



KERATAN AKHBAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	THE STAR			
TARIKH	:	18/11/2019	MUKA SURAT	:	3
JABATAN	:	JPSM			
KLASIFIKASI	:	PERHATIAN			

Filipinos nabbed for stealing mangrove tree bark

KOTA KINABALU: Two illegal foreigners were caught for trespassing and stealing mangrove tree bark at a forest reserve in Beluran.

The Filipinos, in their 30s, were found with the bark, weighing around four tonnes and estimated to be worth about RM52,000 in the market.

The Battalion 20 General Operations Force said the seizure was made at 5pm on Saturday in Sungai Sugut, Sungai Paitan and the Pulau Jambongan mangrove forest reserve.

Acting on a tip-off, a team from Battalion 20, Tiger Platoon, and an officer from the Pitas Forestry Department went to the location and found the two suspects cutting off bark with axes.

“Upon further inspections, four piles of bark from the Tengar species of mangrove trees were recovered.

“Each pile was estimated to weigh around a tonne.

“The team apprehended the men and seized the items, including three small wooden boats,” it said in a statement.

The suspects and the seized goods were brought to the Beluran police station for further action.



Caught red-handed: Officers from Battalion 20, Tiger Platoon and the Forestry Department arrested two suspects (right) following a tip-off at the forest reserve in Beluran.