

9ID extends All Out Support to Bicol Region Peñafrancia Fiesta 2008
Troops acted as Voyadores & Buffer Crowd



Voyadores from 9ID (left picture) carry the image of Nuestra Señora de Peñafrancia, Ina of Bicol Region that signals as she will be returned back to her residence from Metropolitan Cathedral to Basilica through grand fluvial procession. The image of Ina with El Divino Rostro (right picture) surrounded by priests and devotees aboard on Pagoda signals the start of the Grand Fluvial Procession along Bicol River in the afternoon of Saturday (September 20).

CAMP ELIAS ANGELES, Pili, Camarines Sur – Spear Troopers from 9th Infantry Division, Philippine Army actively participated in the week long celebration of Our Lady of Peñafrancia Fiesta in Naga City, a well known Bicolano tradition being witnessed by local and foreign devotees of Nuestra Señora de Peñafrancia (called “Ina” of Bicol Region) on September 12 – 20.

In support to the 10-day Celebration of Our Lady of Penafrancia, the Command organized a task force dubbed as “Task Force Penafrancia” who is in charged on the coordination, command and control of all Spear Troopers units who are directly involved in the conduct of “Traslacion Procession” “Military Parade” Concelebrated Pontifical mass, and the “Grand Fluvial Procession” acting as Voyadores, Buffer Crowd, Marching Unit and Band Contingent, security and medical elements, and personnel assigned for the Mass. LTC Magno Abonita (CAV), PA was designated as the Commander of said task force. For the whole duration of the Penafrancia Fiesta, the Command has committed about 1,000 personnel taken from Headquarters, 9ID and Post units to assist and support the local government of Naga City, Religious leaders of the Diocese of Nueva Caceres of Naga, Naga City Police District, PNP, and other People’s Organizations (POs). On the other hand, the 902nd Infantry Bde with its operational control units are tasked of the outer security of the area including vital installation run by the government and private business sectors that are located within the periphery of Naga City District.

As to the result of the said activity, the 9th Infantry Division, Philippine Army in closed collaboration with the PNP in the area has greatly contributed in the smooth transition on the hand over of our lady of Penafrancia particularly during “Traslacion” and “Grand Fluvial” Processions while undertaking its assigned tasks as Voyadores, Buffer Crowd, Security and Medical Assistance, and Mass Sponsor during the concelebrated Pontifical mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Naga, and thus, greatly appreciated by the organizers of said activities, religious and local leaders, the various sectors of the society who are devotees of “Ina”.

According to Major General Sodusta, Commander of the 9th Infantry Division, Philippine Army, the Spear Troopers under his leadership in closed coordination with the PNP units in the area shall continue its full support to the religious leaders of the Diocese of Nueva Caceres of Naga and the local government leaders of Naga City to ensure that the Fiesta Celebration of our Lady of Nuestra Senora de Penafrancia will be attained its ultimate religious objective and success.