

Malaysia Asks The Philippines To Claim Bodies Of Sulu Terrorists

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LAHAD DATU, March 15 (Bernama) -- Malaysia has written officially asking the Philippines to claim the bodies of its citizens killed in the "Ops Daulat" offensive against Sulu terrorists who had intruded into Sabah on Feb 12.

Sabah Police Commissioner Datuk Hamza Taib said the letter was sent after the post mortem of the bodies was completed.

The Philippines has three days, as per the Geneva Convention, to respond, he said.

"If there is no response in three days, we will go ahead and bury the dead," he told a news conference, at which Army First Division commander Maj Gen Datuk Ahmad Zaki was also present, at the Ops Daulat command in the Felda Sahabat 16 plantation near here.

Hamza said 61 terrorists had been killed up to the 11th day today of the government offensive.

As of 5 pm Friday, 27 of the bodies had been removed from the operations zone.

"we believe 10 more bodies have yet to be brought out of Kampung Tanjung Batu," he said, confirming that the security forces found three gravesites and 15 bodies in Kampung Tanduo.

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