



Insurgency In The Province Of Tarlac: The Case Of Former Rebels

Cirilo B. Acosta Jr.

Government Employee

Tarlac State University

Chapter 1

THE PROBLEM AND ITS BACKGROUND

Background of the Study

Even a speck of opportunity provides an egress for an insurgent movement to mobilize successfully an auspicious political atmosphere. Taking advantage of these chances is only possible when crucial resources back the rebellious effort. In order to create a societal uprising, the offended populace should possess the ability to transform a favourable political environment into a coordinated effort of organized social dissent. Essentially, for a rebellious movement to succeed, it requires either a native framework that can bring together aggrieved individuals or an existing network of associations to carry out a structured mass political movement. The establishment of this movement entails four (4) crucial resources to an organizational strength which are: social movement organizations, social networks, material resources, and free spaces (Caouette et al., 2015).

Rebellions, whether occurring within a country or overseas, are famously challenging to overcome. The British confronted such uprisings in places like British Malaya, Kenya, and Northern Ireland. In British Malaya,

they achieved a limited degree of success in suppressing it. In Kenya, their efforts led to complete failure. In Northern Ireland, with the involvement of the United States, the involved parties managed to establish a delicate state of peace.

The French, who had displayed strong determination in retaining control over Algeria, eventually gave up the fight.

On April 14, in a broadcasted speech to the country, President Joe Biden of the United States announced the conclusion of a war and subsequent counterinsurgency efforts in Afghanistan that had spanned almost twenty years. Even combating insurgent movements within a nation's own borders can prove to be an extended, arduous, and expensive endeavour.

Earlier this month, the Indian government received an unpleasant reminder when Maoist rebels, known as the Naxalites, conducted an ambush in the mineral-rich state of Chhattisgarh in central India, resulting in the death of 22 Central Reserve Police Force personnel. This insurgency has experienced notable fluctuations since 2010, when then-Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh, identified the Naxalites as the "most significant internal security challenge" for the nation. Even after more than a decade, despite changes in government at both national and local levels, the threat posed by the Naxalites continues to loom large.

India has a history of grappling with insurgencies. Starting from the 1950s, when it confronted uprisings by Naga and Mizo rebels in the north-eastern region, India has faced various other insurgent movements in places like Punjab, Kashmir, and elsewhere. In the northeast, after prolonged efforts, peace agreements were reached with both the Naga and Mizo rebels, even though remnants of these insurgencies persist. In Punjab, the Indian authorities employed a forceful approach to suppress the Sikh insurgency during the 1980s, resulting in numerous human rights violations. In Kashmir, a substantial deployment of military forces and firepower enabled India to largely quell the separatist insurgency. However, the nation now grapples with the challenge of an alienated population in Kashmir, with certain segments resorting to street protests that occasionally escalate into violence.

In the region of sub-Saharan Africa, there were a minimum of 15 countries experiencing active insurgent conflicts in 2019. These countries include Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic (CAR),

Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan. Among these, eight conflicts were characterized as low-intensity and confined to specific regions, while seven were classified as high-intensity conflicts (Nigeria, Somalia, the DRC, Burkina Faso, Mali, South Sudan, and Cameroon). Virtually all of these armed conflicts were influenced on an international scale, partly due to involvement from state entities, either directly or through proxy actors, as well as the cross-border actions of militant Islamist groups, other armed factions, and criminal networks.

Past national government administrations have crafted, introduced and implemented various counterinsurgency strategies with different approaches. Sadly, past counterinsurgency strategies had somehow failed as the communist insurgents had still the capability to project themselves as a force to reckon with. One of the known weaknesses of those strategies was putting too much premium on neutralizing the armed insurgents. Indeed, failed counterinsurgency strategies reveal unsuccessful operational practices of the government forces because they focus more “on killing and capturing enemy combatants rather than engaging the population.” (La Guerre Revolutionnaire-Modern Warfare: A French View of Counterinsurgency, 2013).

National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) is a Task Force under the Office of the President, created under Executive Order No. 70 s. 2018, which will ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the Whole-of-Nation Approach.

In Central Luzon, 216 rebels have surrendered. 53 NPA members based in Aurora province; 28 from Tarlac province and another 24 rebels from Nueva Ecija turned themselves in to the military’s 84th Infantry Battalion, and 91st Infantry Battalion, respectively.

Tarlac has a historical significance as a center of insurgency, as it was in this location that the New People's Army (NPA) was established on March 29, 1969, in the small barangay of Sta Rita, Capas, Tarlac. This event took place three months after the revival of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) on December 26, 1968. However, looking at the present situation 53 years later, the presence of the NPA in Tarlac is gradually diminishing. The area that was once a battleground between government forces and armed insurgents is now transitioning into a place of peace. Even the mass organizations they had formed and exploited have weakened, as their members

have gained understanding and distanced themselves from these groups. These individuals now aspire for change, leading the efforts for peace not only in the city but throughout the entire province of Tarlac.

All provinces in Region 3 where the local of the study is located have already activated their Provincial Task Force on Ending Local Communist Armed Conflict. Likewise, communist terrorist group was also declared by all the provinces in the region as persona non-grata through resolution,” Major General Lenard T. Agustin, commander of the 7th Infantry Division (ID) of the Philippine Army said during the meeting of the Peace, Law Enforcement and Development Support (PLEDS) Cluster of the Regional Task Force in Ending Local Communist Armed Conflict in Central Luzon.

Considering that the researcher is a member of the Philippine National Police and PNP’s mandate, the performance of the organization from an operational perspective was pegged on measuring its effectiveness in preventing crimes and solving those that has already been committed. The researcher fully agreed with the government counter insurgency strategy of defeating communist armed insurgency. As the researcher as a former member of several maneuver units of the PNP whose primary role is to address insurgency problem of the Philippines, this study will greatly help the researcher’s mother organic organization in determining other path to win the decade long battle towards an insurgency free Philippines in the future.

Statement of the Objectives

The study looked into the current situation of insurgency among former rebels in the Province of Tarlac.

In particular, the research sought to answer the following objectives;

1. To describe the current situation of insurgency in the Province of Tarlac;
2. To narrate the lived experiences of Former Rebels in Tarlac Province;
3. To analyse existing programs for Former Rebels;
4. To enhance the reintegration programs for Former Rebels in the Province of Tarlac; and
5. To identify the implications of the study to Public Administration.

Significance of the Study

This study is of vital importance to the concerned PNP personnel, government and private sectors, and community for the awareness and information dissemination on the prevailing insurgency in the area of responsibility of the police personnel particularly those assigned at Tarlac Provincial Mobile Force Company. This is also of importance to assist the PNP attain its mission to ensure public safety and internal security with the active support of the community.

To the Philippine National Police (PNP), this serves as a baseline to further review on the existing projects and activities being implemented in winning the hearts of the public. This may be a basis to come up with projects and activities to cater on strengthened community relations to deviate their interests in the recruitment of the insurgents in the area of responsibility in order to strengthen and meet the objective of PNP Patrol Plan 2030 in strengthening community cooperation, collaboration and trusts to achieve gains against crime, terrorism and insurgency thru a more reinvigorated policy formulation at the top of agenda with its stakeholders. Also, to fortify the institutional capabilities of the PNP by improving administrative and operational coherence and efficiency; and to strengthen the police stations with the end goal of enhancing the quality of police services and relationships with the community.

To the Insurgents, this study serves as an awareness on the government's call for the insurgents to surrender and bring fold in the community to lead a normal life. This may be an encouragement for them to lead a better life than hiding in the mountains leaving behind their families with unsure and unstable future.

To the Local Government Unit, the result of the study could help the different Local Government Unit to pay more attention to the needs of the former rebel. To wit, based on the problems that was determine in the study, the differen LGUs may craft new policies, programs or projects that may solve these problems.

To the Different Concern Bureaus in the Government, the result of the study may serve as an input in crafting their plans and allocating their budget that will directly benefit the former rebels in their locality. In addition, they may incorporate the recommendations of this study in creating solutions which are less expensive and more beneficial, such as: partnership, providing new facilities and others.

To the Community, this study serves as a guide to further understand the ideologies of the insurgents in their recruitment campaign luring the people for a better alternative in addressing the systemic deficiencies in the

government. The public may have a better decision on what side to choose either for the government or against it. Opening the avenues on campaign against insurgent's recruitment will weaken the support of the people in the locality. This is aligned in one of the objectives of PNP Patrol Plan 2030 to build on a positive relationship and active participation between and among the PNP and members of the community.

To the Future Researchers, this study is of importance to future researchers as a source of reading material to further encourage them to pursue studies on community relations improvement to weaken insurgency in the locality and the save the people from the false and luring offers of the insurgents conducting recruitment in their area.

Scope and Delimitation of the Study

The study focused on the current situation of insurgency in the Province of Tarlac that also include the narration of the lived experiences of the former rebels, the reason why they join the underground movement, their lives while in the movement and the reintegration programs that was provided to them when they surrender to the government. The study also analysed existing programs for the former rebels and from this reintegration measures for former rebels was formulated for them to be benefited from the study. The research is a case study wherein the researcher analysed and interpret the data that was gathered from the respondents through interview guide. The research was conducted solely for calendar year 2022-2023 in the locality of the Province of Tarlac and that respondents are those who surrendered in year 2021 to 2022.

Literature Review and Related Studies

According to Beck et al. (2016), the concept of insurgency or counter-government pertains to a collective of individuals or an organization with the aim of "dismantling an existing society and its institutions, replacing them with an entirely new framework of state governance." In addition to engaging in guerrilla warfare against the established government, insurgent groups also carry out activities such as political mobilization and other related efforts to garner support from external sources. Typically, an insurgent organization emerges from a central core

of activists. To comprehend the roles played by an insurgency within the model, it is essential to analyze factors like its originating organization, the nature of the support it receives, the movement's guiding principles and vision of success, and the strategies employed in both rural and urban campaigns.

International Solidarity Works activities aim to exploit the linkages between the Philippines and the diaspora's host countries to gain leverage for the insurgency. Five (5) possible ISW linkages can be exploited: economic (foreign direct investments, credit, trade agreements, and foreign assistance like USAID and IMF); geopolitical (includes bilateral or multilateral agreements, regional organizations, and military ties); social (degree of people's movement and association across borders like tourism and migration); communication (denseness and flow of information exchanged between countries, such as through the internet and mass media communication); and transnational civil society (networks or ties with international party organizations and NGOs (Lewitsky and Way, 2019).

Walch (2018), emphasized that the key role of government to ensure that communities have access to their basic needs, given that marginalized groups are susceptible to recruitment for violent, extremist, and insurgent ideologies.

As outlined by Kalyvas (2013), communal strife carries higher costs compared to peaceful political and economic rivalry. As a result, communities generally opt not to merge insurgent activities with their local conflicts. While this stance deviates from the prevalent control-collaboration model where distributional disputes prompt community members to vie against each other instead of pursuing shared goals, this presumption of common interests doesn't entirely negate the concept of competition. Instead, this framework supplements the existing body of literature by acknowledging the motivations for strategic cooperation and outlining the circumstances under which communities withstand competitive pressures.

The strategy employed by the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF) to establish legitimacy on the global stage is the utilization of International Solidarity Works (ISW). By functioning within a liberal democratic nation, like the United States, NDF members can lawfully engage in ISW activities without constraints. The language revolving around armed conflict and communist ideology is reinterpreted to align with the values upheld by Western countries, such as human rights

and the promotion of democracy. These actions serve to disguise and aid the NDF in attracting individuals who share similar concerns, unknowingly enticing them to support the movement. This approach is in line with the ISW's objective of exerting influence over the international landscape in favor of the insurgency, all while diminishing international backing for the government (CNN, 2019).

The NDF's endeavors to mobilize Filipino migrants can be attributed to the limited measures taken by the Philippine government to counteract them. The government's current approach, outlined in Executive Order 70, aims to counter International Solidarity Works (ISW) efforts through diplomatic interactions on the global stage. This implies the potential establishment of a specialized department tasked with leading initiatives to counter ISW activities in international settings. The Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Labor and Employment could be considered for this role, given that the policies and programs of both agencies have the potential to impact the millions of migrant Filipinos. This approach aligns with the core functions and purpose of both departments, as they are involved in engaging with Filipinos residing abroad (Holden, 2019).

The robust communication connections guarantee that the insurgents' propagandist endeavors against the Philippine government gain global exposure via media networks within the Filipino migrant community, even in cases where evidence might be lacking. Propaganda possesses the potential to sway social movements among the Filipino diaspora, potentially leading to large-scale protests or influencing host countries to withdraw military support and aid to the Philippines. A noteworthy instance is the alleged mistreatment of indigenous peoples by the Philippine military, which BAYAN activists in San Francisco, California, exploited as an issue to advocate for the cessation of U.S. government military assistance to the Philippines (BAYAN, 2019).

Executive Order No. 70 emphasizes the formal implementation of the holistic approach known as the whole-of-nation strategy, in which the government aims to engage all sectors in the pursuit of enduring peace within the country. It mandates that all government departments, bureaus, offices, and agencies extend necessary assistance to the task force. Additionally, it promotes involvement from the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders in various peace-building initiatives, plans, and activities at regional and local levels. The task force, led by the President and comprising different department secretaries as members, strives to include the participation of all individuals. Through this collective effort, with the President as the head

of the task force, the objective of Executive Order No. 70 is to encourage broad public engagement. The National Peace Framework comprises fundamental guidelines, strategies, strategies, and initiatives that give precedence to and harmonize the provision of essential services and developmental support in regions affected by conflict and areas at risk, with the aim of tackling the fundamental drivers of insurgency. Its design is tailored to address specific regional requirements, allowing for the implementation of localized peace initiatives under national supervision and coordination. (EO 70, 2018).

In support of Executive Order No. 70, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) developed the AFP Development and Support Plan, referred to as "Kapayapaan." The main objective of this plan is to carry out development support operations that will uphold peace, ensure security, and aid in maintaining public order, thereby creating a foundation for comprehensive economic and human development for the Filipino population. This mission entails the AFP's commitment to engage in ongoing operations against terrorist organizations and those who disrupt peace within the country, as well as actively contributing to the promotion of peace, aiding law enforcement, and actively participating in the process of nation building. All these efforts align with the goals set forth in Executive Order No. 70 and correspond with the third strategy of the diamond model, which involves direct action against adversaries (Armed Forces of the Philippines, 2017).

The Constitution and Program of the Communist Party of the Philippines, released in 2016, delineate the function of International Solidarity Works (ISW), which involves stimulating, organizing, and rallying Filipinos living abroad to actively engage in the insurgency and advocate for the acknowledgment of the insurgency movement's belligerent status. The strategies employed in ISW mirror the approaches used by the NDF, which entails initially involving non-communist but sympathetic groups or individuals, who can subsequently be galvanized to back the movement (Communist Party of the Philippines, 2019).

The impact of the insurgency extends well beyond the isolated villages where insurgents and soldiers engage in sporadic conflict. The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) employs "front organizations" to mobilize support and direct funds to their subterranean counterparts. As a result, activists affiliated with leftist causes have become targets of military and paramilitary reprisals, leading to a surge in extrajudicial killings over the past decade. This conflict has fractured the leftist movement in a country that urgently requires a unified force

to challenge the grip that influential families maintain on political power across various levels. The imposition of "revolutionary taxes" on businesses not only discourages investments but also enables insurgents to extract profits from resource-rich yet underprivileged regions (International Crisis Group, 2013).

During President Rodrigo Duterte's tenure, the implementation of Administrative Order No. 10 in 2018 titled "Centralizing all government efforts for the reintegration of the former rebels (FR) and creating an Inter-Agency task Force" occurred. This order merged two existing national government programs aimed at assisting former rebels. The first program is the Comprehensive Local Integration Program, which aims to contribute to the ultimate goal of achieving permanent and peaceful resolution for all armed conflicts involving non-state armed groups. It is overseen by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG). The second program is the Payapa at Masaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA), focused on community-based development in areas affected by conflict. This initiative falls under the administration of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP).

Section 1 of Administrative Order No. 10 issued in 2018 introduces the Enhancement of the Comprehensive Local Integration Program (CLIP), which was subsequently referred to as E-CLIP. This program offers a comprehensive package of assistance to former rebels (FR) associated with the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), New People's Army (NPA), and National Democratic Front (NDF), as well as their immediate family members. This support is extended to those who have come forward after the effective date of this order, expressing their intent to abandon armed insurgency and transition into productive members of society. Additionally, all former rebels who emerged from July 1, 2016 onwards will receive benefits from the E-CLIP, alongside the assistance package offered by the CLIP.

Section 2 of Administrative Order No. 10 outlines the "Centralization of Government Initiatives for the Reintegration of Former Rebels (FRs)," indicating that the National Government will consolidate all its endeavors to reintegrate FRs. This collective endeavor is termed as "Reintegration Efforts," achieved by reinforcing the connection between the E-CLIP and PAMANA programs. This integration is carried out while carefully considering the specific requirements of FRs, their families, and the broader community.

To achieve this objective, an Inter-Agency Task Force was established for the reintegration of Former Rebels, known as "Task Force Balik-Loob." This task force comprises representatives holding a rank no lower than Undersecretary from various governmental entities, including the Department of National Defense (DND), DILG, OPAPP, Office of the President (OP), and the National Housing Authority (NHA). The leadership of the Task Force is vested in the DND representative, who is authorized to invite additional government agencies or entities to join as necessary. A Secretariat, staffed with technical personnel from the aforementioned agencies, provides support and assistance to the Task Force.

Section 4 of the Administrative Order addresses the Convergence of Government Assistance, stipulating that all relevant government entities are instructed to provide essential support to the Task Force. This assistance includes furnishing the required materials, equipment, tools, technology, and other necessities to former rebels (FRs) through the respective Local Government Units (LGUs), as determined by the Task Force. The directive extends to instructing their regional or provincial units to aid the LGUs in executing Reintegration Efforts at the provincial or city/municipal levels. Additionally, in line with their mandates, these agencies should allocate funds in their annual budgets to facilitate assistance for Reintegration Efforts. Furthermore, they are encouraged to enter into necessary agreements to ensure the complete implementation of the provisions outlined in this order (AO 10 s. 2018).

Before the issuance of Administrative Order No. 10 in 2018, a number of laws had already been established that dealt with the concept of the Community and Service-Oriented Policing System (CSOP). These laws include Republic Act 6975, National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) Resolution No. 342 dated 2015, National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) Memorandum Circular No. 003 dated 2015, and PNP Memorandum Circular No. 063 dated 2017.

According to Section 2 of Republic Act 6975, the primary duties of the Community and Service-Oriented Policing System (CSOP) include promoting peace and order, ensuring public safety, and enhancing the capacity of local governments to provide essential services to the population effectively. Furthermore, the Philippine National Police (PNP) is designated as a community and service-oriented institution entrusted with maintaining peace and order as well as public safety.

Dated July 21, 2015, National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) Resolution No. 342 grants authority to the Philippine National Police to carry out its responsibilities as a Community and Service-Oriented Agency by implementing the CSOP System, which entails collaboration between local officials, the PNP, and the community, in accordance with the requirements of Section 2 of Republic Act 6975. However, certain significant aspects of Republic Act 6975 were modified by Republic Act 8551.

National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) Memorandum Circular No. 003 issued in 2015 outlines supplementary responsibilities and tasks for Local Chief Executives (LCEs) acting as NAPOLCOM deputies, as authorized by Section 64 of Republic Act 8551.

The application instructions for the Community and Service Oriented Policing System (CSOP) are specifically aimed at the City/Municipal level, involving Local Chief Executives/Local Executives (LCE/Les), the PNP, and the Engaged Community. The Community and Service Oriented Policing System (CSOP) provides a range of fundamental services, encompassing areas such as agriculture and fishing, community-oriented forestry, healthcare provision, social welfare support, information dissemination, management of environmental issues including solid waste disposal, maintenance and creation of essential infrastructure, operation of public markets, slaughterhouses, and economic ventures, maintenance and operation of cemeteries, promotion of tourism, and allocation of locations for police, fire stations, substations, and detention facilities.

The result of implementing the Community and Service Oriented Policing System (CSOP) is an enhancement in the delivery of police services within their designated jurisdiction. The Philippine National Police (PNP) plays several roles in this context, such as commencing coordination with the Mayor, other Local Executives, and community members. This engagement is achieved through activities like home visits, regular weekly meetings known as "pulongpulong," and similar initiatives.

The duties of the Local Executives encompass the following responsibilities: establish effective mechanisms to foster improved partnerships; ensure aid and backing for the Integrated Area/Community Public Safety Plan (IA/CPSP); create a three-year, term-based Peace and Order Public Safety Plan (POPS Plan); arrange meetings of the Peace and Order Council to review, refresh, and endorse the IA/CPSP; supervise the City/Municipal Public Order and Safety Plan (POC) to collate and analyze data; require full collaboration from all

partners; allocate funds and execute the CSOP programs; facilitate the execution of CSOP programs; assign essential personnel for CSOP implementation; engage in Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) activities; coordinate with the NAPOLCOM; and undertake additional functions and responsibilities as authorized.

Because the community forms the foundation of the police organization, establishing a partnership between these two entities is crucial. The roles of the residents include: supplying data, information, and insights to the police and local authorities regarding issues and concerns; mobilizing and coordinating volunteers to amplify their effectiveness; contributing resources and aiding in the preparation and execution of CSOP plans and activities; identifying and executing projects for community development; creating a profile of community issues; sharing advice on crime prevention and other aspects of public safety; initiating regular community gatherings and discussions; appointing a designated individual for reporting and monitoring CSOP undertakings; and endorsing and conducting initiatives to raise funds.

The synthesized content underscores diverse elements pertaining to insurgency and the actions taken to counter it, particularly in the Philippine context. It delves into the insurgency concept, the function of International Solidarity Works (ISW) in bolstering insurgent endeavours, and the government's strategies to thwart these actions. Moreover, it addresses the repercussions of insurgency on communities and the steps implemented to reintegrate ex-rebels.

Insurgency and Counter-Government Endeavours, the delineation of insurgency is highlighted as the intention of a group to supplant an established society with a novel state framework, employing tactics like guerrilla warfare, political mobilization, and seeking external aid. Grasping the functions of insurgency involves scrutinizing its inception, backing, principles, and the strategies it employs in both rural and urban contexts.

International Solidarity Works (ISW) and Backing Insurgency, the prime objective of ISW is to leverage connections between the Philippines and overseas host nations to garner backing for the insurgent cause. Diverse channels, encompassing economic, geopolitical, social, communication, and transnational civil society affiliations, are recognized as potential conduits for acquiring support.

Government's Role in Combating Insurgency, the primary responsibility of the government is to guarantee access to fundamental necessities for marginalized communities, thus deterring their susceptibility to violent,

extremist, and insurgent ideologies. The "whole-of-nation" strategy, exemplified by Executive Order No. 70, entails engaging all sectors in initiatives and undertakings aimed at fostering peace.

Initiatives to Establish Credibility and Garner Backing, the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF) aims to attain credibility by means of ISW endeavours, recontextualizing the language of armed conflict into principles endorsed by Western nations.

