

PRESS STATEMENT

Public Affairs Service - Department of National Defense

DND Annex Building, Natividad Ave., Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, 1110 Metro Manila <u>Website</u>: www.dnd.gov.ph | <a href="mailto:E-Mailto:Benai

Date Released: 9 October 2017

Releasing Officer: ARSENIO R. ANDOLONG, MNSA, CESE Chief, Public Affairs Service

Statement of the DND Spokesperson on the Technical Lapse during the Handover Ceremony of Rifles and Ammunition from the People's Republic of China

During the handover ceremony of rifles and ammunition on 5 October 2017, the Department of National Defense committed a grievous but purely unintentional mistake of using a different logo on a banner to represent the Ministry of Defense of the People's Republic of China.

We have issued an official apology to the government and the people of the People's Republic of China through His Excellency Zhao Jianhua, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Philippines.

We are fully cognizant and grateful for the support that the government of the People's Republic of China has been providing us and we reiterate that the DND and the AFP strictly adhere to the "One China Policy" as espoused by the Philippine Government.

It is our sincere hope that this very unfortunate incident will not affect the cooperative and friendly relations between our two countries which has grown warmer over the past year.

###





