



CHIEF OF STAFF
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
CAMP GENERAL EMILIO AGUINALDO, QUEZON CITY

Colonel Joseph H Felter, PhD
Co-Director
Empirical Studies of Conflict Project
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305

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Dear Colonel Felter,

Thank you for your continued support to the Armed Forces of the Philippines and our efforts to better understand and address the challenges we face with insurgency and terrorism.

For the 12 years that I have known you through our collaboration and for your valuable work in organizing, training and equipping the counterterrorism forces of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, you have not only been a close personal friend of mine but a friend of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Filipino people as well. Your contributions to our CT/COIN programs are deeply appreciated and have had an important impact towards the success we have experienced in the past few years.

I understand that the Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC) project under your supervision, along with ESOC Co-Director Professor Jacob Shapiro, is developing a "History of Philippines Insurgency and Counterinsurgency" Collection at the Hoover Institution's Library and Archives at Stanford University with select digitized materials and data made available to researchers through the ESOC Project. Given our mutual interests in advancing scholarship in this field, I am pleased to authorize you to share with other scholars and researchers select survey results, interviews, data coded from conflict incidents and other related materials compiled in support of your doctoral dissertation, "Taking Guns to a Knife Fight: A Case for Empirical Study of Counterinsurgency" (Stanford, 2005). This authorization also includes subsequent updates to this data provided to you since your return to Stanford.

I am confident this information and data will provide scholars with an unparalleled opportunity to further important research on counterinsurgency and nation building. In the interests of empowering sound scholarship at home, please insure that officers at our National Defense College and General Staff College can readily access the historical material and data maintained in this collection in order to facilitate research and collaboration on similar topics here in the Philippines.

I look forward to the fresh perspectives this historical research will help provide and I am confident that you and your colleagues at the Empirical Studies of Conflict Project will exercise appropriate discretion and remain excellent stewards of this unique collection.

General Victor S Ibrado
Chief of Staff
Armed Forces of the Philippines