

Presidential Communications Office

Presidential News Desk

OPENING REMARKS

OF

PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE

DURING HIS BILATERAL MEETING WITH CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING

[Delivered at the Banquet Hall, Boao State Guesthouse, Hainan, China | 10 April 2018]

Mr. President, first of all, I'd like to say it again before everybody, including the Cabinet --- that we are very happy about your reelection as President of the People's Republic of China.

And we are happy also that we have maintained this relation and promoted it to a higher level of friendship.

And one of the things that we would like to assure you is that we would like the fullest cooperation between our two countries regarding transnational crimes and address terrorism.

And we welcome China's hosting of the 6th Annual Defense and Security Talks to discuss better cooperation.

China and the Philippines can do more to boost military and defense cooperation under the framework of the 2004 Memorandum of Understanding on Defense Cooperation.

I'd like to say it in a very short way --- we are with you in this and we would like to thank again for the military assistance you gave us.

It spelled the difference between victory and defeat, at least on a shorter term, that we are able to put down the terroristic activities that have perpetuated in Marawi.

On the side, it may not really be important but it could be a good historical note that the rifle that killed the number one terrorist, Hapilon, the rifle was one of those that killed...

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