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PNoy meets with Queen Maxima of Netherlands



President Benigno Aquino III welcomes Queen Maxima of The Netherlands during her courtesy call in Malacanang on June 30. Queen Maxima was designated as UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's special advocate for inclusive finance for development in September 2009. (Photo by Rey Banopeter)

U.S. won't tell claimants how to settle sea disputes



Chinese dredging ships in the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea, in an image from a surveillance video. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Navy)

By JOSE KATIGBAK
WASHINGTON — It's up to individual countries with claims to disputed maritime features in the South China Sea to determine how they should go about working with China to settle their disputes, U.S. State Department spokesman John Kirby said. "We're not going to start dictating the vehicles through which

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Celebrating music, history & country



By MARILYN ABALON
Special to the Filipino Reporter
The premiere of the Great Filipino Composer Series featuring the works of Nicomedes Abellardo was very well done! The music series opened on

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Abellardo family at Merkin Concert Hall in New York. From left, Olivia Hine, Kary Kori, Nina Abellardo, Saenz Abellardo, Andrea Sista Abellardo-Harmon, and Maria and Dido Salgado. (Filipino Reporter photo)

China to PH: Let's sit down and talk

By RANIER ALLAN RONDA

MANILA — China is "still open and will be open forever" to bilateral negotiations to settle its territorial spat with the Philippines, Chinese Ambassador Zhao Jianhua said Monday.

Zhao's pronouncements came a day before a United Nations tribunal proceeds to determine whether it has jurisdiction over a case filed by Manila contesting Beijing's massive claim in the West Philippine Sea and South

China Sea.

A high level Philippine delegation is now in The Hague to present the country's position.

"I think the best is to sit down bilaterally to talk. We need to

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The Philippine team at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands before the start of the oral arguments in connection with the arbitration case against China. (Photo courtesy of the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs)

Teacher in Maryland facing sex abuse charges out on bail

By MARICAR CP HAMPTON
The FilAm Metro DC

The Filipino teacher who was arrested for reportedly sexually abusing his student at William Foca Elementary School in Landover, Maryland, was released from the Department of Corrections.

Erwin Magnaye is currently out on bail awaiting his preliminary hearing, according to a statement from the Philippine Embassy. He was arrested on May 5.



Erwin Magnaye (left) faces the criminal charge "sex abuse of a minor," according to report. (The FilAm Metro DC photo)

"On May 18, 2015, a consular team from the embassy was able to visit Mr. Magnaye at the facility where he was detained. He was temporarily released days later after posting bail and is now awaiting the schedule of the preliminary hearing," the statement said.

Magnaye, 39, from Laurel, Maryland, was accused of having inappropriate encounters with a nine-year-old boy in September 2014, according to media reports.

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Sweetness of calamansi comes to N.Y.

New Yorkers were introduced to a refreshing new citrus flavor when the Philippine Calamansi Association represented by Helen and Arnie del Rosario hosted two events in New York organized by 13 Degrees North.

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Guests enjoy calamansi-flavored Happy Hour at Alworth Park in New York. (Photo from 13 Degrees North)

'Oh My G!' actress Julia Buencamino commits suicide

MANILA — Julia Louise Buencamino, the daughter of actors Noxie and Sharmaine Buencamino, died Tuesday.

According to an ABS-CBN report, the 15-year-old Buencamino was found by their household help hanging from the

ceiling Tuesday night. She was brought to the Cardinal Santos Medical Center in San Juan but was declared

dead on arrival. Buencamino was Noxie and Sharmaine's youngest child and an actress like her parents.

She starred in ABS-CBN's 2015 drama television series "Oh My G!" Her co-stars are shocked and saddened by her death.