Activation of Filipino Expatriates, the National Democratic Front (NDF) strives to mobilize Filipino migrants due to inadequate measures taken by the Philippine government to counteract such initiatives.

Influence of Propaganda and Media, communication connections ensure that the insurgents' propaganda endeavours are disseminated globally via networks within the Filipino migrant community, affecting societal movements and accruing international backing for the insurgency.

Reintegration Initiatives for Former Insurgents, the government's endeavours to reintegrate ex-rebels encompass a range of programs and departments designed to aid and aid to individuals who have forsaken armed conflict.

Community and Service-Centric Policing Approach (CSCPA), The CSCPA seeks to enhance the provision of police services through collaboration with local authorities and activation of the community to address matters linked to peace and order.

Related Studies

In Dunigan's study conducted in 2013, a total of 24 counterinsurgency (COIN) strategies were examined. Out of these, historical evidence strongly supported 17 strategies. The approach of employing an "iron fist" in COIN efforts, which primarily aims to eradicate the insurgent threat, has shown less historical success. On the other hand, a strategy focused on addressing the motives that drive support or involvement in an insurgency has demonstrated greater effectiveness. Successful COIN strategies tend to be interconnected, with several practices consistently observed in successful cases: diminishing tangible support for insurgents, commitment and determination from the host-nation government, COIN forces, and external backers, as well as adaptability and flexibility exhibited by the COIN forces. Notably, the COIN concept of "crush them" exhibited a stronger

correlation with government losses rather than victories. The quality of the COIN force holds more significance than its quantity, particularly in situations involving paramilitaries and irregular forces.

Berman and Matanock's study conducted in 2015 revealed that insurgency has experienced a resurgence in the past decade due to enhanced data availability, refined methodologies, and the pressing need to comprehend ongoing conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. This "empiricists' insurgency" approach reinforces established literature that underscores the pivotal role of civilians, while also challenging previous theories regarding their impact on conflict outcomes. The fresh research offers valuable insights for designing interventions, encompassing governance enhancements, development initiatives, and rules of engagement. This framework has the potential to lead to more well-conceived and effectively executed interventions, including foreign involvements with or without troop deployment, tailored to the specific insurgency type and considering political constraints.

Kilcullen's study in 2016 highlights the resurgence of interest in counter-insurgency, with more attention given to it in the past four years than in the preceding four decades. This trend is encouraging for those who were sidelined when Western governments considered counter-insurgency a peripheral concern, interesting only to historians. As a result, there has been a call for revisiting tried-and-tested classical counter-insurgency approaches. However, contemporary insurgencies differ significantly from those of the past in terms of policy, strategy, operational techniques, and tactical methods. While a substantial portion of traditional counter-insurgency principles remains applicable, there are notable novelties in the renewed counter-insurgency discourse. This might necessitate a fundamental reevaluation of established wisdom in light of these developments.

Mullet and Seligson's study in 2013 highlighted that the unequal distribution of land in agrarian societies is often considered a significant factor contributing to widespread political violence and revolutionary movements. These competing theories about inequality have substantial implications for the types of reforms that could potentially mitigate the risk of insurgency within a society. To examine these theories, they used the most comprehensive collection of cross-national data available on indicators such as land inequality, landlessness, and income inequality. Their findings supported the notion that income inequality plays a more influential role. Furthermore, the impact of income inequality on political violence was observed to remain consistent within a causal model that also accounted for factors such as the repressive nature of the regime, government use of force,

intensity of separatist movements, and the level of economic development. In Mackinlay's 2013 study, he pointed out that the shifts in the global landscape have transformed the characteristics of insurgency, causing certain governments to lose strength while empowering groups aiming to depose them. The research identifies four specific classifications of insurgent entities and asserts that the trend toward insurgency's global influence inevitably results in a parallel expansion of counter-insurgency efforts on a global scale.

Arjona's 2016 research on "Rebelocracy: Social Order in the Colombian Civil War" unveiled that the legitimacy and effectiveness of local institutions play a significant role in shaping the social order established by rebel groups in their controlled regions. This influence operates similarly to the capacity for collective action within communities. However, the study does not aim to clarify the reasons behind why rebel groups occupy specific territories.

In his 2017 study, Okla concluded that the course's exploration of insurgency and counterinsurgency reveals that throughout history, various authorities and ruling powers across different regions have confronted instances of violent protests. Typically, insurgency arises from the inability of governments and discontented non-state entities to reach a mutual understanding. Based on the study's findings, the most efficacious approach to curbing or countering insurgency involves addressing the underlying sources of dissatisfaction. Additionally, the government's success lies in distancing the leaders of insurgent movements from the general population, achieved through building trust via appeasement, intentional isolation, and strategic propaganda efforts.

The study published in the South African Journal of Military Studies in 2018 reached the conclusion that a communist insurgency differs from a 'People's Revolutionary War,' as it is a form of warfare aimed at seizing control over people. The study suggests that defeating such insurgency is possible by adhering to specific fundamental principles. It emphasizes the importance of dismantling the underground political organization that provides support to the insurgents as a crucial initial step in this process.

In their study, Fearon and Laitin (2013) discovered that a prevailing belief suggests that civil wars increased rapidly after the Cold War's end, often attributed to ethnic and religious tensions. However, their research demonstrates that the current prevalence of internal conflicts is primarily a result of the gradual accumulation of prolonged conflicts since the 1950s and 1960s, rather than a sudden shift linked to a new international system after

the Cold War. The study further reveals that, even when considering per capita income, countries with greater ethnic or religious diversity were not inherently more prone to significant civil unrest during this period.

In his study, Metz (2013) outlined that security experts and strategists are realizing that the post-Cold War era is characterized by ongoing, low-level violence much like its earlier periods. Interestingly, numerous regions are witnessing an upsurge in conflicts due to the absence of constraints previously imposed by superpowers. Given that discontent in various parts of the Third World is actually growing, insurgency—characterized by sustained, low-intensity violence aimed at overthrowing a political system or instigating significant change in the political and economic status quo—will continue to pose a lasting security challenge. Regrettably, much of the existing doctrine and strategy for addressing insurgency are rooted in outdated manifestations of the phenomenon, particularly the rural, protracted concept of "people's war."

De Leon's study (2019) titled "Exploring Connections Between the Filipino Diaspora and the Philippine Communist Movement" revealed that the engagement of the Filipino diaspora in the ongoing insurgency encompasses various forms of assistance to the armed struggle led by the Communist Party of the Philippines. This assistance spans moral, political, technical, financial, and military realms. Within this context, the Filipino diaspora's role involves extending moral backing through involvement in events like protests and cultural gatherings. These activities serve to raise public awareness in both host and home countries by endorsing the movement's cause while casting doubt on the credibility of the Philippine government.

Stephan's (2019) research project investigates the Aquino administration's approach to addressing the nationwide communist insurgency in the Philippines, analyzing it from three dimensions: the political, socioeconomic, and military realms. These aspects are interconnected and collectively offer a comprehensive understanding of the insurgency's dynamics. Furthermore, the study underscores that the core objective of the New People's Army (NPA) is to establish a new regime rooted in principles of equality, underpinned by centrally controlled structures aimed at mobilizing the populace and fundamentally altering the existing social framework within the established political entity.

The research indicates that in many regions, the NPA gains an advantage in the political battle on the ground, as it serves as the sole entity providing essential social services to the local population. By examining the

NPA's objectives, tactics, strategies, and achievements, the study opens avenues for evaluating potential policy choices for both the Aquino government and the United States.

De Castro's (2013) study delves into the ramifications of the global war on terror on the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), particularly its extensive involvement in various forms of unconventional warfare. The research delves into the historical context and core principles of counter-insurgency warfare or low-intensity conflicts (LICs) within the Philippines. It then explores how the global war on terror has impacted the Philippine military's strategies against insurgency, as well as the ongoing reforms within the country's defense establishment aimed at resolving the insurgency issues.

In conclusion, the article posits that despite these reforms and the security assistance received from the US post-9/11, the fundamental structure and roles of the AFP are unlikely to undergo significant transformation. Instead, the military is expected to remain deeply engaged in its counter-terrorism and anti-insurgency endeavors indefinitely into the foreseeable future.

Quimpo's (2014) study discusses how Maoist insurgents in the Philippines have escalated their extortion activities through practices like 'revolutionary taxation' and the collection of 'permit to campaign'/'permit to win' (PTC/PTW) fees during elections. This research delves into the reasons behind the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), in collaboration with its guerilla faction, the New People's Army (NPA), shifting towards and giving more prominence to 'revolutionary' extortion. It examines whether the motivation behind the Maoist insurgency has transitioned from addressing grievances to pursuing financial gain, and explores the implications of the heightened focus on extensive extortion for the CPP-NPA's strategic approach and logistical circumstances.

Ligot (2014) asserts that despite the post-Cold War era and the decline of communism in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, the communist insurgents in the Philippines remain a formidable force and the primary challenge to the nation's security. This study aims to analyze the factors responsible for the resurgence of the communist insurgency and the government's efforts in countering it. Socioeconomic inequality and injustice stand as major catalysts driving individuals to join armed movements against the government. Unless these underlying issues are effectively tackled, the insurgency dilemma will persist. A solely military approach is insufficient to resolve the communist insurgency in the Philippines. While the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) poses

a substantial security threat, it lacks the capability to achieve a military victory against the Armed Forces of the Philippines. Similarly, the government's forces cannot completely defeat the insurgents unless the root causes that attract people to the communist movement are addressed.

Sales (2013) delves into the deterioration of the United Nations' human rights agenda in recent times. An analysis of a nation like the Philippines underscores some of the underlying causes. The shockingly high incidence of political killings in this country was subjected to investigation by Philip Alston, the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, in the early months of 2007. His findings revealed a prevailing culture of impunity within the military and highlighted the insufficient measures taken by the Arroyo administration to tackle the issue and safeguard the rights of its populace. Alston's visit shed light on the inadequate human rights track record of the Philippine government and the ineffectiveness of UN mechanisms designed to rectify such substandard performance.

Özerdem and Podder's (2014) research on "Grassroots and Rebellion: A Study on the Future of the Moro Struggle in Mindanao, Philippines, Civil Wars" unveils that the enlistment into the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) is not solely determined by religion or ideology; such a view oversimplifies the foundational backing. Numerous factors, including geographical location—especially proximity to Armed Forces of the Philippines bases—and the disruptive consequences of displacement caused by conflict, coupled with disparities in the delivery of governance, have contributed to varying levels of support for the Bangsamoro struggle among the primary ethnic groups. These variables will undoubtedly influence the future sustainability of the MILF as an insurgent movement. A study of Rubin (2019) on "Rebel Territorial Control and Civilian Collective Action in Civil War: Evidence from the Communist Insurgency in the Philippines," revealed that community collective action capacity (CAC) increases rebel control in areas lacking state services but deters rebel control in areas under state protection and service provision. Emphasizing civilian agency in conflict processes by highlighting the role civilians play in shaping where belligerents operate in the first place.

The synthesis of these studies on insurgency and counter-insurgency efforts reveals several key findings and insights;

COIN Practices and Motive-Based Approach, Dunigan's study highlights that a motive-based approach, focusing on eliminating incentives for insurgency, has been historically more successful than the "iron fist" path, which primarily seeks to eliminate the insurgent threat. Effective COIN practices often run in packs, with certain common practices present in successful efforts.

Role of Civilians, Berman and Matanock's research emphasizes the essential role of civilians in understanding and countering insurgency. The study provides guidance on intervention design, governance improvement, development programs, and rules of engagement, acknowledging the importance of engaging with local communities.

Changing Nature of Insurgencies, Kilcullen's study notes that insurgencies have evolved in the post-Cold War era, and traditional counter-insurgency methods need re-appraisal to address modern challenges and dynamics.

Causes of Insurgency, Mullet and Seligson's research suggests that income inequality has a greater causal impact on political violence than land inequality. Understanding the root causes of discontentment is essential for effective counter-insurgency efforts.

Globalization of Insurgency and Counter-Insurgency, Mackinlay's study discusses how global changes have empowered insurgent forces and led to the globalization of both insurgency and counter-insurgency efforts.

Role of the Filipino Diaspora, De Leon's research sheds light on the significant support provided by the Filipino diaspora to the Communist Party of the Philippines' armed struggle, showcasing the role of the diaspora in supporting insurgency efforts.

Effectiveness of Counter-Insurgency Measures, Several studies highlight that a purely military solution may not be sufficient to defeat insurgencies. Addressing underlying grievances and socioeconomic issues is crucial for successful counter-insurgency efforts.

Role of Human Rights and Impunity, Sales' study points out that human rights issues, such as extrajudicial killings, can hinder effective counter-insurgency efforts and affect a country's human rights record.

Impact of Civilian Collective Action, Rubin's research shows that community collective action capacity can influence rebel territorial control in conflict zones, highlighting the role civilians play in shaping the insurgency's dynamics.

Conceptual Framework

The central focus of this framework is to explore the current situation of insurgency and the lived experiences of former rebels in the Province of Tarlac. The study delves into the narration of the experiences of these former rebels, aiming to gain a deeper understanding of their motivations, challenges, and the factors that led them to abandon armed struggle and seek reintegration into society.

By thoroughly classifying and evaluating the narratives of the former rebels, the research sheds light on the complex and multifaceted nature of their journeys. This qualitative approach allows for a nuanced analysis of the individual experiences, providing valuable insights into the human aspect of insurgency and the process of reintegration.

Furthermore, the research examines existing programs for former rebels, analyzing their effectiveness and identifying potential gaps or areas for improvement. This evaluation is crucial in understanding the support systems available to these individuals and in identifying ways to enhance reintegration efforts.

The ultimate goal of the study is to devise and formulate reintegration measures that are tailored to the specific needs and challenges faced by former rebels in Tarlac. These measures aim to facilitate a smooth transition back into civilian life, addressing the economic, social, and psychological aspects of their reintegration.

The implications of this research in the discipline of public administration are significant. By understanding the lived experiences of former rebels, policymakers and public administrators can gain a more comprehensive perspective on the root causes of insurgency and the factors that contribute to its persistence. This understanding can inform the design and implementation of more effective and targeted counter-insurgency strategies.

Moreover, the study's emphasis on reintegration measures highlights the importance of addressing the needs of former combatants to prevent the recurrence of violence and to foster lasting peace. Providing support

and opportunities for reintegration can reduce the likelihood of these individuals returning to armed struggle and can contribute to the overall stability and development of the region.

In conclusion, the framework focuses on the current situation of insurgency and the experiences of former rebels in Tarlac. By thoroughly analyzing their narratives and evaluating existing programs, the research aims to inform the formulation of reintegration measures that can contribute to peacebuilding efforts and have broader implications in the field of public administration. Ultimately, understanding the human side of insurgency and reintegration is essential for crafting effective and sustainable solutions to address this complex and pressing issue.



Figure 1. Paradigm of the Study

Chapter 2

METHODOLOGY

This chapter outlines the research methodologies utilized, the study's locale, data collection methods, research tools or instruments, and statistical treatments required for data collection.

Research Design

The research design used in this study was qualitative-case study. This approach was deemed appropriate for the study due to its ability to capture the complexities and multiple perspectives inherent in the lived experiences of former rebels in the Province of Tarlac.

As Rossman and Rallis (1998) suggest, the qualitative-case study design acknowledges that there are few universal truths, and the world is characterized by diverse perspectives. By adopting this design, the study recognizes the diverse and subjective nature of the experiences of former rebels and seeks to understand their individual journeys from multiple angles.

Merriam (1998) points out that qualitative-case study holds great promise for contributing to the knowledge base as it focuses on discovery, insight, and understanding. In the context of this study, the goal was not to establish generalizable findings but rather to gain deep insights and understanding of the reintegration experiences of former rebels. Through this design, the research aimed to uncover rich and context-specific information that would be valuable for crafting effective reintegration measures.

The qualitative-case study design allowed the researchers to immerse themselves in the narratives of the participants, explore their motivations, challenges, and coping mechanisms, and gain a holistic understanding of the phenomenon under investigation. By employing open-ended interviews, observations, and document analysis, the study gathered detailed and nuanced data that provided a comprehensive picture of the reintegration process.

The utilization of a qualitative-case study design in this research allowed for a focused and in-depth exploration of the lived experiences of former rebels in Tarlac. By embracing the diversity of perspectives and emphasizing discovery and understanding, this design provided valuable insights that can inform the formulation of effective reintegration measures and contribute to the knowledge base in the field of insurgency studies and public administration.

Locale of the Study

The research was carried out within the confines of Tarlac Province. Tarlac, officially known as the Province of Tarlac, is a landlocked province situated in the Central Luzon region of the Philippines. Its

administrative center is the city of Tarlac. Geographically, it is bordered by Pangasinan to the north, Nueva Ecija to the east, Zambales to the west, and Pampanga to the south.

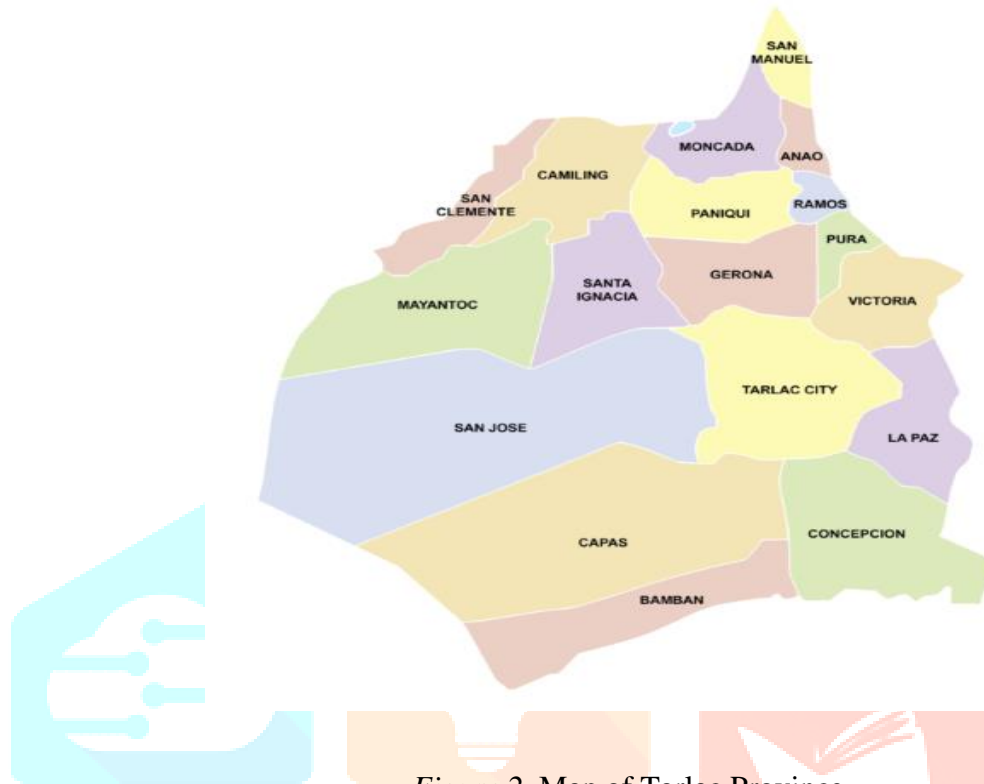


Figure 2. Map of Tarlac Province

Sampling Design

The study employed purposive sampling when selecting participants. This sampling technique is categorized as a non-probability method that involves choosing participants based on specific criteria outlined by the researcher.

Participants of the Study

The rebels referred to in the study are individuals who were formerly associated with insurgent groups operating in the Province of Tarlac. These groups may include organizations such as the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), New People's Army (NPA), and other related revolutionary movements. The participants in the study were specifically former rebels who had chosen to abandon armed struggle and seek reintegration into mainstream society. The Philippine National Police (PNP) and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) were responsible for identifying these former rebels as participants in the study. It is common for security forces to maintain records of individuals who have been involved in armed insurgency activities and have subsequently

surrendered or been apprehended. The decision to focus on thirty (30) former rebels as participants in the study was likely based on factors such as accessibility, willingness to participate, and the need for a manageable sample size for qualitative research. By choosing this group of participants, the researchers sought to gain a comprehensive understanding of the reintegration experiences of former rebels in Tarlac. It is essential to recognize that the term "rebels" is a politically charged one, and the perspectives on these individuals can vary widely. While some may view them as insurgents and terrorists, others may see them as former combatants seeking a path toward reintegration and peace. The study aimed to explore the individual narratives and lived experiences of these former rebels to shed light on the complexities and challenges of the reintegration process and inform policy and support measures to facilitate their transition back into civilian life. Ten (10) officials each bureau was also interviewed from PNP, LGU and Stakeholders (DILG, DSWD, DOLE and TESDA).

The study's participant selection criteria aimed to ensure a comprehensive and informative sample: it included individuals formerly associated with insurgent groups in Tarlac, Philippines, such as CPP and NPA, ensuring firsthand insurgency experience. The focus was on former rebels who voluntarily abandoned armed struggle for reintegration into society, crucial for understanding reintegration complexities. Identification was done by PNP and AFP, who maintain records of those surrendering after insurgency involvement. Thirty former rebels were chosen, considering practical factors, for an in-depth exploration of their experiences. The research aimed for a holistic view of Tarlac's reintegration through officials and stakeholders, interviewing ten each from PNP, LGUs, DILG, DSWD, DOLE, and TESDA. The study's neutral approach acknowledged varied perspectives on "rebels" and aimed to explore individual narratives and challenges, utilizing qualitative methods to delve into personal motivations and outcomes.

Data Gathering Instruments

The researcher employed self-made interview guide as a method in gathering data. The interview guide was designed to enable the validation of the problems raised in the study and to seek their opinion on study. Follow up questions was also conducted with a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) not to divulge the identity of the former rebels.

Data Gathering Procedure

The study was conducted using a qualitative research approach, specifically a case study design. The researcher began by securing permission and approval from the concerned personnel, which likely included the authorities from the Philippine National Police (PNP) and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) who were responsible for identifying the thirty (30) former rebels to be included in the study.

The data collection process involved the administration of a self-made interview guide to the participants. This interview guide was carefully designed to elicit in-depth and rich information about the reintegration experiences of the former rebels. The questions in the guide may have covered topics such as their reasons for joining the insurgency, the challenges they faced during their time as rebels, their decision to surrender or leave the armed group, and their experiences during the reintegration process.

After conducting the interviews, the researcher collected and processed the data from the accomplished interview guides. This likely involved transcribing the interviews, organizing the data, and summarizing the responses given by each participant.

The next step in the process was to analyze the data to identify possible themes that emerged from the participants' narratives. This thematic analysis involved carefully reviewing the data to identify patterns, similarities, and differences in the participants' experiences. The themes that emerged were likely related to various aspects of the reintegration process, such as the challenges faced, the support received, the factors influencing their decision to leave the insurgency, and their aspirations for the future.

Overall, the research was conducted in a systematic and rigorous manner, using qualitative methods to gain a deeper understanding of the experiences of the former rebels. By securing permission, conducting interviews, analyzing data, and presenting the findings, the study aimed to contribute valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities for reintegration in the context of insurgency.

