30 bombings in Metro Manila.

According to PNP Spokesman, Chief Superintendent, Chief Superintendent Crescencio L Maralit, "all possible threats to internal security are being seriously considered."

"The heightened alert status will ensure the immediate and speedy response of PNP units to all types of police emergency situation," Maralit said.

Meanwhile, the PNP will hold the traditional Director's Night dinner with the Commander-in-Chief, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo at the Camp Crame Multi-purpose Hall tonight.

According to Maralit, the occasion is the PNP's "manifestation of sincere gratitude" to the President for providing the PNP with additional funds for the salary increase of police officers, purchase of equipment, upgrading of facilities, and payment of retirement benefits.