

Police unearth bodies of murdered couple, relatives of Security Adviser Gonzales

SANTO DOMINGO, Nueva Ecija: Combined operatives of Bataan and Nueva Ecija police unearthed from a 40-foot grave the bodies of a couple, reportedly relatives of National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales, of Balanga City over the weekend.

Supr. Benjamin Silo Jr., Balanga City police chief, said the victims, Rolando Gonzales and his wife Linelda could have been killed anytime from April 22 to 24 this year, after being abducted in the vicinity of Balanga City Cathedral.

He said the suspects, in-in partners Michael Ving and Lexi Lei of Balanga City, Albert Tanyag and Allan Lopez of Labao, Pampanga were charged before the Bataan court.

Investigation disclosed the suspects were indebted of about P1.1 million from the victims, who were lending money to some store owners in Balanga City Public Market.

Pedro Gonzales, brother of Rolando and cousin of the security adviser, expressed belief that the suspects may have initially wanted to stop the victims from collecting the debts.

Police operatives used a back hoe to recover the bodies from the grave, reportedly an abandoned site of failed treasure hunting. The bodies were undressed with Rolando tied with packaging tape.

Rolando's neck bore wound from bladed weapon, investigators said.

Elements of Santo Domingo police and provincial mobile group cooperated fully with the Balanga City police, said Nueva Ecija police director, Senior Supr. Napoleon Taas.

Silo said that after the Scene of the Crime operatives positively identified the bodies as those of the Gonzales couple, the case could be considered solved.

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