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ROBERT GATES TO VISIT MANILA

The U.S. Embassy said Robert Gates, deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, would visit Manila to meet top government officials.

Embassy spokesman Jerry Huchel declined to disclose details of Gates's trip but The Manila Chronicle newspaper said Gates was expected to arrive this month.

ARP It said he would meet senior government and military officials for talks on the operation of U.S. military bases in the Philippines, the communist insurgency and problems affecting the armed forces.