



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Reaction of SND Lorenzana to the CPP's claim that "NPA surrenderees" are a complete hoax

The latest statement of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) shows that they are now in a quandary as to how they can reverse their current predicament. Because of the government's sincere call for peace, they have lost a lot of fighters lately, and their mass base has rapidly dwindled. Labelling everything that the government has achieved so far as a mere "hoax" manifests desperation and obviously a futile attempt to discredit our efforts in forging peace.

*Mulat na po ang taumbayan sa mga kasinungalingan ng CPP-NPA.*

How can the CPP claim that most of the surrenderees are not NPA fighters but "supporters" and even demand a public apology from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) when in fact, these former rebels who responded to the government's call for peace include their former regional secretary in Far South Mindanao, their former Regional SDG (*sentro de grabidad* or fighting unit) commanders in northern Mindanao, and in Surigao, a front secretary in Davao, and a number of their platoon and team leaders, along with their firearms? It is the communist terrorist CPP-NPA who should apologize to these people whom they have deceived, and who have sacrificed their lives and their families because of this deception.

The numbers are clear and the evidence is overwhelming. Several former rebels have returned to the fold of the law because they have seen through the lies and deception of their former comrades.

*Wala na po silang ideyolohiyang ipinaglalaman.* What's left is an organization that uses the plight of vulnerable sectors to promote their ultimate plan of amassing money through extortion and seizing power for their leaders' selfish agenda.

*Kaya patuloy kaming nananawagan sa ating mga kababayan na huwag magpaloko sa mga kasinungalingan ng CPP-NPA. Gagamitin lang po kayo at ang inyong mga komunidad sa kanilang masamang gawain katulad ng pagpatay, pag-kidnap, at pangingikil. Sa huli, kayo din ang kawawa.*

Sa mga kasapi naman ng CPP-NPA, sumuko na kayo habang hindi pa huli ang lahat. Tapusin na ninyo ang karahasan laban sa ating mga kapwa Pilipino. Bukas ang kamay ng pamahalaan upang kayo ay tanggapin, kupkupin at kalingain. Marami sa ating mga Former Rebels (FRs) ang ngayon ay namumuhay nang mapayapa kasama ng kanilang mga mahal sa buhay at natulungan ng pamahalaan sa pamamagitan ng Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

*Abot kamay na natin ang kapayapaan at kaunlaran. Kailangan lang nating magkakaisa alang-alang sa ating bayan. ###*