

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 280, October 16, 1995]

CREATING A PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE ON INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE TO IDENTIFY, ARREST AND CAUSE THE INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF MILITARY AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL OR THEIR FORMER MEMBERS AND THEIR COHORTS INVOLVED IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, the crime situation in the country continues to defy meaningful solution even as it tends to undermine the gains the government has made in its economic recovery effort;

WHEREAS, the public views with deep concern the alarming increase in heinous crimes, particularly kidnap for ransom, bank robbery, and other organized crimes;

WHEREAS, current statistics from the Presidential Anti-Crime Commission show that 40% of organized crimes committed involve scalawags in the military and law enforcement agencies, either active, discharged from the service or absent without leave.

WHEREAS, the government drive against criminality will encounter difficulty unless these scalawags and their cohorts are identified, arrested, prosecuted and put to jail;

WHEREAS, there is a need to organize an intelligence and counterintelligence task force dedicated for the purpose of identifying, arresting and effectively prosecuting scalawags in the military and other law enforcement agencies.

WHEREAS, based on experience, the creation of a counterintelligence unit in the AFP dedicated to the neutralization and prosecution of scalawags in the AFP has been successful, thus raising the possibility that counterintelligence operations can be expanded to cover all law enforcing agencies engaged in the anti-crime drive;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. *Organization.* There is hereby created a Presidential Task Force on Intelligence and Counterintelligence Against Scalawags.

SEC. 2. *Leadership Composition and Organizational Structure.* The Task Force shall be headed by the Chief, Intelligence Service, Armed Forces of the Philippines, assisted by a PNP officer who shall serve as the Deputy Task Force Commander for Intelligence/Operations, and an NBI Official who shall be designated as the Deputy Task Force Commander for Investigation and Legal Affairs. Structurally, the Task Force shall be organized as follows:

a. Directly under the Task Force Commander are the Executive Officer and a functional staff that shall assist the Task Force Commander in the implementation, supervision and orchestration of Task Force policies and orders within their respective functional areas.

b. A Task Force Operations Center (TFOC) shall be created to monitor and orchestrate the day-to-day operational activities of the Task Force. It shall be manned by elements from the different agencies involved.

c. Component force shall be organized separately to be composed of competent and dedicated elements from the PNP, NBI, DOJ, NICA, AFP Major Service CI Units, ISAFP and other units/agencies concerned, as may be deemed necessary. They shall be directly under the provision and control of the Task Force Commander.

d. The national organizational setup shall be replicated or similarly organized in the regions except the National Capital Region which shall be placed under the jurisdiction of the NCR-based national organization. The creation of the Regional Task Groups outside NCR shall be phased in and selectively determined according to operational necessity. Among the regions which will be given priority after NCR are Region 9, Region 12, the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), Region 7, Region 6, Region 3, and Region 4. Other regions may follow as the need arises.

e. The Assistant Group Commanders of the Field Military Intelligence Groups, ISAFP, shall act as the Regional Task Group Commander for their respective regions.

f. Transportation, communications, firearms and individual equipment of personnel of the component forces shall be provided by their respective mother agencies.

SEC. 3. *Coordination.* The Task Force is hereby authorized to enlist the assistance of any branch, department, bureau, office, agency or instrumentality of the Government, including government-owned and/or controlled corporations in the performance of its functions.

SEC. 4. *Command and Control.* The line of command and control of the Task Force is as follows.

a. The Task Force Commander shall report and be directly responsible to the President.

b. The Task Force Commander shall have direct responsibility, supervision and control over all component forces of the Task Force. He is hereby authorized to select and designate all the personnel who will work under him.

c. The component forces/elements from the NBI, PNP, DOJ, NICA and AFP Service Counterintelligence Units must be attached and assigned to the Task force, i.e., their respective mother units shall provide/assign a permanent force to the Task Force. The component force so attached and assigned shall hold office or report to the Task Force Headquarters daily. The Task Force Commander shall have directive and supervisory authority over them.