



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Defense Chief: AFP anti-terrorism unit to get force protection equipment

Defense Secretary Delfin N. Lorenzana recently announced the upcoming delivery of 1,190 sets of force protection equipment worth PhP 53.5 M to boost the operational capability of the Joint Special Operations Group (JSOG), the lead anti-terrorism unit of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

These are expected to be delivered by the second quarter of 2017 from Israel by MAROM Dolphin Ltd., the winning company that supplies force protection equipment to the Israel Defense Force. This government-to-government procurement is pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding on Logistics and Defense Industry Cooperation and the Implementing Arrangement for Procurement of Defense Materials between the Department of National Defense (DND) and the Israel Ministry of Defense (ISRAEL-MOD).

JSOG is at the forefront of the intensified anti-terrorism campaign. It is composed of specialized units from the various major services of the AFP, including the Philippine Army's Light Reaction Regiment, the Philippine Navy's Naval Special Operations Group, and a Special Operations Wing from the Philippine Air Force.

This initial delivery is part of various equipment acquisitions that the Department is pursuing in order to upgrade the capability of the AFP in combating terrorist groups and terrorist cells.

***“We have prioritized the procurement of these specialized vests for our defenders to enhance their survivability in encounters and battles against terrorists and lawless elements. Kahit saang lupalop sila magtago, hahanapin sila ng ating mga tropa!”***

The AFP Modernization Program is part of the **Philippine Defense Transformation Roadmap 2028**, DND's blueprint to attain more credible defense posture for security and stability, national peace, and economic development.

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