An Army soldier was seriously injured as New People’s Army (NPA) militia attacked a military truck in Bayabas, Surigao del Sur on Thursday evening, following the rebels’ alleged murder of two provincial policemen the day before.

(08.03.2007)

Military reports said nine soldiers of the 58th Infantry Battalion were onboard the truck when about 10 armed rebels struck at about 8:30 p.m. in Cagbaoto village.

The reports said the rebels used landmines in their attack. After the government troops retaliated, the assailants eventually moved away from the battle ground.

The Caraga regional police office identified the wounded as Corporal Joselito Angwas of the Army’s 8th IB based in the same province.

Last Wednesday, two policemen of Lianga town some 80 kms from Bayabas were gunned down while they were eating inside the Edwin Galen Restaurant.

The gunmen, described by witnesses to be of medium built and sporting camouflage jackets, quickly boarded a motorcycle in escaping the scene of the crime. Seized by the attackers were the victims’ M-16 rifles and .45-cal. pistols.

Provincial police director Senior Superintendent Alex Ga identified the two slain policemen as Senior Police Officer (SPO) 1 Roque Lobo and Police Officer (PO) 2 Edmund Aparta.

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<<< zurück zu: News

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