Data Analysis

The researcher employed the approach outlined by Braun and Clarke to conduct Thematic Analysis, following the six sequential steps. These steps included familiarizing oneself with the data, generating initial codes based on commonalities, embarking on an interpretive analysis of the collected codes, reviewing and refining

themes, defining and naming the identified themes, and finally producing the research report. This methodology is versatile and adaptable, making it particularly suitable for novice researchers. Thematic analysis was chosen to address the research questions by extracting themes from participants' narratives, although this approach may involve some loss of individual nuances to emphasize the most significant aspects of the overall data. By using thematic analysis, the researcher was able to organize and decipher the data patterns, leading to insights and answers to the research questions. Themes were constructed from participant responses and discussions with key individuals, enabling the emergence of rich and unforeseen content.

Ethical Consideration

The researcher first sought the approval of proper authorities to conduct the study considering that it involved human participants. Before administering the self-made interview guide, the researcher asked permission from the Provincial Director of Tarlac Police Provincial Office, Chief of Police of the locality where the former rebels reside, Force Commander of Tarlac 1st Provincial Mobile Force Company and Association Presidents where the former rebels belong. Said permission from the officials was done orally and in writing. During administration of the self-made interview guide, the researcher explained to the participants that their participation in the study is voluntary and that they can withdraw from the answering anytime. Due to the sensitivity of the study the researcher offered the participants to be interviewed in discreet but predetermined areas, considering proper COVID-19 protocols and personal security.

The contents of letter of the self-made interview questionnaire was fully informed to the respondents in order to assure them that they knowingly, voluntarily and intelligently consent to the letter. Every interview and taking of pictures and video tapes was conducted upon showing of express consent.

Further, the researcher ensured respect of anonymity and confidentiality by giving each participant and individuals who are identified by the respondents a pseudonym and/or code name, if requested by the respondent or the information given is a sensitive one.



Chapter 3

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS, AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

This chapter presents the findings, analysis, and interpretations of data regarding the current situation of Insurgency in the Province of Tarlac.

1.0. Current situation of insurgency in the Province of Tarlac

The Province of Tarlac, situated in the Philippines, has been no stranger to the challenges posed by insurgency. Insurgent groups, including the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA), have operated within its boundaries, shaping the local social, political, and security landscape. These groups have historically sought to advance their ideologies and objectives through armed struggle, leading to

tensions with government forces and influencing the lives of individuals residing in the province. The persistence of insurgency has prompted efforts to address the root causes, facilitate peace negotiations, and reintegrate former rebels into mainstream society. In the midst of these dynamics, understanding the experiences of former rebels who have chosen to abandon armed struggle and embark on a path of reintegration becomes imperative. This study delves into the selection criteria for participants and aims to explore the multifaceted narratives and lived experiences of these individuals, shedding light on the complexities of their reintegration process and providing insights for policy improvements and support measures. By examining the present insurgency situation in the Province of Tarlac and the unique challenges it presents, this research endeavours to contribute to a deeper understanding of the broader context in which the reintegration efforts are taking place.

Municipality/City	Number of Surrenderee's			
	2019	2020	2021	2022
Anao	0	1	0	0
Bamban	0	4	0	0
Camiling	0	1	0	0
Capas	0	0	0	0
Concepcion	0	0	0	0
Gerona	0	0	0	0
La Paz	0	0	0	0
Mayantoc	3	48	0	0
Moncada	0	2	0	0
Paniqui	0	1	0	0
Pura	0	1	0	0
Ramos	0	2	0	0
San Clemente	0	1	0	0
San Jose	2	61	0	18
San Manuel	0	1	0	0
Sta Ignacia	17	84	0	0
Tarlac	4	105	0	0
Victoria	0	1	0	0
Total	26	313	0	18

In 2019, there were already significant numbers of rebels surrendering to authorities in Tarlac Province. Additionally, in November of the same year, a large group of NPA members from Aurora Province and Nueva Ecija also turned themselves in to the military, which indicates a widespread impact of the government's initiatives.

The activation of Provincial Task Forces on Ending Local Communist Armed Conflict and the declaration of communist terrorist groups as persona non-grata by all provinces in Region 3 demonstrate a united effort to address the insurgency problem at the regional level.

In 2020, the data shows a remarkable increase in the number of former rebels surrendering in Region 3, with 313 New People's Army rebels surrendering and handing over 96 assorted firearms. This significant number of surrenders indicates a decrease in support for the rebel movement and suggests that the government's comprehensive integration program, E-CLIP, is playing a role in encouraging rebels to return to the fold of society.

In 2021 and 2022, the data suggests that the armed insurgents have experienced a decrease in manpower and firearms. This could be attributed to the success of government operations, the reintegration efforts, and the widespread declaration of persona non-grata, which have deterred support for the insurgency. However, the data also reveals that the armed insurgents are still active and are using mobility corridors to evade security forces.

It is evident that the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) program is making strides in addressing the insurgency problem in the region. However, the data also indicates that the armed insurgents are not completely eliminated, and they continue to seek ways to regain strength and exert control in certain areas.

The data showcases the efforts of the government in curbing insurgency and encouraging rebels to surrender and reintegrate into society. It also emphasizes the need for continued vigilance and proactive measures to fully address the insurgency issue in the province of Tarlac and nearby regions. The situation requires a comprehensive and sustained approach, including security operations, reintegration programs, and community engagement, to ensure lasting peace and development in the region.

2.0. Lived experiences of Former Rebels in Tarlac Province

Case 1. “Ka Dalandan”

“Ka Dalandan”, is a 29-year-old married individual with four children. He has completed his education up to high school level. As a family person with multiple dependents, Ka Dalandan's motivations and experiences may be influenced by his responsibilities towards his spouse and children.

Before joining the rebel movement, the individual's primary aspiration was to protect their land from rich individuals who were making claims on it. They sought help from "Ka Marsing," a member of the rebel group, who helped in their fight for land rights. Their initial motivation to join the movement was driven by the desire to safeguard their property and stand up against perceived injustice. Upon joining the movement, the individual became actively involved as a coordinator for Anak Pawis and Alyansang Magbukid in Tarlac. As a coordinator, their role likely involved organizing and mobilizing fellow community members to join the movement's cause. By uniting like-minded individuals, they aimed to exert collective pressure and increase the movement's strength and influence in advocating for their rights.

After spending seventeen years as a member of the rebel group, the individual made the decision to leave the movement. Following their departure, they reintegrated into their former role as a Barangay Kagawad in Barangay San Agustin Gerona, Tarlac. Reintegration may have involved reconnecting with the local community, re-establishing relationships, and resuming their responsibilities within the barangay governance structure. Being involved in a rebel movement for such a significant period likely exposed the individual to physical and psychological challenges. The nature of their engagement with the movement may have subjected them to dangerous situations, risking their safety and well-being. This could have resulted in physical injuries, exhaustion, and trauma. Additionally, the constant state of conflict and violence may have taken a toll on their mental health, leading to stress, anxiety, and emotional distress. Joining a rebel group and participating in armed conflict can have profound social effects on individuals and communities. The clash between the Philippine Army and the NPA in Barangay Santa Ines West and Barangay Sta Ines Centro, Sta Ignacia, Tarlac, where the individual helped NPA members escape, likely disrupted the local community's peace and stability. The loss of lives and the consequences of armed conflict can create divisions and strained relationships among community members.

Reintegrating into society after leaving the movement may have required rebuilding trust and repairing social bonds. After returning to civilian life, the individual received financial assistance and livelihood support from the government. This assistance likely aimed to facilitate their transition and provide economic stability. By investing in farming and receiving additional support for their agricultural activities, they were able to sustain their livelihood and improve their daily life. The government's program played a crucial role in supporting their reintegration efforts and contributing to their overall well-being.

Case 2. “Ka Tulay”

“Ka Tulay”, the participant in this study, is a 39-year-old individual who is happily married and has four children. With a college undergraduate education, Ka Tulay's level of education may have influenced his perspectives and decision-making processes.

Before joining the rebel organization, the individual led a happy life with their family. However, they were motivated to join the movement due to their strong belief in the need for land reform. Their aspiration was to fight for a more equitable distribution of land and address social and economic injustices that they perceived in their community. As a full member of the organization, the individual participated in an act of harassment at Globe in 2005 in Tarlac City. This suggests that their strategies involved engaging in direct actions or confrontations to draw attention to their cause and exert pressure on those they believed were responsible for the perceived injustices.

In 2014, the individual fell ill and their children took care of them, prompting their decision to leave the rebel group. After completely separating from the organization and recovering from their illness, their focus shifted to taking care of their sick child. This period of reintegration likely involved rebuilding family bonds, readjusting to civilian life, and regaining a sense of normalcy. The individual's experience in the rebel organization may have subjected them to physical and psychological effects. Their involvement in acts of harassment suggests exposure to potentially dangerous situations, which could have resulted in physical harm and injuries.

Additionally, the constant state of conflict and the pressures of being part of a rebel group may have contributed to psychological stress, trauma, and emotional strain. Joining a rebel group can have significant social effects on individuals and their families. The decision to leave the organization and prioritize family care indicates

a shift in priorities and a desire to reconnect with loved ones. The individual's faith in God and the support received from the police, local government unit (LGU), and soldiers likely played a crucial role in guiding their reintegration process and regaining trust within their community.

The individual benefited from the government's reintegration program, which provided financial assistance and health benefits. This support helped meet their immediate needs and contributed to their overall well-being. With the assistance received, the individual and their family were able to reintegrate into the community successfully. Their faith in God, coupled with the guidance and support from law enforcement, LGUs, and soldiers, played a vital role in their journey toward reintegration and rebuilding their lives.

Case 3. “Ka Maganda”

“Ka Maganda”, a 31-year-old single individual, is currently living with her parents and aspires to pursue higher education by enrolling in college. Her demographic profile presents a unique perspective on the motivations and opportunities that may have influenced her involvement in the rebel movement and her plans for the future.

Prior to joining the rebel organization, the individual's primary aspiration was to improve their daily life and financial situation. They engaged in selling vegetables in the village as a means to earn more money. The persuasion of "Ka Pugo" led them to join "Anak Pawis," driven by the promise of assistance and an opportunity to enhance their life circumstances. Once they became a full member of the movement, the individual experienced regular visits from "Ka Zandra" and other armed members, lasting for more than three days each time. This suggests that their strategy involved providing shelter and support to fellow members within their own home. Their involvement in hosting and accommodating these visits likely reflected their commitment to the cause and their willingness to contribute resources to support the organization's activities.

Upon leaving the rebel organization, the individual returned to their previous occupation of selling vegetables in the village and growing vegetables in their yard. This process of reintegration involved re-establishing their livelihood and engaging in familiar activities to sustain themselves. They received financial assistance from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) of Gerona, which likely provided additional support to restart their small business. The trust and help of their relatives were also instrumental in

their peaceful reintegration into the community. The individual's experience within the rebel organization had physical and psychological effects. The frequent visits from armed members likely caused increased stress and strain on their resources, leading to food scarcity and financial hardship.

The individual may have experienced physical exhaustion and emotional distress due to the demanding nature of supporting the organization's needs. Joining a rebel group can have significant social effects on individuals and their relationships. The individual's commitment to the organization and hosting fellow members in their home may have affected their social dynamics within the village. Their departure from the organization and subsequent return to their community may have required rebuilding trust and re-establishing connections with their neighbors.

The support of their relatives played a vital role in their reintegration process and contributed to their ability to lead a peaceful life. The individual received financial assistance from the DSWD of Gerona, which they invested in their small business. This support aided them in starting a new life and improving their circumstances. The assistance from the government provided a foundation for their reintegration efforts and offered a source of stability as they rebuilt their livelihood.

Case 4. “Ka Jansport”

“Ka Jansport”, a 42-year-old individual, did not finish elementary education and is currently living on his own. His demographic profile provides valuable insights into the complexities of factors that may have influenced his involvement in the rebel movement and his current circumstances.

The individual's aspiration to join the rebel movement was driven by the desire for land rights and lower land taxes. They saw joining the movement as an opportunity to secure these rights and improve their living conditions. Their decision to join was influenced by the potential benefits they believed would come from being part of the organization. Within the rebel movement, the individual took on the role of a messenger and was responsible for purchasing supplies for the group. This indicates that their strategies involved logistical support and ensuring the smooth functioning of the movement's operations. By fulfilling these tasks, they contributed to the overall functioning and effectiveness of the organization.

After leaving the rebel movement, the individual found happiness and fulfilment in becoming a market vendor, which aligned with their pre-existing livelihood as a means to support themselves and their family.

Additionally, they received various forms of support during their reintegration process, including medical assistance, a livelihood program, housing, and free education through TESDA. These resources played a crucial role in rebuilding their life and reintegrating into society. The individual's experience within the rebel movement may have had physical and psychological effects. The difficulties they faced within the organization, coupled with unfulfilled promises of help, likely caused emotional distress, frustration, and disappointment.

However, after leaving the movement and receiving support through various programs, their physical and psychological well-being may have improved, leading to a restoration of morale and dignity. Joining a rebel group can have social effects on individuals and their relationships. The individual's decision to leave the movement and reintegrate into society as a market vendor allowed them to resume their previous social roles and interact with the community. The support provided through medical assistance, housing, and education likely contributed to their ability to regain social stability and support their family in a dignified manner. The individual benefited from various government programs, including medical assistance, a livelihood program, housing, and free education through TESDA.

This comprehensive support system facilitated their reintegration and provided them with the necessary resources to rebuild their life. Trusting in and utilizing these programs played a vital role in restoring their morale and dignity, allowing them to move forward in a positive and dignified manner.

Case 5. “Ka Gin”

“Ka Gin”, a 57-year-old individual, is living on his own without any family members, and he did not have the opportunity to receive formal education. His demographic profile offers valuable insights into the challenges and circumstances that may have influenced his life journey and involvement in the rebel movement.

Before joining the rebel movement, the individual led a simple life as a peddler. They were encouraged to join the movement due to their aspirations for land reform and proper taxation. Their involvement in the movement reflected their desire to advocate for these issues and bring about positive change in their community. As a full

member of the movement, the individual participated in launching rallies from 1996 to 2002. This suggests that their strategies involved peaceful protests and collective action to raise awareness about land reform and proper taxation. By organizing and participating in these rallies, they aimed to mobilize support and put pressure on authorities to address the issues at hand. The individual decided to leave the rebel movement due to financial constraints and the inability to adequately support their family.

After leaving, they focused on growing vegetables and taking care of livestock as a means to sustain their livelihood. This process of reintegration involved transitioning back to their previous occupation and engaging in activities that could provide for their family's needs. The individual's involvement in the rebel movement may have had physical and psychological effects. The demanding nature of participating in rallies and potentially encountering conflicts or confrontations could have caused physical strain and exhaustion. Additionally, the decision to leave the movement and the associated financial difficulties may have caused stress, anxiety, and feelings of responsibility towards their family's well-being. Joining a rebel group can have significant social effects on individuals and their relationships. The individual's departure from the movement allowed them to focus on rebuilding their life and re-establishing connections within their community.

The support and guidance provided by the local government played a crucial role in facilitating their reintegration process and regaining trust and confidence in returning to the community. The individual benefited from government reintegration programs such as the "Payapa and Masaganang Pamayanan Project" and government housing. These programs provided support and resources to improve their living conditions and reintegrate into society. The implementation of these initiatives helped enhance the individual's life and instilled hope in those who, like them, have returned from the rebel movement. The assistance and guidance from the local government contributed to the restoration of their trust and confidence in returning to their community.

Case 6. "Ka Rebisco"

"Ka Rebisco", a single 34-year-old individual with a high school undergraduate education, represents a unique demographic profile among the participants in the study. His age and educational background can offer valuable insights into the factors that may have influenced his involvement in the rebel movement and his subsequent reintegration into society.

The individual initially had a peaceful life as a DENR tree planter. However, their aspiration to join the rebel movement stemmed from government officials grabbing their land. They saw joining the movement as a means to protect their land rights and address the injustices they perceived. As a member of the rebel movement, the individual engaged in the construction of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) using blasting caps and batteries. Their strategies involved participating in activities aimed at challenging and opposing the government officials who were encroaching on their land. By making and potentially using these IEDs, they sought to draw attention to their cause and resist the perceived injustices.

Upon leaving the rebel organization, the individual's primary concern shifted towards taking care of their children and pets. This indicates that their focus during the reintegration process was on re-establishing stability and providing a nurturing environment for their family. They chose to relocate from their previous place of residence to distance themselves from the troubles associated with the movement. The individual's involvement in constructing IEDs and participating in the struggle may have subjected them to physical and psychological effects. The process of making explosive devices can be hazardous and dangerous, potentially leading to physical harm or injury.

Additionally, the constant state of struggle and conflict within the movement may have caused psychological stress, trauma, and emotional strain. Joining a rebel group can have significant social effects on individuals and their relationships. The individual's decision to leave the organization and prioritize the care of their children and pets reflects their commitment to their immediate family. Relocating to a new place of residence suggests a desire to distance themselves from the troubles associated with the movement and seek a fresh start in a different social context. The individual received reintegration programs from the government, including financial assistance, aid, and benefits in government facilities. These programs aimed to help them start a new life and rebuild their circumstances. The support received through these initiatives contributed to their ability to transition out of the rebel organization and provided them with the necessary resources to reintegrate into society.

Case 7. “Ka Belong”

“Ka Belong”, a 24-year-old single individual living with relatives and a 4th-year high school graduate, represents an important demographic in the study of former rebels. His age and educational background provide valuable insights into the factors that may have influenced his decision to join the rebel movement and his experiences during reintegration into society.

The individual's aspiration to join the rebel movement was influenced by their relatives who were already members of the organization. This familial connection likely played a role in shaping their beliefs and motivations for joining. Their decision to become involved in the movement was driven by a desire to support the cause and potentially enact violence against members of the government. Within the rebel movement, the individual presented themselves to obtain a gun and carry out an act of violence against a government official. This indicates that their strategies involved engaging in acts of targeted aggression or assassination as a means to further the objectives of the organization. By participating in such activities, they aimed to challenge the government's authority and contribute to the overall goals of the movement.

The individual chose to leave the rebel organization due to the increasing hardships they faced and the suffering endured by their family. After leaving, they experienced a gradual deterioration in their physical condition, to the point where they could no longer walk. This suggests that the reintegration process was accompanied by physical health challenges, potentially resulting from the strain and stress of their previous involvement in the movement. The individual's participation in the rebel movement likely had physical and psychological effects. The physical deterioration they experienced after leaving the organization may have been a consequence of the hardships endured during their time in the movement.

Additionally, the emotional toll of engaging in acts of violence and witnessing the suffering of their family could have resulted in psychological distress, trauma, and feelings of regret or guilt. Joining a rebel group can have profound social effects on individuals and their relationships. The individual's decision to leave the movement and prioritize the well-being of their family reflects a shift in their social priorities. The protection provided by the Philippine National Police (PNP) suggests that they may have cooperated with law enforcement in the aftermath of leaving the organization, potentially as part of a reintegration process or for their own safety. The individual

received government support through various programs, including free education for their children and financial assistance. These programs aimed to alleviate the challenges faced by the individual and their family, providing opportunities for education and financial stability. Additionally, the assistance and protection offered by the PNP further contributed to their reintegration and overall well-being.

Case 8. “Ka Vision”

“Ka Vision”, a 49-year-old individual who did not take formal education, is married and has seven children, represents an important demographic in the study of former rebels. His age, educational background, and family size provide valuable insights into the complexities of his experiences and the factors that may have influenced his involvement in the rebel movement.

The individual's initial aspiration was to lead a simple life as a farmer and charcoal maker, providing for their family's needs. However, due to the difficulties they faced, such as limited opportunities and the struggle to make ends meet, they felt compelled to join the rebel movement. Their aspirations shifted towards advocating for land reform and obtaining their own piece of land, believing that joining the movement would help achieve these goals. Within the rebel movement, the individual became the right-hand person of "Ka Atong" and took on the role of a trainer for new members. Their strategies involved training and preparing others to participate in the movement's activities. They also engaged in direct confrontation, fighting alongside the movement and government troops, which suggests their involvement in armed conflicts.

In 2006, the individual made the difficult decision to leave the rebel organization. They did so to protect their whole family from suffering and because they realized that there was no truth in the cause they were fighting for. After leaving, they returned to their previous occupation as a farmer and started growing ginger at night to provide for their family's needs. This process of reintegration involved a return to their former way of life and finding ways to sustain their family's well-being. The individual's involvement in armed conflicts and the hardships endured while participating in the movement may have had physical and psychological effects. Exposure to violence and the stress of living in a high-risk environment could have resulted in physical injuries and psychological trauma.

Additionally, the process of leaving the movement and adjusting to a new life may have caused emotional challenges and a sense of disillusionment. Joining a rebel group can have significant social

effects on individuals and their relationships. The individual's decision to leave the movement and prioritize their family's well-being reflects a shift in their social priorities. Their return to the community indicates a desire to reintegrate into society and rebuild connections with their neighbors and community members. The individual received government support in the form of financial assistance, free education for their children, and access to medical and health services.

These programs aimed to address the grievances and challenges faced by the individual and their family. The trust given to them by the local government to change and return to the community indicates that they were provided with the necessary support and guidance to rebuild their lives and reintegrate into society.

Case 9. “Ka America”

“Ka America”, a 40-year-old individual with no formal education, is married and has four children. His unique demographic profile sheds light on the diverse backgrounds and circumstances of former rebels, providing valuable insights into the factors that may have influenced his involvement in the movement and his journey toward reintegration.

The individual's initial aspiration was to benefit from land reform, which motivated them to join the rebel movement. The promise of obtaining their own land appealed to their desire for a more secure and prosperous future. However, it's important to note that resorting to stealing chickens suggests a desperate measure to address immediate needs, which may have influenced their decision to join the movement. Within the rebel movement, the individual engaged in acts of theft, specifically stealing chickens from farms in Sta. Ignacia, Tarlac. This indicates that their strategies included engaging in illegal activities to support the movement and provide for their own needs.

Additionally, their involvement in a battle against soldiers in 1999 suggests a willingness to use violence as a means to advance the movement's objectives. After leaving the movement, the individual returned to farming and selling vegetables as their primary occupation. This signifies a process of reintegration into their previous way of life and seeking stability through legitimate means. By resuming their pre-movement activities, they aimed to rebuild their livelihood and regain a sense of normalcy in their daily life. The individual's experience in the rebel

movement, including engaging in theft and participating in battles, may have had physical and psychological effects.

The harsh living conditions in the mountains, coupled with the hardships faced during their time in the movement, could have resulted in physical strain and injuries. Moreover, the psychological impact of participating in illegal activities and engaging in armed conflicts may have caused stress, trauma, and emotional distress. Joining a rebel group can have significant social effects on individuals and their relationships. The individual's decision to leave the movement and return to their previous occupation suggests a desire to reintegrate into the community. By rebuilding their farming and vegetable-selling activities, they aimed to reconnect with their neighbors and rebuild trust within their social networks.

