



# PRESS RELEASE

Department of National Defense – Republic of the Philippines

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Chief, Public Affairs Service

## **SND Delfin N. Lorenzana's Message**

### **Acceptance, Turn-over, and Blessing of NC212i Light Lift Fixed-Wing Aircraft**

26 June 2018 | Tuesday | 1:00 PM | Haribon Hangar, Clark Airbase, Mabalacat City, Pampanga

#### *[PLEASANTRIES]*

THE TURNOVER OF THESE TWO LIGHT LIFT FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT SIGNIFY THE MODERNIZATION OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES TO A LEVEL WHERE IT CAN MORE EFFECTIVELY AND FULLY PERFORM ITS CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE TO UPHOLD THE SOVEREIGNTY AND PRESERVE THE PATRIMONY OF OUR COUNTRY.

SINCE THE PASSAGE OF THE REPUBLIC ACT 7898 OR THE AFP MODERNIZATION ACT IN 1995, THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE LAW'S MANDATE HAS ENCOUNTERED SEVERAL SETBACKS ESPECIALLY DURING THE ASIAN ECONOMIC CRISIS WHEN MODERNIZATION EFFORTS IN THE MILITARY WAS STALLED MOMENTARILY DUE TO FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS. BUT I AM HAPPY TO NOTE THAT WE HAVE SURPASSED ALL THOSE CHALLENGES AND FINALLY MADE IT TO THIS DAY.

THESE AIRCRAFT IN FRONT OF US WILL OFFER OUR MILITARY, THE AIR FORCE IN PARTICULAR, A LONG LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AREAS OF INTERNAL SECURITY OPERATIONS, TERRITORIAL DEFENSE, AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

SPECIFICALLY, THESE WILL DEVELOP THE MILITARY'S CAPACITY IN SECURING OUR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORY, IN FULFILLING ITS MANDATE OF PROTECTING THE FILIPINO PEOPLE FROM BOTH MAN-MADE AND NATURAL THREATS AND CALAMITIES, IN ENHANCING ITS CAPABILITY TO FULFILL THE COUNTRY'S INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS, AMONG OTHERS.

WE ARE THANKFUL TO THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THEIR VERY DISTINGUISHED AMBASSADOR LUMINTANG, FOR THEIR ENDURING CONCERN IN OUR SECURITY AND WELFARE. THE EMERGING SECURITY CHALLENGES IN OUR REGION HAVE MADE IT ALL THE MORE NECESSARY FOR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND ALLIES LIKE US TO COLLABORATE FURTHER AND COMBINE TOGETHER OUR POTENTIALS AND RESOURCES IN FACING THESE SECURITY CHALLENGES. IT IS MY SINCERE HOPE THAT OUR NATIONS WILL REMAIN GREAT FRIENDS TODAY AND IN THE YEARS AHEAD OF US.

THANK YOU EVERYONE AND GOOD DAY!###