



P8.00 Volume 19 No. 267 May 16-17, 2009 Weekend

Officer in Martinez slay: 'I'm innocent'

By JIGGER JERUSALEM, Correspondent

I WANT to clear my name." PO3 Bangcola Manangcawal, a murder suspect, said this when he surrendered on Thursday.

Manangcawal is one of the two police officers accused of killing faith healer Robert Martinez last December.

The other suspect, PO2 Rommel Pontillas, is at large at presstime.

Manangcawal surrendered hours before a regional court issued an arrest warrant against him and Pontillas.

Speaking to reporters in Maharlika, Manangcawal said he yielded to Judge Gil Bollozos to show that he was innocent.

Manangcawal said he could not have been involved in the murder of Martinez because on the night the victim was killed, he (Manangcawal) was with his wife in Barangay Marantao, Marawi City.

He said he and his wife spent the night in

Marawi.

Manangcawal said he has proof: a certificate issued by Marantao's barangay chairperson.

He said he and his wife slept in the barangay chairman's house the night Martinez was murdered.

Judge Bollozos sent Manangcawal to the Maharlika jail after his surrender. The police officer has been detained together with over a dozen inmates in a cell.

Maharlika jail guard PO1 Ramil Parnazo assured that Manangcawal would not be given special treatment.

Greens seek city hall support for mining bill

By MIKE BANOS, Correspondent

ENVIRONMENTAL groups this week marched shoulder to shoulder with indigenous peoples and other citizens adversely affected by the mining industry to city hall asking for the local government's endorsement for the Alternative Mining Bill (AMB).

The AMB which seeks the scrapping of Republic Act 7942, also known as the Philippine Mining Act, was filed by Rep. Lorenzo Tañada III of Quezon and Rep. Riza Hontiveros of Akbayan in the Lower House.

"We are calling on the Cagayan de Oro City Council to pass a resolution strongly urging Congress to pass the AMB," said Cheryl Pulutan of Kaisahan, one of the 23 non-government organizations in the Alternative Law Groups (ALG). "We are also calling on the local government to support the AMB through small ad-

vocacy activities in the various groups and barangays which make up the city."

Rep. Rufus Rodriguez of Cagayan de Oro and Rep. Teofisto Guingona III of Bukidnon have announced their support for the AMB.

The AMB is subtitled "An Act to regulate the rational exploration, development and utilization of mineral resources, and to ensure the equitable sharing of benefits for the state, indigenous peoples and local communities."

Supporters of the AMB marched to city hall following a brief discussion of the bill at the Archbishop Patrick Cronin Hall of the St. Augustine Cathedral compound. They were met by Ben Salvador of the City Environment and Natural Resources (Cenro) office.

"The AMB seeks to bring back the exploration, development and utilization of mineral resources within

See **SEEK**/p.13



COSMOPOLITAN MURDER. Regional State Prosecutor Jaime Umpa accompanies a witness in the December 2008 Martinez murder case at the Cosmopolitan Funeral Homes on Capistrano Street where the victim ran for cover. A reenactment was made before prosecutors with the help of the witness whose identity was withheld. At left, suspect PO3 Bangcola Manangcawal, inside a Maharlika cell following his surrender. PHOTOS BY JIGGER JERUSALEM

Hunt widow could lose green card, get booted out from US

By JIGGER JERUSALEM, Correspondent

JANELAZE Hunt could end up losing her green card if proven that she lied to US authorities about her having a daughter when she applied for a visa and subsequently, a permanent resident status.

Bureau of Immigration director for northern Mindanao Florentino Diputado said the US government "is very strict when it comes to immigration laws."

He said lying to US immigration authorities about not having a child could mean serious consequences on one's status as a green card holder.

"If it can be proven that Janelaze violated their law, then there's a chance she would be deported," Diputado said.

A message posted by Mrs. Hunt on a "Yahoo Answers" page a year ago suggests that she denied that she had a daughter and lied to her husband, the late Thomas J. Hunt, about it apparently just to be able to go and stay in the US.

Diputado said he believed that the Hunt affair was an "isolated case."

"Filipino women are generally very caring and loving to their husbands, be they foreigner or not," said Diputado. "Filipino women are good wives."

Diputado said there were also times when Filipino wives complained to the bureau about alleged abuses. He said there were actual cases Filipino wives who went to the immigration bureau here to complain because they were handled roughly by their expat-husbands.

The "usual reason," according to Diputado, for the alleged abuses: jealousy.

He said he advised the complaining wives to press

See **LOSE**/p.7

Oro ham in Mar-Korina wedding reception menu

By MARK FRANCISCO, Staff member

HAM made in Cagayan de Oro will be part of the wedding reception menu of Sen. Manuel Roxas II and broadcaster Korina Sanchez.

Sanchez disclosed this

during a news conference called for her fiancé yesterday.

As part of the wedding preparations, the two are touring the country to choose selected culinary treats from the Philippines as part of the menu in their

reception.

Roxas said the preparations for their wedding would be long. "May feng shui pa yan at kung ano-ano pa," the beaming senator said.

In an interview with ABS-CBN's sister company

StarStudio magazine, the feisty broadcaster denied insinuations that Roxas was just using her to further his political ambition.

"They should just accept that Mar and I love each other," Sanchez said. "I am

See **WEDDING**/p.7

Lose

From page 1

charges.

“But things got patched up right away... Complaining wives normally do not come back to the office,” said Diputado.

But generally, expatriates here have good relationships with their Filipino wives, he said.