The individual received assistance from the government, including the opportunity to send their children for formal education and benefits. This support played a crucial role in their reintegration process by providing opportunities for their children's education and additional benefits to improve their family's well-being. The individual expresses gratitude for the sincerity of the government's assistance and acknowledges the role of faith in their journey toward stability and trust.

Case 10. “Ka Gregory”

“Ka Gregory”, a 37-year-old individual, is married and has two children. His demographic profile reveals a unique perspective on former rebels, offering valuable insights into the factors that may have influenced his involvement in the movement and his potential for successful reintegration.

The individual's aspiration before joining the organization was to have a peaceful life and support the poor and farmers. They were persuaded to join the movement based on the promise of assistance for those in need. Their initial aspiration aligned with the goal of creating a more equitable society and improving the lives of marginalized individuals. As a member of the organization, the individual resorted to stealing chickens from poultry farms. This indicates that they engaged in illegal activities to support the movement or to address immediate needs. The specific strategy of stealing chickens may have been chosen to provide food for themselves and other members.

After leaving the organization, the individual shifted their focus towards finding stable employment. They became a bus driver and later a construction worker. This signifies their reintegration into society through lawful means of earning a living. By transitioning into these new occupations, they aimed to rebuild their life and distance themselves from the activities of the rebel movement. Engaging in illegal activities and being a part of a rebel group can have physical and psychological effects. The individual may have experienced heightened stress and anxiety due to the constant risk of conflict and engaging in unlawful actions. Leaving the organization and pursuing legal means of livelihood may have brought a sense of relief, but they may still carry emotional burdens associated with their past involvement. Joining a rebel group can significantly impact an individual's social relationships. The individual's decision to leave the organization and reintegrate into society suggests a desire to rebuild connections and live a peaceful life.

The support provided by the soldiers and police likely played a role in guiding the individual towards enlightenment and facilitating their social reintegration. The individual received assistance from the government in the form of financial aid and services. This support helped them transition back into civilian life and regain their freedom. The involvement of the soldiers and police in the individual's journey suggests that they played a role in providing guidance and support during the reintegration process. The assistance received from the government and the presence of law enforcement agencies helped the individual and their family find stability and enlightenment.

Case 11. “Ka Line”

The individual's aspiration before joining the organization was to care for their children and ensure their well-being. They were encouraged to join the movement due to the fight for farmland, indicating a desire for land rights and security for themselves and their community. Their aspiration was rooted in seeking justice and a better future for their family and fellow farmers. As a full member of the movement, the individual allowed their house to be used as a storage place for the organization's weapons. This suggests their involvement in supporting the movement's operations by providing a secure location for their resources. Their strategy was to contribute to the cause through facilitating the logistical needs of the organization.

After leaving the organization, the individual found employment as a seamstress in a company. This indicates their successful reintegration into the workforce and society through legitimate means. By pursuing a

stable job, they aimed to rebuild their life and provide for their family. This transition signifies a shift towards a peaceful and productive life outside of the movement. Joining a rebel group and engaging in activities related to armed conflict can have physical and psychological effects on individuals. The individual may have experienced heightened stress and anxiety during their involvement in the movement.

Leaving the organization and transitioning to a peaceful life as a seamstress may have brought a sense of relief and reduced the physical and psychological burdens associated with the movement. The individual's decision to leave the organization and reintegrate into society signifies a desire to rebuild social connections and live a normal life. Trust, love, and guidance from the community, as well as support from the government through programs like E-Clip and assistance from local government units (LUG) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DWSD), played a crucial role in their successful reintegration. These supports facilitated their return to the community and helped them regain a sense of belonging and freedom as citizens. The government aided the individual through programs such as E-Clip (Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program) and aid from LUG and DWSD. These programs aimed to help former rebels reintegrate into society by providing financial and social support. The individual's appreciation for this aid suggests that it played a significant role in their successful reintegration and helped them feel supported and valued by the government and their community.

Case 12. “Ka Mahal”

The individual's aspiration before joining the organization was to have a stable income and secure farmland. They were encouraged by the promise of a monthly salary of one thousand pesos and the distribution of farm land. Their aspiration was to improve their financial situation and secure a sustainable livelihood for themselves and their family. As a member of the organization, the individual participated in battles on the side of the government in various areas in Luzon, specifically mentioning the battle in Botolan, Zambales. Their strategy was to actively engage in armed conflict to support the government's efforts. This suggests their involvement in military operations as a means of achieving their goals and contributing to the cause.

After leaving the organization, the individual returned to farming on their relative's land and cultivated a variety of vegetables to provide food for their family. This indicates their successful reintegration into their former occupation and the pursuit of a sustainable livelihood. By going back to farming, they aimed to rebuild their life and ensure their family's well-being. Joining and participating in armed conflict as a rebel group member can have significant physical and psychological effects on individuals. The individual may have experienced the hardships and challenges of being involved in battles and living in a confined and restricted environment. Leaving the organization and returning to farming may have brought relief from the physical and psychological stresses associated with the movement, allowing them to focus on rebuilding their life in a peaceful setting. The individual's decision to leave the organization and reintegrate into society signifies their desire for a peaceful and orderly life.

They mentioned the restoration of trust in the community, indicating the importance of social support in their successful reintegration. The help provided by the police and the army contributed to their sense of security and facilitated their reintegration process. The government provided reintegration programs such as the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP), free housing, and benefits for health and education for the individual and their family. These programs aimed to support their transition back into society and improve their overall well-being. The individual's appreciation for these programs suggests that they played a significant role in their reintegration process and inspired them to strive for an improved lifestyle.

Case 13. “Ka Lina”

The individual's aspiration before joining the organization was to participate in land reform, which indicates a desire for a fair distribution of land resources. They were encouraged by their husband to join, as they believed that this movement would bring about positive changes for their family and the community. Their aspiration was to contribute to the cause of land reform and improve their family's living conditions. As full members of the organization, the individual and their husband served as assistants to expedite the work of the movement. Their strategy was to support the movement's activities and assist in any way possible to advance the cause they believed in. This suggests their dedication to the movement's goals and their willingness to contribute through their efforts.

Upon leaving the organization, the individual focused on supporting their husband in farming and animal care. This indicates their successful reintegration into their role as a housewife and their commitment to building a stable and nurturing environment for their family. By returning to their domestic responsibilities, they aimed to prioritize their family's well-being and create a supportive environment. Joining a rebel organization and later leaving can have physical and psychological effects on individuals. The individual may have experienced stress, neglect, and strain on their family relationships while being part of the organization. Leaving the movement and refocusing on family and domestic responsibilities may have brought relief and allowed for the healing of any emotional and psychological impacts. The individual's decision to leave the organization indicates their prioritization of their family's needs and well-being. Their departure may have had social effects as they re-established connections with their community and integrated back into the social fabric. They may have sought support from family members, friends, and the community to rebuild their lives and reintegrate into society.

The reintegration programs provided by the government, such as the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP), financial assistance, and job offers, played a vital role in their reintegration process. These programs aimed to provide support, resources, and opportunities for individuals and their families to regain stability and improve their circumstances. The individual's appreciation for these programs and their reliance on faith in God indicate their resilience and determination to overcome life's challenges with the support received.

Case 14. "Ka Pass"

The individual's aspiration before joining the movement was driven by their belief in the importance of land reform and the need for security. They desired a fair distribution of land resources and sought a sense of safety and stability for themselves and their community. Joining the movement was seen as a way to achieve these aspirations. As a full member of the movement, the individual took on the role of a medic and was responsible for holding and distributing medicine. Their strategy was to contribute their skills and knowledge in healthcare to support the movement's activities. By serving as a medic, they aimed to provide care and assistance to fellow members and ensure their well-being during their engagement in the movement.

Upon leaving the organization, the individual returned to their previous occupation as a farmer, specifically growing vegetables and guarding their boss's property. This indicates their successful reintegration into their

previous role and responsibilities within the community. By resuming their farming activities and taking on additional responsibilities, they aimed to support themselves and contribute to the local economy. Being involved in a rebel organization and subsequently leaving can have physical and psychological effects on individuals. The individual may have experienced challenges and hardships during their time with the movement, which contributed to their decision to leave.

The difficulties they encountered may have had physical and emotional impacts on their well-being. Returning to their previous occupation and engaging in activities aligned with their values may have brought a sense of relief and stability. Leaving the organization allowed the individual to reintegrate into the community. By returning to their farming activities and assuming the role of guarding their boss's property, they regained their place within the social fabric of the community. Their actions demonstrate their willingness to contribute and be an active member of society.

The reintegration programs provided by the government, such as the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) and initial government aid, played a crucial role in the individual's reintegration process. These programs aimed to provide support, resources, and opportunities for individuals transitioning back to civilian life. The individual's appreciation for the government's true promises and their commitment to working hard and supporting the government reflect their gratitude and determination to rebuild their lives with the assistance received. Additionally, the individual's mention of coming closer to God highlights the role of faith in their journey of strength and resilience.

Case 15. “Ka Manual”

The individual's aspiration before joining the movement was driven by the desire for protection against oppressors and seeking the NPA's help in addressing issues related to proper taxes for the poor. They hoped that by joining the movement, they could find support and bring about positive change for themselves and others in similar situations. As a member of the movement, the individual took on the role of a purchaser, responsible for acquiring equipment and supplies needed by the movement. Their strategy was to contribute their skills in procurement to support the movement's operations and ensure that necessary resources were available.

Upon leaving the organization, the individual returned to their previous occupation as a farmer and engaged in selling vegetable products. This signifies their successful reintegration into their previous livelihood and economic activities. By resuming their farming and business endeavors, they aimed to sustain themselves and contribute to the local economy. Joining and subsequently leaving a rebel organization can have physical and psychological effects on individuals. The individual may have experienced hardships, challenges, and potentially dangerous situations during their involvement with the movement. These experiences could have had physical and emotional impacts on their well-being.

Returning to familiar activities and pursuing their livelihood may have provided a sense of stability and a chance to rebuild their lives. By re-joining the community as a farmer and vegetable seller, the individual reintegrated into the social fabric of their community. Their engagement in economic activities and contribution to the local economy helped establish connections and strengthen their social ties. Accepting their past mistakes and demonstrating support for the government may have contributed to rebuilding trust and fostering positive social relationships.

The individual benefited from reintegration programs provided by the government, such as the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP), as well as assistance from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the local government unit (LGU). These programs aimed to provide support, resources, and opportunities for individuals transitioning back to civilian life. The individual's appreciation for this support and their willingness to accept their mistakes and support the government reflects their commitment to rebuilding their lives and contributing to the development of their community.

Case 16. “Ka Palm”

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel organization was driven by a dissatisfaction with the corruption and unfair treatment faced by farmers in the existing government system. They desired a more just and equitable society that would protect the rights of farmers and address the systemic issues they faced. Within the organization, the individual served as an observer and custodian of weapons and materials belonging to the NPA. Their role involved monitoring activities and ensuring the safekeeping of essential resources. This strategy aimed to support the movement's objectives and contribute to their cause. After leaving the organization, the individual

chose to resume farming and actively sought a decent job. This signifies their successful reintegration into their previous livelihood as a farmer while also seeking additional employment opportunities. By engaging in these activities, they aimed to rebuild their life and secure a better future for themselves and their family. Joining and leaving a rebel organization can have physical and psychological effects on individuals. The individual may have experienced stress, fear, and hardships during their involvement in the movement.

Upon leaving, they may have felt a sense of relief and a desire to protect their family from the difficulties associated with their previous life. Rebuilding their life through farming and finding employment likely brought a sense of stability and contributed to their overall well-being. The individual's decision to return to farming and seek a decent job allowed them to reintegrate into the social fabric of their community. By actively engaging in economic activities and seeking employment, they were able to establish connections and strengthen their social ties. The community's trust and support likely returned as they witnessed the individual's commitment to rebuilding their life and contributing positively to society.

The individual received aid from the local government, including medical and financial assistance provided through programs such as the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP). These government programs aimed to provide support and resources for individuals transitioning back to civilian life. The assistance received helped address their needs and improved their quality of life. It also played a crucial role in restoring their faith in the government and the community's trust in them as they actively participated in rebuilding their life.

Case 17. “Ka Boy”

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel organization was driven by a desire for land reforms, indicating their hope for a fair and just distribution of land resources. They sought a better life with improved living conditions through the implementation of these reforms. As a full member of the movement, the individual served as a runner, assisting the NPA in their operations and activities. Runners often play a crucial role in speeding up communication and logistics within the organization, contributing to the overall efficiency of their efforts.

Upon leaving the organization, the individual decided to pursue a job as a construction laborer. This choice indicates their successful reintegration into civilian life by seeking employment in a different field. The decision

to find legal employment shows their commitment to a peaceful and lawful way of life after disengaging from the rebel movement. Joining and leaving a rebel organization can have various physical and psychological effects on individuals. During their time with the movement, they might have experienced stress, danger, and uncertainty, which could have taken a toll on their mental and emotional well-being. Upon leaving, they may have felt a sense of disillusionment with the lack of change in their life, but finding legal employment and receiving government assistance likely brought some relief and stability.

After leaving the rebel organization, the individual's reintegration into society as a construction laborer would have allowed them to interact with new social circles and build connections with coworkers and community members. Their decision to pursue legal employment and receive government assistance likely contributed positively to their standing within the community.

Case 18. “Ka Adan”

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel movement was driven by their desire for land reform, indicating their hope for a fair distribution of land resources. They believed that joining the movement would bring about positive changes in their life and the lives of fellow farmers. As a full member of the movement, the individual served as a purchaser of food and supplies, which suggests their involvement in logistical support for the organization. This role likely involved acquiring necessary resources for the movement's operations and activities.

Upon leaving the movement, the individual decided to return to farming and carpentry. This choice indicates their successful reintegration into civilian life by engaging in legitimate livelihood activities. By resuming their previous occupations, they aim to rebuild their life and support their family through honest means. Joining and leaving a rebel organization can have physical and psychological effects on individuals. The challenges and difficulties experienced during their time with the movement may have caused stress, anxiety, and uncertainty. However, returning to their familiar occupations and pursuing a peaceful life may have alleviated some of these effects and brought a sense of stability and normalcy.

The individual's return to the community as a farmer and carpenter would likely reintegrate them into their social networks and allow them to rebuild relationships with neighbors, friends, and fellow community members. Their decision to pursue legitimate livelihood activities would contribute to their social standing and acceptance within the community. The individual received support from the government through the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) and access to medical and financial services. These programs aim to assist former rebels in their reintegration process by providing necessary resources and support. The provision of medical and financial services ensures their well-being and aids in rebuilding their lives after leaving the movement. The individual attributes their ability to return to the community and overcome the challenges they faced to the love and support of their family, as well as the guidance and help of the Lord. Faith and familial bonds play a significant role in their resilience and motivation to rebuild their life in a positive and lawful manner.

Case 19. "Ka May"

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel group was driven by the hope of gaining land rights and expecting an increase in rice prices. Land reform would have provided them with the opportunity to own and cultivate their own farmland, while higher rice prices could have potentially improved their economic situation as farmers. As a full member of the movement, the individual engaged in illegal activities such as stealing supplies from rice mills, chicken, and pork farms. They also served as a messenger involved in extortion, targeting money from establishments. These actions suggest their involvement in providing resources and financial support for the rebel group's activities. The decision to leave the organization and return to farming and trading in the junkshop indicates their attempt at reintegration into society.

By pursuing legal livelihood activities, the individual seeks to distance themselves from the criminal activities associated with the rebel group. Being involved in illegal activities and living in hiding from the law likely took a toll on the individual's physical and psychological well-being. The stress of constantly evading law enforcement and the dangers associated with engaging in criminal actions could have led to feelings of fear, anxiety, and emotional strain. Leaving the rebel group and returning to legal activities would allow the individual to re-establish their social connections within the community.

By abandoning criminal behavior, they have a chance to rebuild trust and credibility among their fellow community members. The individual benefits from the government's Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP), financial assistance, and other benefits. These programs aim to help former rebels reintegrate into society by providing them with necessary support, which can contribute to their well-being and successful reintegration. The individual expresses expectations for daily support, likely referring to the assistance they receive from the government and the hope for a better life. Additionally, the support from fellow citizens and community members plays a crucial role in their successful return to the community. Acceptance and trust from the community can facilitate their reintegration process and aid in their journey towards a peaceful and lawful life.

Case 20. "Ka Armel"

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel group was fueled by the promise of land ownership, which would have provided them with a means of stability and prosperity. The hope of acquiring land through the struggle motivated their involvement in the movement. As a full member of the organization, the individual participated in battles against soldiers and police in the Tarlac and Zambales areas. Their involvement in armed conflict suggests their commitment to the movement's goals and their active role in the struggle. The decision to leave the organization and return to farming and trading indicates their attempt at reintegration into society.

By pursuing legal and peaceful means of livelihood, the individual seeks to distance themselves from the violence and hardships associated with the rebel group. Engaging in armed conflicts and enduring the hardships of life as a rebel member can have significant physical and psychological effects. The individual may have experienced physical injuries, trauma, and emotional stress due to their involvement in battles and the constant struggle for their cause. Leaving the rebel group and reintegrating into society provides the opportunity to rebuild social connections.

By returning to farming and trading, the individual can re-establish relationships within their community and regain trust and acceptance. The individual benefits from the government's Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) and surrender compensation, which aim to assist former rebels in reintegrating into society. These programs provide financial support and resources to help them start a new life outside of the rebel organization. The support and guidance provided by the police and soldiers play a crucial role in helping the

individual reintegrate into the community. Their assistance ensures a safe and peaceful transition, and they serve as mentors and allies in the process of rebuilding a peaceful environment.

The individual's decision to leave the rebel group, return to farming and trading, and seek assistance from the government reflects their desire for stability, peace, and a new beginning. The support received from the government, as well as the guidance from the police and soldiers, contribute to their journey of reintegration and the restoration of peace within their community.

Case 21. “Ka Joni”

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel group was driven by the desire for land reform, hoping to improve their socio-economic conditions. They believed that the movement would bring about positive changes and address the issue of land ownership. As a full member of the organization, the individual served as a revolutionary tax collector. This role involved collecting funds to support the activities and goals of the movement, suggesting their active participation in the organization's financial strategies.

The individual's decision to leave the movement indicates their attempt at reintegration into society. They recognized that the promises made by the organization were not fulfilled and saw no tangible changes being achieved. By transitioning to a different occupation, such as working as a porter, they sought a new path that aligned with their goals for a better life. Engaging in activities as a rebel member, such as collecting taxes, may have exposed the individual to physical risks and potential dangers. They may have experienced psychological stress and disillusionment when realizing that the movement did not deliver on its promises.

Returning to the community after leaving the rebel group allowed the individual to reconnect with their social networks. The support and guidance of their family played a crucial role in their reintegration process, providing emotional stability and a sense of belonging. The individual received financial assistance from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), which provided hope for a better future. This support from the government allowed them to pursue a different occupation and rebuild their life outside the movement. The love and guidance received from their family were essential factors in the individual's journey of reintegration.

It provided them with emotional strength, encouragement, and a sense of purpose, enabling them to reintegrate successfully into the community.

The individual's decision to leave the rebel group and pursue a different occupation reflects their realization that the promised changes were not materializing. With the support of the government and their family, they were able to rebuild their life and reintegrate into society. Their experience highlights the importance of realistic aspirations, critical evaluation of movements, and the support network for successful reintegration.

Case 22. “Ka San Miguel”

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel movement was driven by the desire for protection against oppressive forces and the hope for more favorable taxation policies on their lands. They sought a sense of security and fairness in their socio-economic circumstances. Within the movement, the individual served as a messenger and a helper to expedite the organization's activities. Additionally, they took on the role of a purchaser, responsible for procuring food supplies for the movement. These roles demonstrate their active involvement in the logistical and operational aspects of the group.

The individual's decision to leave the movement signifies their attempt at reintegration into society. They experienced disillusionment when the movement failed to fulfil its promises. By returning to farming, they sought a familiar occupation and a way to sustain themselves and their family. During their time in the movement, the individual may have faced physical risks and dangers associated with being a messenger or a helper in a conflict situation. The experience of disillusionment upon realizing the unfulfilled promises could have had a psychological impact, causing feelings of disappointment and loss of trust.

Reintegrating into the community allowed the individual to reconnect with their social networks. The guidance and support provided by the police, Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the Local Government Unit (LGU) played a vital role in their journey back to the community. This support network facilitated their emotional healing and helped them regain a sense of belonging. Through the government's Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) and financial assistance, the individual received

aid to rebuild their life after leaving the movement. This support from the government was instrumental in their reintegration process, enabling them to establish stability and pursue a better future.

The support and guidance from their family were significant factors in the individual's successful reintegration. Their family's strength and unity provided a sense of belonging and emotional stability, reinforcing their determination to overcome the challenges they faced. The individual's decision to leave the movement was driven by unfulfilled promises and a desire for a better life. Through reintegration efforts, including returning to farming and receiving support from the government and their family, they were able to rebuild their life and reintegrate into the community. Their experience highlights the importance of realistic expectations, critical evaluation of movements, and the support of social networks for successful reintegration.

Case 23. "Ka Aray"

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel movement stemmed from their desire for land reform, which could potentially improve their socio-economic situation. They sought better opportunities and a more secure future for themselves and their family. Within the movement, the individual took on the role of a pick-up and drop-off service, indicating their involvement in logistics and transportation. This role likely involved facilitating the movement's activities and ensuring the smooth operation of its members. The individual's decision to leave the organization was driven by concerns for their family's safety and well-being.

The dangers associated with their involvement in the movement prompted them to prioritize the security and welfare of their loved ones. Upon leaving, they returned to their previous occupations of farming and carpentry, seeking stability and familiar work. As a member of the rebel movement, the individual may have faced physical risks and potential dangers associated with their role in logistics. These risks could have had both short-term and long-term physical and psychological effects, including stress, anxiety, and trauma. The individual's reintegration into the community was facilitated by the support and love of their family, who likely provided them with emotional and moral support during their transition.

Additionally, the government's assistance played a role in their successful return to the community, indicating the importance of social networks and supportive institutions in the reintegration process. Although the individual turned down the decent job offers provided by the government, the fact that such opportunities were available showcases the efforts made to reintegrate former rebel members into society. The government's willingness to provide employment options demonstrates their commitment to supporting individuals seeking to rebuild their lives. The love and support of the individual's family were instrumental in their reintegration process. Their family's understanding, encouragement, and unity provided a sense of stability, helping the individual navigate the challenges they faced.

The individual's decision to leave the rebel organization was motivated by concerns for their family's safety and well-being. Through reintegration efforts, including returning to their previous occupations and receiving support from their family and the government, they were able to rebuild their life and reintegrate into the community. Their experience highlights the significance of family support, safety considerations, and the availability of resources and opportunities for successful reintegration.

Case 24. "Ka Jesy"

The individual's initial aspiration before joining the rebel organization was to sustain their daily life through farming as a member of the "Abelling Tribes" in Capas, Tarlac. Their main focus was likely on securing enough resources to support themselves and their family. After joining the rebel organization, the individual became involved in activities that included participating in the killing of a civilian. This suggests their engagement in violent actions as directed by the organization's objectives. The specific roles and strategies they employed within the organization are not mentioned in the provided information.

