

**PRESIDENT FERDINAND ROMUALDEZ MARCOS JR.'s
ARRIVAL STATEMENT FROM OFFICIAL VISIT TO
WASHINGTON, D.C., U.S.A**

July 23, 2025

[00:00:00]

Good evening! I have just concluded my three-day official visit to Washington, D.C. upon the invitation of U.S. President Donald Trump. This visit speaks of the breadth and depth of the alliance of the Philippines and the United States that span the various facets of our bilateral relations.

At this brief visit, I had productive discussions with President Trump and with key U.S. government officials, including Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Marco Rubio and the Secretary of Defense, Pete Hegseth. We reaffirmed our mutual commitment to further strengthening our long-standing alliance and growing our economies for the benefit of the people and in pursuit of our national interest. We exchanged views on key regional and international security issues, focusing on how the two countries could cooperate and contribute towards addressing common challenges and priorities.

In my meeting with the Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Marco Rubio, I underscored the critical importance of the Philippines–United States alliance in maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea and the broader Indo-Pacific region. I welcomed the commitment of Secretary Rubio to work with us in advancing our shared prosperity goals.

I was hosted by Secretary Pete Hegseth in the Pentagon to discuss other defense and security issues. As in our previous meeting in Manila last March, he reiterated the importance of deepening defense cooperation—this to reestablish deterrence in the Indo-Pacific region.

[00:01:29]

We discussed the United States' commitment to the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty, a treaty that extends to armed attacks to the armed forces, aircraft, or public vessels, including the Coast Guard.

In my meeting with President Trump, we reaffirmed our ironclad commitment to the Mutual Defense Treaty. I thank the United States for its consistent support for the preservation of regional peace and stability and for upholding the rule of law in the South China Sea.

We discussed enhanced cooperation on cybersecurity, energy supply, resilience and critical infrastructure. I underscored the importance of our multilateral engagement, especially with neighboring countries, to continue to reinforce the network of common alliances in the region.

We welcome the U.S. government's pledge of an additional 15 million dollars for private sector development under the Luzon Economic Corridor Initiative and an additional 48 million dollars in foreign-assisted projects. We will continue to work with the State Department as well as with the U.S. Congress for the implementation of these programs.

I conveyed to President Trump that we remain positive about the future of PH-US trade, including investment relations, especially in the context of economic security and fair, balanced, reciprocal trade. We expressed our commitment to continue engaging his team to further bolster PH-US ties and strengthen Philippines' economic security.

On the sidelines of the visit, I also met with business leaders and top executives of leading global investment, health care, infrastructure and semiconductor firms. Expanding our economic engagements to provide opportunities for building economic security and resilience was a key point in our discussions.

We returned to the Philippines with over 21 billion dollars in investment pledges that have the potential to create thousands of direct and indirect jobs for Filipinos within our country. The United States is our oldest and only treaty ally and my visit to meet the new President is important in advancing our historic and dynamic cooperation, mutual respect and shared strategic interests.

I look forward to hosting President Trump next year to attend the ASEAN meetings under the Philippines' chair, which also coincides with a

commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Philippine-U.S. Diplomatic Relations and 75 years of the Mutual Defense Treaty.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the U.S. government and its people, not only for their warm hospitality during my short visit, but also for extending support to our response efforts in aiding communities and areas affected by the southwest monsoon.

Sa gitna ng kalamidad, inuuna ng inyong pamahalaan ang kaligtasan, kalusugan at kapakanan ng bawat Pilipino. Patuloy ang ating pagtugon sa epekto ng malakas na pag-ulan at pagbaha, dulot ng habagat sa iba't ibang panig ng bansa. Ang ating mga ahensya, katwang ang mga lokal na pamahalaan, ay walang patid sa pagsasagawa ng mga rescue and relief operations upang masigurong agad na makarating ang tulong sa mga pamilyang apektado.

Hinihikayat ko ang lahat na makipagtulungan sa mga otoridad, sundin ang mga babala ng panahon at agad na lumikas kung kinakailangan. Sa ating pagkakaisa at pagtutulungan, malalampasan natin ang pagsubok na ito.

Maraming salamat po.

[00:04:52]

BAGONG PILIPINAS