

## Philippines: National Democratic Front Consultant Ericson Acosta Murdered in Joint Operation of 94th and 47th Infantry Battalion

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*Twisting truths cannot cover the fact that butchers 94th Infantry Battalion and 47th Infantry Battalion captured NDF Consultant **Ericson Acosta** and his companion, a peasant organizer, alive around 2:00 this morning, November 30, at Sitio Makilo, Barangay Camansi, Kanbankalan City, Negros Occidental, and, few hours after, tagged them as casualties of a fake encounter.*

Ka Ericson was here in Negros, particularly in Kabankalan City, to consult on the situation of farm workers in the southern part of Negros Occidental and share developments regarding the Comprehensive Agreement on Social and Economic Reforms (CASER). He was one of the NDF consultants working on the CASER.

NDF Negros, in the strongest terms, condemns the 94th IB, 47th IB and top dogs of the 3rd ID for the summary execution of Ka Ericson and his companion. The two were victims of the AFP's despicable policy of "taking no prisoners" in their counter-insurgency campaign.

The entire revolutionary forces and the broad masses in Negros offer the highest tribute to Ka Ericson Acosta. Likewise, NDF Negros extends sympathies to Ka Ericson's family, especially his son, and all those he has inspired.

Today, the Filipino people has lost a revolutionary, propagandist, poet, song writer, journalist, and thespian. His bloody murder is added fuel to the already seething social volcano in Negros and will bring forth an outpour of new blood to the national democratic revolution.

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*Featured image: Officers of the 94th Infantry Battalion led by Lt. Col. Randy Pagunuran welcome Brig. Gen. Benedict Arevalo (left), commander of the Army's 303rd Infantry Brigade based in Murcia, Negros Occidental, during the visit of the latter to the unit's headquarters in Guihulngan City, Negros Oriental on Sunday (July 7, 2019). The 94IB was placed under the jurisdiction of the 303IBde on July 1, following the realignment of the military forces in Negros Island. (Photo courtesy of 303rd Infantry Brigade, Philippine Army)*

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