The decision to leave the rebel organization was driven by two main factors. Firstly, the individual was concerned about the potential involvement of their family in the dangerous activities they were engaged in. Secondly, the fear of losing their life likely played a significant role in their choice to leave the organization. Following their departure, they reintegrated into their community and returned to farming alongside their wife and children. The individual may have experienced physical and psychological effects resulting from their involvement

in violent actions and the killing of a civilian. These effects could include guilt, trauma, and potential legal consequences.

Reintegrating into the community allowed the individual to rebuild their life alongside their family. The support and protection provided by the government, including financial assistance and free education for their children, contributed to their satisfaction and facilitated their return to a simpler and more peaceful life. The individual expressed contentment with the government programs that were extended to them and their family.

The provided assistance, such as financial aid and free education, played a crucial role in ensuring their well-being and enabling them to transition back into a peaceful life. The individual's concern for their family's involvement and safety influenced their decision to leave the rebel organization. Returning to farming with their wife and children allowed them to prioritize their family's welfare and create a sense of stability. The individual's experience demonstrates the complex process of leaving a rebel organization and reintegrating into society. Their motivations for departure centered on protecting their family and their own survival. With the support of government programs and their family, they were able to rebuild their life and live without fear, emphasizing the importance of stability, protection, and community reintegration in the journey towards a peaceful and secure existence.

Case 25. “Ka Wowowin”

Before joining the rebel organization, the individual's aspiration was centered around their farming and cattle breeding activities in their community. Their desire was to have their own land and achieve a more abundant life. The individual was persuaded to join the movement by "Ka Omar" in 2002. Once they became a member, they were involved in various activities such as recruiting potential members and undergoing training with the NPA. These strategies were aimed at furthering the goals and objectives of the organization.

The individual's decision to leave the movement was influenced by the death of their friend "Ka Omar" during an encounter. This traumatic event likely had both physical and psychological effects on the individual, leading to fear and a desire to disassociate from the movement. After leaving the organization, the individual

returned to their previous occupation of farming and cattle breeding in their community. This indicates their effort to reintegrate into their familiar environment and resume their previous way of life. The support and encouragement received from family members and relatives played a significant role in the individual's reintegration process. Their support provided a strong foundation for the individual to rebuild their life and regain a sense of belonging. The government provided financial assistance and livelihood support to help the individual start a small business.

Additionally, educational assistance was given to support the education of their children. This support from the government helped the individual and their family in their post-movement life, enabling them to improve their economic prospects and invest in their children's education. The individual's family and relatives played a crucial role in their journey. Their support and belief in the individual's ability to rebuild their life after leaving the organization served as a source of strength and motivation. The individual's experience showcases the impact of persuasion, the desire for a better life, and the eventual realization that the movement was not aligned with their goals and values. Their decision to leave, along with the support of their family, enabled them to reintegrate into their community and pursue their previous livelihood activities. The assistance provided by the government further facilitated their reintegration process, allowing them to rebuild their life and secure a brighter future for themselves and their family.

Case 26. “Ka Mercury”

Before joining the rebel organization, the individual's aspiration was focused on their academic pursuits as a student in Bangued, Abra. They actively participated in school organizations, indicating a desire for personal growth and involvement in extracurricular activities. The individual's initial involvement in the movement was influenced by their friends who encouraged them to join mountain climbing. They were unaware that the organization was connected to activities against the school. Once a member, they engaged in various activities, including participating in battles against soldiers in Kalinga and collecting food from different Barangays to support the movement. During their involvement in the movement, the individual sustained a bullet wound from an M-16 rifle in their back. This experience likely had physical and psychological effects on them, such as pain, trauma, and potential long-term consequences related to their injury.

The decision to leave the movement was driven by the fear and danger they faced during encounters with soldiers. After leaving, they reintegrated into their community and currently serve as a Barangay Patroller, responsible for maintaining peace and security in their area. This indicates their commitment to contribute positively to their community. Returning to their community allowed the individual to rebuild their life and regain a sense of belonging. Their assignment as a Barangay Patroller demonstrates the trust and recognition they received from the community, highlighting the importance of second chances and community support in facilitating reintegration. Through the government's E-CLIP program, the individual received fair compensation, likely for their injury sustained during their time in the movement. They also benefited from other government programs aimed at promoting peace and supporting their livelihood. This support played a crucial role in enabling them to live in peace with their family and contribute to their community. The individual's journey reflects personal transformation and growth. They were given a second chance to prove themselves and change, and with the help and guidance of the community, they were able to successfully reintegrate into society. Their assignment as a Barangay Patroller signifies the positive impact they have made in promoting peace and security. The individual's experience highlights the complexities of joining a movement without fully understanding its implications. Their journey includes physical and psychological challenges, the decision to leave due to fear and danger, and the subsequent process of reintegrating into their community. It demonstrates the importance of community support, government assistance, and personal growth in finding peace and purpose after leaving a rebel organization.

Case 27. "Ka Coco"

Before joining the rebel organization, the individual's aspiration was initially focused on helping their parents by working on the farm. However, due to the hardships of life and the influence of their father, they were encouraged to join the movement. Their aspiration was to have a better life, believing that joining the movement would provide them with improved circumstances. The individual joined the organization at a young age, influenced by their father and the promises made by "Ka Libay." They were appointed as a messenger for the movement in Mangatarem, Pangasinan. This strategy involved utilizing the individual's role as a messenger to assist with the communication and coordination of the movement's activities.

The death of the individual's father during a clash with the Army had a profound impact on them. It instilled fear and the realization that they could potentially suffer the same fate. This traumatic event likely had both physical and psychological effects on the individual, contributing to their decision to leave the movement. Since leaving the organization, the individual has returned to helping their family by engaging in farming activities, particularly the cultivation and sale of ginger. This demonstrates their reintegration into their previous occupation and signifies their effort to rebuild their life outside of the movement.

The individual highlights the importance of family support, particularly the help provided by their children. The support of their family plays a crucial role in their journey towards reintegrating into the community and moving forward from their involvement with the rebel organization. The individual acknowledges the positive impact of government programs designed for recidivists, which provide protection and opportunities for rehabilitation. This support from the government helps in their transition back into society and provides a sense of security and assistance. The individual emphasizes the support received from their family, especially their children, in their reintegration process. This support serves as a driving force and source of motivation for the individual to rebuild their life and reintegrate into the community.

The individual's experience highlights the vulnerabilities of a young person being influenced by family members and promises of a better life within a rebel organization. The fear of suffering the same fate as their father and the realization that their aspirations for a better life were not being fulfilled led them to make the decision to leave. Through the support of their family, their focus has shifted towards rebuilding their life through farming and contributing to their community. The government's programs for recidivists have aided and protection, reinforcing their reintegration efforts. With the combination of personal determination, family support, and government assistance, the individual strives to overcome the challenges and rebuild their life within the community.

Case 28. “Ka Gulong”

Before joining the farmer organization, the individual's aspiration was focused on bringing about change and land reform. They desired a better future, both for themselves and their community, which motivated them to join the movement. Their aspiration was driven by a desire for social justice and improved living conditions. Once

part of the organization, the individual took on the role of a lead fighter and actively participated in armed clashes with the Army in Capas, Tarlac. Their strategy involved fighting for their cause and promoting their goals through direct confrontation and resistance. Being a lead fighter and engaging in armed clashes can have significant physical and psychological effects on an individual.

The individual likely experienced the physical demands and dangers of combat, which may have resulted in physical injuries and scars. Additionally, the constant threat to their safety and the safety of their family may have caused psychological distress and fear. The individual's decision to leave the movement was driven by concerns for their own safety and the safety of their family. After leaving the movement, they shifted their focus to working in the construction industry. This transition signifies their reintegration into civilian life and their pursuit of a different path away from armed conflict. The individual mentions the guidance and support they received from soldiers, police, and the local government unit (LGU) towards change. This implies that their reintegration process was facilitated by the cooperation and assistance of these entities.

It also highlights the importance of community support in helping individuals transition back into society. The reintegration program provided to the individual included financial assistance. This support from the government gave them hope and helped them in their transition to a new life. It indicates that the government recognizes the need to support individuals who have left rebel groups and offers resources to aid in their reintegration. The individual acknowledges the guidance provided by the soldier, police, and LGU. This guidance likely included support in navigating the reintegration process, accessing resources, and fostering positive change. The presence of these entities may have helped the individual regain a sense of security and stability. The individual's experience demonstrates the complexities of joining a farmer organization, engaging in armed conflict, and eventually leaving the movement.

Their decision to leave was motivated by the need for personal safety and the safety of their family. Through the support of the soldier, police, and LGU, as well as the provision of financial assistance, the individual found hope and a new direction in the construction industry. This case highlights the importance of government programs and community support in facilitating the reintegration of former rebels into society and providing them with opportunities for a more secure and peaceful life.

Case 29. “Ka Doba”

The individual's initial aspiration for joining the rebel movement was driven by the promise of peace, ownership of land with a title, and a fair price for rice. They hoped for a better future and were motivated by the potential benefits that the movement offered. The individual's strategy involved providing support to the movement by offering shelter and provisions for its members. They opened their home to the movement's leader, "Ka Atong," and even provided temporary refuge to NPA fugitives from the Tarlac Provincial Jail. Their involvement in the movement was mainly based on assisting and facilitating the activities of the group.

After realizing that the movement had not lived up to its promises and had become a burden due to the responsibilities of sheltering and providing for its members, the individual made the decision to return to farming. This signifies their reintegration into their previous occupation and a shift away from the armed struggle. Although specific details about the physical and psychological effects are not mentioned, it can be inferred that the burden of sheltering and feeding the movement's members may have caused stress and additional responsibilities for the individual. However, the impact of these effects is not explicitly described in the given information.

The individual mentions that they now live a peaceful life within the community. This implies that their decision to leave the movement and return to farming has positively affected their social relationships and overall integration within their community. The support and strength provided by their family members have likely contributed to their successful reintegration into the community. The individual utilized the government's E-CLIP program to start a new life after leaving the movement. This program likely provided financial assistance and other resources to help them transition back into civilian life. The government's support through this program played a crucial role in enabling the individual to establish themselves and move forward.

The individual expresses gratitude for the support of each member of their family, which has contributed to their strength and ability to lead a peaceful life in the community. Family support plays a vital role in the reintegration process, providing a sense of belonging, stability, and emotional well-being. The individual's experience highlights the disillusionment and subsequent decision to leave the rebel movement due to unfulfilled promises and the burden of supporting its members. They found solace in returning to farming and availed themselves of the government's E-CLIP program to rebuild their life. The support and strength provided by their

family were instrumental in their successful reintegration into the community. This case demonstrates the importance of realistic expectations, community support, and government assistance in the process of leaving rebel groups and transitioning back into a peaceful civilian life.

Case 30. “Ka Hansel”

The individual's aspiration for joining the rebel movement was driven by the promise of receiving their own land. They hoped that joining the movement would lead to a better future, where they could have ownership and stability through land ownership. While specific details about the individual's role in the movement are not mentioned, it can be inferred that they participated in activities alongside the group. The encounter against the Philippine Army in Barangay Mangatarem indicates their involvement in armed conflicts, likely as part of the movement's efforts to achieve their goals. The individual decided to leave the movement due to fear for their safety, especially after witnessing the fate of their companions during the encounter.

Following their departure, they returned to their previous occupation as a carpenter to support themselves financially. This signifies their reintegration into their former profession and a transition away from the armed struggle. The information provided does not specify the specific physical and psychological effects experienced by the individual. However, it can be inferred that the encounter with the Philippine Army may have caused significant stress, fear, and trauma, leading to their decision to leave the movement. The impact of these experiences on their well-being and mental health is not explicitly mentioned.

The support and trust of the individual's family played a crucial role in their reintegration into the community. Their family's assistance and encouragement likely provided a sense of belonging and stability during the transition period. Returning to the community suggests that they were accepted back into their social circles, although the broader social effects are not detailed. The individual benefited from the government's E-CLIP program, which aided during their transition out of the rebel movement. The exact nature of the assistance is not specified, but it likely involved financial support or other resources to help them rebuild their life.

The individual expresses gratitude for the trust and support of their family, which contributed to their ability to return to the community. The assistance and encouragement from their family likely played a vital role in their successful reintegration process. The individual's experience highlights their initial attraction to the rebel movement due to the promise of land ownership, their involvement in armed encounters, and their eventual decision to leave out of fear for their safety. They found support in their family and returned to their previous occupation as a carpenter. The government's E-CLIP program provided further assistance in their reintegration process. This case emphasizes the importance of familial support, personal safety, and access to government programs in the successful transition away from rebel groups and back into the community.

A Synthesis that Captures the Common Themes and Experiences

1. Age

Age is a fundamental demographic factor that plays a significant role in the complex arena of counterinsurgency. Counterinsurgency, often abbreviated as COIN, is the comprehensive and multifaceted effort undertaken by governments and security forces to combat insurgency - a form of asymmetric warfare characterized by the rebellion of non-state actors against established authorities. The age distribution within a population, specifically the distribution of age groups, can have profound implications for both the dynamics of insurgency and the strategies employed to effectively counter it.

Understanding the age demographics of a region or population affected by insurgency is critical for several reasons. It directly impacts the recruitment pool of insurgent groups, shapes the support or dissent towards these groups within the community, and influences the tactics and strategies employed by counterinsurgency forces. This demographic lens provides valuable insights into the vulnerabilities and resilience of a society in the face of insurgency.

Understanding the interplay between age and insurgency is crucial for governments and security forces seeking to implement effective and sustainable counterinsurgency strategies in a rapidly changing global landscape.

Table 1

Age

Age	<i>f</i>	%
20-24	1	3.33
25-29	5	16.67
30-34	6	20
35-39	5	16.67
40-44	7	23.33
45-49	2	6.67
50-54	2	6.67
55-59	1	3.33
60-64	1	3.33
Total	30	100

The table summarizes the age distribution of a population, with a total of 30 individuals. It breaks down the population into various age groups, providing the frequency (*f*) and the percentage (%) of individuals in each age group.

The table provides a breakdown of the population into different age groups. For instance, there is one individual in the 20-24 age group, representing 3.33% of the total population. In the 25-29 age group, there are five individuals, accounting for 16.67% of the total population. Similarly, there are six individuals in the 30-34 age group (20% of the population), five individuals in the 35-39 age group (16.67%), seven individuals in the 40-44 age group (23.33%), two individuals each in the 45-49 and 50-54 age groups (6.67% each), and one individual each in the 55-59 and 60-64 age groups (3.33% each). The total percentage sums up to 100%, indicating that the entire population is distributed across these specified age groups.

The age distribution data reveals several significant implications for counterinsurgency efforts. Firstly, the relatively low percentage (3.33%) of individuals in the 20-24 age group suggests a limited pool of young adults who are often targeted by insurgent groups for recruitment. This highlights the need for counterinsurgency strategies to focus on preventing their recruitment through addressing factors like unemployment and disillusionment. Meanwhile, the majority of the population (66.67%) falls within the 25-54 age range, including the productive workforce and parents, indicating the importance of initiatives promoting economic development and security for this group, as they play a pivotal role in shaping the community's future and countering insurgent ideologies. Additionally, the smaller percentage of elderly individuals (age 55-64) implies the importance of addressing the specific needs of this age group, such as healthcare and social support, within counterinsurgency efforts, recognizing their potential vulnerability in conflict situations. The relatively stable age distribution also suggests the absence of significant generational imbalances or large youth bulges, underlining the need for

adaptable and context-specific strategies. Engaging and gaining support from the community, particularly the 25-54 age group, is crucial, as they form the core of the population; winning their trust and cooperation can be instrumental in intelligence gathering, deterring support for insurgents, and fostering collaboration with security forces. Ultimately, counterinsurgency strategies should be tailored to the unique dynamics of each age group, addressing economic opportunities and social services for the middle-aged population and targeting initiatives aimed at preventing youth radicalization for the younger age groups. In summary, the age distribution data offers valuable demographic insights that can guide counterinsurgency strategies, helping authorities address vulnerabilities, aspirations, and social dynamics within the population, ultimately contributing to the effectiveness of efforts to counter insurgency, enhance stability, and build resilience against extremist ideologies.

2. Sex

Sex or Gender plays a multifaceted and often overlooked role in the context of recruitment of insurgents. The dynamics surrounding the involvement of both males and females in insurgency movements are complex, and understanding these dynamics is crucial for comprehending the broader spectrum of factors that drive individuals to join insurgent groups. Historically, the study of insurgency has predominantly focused on the role of males as combatants and leaders, while frequently overlooking the significant contributions and motivations of female insurgents. However, contemporary research and real-world examples increasingly demonstrate that gender is an essential lens through which to analyse the recruitment strategies, motivations, and experiences of individuals who become involved in insurgencies. This examination delves into the intricate relationship between sex or gender and insurgency recruitment, shedding light on how gender-based dynamics can influence the susceptibility, motivations, and roles of individuals within these movements, ultimately impacting the strategies employed by counterinsurgency efforts.

Table 2

Sex

Sex	<i>f</i>	%
Male	26	86.67
Female	4	13.33
Total	30	100

The findings reveal that the majority of the population, 86.67%, is male, while females make up a smaller portion, accounting for 13.33% of the total population.

The gender distribution within the population has significant implications for insurgent recruitment strategies. The substantial male majority suggests that insurgent groups may predominantly draw their recruits from this demographic, as these organizations often seek young, able-bodied males for combat roles due to traditional gender norms and the perception of physical strength. On the other hand, the smaller female population percentage might indicate that females in the population could be less likely to become insurgents. However, this doesn't mean they are entirely immune to recruitment; insurgent groups may target females for specific support or non-combat roles.

This gender disparity could influence how insurgent groups tailor their recruitment strategies. They may focus on appealing to the male population for combatants while exploring alternative strategies to gain female support, which could involve coercion, ideological appeals, or addressing specific grievances. Furthermore, the gender distribution may impact community perceptions, potentially leading to increased suspicion or scrutiny of young men in the community, which could affect social dynamics and trust.

In response, counterinsurgency efforts may need to consider the gender dynamics within the population. This includes engaging with males to prevent recruitment and understanding the specific motivations and vulnerabilities of females who may be indirectly or directly involved with insurgent groups. Moreover, recognizing the gender disparity, counterinsurgency strategies may benefit from gender-sensitive approaches that address the distinct needs, concerns, and roles of both males and females in the affected community.

3. Educational Attainment

Educational attainment, as a fundamental component of human development and social progress, holds a complex and nuanced relationship with insurgency. Insurgency, characterized by armed resistance against established authorities, often thrives in regions with low levels of education and limited access to quality educational opportunities. However, the interplay between education and insurgency extends beyond mere correlation. It encompasses a range of factors, including how education can serve as both a driver of conflict and a potential pathway to its resolution.

Understanding the relationship between educational attainment and insurgency is crucial in contemporary conflict analysis and counterinsurgency strategies. This examination delves into the multifaceted connections between education and insurgency, exploring how educational disparities, access to knowledge, and the ideological

influences of education can either fuel or mitigate the causes and consequences of insurgency. By exploring these dimensions, we gain insights into the potential roles of education in fostering stability, resilience, and peace within conflict-affected regions and how addressing educational disparities can be a strategic imperative in countering the roots of insurgency.

Table 3

Educational Attainment

Educational Attainment	<i>f</i>	%
No Formal Education	5	16.67
Elementary Level	6	20
Elementary Graduate	2	6.67
High School Level	7	23.33
High School Graduate	6	20
College Level	3	10
College Graduate	1	3.33
Total	30	100

The table provides a comprehensive breakdown of the population's educational attainment levels, offering insights into the educational landscape. Notably, 16.67% of the population has received no formal education, indicating potential gaps in basic literacy and numeracy skills. Another 20% have reached the elementary level, while 6.67% have successfully completed their elementary education, reflecting progress in educational attainment. A significant portion, 23.33%, has achieved education up to the high school level, although they have not graduated, suggesting a relatively higher level of educational attainment. Additionally, 20% of the population has graduated from high school, marking a positive milestone in securing basic secondary education. A promising 10% have pursued education at the college level, indicating access to higher education and aspirations for further learning. Finally, though a smaller category at 3.33%, individuals with college degrees contribute to the diversity of educational backgrounds within the population. This data underscores the importance of addressing educational disparities to enhance overall educational outcomes and, potentially, mitigate some underlying factors contributing to insurgency, such as limited opportunities and educational grievances.

The educational attainment data reveals critical implications for counterinsurgency efforts. The substantial proportion of the population with limited or no formal education (16.67% with no formal education and 20% at

the elementary level) suggests potential vulnerabilities that insurgent groups often exploit. These individuals may face limited economic opportunities and be more susceptible to recruitment. To address this, counterinsurgency efforts can prioritize programs that address their basic educational needs, including literacy and numeracy skills, enhancing their resilience against extremist ideologies. Additionally, the data emphasizes the importance of targeting individuals at the high school level (23.33%) who have not graduated and those at the college level (10%), as insurgent recruitment efforts might target these groups due to their relatively higher educational attainment. Engaging with educational institutions and communities to provide alternative opportunities can be key in preventing the recruitment of educated youth. Furthermore, the data highlights the positive impact of increasing the percentage of high school graduates (20%) on social stability, as education at this level can improve employment prospects and social integration, reducing the appeal of insurgent ideologies. Supporting initiatives that encourage more individuals to complete their high school education can further enhance stability. The presence of individuals pursuing college education (10%) signals access to higher education and aspirations for further learning, providing an alternative path for those who might otherwise be lured into insurgent groups. Encouraging higher education opportunities through scholarships, vocational training, and skills development programs can be effective.

Additionally, the diversity of educational backgrounds, including a small category of college graduates (3.33%), contributes to a range of perspectives that can play a vital role in community-building and countering extremist narratives.

Finally, addressing educational disparities, a potential source of grievances that insurgents exploit, should be a consideration in counterinsurgency strategies, involving educational reforms, equitable access to quality education, and employment opportunities as part of a holistic approach to stability and peace-building.

4. Number of Years as Rebel

The number of years an individual spends as a rebel within an insurgent group is a critical dimension in understanding the dynamics of insurgencies. This aspect reflects the duration of an individual's involvement in armed resistance against established authorities or governing entities. The length of time spent as a rebel can offer profound insights into a range of factors, including an insurgent's level of commitment, experience, and potential for leadership within the group. Additionally, it can shed light on the evolving nature of insurgencies, such as shifts

in goals, strategies, and alliances over time. Analysing the number of years as a rebel is essential for comprehending the complexities of insurgency movements, assessing their sustainability, and formulating effective counterinsurgency strategies. This examination delves into the multifaceted aspects of the number of years as a rebel and its significance in the context of insurgencies, offering a deeper understanding of the motivations, experiences, and roles of individuals within these movements.

