

NEW ROLES OF THE MILITARY: PERSPECTIVES FROM THE PHILIPPINES

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28 August 2001

EDSA 1 and EDSA 2, two turning points in Philippine history, are marked by significant participation of the military.

Expansion of military roles in developing countries where military is tasked with political, social and economic roles that go beyond “management of violence”

What is the legal mandate of the
Armed Forces of the Philippines?

Legal Mandate of the AFP

“Uphold the sovereignty, support the Constitution, and defend the territory of the Republic of the Philippines against all enemies, foreign and domestic”

Legal Mandate of the AFP

“Promote and advance the national aims, interests, and policies”

Legal Mandate of the AFP

“Plan, organize, maintain,
develop and deploy its
regular and citizen
reserve forces for
national security”

AFP is tasked with both internal
and external defense.

Military is participant in
nation-building.

Does the Armed Forces of the
Philippines perform new roles?

AFP has undertaken non-core
military functions:

law enforcement
search and rescue
disaster response
environmental protection
peacekeeping operations

National Defense Act of 1935
was oriented towards external
defense but AFP was tasked
with fighting insurgents,
separatists as well as various
development activities.

Comprehensive security
required the AFP to confront
the internal challenges in the
country.

Emergence of terrorist groups
and continuing separatist
challenge results in AFP's
preoccupation with internal
security concerns.

Participation of the AFP in PKO

- Philippine Expeditionary Force to Korea (PEFTOK) in the 50's
- Philippine Airforce Contingent in Congo in the 60's
- Philippine Civic Action Group (PHILCAG) in South Vietnam in the 70's
- East Timor in 2000

Today, AFP education and training is geared towards combating other threats like WMD, TNCs and undertaking peacekeeping and other humanitarian operations.



*Thank you
and
Mabuhay!*