

US MILITARY CHIEF VISITS CAMP AGUINALDO

CAMP AGUINALDO – The Chairman of the United States Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff here today visits and made a formal call to the AFP Chief of staff.

Admiral Michael Mullen, is taking the opportunity of being in the region to make a first visit to the Philippines as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the US Armed Forces. Lt. Gen. Alexander Yano and Admiral Mullen arrived yesterday after participating in the recently held 7th International Institute of Strategic Studies' Security Summit: the Shangri-La Defense Dialogue in Singapore.

The visit of Admiral Mullen to the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces Philippines is a gesture of commitment to security cooperation and partnership. His visit underscores the long-standing ties between the Philippines and the United States, who are also key partners in the efforts to combat terrorism in the region.

Prior to his arrival in Manila, Admiral Mullen went to visit Zamboanga City yesterday accompanied by AFP Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Alexander Yano and US Ambassador Kristie Kenney.

Meanwhile the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore-- named after the hotel that hosted it – gave Mullen and US Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, who was also in attendance, the chance to interact with representatives of defense forces from 27 nations. The event was also attended by representatives from India, Japan, the United Kingdom, Australia, Vietnam, the Philippines, and other nations.