Table 4

Number of Years as Rebel

Number of Years as Rebel	<i>f</i>	%
2-5	10	33.33
6-9	14	46.67
10-13	4	13.33
14-17	2	6.67
Total	30	100

The table provides insightful data on the duration of individuals' involvement as rebels within an insurgent group, with each category representing a distinct range of years spent in insurgency. Notably, the 2-5 years as rebels category (33.33%) signifies a substantial presence of individuals with relatively limited experience in insurgency, suggesting a continuous influx of newer members. Conversely, the 6-9 years as rebels group (46.67%) constitutes the majority of the population, reflecting a significant portion of rebels who have been actively engaged in insurgency for a more extended period, potentially indicating increasing commitment levels and leadership potential. The 10-13 years as rebels category (13.33%) reveals the presence of individuals with a decade or more of experience, highlighting their deep-rooted involvement and potential influence within the insurgent group. Lastly, although smaller in percentage, the 14-17 years as rebels category (6.67%) emphasizes the existence of long-serving rebels, implying their potential roles as seasoned leaders or strategists within the insurgency. Understanding this distribution of years as rebels is vital for assessing the dynamics, leadership structure, and commitment levels within the insurgent group, informing counterinsurgency strategies targeting different segments of the rebel population based on their experience and potential influence.

The distribution of individuals based on the number of years they have spent as rebels within the insurgent group carries several implications for both insurgent groups and counterinsurgency efforts. Firstly, the significant presence of individuals with 2-5 years of experience (33.33%) suggests that insurgent groups continually attract

newer members, potentially rejuvenating their ranks. However, this also underscores the need for counterinsurgency efforts to address the factors driving recruitment among these individuals. Secondly, the majority of rebels falling into the 6-9 years as rebels category (46.67%) indicates a substantial portion of the insurgent population with extended involvement, potentially signifying increased commitment levels and the emergence of leaders within the group. Counterinsurgency strategies must consider how to counteract the influence of these long-serving members. Thirdly, the presence of individuals with 10-13 years of experience (13.33%) highlights the existence of deeply rooted rebels with substantial knowledge and authority. Engaging with this segment is critical, as they may play pivotal roles in the insurgency's structure.

Additionally, the presence of seasoned leaders or strategists within the 14-17 years as rebels category (6.67%) suggests the importance of addressing their involvement to weaken the insurgency's core leadership. The distribution across these categories reflects the dynamic nature of insurgencies, necessitating adaptable counterinsurgency strategies that consider the motivations, vulnerabilities, and roles of rebels at different stages of their involvement. Understanding this distribution enables targeted engagement, facilitating tailored approaches that address the unique needs and motivations of individuals with varying levels of experience, ultimately contributing to more effective efforts to counter insurgency and promote stability.

5. Reasons that Persuaded them to Become a Rebel

Understanding the motivations and reasons that lead individuals to become rebels is a crucial aspect of analysing insurgent movements and developing effective counterinsurgency strategies. This exploration delves into the complex interplay of socio-political, economic, cultural, and personal factors that drive people to take up arms against established authorities or governments. Examining these reasons provides valuable insights into the root causes of insurgency and helps policymakers, security forces, and researchers comprehend the grievances, aspirations, and ideologies that underlie these movements.

Table 5

Reasons that Persuaded them to Become a Rebel

Reasons that Persuaded them to Become a Rebel	<i>f</i>	%
Protection of Land	3	10
Land Reform	18	60
Economic Aspiration	1	3.33

Tax Reform	3	10
Financial Struggles	3	10
Encouraged by Husband	1	3.33
Corruption	1	3.33
Total	30	100

The table provides a comprehensive analysis of the reasons that have led individuals to join insurgent groups. Notably, a significant proportion (60%) of rebels are motivated by the cause of land reform, indicating a strong alignment with efforts to address land-related inequalities and disputes. Additionally, 10% of rebels cite the desire for both tax reform and financial struggles as motivations for their involvement, highlighting economic grievances and dissatisfaction with existing policies. A smaller percentage of rebels (3.33%) are driven by economic aspirations, corruption concerns, or encouragement by spouses. This diversity of motivations underscores the complexity of factors that contribute to rebellion. Recognizing these reasons is vital for developing effective counterinsurgency strategies that address the specific grievances and aspirations of rebel populations and work toward resolving the underlying issues that fuel insurgency.

The implications of these diverse motivations among individuals joining insurgent groups are multifaceted. Firstly, understanding the variety of reasons for insurgency allows for more precise and targeted counterinsurgency strategies. For example, addressing land reform issues may require different approaches than tackling economic grievances or perceptions of corruption, and recognizing these distinctions enables authorities to tailor their efforts effectively.

Moreover, the prevalence of land reform as a motivation (60%) highlights the significance of addressing land-related inequalities and disputes, allowing authorities to prioritize land reform initiatives or dispute resolution mechanisms. Additionally, recognizing that economic grievances play a role in insurgency (10% citing tax reform and financial struggles) underscores the importance of promoting economic opportunities and policies that reduce economic disparities. Gender-specific approaches are also crucial, given the involvement of female rebels encouraged by their husbands (3.33%), indicating the influence of familial and social factors. This highlights the need for gender-sensitive approaches within counterinsurgency efforts.

Furthermore, addressing corruption and improving governance are essential components, as individuals motivated by concerns about corruption (3.33%) may perceive insurgent groups as forces against government corruption. Lastly, understanding these motivations helps authorities work to prevent recruitment by addressing

the underlying issues that make individuals vulnerable to insurgent groups, acknowledging the complexity of insurgency with multiple factors driving individuals to join insurgent ranks. Effective counterinsurgency strategies must be multifaceted and adaptable to address this complexity, ultimately promoting stability, social justice, and good governance.

6. Challenge as a Rebel

The challenge of being a rebel involves navigating a complex and often perilous path within an insurgent group. Rebels face a multitude of hurdles, both internal and external, as they strive to advance their goals and ideals through unconventional means. This challenge encompasses a wide range of experiences, from the initial decision to join an insurgent movement to the practical difficulties of waging an insurgency in the face of formidable opposition. Understanding the unique challenges that rebels encounter is crucial for comprehending the dynamics of insurgencies and for crafting effective strategies to address and ultimately mitigate these challenges. This introduction sets the stage for an exploration of the multifaceted challenges faced by individuals who choose the path of rebellion.

Table 6

Challenge as a Rebel

Challenge as a Rebel	<i>f</i>	%
Physical Harm/Injuries/Paralysis	20	66.67
Problems on Livelihood and Social Dynamics	1	3.33
Violence	1	3.33
Stress and Anxiety	7	23.33
Confinement	1	3.33
Total	30	100

The table provides valuable insights into the challenges faced by individuals who have embraced the life of rebellion within insurgent groups. Notably, physical harm, injuries, or paralysis represent the most prevalent challenge, affecting a significant 66.67% of rebels. This statistic underscores the substantial risks associated with insurgency, including the dangers of combat and violence. Additionally, stress and anxiety are prevalent

challenges, impacting 23.33% of rebels, highlighting the substantial mental and emotional toll of insurgency. These individuals contend with fear, uncertainty, and trauma as they navigate the turbulent landscape of rebellion. A smaller percentage faces challenges related to livelihoods and social dynamics (3.33%), violence (3.33%), and confinement (3.33%). These findings underscore the multifaceted nature of the difficulties faced by rebels, encompassing physical, psychological, and social dimensions. Understanding these challenges is imperative for devising comprehensive strategies that address the well-being of those involved in insurgent groups, aiming not only to counter insurgency but also to provide support and pathways for disengagement and reintegration into society.

7. Reason to Surrender

The concept of surrender within the context of insurgency is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon. It involves individuals, often members of insurgent groups, making the decision to cease their involvement in armed rebellion and reintegrate into society. Understanding the reasons that drive individuals to surrender is of paramount importance for counterinsurgency efforts, as it offers insights into the motivations and vulnerabilities of those who were once actively engaged in insurgency. This understanding can inform strategies aimed at encouraging defection from insurgent groups, promoting stability, and facilitating the reintegration of former rebels into their communities. In this analysis, we will explore the various reasons that compel individuals to choose surrender as a path away from insurgency, shedding light on the factors that influence this critical decision.

Table 7

Reason to Surrender

Reason to Surrender	<i>f</i>	%
Exposure to Danger	24	80
Hardship	1	3.33
Neglected	1	3.33
Stress	1	3.33
Disillusionment	1	3.33
Family's Safety	1	3.33
Unfulfilled Promises and Burden	1	3.33

Total	30	100
--------------	-----------	------------

The table offers valuable insights into the diverse motivations that lead individuals to make the critical decision to surrender and disengage from insurgent groups. Among the reasons cited, exposure to danger stands out as the most prevalent, accounting for a significant 80% of surrenders. This underscores the profound impact of the threats, risks, and violence inherent in insurgency, driving individuals to prioritize their safety and seek an exit from armed rebellion.

In addition to exposure to danger, several other factors contribute to the complexity of surrender decisions. A small percentage of individuals (3.33%) cite hardship, encompassing various forms of adversity such as economic challenges, physical and mental strain, and difficulties associated with life within the insurgent group. Feelings of neglect and exclusion within the group (3.33%) also motivate some surrenders, highlighting the importance of addressing internal dynamics and social relationships.

Stress (3.33%) emerges as a notable factor, reflecting the mental and emotional toll of insurgency, including anxiety, trauma, and the relentless strain of living in a state of perpetual conflict. Disillusionment (3.33%) with the group's objectives, methods, or leadership can prompt individuals to reconsider their commitment to the insurgency.

The safety and well-being of families (3.33%) play a significant role in the surrender decision, emphasizing the influence of familial and social ties. Additionally, some surrenders (3.33%) are attributed to unfulfilled promises and a sense of burden within the insurgent group, indicating the importance of managing expectations and addressing grievances related to rewards and benefits.

The implications drawn from the table showcasing the motivations for individuals to surrender from insurgent groups are multifaceted and offer critical insights for both counterinsurgency efforts and broader conflict resolution strategies. First and foremost, the overwhelmingly prevalent reason for surrender being exposure to danger (80%) underscores the paramount importance of addressing the security and safety concerns of those involved in insurgency. This signifies an opportunity for authorities to design targeted programs that guarantee the protection of defectors and offer them a safe passage out of the conflict, ultimately weakening insurgent groups.

Furthermore, the existence of various additional motivations, such as hardship, neglect, stress, disillusionment, and concerns for family, highlights the complexity of surrender decisions. Counterinsurgency strategies need to be multifaceted and adaptive, recognizing the diversity of factors influencing individual choices to surrender. Addressing internal dynamics, social relationships, mental health concerns, and familial ties are all pivotal aspects of encouraging defection.

Additionally, these motivations illuminate the importance of not only dissuading individuals from joining insurgent groups but also providing viable alternatives and support for those who wish to leave. Efforts to reintegrate former rebels into society, address their grievances, and facilitate their rehabilitation can play a vital role in long-term conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Therefore, recognizing and comprehending these motivations is not only crucial for dismantling insurgent groups but also for fostering stability, reconciliation, and sustainable peace within conflict-affected regions.

8. Aspiration

Aspiration takes on a unique dimension when examined through the lens of surrendered insurgents, individuals who have made the courageous choice to disengage from insurgent groups and seek a new path in life. Their aspirations, often born from a complex interplay of personal, social, and contextual factors, are deeply entwined with the experiences and motivations that led them to abandon armed rebellion. These aspirations represent not only a desire for personal growth and change but also a commitment to reintegration into society, reconciliation, and peace-building efforts. Understanding the aspirations of surrendered insurgents is pivotal in developing effective strategies for their rehabilitation, fostering reconciliation, and preventing the re-emergence of conflict. This exploration delves into the aspirations of surrendered insurgents, shedding light on the diverse dreams and hopes that drive them to choose a path away from violence and towards a more promising future.

Table 8**Aspiration**

Reason to Surrender	<i>f</i>	%
To live simple life	18	60
Care for children	1	3.33
Sought stable income and secure farmland	1	3.33
Changes to family status	1	3.33
Believed in Land Reform and sought security	1	3.33
Support for addressing issues	1	3.33
Just society for farmer's rights	1	3.33
Land Reform and Improved living conditions	5	16.67
Fair taxation	1	3.33
Total	30	100

The table provides valuable insights into the diverse and multifaceted motivations that lead surrendered insurgents to make the critical decision to leave armed rebellion and seek a different path in life. While the desire for a simpler life is the most prevalent reason, accounting for a significant 60% of surrenders, various other factors come into play. Some surrendered insurgents are driven by familial responsibilities and the well-being of their children, emphasizing the importance of family dynamics. Economic considerations, such as the pursuit of stable income and secure farmland, also influence the surrender decision for a subset of individuals.

Changes in family status and beliefs in land reform and security contribute to the complexity of motivations, as they reflect shifts in personal circumstances and ideological alignment. Others aspire to be agents of positive change, supporting efforts to address a range of issues, from social justice to community development, or advocating for farmers' rights in pursuit of a more just society. Furthermore, a significant percentage of surrendered insurgents are motivated by socio-economic goals related to land reform and improved living conditions, indicating their strong commitment to addressing disparities and enhancing overall well-being. Lastly, some express a desire for fair taxation policies, underscoring their concerns about economic equity.

Understanding these aspirations is paramount for designing effective reintegration and rehabilitation programs that align with the goals and values of surrendered insurgents, ultimately facilitating their successful transition back into society and contributing to broader peace and stability efforts.

The implications of this diverse set of aspirations among surrendered insurgents are profound and multifaceted. Firstly, recognizing the prevalence of the desire for a simpler life (60%) underscores the significance of peace, stability, and the yearning to escape the complexities and dangers of insurgency. This can inform reintegration programs that prioritize providing a peaceful and secure environment for these individuals.

Moreover, understanding that familial responsibilities and concerns for children's well-being play a role in surrender decisions (3.33%) highlights the importance of addressing family dynamics during the reintegration process. Programs aimed at strengthening family ties and providing support for children can be essential.

Economic motivations, such as seeking stable income and secure farmland (3.33%), suggest the potential for livelihood development programs that offer surrendered insurgents economic opportunities and training to help them secure a stable source of income.

The alignment with socio-economic goals related to land reform and improved living conditions (16.67%) indicates the potential for policy changes and development initiatives that address land-related disparities and enhance overall well-being in affected regions.

Furthermore, the desire for fair taxation policies (3.33%) highlights concerns about economic equity, which could inform discussions on tax reforms and social justice initiatives within the reintegration context.

Comprehending these diverse aspirations is crucial for tailoring reintegration and rehabilitation efforts to meet the specific needs and goals of surrendered insurgents. Such programs should not only focus on addressing the root causes of their involvement in insurgency but also empower them to become positive contributors to society, thereby promoting lasting peace and stability.

3.0. Analyses of Existing Programs for Former Rebels

In a world marked by conflict and societal upheaval, the process of reintegrating former rebels into civil society is a complex endeavour that requires careful consideration and effective strategies. This comprehensive analysis delves into a spectrum of existing programs designed to facilitate the reintegration of individuals who have once taken up arms against their own nations. By examining the successes, challenges, and lessons learned from these initiatives, it aimed to shed light on the intricacies of post-conflict rehabilitation and offer valuable insights into shaping more holistic and sustainable approaches for fostering lasting peace and stability. It navigates

the intricacies of the programs, uncover the factors that contribute to their effectiveness, and envision a future where even those with deeply conflicted pasts can find a path toward reconciliation and constructive contribution to their societies.

3.1. Basic Services Program

1. E-CLIP program
2. Social protection (like medical check-up, PhilHealth enrolment to the FR. This may include psychiatric/psychological services, counselling services and life skills/values formation.)
3. Medical/dental missions
4. Police caravan
5. Feeding program and distribution of slippers and school supplies for public school children
6. Free haircut

The MSWDO's validation of former rebel's name from the databank to ascertain that he/she is not a beneficiary of the previous program and the facilitation of the provision of social protection services to former rebels, like medical check-up, PhilHealth enrolment to the FR according to the respondents.

As corroborated by one of the interviewees during the interview who stated: "the most effective project is livelihood project that will really help them in their lives and these can be enhanced thru training and serving or awarding them with appropriate materials, equipment or machines." (Personal Interview with Participant C, March 1, 2023).

One of the interviewees also stressed that "the most effective programs under basic services is providing livelihood programs, information campaign and organizing as group or cooperative." (Personal Interview with Participant B, March 5, 2023).

This livelihood project is heavily supported by LGU of Tarlac by emphasizing that it is important to strengthen such because unemployment and poverty is one of the reasons why others join the communist group. On the other hand, one of the respondents "emphasized that reaching far flung areas and disadvantaged areas using infrastructure and resource management wherein good governance are delivered could somehow end the ELCAC. Hence, strategic communication must be established." (Personal interview with Participant A, March 1, 2023).

In corroboration, an interviewee said: "one of the programs implemented by the PNP that is very effective and valuable is that health welfare of every individual is given consideration and the respondent feel that they are important and accordingly that it must be implemented without biased to any statues of way of living to further

achieve its effectiveness and to further enhance the respondent suggested that procurement of medical equipment for all medical concerns to be addressed. Medical officers must be dedicated in giving these programs and consider that all individuals have their own health condition” (Personal Interview with Participant E, March 5, 2023)

All of these imply, that the basic services given to the former rebels are effective and necessary to end the local communist armed conflict.

3.2. Social Development Packages

1. TESDA skills, training, livelihood project
2. DOLE livelihood packages (like farm tools, sari-sari store <i>pangkabuhayan</i> package)
3. DOLE livelihood planning
4. DOLE orientation on employment opportunities and actual job referrals
5. Department of Education (DepEd) Alternative Learning System (ALS)
6. Department of Agriculture (DA) planting activities

According to one of the respondents during the interview: “these services may be enhanced by active participation of every concerned agencies such as DOLE and TESDA to which individual progress and self-improvement will be given to all respondents for the betterment of their way of living.” (Personal Interview with Participant D, March 1, 2023).

Moreover, it was stressed by another interviewee that extensive community development, knowing the root problems should likewise be enhanced. (Personal Interview with Participant H, March 1, 2023). The Congressman and the Mayor highly agreed that barangay development must be conducted by the LGUs to end the armed conflict.

As supported by Participant F: “necessitates a process in which a society increase its various capital stocks across social economic and environmental capitals is one of the most effective programs under societal development packages to End Local Communist Armed Conflict. As suggested by said participant, the act of prioritizing and harmonizing the delivery of social development packages by the government can be added and enhanced as societal development packages, aside from the those already existing.” (Personal Interview with Participant F, March 5, 2023).

Finally, it was stressed by an interviewee that it is necessary for the beneficiaries to be organized into a farmer cooperative in order for them to qualify as recipients of livelihood packages. (Personal Interview with Participant E, March 1, 2023)

With these, it must continue providing and enhancing the provision of societal development packages to end local communist armed conflict.

3.3. Societal Inclusivity

1. Securing government identification (ID) documents, like PHILHEALTH membership/ID card, birth certificate and postal ID card
2. DENR seminars on environmental care and protection
3. PNP and DepEd symposiums, seminars, KKDAT
4. PNP crime prevention training/seminar, dialogue or “pulong-pulong.”
5. PNP Information Education Communication (IEC) materials.
6. AFP and PNP Joint Community Relation Council (JAPCRC).
7. AFP and PNP Joint Peace Security Coordinating Council (JPSCC).
8. AFP and PNP Retooled Community Support Program (RCSP).
9. Non-Government Organization technical assistance for agriculture, livelihood and livestock production.
10. Elected officials support to former rebel or his/her spouse or children enrolled in a State University or College for their financial allowance.
11. MSWDO visitation (evaluate and assess the progress of the former rebels’ supporters)

The effectiveness of facilitation of societal inclusivity can be corroborated by the interview of one of the respondents who said: “involvement of all individuals in community-oriented activities help them be socially aware and participate in social awareness programs and for them to realized that they are part of the community is one of the programs under societal inclusivity that is most effective to End Local Communist Armed Conflict.” (Personal Interview with Participant H, March 1, 2023). Furthermore, according to some respondents in an interview, “focus, commitment and dedication on the part of the implementers must be ensured in order to end the armed conflict.”

It is highly supported by the respondents who stressed that” the involvement of all individuals in community-oriented activities help them be socially aware and participate in social awareness programs and for them to realized that they are part of the community.”

Walch (2018), emphasized that the key role of government is to ensure that communities have access to their basic needs and provide information, given that marginalized groups are susceptible to recruitment for violent, extremist, and insurgent ideologies.

Also, the MSWDO is conducting visitations to evaluate and assess the progress of the former rebels’ supporters and submission of report on the evaluation and assessment of the assistance provided to the former rebels to the Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (ELCAC). Such activity is surely an effective means to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (ELCAC). (Personal Interview with Participant I, March 5, 2023).

Rubin (2019) revealed that community collective action capacity (CAC) increases rebel control in areas lacking state services but deters rebel control in areas under state protection and service provision. Emphasizing civilian agency in conflict processes by highlighting the role civilians play in shaping where belligerents operate in the first place. Because the distribution of territorial control influences subsequent conflict processes, the findings motivate revisiting existing explanations for the scale and form of political violence, rebel and state governance, and other conduct in civil war, as well as their effects on the prospects for postwar peace and economic development.

As stated by one of the interviewees in a follow-up interview: “The concerned agencies must provide information awareness campaign and organizing as group or cooperative.” (Personal Interview with Participant J, March 1, 2023).

It was suggested by one of the interviewees that: “The concerned agencies must continue assist the former rebels in securing government identification (ID) documents for them to feel that they are highly supported by the government. Also, the concerned members must continue referring the former rebels to some health benefits for them to feel that they are important members of community.” (Personal Interview with Participant K, March 5, 2023).

3.4. Participation of All Sectors of Society

- | |
|--|
| 1. The Local Government Unit (LGU) officials are rendering services such as providing birth and death certificates, profiling of former rebels and their family members. |
| 2. Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), in collaboration with the PNP, is giving support to the other agencies such as conducting security operations. |

3. The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) officials are rendering other services other than those stated above.
4. The Municipal Social Welfare and Development (MSWD) officials are rendering other services other than those stated above.
5. The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) officials are rendering other services other than those stated above.
6. The Department of Education (DepEd) officials are rendering other services other than those stated above.
7. The Non-Government Organization (NGO) are giving assistance other than those stated above.

Participation of all sectors is very much effective but there was an interviewee who said that the programs of DOLE and TESDA and the DSWD must be enhanced further. They may be enhanced by maximizing the number of livelihood programs in every community and ensuring that children will have their basic education for their future. (Personal Interview with Participant L, March 4, 2023). Participant G on the other hand, emphasized that the most effective sectors to end the ELCAC is both the government and non-government organizations, hence, the conduct of information dissemination must be continually done. Some political leaders in the province, on the other hand, believe that interconnectedness of sectors (school, church, government and non-government organizations) is needed to stop the armed conflict.

