Pagkatapos ko panoorin ang interview ni Fr. Balweg, binangga ko ang sinabi niya sa dalawang CIA reports, isang international report, at dalawang local report ng AFP. Ang lumitaw ay misinformed at mali ang mga sinabi ni Fr. Balweg. Dumami ang NPA sa panahon ni Marcos at bumagsak ang kanilang numero sa panahon ni Cory at Ramos. Eto ang tunay na kasaysayan ng NPA.

NPA ay nagumpisa isang taon pagkatapos matatag ang CPP ng 1968. 1969, NPA ay nag umpisa sa 60 fighters lamang. Growth steadily increased during Marcos term at 25,000 active troops at their height and able to organize themselves into batallions (CIA numbers would put them at 30,000-36,500). Marcos strict open anti-communist stance reduced their numbers but growth would continue to exceed the losses. This growth would be owed to the Marcos' repression which disillusioned many Filipinos. The conflict peaked at 1985 where government casualties would reach 1,300 and NPA casualties 2,100. Peace negotiations occurred in 1986 with Cory Aquino. NPA numbers continue adding an extra 3000 fighters and would confidently walk in the open in their stronghold areas of CARAGA, Negros and Davao. Peace talks would fail in 1987.

Counter insurgency efforts by the Aquino and Ramos administration paired with internal splits crippled the insurgency and came close to ending it. This push back would be supported by citizen efforts and strong military presence. By the 2000s of Erap, the NPA had regained strength. Especially active in mountainous and neglected areas. Peace talks resumed with Arroyo. Peace talks failed in 2004 and military operations resumed. During Pnoy's term the NPA would not see substantial growth or reduction in numbers with remaining 4,000 fighters in 2010.

The NPA and soldiers die in the hundreds each year. 2009 reported 132 AFP were killed and 241 NPA were killed by government forces. Revolutionary taxes performed discourage business investments. NPA-Government clashes would involve civilian fatalities. NPA would commit atrocities to military, civilian and their own members alike.

NPA's Growth

In the 1970s the NPA would struggle to mobilize peasants behind them but martial law would help them forge alliances with community leaders, religious leaders and unions. They would follow a system of decentralized operations which ensures the group's survival even after a wave of arrests, including Sison in 1977. Membership growth would spur after the 1978 rigged elections, again in 1981 when repression increased with disappearances and torture and again after the assassination of Benigno Aquino in 1983 as more and more Filipinos become disillusioned with the Marcos regime. The conflict would heighten at 1985 with casualties in the thousands. NPA boasted 25,000 fighters. An exponential growth during the Marcos term from their initial 60 fighters. 1986 snap elections would be boycotted by the NPA, despite Cory running the opposition.

First Peace Talks With Cory Aquino

Aquino then replaced Marcos after the EDSA revolution and initiated the first peace talk with the insurgents. She released all political prisoners which accompanied with it a mutual ceasefire for two months Dec 1986 - Jan 1987. Aquino assumed that "the NPA was just against Marcos" but they would prove her wrong as the peace talks failed with their lack of interest and commitment to peace. On Jan 22, 1987 CPP groups would create the pretext to withdraw from peace talks by pushing the security lines of the Mendiola Bridge to Malacañang Palace to evoke a forceful response from the security forces. Thirteen would be shot dead in the event now known as Mendiola Massacre.

The Beginning of the Decline

Cory Aquino launched a total war against the NPA. Oplan Lambat Bitag would see multiple arrests especially on top leaders. This would prompt fears of infiltration and would trigger rounds of purging. Disenchantment from the NPA would see their membership fall and support erode. Internal strife would be rectified by Joma Sison but would split them into reaffirmists and rejectionists. The reaffirmists would engage the government in a prolonged war. The rejectionists would largely reject the armed struggle.

Peace talks would resume with Ramos at the lowest membership at 6,000 in 1998 and would result in the CARHRIHL(Human Rights).

Blunders by Erap

Erap would take over and abandon talks and war resumed once again. NPA membership would go up to 12,000 until Erap's ousting. Doubling the 1998 count.

The NPA would support Arroyo until 2004 where military operations would intensify under Oplan Bantay Laya. Membership dropped to 4,000.

The CPP sent two candidates to run for the Senate in the 2010 elections under Manny Villar's Nacionalista party which also included Marcos Jr. They would fail to be elected.

Noynoy and Duterte

Noynoy would implement the Oplan Bayanihan and would contain the NPA numbers to 4,000. Rodrigo Duterte ended Oplan Bayanihan in 2016. NTF ELCAC would be formed in 2018. AFP has no record yet Duterte's policies but we all hope to an end to the armed insurgency.