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Department of National Defense – Republic of the Philippines

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Soldiers : People’s Hope for Peace



Inspired by the courage, selfless service and valor of soldiers who are fighting the Maute-Daesh terrorists in Marawi, members of the Rotary Club of Makati, J. P Rizal Chapter raised funds to produce HOPE shirts for our defenders.

In a simple ceremony today, September 19, 2017, at the DND Social Hall, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana received the initial 1,000 pieces of HOPE shirts with the message, “*Katapangan mo para sa Bayan, Pag-*

asa para sa Kapayapaan” from Ms. Caroline Siy, president of the Rotary Club of Makati, J. P Rizal Chapter.

Ms. Siy, in her speech, thanked the soldiers who are risking their life and limb to neutralize the terrorists in Marawi and at the same time, bringing to safety the civilians who were held hostage for almost four months. She said they hope to donate more HOPE shirts until all members of the government security forces fighting in Marawi have one.

Receiving the shirts on behalf of the soldiers, Secretary Lorenzana, who is also the chairperson of *Task Force Bangon Marawi*, thanked members of the Rotary Club of Makati, J. P Rizal Chapter for their unique way of showing their appreciation and gratitude to the soldiers. He said he is elated by the thought that soldiers are held in high esteem and are considered as the people’s “hope” to attain peace.

Also present in the ceremony were MGen. Antonio L. Bautista, AFP (Ret), Defense Assistant Secretary for Human Resource who facilitated the turn-over of the HOPE shirts, other DND officials and staff, and the ladies of Rotary Club of Makati, J. P Rizal Chapter.

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