

## Army recovers rebel landmine (Philippines)

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**MANILA, Philippines-Army troops recovered a claymore landmine and several other ammunitions following an encounter with communist rebels in Agusan del Sur, a military spokesman said Tuesday.**

(04.11.2008)

The soldiers were on patrol when they encountered an undetermined number of New People's Army rebels in the village of Salem, Bayugan City in Agusan del Sur at 1:15 p.m. Sunday, Lieutenant Colonel Romeo Brawner, Jr.

After a 10-minute firefight, the rebels withdrew toward the southeast direction, Brawner said.

He said the recovery of the claymore mine confirmed that the NPA rebels use "traitorous" tactics in their operations.

Aside from the claymore mine, army troops also recovered a handheld radio with extra antenna, two bandoleers with five magazines of M16 rifle, a rifle grenade, blasting caps and other paraphernalia.

The Philippine Army has deactivated all its claymore mines and only uses them for training and demonstration purposes following the signing of an international treaty banning its use.

In 2007, a total of 158 countries, including the Philippines, signed the Ottawa Treaty or the Mina Ban Treaty, prohibiting the use of Anti-personnel landmines like claymore mines that pose security threats to hapless civilians.

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