

SUNDAY BLAZE. Thick smoke billows from a residential area at Santiago Street corner Pedro Gil in Manila after a fire broke out around 9 a.m. on Sunday. The fire reached 4th alarm, with no reported casualty. **Norman Cruz**



Speaker overrules Sereno

Marawi prepares to recover 700 cadavers

THE government expects to retrieve more than 100 bodies of civilians from the main battle area in Marawi City, an assemblyman from the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao said Sunday.

In an interview over radio dzBB, ARMM Assembly-

man Zia Alonto Adiong said there were 61 people still missing.

“Actually, we’re expecting the worst,” he added. “We are not causing any panic here or alarm, but we’re getting ready. We are expecting the worst.”

Adiong said the government had buried about 100 people at the Maqbara Public Cemetery, and was expecting to find the bodies of 600 to 700 members of the Maute terrorist group that had overrun the city on May 23.

“These are the Maute

fighters alone but they’re also looking at the possibility of finding civilians there,” Adiong said.

The military declared an end to the five-month siege in Marawi City on Oct. 23, after government troops

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Urges Chief Justice to confront accusers during House hearing

By Rio N. Araja

HOUSE Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez has turned down the request of Supreme Court Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno to allow her legal counsel to directly cross-examine witnesses in the impeachment proceedings against her before the committee on justice, saying there is no provision for such a practice in the rules of procedure.

“That cannot be. The accused here is not the lawyer. The lawyer cannot cross-

examine [the witnesses],” Alvarez said. He said Sereno should

cross-examine the resource persons to be presented against her.

“She should face the proceedings because she is the accused. Now, if she does not appear, she should waive [her right]. If she does not face [the proceedings], she would lose the chance to defend herself [against] all that would be said against her,” he added.

Sereno’s lawyer and spokesperson, Josa Deinla, maintained that her lawyers have the right to cross-examine the witnesses as a matter of due process.

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PDEA seizes P19b worth of narcotics

OFFICIALS have dismantled 172 clandestine shabu laboratories and drug dens as part of the government’s intensified campaign against illegal drugs, according to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

PDEA Director General Aaron Aquino said that from June 2016 up to Oct. 25, 2017, 163 drug dens and nine clandestine shabu laboratories were dismantled while P18.85 billion worth of illegal drugs were seized, or an increase of P11.57 million from the previous month.

As of Oct. 25, 2017, 2,509.22 kilos of shabu worth P12.91 billion were seized, or an increase of P11.38 million compared with the 2,506.93 kilos

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1,175 temporary shelters for bakwit

RECOVERY efforts for Marawi will begin with the building of 1,175 temporary shelters for residents who were displaced by five months of fighting, the chairman of the agency coordinating the activities of all government housing agencies said Sunday.

In an interview on radio dzBB, Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council chairman Eduardo del Rosario said Marawi City is on its way to an early recovery.

“Task Force Bangon Marawi will focus on providing temporary shelter

for those of our countrymen in Marawi who are still in evacuation centers,” Del Rosario said in Filipino.

The temporary housing units will be build in Barangay Sagonsongan, he said, adding that 500 to 600 units are expected to be turned

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Manila cops fan out for undas rites

By Bill Casas

MANILA Mayor Joseph Estrada on Sunday ordered the Manila Police District to field enough policemen to the city’s biggest cemeteries to maintain peace and order during the observance of All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day.

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IN DEMAND. Flower farmer harvests Malaysian Mums in time for the high demand during the annual celebration of All Saints’ Day/All Souls’ Day in Benguet and Baguio City. **Dave Leprozo**

Du30: Marawi in dire need of rehab assistance

Pearl A. Gajunera

DAVAO CITY — Saying there will be grave consequences if the government fails to rehabilitate Marawi, President Rodrigo Duterte on Sunday said that he will be seeking significant assistance from Japan to rebuild the war-torn city.

“I think the damage alone and the dimension of the distraction would tell Japan that we need our very best in their assistance. And I do not doubt that Japan can graciously give us the help that we [need],” Duterte told reporters here before leaving for Tokyo.

“Of course, we do not ex-

pect Japan would solve all the problems for us—but I would seek significant assistance, considering, as I said, the dimension of the destruction. I am hopeful that [Japan] can improve on these things because we really need to rehabilitate Marawi,” he added.

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Lockdown routes to avoid in week-long Asean event

MOTORISTS are strongly advised to refrain from passing through designated lockdown routes in Metro Manila from Nov. 8 to 15 for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit.

Interior and Local Government officer-in-charge Catalino S. Cuy, the chairman of the Asean Committee on Security, Peace and Order, Emergency Preparedness and Response, announced the following

lockdown schedules:

Nov. 8 (12:01a.m. onwards) - Partial lockdown of CCP Complex, Pasay City

Nov. 11 (10:00 p.m. onwards) - Complete lockdown of SMX-MAX Block, Pasay City

Nov. 12 (12:01 a.m. onwards) - Complete lockdown of CCP Complex, Pasay City

Nov. 13 (12:01 a.m. onwards) - Total lockdown

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Butanding among 34 endangered species—UN

LIONS, chimpanzees, giraffes, leopards and a wide variety of sharks—including the whale shark known locally as “butanding”—received added protection at a UN wildlife conference in the Philippines, organizers said Saturday.

Some 34 endangered spe-

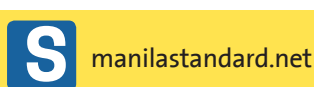
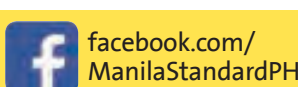
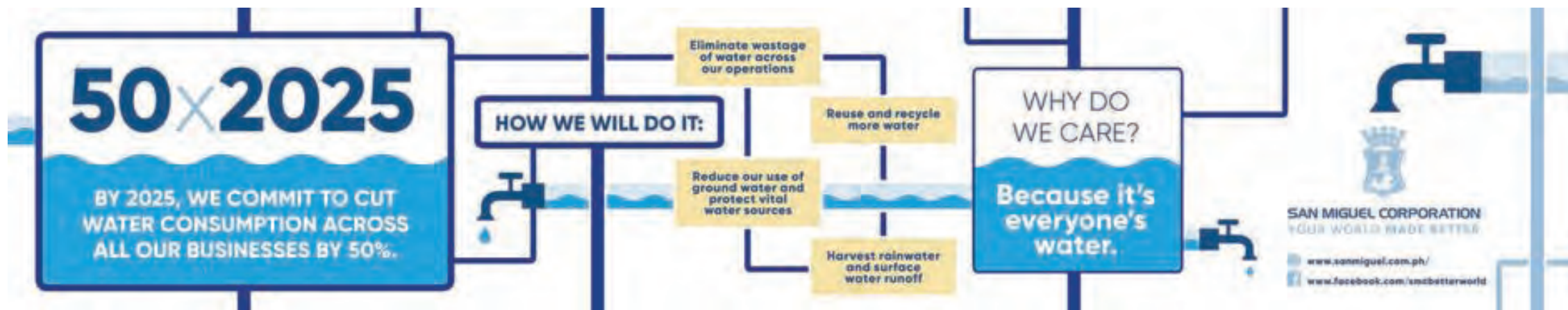
cies were selected to receive heightened conservation efforts at the Conservation of Migratory Species conference that just concluded in Manila.

Protecting migratory species poses particular difficulties since they cross

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GREEN RIDE. An electric tricycle (e-trike) provided by the Manila City Hall offers visitors a free ride to and from the Manila North cemetery a couple of days before the All Saints’ Day. **Ey Ecasio**



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