

The original documents are located in Box 21, “12/6/75 - Remarks Upon Arrival in Manila, The Philippines” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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MR. PRESIDENT; MRS. MARCOS:

THANK YOU FOR THE WARM WELCOME YOU HAVE EXTENDED TO
MRS. FORD AND ME. I HAVE LONG LOOKED FORWARD TO VISITING
THIS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY WHICH IS RENOWNED THROUGHOUT THE
WORLD FOR ITS WARM HOSPITALITY. I NOW SEE THAT ALL THESE
REPORTS ARE TRUE.

I FIND IT VERY SIGNIFICANT THAT THIS VISIT TO
PACIFIC NATIONS SHOULD CONCLUDE HERE IN THE PHILIPPINES AMONG
SOME OF MY COUNTRY'S BEST AND OLDEST ASIAN FRIENDS. OUR TWO
COUNTRIES, MR. PRESIDENT, HAVE SHARED A UNIQUE HISTORY
TOGETHER. BOTH IN TIMES OF PEACE AND IN TIMES OF DIRE ADVERSITY.

THE YEARS OF COMMON HISTORY WHICH BIND US TOGETHER PROVIDE
A UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP OF DEEP UNDERSTANDING AND TRUST WHICH
SURVIVES THE TEST OF TIME. I AM CONFIDENT IT WILL CONTINUE
FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

THE PAST DECADE HAS SEEN REMARKABLE CHANGES IN THE
WORLD AROUND US. YET THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO
COUNTRIES HAS DEEPENED AND MATURED. WE MEET TODAY AS
SOVEREIGN NATIONS, EACH WITH ITS OWN PRIDE AND INDEPENDENCE.

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WE MEET AS FRIENDS WHO HAVE KNOWN WHAT IT IS TO FIGHT
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER FOR COMMON IDEALS.

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THE DAYS AHEAD HOLD GREAT CHALLENGES FOR OUR TWO
COUNTRIES AND ALSO GREAT PROMISE. YOUR COUNTRY IS
ALREADY MOVING OUT AND EXPLORING NEW HORIZONS, BOTH IN
ASIA AND ELSEWHERE.

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MR. PRESIDENT, I LOOK FORWARD TO THE OPPORTUNITY
OF DISCUSSING WITH YOU FREELY AND FRANKLY THE MANY AND
VARIED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AS WELL
AS THE FUTURE OF THIS AREA.

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THANK YOU AGAIN, MR. PRESIDENT, AND THE FILIPINO
PEOPLE, FOR YOUR WARM WELCOME. AND MAY I ADD FROM THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES:

MABUHAY

(MAH-BOO-HIGH)

END OF TEXT