It is recorded by them, based on a follow up interview that “moral and spiritual aspects of the community may be tapped aside from the those actually participating thereby giving them guide in their day to day activities.” (Personal Interview with Participant M, March 4, 2023)

But despite the positive feedback of the respondents on the reintegration programs of the government they also identified different problems associated to the programs such as;

1. There is no long-term monitoring procedures on the status of machines awarded by the government agencies.
2. There is no long-term monitoring procedures on the progress with respect to the awarded livelihood projects.
3. There is lack of available TESDA schools to provide trainings.
4. The trainings being administered do not fit to former rebels.
5. There is no regular visitation being conducted by MSWDO to assess the progress of former rebels.
6. There is lack of cooperation of former rebels in dealing with different agencies after receiving the assistance.
7. The lack of long-term commitment of government agencies to comply with obligations.
8. There are limited funds of agencies intended for former rebels.

9. There are limited personnel of agencies to deal with former rebels.

4.0. Enhanced reintegration programs for Former Rebels in the Province of Tarlac

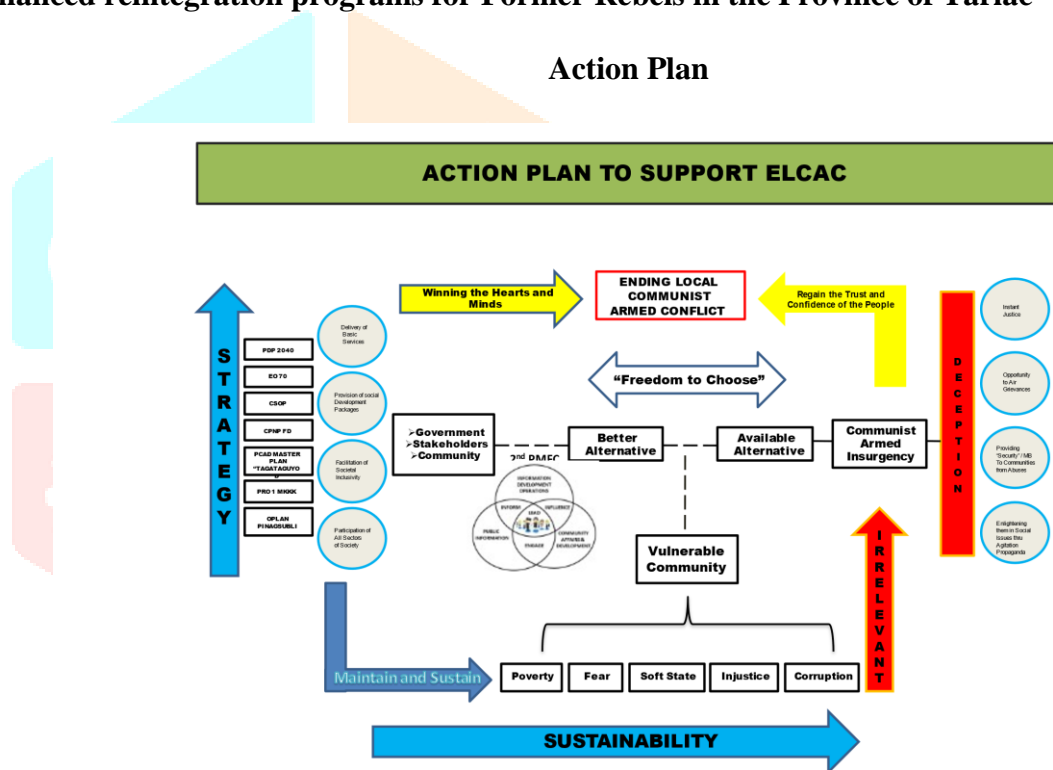


Figure 3. Action Plan to Support ELCAC

I. Rationale and Intent:

The government calls for participation in attaining a just, comprehensive, and long-lasting peace in the country under the rule of law, and convergence efforts in providing an enhanced reintegration programs to former rebels and their families, as well as individuals and communities in conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable areas. Hence, this action plan shall guarantee to strengthen the public reintegration programs

II. Outcome/s or Change/s:

This Action Plan is to transform conflict-affected and conflict-vulnerable areas into conflict-resilient, empowered, secured, and strongly rooted communities through aggressive, enhanced, dynamic and sustained police community engagement to end local communist armed conflict.

III. Strategies and Actions:

(a) Delivery of basic services;

- Harness police community partnership to gain support and raise positive public trust and perception to the PNP organization towards a strongly rooted, comfortable and secured community through effective crime prevention, crime solution and ensuring public safety and internal security.
- Promote peace and order and further strengthen the participation of all sectors of society towards the effective delivery of basic services.

(b) Provision of societal development packages;

- Forge strong alliances with the community thru awareness, organizing and mobilizing in order to generate partnerships with the community.

(c) Facilitation of societal inclusivity; and

- Infuse the importance of social awareness and cultural understanding by introducing responsive programs and peace-building activities as among the strong foundations in fostering a cooperative and harmonious community;

(d) Participation of all sectors of society.

- Advocate peace keeping, peace-making, and peace building initiatives as essential ingredients for lasting peace, thereby maintaining the economic development, social order, political stability and participation of all sectors of the community.

IV. Timeline:

The timeline for this Action Plan for about twelve (12) months covering the following phases:

1. Preparation and planning phase to include the following specific activities to be accomplished approximately for two (2) months;
 - a. Identification of target beneficiaries and barangays;
 - b. Conduct consultation and meetings together with LGU, territorial police unit and other stakeholders;

- c. Validation of alleged former rebels in coordination with PNP Provincial Intelligence Branch and AFP;
 - d. Conduct a forum with the former rebels in their respective barangays;
 - e. Initiation of accurate profiling of the former rebels;
 - f. Endorsement of the former rebels to the LSWDO to assess their qualification to the E-CLIP;
 - g. Provision of contingency plan and program for the former rebels in case they will not be qualified in the E-CLIP;
 - h. Communication with the LGUs, from provincial level down to barangay level on what they can provide for the livelihood of the former rebels; and
 - i. Active support from the AFP units who has jurisdiction to the area.
2. Implementation and execution phase to include the following specific activities to be accomplished approximately for three (3) months;
 - a. Delivery of basic services;
 - b. Provision of social development packages;
 - c. Facilitation of societal inclusivity; and
 - d. Participation of all sectors of society.
 3. Monitoring, assessment and evaluation phase is being conducted once the operation plan has been executed and achieved. This phase is to be accomplished approximately for seven (7) months.

V. Resources:

A. Person/s In-Charge:

The categories of persons in charge with the implementation of this action plan are as follows:

1. Primary = Public Safety Forces personnel;
2. Secondary = Territorial police unit; and
3. Tertiary = Government agencies and the community.

B. Other Resource Requirements:

The other resource requirement for the implementation of this action plan are Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) of the PNP and respective budget of partner government agencies.

VI. Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring, assessment and evaluation is to be performed by all partner agencies and stakeholders by executing the following specific activities:

1. Conduct of regular dialogue or “pulong-pulong,” whether face to face or on-line, with the members of target/subject barangays;
2. Conduct of inspections and monitoring to target/subject barangay in the status of basic services, social development packages and societal inclusivity.

On the other hand, the result of monitoring, assessment and evaluation is considered effective by using the following criteria:

1. Decrease or elimination of enemy movements or activities in the target area;
2. Expansion in participation of community activities;
3. Increase of income in livelihood projects; and
4. Reduction of disorder and anti-social behavior.

Further, the effectiveness of the over-all implementation of the action plan shall be evaluated accordingly based on the reports and feedback gathered from the community and the results of “pulong pulong.”

5.0. Implications of the study to Public Administration.

Governance and delivery of public services are aimed at managing limited available resources to effectively deliver services to the citizens of a country. The notion of service delivery includes any interaction between people, citizens, or businesses and the public sector that involves them requesting or providing information, managing their affairs, or carrying out their tasks. These services must be provided in an effective, foreseeable, dependable, and client-friendly manner.

Additionally, effective service delivery necessitates that the government recognize the need to encourage citizen-oriented administration; that good administration be a policy objective implemented coherently; and that accessibility to public services is guaranteed.

Considering all these issues and concerns, the concerned government agencies enumerated above, should take immediate action to help these former rebels. They may also check the best practices of other municipalities relative to how they handle and manage the delivery of appropriate aid to former rebels. This is primarily important to assure their safety and they can feel that the government is giving them what they deserve. Second, the concerned

government agencies may consider revisiting its current policies relative to such, if there are no existing policies they may formulate policies that may stipulate the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of the former rebels. This may help in monitoring and regulating their operations.



Chapter 4

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents brief generalizations based from participants accounts. It includes the significant inferences derived from the findings of the study. Recommendations are also provided about the findings, which help improve or resolve the prevailing situation.

Summary of Findings

1. On 2019, 216 rebels surrendered, followed in 2020 with 313 rebels surrendered with 96 assorted firearms confiscated. On the following year, 2021, on the statistics coming from PNP, there are about 22 rebel manpower remaining and 22 firearms in possession compared to 2022 that the manpower downgraded to 18 and having approximate 13 firearms in possession.
2. Almost all former rebels are persuaded by promises to distribute or return back their farm land, monetary incentives and protection.
3. Most common techniques employed by the rebels in gaining the sympathy of former rebels is thru aid with regards to their grievances, farm land and low taxes.
4. All of the former rebels who surrendered received compensation from the government.
5. The most effective project towards former rebels is livelihood program and information campaign.
6. Involvement of all individuals in community-oriented activities help the be socially aware and participate in social awareness programs.
7. Moral and spiritual aspects of the community maybe tapped aside from those actually participated programs.

Conclusions

Based on the foregoing discussions of findings, it was concluded that:

1. The number of rebels surrendering increased from 216 in 2019 to 313 in 2020. Additionally, in 2020, 96 assorted firearms were confiscated. However, by 2021, the number of rebels decreased to 22, along with 22 firearms, and further decreased in 2022 to 18 rebels and 13 firearms. This suggests that the surrender and confiscation efforts have been effective in reducing the rebel presence and their access to firearms.
2. The study reveals that promises related to land distribution or return, monetary incentives, and protection have been persuasive in encouraging rebels to surrender. These factors indicate that addressing the rebels' grievances, providing economic incentives, and ensuring their safety play significant roles in motivating them to leave the rebel group.

3. The findings suggest that rebels have been successful in gaining the sympathy of former rebels by helping related to their grievances, such as providing aid with regards to farm land and advocating for lower taxes. This indicates that addressing the concerns and needs of former rebels can help in preventing their re-engagement with the rebel group.

4. It is stated that all former rebels who surrendered received compensation from the government. This suggests that offering financial support to former rebels has been a consistent approach to facilitate their reintegration into society and discourage their involvement with the rebel group.

5. The study highlights that livelihood programs and information campaigns have been the most effective projects in supporting former rebels. This implies that providing sustainable livelihood opportunities and raising awareness through information campaigns can contribute to the successful reintegration and empowerment of former rebels.

6. The involvement of individuals in community-oriented activities has proven beneficial in fostering social awareness and encouraging participation in social awareness programs. This indicates that community engagement plays a vital role in promoting a sense of responsibility and active citizenship among individuals.

7. The findings suggest that tapping into the moral and spiritual aspects of the community, in addition to the practical programs, can contribute to the overall well-being and development of the community. This implies that addressing the moral and spiritual dimensions alongside the material needs of the community can have a positive impact on social cohesion and stability.

Recommendations

Based on the findings and conclusions drawn, the following recommendations are made:

1. Implement holistic reintegration programs that address both the practical and psychological needs of former rebels. These programs should include livelihood support, access to education and skills training, and counseling services to help them cope with trauma and emotional distress resulting from their involvement in armed conflict. Drawing lessons from successful reintegration programs in other countries, such as Colombia's "Programa Paz y Reconciliación," which focuses on providing economic opportunities and psychosocial support to ex-combatants, can serve as a model for effective implementation.

2. Involve the local community in the reintegration process by promoting understanding, acceptance, and social cohesion. Engage community members in awareness campaigns and social programs to foster a sense of shared

responsibility and encourage support for former rebels' reintegration. Models like Rwanda's "Gacaca courts" that promote truth-telling, reconciliation, and community healing after the genocide can offer insights into community-based approaches.

3. Establish transitional justice mechanisms that provide opportunities for truth, justice, and reconciliation. Allow former rebels to participate in truth commissions and reconciliation processes to promote healing and accountability for past actions. Learning from countries like South Africa, which employed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to address the atrocities of apartheid, can inform the design of effective transitional justice mechanisms.

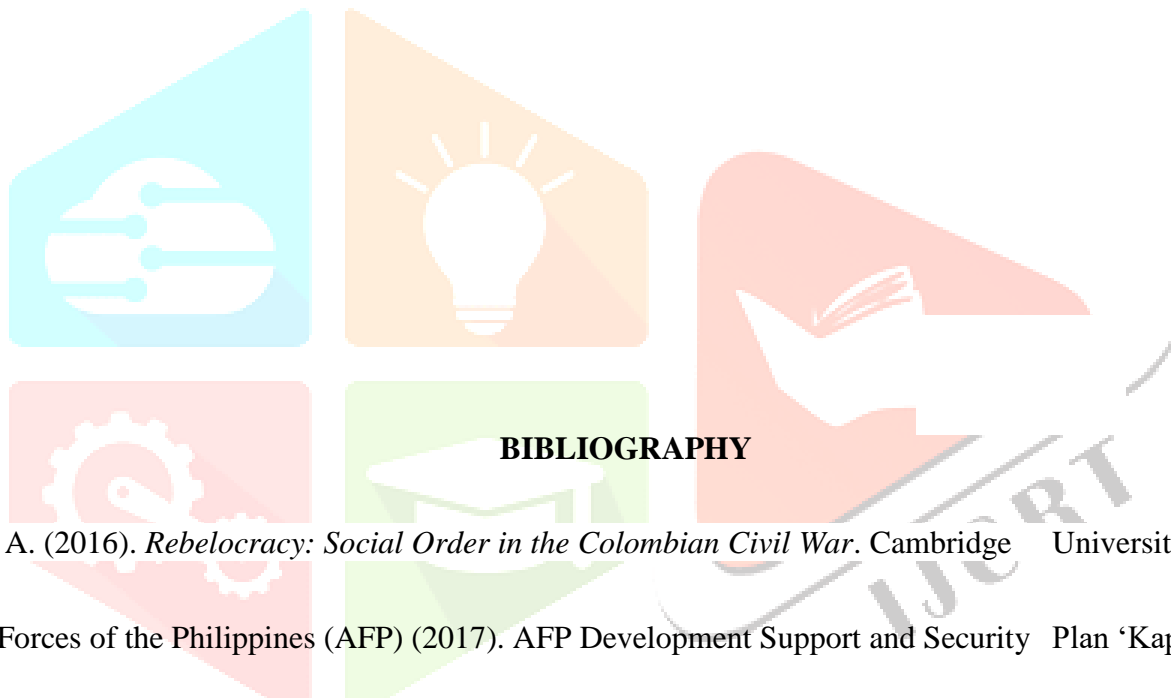
4. Strengthen livelihood support programs to ensure the sustainability of economic opportunities for former rebels. Collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, to create job opportunities and income-generating projects that align with the skills and interests of former rebels. Drawing from the experience of programs like El Salvador's "Programa Mano Dura, Mano Amiga," which focuses on vocational training and job placement for ex-gang members, can guide the development of successful livelihood initiatives.

5. Collaborate with civil society organizations to provide additional support and services to former rebels. These organizations can offer specialized assistance, such as mental health support, legal aid, and community-based rehabilitation programs. Countries like Nepal, which partnered with local NGOs to assist former Maoist combatants, demonstrate the value of engaging civil society in the reintegration process.

6. Promote political inclusion and representation of former rebels in governance structures and decision-making processes. Creating avenues for their meaningful participation in public affairs can strengthen their sense of belonging and stake in society. The experience of countries like Mozambique, which integrated former combatants into political institutions after the civil war, can offer insights into effective political inclusion.

7. Establish a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the impact of reintegration programs and identify areas for improvement. Regularly gather data on the outcomes of former rebels' reintegration, measure progress against set objectives, and use the findings to inform evidence-based policymaking. Learning from countries like Sierra Leone, which conducted rigorous evaluations of their disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration programs, can enhance the effectiveness of interventions.

8. Enhancement of the different programs and services already existing by fitting them to the needs of former rebels thru the active participation of every concerned agencies; and
9. Promote community involvement and social awareness, encouraging community involvement and fostering social awareness can be achieved through organizing community-oriented activities, promoting volunteerism, and supporting social awareness programs. This can help in creating a sense of responsibility, active citizenship, and unity within the community.
10. Execution of an action plan to transform conflict-affected and conflict vulnerable communities into conflict-resilient, sustainable and economically developed communities.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Arjona, A. (2016). *Rebelocracy: Social Order in the Colombian Civil War*. Cambridge University Press.
- Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) (2017). AFP Development Support and Security Plan ‘Kapayapaan’. *Armed Forces of the Philippines Journal*, 34(4),481-495.
- Austria, H. and Pasion, A. (2020). *Insurgency*. Philippine News Agency.
- Babbie, E. (2010). *The Basics of Social Research*. Wadsworth Cengage Publishing House.
- BAYAN (2019, March 23). *U.S. Government to Stop Providing Military Assistance to the Philippines*. <https://bayan.org/stopmilitary-assistance>.
- Beck, C.J., Sean, E.R., and Douglas, B.J. (2016). *Radicals, Revolutionaries, and Terrorists*. John Wiley & Sons
- Buhaug, H. (2010). Dude Where, ’s My Conflict? LSG, Relative Strength, and the Location of Civil War. *Conflict Management and Peace Science Journal*, 38(1), 57-6789.

- Caouette, D., Feuchtwang, F. and Shah, A. (n.d.). Ups and Downs of a Contemporary Maoist Movement: Shifting Tactics, Moving Targets and (Un)Orthodox Strategy: The Philippine Revolution in Perspective. *Journal of Political Science*, 89(6) 312-32.
- CNN (2019, November 18). *Palace Slams 'Grandstanding' U.S. Senator for Comments on Human Rights Abuses in PH.* <https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2019/11/18/Sanders>
- Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) (2019, May 18). *Constitution and Program of the Communist Party of the Philippines.* <https://bannedthought.net/Philippines/CPP/English.pdf>
- De Leon, M.J. (2019). *Unraveling the Filipino Diaspora's Relations with the Philippine Communist Movement (Master's Thesis).* Naval Postgraduate School.
- DILG Memorandum Circular 125 s. 2019 (August 6, 2019). *Guidelines for the Local Government Units in the Implementation of Executive Order No. 70, s.2018.*
- Hilda Austria and Ahikam Pasion. (November 24, 2020). *Philippine News Agency.* <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1191813>
- Holden, W. N. (2009). *Ashes from the Phoenix: State Terrorism and the Party-List Groups in the Philippines.* *Journal of Contemporary Politics*, 85(5), 435-657.
- International Crisis Group (ICG) (2011). *The Communist Insurgency in the Philippines: Tactic and Talks.* *Asian Journal*, 45(4),432-125.
- Kalyvas, S.N. (2012). *Micro-level Studies of Violence in Civil War: Refining and Extending the Control-collaboration Model.* *Journal of Terrorism and Political Violence*, 34(2), 542-234.
- Larson, J.M., and Lewis, J.I. (2018). *Rumors, Kinship Networks, and Rebel Group Formation.* *International Organization Journal*, 76(3), 353-856.
- Lewitsky, S.J. and Way, L.R. (2019). *International Linkage and Democratization.* *Journal of Democracy*, 31(6), 324-678.

Ligot, J.C. (n.d.) Insurgency in the Philippines (Master's Thesis). Naval Postgraduate School

McCormick, G. and Giordano, F. (2007). Things Come Together: Symbolic Violence and Guerrilla Mobilization. *Third World Quarterly Journal*, 28 (2), 12-23.

National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) Resolution No. 2015-342. (July 21, 2015). Resolution to Empower the Philippine National Police to Perform Its Role as a Community and Service-Oriented Agency through the Adoption of the CSOP System Involving the Local Executives, and the PNP.

National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) Memorandum Circular No. 2015-003. (2015). Prescribing Additional Functions and Duties of Local Chief Executives (LCEs).

Özerdem, A. and Podder, S. (2012). Grassroots and Rebellion: A Study on the Future of the Moro Struggle in Mindanao, Philippines, Civil Wars. *Journal of Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 14(4), 213-234.

Philippine National Police (PNP) Command Memorandum Circular Number 05/2014. (2014). Intensified Internal Security Operations (ISO).

Philippine National Police (PNP) Memorandum Circular No. 2017-063. (2017). Amending National Headquarters (NHQ) PNP Memorandum Circular No. 2009- 020A Guidelines and Procedures on the Rationalization of the PNP Mobile Group.

President Rodrigo R. Duterte. Administrative Order No. 10 s. 2018. (March 4, 2018) Centralizing All Government Efforts for the Reintegration of the Former Rebels (FR) and Creating for the Purpose an Inter-Agency Task Force.

President Rodrigo R. Duterte Executive Order 70 s. 2018. (December 4, 2018). Institutionalizing the Whole Nation Approach in Attaining Inclusive and Sustainable Peace, Creating National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict, and Directing the Adoption of a National Peace Framework.

Republic Act No. 6975. (December 13, 1990). An Act Establishing the Philippine National Police Under a reorganized Department of the Interior and Local Government, and for Other Purposes.

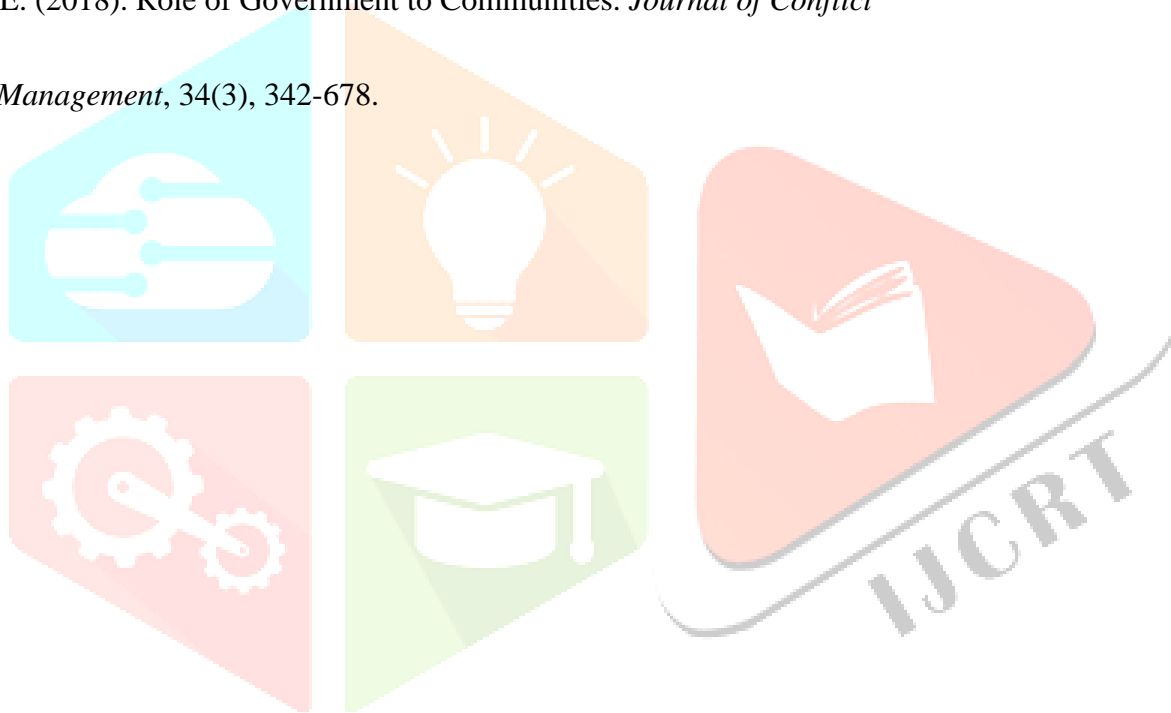
Republic Act No. 8551. (1998). An Act Providing for the Reform and Reorganization of the Philippine National Police.

