The original documents are located in Box 17, folder "Philippines" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Ron, this will be announced at State tomorrow of a close DRAFT JOINT US-PHILIPPINE STATEMENT hold til Hen. anu questions can be referred

General Carlos P. Romulo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs to State. of the Republic of the Philippines, and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger met on December 4, 1976, for further discussion of the military base agreement negotiations which have been in progress since April 12, 1976.

The two Secretaries announced that, as a result of their discussions in October during which the basic lines were worked out, they have reached agreement in principle on the nature of a new military base agreement between the Philippines and the United States.

The United States will have the use of military bases in the Philippines in accordance with the terms of such an agreement. As part of such an agreement, the United States would provide, subject to necessary legislative approval, over a period of five years, the sum of one billion dollars in grants and credits, the total to be divided equally between military and economic assistance.

It was also agreed that the negotiating panels in Manila will resume their work shortly in order to resolve the remaining issues in the negotiations, and arrive at a mutually agreed text. The final agreement will be subject to approval by the two governments in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

