

August 21, 1997

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON MILITARY
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM
OF THAILAND**

The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, hereinafter referred to as "PARTIES, affirming their partnership in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) recognizing the existing friendly relations between them and their people, and desiring to further develop these friendly relations through the promotion of the military cooperation, have hereby agreed as follows:

**ARTICLE 1
SCOPE OF COOPERATION**

The PARTIES undertake to actively promote military cooperation in accordance with the United Nations Charter and their respective national laws and regulations, as defined in Article 3 of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

**ARTICLE 2
ORGANIZATION OF THE COOPERATION**

A. Joint Committee

1. In order to supervise, to manage and to effect this MOU, the PARTIES agree to establish a Joint Committee.
2. This Committee is to be co-chaired by a representative of the Ministry of Defense of Thailand and a representative of the Department of National Defense of the Philippines. This Committee may be assisted by experts from one ministry/department or organizations in numbers as determined by each PARTY.
3. Under normal circumstance, this Committee will meet alternately once a year, in each respective country, provided, however, that both co-chairmen may agree to convene a meeting at any other time.
4. This Committee shall, at the conclusion of each meeting, submit a joint report to the Minister/Secretary of Defense of each PARTY.
5. The specific terms of reference for this Committee shall be drafted at its first meeting and submitted for approval to the Minister/Secretary of Defense of each PARTY.

B. Working Group

1. The joint Committee shall be entitled to establish a Working Group composed of defense and armed forces officials of both countries. The Working Group may also include officials from other ministries and/or agencies of both PARTIES, as may be appropriate or called to by specific conditions.

2. The Working Group shall depend on the Joint Committee for its terms of reference and shall receive its directives from the Joint Committee, as well as report the outcome of its work/study to the Committee.

3. The Working Group shall study and examine specific subject matters within the coverage of this MOU.

4. The Heads of the two delegations forming each Working Group shall be appointed by each PARTY who shall appropriately inform the other of this appointment.

ARTICLE 3 MILITARY COOPERATION

The PARTIES agree to focus their military cooperation on the following subjects:

A. Military Education and Training

Military Education and Training of military personnel shall whenever possible and appropriate, be based on the concept of reciprocity. The Joint Committee will review the needs and possibilities of each PARTY with respect to various types of training availability or training possibilities in military schools or establishments of each PARTY. In this regard, the Committee will jointly establish and propose a five (5) year Training Plan which will be reviewed and revised annually.

B. Exchange of Information

1. Exchange of Information will be effected on the following subjects:

- a. Security and defense issues;
- b. Operational concepts and doctrines;
- c. Community relations;
- d. Disaster response activities; and
- e. International peacekeeping operations.

2. The mode of such exchange shall be determined by the Joint Committee and may consist, inter alia, of:

- a. Exchange of documents such as on Intelligence, Strategic Studies and other scholarly undertakings;
- b. Participation as observers in defense-related activities as determined by the PARTY initiating them;
- c. Technico-operational conferences; and
- d. Reciprocal study tours to observe force development concept of respective countries.

C. Military Exercises

The PARTIES shall insofar as it is realistic, practical and mutually beneficial. Participate in exercises between their Armed Forces. These exercises may be