Pernecky, T. (2016). *Epistemology and Metaphysics for Qualitative Research*. SAGE Publications.

Rubin, M.A. (2019) Rebel Territorial Control and Civilian Collective Action in Civil War: Evidence from the Communist Insurgency in the Philippines. *Sage Journals*, 35(2), 453-456.

Tarrow, S.G. (2010). *The New Transnational Activism*. *Cambridge Studies in Contentious Politics*. Cambridge University Press

Walch, E. (2018). Role of Government to Communities. *Journal of Conflict Management*, 34(3), 342-678.



Appendix A

Interview Guide (English)

Republic of the Philippines
Tarlac State University
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE
Romulo Blvd., San Vicente, Tarlac City

Interview Guide

Dear Respondents,

Greetings of Peace!

The researcher is currently writing his thesis entitled: **“INSURGENCY IN THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC: THE CASE OF FORMER REBELS”**, for the degree Master of Public Administration. The study aims to describe the current situation of insurgency in the Province of Tarlac, to narrate the lived experiences of former rebels, to analyse existing programs for former rebels, to enhance the reintegration programs for former rebels and lastly to identify the the implication of the study to Pulic Administration. All of this are essential in order to come up with better understanding to help the country address insurgency in the Philippines.

In this regard, I request your openness in answering the interview guide. Rest assured that your identity and all your responses will be taken with outmost confidentiality if necessary.

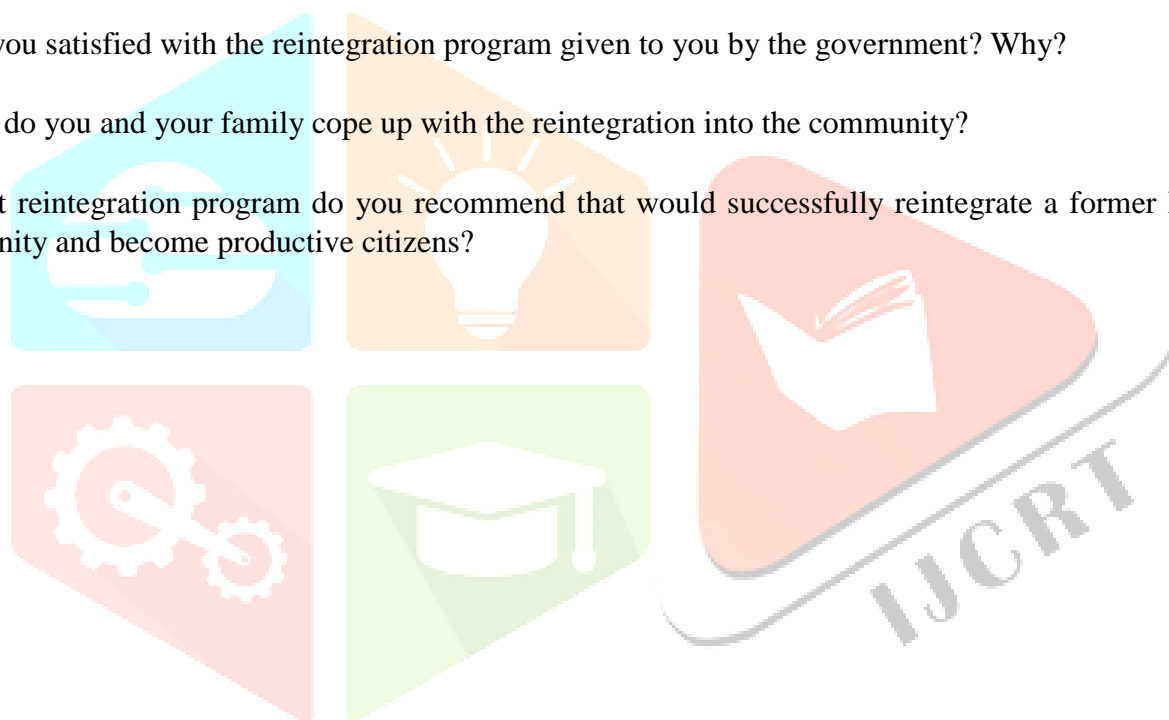
God bless!

Respectfully yours,

CIRILO B. ACOSTA JR.

Researcher

1. Before you join the organization, Can you tell us the story of your life? (Everything that will capture the biography of the participants)
2. How were you persuaded to join the underground movement? (Include all the step by step procedures until they are recruited)
3. What are the things you do when you are now in the organization? (May include area assignments, rank, companion, etc.)
4. What were the reasons why you left the organization? (May include personality or circumstances)
5. What have you been busy with since you are now out in the organization? (May include advocacies or groups the participants are active on)
6. What are the reintegration programs offered/given to you by the government?
7. Are you satisfied with the reintegration program given to you by the government? Why?
8. How do you and your family cope up with the reintegration into the community?
9. What reintegration program do you recommend that would successfully reintegrate a former Rebel into the community and become productive citizens?



Interview Guide (Filipino)

Republic of the Philippines
Tarlac State University
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE
Romulo Blvd., San Vicente, Tarlac City

Gabay sa Panayam

Mga Minamahal na Kalahok,

Pagbati ng Kapayapaan!

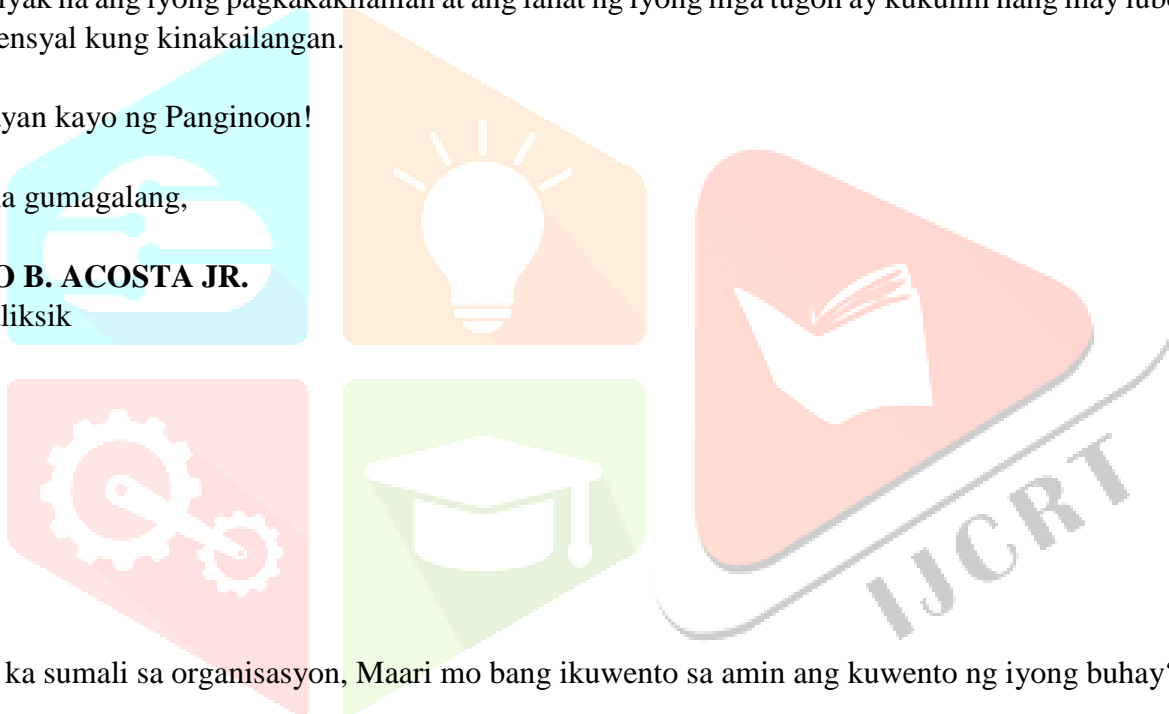
Kasalukuyang isinusulat ng mananaliksik ang kanyang thesis na pinamagatang: **“INSURGENCY IN THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC: THE CASE OF FORMER REBELS”**, para sa degree na Master of Public Administration. Layunin ng pag-aaral na ilarawan ang kasalukuyang sitwasyon ng insurhensya sa Lalawigan ng Tarlac, upang isalaysay ang mga buhay na karanasan ng mga dating rebelde, upang pag-aralan ang mga umiiral na programa para sa mga dating rebelde, upang pahasayin ang mga programa sa reintegration para sa mga dating rebelde at panghuli upang matukoy ang implikasyon ng pag-aaral sa Pulic Administration. Ang lahat ng ito ay mahalaga upang magkaroon ng mas mahusay na pag-unawa upang matulungan ang bansa na matugunan ang insurhensya sa Pilipinas.

Sa bagay na ito, Hinihiling ko ang iyong pagiging bukas sa pagsagot sa gabay sa pakikipanayam. Makatitiyak na ang iyong pagkakakilanlan at ang lahat ng iyong mga tugon ay kukunin nang may lubos na pagiging kumpidensyal kung kinakailangan.

Patnubayan kayo ng Panginoon!

Lubos na gumagalang,

CIRILO B. ACOSTA JR.
Mananaliksik



1. Bago ka sumali sa organisasyon, Maari mo bang ikuwento sa amin ang kuwento ng iyong buhay?
2. Paano ka nahikayat na sumali sa kilusan?
3. Ano ang mga bagay na ginagawa mo noong ikaw ay ganap ng kasapi nang organisasyon?
4. Ano ang mga dahilan kung bakit ka umalis sa organisasyon?
5. Ano ang pinagkakaabalahan mo mula nang lisanin mo ang organisasyon?
6. Ano ang mga programang reintegration na inaalok/ibinigay sa iyo ng gobyerno?
7. Nasiyahan ka ba sa programa ng reintegration na ibinigay sa iyo ng gobyerno? Bakit?
8. Paano mo at ng iyong pamilya nakayanan ang muling pagbalik sa komunidad?

9. Anong programa ng reintegration ang inirekomenda mo na matagumpay na muling magpapabalik sa isang dating Rebelde sa komunidad at maging produktibong mamamayan?



Appendix B
Receiving Copies



Republic of the Philippines
Tarlac State University
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE
Romulo Blvd., San Vicente, Tarlac City



Interview Guide

Dear Respondents,

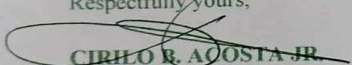
Greetings of Peace!

The researcher is currently writing his thesis entitled: **“INSURGENCY IN THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC: THE CASE OF FORMER REBELS”**, for the degree Master of Public Administration. The study aims to describe the current situation of insurgency in the Province of Tarlac, to narrate the lived experiences of former rebels, to analyse existing programs for former rebels, to enhance the reintegration programs for former rebels and lastly to identify the the implication of the study to Pulic Administration. All of this are essential in order to come up with better understanding to help the country address insurgency in the Philippines.

In this regard, I request your openness in answering the interview guide. Rest assured that your identity and all your responses will be taken with utmost confidentiality if necessary.

God bless!

Respectfully yours,


CIRILO B. ACOSTA JR.
Researcher





Republic of the Philippines
Tarlac State University
**COLLEGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND
GOVERNANCE**
Romulo Blvd., San Vicente, Tarlac City



Interview Guide

Dear Respondents,

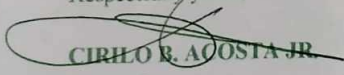
Greetings of Peace!

The researcher is currently writing his thesis entitled: **"INSURGENCY IN THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC: THE CASE OF FORMER REBELS"**, for the degree Master of Public Administration. The study aims to describe the current situation of insurgency in the Province of Tarlac, to narrate the lived experiences of former rebels, to analyse existing programs for former rebels, to enhance the reintegration programs for former rebels and lastly to identify the the implication of the study to Pulic Administration. All of this are essential in order to come up with better understanding to help the country address insurgency in the Philippines.

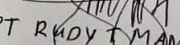
In this regard, I request your openness in answering the interview guide. Rest assured that your identity and all your responses will be taken with outmost confidentiality if necessary.

God bless!

Respectfully yours,


CIRILO R. ACOSTA JR.
Researcher

Received by:


PCPT RUDY MANGAWA
March 4, 2023



Republic of the Philippines
Tarlac State University
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE
Romulo Blvd., San Vicente, Tarlac City



Interview Guide

Dear Respondents,

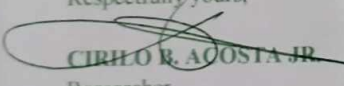
Greetings of Peace!

The researcher is currently writing his thesis entitled: **"INSURGENCY IN THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC: THE CASE OF FORMER REBELS"**, for the degree Master of Public Administration. The study aims to describe the current situation of insurgency in the Province of Tarlac, to narrate the lived experiences of former rebels, to analyse existing programs for former rebels, to enhance the reintegration programs for former rebels and lastly to identify the the implication of the study to Pulic Administration. All of this are essential in order to come up with better understanding to help the country address insurgency in the Philippines.

In this regard, I request your openness in answering the interview guide. Rest assured that your identity and all your responses will be taken with outmost confidentiality if necessary.

God bless!

Respectfully yours,


CIRILO R. ACOSTA JR.
Researcher

DILG-RO3 (Central Luzon)
DILG-TARLAC P.O.
March 9, 2023
RECEIVED
1645



Republic of the Philippines
Tarlac State University
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE
Romulo Blvd., San Vicente, Tarlac City



Interview Guide

Dear Respondents,


Greetings of Peace!

The researcher is currently writing his thesis entitled: **“INSURGENCY IN THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC: THE CASE OF FORMER REBELS”**, for the degree Master of Public Administration. The study aims to describe the current situation of insurgency in the Province of Tarlac, to narrate the lived experiences of former rebels, to analyse existing programs for former rebels, to enhance the reintegration programs for former rebels and lastly to identify the the implication of the study to Pulic Administration. All of this are essential in order to come up with better understanding to help the country address insurgency in the Philippines.

In this regard, I request your openness in answering the interview guide. Rest assured that your identity and all your responses will be taken with outmost confidentiality if necessary.

God bless!

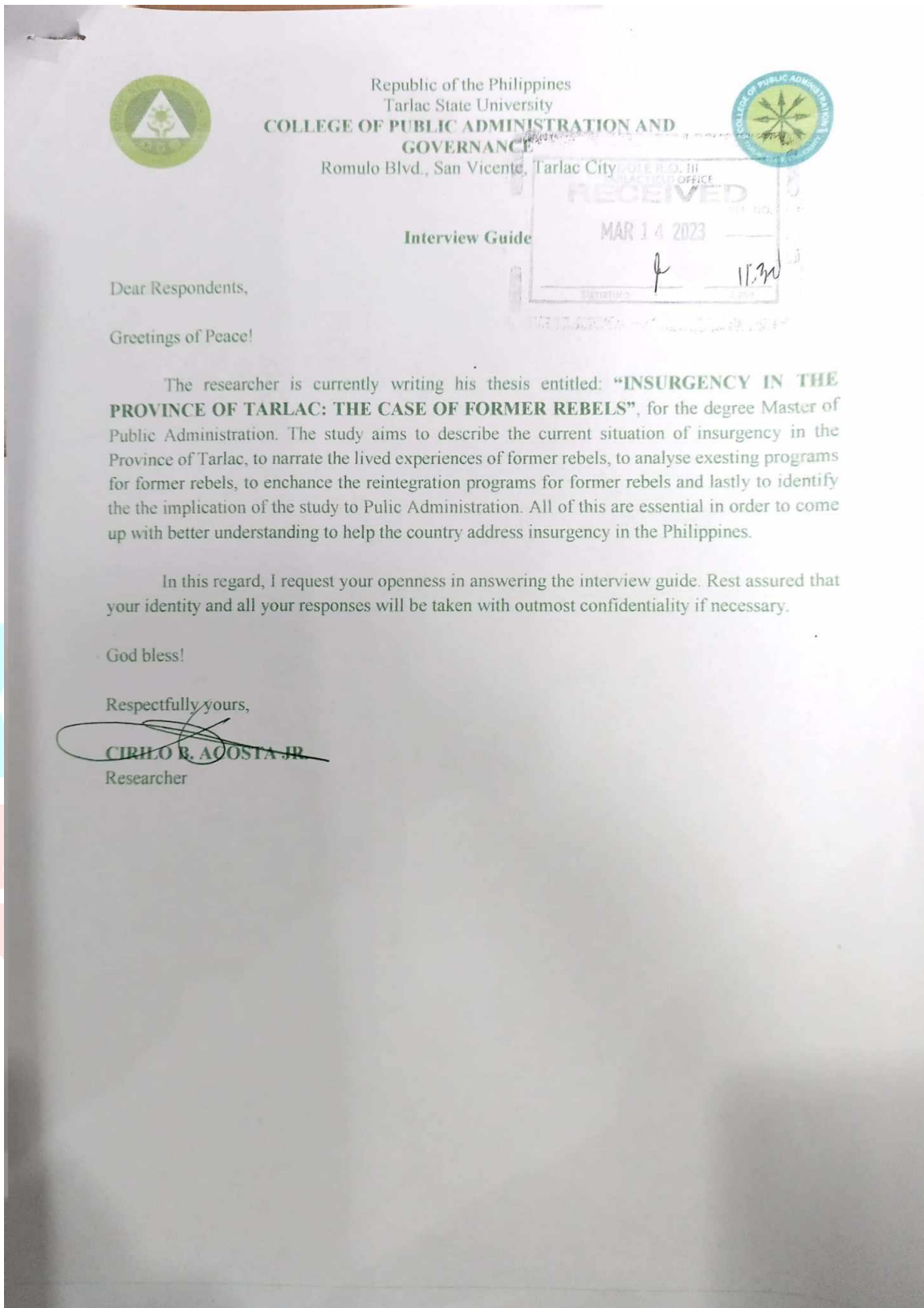
Respectfully yours,


CIRILO B. ACOSTA JR.
Researcher

ALG-RO3 (Central Luzon)
DILQ-TARLAC P.O.

March 9, 2023

RECEIVED
MARCH 16 2023



Appendix C

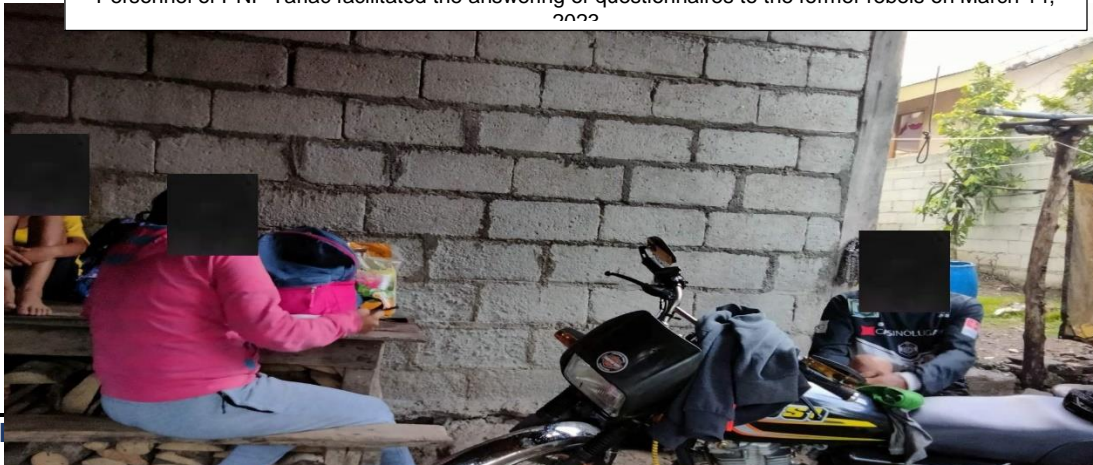
Documentation of the Activity



Personnel of PNP Tarlac conducted dialogue with former rebels before answering of questionnaires.



Personnel of PNP Tarlac facilitated the answering of questionnaires to the former rebels on March 14, 2022



Interview with former rebel a.k.a "Ka Ateng", of San Agustin Gerona Tarlac, on March 6, 2023



Interview with former rebel a.k.a "Ka Freddie" 40 y.o., of San Agustin, Gerona, Tarlac, on March 7, 2023



Interview with former rebel a.k.a. "Ka Andy" 40 y.o., of Calabtangan, Mayantoc, Tarlac on March 7, 2023



Interview with former rebels and facilitated the answering of questionnaires on March 14, 2023



Interview with former rebel a.k.a. "Ka Mandi" of Sitio Pisapungan, Bgry Sula, San Jose, Tarlac on March 9, 2023



Answering of questionnaire after Interview with former rebel a.k.a. "Ka Budang" of Banaoang, West Moncada Tarlac on March 8,2023



Interview with former rebel a.k.a "Ka Martin" of San Agustin, Gerona, Tarlac on March 6, 2023



Interview with former rebel a.k.a. Ka "Miriam" 66 y.o., of San Agustin, Gerona, Tarlac on March 6, 2023



Interview and answering of questionnaire with former rebel a.k.a. "Ka Roldan" of Sitio Tala, Bgry. Burgos, San Jose Tarlac March 9, 2023



Interview and answering the questionnaire is former rebel a.k.a. "Ka Ronnie" of Sitio Dueg, Bgry Maasin, San Clemente Tarlac, March 9, 2023



PCPT JENNY S TOLENTINO PHQ PCR Answering the questionnaire on March 09, 2023



Answering of questionnaires by the Tarlac PNP Personnel on March 14, 2023



PSMS Lady Lyreas Valdes of Mayantoc MPS answering the questionnaire after interview on March 14, 2023



Interview and answering of questionnaire with Aurita L Laxamana Chief Labor and Employment Officer DOLE-Tarlac March 14, 2023

Interview and answering of questionnaire with Danilo C Rellera Assistant Branch Head DILG-Tarlac Branch March 9, 2023



Curriculum Vitae

CIRILO B ACOSTA JR

General Information

College : Philippine National Police Academy
 Masteral : Adventist University of the Philippines



Eligibilities

Police Executive Service Eligibility

Superintendent Exam

Inspector Exam

Civil Service Professional Exam

Significant Positions Held

Regional Chief

Division Chief

Deputy Contingent Commander, United Nations Peacekeeping Operations

Deputy Provincial Director for Administration

Deputy Provincial Director for Operations

Force Commander

Chief of Police

Staff Officer

Motto: “ONLY A LIFE LIVED IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS IS WORTH LIVING – Albert Einstein”