## <u>Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo's</u> <u>Meeting With Philippine Secretary of</u> <u>Foreign Affairs Teodoro Locsin, Jr.</u>

Readout Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC December 20, 2018

The below is attributable to Deputy Spokesperson Robert Palladino:

Secretary Michael R. Pompeo met with Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs Teodoro Locsin, Jr., at the Department of State today. The Secretary reaffirmed the enduring U.S.-Philippines alliance, including commitments under the Mutual Defense Treaty of 1951. The two Secretaries discussed ongoing efforts to address regional issues such as the South China Sea, North Korea, and counterterrorism. Secretary Pompeo and Secretary Locsin also explored opportunities to increase people-to-people ties between our two countries, our longstanding commitment to human rights, and our cooperation to strengthen the Philippines' energy security.

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