



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Pres. Duterte orders payment of arrears to AFP retirees worth P6.2B

Mt. Samat, Pilar, Bataan – President Rodrigo Roa Duterte earlier today led the nation in commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the Araw ng Kagitingan (Day of Valor) and in celebrating the 2017 Philippine Veterans Week.

In the President's keynote speech, he conveyed his gratitude to World War II veterans and exhorted Filipinos to continue honoring them, especially those who are still alive. He also gave his salute to post-war veterans who rendered honorable military service to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Pres. Duterte ordered the immediate release of P6.2B pension arrears of AFP Retirees for the period 2008-2013 by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), in coordination with the Department of National Defense (DND).

Budget Secretary Benjamin Diokno and Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana have already formed a Technical Working Group to expedite the implementation of the President's directive. The TWG composed of DBM, DND and AFP officials shall determine, verify and confirm the beneficiaries.

The procedure of vetting the rightful beneficiaries as well as their entitlement is part of the implementation process and is not in conflict with the President's order to expedite payment.

Once the vetting process is completed, the funds will be released accordingly, and the beneficiaries will receive their entitlement through their existing pension accounts.

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