

Front page of the Filipino Reporter. Issue # 51; November 21-27, 2014

Written by special to the filipino reporter
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Millions may stay and work in U.S. — Obama



Philippine Navy photo shows peacekeepers who returned from Liberia arriving on Caballo Island to begin a 21-day quarantine period as part of government protocol against the Ebola virus.

No idle days for peacekeepers

MANILA — Starting last Friday, the Filipino peacekeepers who arrived from the Ebola-stricken West African state of Liberia started observing routine military activities to keep them busy while they are quarantined at the Philippine Navy's new facility on Caballo Island in

Cavite. The routine duties started with regular morning calls, morning exercises, sports activities and gardening to help transform Caballo into a fully green island, according to Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) spokesperson Lt. Col. Harold Cabanoc.

The Philippine Navy has provided coconut seedlings for the soldiers to plant in the island. The peacekeepers will also cook their own food out of the supplies that would be provided by the AFP Joint Task Group Liberia led by Capt. Luzviminda

Turn to page 8



U.S. Army Maj. Sonny Bosa (ret.), Eric Lachira of the American Coalition for Filipino Veterans, Pontenciano Dee, 87, Celestino Almeda, 97, and former Army Chaplain Georgette Beltran, honor World War I U.S. Navy Filipino serviceman with a prayer, a poem, a vase of poinsettias, and PFI and U.S. flags at the Arlington National Cemetery on Veterans Day. (ACFV photo by Angelyn Tapado-Morales)

4 Fil-Am vets in vigil at Arlington

WASHINGTON — On Veterans Day, four Filipino-American veterans and their supporters visited Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington County, Virginia, to recall and honor the sacrifices of 400,000 military service members buried there since the Civil War.

Filipino World War II veterans Celestino Almeda, 97, and Pontenciano Dee, 87, were joined by their younger comrades, former U.S. Army Chaplain Georgette Beltran and retired U.S. Army Maj. Sonny Bosa.

Turn to page 8

Will use discretion to rewrite some laws

Special to the Filipino Reporter

At least five million unauthorized aliens will be protected from deportation and provide them with work permits, according to an executive order said to be issued this week by the White House.

President Barack Obama is also expected to spell out other changes overhauling the nation's immigration system.

But the unprecedented plan is likely to be overturned by the next Congress, which will be controlled by Republicans, who oppose immigration legislation proposed by the Obama Administration.



Ray Jose (right), 24, a Filipino whose parents brought him to this country when he was 9, said his father had worked cleaning houses and mowing lawns so he could attend college. Jose joined a protest in the Capitol Tuesday to demand a reprieve for his parents. (Photo by John Bonifant/The New York Times)

Invoking his executive discretion, Obama would allow parents of children who are American citizens or legal residents to obtain legal work documents, shielding them from

Turn to page 6

'Simbang Gabi' resumes at PhilCenter in NYC



"Simbang Gabi" event at the Philippine Center in New York in 2011. (File photo by Ernie Poma)

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The annual "Simbang Gabi Sa Konsulado" at the Kalayaan Hall of the Philippine Center on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan is making a grand comeback with dozens of Filipino-American organizations participating as sponsors of the nine-day pre-Christmas masses from

Dec. 4 to 12.

The series of masses will be held at 6:30 p.m. on weekdays, and 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

For Filipino Catholics, "Simbang Gabi" is above all an expression of filial devotion to Mary, the Mother of Christ.

Turn to page 8

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