

**February 15, 1972**

**JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE  
STATE VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES OF PRESIDENT SOEHARTO OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

Reference: This Joint Communique is also published in XI DFA TS No. 1,  
p. 20

At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines His Excellency the President of the Republic of Indonesia and Madame Soeharto made a State Visit to the Philippines from 13 to 15 February 1972. The President was accompanied by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Adam Malik, the Minister of State for National Development Planning, Professor Dr. Widjojo Nitisastro, the Chief of Staff of the Army, General Umar Wirahadikusumah, the State Secretary/Cabinet Secretary, Major General Soedharmono, and other high ranking officials of the Indonesian Government. Their visit was in return to that made by His Excellency the President of the Republic of the Philippines and Madame Marcos to Indonesia in January 1968.

In the course of the visit President Soeharto exchanged views with President Marcos on a wide range of current issues, addressed a joint session of Congress and viewed the progress of research being conducted at the International Rice Research Institute in Los Banos, Laguna.

The two Presidents welcomed the opportunity afforded by the visit to review the progress in national development achieved in both countries in the past six years.

President Soeharto and President Marcos expressed satisfaction at the growing friendly relations between their two countries which are rooted in a common historical past, geographical proximity and in an identity of views on common interests and problems. They agreed to further strengthen these relations, both bilaterally as well as in the multilateral framework, through international organizations such as the United Nations, and through regional associations such as the ASEAN.

The two Heads of State noted the intimate cooperation of their two countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), particularly the ASEAN joint approach to the European Economic Community (EEC), in the Asian Coconut Community (ACC), and in United Nations Conference of Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

They agreed to intensify their efforts, along with those of the other ASEAN countries, in making ASEAN a more effective instrument of peace, progress, and stability in the region. In this context they referred to the Declaration of Foreign Ministers of ASEAN countries issued at Kuala Lumpur on 27 November 1971 as another concrete contribution by the ASEAN countries toward this end.

The two Presidents agreed to continue preparations for an Asian Summit Meeting.

They also agreed that in order to develop fully their respective countries, peace and stability were needed both internally as well as in the Southeast Asian region at large. They reiterated their stand that the best policy for the promotion and